

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The course provides a forum for learners to reflect on and analyze the conceptual understandings of the content of current and past nursing courses. By sharing with peers, learning about self and others will be enhanced.

The focus of NURS 4057 is to promote professional growth of the student as a self-directed and independent learner. The student will demonstrate critical appraisal of the nursing and health care literature and critical thinking skills in the examination of professional and practice issues. Emphasis is on growth of the learner as a professional nurse who is critically reflective.

PREREQ: NURS 4056, NURS 4084, NURS 4206, NURS 4416
Recommended co-requisite: NURS 4094

II. LEARNING OUTCOMES AND ELEMENTS OF THE PERFORMANCE:**Ends-in-View**

During this semester, the learner will explore ways nurses can influence and create their futures as professionals within the health care system. The learner's responsibility to ongoing professional growth and development will be explored through examination of self and professional and practice issues.

Process

The course will be delivered in an internet (web-based) learning environment. Except for an initial orientation session, there are no on campus weekly classes. Instead, you will fulfill the requirements of the course by using Sault College's learning management system (LMS).

All students are expected to be active participants in the course. Your active participation will be demonstrated by attendance of the orientation class, regular use of the LMS communication tools, posting of assignments and commentaries on the bulletin board, and the completion and submission of all assignments. Emphasis is on demonstration of critical thinking about nursing practice and professional issues.

III. TOPICS:

1. Professional profile
2. Career planning and development
3. Current nursing issues

IV. REQUIRED RESOURCES/TEXTS/MATERIALS:

McIntyre, M., & McDonald, C. (2010). *Realities of Canadian nursing: Professional, practice and power issues* (3rd ed.). Philadelphia, PA: Lippincott Williams & Wilkins.

Waddell, J., Donner, G.J., & Wheeler, M.M. (2009). *Building your nursing career: A guide for students* (3rd ed.). Toronto, ON: Elsevier.

College of Nurses of Ontario. (2009). *Compendium of Standards of Practice for Nurses in Ontario*. Toronto, ON: Author. Available @ <http://www.cno.org/pubs/compendium.html#download>

College of Nurses of Ontario. (2009). *Quality Assurance Documents*. Available @ <http://www.cno.org/qa/index.htm>

The CNO resources are only available on –line. It is suggested that you save these resources to your computer and refer to them as required.

* In addition, it is expected that in preparing assignments students will make use of textbooks previously required for other nursing courses as well as database resources to seek out relevant articles in the nursing and health care literature.

V. EVALUATION PROCESS/GRADING SYSTEM:

A passing grade of 60% is required in all nursing courses. The grade for NURS 4057 will be based on the following methods of evaluation. Students are required to complete and **submit for evaluation all learning activities** listed below in order to be eligible for a final grade in NURS 4057.

1. Demonstrated active course participation and contributions within the on-line learning environment. During the class, you will be assigned to a LMS bulletin board group for the posting submissions. Each student will submit;
 - **Total of four postings** in response to issue questions posted by the course professor. Post within your assigned bulletin board group. Due dates: **Jan. 19, Feb. 2, March 2, March 23, 2009** - see guidelines.
 - Ongoing posting of response commentaries to group and class postings **and identification of two review commentary postings to be marked** – one in response to either posting # 1 or # 2 (peer review posting to be posted by Feb. 19, these postings will then be closed) and one in response to either posting # 3 or # 4 (peer review posting to be posted by April 6, these postings will then be closed) -see guidelines
20%
2. Professional Issue Paper
 Submitted electronically ONLY to LMS assignment area and safe assign. Due Feb 9th35%
3. Professional Portfolio Binder (**Part I and II**)
 A hard copy is to be submitted to course professor.
 Due March 16th by 1700..... 45%

See the course syllabus for additional information about the format and submission of assignments.

GUIDELINES FOR WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS

- The School of Nursing guidelines regarding the marking of assignments will be followed for each assignment. See the Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing Student Manual 2009-2010.
- All assignments must comply with APA style format. Students may lose up to 10% of the total possible mark of an assignment for poor form and writing style. ***It is expected that students who have experienced difficulties with writing competency in past courses will seek help prior to submission of their assignment.***

PAY CLOSE ATTENTION TO ALL ASSIGNMENT DUE DATES.

Extensions for assignments will not be granted.

A penalty of 10% per day will be deducted to any assignment handed in after the due date and time of the assignment.

