

**NURS 4581: Nursing of Adults with Complex Needs**  
**Spring 2013 Syllabus**

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**College of Nursing Phone Number:** 817-272-2776

**College of Nursing Fax Number:** 817-272-5006

**Time and Place of Class Meetings:**

Section 001 – Monday 8-10:50 am, Pickard Hall 104

Section 002 – Monday 1:00-3:50 pm, Pickard Hall 102

**Description of Course Content:**

Use of critical thinking, therapeutic nursing interventions and communication skills in promoting quality of life for persons with complex health needs. Application of nursing roles in diverse settings. Prerequisite: NURS 3561, 3481.

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

- Synthesize current evidence and theoretical knowledge to deliver competent, culturally sensitive, developmentally appropriate holistic care for persons with complex health needs.
- Demonstrate analytical, logical reasoning in the implementation of the nursing process for persons with complex health needs.
- Provide progressively independent safe, quality nursing care for persons with complex needs upholding ethical and legal standards.
- Collaborate effectively with patients; families, and the interdisciplinary team using oral, written, and non-verbal communication in providing comprehensive care to persons with complex health needs.
- Demonstrate leadership skills in ethical behavior and conflict management while caring for the patient with complex needs.
- Provide cost-effective care to patients with complex health care needs.
- Provide progressively independent safe, quality nursing care for persons with complex needs upholding ethical and legal standards.
- Incorporate multiple technologies into all aspects of care to complex patients.

**Requirements:**

1. Attendance is expected for class and roll will be kept. Students are expected to be on time for class.
2. Exams may be rescheduled only for a legitimate emergent reason such as personal illness or a death in the family. No make-up HESI exams will be given if a student misses the exam. In the event a student misses the HESI exam, the student is expected to notify the lead teacher on or before the exam day. Students missing this exam will receive the grade achieved on the comprehensive course final exam as the missing HESI exam grade. The final exam grade WILL NOT be substituted for a HESI exam grade at a student's discretion or because a student is not satisfied with the score they achieved on the HESI exam. Exams will not be rescheduled for convenience of vacation travel, work schedules, job interviews, or child care issues.
3. Students are expected to submit required written clinical assignments on time. Students must have a VALID reason (serious illness, death in family) for requesting an extension. See guidelines pertaining to written assignments. Refer to course schedule for due dates.
4. NO CHILDREN MAY BE BROUGHT TO CLASS OR EXAMS. Do not leave children unattended in the building.
5. Nursing acts are based on knowledge and application of principles of bio-physical and social science consistent with the Nurse Practice Act. Any nursing action omitted or committed that is either an actual or a potential endangerment to patients may be considered sufficient rationale for course failure.
6. Students are responsible for any information presented in class, including, but not limited to, lecture notes, announcements, schedule changes, syllabus changes, handouts, etc. Students absent from class have the responsibility to obtain missed information from another classmate.
7. During class, THE AUDIO MODE OF BEEPERS AND CELL PHONES MUST BE TURNED OFF. Ringing of cellular phones and/or cellular phone conversations during class demonstrates unacceptable professional behavior.
8. Laptops may be used during class time for NOTE TAKING ONLY. Laptops MAY NOT be used to check e-mail, etc, during class time.
9. Students should provide their families with class and clinical schedules, as well as phone numbers of the College of Nursing and clinical agency, so that messages may be given to students in an appropriate manner.

10. Students must provide their clinical instructor with the name and phone number of a person who can be contacted in case of emergency during clinical hours.
11. In the event it is necessary to relocate this class at any time during the semester, reserve classrooms are available.
12. Students will be requested to complete teacher and course evaluations during the final class period.
13. Students are responsible for reading the syllabus and supplement and completing and signing the Syllabus Contract for N4581. The due date for turning in the signed contract is Monday, January 28, 2013.

**Protocol of testing:**

1. Students must present the UTA student ID in order to take an exam.
2. No talking between students is allowed during testing.
3. **ALL PERSONAL CALCULATORS, CELL PHONES, AND PAGERS MUST BE TURNED OFF AND PLACED AT THE FRONT OR SIDES OF THE ROOM DURING ALL EXAMS. NO CELL PHONES OR PAGERS, ELECTRONIC PARAPHERNALIA, BOOKS, PAGES OF BOOKS, PAPERS, NOTES, OR NOTECARDS OF ANY TYPE MAY BE ON YOUR PERSON OR USED IN ANY MANNER DURING AN EXAM.**
4. Only UTA College of Nursing calculators may be used on exams.
5. Purses, backpacks and all class materials are to be placed at the front or sides of the room during the test period.
6. Students are expected to **KEEP THEIR EYES ON THEIR COMPUTER SCREEN OR TEST BOOKLET/PAPERS** (depending on exam format) and not look about the room during exams. The exam proctor will move you to a different seat if this requirement is not followed.
7. Head phones may not be used during exams.
8. Dress in layers. No hoodies or sweaters, jackets, or coats with pockets may be worn while testing. Baseball caps must be removed or turned so that the "bill" of the cap is at the back of the head during exams.
9. Although faculty strives to provide a quiet testing environment there may be noises and distractions in any testing environment that are beyond the control of the exam proctors. If a student feels that the testing environment is unduly noisy or distracting for any reason, it is the responsibility of the student to report this to an exam proctor as soon as possible during the exam so corrective action may be taken.
10. Students are requested to maintain a quiet atmosphere in the hallway if finished ahead of classmates.
11. Please refer to course schedule for dates of tests.
12. Students arriving excessively late for an exam and/or students arriving for an exam after other student(s) have completed the exam and/or left the room will not be permitted to take the regularly scheduled exam. A make-up exam will be required.
13. **Non-compliance with these guidelines will result in disciplinary action and may result in course failure**

