



The University of Southern Queensland

Course specification

This version produced 20 Dec 2007.

The current and official versions of the course specifications are available on the web at
<<http://www.usq.edu.au/coursespecification/current>>.

Please consult the web for updates that may occur during the year.

Description: Acute Care Nursing

Subject	Cat-nbr	Class	Term	Mode	Units	Campus
NUR	3090	62303	1, 2007	ONC	1.00	Toowoomba

Academic group:

FOSCI

Academic org:

FOS004

Student contribution band:

National Priority Nursing

ASCED code:

060301

STAFFING

Examiner: Joachim Ferrer

Moderator: Geoff Wilson

REQUISITES

Pre-requisite: NUR2020 and NUR2030 and NSC2180

OTHER REQUISITES

Recommended prior study: MHN2020

RATIONALE

Acute, serious and life threatening situations profoundly affect the integrity and vulnerability of people. It is important for nurses to be able to plan comprehensively and care for people in these situations.

SYNOPSIS

This course focuses on serious and life-threatening events such as trauma, serious illness, disasters and other crises. Students explore human responses to crisis and apply the relevant principles of nursing practice. The integrated approach taken in this course assists students to apply knowledge learned at a previous level and progress towards attaining ANMC competencies which includes exploration of attitudes and values. Concurrently students develop professional relationships and support networks encouraged through peer interactions. This course encourages and supports the student using adult learning principles as they achieve mastery of content. Students will require access to e-mail and internet access to USQConnect for this course.

OBJECTIVES

On successful completion of this course students will be able to:

1. utilise Irurita's framework to complete an accurate comprehensive nursing assessment of an acutely ill patient and to deliver nursing care based on patient needs and scientific principles (Assignment, Clinical Evaluation Profile, Part A & Part B Restricted Exam);
2. assess, plan, implement and evaluate care of patients with acute vulnerability in a variety of settings (Clinical Evaluation Profile, Part B Restricted Exam);
3. strengthen critical thinking skills by demonstrating an analytical approach to everyday decision making (Assignment, Clinical Evaluation Profile, 1 hour Drug Calculations, Part B Restricted Exam);
4. research and apply the principles of crisis management and intervention to the patient, family and significant others faced with an acute illness (Assignment, Clinical Evaluation Profile);
5. deliver appropriate care sensitive to the cultural beliefs of patients and their families (Assignment, Clinical Evaluation Profile);
6. provide appropriate education to critically ill patients, their families and significant others to assist in decision making related to quality of life (Assignment, Clinical Evaluation Profile, Parts A and B Restricted Exam);
7. collaborate with others in applying crisis intervention strategies, stress management techniques and evaluating the outcomes of care provided (Assignment, Clinical Evaluation Profile);
8. distinguish differing acute care interventions and demonstrate effective care in technical and interpersonal skills (Clinical Evaluation Profile);
9. demonstrate commitment to the multidisciplinary team approach to care (Assignment, Clinical Evaluation Profile, Parts A and B Restricted Exam);
10. demonstrate self-directedness and effective use of resources (Clinical Evaluation Profile, 1 hour Drug Calculation);
11. demonstrate skills and knowledge required to perform technical skills safely with appropriate equipment (Clinical Evaluation Profile, 1 hour Drug Calculation);
12. safely and competently perform CPR in an emergency situation (Clinical Checklist); and
13. demonstrate satisfactory completion of 80 hours of clinical experience as partial fulfilment of Queensland Nursing Council requirements (Clinical Evaluation Profile, 1 hour Drug Calculation, Clinical Checklist).

TOPICS

	Description	Weighting (%)
1.	Acute Care Interventions: definition and types, rapid patient assessment techniques, problem-solving approach to crisis intervention	35.00
2.	Emergency Planning and Management: principles of triage/trauma, rapid patient assessment techniques, principles of planning and management	15.00
3.	Nursing Care of Patients with Acute Vulnerability States: compromised cardiovascular status, threatened integrity of respiratory status, high vulnerability and threatened integrity in multi-system dysfunct, restoring patient's control from real or perceived threat	50.00

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).

Faculty of Sciences 2007, *Instructional guide - course NUR3090 acute care nursing*, USQ Publication, Toowoomba.

Smeltzer SC, & Bare BG 2005, *Brunner & Suddarth's textbook of medical surgical nursing*, 10th edn, JB Lippincott, Philadelphia.

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.

Achlert, B 2002, *ECGs made easy: pocket reference*, 2nd edn, Mosby, St Louis.

Aguilera, DC 1998, *Crisis intervention: theory and methodology*, 8th edn, CV Mosby Co, St Louis.

Cameron, P, Jeliack, G, Kelly, AM, Murray, L, Brown, AT & Heyworth, J (eds) 2004, *Textbook of adult emergency medicine*, 2nd edn, Churchill Livingstone, Edinburgh.

Frisch, NC & Frisch, LE 2006, *Psychiatric mental health nursing*, 3rd edn, Delmar Publishers, Melbourne.

Kidd, PS, Wagner, KD & Johnson, KL 2006, *High acuity nursing: preparing for practice in today's health care setting*, 4th edn, Prentice-Hall, Upper Saddle River.

