J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College  
Course Content Summary

Course Prefix and Number: NSG 270  
Credits: 4

Course Title: Nursing Capstone

Course Description: Provides students with the opportunity to comprehensively apply and integrate learned concepts from previous nursing courses into a capstone experience. Emphasizes the mastery of patient-centered care, safety, nursing judgment, professional behaviors, informatics, quality improvement, and collaboration in the achievement of optimal outcomes of care. Provides supervised learning experiences in faculty and/or preceptor-guided college nursing laboratories, clinical/community settings, and/or simulated environments. 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 252. Laboratory 12 hours per week.

General Course Purpose: The purpose of this course is to expand on the role of the professional nurse in the healthcare environment in preparation for practice as a registered nurse.

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 252

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;
b. Practice safe nursing care that minimizes risk of harm across systems and client populations;
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;
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 the nursing and interdisciplinary teams fostering mutual respect and shared decision-making to achieve optimal outcomes of care.

Major Topics to Be Included:
1. Management of Patient-Centered Care Concepts
   - Patient advocacy, respect, and caring
   - Development of a patient-centered plan of care
   - Time management and workload organization
   - Incorporation of evidence-based practices and technology in patient care
   - Use of therapeutic communication skills
2. Safety Concepts
- Safety and infection control implementation in patient care
- Incorporation of safety principles
- Use of safety enhancing technologies
- Incorporation of national patient safety goals

3. Nursing Judgment Concepts
- Develop an individualized plan of care based on patient values, clinical expertise, and reliable evidence
- Recognize changes in patient status and intervene appropriately
- Apply the nursing process to guide care
- Prioritize patient care accurately using relevant data and best evidence
- Incorporate and value evidence-based practice, evaluate existing practices, and seek creative approaches to problem-solving

4. Professionalism Concepts
- Ethical and legal issues in patient care
- Responsibility and accountability for delivering safe patient care
- Professional demeanor in interactions with patients, families and healthcare providers
- Reflective thinking for the purpose of improving nursing practice
- Initiating a plan for ongoing professional development

5. Informatics and Quality Improvement Concepts
- Common quality measures encountered in clinical practice
- Technology and information management tools to support safe, patient care
- Fiscal responsibility in the delivery of patient care

6. Teamwork and Collaboration Concepts
- The effect nursing and other interdisciplinary team members have upon care processes and outcomes for patients and families within any healthcare setting
- Collaboration with members of the healthcare team
- Appreciation of different communication styles and cultural differences in team members
- Management skills and principles of delegation
- Identification of own strengths and weaknesses to improve individual as well as team performance

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