**Required Textbooks and Other Course Materials:**

Gahart & Nazareno. (2013). *Intravenous medications*. (29<sup>th</sup> Ed). Elsevier. ISBN 9780323084819

Lewis. (2011). *Medical-surgical nursing: Assessment and management of clinical problems*. (8<sup>th</sup> Ed). Mosby. ISBN 9780323036900 **(From N3561)**

Pagana & Pagana. (2009). *Diagnostic and laboratory test reference*. (9<sup>th</sup> ed). St. Louis, MO: Mosby. ISBN 9780323053457

N4581 Course Supplement is available at Bird's Copies, 208 S. East St., Arlington, TX, 76010. Phone (817) 459-1688. **You must have your N4581 supplement for class and on campus lab days. \*\*\*\*\***

### Recommended Textbooks:

Aehlert, B. (2006). *ECG's made easy*. (3<sup>rd</sup> Ed). St Louis, MO: Elsevier. ISBN 978996012563

### OR

Atwood, S., Stanton, C., & Storey-Davenport, J. (2009). *Introduction to basic cardiac dysrhythmias*. (4<sup>th</sup> Ed). St. Louis, MO: Elsevier. ISBN 9780323052252

Evolve Apply Case Studies – ISBN 9781416042488

### Descriptions of major assignments and examinations with due dates:

Course Schedule with dates and assignments available on Blackboard and at the end of this document.

### Grading Policy:

In order to pass the course, the student must pass both the theory and the clinical components of the course.

Quizzes (10 questions each)	6%
Math Competency Test (15 questions)	5%
Unit Exam 1 (75 questions)	20%
Unit Exam 2 (75 questions)	20%
Unit Exam 3 (75 questions)	20%
HESI Critical Care Specialty Exam (55 questions)	9%
Comprehensive Final Exam (75 questions)	<u>20%</u>
	100%

**Math Competency Exam:** Students must achieve a score of 90% or greater on the Math Competency Exam in order to satisfactorily meet the clinical objectives for medication administration, and prior to medication administration in clinical. A student who does not satisfactorily meet the clinical objectives for medication administration will not pass clinical. Students who fail to achieve 90% on the Math Competency Exam after 3 attempts may not continue in the course.

The first administration of the Math Competency Exam will be given from 0730-0800 during the on-campus preclinical lab day at the Smart Hospital the second week of class. **Your grade (5% toward final course grade) will be the score earned on the first administration.** An unexcused absence will result in a zero for your first attempt and a zero for your grade. Students who do not achieve at least 90% on Math Competency will have two additional opportunities to retake the 15 question math test. Time and location of retesting will be announced in class.

The vast majority of exams will be comprised of standard multiple-choice questions, but up to 8% of a given exam may include alternate-format questions (multiple answer or select all options that apply; fill in the blank; math problems; identification of a "hot spot" or key assessment area on a picture or graphic; rank order/prioritization; or chart exhibit). **The exams may be given either in the written (paper) format or on a computer at UTA. Tests are given at UTA only and are proctored. Students must bring their UTA ID card for all tests.**

ALL exams count toward the required minimum course grade of 70.00% on proctored exams; **math test and quizzes are NOT included in this calculation.** In determining the final course grade for N4581, the weighted average on proctored exams will be checked first. If a student achieved a 70.00% with no rounding of weighted average on proctored exams, the non-proctored quiz grades will count toward the final course grade. **If the student did not achieve a 70.00% with no rounding of weighted average on proctored exams, the course grade calculation stops and the grade stands as a D or F as determined by the numerical value from the weighted average on proctored exams.**

***In addition, there are no opportunities for “make-up” assignments or to earn extra credit in this course.***

In order to successfully complete an undergraduate nursing course at UTA, the following minimum criteria must be met:

- 70% weighted average on proctored exams
- 70% weighted average on major written assignments (none for N4581)
- 90% on math test
- 90% on practicum skills check offs (if applicable)

**In undergraduate nursing courses, all grade calculations will be carried out to two decimal places and there will be no rounding of final grades.** Letter grades for tests, written assignments and end-of-course grades, etc. shall be:

- A = 90.00 – 100.00
- B = 80.00 – 89.99
- C = 70.00 – 79.99
- D = 60.00 – 69.99

The existing rule of C or better to progress remains in effect; therefore, to successfully complete a nursing course, students shall have a course grade of 70.00 or greater.

### **Tardy/Absence Policies:**

#### **For Clinical– See Undergraduate Student Handbook:**

Clinical is defined as all experiences contributing to clinical hours including, but not limited to campus labs, hospital labs and ancillary experiences. Attendance at all clinical activities is required. The student must be in clinical in order to be evaluated on the clinical criteria. The opportunity to apply theory is limited and should be used to the maximum. The scheduling of personal appointments or travel (except for emergencies) during clinical/lab will not be tolerated.

#### **Attendance**

Attendance is expected for class and roll will be kept. Students are expected to be on time for class.

