Course Prefix and Number: NUR 254

Credits: 2

Course Title: Dimensions of Professional Nursing

Course Description:
Explores the roles of the professional nurse. Emphasizes nursing organizations, legal and ethical implications, and addresses trends in management and organizational skills. Explores group dynamics, relationships, conflicts, and leadership styles. Prerequisites: Successful completion of Semester I, II, and III of the Nursing program with grades of C or above in each course. Co requisite: NUR 246. Prerequisite or co-requisite: Approved Humanities/Fine Arts Elective.

General Course Purpose:
A requirement of the Nursing AAS degree program, the purpose of this course is to assist the student develop an understanding of concepts and challenges within the role of the nurse within a changing healthcare environment.

Course Objectives:
Upon completing the course, student will be able to:
1. Use state nursing regulations to identify the role and responsibilities of the practical nurse and the registered nurse.
2. Distinguish effective delegation of client care.
3. Employ the “spirit of inquiry” to develop an understanding of a selected topic within the theme of nursing judgment professional identity based on evidence-based practice.
4. Use knowledge of the principles of management to improve quality of care outcomes.
5. Demonstrate techniques useful in conflict resolution.
6. Design a strategy to manage personal levels of stress and reduce burn-out.
7. Use knowledge of ethics, values, and beliefs to develop increased awareness of the client advocacy role for nurses.
8. Illustrate the principles of professionalism.
9. Identify and discuss health care organizations.
10. Discuss different economic climates and agencies for safety in the health care environment.
11. Develop career goals and create a resume.
12. Explore health care policy and trends.
13. Investigate professional nursing organizations and strategies to empower new graduates.

Major Topics to be Included:
1. Role and responsibilities of licensed nurses
2. Delegation of care
3. Evidence-based practice in nursing
4. Principles of management
5. Conflict resolution
6. Stress management
7. Role of advocacy in healthcare
8. Professionalism
9. Health care organizations
10. Economics, quality, and safety in the health care environment
11. Health work environment
12. Career goals and work-related stress and burnout
13. Health care policy, trends, professional organizations, and empowerment

Effective Date of Course Content Summary: Summer 2014 (if new NUR 111 begins Summer 2013);
Fall 2014 (If new NUR 111 begins Fall 2013)