

**J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College
Course Content Summary**

Course Prefix and Number: NSG 252

Credits: 4

Course Title: Complex Health Care Concepts

Course Description: Focuses on nursing care of diverse individuals and families integrating complex health concepts. Emphasizes clinical judgment, patient-centered care and collaboration. Prerequisites: NSG 210 and NSG 211. Lecture 4 hours per week.

General Course Purpose: The purpose of this course is to apply complex health concepts that relate to the client and family across the lifespan.

Course Prerequisites and Co-requisites:

Prerequisites: NSG 210 and NSG 211

Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon completing the course, the student will be able to

- a. Provide patient-centered care promoting therapeutic relationships, caring behaviors, and self-determination across the lifespan for diverse populations of individuals with complex health needs;
- b. Practice safe nursing care that minimizes risk of harm across systems and client populations with complex health needs;
- c. Demonstrate nursing judgment through the use of clinical reasoning, the nursing process, and evidence-based practice in the provision of safe, quality care for clients with complex health needs;
- d. Practice professional behaviors that encompass the legal/ethical framework while incorporating self-reflection, leadership, and a commitment to recognize the value of lifelong learning;
- e. Manage client care through quality improvement processes, information technology, and fiscal responsibility to meet client needs and support organizational outcomes; and
- f. Demonstrate principles of collaborative practice within nursing and interdisciplinary teams, fostering mutual respect and shared decision-making to achieve optimal outcomes of care.

Major Topics to Be Included:

- a. Fluid and Electrolyte Concept
 - Fluid and electrolyte principles
 - Risk factors related to altered fluid and electrolyte levels
 - Prevention of altered fluid and electrolyte levels
 - Fluid and electrolyte diagnostic testing
 - Nursing process related to altered fluid and electrolyte levels
 - Exemplars: acute kidney injury and chronic renal failure
- b. Acid-Base Concept
 - Acid-base principles
 - Risk factors related to altered acid-base balance
 - Prevention of altered acid-base balance
 - Acid-based diagnostic testing

- Nursing process related to altered acid-base balance
 - Exemplars: metabolic acidosis and alkalosis, respiratory acidosis and alkalosis
- c. Intracranial Regulation Concept
- Intracranial regulation principles
 - Risk factors related to altered intracranial regulation
 - Prevention of altered intracranial regulation
 - Intracranial regulation diagnostic testing
 - Nursing process related to altered intracranial regulation
 - Pharmacological interventions: anti-epileptic drugs, anti-Parkinson drugs
 - Exemplars: Cerebral Vascular Accident (CVA), seizures: child and adult
- d. Mobility Concept
- Mobility principles
 - Risk factors related to altered mobility
 - Prevention of altered mobility
 - Mobility diagnostic testing
 - Nursing process related to altered mobility
 - Exemplars: spinal cord injury (adult), spina bifida (pediatric), Parkinson's disease
- e. Inflammation Concept
- Inflammatory principles
 - Risk factors related to altered inflammation prevention of altered inflammation
 - Inflammation diagnostic testing
 - Nursing process related to altered inflammation
 - Exemplars: hepatitis, cirrhosis, pancreatitis
- f. Infection Concept
- Infection principles
 - Risk factors related to infection
 - Prevention of infection
 - Infection diagnostic testing
 - Nursing process related to infection
 - Exemplars: sepsis across the lifespan
- g. Tissue Integrity Concept
- Tissue integrity principles
 - Risk factors related to altered tissue integrity
 - Prevention of altered tissue integrity
 - Tissue integrity diagnostic testing
 - Nursing process related to altered tissue integrity
 - Pharmacological interventions: topical treatment of burns
 - Exemplars: burns
- h. Perfusion Concept
- Perfusion principles
 - Risk factors related to altered perfusion
 - Prevention of altered perfusion
 - Perfusion diagnostic testing
 - Nursing process related to altered perfusion

- Hemodynamic monitoring
 - Chest tube management
 - Pharmacological interventions: anti-arrhythmic drugs, thrombolytic drugs, adrenergic drugs, anticholinergic drugs
 - Exemplars: shock/Multiple Organ Dysfunction Syndrome (MODS), arrhythmias, congenital defects (infant/child)
- i. Gas Exchange Concept
- Gas exchange principles
 - Risk factors related to altered gas exchange
 - Prevention of altered gas exchange
 - Gas exchange diagnostic testing
 - Nursing process related to altered gas exchange
 - Ventilation: mechanical, continuous positive airway pressure, bi-level airway pressure
 - Exemplars: Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome (ARDS), pneumothorax

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