#### **Absence Policies**

Absences for lab, exams or clinical may be considered excused or unexcused. Reasons that would commonly constitute an excused absence include emergent situations such as personal illness, illness of child, critical illness or death of family member, jury duty that cannot be rescheduled, other court or legal circumstances, and military commitments that cannot be rescheduled. **For any**

**such absence, the Lead Teacher must be notified in advance (unless not feasible due to circumstance, i.e. car accident, hospitalization) and the absence approved. Further, the student must provide documentation to support the absence (doctor's excuse detailing when you could return to school, obituary, court summons, etc.).** It is the final decision of the Lead Teachers as to whether an absence is considered excused.

### **Clinical/lab:**

The clinical instructor must be notified by the student prior to the start time of clinical or lab of any potential for missing the clinical/lab experience. Absences are very serious and difficult to make up. Because of this, any clinical or lab absence, excused or unexcused, will result in a behavioral contract and the make-up of lost time. Two unexcused absences will result in clinical failure. More than two excused absences from clinical/lab may result in failure to meet clinical outcomes and jeopardize passing the course. Clinical instructors will work with the lead teacher to determine the method of making up missed clinical/lab. Make-up for clinical/ lab sessions must be approved by the lead teachers. Unexcused absences are considered unprofessional behavior. See course/clinical outcomes.

### **Exams and Quizzes:**

The lead teacher must be notified in advance of any potential for missing any exam. Written verification for an excused absence is required. There are no makeups for missed quizzes. Approved make-up exams will be given within one week following exam date unless other arrangements are made with lead teacher. Format for makeup exams may differ from regularly scheduled exam. (This may be short answer, case study, discussion, alternative question format, online, etc.) Though excused absences may be made up, a pattern of exam absences is a serious matter and reflects on professionalism. Penalties will be assessed after the first excused absence.

<b>Excused Absences requiring makeup exam</b>	<b>Penalty</b>
First	None
Second	5 points off makeup and contract with lead teacher
Third	10 points off makeup
Fourth	20 points off makeup

\*There is no makeup for HESI – Grade on Final Exam will be used.

There will be a 20 point penalty for each make-up exam for an unexcused cause.

### **Tardy Policies:**

**Clinical/lab:** Tardiness is defined as arriving between 1 minute and one hour after clinical or lab has been started by the instructor. You must speak in person by phone to your clinical instructor if you are going to be tardy in either lab or clinical. Text messaging is at the discretion of the clinical faculty. (Not all clinical instructors accept text messaging as contact. Please clarify with your instructor.) Sending email is not acceptable. One tardy will result in a verbal warning. Two tardies will result in a written behavioral contract. Three tardies will result in breach of the behavioral contract leading to course failure.

A behavioral contract is instituted on the first occurrence if a student does not notify the clinical instructor or arrives to clinical/lab more than one hour late. Students who are late more than one hour may be sent home at the discretion of the clinical faculty, resulting in an unexcused absence. Tardies or absences will be considered unprofessional behavior resulting in being unsatisfactory

on the evaluation which will lead to course failure if not corrected. See course/clinical outcomes. See unexcused absence policies.

**Exams:**

A student who is late for a proctored exam may enter the testing area quietly and begin testing. No extra time will be allowed. However, if another student has completed the exam and left the exam room by the time the student arrives, the late student will not be allowed to test that day and will be required to take the alternative format exam (see "exams missed for unexcused absences"). The penalty for a tardy requiring a makeup is the same as a missed exam for an unapproved absence: 20 points will be subtracted from the exam grade.

**Grade Grievances:** Any appeal of a grade in this course must follow the procedures and deadlines for grade-related grievances as published in the current undergraduate catalog.

[http://www.uta.edu/catalog/content/general/academic\\_regulations.aspx#10](http://www.uta.edu/catalog/content/general/academic_regulations.aspx#10)

**Drop Policy:** Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering.

**Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance.** Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (<http://www.uta.edu/ses/fao>).

**Americans with Disabilities Act:** The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including the *Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)*. All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Any student requiring an accommodation for this course must provide the instructor with official documentation in the form of a letter certified by the staff in the Office for Students with Disabilities, University Hall 102. Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability) or by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364.

**Academic Integrity:** All students enrolled in this course are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

***I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington's tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.***

***I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.***

Instructors may employ the Honor Code as they see fit in their courses, including (but not limited to) having students acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work submitted. Per UT System *Regents' Rule* 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university's standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student's suspension or expulsion from the University.

**PLAGIARISM:** Copying another student's paper or any portion of it is plagiarism. Additionally, copying a portion of published material (e.g., books or journals) without adequately documenting the source is plagiarism. If five or more words in sequence are taken from a source, those words must be placed in quotes and the source referenced with author's name, date of publication, and page number of publication. If the author's ideas are rephrased, by transposing words or expressing the same idea using different words, the idea must be attributed to the author by proper referencing, giving the author's name and date of publication. If a single author's ideas are discussed in more than one paragraph, the author must be referenced at the end of each paragraph. Authors whose words or ideas have been used in the preparation of a paper must be listed in the references cited at the end of the paper. Students are encouraged to review the plagiarism module from the UT Arlington Central Library via <http://library.uta.edu/plagiarism/index.html>. Papers are now checked for plagiarism and stored in Blackboard.

**Student Support Services Available:** UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to [resources@uta.edu](mailto:resources@uta.edu), or view the information at [www.uta.edu/resources](http://www.uta.edu/resources).

**Electronic Communication Policy:** UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox regularly. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php>.

**Student Feedback Survey:** At the end of each term, students enrolled in classes categorized as lecture, seminar, or laboratory shall be directed to complete a Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student's feedback enters the SFS database anonymously and is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. UT Arlington's effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law; students are strongly urged to participate. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/sfs>.

