# N3375 Health Policy & Legal Aspects

Syllabus

**THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON COLLEGE OF NURSING**

**RN to BSN ACADEMIC PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM**

**N3375 Health Policy & Legal Aspects**

**Course Description**

**Course provides an introduction to legal, ethical, concepts, values, and behaviors necessary for transitioning to a professional nursing role. Topics include health care policy development, legal overview and peer-review process, laws, rules, boundaries, challenges, and malpractice.**

**Credit Hours and Clock Hours**

Credit hours (3-0)

**Placement in Curriculum**

Second course in the RN-BSN program. Successful completion required before progressing to additional RN BSN courses.

## Course Prerequisites

Composition I & II

Technical Writing (or co-requisite)

## Course Teaching Team

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Faculty Member Name** | **Faculty Member Email** | **Faculty Member Role** |
| Dr. Tammy Eades, DNPMSN, RN | Eades@uta.edu  | **Lead Faculty** |
| Gretchen Hutchinson, MSN, RNJeanean Boyd, MSN, RN | **Hutchinson@uta.edu****jboyd@uta.edu** | **Faculty****Faculty****Faculty** |
|  Candi Constantine | candida@uta.edu  | Faculty |
| Pam White, MSN, RN | **plwhite@uta.edu** | **Faculty** |

Maura Bernasconi maurab@uta.edu Faculty

**Academic Coaches**

Each of you will be assigned to an Academic Coach. These are nurses who have all the qualifications of the UT Arlington College of Nursing Faculty and have experience in the content areas covered by the course. They assist the UTA Faculty in all academic partnership courses. They are your first contact for any course questions and must be directed to them using your UTA email or through the email provided directly in the Blackboard course. Faculty and Academic Coaches will not respond to your personal email accounts. All assignments must be submitted into this Blackboard course in order to be graded. Academic Coaches will not accept any assignments via email.

**UT Arlington Email: Faculty and Academic Coaches do not respond to any student emails other than UTA email addresses. Be sure you have set up your UTA email and use it!**

**Required Text Book**

Masters, K. (2014). *Role development* (4th ed.). Burlington, MA: Jones & Bartlett.

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

**Course Outcomes**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Course Performance Outcomes*****At the end of this course, the student should be able to:*** | **Performance Measurement** |
| **1. Demonstrate use of American Psychological Association (APA) style in writing professional papers.*****Program Outcome 2,4*** | Grammar, punctuation, and APA format evaluated on weekly assignments including Legislative email,  |
| **2. Retrieve professional literature utilizing electronic databases.*****Program Outcome 9*** | Weekly assignments require inclusion of electronically retrieved sources. |
| **3. Develop computer skills to facilitate completion of coursework for RN-BSN Program.*****Program Outcome 9*** | Weekly assignments  |
| **4. Identify historical, legal, ethical, regulatory, and political factors influencing professional nursing practice and the evolution of the nursing profession.*****Program Outcome 3*** | Journals, guided discussion board entries, case studies |
| **5. Apply professional practice standards and regulatory processes to nursing practice situations.*****Program Outcome 1,8*** | Journals, guided discussion board entries, case studies |
| **6. 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 safety*****Program Outcome 2,5*** | Journals, guided discussion board entries, written summary |
| **7. Demonstrate 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**

Readings Lecture/Videos Case Studies

Written assignments Discussion boards

Reflective Journal

## UT Arlington College of Nursing Grading Criteria

In order to successfully complete an undergraduate nursing course, the following

**minimum** criteria must be met (additional course requirements may be necessary):

70% weighted average on proctored exams

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

**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 student shall have a course grade of 70.00 or greater.

## Evaluation

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Components to Be Graded** | **Grading Weights** |
| Legislative Assignments/APA Format/Grammar  | 35% |
|  Reflective Journals (X4) | 35% |
| **Participation (Self- Assessments, Discussion Boards) Factored in after the last day of of the course.** | 30%(Factored into Grade after the course closes) |
|  | 100% |

**TO BE SUCCESSFUL IN N3345:**

1. Know your **Academic Coach’s email** and use it!
2. Complete the **Course Attestation Form** first thing
3. Read all the **Readings**
4. View all the **Lecture Videos and Media**
5. Interact in all the online **Discussion Boards**
6. Complete the required **Assignments**
7. Complete all **Reflective Journals**

