



**The University Of Texas at Arlington
College of Nursing**

RN-BSN Program

**N-4465 Care of Vulnerable Populations across the
Lifespan**

Spring 2016

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The University of Texas at Arlington College of Nursing
N4465-201: RN-BSN Care of Vulnerable Populations
across the Lifespan Spring 2016

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Hours: By appointment
Section Information: NURS 4465-201
Time and Place of Class Meetings: Pickard Hall, Room 227
Meets on Wednesday 8am-12pm or 1-6pm, per Master Schedule

Description of Course Content: Integrates knowledge from nursing theory and public health science in assessing health care needs of aggregates, communities, and society for the Registered Nurse (4 Credit hours, 60 hours).

Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Apply core professional values (health promotion, prevention of illness and injury, partnership, respect for the environment, respect for diversity, and advocacy) and roles within Community/Public Health Nursing (C/PHN).
2. Examine the impact of culture, socioeconomic status, lifestyle, environment, and violence on the health of the community and healthcare access.
3. Perform a community assessment for a target population.
4. Develop a method of evaluation of community nursing interventions.
5. Analyze issues affecting global health, ethics, and social injustice.
6. Describe the components within the public health system used to address disasters, pandemics, bioterrorism, and public emergency.
7. Collaborate/Communicate with community health nurse/interdisciplinary professionals in a community agency that serves a target population.
8. Apply information and referral process to community resources for the selected population.
9. Integrate assessment findings, theory, and evidence-based research in the delivery of safe patient care in a selected target population.
10. Describe basic epidemiological concepts/biostatistics as they affect the community.
11. Utilize information technology to meet the needs of the target population.

Required Textbooks and Other Course Materials:

Stanhope, M., & Lancaster, J. (2012). *Public Health Nursing* (8th ed.). St. Louis, MO: Elsevier/Mosby.

Houghton, Peggy M., Houghton, Timothy J., & Peters, Michael F. (2009). *APA: The Easy Way!* Baker College.

SUPPLEMENTAL TEXTBOOKS: Texts used in Health Promotion Across the Lifespan; Holistic Health

Assessment; Clinical Nursing Foundations, etc.

American Psychological Association, (2009). *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*. (6th Edition). Washington, DC: Author.

Description of Major Assignments and examinations:

❖ **Overview of Community Assessment:** A community assessment provides the basis and rationale for clinical interventions in Community Health Nursing. Community Health Nurses assess the community by using the nursing process. Nurses gather subjective and objective data, cluster the data into meaningful information, prioritize community health needs, develop Community Health Nursing Diagnoses, create interventions to address those needs, and evaluate the effectiveness of the interventions implemented. In order to gain a complete assessment of the community several kinds of data are needed:

1. Assignment One: Windshield Survey and Interview of Two Key Members of the Community

- **Observation of community** which is a zip code or school district. This portion of the assessment will give you a general idea of how the community looks and feels.
- **Interview 2 community members.** This portion of the assessment will give you an idea of how people in the community see the community they live in (i.e. police or fireman, school teacher or librarian, and business owner or store clerk/manager).
- **Analysis:** Once you have completed this portion of the community assessment, you will reflect and analyze your observations.

2. Assignment Two: Community Health Statistical Analysis

- **Statistical Data.** This portion of the assessment will give facts about the community. Local statistical data must be compared to a larger community (i.e. cite, state and nation).
- **Analysis.** Once you have completed this portion of the community assessment, you will now summarize both subjective and objective data and analyze correlations between the two (subjective data and objective data).

3. Assignment Three: Community Education Project

- Students will identify a problem in the community and provide a plan for community education. The project will be presented to the class.

4. Disaster Management FEMA Certificate:

- According to the Council for Excellence in Government, the American people should prepare for emergencies and/or disasters. As professional nurses we must be prepared to assist client, families and communities during times of disasters. In this assignment, you will complete one of the following FEMA certificates*
 1. IS 100 HCb: <http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/is100HCb.asp>
 2. IS 700.a: <http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/is700a.asp>.
- NOTE this training will take approximately 3 hours and you MUST pass a FEMA exam in order to obtain your certificate which may take a few days to process. Once you have your certificate, you will scan the certificate and submit as completion of this assignment.

- *Note IF you have completed either of these courses within the past 5 years, you will NOT need to repeat the course as long as you are able to provide a copy of satisfactory completion of the course. In this case, there is another online activity that you will be required to complete.

❖ Quizzes

- As nurses, we are guided by a set of practice expectations. A very important part of these expectations is appropriate moral and ethical behavior. Therefore, it is expected that you will work alone to take the online quiz. You are expected to maintain test security by not discussing the questions with your peers or attempting to copy the quizzes in any way. If you discuss quiz questions or content of quizzes with others this is a violation of test security, and will result in being reported for academic dishonesty. We take test-security very seriously at the College of Nursing. Violations in test security are considered not just academic violations, but ethical violations, which is unacceptable behavior for nursing professionals.

