The University of Southern Queensland

Course Specification

Description: Introductory Nursing 1

<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>ONC</td>
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Academic Group: FOSCI
Academic Org: FOS004
HECS Band: 1
ASCED Code: 060301

STAFFING
Examiner: Cheryl Perrin
Moderator: Janet Rankin

RATIONALE
In order to practice as a professional nurse it is vital that beginning level students understand the underlying theoretical principles of nursing practice. This course explores some of the basic human needs from the centrality of individuals maintaining their integrity and coping with vulnerability. The integrity and vulnerability of the student are also addressed in relation to Risk Assessment, Risk Management, Back Fitness and Safe Patient Transfer techniques.

SYNOPSIS
This course introduces students to contemporary nursing practice taking a basic overview of the legal and ethical background to practice. Basic human needs will be assessed using the Irurita "Integrity/Vulnerability" framework within both experiential and situational learning approaches. The course also examines, at an introductory level, how an individual's physical, mental, emotional, social, spiritual and cultural beliefs influence their integrity and vulnerability. Students will also be introduced to the importance of recognising their own vulnerability and maintaining their integrity within the workplace environment.

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

- discuss the role of nurses in maintaining their own integrity in relation to - principles of safe practice and infection control; back care and safe patient transfer techniques; workplace risk assessment and risk management;
- apply, at a beginning level, current legal and ethical determinants of contemporary nursing practice;
- assess patients' integrity and vulnerability status;
• plan, implement and evaluate care to maintain patients' integrity using evidence based practice in relation to: observations, hygiene needs, elimination needs, skin integrity, respiratory function;
• apply, at an introductory level, a "Clinical Decision Making Model" to the assessment of patients' integrity and vulnerability status;
• demonstrate during clinical laboratory sessions, a satisfactory level of skills and knowledge to be able to perform patient care at a beginning level;
• demonstrate achievement of the following clinical objectives:- 1) demonstrate clinical competence and understanding when applying the principles of safe practice in relation to: infection control, personal back care, safe patient transfer techniques, workplace risk assessment and risk management; 2) apply, at a beginning level, legal and ethically justifiable nursing practice; 3) utilise a Clinical Decision Making Model within the Irurita framework to assess patient's integrity and vulnerability status to plan, implement and evaluate care related to: observations, hygiene needs, skin integrity, elimination needs, respiratory function; 4) demonstrate effective communication and collaboration with patients, their significant others and fellow health care team members; 5) apply nursing practice skills and knowledge appropriate to their patient's cultural, spiritual and personal values; and 6) demonstrate to a satisfactory standard, completion of 40 hours of clinical experience as partial fulfilment of QNC requirements.

TOPICS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Weighting (%)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Introduction to the Course - contemporary nursing practice, introductory law, ethics and confidentiality, back care and safe patient transfer techniques, workplace risk assessment and risk management.</td>
<td>30.00</td>
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<td>2. Principles of Safe Practice - infection control, observations, hygiene needs, elimination needs, skin integrity, respiratory function.</td>
<td>50.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Clinical Decision Making - health history taking and documentation, assessment techniques, planning, implementing and evaluating care, using a clinical decision making process.</td>
<td>20.00</td>
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</table>

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.

Stethoscope with bell and diaphragm
Sphygmomanometer


**STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>HOURS</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Examinations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Laboratory or Practical Classes</td>
<td>24</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lectures</td>
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<tr>
<td>Private Study</td>
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<td>Tutorial</td>
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**ASSESSMENT DETAILS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Marks Out of</th>
<th>Wtg(%)</th>
<th>Required</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>40HRS CLINICAL EXPERIENCE</td>
<td>1.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>CLINICAL PSYCHOMOTOR SKILLS</td>
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<tr>
<td>CONFIDENTIALITY FORM</td>
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<td>1500 WORD ESSAY</td>
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<td>16 May 2003</td>
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<tr>
<td>1.5HR RESTRICTED EXAMINATION</td>
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<tr>
<td>1.5HR RESTRICTED EXAMINATION</td>
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<td>25.00</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>END S1</td>
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</table>

**NOTES:**

- The examiner will advise the due date for this assessment item.
Part A Multiple Choice. Examination dates will be available during the semester. Please refer to the examination timetable when published. This is Part A of a three hour examination.

Part B Short Answers. Examination dates will be available during the semester. Please refer to the examination timetable when published. This is Part B of a three hour examination.

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 40 hours of clinical experience as partial fulfillment of Queensland Nursing Council requirements for registration. To ensure that students can satisfy the objectives of the clinical component of the course, they must attend, and actively participate in the tutorials and laboratory sessions in this course prior to undertaking Clinical Experience.

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. To complete the Clinical Experience satisfactorily, students must complete 40 hours of Clinical Experience as organized by the Nursing Department and obtain a satisfactory standard on the performance evaluation profile thus gaining the 1 mark for Clinical Experience.

3 Penalties for late submission of required work:
If students submit assignments after the due date without prior approval then a penalty of 5% 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 satisfactorily complete each assessment item. Students who do not qualify for a Passing grade may, at the discretion of the Examiner, be awarded a Supplementary Examination and/or assigned additional work to demonstrate to the Examiner that they have achieved the required standard. It is expected that such students will have gained at least 45% of the total marks available for 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 weighted aggregate of the marks obtained for each of the summative assessment items in the course.

6 Examination information:
In a Restricted Examination, candidates are allowed access to specific materials during the examination. 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); 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; English translation dictionaries (but not technical dictionaries); Formula sheets; Translation dictionary. Students whose first language is not English, may, with the Examiner's approval, take an appropriate non-electronic translation 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; Translation dictionary. With the Examiner's approval, candidates may, take an appropriate non-electronic translation dictionary into the examination. This will be subject to perusal and, if it is found to contain annotations or markings that could give the candidate an unfair advantage, it may be removed from the candidate's possession until the appropriate disciplinary action is completed.

7 Examination period when Deferred/Supplementary examinations will be held:
Any Deferred or Supplementary examinations for this course will be held during the examination period at the end of the semester of the next offering of 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/SECARIAT/calendar/Part5/ or in the printed version of 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 The examiner may grant an extension of the due date of an assignment in extenuating circumstances.

11 Students who, for medical, family/personal, or employment-related reasons, are unable to complete an assignment or to sit for an examination at the scheduled time may apply to defer an assessment in a course. Such a request must be accompanied by appropriate supporting documentation. One of the following temporary grades may be awarded IDS (Incomplete - Deferred Examination; IDM (Incomplete Deferred Make-up); IDB (Incomplete - Both Deferred Examination and Deferred Make-up).