### **Final Review Week:**

A period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week *unless specified in the class syllabus*. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory



examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. Classes are held as scheduled during this week and lectures and presentations may be given.

**Librarian to Contact:**

**Helen Hough**, Nursing Librarian

817-272-7429; Email: [hough@uta.edu](mailto:hough@uta.edu)

Library Home Page <http://www.uta.edu/library>

Subject Guide <http://libguides.uta.edu/nursing>

**Undergraduate Support Staff:**

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**College of Nursing Information:****STUDENT CODE OF ETHICS:**

The University of Texas at Arlington College of Nursing supports the Student Code of Ethics Policy. Students are responsible for knowing and complying with the Code. The Code can be found in the Student Handbook.

**APA FORMAT:**

APA style manual will be used by the UTACON with some specific requirements for the undergraduate courses. The sample title page & instructions, as well as a Manuscript Preparation document can be found at: [http://www.uta.edu/nursing/file\\_download/52/APAFormat.pdf](http://www.uta.edu/nursing/file_download/52/APAFormat.pdf)

**Honors College Credit**

Students who are members of the Honors College may wish to take this course for Honors credit. If you wish to do so, please provide the Lead Teacher (or other designated faculty member) with an Honors Credit Contract (downloaded from <http://honors.uta.edu/documents/credit.pdf>). You and the Lead Teacher/faculty member will together determine an appropriate supplemental assignment to justify the awarding of Honors credit. If you are not in the Honors College and would like to learn more about the benefits of membership, visit the website at <http://honors.uta.edu/>, where you will find an application form for electronic submission.

**Classroom Conduct Guidelines**

The Faculty of the BSN Program believes that classroom teaching has two goals: the provision of content pertinent to the discipline of nursing and the socialization of students into the professional role. We are committed to providing the curriculum in an atmosphere conducive to student learning and in a manner that will prepare graduates to be successful in the health care workplace. Refer to the Student Handbook for more information.

**Essential Skills Experience**

Each UTACON clinical course has a designated set of essential nursing skills. An essential nursing skill is one that is “required” for each student to have instruction on AND either laboratory or clinical experience performing. Experience is defined as “hands on” performance of a skill in a laboratory

setting using standardized patients, manikins, human patient simulators, task trainers, and computer simulation modules or in a clinical setting involving actual patients or communities.

UTACON students are responsible for acquiring essential skills experiences, documenting these experiences, obtaining verification from their clinical instructors, and maintaining an ongoing record of essential skills experience during all Junior and Senior clinical courses.

UTACON students must obtain a printed copy of the BSN Pre-Licensure Essential Skills Experience Passport from Blackboard and maintain this copy for use in all clinical courses. This Passport must be used to document skills experiences during clinical or simulation laboratory sessions. After performing an essential skill, a student will record the date and the setting, and then his/her initials in the appropriate boxes on the passport. The student will then provide the record to his/her clinical instructor for verification. Students are responsible for the accuracy and integrity of Passport documentation. Any attempt to falsify or alter Passport information may result in disciplinary action related to UTA's Academic Dishonesty policies.

UTACON students are required to perform and document ALL the essential skills in order to obtain a passing grade for the clinical component of the course. Throughout the semester, as part of the clinical evaluation process, clinical instructors will monitor student progress in completing all essential skills designated on the Passport. It is the student's responsibility to obtain the required essential skills experiences in a timely manner throughout the semester.

### **Clinical Dress Code:**

The clinical dress code applies to all graduate and undergraduate students of The University of Texas at Arlington College of Nursing (UTACON), and has two primary purposes: to insure that, whenever in the clinical setting, students of the UTACON: 1) represent the nursing profession and UTACON in a professional and appropriate manner, and 2) are readily identifiable as students. Students are to adhere to the dress code any time they present themselves to a clinical agency in the role of nursing student. This includes going to the agency prior to clinical to select a patient, arriving at the agency in street clothes to change into hospital scrubs, and attending post-conference or classroom time at the agency, as well as when attending clinical. Clinical faculty has final judgment on the appropriateness of student attire. Refer to the Student Handbook for more information.

*Undergraduate, prelicensure student nurses should wear their UTACON uniform and UTACON insignia patch ONLY when in simulation, clinical or other learning experiences authorized by UTACON faculty. Students are to provide nursing care to patients at clinical facilities ONLY when authorized by their UTACON instructor and when their clinical instructor and/or preceptor are present on site. Students who provide nursing care to patients when an instructor or preceptor IS NOT present on site will receive a FAILING grade for clinical and a course grade of "F".*

### **CLINICAL PASS/FAIL:**

#### **Clinical Failing Behaviors**

Clinical failing behaviors are linked to the Texas Board of Nursing Standards of Professional Practice. Issues related to professional conduct, management of stress, clarification of course, clinical assignment, and/or professional role expectations, may warrant clinical warnings, contracts for remediation, or course failure.