- **Two online quizzes will be given during the course.** Before taking an online quiz, you must acknowledge you have read, have understood and will comply with the following statement:

I certify these responses are entirely my own work. I have not copied the work of any other student (past or present) or collaborated with anyone on this quiz. In addition, I will not share the questions or answers from this quiz with other students. I understand that academic dishonesty is grounds for dismissal from the program.

Course quizzes will be posted online. Quizzes will be available to students during a specified time period listed on the course schedule. Quizzes will include information from the assigned course content/slide presentations and readings and may be multiple choice, fill in the blank, T/F, or short answer. Quiz questions will be oriented toward evaluation of application and analysis, as well as, knowledge acquired. Quiz items are evaluated by the faculty using statistical analysis. Items will be addressed ONLY based upon the statistical analysis. Each quiz item has a rationale for students to review.

Please review the online quiz instructions prior to attempting the quiz. The quiz is **timed**; you will be unable to return to any skipped items. Remember to save your answers. The quiz will not be available online after the deadline and students not completing the quiz at that time will receive a “0” unless prior arrangements have been made with the Faculty. Notify the faculty immediately for any technical problems with the quiz.

❖ Writing Guidelines

This is a writing intense course. The APA Publication Manual is the guide used in the College of Nursing. It is expected that all writing will be completed using the style and format described in the APA Publication Manual. APA Website has a tutorial:

<http://www.apastyle.org/learn/tutorials/basics-tutorial.aspx>

APA style manual will be used by the UTACON with some specific requirements for the undergraduate courses. <http://www.uta.edu/nursing/msn/apaformat>

Specific requirements for the APA in assignments will be given in class or in the assignment instructions.

Save copies of all of your work! Create a folder on your computer that is specifically for this course. As you create a new Word document for each assignment, save it in your course

folder, and then submit it by the due date.

Submit assignments as scheduled. The official time for the paper will be determined by the submission time. 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. After the 5th day, no assignments will be accepted and students will receive a zero for that assignment unless prior approval by the faculty obtained.

Formatting of Papers. You MUST SUBMIT YOUR ASSIGNMENTS IN THE TEMPLATES PROVIDED. Any papers submitted in any format other than **Word**, and that cannot be opened in Blackboard will not be accepted for grading. **Faculty reserves the right to refuse to read or grade an assignment that has not been completed according to guidelines. Such cases require special decisions regarding permission to resubmit work and penalty points, etc. that cannot be specified in this syllabus.**

Attendance: At The University of Texas at Arlington, taking attendance is not required. Rather, each faculty member is free to develop his or her own methods of evaluating students' academic performance, which includes establishing course-specific policies on attendance. As the instructor of this section, attendance is expected. Roll may be taken in class. It is the responsibility of the student to sign the roll by the break-time for each class attended.

Grading for this course:

Class Participation	10%
Quiz One	10%
Assignment 1: Windshield Survey	20%
Assignment 2: Statistical Analysis of Community	20%
Assignment 3: Community Education Project	20%
Disaster Management FEMA Certificate	10%
Quiz Two	10%
Total Points:	100%

****Written assignments** (Windshield Survey, Community Statistical Data, and Community Education Projects) **pass this course.** **Any student who does NOT make > or = to 70.00%** weighted average on these assignments shall NOT successfully complete the course.

Submit the RN-BSN Attestation form in Week ONE. Assignments and quizzes will NOT be graded unless you submit the RN-BSN Attestation statement for this course (as required in Week 1). You will receive a ZERO for assignments and quizzes.

Grading Policy:

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

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

- 70% weighted average on proctored exams- N/A for this course
- **70 % weighted average on major written assignments (Assignments 1,2, and 3).**
- 90% on math test (if applicable)- N/A for this course

90% on medication test and practicum check off (if applicable)- N/A for this course

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.

Students are expected to keep track of their performance throughout the semester and seek guidance from available sources (including the instructor) if their performance drops below satisfactory levels; see “Student Support Services,” below.

Expectations for Out-of-Class Study: Beyond the time required to attend each class meeting, students enrolled in this course should expect to spend **at least** an additional 12 hours per week of their own time in course-related activities, including reading required materials, completing assignments, preparing for quizzes, etc.

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/graduate catalog. For undergraduate courses, see http://wweb.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. Contact the Financial Aid Office for more information.

As in the past, the last date to drop the course for clinical reasons is adjusted. The adjusted date will now reflect a point two-thirds of the way through the course or clinical rotation.

Adjusted drop dates in the Spring 2016 semester for Senior RN-BSN courses are as follows:

N4465 –Vulnerable Populations across the Lifespan – DROP DATE: April 22, 2015

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 or by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364.

Title IX: The University of Texas at Arlington is committed to upholding U.S. Federal Law "Title IX" such that no member of the UT Arlington community shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity. For more information, visit www.uta.edu/titleIX.

Academic Integrity: Students enrolled all UT Arlington courses 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.

UT Arlington faculty members 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.php> Papers are checked for plagiarism using special software.

Student Support Services: 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, or view the information at www.uta.edu/resources.

Electronic Communication: 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>.

To obtain your NetID or for logon assistance, visit <https://webapps.uta.edu/oit/selfservice/>. If you are unable to resolve your issue from the Self-Service website, contact the Helpdesk at helpdesk@uta.edu.

