The University of Southern Queensland

Course Specification

Description: Advanced Health Assessment

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Cat-Nbr</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Mode</th>
<th>Units</th>
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<td>NUR</td>
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<td>14495</td>
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Academic Group: FOSCI
Academic Org: FOS004
HECS Band: 2
ASCED Code: 061307

STAFFING
Examiner: Geoff Wilson
Moderator: Cheryl Perrin

RATIONALE
Rural and remote health professionals often find themselves in situations where there is a need to assess clients for screening purposes and case management decision making. This is especially the case for those nurses who are required to make assessments in the absence of a medical practitioner. Occasionally the lives of individuals are dependent on the ability of the nurse to assess comprehensively and accurately the client's condition and to accurately convey this information to an off-site medical officer. From a health screening perspective, there are many instances cited in the literature where early detection can prevent individual suffering, by preventing disease at an early stage.

SYNOPSIS
This course builds on basic health assessment and screening skills completed in undergraduate courses, to allow experienced health professionals to explore fully the human individual holistically, without recourse to invasive technologies. The course follows individuals who present to health care settings with problems requiring assessment and intervention by the most accessible and appropriate health professional. In addition Advanced Health Assessment implies that data gathered will be acted upon appropriately and related to the practice context.

OBJECTIVES
On successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

- conduct comprehensive, holistic advanced physical assessments.
- integrate the assessment of related functional systems, using Gordon's Functional Health Pattern model;
- demonstrate an understanding of the meanings and determinants of "health" for individuals and families;
- prepare a document to a standard required for publication according to the guidelines of one of four selected journals.

**TOPICS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Weighting (%)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Introductory Concepts Assessing holistically Holistic history taking Risk Profiles and analysis</td>
<td>12.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Assessing Psychosocial/Spiritual Patterns Self Perception, Role Relationships Coping/Stress tolerance Value and Beliefs</td>
<td>15.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Assessing Activity and Exercise Patterns Heart and Blood Vessels Lungs and Thorax Musculoskeletal Integrated Assessments of Activity and Exercise Patterns</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Assessing Cognitive/Perceptual Patterns Mental Status assessment Assessment of Head, Eyes, Ears, Nose, Mouth and Sinuses Neurosensory assessment</td>
<td>15.00</td>
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<td>5. Assessing Sexuality/Reproductive Patterns Breast and Axilla Specific Male and Female Neonatal assessment</td>
<td>15.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. Assessing Nutritional/Metabolic and Elimination Patterns Nutritional assessment Integumentary assessment Abdominal assessment</td>
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<tr>
<td>7. Assessment Communications Evaluation of assessment Communications Client teaching and learning</td>
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**TEXT and MATERIALS required to be PURCHASED or ACCESSED:**

Books can be ordered by fax or telephone. For costs and further details use the 'Book Search' facility at http://bookshop.usq.edu.au by entering the author or title of the text.

USQ Physical Assessment Videos (2) 2nd edn.


Introductory Book 2002, *Course NUR5360 Advanced Health Assessment*, USQ Distance Education Centre, Toowoomba.

Selected Readings 2002, *Course NUR5360 Advanced Health Assessment*, USQ Distance Education Centre, Toowoomba.

Study Book 2002, *Course NUR5360 Advanced Health Assessment*, USQ Distance Education Centre, Toowoomba.

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.


STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS

<table>
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<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>HOURS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Directed Study</td>
<td>76</td>
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<td>Private Study</td>
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ASSESSMENT DETAILS

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<tr>
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<th>Marks Out of</th>
<th>Wtg(%)</th>
<th>Required</th>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>ASSGT PRAC &amp; DOC HLTH ASSESS</td>
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<td>60.00</td>
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<td>01 Nov 2002</td>
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OTHER REQUIREMENTS

1 Attendance Requirements: It is the students' responsibility to study all material provided to them or required to be accessed by them to maximize their chance of meeting the objectives of the course and to be informed of course-related activities and administration.

2 Minimum Requirements to Pass the Course: To be assured of a pass in this course, students must obtain a mark of at least 50% in each assessment item.

3 Assignments: The due date for an assignment is the date by which a student must dispatch the assignment to the USQ. The onus is on the student to provide proof of the dispatch date, if requested by the examiner. Students must retain a copy of each item submitted for assessment. This must be produced within five days if
required by the examiner. In accordance with University's Assignment Extension Policy (Regulation 5.6.1), the examiner of a course may grant an extension of the
due date of an assignment in extenuating circumstances. This policy may be found
in the USQ Handbook, the Distance Education Student Guide and the Faculty of
Sciences' Orientation Handbook for on-campus students. All students are advised
to study and follow the guidelines associated with this policy. An assignment,
submitted after the due date without an extension approved by the Examiner, will
attract a penalty of 20 percent of the assigned mark for each day (or part thereof)
that the assignment is late.

Grading: Final grades for students will be determined by the addition of the marks
obtained in each assessment item, weighted as in the Assessment Details.