<b>Clinical Failing Behaviors</b>	<b>Matched to NPA</b>
1. Performance is unsafe.	1,2,3,5,6,7,9,10,11,12,13,14
2. Questionable decisions are often	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14

made.	
3. Lacks insight into own behaviors and that of others.	1,2,3,4,5,6,8,9,10,11,12,13,14
4. Difficulty in adapting to new ideas/functions.	4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,13,14
5. Continues to need additional guidance and direction.	1,2,3,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,14

### **Standards of Professional Nursing Practice (BON 213.27, 217.11, 217.12)**

1. Knows rationale for side effects of medications and treatments, and correctly administers same 217.00 (1) (C).
2. Documents nursing care accurately and completely, including signs and symptoms, nursing care rendered medication administration. Contacts health care team concerning significant events in patient health 217.11 (1) (D).
3. Implements a safe environment for patients and/or others, i.e., bed rails up, universal precautions 217.11 (1) (B).
4. Respects client confidentiality 217.11 (1) (E).
5. Accepts assignments commensurate with educational level, preparation, experience and knowledge 217.11(1) (T).
6. Obtains instruction and supervision as necessary when implementing nursing procedures or practices 217.11(1) (H).
7. Notifies the appropriate supervisor when leaving an assignment 217.11(1) (I).
8. Recognizes and maintains professional boundaries of the nurse/patient relationship 217.11(1) (J).
9. Clarifies orders, treatments, that nurse has reason to believe are inaccurate, non-effective or contraindicated 217.11(1) (N).
10. Able to distinguish right from wrong 213.27(b) (2) (A).
11. Able to think and act rationally 213.27(b) (2) (B).
12. Able to keep promises and honor obligations 213.27(b) (2) (C).
13. Accountable for own behavior 213.27(b) (2) (D).
14. Able to promptly and fully self-disclose facts, circumstances, events, errors and omissions when these disclosures will enhance health status of patients or protect patients from unnecessary risk or harm 213.27(b) (2)(G).

Please refer to the Board of Nursing at [www.BON.state.tx.us](http://www.BON.state.tx.us) for any additional information regarding the Texas Nursing Practice Act.

### **Clinical Attendance When University is Closed**

Some programs in the College of Nursing, such as the Academic Partnership Program, may require students to attend clinical on evenings, nights, week-ends, or holidays. Students are expected to attend their assigned clinical rotation as scheduled, even when the University is otherwise closed.

### **Award for Student Excellence in Clinical Nursing**

This award is for an exceptional student who consistently exceeds the clinical expectations of the course. The student will be honored at an awards ceremony at the end of the semester. Clinical faculty will further discuss the award during the clinical rotation.

Criteria for selection:

- Consistently exceeds clinical performance standards in the application of theoretical concepts, evidence-based practice, and communication (written and verbal).

- Demonstrates exemplary performance in the use of critical thinking and problem solving skills.
- Demonstrates exemplary performance in the application of leadership principles and professionalism.

**Observance Of Religious Holy Days:**

Undergraduate Nursing faculty and students shall follow the University policy regarding Observance of Religious Holy Days:

([http://web.uta.edu/catalog/content/general/academic\\_regulations.aspx#6](http://web.uta.edu/catalog/content/general/academic_regulations.aspx#6))

**Hazardous Exposure To Blood, Blood Products Or Body Fluids:**

Note: The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommend that individuals who have been exposed to needle sticks or to potentially infectious blood, blood products, or body fluids should be evaluated and, when appropriate, have treatment initiated within two hours.

Upon sustaining a contaminated needle stick or being exposed to hazardous blood or blood products, the student will:

1. Immediately report the incident to the clinical faculty member and the appropriate person in the clinical agency.
2. Have the wound inspected, cleansed, and dressed.
3. Complete the institutional incident report and follow institutional policy as applicable.
4. Seek medical attention as necessary based on level of exposure.

Please note that all students are responsible for obtaining and maintaining their own health insurance and are responsible for the costs of medical/health care assessment, treatment and follow-up that are not covered by the student's health insurance. Students should be aware of the coverage on their health insurance policy as most may not cover the full cost of required medical treatment and services in the case of a contaminated needle stick or hazardous exposure to blood or blood products.

**Policy on Invasive Procedures**

Allowing students to practice invasive skills (e.g., IM, SQ, IV's, NG tubes, intubation) on other students in the learning lab will no longer be used as a teaching strategy. Skills may be practiced on the simulators in the learning lab. Students will be able to perform the skills in the clinical setting under the appropriate faculty or preceptor supervision.

**No Gift Policy:**

In accordance with Regents Rules and Regulations and the UTA Standards of Conduct, the College of Nursing has a "no gift" policy. A donation to the UTA College of Nursing Scholarship Fund would be an appropriate way to recognize a faculty member's contribution to your learning. For information regarding the Scholarship Fund, please contact the Dean's office.

***The Student Handbook can be found by going to the following link:***

<http://www.uta.edu/nursing/bsn-program/> and clicking on the link titled BSN Student Handbook.