The following semester grades will be assigned to students:

| <u>Grade</u> | <u>Definition</u> | <u>Grade Point Equivalent</u> |
|--------------|--|-------------------------------|
| A+ | 90 – 100% | 4.00 |
| A | 80 – 89% | |
| B | 70 - 79% | 3.00 |
| C | 60 - 69% | 2.00 |
| D | 50 – 59% | 1.00 |
| F (Fail) | 49% and below | 0.00 |
| CR (Credit) | Credit for diploma requirements has been awarded. | |
| S | Satisfactory achievement in field /clinical placement or non-graded subject area. | |
| U | Unsatisfactory achievement in field/clinical placement or non-graded subject area. | |
| X | A temporary grade limited to situations with extenuating circumstances giving a student additional time to complete the requirements for a course. | |
| NR | Grade not reported to Registrar's office. | |
| W | Student has withdrawn from the course without academic penalty. | |

NOTE:

For such reasons as program certification or program articulation, certain courses require minimums of greater than 50% and/or have mandatory components to achieve a passing grade.

It is also important to note, that the minimum overall GPA required in order to graduate from a Sault College program remains 2.0.

All NURS courses require 60% for a passing grade.

Elective courses require 50% for a passing grade.

Mid term grads are provided in theory classes and clinical/field placement experiences. Students are notified that the midterm grade is an interim grade and is subject to change.

VI. SPECIAL NOTES:

Course Outline Amendments:

The professor reserves the right to change the information contained in this course outline depending on the needs of the learner and the availability of resources.

Retention of Course Outlines:

It is the responsibility of the student to retain all course outlines for possible future use in acquiring advanced standing at other postsecondary institutions.

Prior Learning Assessment:

Students who wish to apply for advance credit transfer (advanced standing) should obtain an Application for Advance Credit from the program coordinator (or the course coordinator regarding a general education transfer request) or academic assistant. Students will be required to provide an unofficial transcript and course outline related to the course in question. Please refer to the Student Academic Calendar of Events for the deadline date by which application must be made for advance standing.

Credit for prior learning will also be given upon successful completion of a challenge exam or portfolio.

Substitute course information is available in the Registrar's office.

Communication:

The College considers **WebCT/LMS** as the primary channel of communication for each course. Regularly checking this software platform is critical as it will keep you directly connected with faculty and current course information. Success in this course may be directly related to your willingness to take advantage of the **Learning Management System** communication tool.

This course's Blackboard site, its features, and its contents are for the exclusive use of nursing students registered in this section of this course. The information contained herein is privileged and confidential. Any unauthorized use, dissemination, or copying is strictly prohibited.

Disability Services:

If you are a student with a disability (e.g. physical limitations, visual impairments, hearing impairments, or learning disabilities), you are encouraged to discuss required accommodations with your professor and/or the Disability Services office. Visit Room E1101 or call Extension 2703 so that support services can be arranged for you.

Plagiarism:

Students should refer to the definition of “academic dishonesty” in *Student Code of Conduct*. A professor/instructor may assign a sanction as defined below, or make recommendations to the Academic Chair for disposition of the matter. The professor/instructor may:

- (i) issue a verbal reprimand,
- (ii) make an assignment of a lower grade with explanation,
- (iii) require additional academic assignments and issue a lower grade upon completion to the maximum grade “C”,
- (iv) make an automatic assignment of a failing grade,
- (v) recommend to the Chair dismissal from the course with the assignment of a failing grade.

In order to protect students from inadvertent plagiarism, to protect the copyright of the material referenced, and to credit the author of the material, it is the policy of the department to employ a documentation format for referencing source material.

Student Portal:

The Sault College portal allows you to view all your student information in one place. **mysaultcollege** gives you personalized access to online resources seven days a week from your home or school computer. Single log-in access allows you to see your personal and financial information, timetable, grades, records of achievement, unofficial transcript, and outstanding obligations. Announcements, news, the academic calendar of events, class cancellations, your learning management system (LMS), and much more are also accessible through the student portal. Go to <https://my.saultcollege.ca>.

Electronic Devices in the Classroom:

Students who wish to use electronic devices in the classroom will seek permission of the faculty member before proceeding to record instruction. With the exception of issues related to accommodations of disability, the decision to approve or refuse the request is the responsibility of the faculty member. Recorded classroom instruction will be used only for personal use and will not be used for any other purpose. Recorded classroom instruction will be destroyed at the end of the course. To ensure this, the student is required to return all copies of recorded material to the faculty member by the last day of class in the semester. Where the use of an electronic device has been approved, the student agrees that materials recorded are for his/her use only, are not for distribution, and are the sole property of the College.

Attendance:

Sault College is committed to student success. There is a direct correlation between academic performance and class attendance; therefore, for the benefit of all its constituents, all students are encouraged to attend all of their scheduled learning and evaluation sessions. This implies arriving on time and remaining for the duration of the scheduled session.