

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course focuses on empowerment. Utilizing concepts from Professional Growth I, II, and III, learners will explore ways of empowering self, clients, families, and communities.

COURSE OVERVIEW:

In this course the effects of social, political and economic structures on health and life potential will be examined. Relationships of dominance and unequal participation in society will be explored within the context of feminist and critical social theory. Presentations will be used to analyze health within the broader framework of society. Informed by critique, conscientized students may engage in dialogue with one another and reflect critically with respect to their own oppressive environments and that of their clients. Strategies of social action that influence change from oppression to empowerment will be examined.

II. LEARNING OUTCOMES AND ELEMENTS OF THE PERFORMANCE:

Ends-in-View

Exploring the concepts of empowerment, power, and powerlessness.

Exploring feminist theory: critique and process.

Exploring critical social theory.

Exploring personal meanings concerning empowerment in both personal and professional life.

Exploring selected current health issues for women, minorities, and marginalized groups.

Exploring selected strategies for advocacy, social action, and change

Process

The intent of this course is to examine health issues within a holistic framework, which considers the individual, the community and society. Two theoretical frameworks will provide the knowledge used for critical analysis of specific health issues. Skills to be developed will be critical analysis and the articulation, both written and verbal, of the impact of social, economic, and political ideologies and structures on health. The student will be able to apply knowledge gained in other nursing courses to specific health issues and to demonstrate a comprehensive and integrated understanding of the concept of empowerment.

III. TOPICS:

1. Empowerment; oppression; marginalization
2. Power inequalities which predominate in our society
3. Feminist theory
4. Critical social theory
5. Health care inequalities
6. Nurses as an oppressed group
7. Social and political activism: strategies that promote change and social action
8. Student presentations in relation to an oppressed and/or marginalized group

IV. REQUIRED RESOURCES/TEXTS/MATERIALS:

Articles listed under “Required Reading” for each learning activity can be accessed using online databases.

Learners are expected to utilize the literature extensively in relation to assignments.

Required Text

Chinn, P. (2008). *Peace and power: Creative leadership for building community* (7th ed.). Toronto, ON: Jones and Bartlett Publishers.

Recommended Texts

McIntyre, M., Thomlinson, E., & McDonald, C. (2006). *Realities of Canadian nursing: Professional, practice, and power issues* (2nd ed.). Philadelphia, PA: Lippincott Williams & Wilkins Publishers.

V. EVALUATION PROCESS/GRADING SYSTEM:

1. Paper: Personal meaning and the conceptual analysis of empowerment (30%)
2. Midterm test (20%)
2. Group Assignment (50%). See course syllabus for details about this assignment. In the event that there are issues within a group concerning unequal contribution in fulfilling one or more facets of the group assignment, the course professor reserves the right to make a final determination of marks based on input from the entire group.

V. EVALUATION PROCESS/GRADING SYSTEM:

The school policy on written assignments applies to all assignments unless otherwise stated. APA (5th or 6th ed.) format is required. Students may lose up to 10% of the total possible mark for poor form and writing style. It is expected that students who have experienced difficulties with writing competency in past courses will seek assistance before submission of papers.

One hard copy of assignments must be submitted.

A second copy of specific assignments (as identified in the course syllabus) must also be submitted electronically to SafeAssign. Late submission to SafeAssign will result in a penalty of 10% deduction per day to the point where the maximum mark for the assignment is 60%.

If, for personal reasons, you are not able to meet the deadlines, it is your responsibility to contact the course professor prior to the due date. If an extension is granted, you are required to document your situation and request in writing, and submit this request to the course professor within two days of the original request. *Extensions will not be granted on the day that the assignment is due.*

**Note: there will be a 10% daily deduction associated with all extensions granted unless a medical certificate is submitted with the request.*

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.	

V. EVALUATION PROCESS/GRADING SYSTEM:

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: Mid Term grades 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:

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.

Punctual and regular attendance at the various academic activities is required of all students. If there are extenuating circumstances bearing upon a student's absence, the instructor should be notified. Absences in excess of 20% may jeopardize receipt of credit for the course.

LMS

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.

VII. COURSE OUTLINE ADDENDUM:

The provisions contained in the addendum located on the portal form part of this course outline.