**TIPS FOR SUCCEEDING IN N4581**

1. Read the assigned readings prior to class each week.
2. Come on time to class.
3. Take your own notes, stay mentally engaged during class, and review notes as needed.
4. If you like to study in groups, study with the right people.
5. Come on time to exams, which start promptly at the scheduled times.
6. Don't work too much (for you).
7. Don't go out of town the weekend before or schedule a major event on a test day.
8. Avail yourself of UTA Counseling Services, which offers counseling, seminars, and assessments designed to help you with academic functioning and personal issues. Personal issues assistance includes relaxation training, college adjustment, and stress management. Academic Skill Building includes improving study skills, time management, and reduction of test anxiety. If you are having difficulty mastering the course content, make an appointment to see the Lead Teacher early in the semester and/or meet with the Student Success Coordinator. Also, your clinical instructors have a wealth of knowledge and experience and can assist you with content mastery.
9. Tests – usually concentrate on nursing care, patient assessment, medical therapy, medications – the tests build on previous knowledge from pathophysiology and pharmacology. The majority of the questions are analysis, application, and evaluation (higher level critical thinking) questions. It is important to know both the trade and generic names of drugs discussed in the course. Every exam has drug dosage calculations.
10. During tests, wear a watch and maintain a steady pace and don't spend an inordinate amount of time on one question. The time allotted for exams is based on the NCLEX standard for testing, so it is important to maintain a steady pace and use your exam time wisely to ensure success. For the test questions, read the entire stem and all four choices; don't add info to the stem that is not there; and don't confuse what you see at work with the correct answer on the test. Get plenty of sleep the night before the test and don't work all night or all weekend before the test. Eat some protein before the test; leave in enough time to get to the test.
11. Pay attention to the drop date, and make good, sensible realistic decisions about continuing in the course if you are experiencing difficulty.

## CLINICAL GUIDELINES

1. All students will work with an RN-Facilitator specifically designated to work with students. Students will perform nursing care within the restrictions of both UTACON and the agency including the following:
  - a. **NURSING STUDENTS ARE PROHIBITED FROM PERFORMING THE FOLLOWING SKILLS:**
    1. Verifying and/or hanging blood products.
    2. Taking verbal or telephone orders from physicians or other health care providers.
    3. Transcribing or initiating orders for patient care.
    4. Verifying high risk medication dosages such as insulin or heparin.
  - b. Do not attempt, without appropriate supervision, anything you have not done before or do not feel comfortable doing.
  - c. ALWAYS check with your nurse or instructor before doing something, especially giving medications. Always check, check, and recheck meds before giving. Do not give a medication if you don't know what it is (look it up). Be sure to employ the FIVE RIGHTS with medication administration.
  - d. Students do NOT give IV push medications without direct supervision by a registered nurse.
  - e. When there is an emergency situation, get out of the way! Be a "go-pher", and do what you are directed to do, but stay out of the thick of things unless specifically invited.
  - f. Give updates on patient condition to your RN-Facilitator. Note this information in writing on the nurses' notes as appropriate.
  - g. Attire: You are a representative of nursing as a profession, of UTACON, and of yourself; your professional appearance is a reflection of all of these factors. Students are expected to follow the UTACON Clinical Dress Code Policy. Long hair will be pulled back and fastened.
  - h. Students must have current immunizations, CPR certification, liability insurance, and health insurance, as required by clinical agencies and UTACON.
  - i. Infractions of any of the above will result in your removal from the clinical area.
2. Students will report to the clinical area at the time designated by the clinical instructor. **It is your professional responsibility to be on time for clinical. It is also your responsibility to arrive at clinical with a stethoscope, your required Gahart Intravenous Medication text, a Manual of Diagnostic and Laboratory Tests, and any other such as your supplement as designated by your instructor.**
3. Charting is a necessary activity and must be kept current. Begin by writing nurse's focus/ notes separately and having them checked before transcribing them into the chart. Use flow sheets or check lists for charting where appropriate. The student is expected to chart treatments, assessments, medications, etc., in all places necessary. This will vary from area to area. It is the student's responsibility to be aware of unit/agency requirements for charting.
4. Students will be assigned to one or two patients and are responsible for patient care during the time spent in the clinical agency. All students will have a nurse to report to. If leaving the clinical area for any reason (break, lunch, and conference), a report of the patient's/patients' condition must be made to the assigned RN.
5. Evaluation is an important component of education. To assess the attainment of the terminal objectives, it is necessary for you to be in the clinical area. Should circumstances prevent your attendance, both the hospital and instructor must be notified. (Refer to previous section on clinical pass/fail.) **ALL clinical absences will be made up. Your clinical instructor, in consultation with the Lead Teacher, will determine the nature of make up assignments. Students missing more than two days of clinical may receive an F in N4581.**

6. Refer to guidelines and course schedule regarding required written assignments.
7. Clinical conferences will be scheduled by your clinical instructor.
8. Your instructor will provide information regarding policies specific to your assigned agency.
9. It is the responsibility of students to follow universal precautions, as outlined by the Center of Disease Control & specific agency guidelines.
10. STUDENTS MAY NOT:
  - a. Leave clinical before the scheduled completion time without a valid reason AND without the permission of the clinical instructor.
  - b. Interview for jobs during clinical.
  - c. Plan to attend clinical for another course during N4581 clinical time.
  - d. Utilize hospital computers for personal business.
  - e. Initiate or receive (unless of an emergency nature) personal phone calls. Personal calls may be conducted during meal or break times. Cell phones must be turned off while in clinical.

**ESSENTIAL SKILLS EXPERIENCE** (As explained on page 9 of the syllabus):Assessment

Physical assessment: head to toe

Interpret and analyze normal and abnormal assessment findings

Basic Care

Oral care

Medication Administration

“Six rights”

Safe dose range calculation/determination

Nasogastric and/or gastric medications

Parenteral (IV push) medications

Parenteral (IV piggyback) medications

Parenteral (continuous drip management and titration) medications

Indwelling Tubes

Insertion and/or management of enteral tubes

Insertion and/or management of urinary catheters: female/male

Intravenous (IV) Access Lines

Management, care and/or use of PICC/central lines

IV infusion initiation and/or monitoring: use of IV pumps

Management and/or care of arterial lines

Hemodynamics-level/zero transducer

Airway Management

Oral suctioning

Endotracheal (ET) suctioning

Tracheostomy care/management/suctioning

Ambu bag (bag-valve-mask device) use

Ventilators: volume, pressure, CPAP, BiPAP

Advanced Cardiovascular Care

BLS/CPR and Code Blue

Nutrition and Feeding

Orogastric, nasogastric, G-button, gastrostomy and/or duodenal/jejunostomy feeding (gravity and/or pumps)

