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: ENG 112, NSG 210, and NSG 211 with grades of C or above. Co-requisites: CST 229 or PHI 101 or PHI 220 or PHI 225 or PHI 227; NSG 230, and NSG 270. 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: ENG 112, NSG 210, and NSG 211 with grades of C or above
Co-requisites: CST 229 or PHI 101 or PHI 220 or PHI 225 or PHI 227; NSG 230, and NSG 270

Course Objectives:
Upon completing the course, the student will be able to:
1. Provide patient-centered care promoting therapeutic relationships, caring behaviors, and self-determination across the lifespan for diverse populations of individuals with complex health needs.
2. Practice safe nursing care that minimizes risk of harm across systems and client populations with complex health needs.
3. 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.
4. Practice professional behaviors that encompass the legal/ethical framework while incorporating self-reflection, leadership, and a commitment to recognize the value of lifelong learning.
5. Manage client care through quality improvement processes, information technology, and fiscal responsibility to meet client needs and support organizational outcomes.
6. 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:

1. 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
2. **Acid-Base Concept**
   Acid-base principles  
   Risk factors related to altered acid-base balance  
   Prevention of altered acid-base balance  
   Acid-base diagnostic testing  
   Nursing process related to altered acid-base balance  
   Exemplars: metabolic acidosis and alkalosis, respiratory acidosis and alkalosis

3. **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

4. **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

5. **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

6. **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

7. **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
8. **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)

9. **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, bilevel airway pressure
   - Exemplars: Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome (ARDS), pneumothorax

**Effective Date of Course Content Summary:** Spring 2019