Computer Requirements:

All computers on campus will access Blackboard. If you choose to access from home you must have a computer and a quality Internet provider such as DSL, Cable, or Satellite (regular telephone is not adequate). Questions about adequate computer hardware should be directed to the UTA help desk at 817-272-2208 or www.helpdesk@uta.edu They are open the same hours as the Library.

Your home computer's compatibility with Blackboard is your responsibility. Neither the helpdesk nor your instructor is responsible for the functionality of your home computer's configuration. If you have doubts about your own equipment you may wish to work at the many UTA Computer Labs on campus. **Please do not bring your technical problems to class. Your instructors are not available for technical support please call or contact the helpdesk.**

Word of Caution:

Do not rely on employer's computer system to access Blackboard. Students have encountered various problems (such as dropping them in the middle of an on-line quiz) due to the special filters, fire walls, program blocking programs, and barriers they put on their systems. It is advised to not take any on-line quizzes on a wireless system as students have also been dropped and used up their time trying to reconnect. Use a more stable system.

Software:

Your software (WORD, POWERPOINT, EXCEL and WINDOWS) should be up to date. As a student you may purchase the latest WINDOWS and OFFICE from the UTA Bookstore a very nominal fee. Please take advantage of this opportunity.

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. During this week, classes are held as scheduled. In addition, instructors are not required to limit content to topics that have been previously covered; they may introduce new concepts as appropriate.

This course does not have a FINAL EXAM. The last quiz will be given during the last week of class.

Emergency Exit Procedures: Should we experience an emergency event that requires us to vacate the building, students should exit the room and move toward the nearest stairwell. When exiting the building during an emergency, one should never take an elevator but should use the stairwells. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist students in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist individuals with disabilities.

Student Support Services: 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, or view the information at www.uta.edu/resources.

Writing Center: The Writing Center, 411 Central Library, offers individual 40 minute sessions to review assignments, *Quick Hits* (5-10 minute quick answers to questions), and workshops on grammar and specific writing projects. Visit <https://uta.mywconline.com/> to register and make appointments. For hours, information about the writing workshops we offer, scheduling a classroom visit, and descriptions of the services we offer undergraduates, graduate students, and faculty members, please visit our website at www.uta.edu/owl/.

LIBRARY INFORMATION:

Peace Ossom Williamson, MLS, MS, AHIP
Nursing Liaison Librarian, Central Library Office 216
<http://www.uta.edu/library> | peace@uta.edu
Research information on nursing:
<http://libguides.uta.edu/nursing>

**RN-BSN PROGRAM
SUPPORT STAFF:**

Pamela Smith, *Administrative Assistant I*
657 Pickard Hall, 6th floor
(817) 272-2776 ext. 4814
Email: pamsmith@uta.edu

COLLEGE OF NURSING INFORMATION:**UTA College of Nursing Policy:**

Effective for students entering the nursing program Fall 2009 (Jr I) and forward, the following policy applies:

Students within the program, enrolled in an upper division NURS course are permitted to drop the course one time. Upon attempting the course for the second time, the earned grade is retained. Students may drop no more than three upper division NURS courses during their undergraduate career. Elective and pre-nursing courses are exempt from this policy.

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/msn/apaformat>

CODE OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

Nursing students in the UTA CON are considered to be part of the nursing profession. As members of the profession, students are expected to commit to and maintain high ethical standards.

Students are responsible and accountable for their own academic and professional behaviors and the resulting consequences.

Students will demonstrate self-discipline throughout all aspects of their nursing education, including meeting academic responsibilities and exhibiting professional conduct in the classroom and in the community, as outlined in the Texas Nurse Practice Act and Texas State Board of Nursing Policies.

It is each student's responsibility to promote scholastic honesty and professional ethics by actively participating with faculty in maintaining a quality academic environment. Students are expected to guard public safety by immediately reporting to faculty, any incident they observe or are aware of which would allow incompetent, unethical, or illegal practice by

another individual. Having knowledge of and failing to report such behaviors constitutes a breach of both academic and professional responsibilities.

Refer to the Student Handbook for more information.

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.

PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT ON BLACKBOARD AND SOCIAL MEDIA SITES:

The Blackboard Discussion Board is to be viewed as a professional forum for student discussions. Students are free to discuss academic matters and consult one another regarding academic resources. The tone of postings on the Blackboard Discussion Board is to remain professional in nature at all times. It is not appropriate to post statements of a personal or political nature, or statements criticizing classmates or faculty. Statements considered inappropriate will be deleted by course faculty. Announcements from student organizations may be posted to the designated level discussion board (not associated with this course).

Students are to refrain from discussing this course, including clinical situations, written assignments, peers, or faculty on all social networking sites such as Facebook, Twitter, etc. Failure to comply with these expectations may result in further action by the instructor.

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.

<p>Emergency Phone Numbers: In case of an on-campus emergency, call the UT Arlington Police Department at 817-272-3003 (non-campus phone), 2-3003 (campus phone). You may also dial 911.</p>
