The University of Southern Queensland

Course specification

**Description: Medical Surgical Nursing 4**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Cat-nbr</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Mode</th>
<th>Units</th>
<th>Campus</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NUR</td>
<td>2050</td>
<td>34415</td>
<td>2, 2004</td>
<td>ONC</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>TW MBA</td>
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</table>

**Academic group:** FOSCI  
**Academic org:** FOS004  
**Student contribution band:** 1  
**ASCED code:** 060301

**STAFFING**

Examiner: Geoff Wilson  
Moderator: Marie Cleary

**REQUISITES**

Pre-requisite: NUR2020 and NUR 2030

**RATIONALE**

Medical surgical nursing comprises a large proportion of nursing practice. Students need to develop the ability to integrate and apply their knowledge of pathophysiology and pharmacology to facilitate appropriate nursing interventions for patients experiencing medical surgical problems.

**SYNOPSIS**

This course continues to apply the concepts of "vulnerability" and the maintenance of "integrity" to management of nursing care for individuals in various settings, across the lifespan. The broad causal factors of disease and pathophysiology underpinning the gastro-intestinal, renal and urogenital systems are examined. They are examined from the perspective of strategies nurses can use to minimise the vulnerability of clients experiencing medical and surgical problems. Concurrently, students are encouraged to develop strategies to increase the personal integrity of these patients. Sixty (60) hours of clinical experience is included in the course in order to integrate and contextualize the material covered and in order to partially fulfill the requirements for registration with the Queensland Nursing Council.

**OBJECTIVES**

On completion of this course students will be able to:
1. demonstrate the application of knowledge to assist individuals with complex medical and surgical conditions to reduce their vulnerability and increase their personal integrity;
2. identify the action, dosage, unwanted side effects and monitoring strategies related to therapeutic drug regimes;
3. demonstrate and integrate knowledge of pathophysiology, pharmacology and the collaborative role of nursing to the holistic management of patients;
4. assess, plan, implement, evaluate and document nursing care through systematic data collection and the application of clinical reasoning skills incorporating evidence based practice;
5. demonstrate the ability to undertake clinical experience safely;
6. carry out a comprehensive and accurate assessment commensurate with the disorders covered at the time of placement;
7. demonstrate effective communication and collaboration with patients, families and other members of the health care team;
8. demonstrate appropriate professional communication in oral and written form;
9. actively participate in the educational needs of patients with medical/surgical conditions;
10. apply caring/educational strategies appropriate to: cultural beliefs; spiritual beliefs; personal desires;
11. participate in/observe the following: handover; ward rounds; ward meetings; facets of ward management;
12. identify ways to help the patient with a medical/surgical condition cope with: the illness event; the environment; hospitalisation; altered body image; complications;
13. actively participate in/assist with the rehabilitation needs of patients and their families, where appropriate;
14. participate/observe in the nursing management of patients undergoing investigations/diagnostic investigations where appropriate;
15. conduct nursing practice in accordance with legislation and common law affecting nursing practice; and
16. conduct nursing practice in a way that can be ethically justified.

TOPICS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Weighting (%)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Care of clients with compromised gastro-intestinal system</td>
<td>30.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Care of clients with compromised renal system</td>
<td>35.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Care of clients with compromised urogenital system</td>
<td>35.00</td>
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</table>

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).


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>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>HOURS</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clinical Experience</td>
<td>60.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Examinations</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laboratory or Practical Classes</td>
<td>10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lectures</td>
<td>22.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private Study</td>
<td>66.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tutorial</td>
<td>18.00</td>
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ASSESSMENT DETAILS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Marks out of</th>
<th>Wtg(%)</th>
<th>Due date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>60HR CLINICAL EXPERIENCE</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>20 Jul 2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(see note 1)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(see note 1)</td>
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<tr>
<td>ASSIGNMENT</td>
<td>40.00</td>
<td>40.00</td>
<td>11 Oct 2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(see note 2)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(see note 2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PTA OF 2.5HR REST EXAM M/C</td>
<td>40.00</td>
<td>30.00</td>
<td>END S2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(see note 3)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(see note 3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PTB OF 2.5HR REST EXAM S/A</td>
<td>30.00</td>
<td>30.00</td>
<td>END S2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTES:
1. Please refer to the Course Examiner for information about Clinical Experience.
2. Examination dates will be available during the semester. Please refer to the examination timetable when published.
3. 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 60 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 all of 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 60 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. Clinical Experience will be provided on the basis that students: a) meet attendance requirements, b) hold a current CPR certificate, c) have a current confidentiality form on file, and d) have an immunization record on file.

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 a passing grade, students must: a) obtain a mark of 1 for clinical experience, b) submit all of the summative assessment items, c) achieve at least 50% in the examination and at least 50% of the available weighted marks for the summative assessment items. 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 each of 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 aggregate of the weighted marks obtained for each of the summative assessment items in the course.

6 Examination information:
   Candidates are allowed access only to specific materials during a Restricted 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). Students whose first language is not English, may, with the Examiner's approval, take an appropriate non-electronic translation dictionary (but not 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 third 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, 5.6. 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 The Faculty will normally only accept assessments that have been written, typed or printed on paper-based media.

13 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.

14 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).

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.