The University of Texas
ARLINGTON™

Syllabus

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON
SCHOOL OF NURSING
RN to BSN ACADEMIC PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

N3645 Transition to Professional Nursing

Course Description

Introduction to concepts, values, and behaviors necessary for transitioning to professional nursing role. Encompasses ethical, legal, legislative, and political processes that impact the practice of professional nursing in contemporary health care. Strategies for personal and professional empowerment are identified. Registered nurse students only.

Credit Hours and Clock Hours

Credit hours (6-0)

Placement in Curriculum

First course in the RN-BSN program

Course Prerequisites

Composition I & II

Technical Writing (or co-requisite)

Course Instructor

Jeanean Boyd, MSN, RN
Assistant Clinical Instructor

Course Outcomes

Course Performance Outcomes *At the end of this course,* *the student should be able to:*	Performance Measurement
1. **Articulate a personal framework of practice that includes professional nursing values.** *Program Outcome 1,7*	Personal Philosophy of Nursing: Personal framework paper that encompasses ethical values and beliefs about nursing' s domain concepts
2. **Identify evidence-based nursing practices found in current literature related to a clinical problem.** *Program Outcome 4*	Information Retrieval Paper
3. **Demonstrate use of American Psychological Association (APA) style in writing professional papers.** *Program Outcome 2,4*	Grammar, punctuation, and APA format evaluated on personal framework and information retrieval paper
4. **Retrieve professional literature utilizing electronic databases.** *Program Outcome 9*	Information Retrieval Paper requires inclusion of electronically retrieved sources.
5. **Develop computer skills to facilitate completion of coursework for RN-BSN Program.** *Program Outcome 9*	Personal Philosophy of Nursing Paper and Information Retrieval Paper
6. **Identify historical, legal, ethical, regulatory, and political factors influencing professional nursing practice and the evolution of the nursing profession.** *Program Outcome 3*	Quiz, guided discussion board entries, case studies
7. **Apply professional practice standards and regulatory processes to nursing practice situations.** *Program Outcome 1,8*	Quiz, guided discussion board entries, case studies
8. **Apply an ethical decision-making framework to varied clinical situations, incorporating legal guidelines and professional nursing standards to influence the profession of nursing and patient**	Quiz, guided discussion board entries, written summary

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safety *Program Outcome 2,5*	
9. **Demostrate an awareness of professional nursing organizations and legislative activities that influence the profession of nursing.** *Program Outcome 3*	Electronically retrieve information on a professional nursing organization. Write an e-mail to legislator regarding issue facing nursing in student's region.

Teaching Methods

Lecture
Small-group activities
Written assignments
Discussion boards

UTA School of Nursing Grading Criteria

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

70% weighted average on exams

70% weighted average on major written assignments
(i.e. non-written, computerized assignments, etc.)

90% on medication test and practicum check off (if applicable)

In undergraduate nursing courses, all grade calculations will be carried out to two decimal places, and there will be no rounding of grades. Letter grades for tests, written assignments, 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.

Evaluation

Components to Be Graded	Part A	Part B
APA/Plagiarism Modules	5%	
Personal Philosophy of Nursing	10%	
Information Retrieval Paper	20%.	5%
Legislative Assignments		10% (2 at 5% each)
Legal Aspects Quizzes		20% (4 at 5% each)
Case Study on Ethics		5%
Participation (Progress Monitors, Discussions, Reflection)	10%	15%
	45%	55%

Successful completion of the course requires reading the readings, viewing the videos, interacting in the online discussions, completing the required assignments, and participation in course activities.

All participation will be electronically monitored. *Late papers may be penalized up to 5 points for every day late after the date and time due unless* **prior arrangements** *have been made with the faculty.* Exam questions will be oriented toward evaluation of application and analysis. Failure to complete an exam as scheduled may result in an "F" for the exam unless **prior** arrangements have been made with the faculty. Students not taking the exam on the designated day and time will be required to notify the faculty **on or before** the test day and make arrangements to take the test within five calendar days of the test date. The makeup test will be at the discretion of the faculty member.

