



The University of Southern Queensland

Course specification

Description: Professional Issues in Nursing

Subject	Cat-nbr	Class	Term	Mode	Units	Campus
NUR	3050	44390	2, 2005	ONC	1.00	Toowoomba

Academic group:

FOSCI

Academic org:

FOS004

Student contribution band:

National Priority Nursing

ASCED code:

060301

STAFFING

Examiner: Lorna Robertson

Moderator: Jackie Doolan

OTHER-REQUISITES

Recommended prior study: 12 BN courses

RATIONALE

Nurses need to analyse historical events that have had an impact on the discipline of nursing and the forces that have shaped the profession of nursing. Knowledge of legal and ethical principles is necessary to prepare the nurse for professional practice.

SYNOPSIS

This course consists of three modules - Law, Ethics and Practice. The course explores contemporary theories to analyse the continuing debate about the essence of nursing. It discusses history and theories of nursing and also examines legal, ethical and practice issues that may confront the nurse. The course also explores contemporary issues in health care and how they affect the practice of nursing in Australia.

OBJECTIVES

On completion of this course students will be able to:

1. discuss and review the historical factors which have influenced the evolution of nursing;
2. discuss and debate how theories influence nursing practice;
3. differentiate between a nursing model and a nursing theory;
4. apply legal principles to nursing and related health care situations;
5. apply ethical principles to nursing and related health care situations;
6. explore patient/client issues that can pose as ethical dilemmas;
7. use ethical decision-making models in nursing and related health care situations; and
8. examine the contemporary role of the nurse in health care.

TOPICS

	Description	Weighting (%)
1.	LAW MODULE - the tradition of law in Australia; the development of common law, equity and statute; the court system in the Australian Federation; legal parameters of nursing clinical practice	35.00
2.	ETHICS MODULE - fundamentals of ethics; ethical decision making; models of ethical decision making; ethical principles; code of ethics for nurses; ethical congruent clinical practice	35.00
3.	NURSING PRACTICE MODULE - Historical perspective of Nursing including: social, political, economic, gender influences on the development of nursing; the structural hierarchy of contemporary nursing knowledge; reflective practice and becoming a reflective practitioner; clinical decision making and problem solving	30.00

TEXT and MATERIALS required to be PURCHASED or ACCESSED

ALL textbooks and materials are available for purchase from USQ BOOKSHOP (unless otherwise stated). Orders may be placed via secure internet, free fax 1800642453, phone 07 46312742 (within Australia), or mail. Overseas students should fax +61 7 46311743, or phone +61 7 46312742. For costs, further details, and internet ordering, use the 'Textbook Search' facility at <http://bookshop.usq.edu.au> click 'Semester', then enter your 'Course Code' (no spaces).

Forrester, K & Griffiths, D 2001, *Essentials of Law for Health Professionals*, Harcourt, Sydney.
Instructional Guide 2004, *Course NUR3050 - Professional Issues in Nursing*, USQ Publication, Toowoomba.

Johnston, MJ 1999, *Bio-Ethics: A Nursing Perspective*, 3rd edn, Harcourt Brace Jovanovic Group, Australia.

REFERENCE MATERIALS

Reference materials are materials that, if accessed by students, may improve their knowledge and understanding of the material in the course and enrich their learning experience.

, , *Australian Nursing Journal*,

, , *The Queensland Nurse*,

, , *Australian Journal of Advanced Nursing*,

, , *The Lamp*,

, , *Queensland Nursing Forum*,

, *Nursing Ethics, An International Journal for Health Care Professionals*,

1992, , *Queensland Nursing Act*,

ANCI 1995, , *Code of Professional Conduct for Nurses in Australia*,

Edginton, J 1995, *Law for the Nursing Profession and Allied Health Care Professionals*, 3rd edn, CCH, North Ryde.

Greenwood, J (Ed) 2000, *Nursing Theory in Australia: Development and Application*, 2nd edn, Pearson Education, Frenchs Forest.

McCoppin, B & Gardner, H 1994, *Tradition and Reality: Nursing and Politics in Australia*, Churchill Livingstone, Melbourne.

Meleis, A 1997, *Theoretical Nursing: Development and Progress*, 3rd edn, Lippincott, Philadelphia.

RCNA , , *Nursing Review*,

Rolfe, G 1996, *Closing the Theory-Practice Gap*, Butterworth-Heinemann, Oxford, United Kingdom.

Russell, RL 1990, *From Nightingale to Now: Nurse Education in Australia*, WB Saunders, Sydney.

Staunton, P & Whyburn, B 1997, *Nursing and the Law*, 4th edn, WB Saunders, Sydney.

STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS

ACTIVITY	HOURS
Private Study	140.00
Tutorials	26.00

ASSESSMENT DETAILS

Description	Marks out of	Wtg(%)	Due date
MIDSEMESTER TEST PART A	60.00	30.00	18 Jul 2005 (see note 1)
MIDSEMESTER TEST PART B	20.00	10.00	18 Jul 2005
1500 WORD ASSIGNMENT	60.00	60.00	24 Oct 2005

NOTES

1. Test date will be available during the semester.

IMPORTANT ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

- 1 Attendance requirements:
It is the students' responsibility to attend and participate appropriately in all activities (such as lectures, tutorials, laboratories and practical work) scheduled for them, and to study all material provided to them or required to be accessed by them to maximise their chance of meeting the objectives of the course and to be informed of course-related activities and administration.
- 2 Requirements for students to complete each assessment item satisfactorily:
To complete each of the assessment items satisfactorily, students must obtain at least 50% of the marks available for each assessment item.
- 3 Penalties for late submission of required work:
If students submit assignments after the due date without prior approval then a penalty of 20% of the total marks gained by the student for the assignment will apply for each working day late.

- 4 Requirements for student to be awarded a passing grade in the course:
To be assured of a passing grade, students must demonstrate, via the summative assessment items, that they have achieved the required minimum standards in relation to the objectives of the course by satisfactorily completing all summative assessment items.
- 5 Method used to combine assessment results to attain final grade:
The final grades for students will be assigned on the basis of the aggregate of the weighted marks obtained for each of the summative assessment items in the course.
- 6 Examination information:
Candidates are allowed to bring only writing and drawing instruments into the Closed examination.
- 7 Examination period when Deferred/Supplementary examinations will be held:
There will be no Deferred or Supplementary examinations in this course.
- 8 University Regulations:
Students should read USQ Regulations 5.1 Definitions, 5.6. Assessment, and 5.10 Academic Misconduct for further information and to avoid actions which might contravene University Regulations. These regulations can be found at the URL <http://www.usq.edu.au/corporateservices/calendar/part5.htm> or in the current USQ Handbook.

ASSESSMENT NOTES

- 9 The due date for an assignment is the date by which a student must despatch the assignment to the USQ. The onus is on the student to provide proof of the despatch date, if requested by the Examiner.
- 10 Students must retain a copy of each item submitted for assessment. If requested, students will be required to provide a copy of assignments submitted for assessment purposes. Such copies should be despatched to USQ within 24 hours of receipt of a request being made.
- 11 The examiner may grant an extension of the due date of an assignment in extenuating circumstances.
- 12 Students who have undertaken all of the required assessments in a course but who have failed to meet some of the specified objectives of a course within the normally prescribed time may be awarded the temporary grade: IM (Incomplete - Make up). An IM grade will only be awarded when, in the opinion of the examiner, a student will be able to achieve the remaining objectives of the course after a period of non directed personal study.