Morton PG, Fontaine D, Hudak C, & Gallo BM 2005, *Critical care nursing: a holistic approach*, 8th edn, J B Lippincott, Philadelphia.

Newberry L (ed) 2003, *Sheehy's emergency nursing: principles and practice*, 5th edn, Mosby, St Louis.

Oh, TE 2003, *Intensive care manual*, 5th edn, Butterworth-Heinemann, Oxford.

Smith, B & Summers, J 2006, *Communication skills handbook*, 2nd edn, Wiley, Milton.

Tiziani, A 2006, *Havard's nursing guide to drugs*, 7th edn, Mosby, Philadelphia.

Tollefson, J 2004, *Clinical psychomotor skills: assessment tools for nursing students*, 2nd edn, Social Science Press, Tuggerah, NSW.

Wright, B 1993, *Caring in crisis*, 2nd edn, Churchill Livingstone, Edinburgh.

STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS

ACTIVITY	HOURS
Clinical Experience	80.00
Examinations	2.00
Laboratory or Practical Classes	23.00
Lectures	22.00
Private Study	33.00
Tutorials	11.00

ASSESSMENT DETAILS

Description	Marks out of	Wtg(%)	Due date
ASSIGNMENT	100.00	40.00	23 Apr 2007
1 HOUR DRUG CALCULATIONS	1.00	0.00	25 May 2007
PEER LABORATORY SUPERVISION	1.00	0.00	15 Jun 2007
CLINICAL EVALUATION PROFILE	1.00	0.00	06 Jul 2007
PT A 2HR RESTRICTED EXAM - CMA	30.00	10.00	END S1 (see note 1)
PT B 2HR RESTRICTED EXAM	70.00	50.00	END S1

NOTES

1. Examination dates will be available during the Semester. Please refer to the examination timetable when published.

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. Students must complete 80 hours of clinical experience as partial fulfillment of Queensland Nursing Council requirements for registration. To maximize their chances of satisfying the objectives of the practical component of the course, students must attend and actively participate in at least 10 of the 11 tutorials and laboratory sessions in the course. Failure to do so could result in the student not being placed for clinicals.
- 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 that assessment item. To complete the Clinical Experience satisfactorily, students must complete 80 hours of Clinical Experience as organized by the Nursing and Midwifery Department and obtain a satisfactory standard (at competent

- level) on the clinical assessment booklet and performance evaluation profile thus gaining the 1 mark. To satisfactorily complete the PEER LABORATORY SUPERVISION students must attend a 1 hour NUR1140 laboratory in week 15 to supervise and assess the clinical performance of a first year nursing student. In order to gain the 1 mark available students must satisfactorily complete the assigned personal objectives.
- 3 Penalties for late submission of required work:
If students submit assignments after the due date without prior approval then a penalty of 10% 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 receiving a passing grade a student must submit all of the summative assessment items, achieve at least 50% in the examination and at least 50% of the available weighted marks for the 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 weighted aggregate of the marks obtained for each of the summative assessment items in the course.
 - 6 Examination information:
The only materials that candidates may use in the restricted examination for this course are: writing materials (non-electronic and free from material which could give the student an unfair advantage in the examination) and calculators which cannot hold textual information (students must indicate on their examination paper the make and model of any calculator(s) they use during the examination. Students whose first language is not English, may, with the Examiner's approval, take an appropriate non-electronic translation dictionary (but not a technical dictionary) into the examination. Students who wish to use a translation dictionary MUST request and receive written approval from the Examiner at least one week before the examination date. Translation dictionaries will be subject to perusal and may be removed from the candidate's possession until appropriate disciplinary action is completed, if found to contain material that could give the candidate an unfair advantage.
 - 7 Examination period when Deferred/Supplementary examinations will be held:
Any Deferred or Supplementary examinations for this course will be held in the fourth week of the semester following this course offering and the examiner will advise students involved in writing of the date time and location of any such examination.
 - 8 University Regulations:
Students should read USQ Regulations 5.1 Definitions, 5.5 Enrolment, 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 Students must retain a copy of each item submitted for assessment. This must be sent to USQ within 24 hours of receipt of a request to do so from the Examiner.
- 10 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.
- 11 The examiner may grant an extension of the due date of an assignment in extenuating circumstances.

- 12 The Faculty will normally only accept assessments that have been written, typed or printed on paper-based media.
- 13 The Faculty will NOT accept submission of assignments by facsimile.
- 14 Students need to be conversant with and will require access to e-mail and internet access to USQConnect for this course.
- 15 Students can expect that questions in assessment items in this course may draw upon knowledge and skills that they can reasonably be expected to have acquired before enrolling in the course. This includes knowledge contained in pre-requisite courses and appropriate communication, information literacy, analytical, critical thinking, problem solving or numeracy skills. Students who do not possess such knowledge and skills should not expect to achieve the same grades as those students who do possess them.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

- 1 Students of clinical courses need to be certain they have submitted the following documents to the Faculty Office to ensure they will be allowed to proceed to a clinical placement - Current CPR Certification, Completion of the Queensland Health Orientation and submission of the checklist, Hepatitis B titre declaration and Confidentiality Form.
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