Course Planning Calendar

	Assignment	Due Date
Week 1	Pre-Course Self-Evaluation	**TUE**
	Discussion	**WED**
	Week 1 Application Assignment – *Getting Started & Specific Expectations*	**MON 0800 Week 2**
Week 2	Discussion	**WED**
	Week 2 Application Assignment – *Professional Beliefs, Values, & Behaviors*	**MON 0800 Week 3**
Week 3	Discussion	**WED**
	Week 3 Application Assignment – *Information Retrieval Paper, Part 1*	**MON 0800 Week 4**
Week 4	Discussion	**WED**
	Week 4 Application Assignment – *Team Dynamics & Information Retrieval Paper, Part 2*	**MON 0800 Week 5**
Week 5	Discussion	**WED**
	Week 5 Reflection – *Nursing Philosophy & Contributions*	**SAT 0800**
	Post-Course Self-Evaluation	**SAT**
	Course Evaluation	**SAT**

	Assignment	Due Date
Week 6	Discussion	**WED**
	Week 6 Application Assignments 1 & 2 – *Legislator Email* and *Staffing Information*	**MON 0800 Week 7**
Week 7	Discussion	**WED**
	Week 7 Application Assignment – *Information Retrieval Paper: Part 3*	**MON 0800**

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		Week 8
Week 8	Discussion	**WED**
	Week 8 Reflection Assignment – *Peer Review*	**MON 0800** **Week 9**
Week 9	Discussion	**WED**
	Week 9 Reflection Assignment – *Safe Harbor*	**MON 0800** **Week 10**
Week 10	Discussion	**WED**
	Week 10 Case Study Assignment – *Malpractice*	**SAT 0800**
	Course Evaluation	**SAT**

Required Text Book

Houghton, P.M. & Houghton T. J (2009). APA: The easy way (2nd ed. fourth printing) Flint, MI: Baker College.

OptionalText Book

American Psychological Association. (2009). Publication manual of the American Psychological Association (6th ed.). Washington, DC: Author.

Student Evaluation of Teaching

At the end of the course, you will be asked to complete an evaluation form of the course content and the faculty's effectiveness.

Faculty's Philosophy and Responsibilities

Learning is exciting and fun. Life is all about learning and growing. I learn every time I teach a course. I will provide learning experiences designed to help you meet the course outcomes. My role is to facilitate your learning, but I cannot learn **for** you. That is up to you. I want to treat you as an adult learner. That means you have to motivate yourself. I have high expectations and performance standards for students and hold myself to the same standards.

Student Responsibilities

The student is responsible for reading assigned materials, viewing the lecture videos, participating in the course discussions, completing assigned work, and reviewing other materials as necessary to support comprehension of course content. Students are responsible for all material provided online, including lecture notes, announcements, and material that results from group discussions. Students are responsible for communicating needs/concerns to their Academic Coach. As necessary, the Academic Coach will communicate with the course faculty member.

Students are expected to participate in the online discussions and students' comments/responses should reflect academic preparation. All written presentations should follow APA format guidelines, using correct grammar, spelling, and punctuation.

Library Information

Helen Hough, Nursing Librarian
Email: hough@uta.edu

Research information on Nursing: http://www.uta.edu/library/research/rt-nursing.html

UTA Information

Student Code of Ethics

The University of Texas at Arlington School 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 UTASON Student Handbook.

Academic Integrity

It is the philosophy of The University of Texas at Arlington that academic dishonesty is a completely unacceptable mode of conduct and will not be tolerated in any form. All persons involved in academic dishonesty will be disciplined in accordance with University regulations and procedures. Discipline may include suspension or expulsion from the University.

"Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts." (Regents' Rules and Regulations, Series 50101, Section 2.2) For additional information please refer to the UTASON Student Handbook.

Statement for Americans with Disabilities Act

The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of federal equal opportunity legislation; reference Public Law 92-112 - The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended. With the passage of federal legislation entitled Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), pursuant to section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, there is renewed focus on providing this population with the same opportunities enjoyed by all citizens.

As a faculty member, I am required by law to provide **"reasonable accommodation"** to students with disabilities so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. All lecture videos are provided in the Resources section of the course with ADA accommodations. Student responsibility primarily rests with **informing your Academic Coach or faculty at the beginning of the course and in providing authorized documentation**. Information regarding specific diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining academic accommodations can be found at **www.uta.edu/disability**.

Online Conduct

The discussion opportunities should be viewed as a public and professional forum for course-related discussions.

Students are free to discuss academic matters and consult one another regarding academic resources. The tone of online postings should be professional in nature.

It is not appropriate to post statements of a personal or political nature or statements criticizing classmates or faculty.

Inappropriate statements/language will be deleted by the course faculty and may result in denied access to the discussion board.

School of Nursing Information

APA Format

All nursing papers are expected to follow American Psychological Association (APA) format. In addition to the APA manual, a brief summary of commonly used APA information may be found under the UTASON Student Handbook.

The Student Handbook can be found by going to the following link: **http://www.uta.edu/nursing/handbook/toc.php** or by going to the nursing website **www.uta.edu/nursing** and using the link provided under Current Students.

No Gift Policy

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