Infection Control Procedures

Handwashing/cleansing

Safety

Use of correct body mechanics

Miscellaneous

Documentation

Communication: student hand-off to nurse

Communication: Abnormal findings to HCP (SBAR)

Nursing math skills



**The University of Texas at Arlington College of Nursing**  
**N4581 Nursing of Adults with Complex Needs**

**CLINICAL PERFORMANCE PROGRESS RECORD**  
**Evaluation of Clinical Performance**

STUDENT \_\_\_\_\_ FACULTY \_\_\_\_\_

CLINICAL AGENCY \_\_\_\_\_ SEMESTER/YEAR: \_\_\_\_\_

Mid-rotation Progress: Evaluate your performance for each outcome and give examples.

Satisfactory: Progress to date is acceptable.

Unsatisfactory: Limited Progress in achieving clinical performance outcomes; Needs Improvement.

Final Evaluation: **All clinical outcomes must be satisfactory to pass clinical.**

Satisfactory: Meets Course-clinical performance outcomes

Unsatisfactory: Does not consistently meet course outcomes.

Course Outcomes	Mid Rotation Evaluation DATE: _____		Final Evaluation DATE: _____		Comments
	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	
1. Synthesize evidence-based data and theoretical knowledge to deliver competent, culturally sensitive, developmentally appropriate holistic care for persons with complex health needs.  <u>Assessment:</u> Demonstrates ability to accurately assess patient's condition: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Collects data from a variety of sources including patient, <u>patient's chart</u>, family, health team members and nursing flow sheet.</li> <li>2. Discusses patient's pathophysiology and notes significant relationships between pathophysiology, assessment data, laboratory results and medications.</li> <li>3. Performs baseline assessment of the critically ill patient.</li> <li>4. Detects changes from baseline assessment.</li> </ol> <u>Analysis/Planning:</u> Utilizes critical thinking skills in analyzing data and setting priorities to formulate a holistic (integrating physiological, psychosocial and spiritual needs) nursing care plan for the patient with complex health needs. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Identifies priority patient health needs/nursing diagnoses.</li> <li>2. Discusses therapeutic nursing interventions.</li> <li>3. Identifies expected patient outcomes.</li> </ol>					

Course Outcomes	Mid Rotation Evaluation DATE:		Final Evaluation DATE:		Comments
	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	
<u>Implementation:</u> Performs nursing care in a safe, organized, timely, and cost-effective manner, demonstrating increasing skill with each performance. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Verbalizes principles pertinent to performance of nursing care.</li> <li><u>Medication administration:</u> looks up medications prior to administration; employs “5 rights”; states action, purpose, therapeutic dosage and major side effects of drugs.</li> <li><u>Intravenous infusion administration:</u> hangs IV’s, mixes IV additives, regulates IV flow rate, administers IVPs.</li> <li>Uses aseptic technique; maintains patient safety.</li> <li>Provides patient hygiene and comfort measures.</li> <li>Provides patient nutritional needs.</li> <li>Demonstrates ability to use pertinent technological equipment.</li> <li>Student completed essential skills for this clinical course</li> </ol> <u>Evaluation:</u> evaluates the effectiveness of therapeutic nursing interventions based on expected patient outcomes. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Modifies interventions to meet changing needs of patient.</li> <li>Revises nursing care plan as a result of evaluation.</li> </ol>					
2. Demonstrates analytical, logical reasoning in the implementation of the nursing process for persons with complex health needs.  <u>Identifies own responsibilities:</u> Recognizes limitations, seeks guidance as necessary and assumes responsibility for own actions. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Takes initiative in actively seeking new learning experiences.</li> <li>Accepts and utilizes constructive criticism to improve own nursing performance</li> <li>Questions unclear or erroneous orders before carrying them out based on an understanding of their purpose and effect.</li> <li>Reviews complex procedures before performing them in the clinical setting; obtains supervision and assistance when appropriate.</li> <li>Abides by policies and procedures of the agency.</li> </ol>					

Course Outcomes	Mid Rotation Evaluation DATE:		Final Evaluation DATE:		Comments
	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	
<p>3. Provides progressively independent, quality nursing care for persons with complex health needs upholding ethical and legal standards.</p> <p><u>Professional Behavior:</u> Demonstrates professional behavior and personal growth.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Upholds ethical and legal standards while in the clinical setting.</li> <li>2. Assumes responsibility for professional appearance, attitudes, and behavior in clinical setting.</li> <li>3. Reports <u>on time</u> for clinical <u>with a stethoscope, the required Gahart Intravenous Medication text and a Manual of Diagnostic and Laboratory Tests</u></li> <li>4. Appropriately notifies agency and instructor in the event of a clinical absence.</li> <li>5. Needs a decreasing amount of supervision as he/she gains experience.</li> </ol>	_____	_____	_____	_____	
<p>4. Collaborates effectively with patients, families, and the interdisciplinary team using oral, written, and non-verbal communication in providing comprehensive care to persons with complex health needs.</p> <p><u>Communication:</u> Demonstrates the ability to communicate effectively with patients, family colleagues, the interdisciplinary team and instructor.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Records and reports significant observations regarding patient's condition using oral, written and/or electronic communication.</li> <li>2. Collaborates with the interdisciplinary team to facilitate optimal patient care.</li> <li>3. Provides psychological care to patients and families in an atmosphere of mutual trust, acceptance and respect.</li> <li>4. Participates actively in conferences to promote the learning of self and others</li> </ol>	_____	_____	_____	_____	
<p>5. Provides cost-effective care to patients with complex health care needs.</p>	_____	_____	_____	_____	