**9. Submit all assignments and activities through Blackboard for grading**

10. **No emailed assignments** will be accepted by the Academic Coaches

**11. Participation grade (25% of grade) will be factored in after the last day of the course**

12. **No assignments will be accepted after the course closes.**

#### **Participation Grade:** Because this is an online course, participation in the course activities is essential to completing this course. Discussion boards are used to collectively explore topics/case studies/situations outlined in weekly course content. The Participation Grade consists of the self-assessment and weekly discussion boards. All are expected to be completed. If any are not completed then a grade of “0” will be entered for that activity and will be calculated into the overall **Participation Grade which is 25% of the overall grade and will be factored in at the end of the course.**

**Discussion Board Entries** are a vital part of this online course.

#### Three posting are required for each Module by the deadlines outlined in the Course Planning Calendar below.

1. Create a discussion thread to be posted by 2359 pm each Wednesday of the course. Use citations and references as appropriate. APA Format is required.
2. Respond to 2 classmate’s postings in a substantive manner to be posted by Saturday of the Module at 2359. Use references and citations as appropriate. APA Format is required.
3. Deadlines are in the Course Calendar for each Module’s Discussion Board deadlines. APA citations are necessary when appropriate. Completion of modules on APA format and plagiarism are required in Module 1 of the course. Rubrics are used to grade the discussion entries.
4. All discussion board entries are graded and calculated into the overall Participation Grade which comprises 25% of the final grade. If parts of the requirements of discussion board entries are omitted, then (as shown on the rubric) then a grade of “0’ will be entered into that portion of the rubric and calculated into the final grade.

**Late assignments:** All participation is electronically monitored.

1. ***Late papers may be penalized up to 5 points for every day late. After late for 5 days a***

 ***“0” will be entered unless prior arrangements have been made with the Academic Coach****.*

1. **No late assignments will be accepted after the course closes** on the last week of class unless prior arrangements have been made with the Academic Coach.

Course Planning Calendar and Weeks/Times Assignments are Due!

*(All times are Central Time Zone (CT) regardless of where the student lives)*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Course Activity** | **Due Date** |
|  | **Module 1** | **Completed by:** |
|  | **Attestation Statement** | **Wednesday 2359** |
| **Discussions** | **Wednesday 2359 - post discussion thread Saturday 2359 - post replies to 2 colleagues** |
| **Assignments** | **Saturday 2359** |
|  |  |
|  | **Module 2** | **Complete by:** |
|  | **Discussions** | **Wednesday 2359 - post discussion thread Saturday 2359 - post replies to 2 colleagues** |
| **Assignments** | **Saturday 2359** |
| **Self-Assessment** | **Saturday 2359** |
| **Reflection Journal** | **Saturday 2359** |
|  | **Module 3** | **Complete by:** |
|  | **Discussions** | **Wednesday 2359 - post discussion thread Saturday 2359 - post replies to 2 colleagues** |
| **Assignments** | **Saturday 2359** |
|  | **Reflection Journal** | **Saturday 2359** |
|  | **Module 4** | **Complete by:** |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Discussions** | **Wednesday 2359 - post discussion thread Saturday 2359 - post replies to 2 colleagues** |
| **Assignments** | **Saturday 2359** |
| **Reflection Journal** | **Saturday 2359** |
|  | **Module 5** | **Complete by:** |
|  | **Discussions** | **Wednesday 2359 - post discussion thread Saturday 2359 - post replies to 2 colleagues** |
| **Assignments** | **Saturday 2359** |
| **Reflection Journal**  | **Saturday 2359** |

## 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. **Please take the time to complete this evaluation. Consistently changes to the**

 **Course have been prompted by student’s constructive comments.**

**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

**Peace Williamson**, Nursing Librarian Email: peace@uta.edu

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

## UT Arlington 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, and 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**](http://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. Email communication and etiquette will be conducted in a professional manner at all times.

**ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION POLICY:**

The University of Texas at Arlington has adopted the University “MavMail” address as the sole official means of communication with students. MavMail is used to remind students of important deadlines, advertise events and activities, and permit the University to conduct official transactions exclusively by electronic means. For example, important information concerning registration, financial aid, payment of bills, and graduation are now sent to students through the MavMail system. All students are assigned a MavMail account. ***Students are responsible for checking their MavMail regularly.*** Information about activating and using MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/email/>. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, and it remains active even after they graduate from UT Arlington.

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.

## College 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](http://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.