**Mid-Rotation Evaluation Comments (Student completes): Include goals for final weeks of clinical:**

**Mid-Rotation Evaluation Comments (Instructor completes):**

**Attendance:** Absent \_\_\_\_\_ Tardy \_\_\_\_\_

**Mid Rotation Evaluation Completed on:** \_\_\_\_\_ (date)

STUDENT'S SIGNATURE\* \_\_\_\_\_ INSTRUCTOR'S SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

**Final Evaluation Comments (Student Completes): Include 2-3 strengths you have developed during this clinical**

**Final Evaluation Summary (Instructor completes):**

**Attendance:** Absent \_\_\_\_\_ Tardy \_\_\_\_\_

**Final Evaluation Completed on:** \_\_\_\_\_ (date)

STUDENT'S SIGNATURE\* \_\_\_\_\_ INSTRUCTOR'S SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

\*Student's signature indicates that this evaluation has been read.

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ (Pass/Fail)

## **GUIDELINES FOR WRITTEN CLINICAL ASSIGNMENTS**

### **CRITICAL THINKING ASSIGNMENT**

Rationale for this assignment: In clinical, you have many new experiences. By carefully analyzing these incidents, you can learn from the experience, and use this knowledge to be a more effective nurse.

Instructions: During this rotation, select two critical incidents to write about. A critical incident is an experience during clinical that had an impact on you. One of your critical incidents must be an ethical issue. For each incident:

1. Describe the incident.
2. Describe the emotion you felt during and following the incident.
3. Analyze what happened as unemotionally as possible.
4. Describe how this experience will affect your future nursing practice.

The critical incident assignment should comply with APA guidelines. The write-up must be double spaced on the computer, in paragraph form with complete sentences, and no longer than two pages (for discussion of the 4 required content sections). A title page should also be included. Only one side of the page may be used. The assignments are graded on a pass/fail basis.

Due dates for the critical thinking assignments are posted on the course schedule. Follow the submission guidelines (hard copy or electronic) provided by your clinical instructor.

### **YOUR FOUR PARAGRAPHS MUST BE LABELED AS FOLLOWS:**

Description of incident  
Emotional response to incident  
Analysis of incident  
Implication of future nursing practice

**SENIOR I N4581**

**NURSING OF ADULTS WITH COMPLEX NEEDS**  
**READING LIST: LEWIS (2011 8<sup>th</sup> Edition) and Course Supplement**

<b>PRECLINICAL LAB TOPICS</b>	<b>Readings from Lewis (Page #)</b>	<b>Readings from Supplement (Page #)</b>
Disorders of the Heartbeat; ECGs	818-832	107-139; 161-162
Hemodynamic Monitoring	1685-1695	141-150
Emergency Drugs	832	151-160
Defibrillation; Cardioversion	832-834;	162-163
Airways; Suctioning; Trach Care	528-535; 1698-1703	163-166
Blood Administration	705-710	167-172
Pacemakers, Ablation	834-837	173-175
Chest Tubes	569-571	177-181
Math Exam Overview; Practice Problems		182-186

<b>LECTURE CONTENT</b>	<b>Readings from Lewis (Page #)</b>	<b>Readings from Supplement (Page #)</b>
Acid-Base Balance; ABGs	320-324; 501-502	37-50
Mechanical Ventilation	1703-1713	51-60
Respiratory Failure	1744-1761	61-62
Stroke; Acute Intracranial Problems; Myasthenia Gravis; Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis; Guillain-Barre Syndrome	1425-1438; 1459-1482; 1510-1514; 1514-1515; 1542-1544	82-87
Hepatic Failure; Pancreatitis	1071-1087; 1088-1094	
Bariatric Surgery	954-959	
Psychosocial Care of the Critically Ill	99-104; 1681-1685	33-36
Cardiovascular System: Diagnostic Tests	727-736	
Coronary Artery Disease	760-771	63-64
Angina	771-777;	65
Myocardial Infarction	777-790; 793-794	66-70
Heart Failure; CM; IABP; VADs	797-814; 859-863; 1695-1698	

<b>LECTURE CONTENT (Continued)</b>	<b>Readings from Lewis (Page #)</b>	<b>Readings from Supplement (Page #)</b>
Valve Disease; Cardiac Surgery	783-785; 852-859	
Cardiac Rehabilitation	790-793	71-73
Shock; SIRS; MODS	1717-1742	75-80
Disseminated Intravascular Coagulopathy	687-689	
Acute Kidney Injury; CKD; Dialysis	1164-1189	
Organ Transplants	228-232; 291-292; 582-583; 814-815; 1087-1089; 1189-1194	81
Elders in Critical Care	72-78; 153-165	88-93
Burns	472-493	
Trauma, Emergency, Terrorism, Disaster	566-569; 1018-1020; 1141; 1602-1604; 1765-1785	
Head and Spinal Cord Injury; Neuro Rehab	1438-1445; 1449-1451; 1546-1564	94-97

Additional reading may be assigned/required.