**NURS 4441: Nursing of the Childbearing Family**

**SPRING 2015**

**Lead Teacher:** Brenda Hoolapa, RNC-OB, MS, BSN

**Office Number:** Pickard Hall 535

**Email Address:** [hoolapa@uta.edu](mailto:hoolapa@uta.edu)

**Clinical Instructors:**

Deana Furr, MSN, RN

**Office Number:** Pickard Hall 527

**Email Address:** [dfurr@uta.edu](mailto:dfurr@uta.edu)

Cheryl Gainer, MSN, CNM, RN

**Office Number:** Pickard Hall 611

**Email Address:** [gainer@uta.edu](mailto:gainer@uta.edu)

Janelle Hennes, MSN, RN, CBE

**Office Number:** Pickard Hall 616B

**Email Address:** [janhennes@uta.edu](mailto:janhennes@uta.edu)

Martha Hesse, RN, MSN

**Office Number:** Pickard Hall 536

**Email Address:** [hesse@uta.edu](mailto:hesse@uta.edu)

Bonnie Pigg, RNC- OB, MSN, CEFM

**Office Number**:

**Email Address**: pigg@uta.edu

Susan Kirwan, MSN, RN, CPNP

**Office Number**: Pickard Hall 538

**Email Address**: skirwan@uta.edu

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

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

**Time and Place of Class Meetings:**

Pickard Hall 204

Section 001 Friday, 9-11:50 am & 1:00 – 3:50 pm

Section 002 Friday, 9-11:50 am & 1:00 – 3:50 pm

**Description of Course Content:**

Application of the nursing process with emphasis on critical thinking, communication and therapeutic nursing interventions as related to care of individuals and families during the childbearing experience. Prerequisite: NURS 3581 and 3561.

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

* Use an individualized plan of care integrating current evidence and best practice in the delivery of competent, culturally sensitive, developmentally appropriate, holistic care for the childbearing family.
* Demonstrate analytical, logical reasoning in clinical judgment based on best practice in the care of the childbearing family.
* Integrate legal and ethical standards into care for the childbearing family.
* Assume accountability and responsibility for the quality of nursing care provided to childbearing families.
* Demonstrate effective communication and collaboration with patients, families, and interdisciplinary team members to provide nursing care and patient/family teaching for the childbearing family.
* Identify appropriate community resources for childbearing families.
* Evaluate the impact of contemporary issues on health care delivery to childbearing families, including social, economic, ethical, environmental, legal, and political influences.

**Requirements:**

**Clear communication from students to course faculty, clients and other healthcare professionals is expected.**

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 students’ 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.

* As adult learners, students are responsible and accountable for their own achievement, including seeking consultation with the instructor about problems related to the course. Instructors can guide you through the material and explain concepts, but the learner is the one responsible for their own learning. Students are encouraged to make an office appointment regarding poor progress or course concerns to allow time to review, discuss and/or problem-solve in a private setting.
* Students receiving less than 70% on any course exam must make an appointment with the Office of Student Success and faculty lead for Nursing of the Childbearing Family, within one week of exam.
* Students are responsible for all material presented in class and all required readings. Students are expected to attend all classes, participate in classroom activities, and complete all learning activities. Thus, students are required to bring course materials for each class to facilitate participation.
* Students are responsible for satisfactory completion of clinical requirements including successful completion of the Math Quiz plus attendance at the skills labs, community panel, completion of skills check offs (SH) and completed assignments.
* The student will be responsible for checking Blackboard on a weekly basis (minimum).
* Students may be expected to sign up for a mid-semester evaluation. Final evaluation conference with clinical faculty is required. Evaluation conferences are necessary to pass the clinical.
* Written assignments should exemplify professional appearance and communication skills. Written assignments and papers must be legible, follow format guidelines, and use correct grammar, spelling, and punctuation, according to APA Format found in the Student Handbook.
* Students are encouraged to bring their laptop to facilitate note taking/learning, however, laptops may not be utilized for anything not directly related to current course content. If you are found using computers for other than classroom work (I. E. surfing the web, watching U-tube videos, checking personal or university emails), you will be asked to shut the computer down and put it away.
* Students are expected to conduct themselves in a professional manner while in the classroom. This means taking your seat and stop talking with others when the instructor announces they are beginning lecture. No side conversations during lecture – if you have a question or comment, please share it will the whole class. Inappropriate and/or disrespectful comments made to faculty or other students, including side comments will not be tolerated in the classroom or clinical settings. Turn OFF cell phones during lecture. If you are expecting an urgent/emergency call from a family member, please give them the CON phone number, and the room number of your course and a message will be taken and given to you. Please do not utilize this method for routine communications with family.
* Do not discuss the course, including clinical, written assignments, peers or faculty on any social network sites such as Facebook, Twitter, etc.
* Students are expected to conduct themselves in a professional manner in their dress, demeanor, and communication with colleagues, staff, and clients. Students are required to abide by the UTA College of Nursing dress code policy. Lab coats with UTA name tags are required dress for community experiences and may be required for hospital clinical as well. Please see your clinical instructors’ clinical letters posted on Blackboard (BB).
* For information regarding Academic Dishonesty, Americans with Disabilities Act, Student Support, Classroom Conduct Guidelines, Clinical Dress Code, Policy on Invasive Procedures, and No Gift Policy, please consult the Student Handbook.
* \*\*Students are expected to read the Student Handbook.This is essential knowledge for all students for the progression through the program and the course.

**Required Textbooks and Other Course Materials:**

Evolve Case Studies **(Previously Purchased)** --**Course ID:** 0956\_hwoods21\_0004

Lowdermilk: (2012). *Maternity & Women’s Health Care* (10th Ed) Elsevier Mosby. ISBN: 9780323074292

Perry, Cashion & Lowdermilk & Alden: (2012). *Clinical Companion, Maternity & Newborn**Nursing.* (2nd ed.) Elsevier Mosby. ISBN 9780323077996

APA: The Easy Way (2nd ed). 9780923568962

Curren (2009). *Math for meds: dosages & solutions.* (10th ed). Delmar ISBN 978-1-4283-1095-7 **(From Foundations)**

**Recommended Textbooks:**

Stolte, W. (1995). *Wellness: Nursing diagnosis for health promotion.* Lippincott. ISBN 0-397-55082-0 **(From Health Promotion)**

Lowdermilk & Perry. (2012).Study Guide for *Maternity &Women’s Health Care.* (10th ed.) Elsevier Mosby. ISBN 9780323074308

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

Course Schedule with dates and assignments available on Blackboard.

*As the instructor for this course, I reserve the right to adjust this schedule in any way that serves the educational needs of the students enrolled in this course. Brenda Hoolapa*

**Grading Policy**: 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.

**THERE ARE NO OPTIONS FOR EXTRA CREDIT IN THIS COURSE.**

**Course Work:** **60%**

Exam # 1 16%

Exam # 2 16%

Exam # 3 9%

Comprehensive Final HESI 19%

Quizzes 16% **16%**

(Math Quiz 4%\*; SACKS Quiz\* 4%, Scheduled Quiz 8%)

**Clinical Grades:**  **24%**

Oral Care Plan/online equivalent 12%

Professional Clinical Assignment 12%

\*Math Quiz and SACKS Quiz counted in the Quizzes above are actually clinical quizzes.

Prep Sheet: Labor & Delivery P/F

Prep Sheet: Newborn Nursery P/F

Prep Sheet: Postpartum P/F

Prep Sheet: Antepartum/Triage High Risk P/F

Prep Sheet: NICU P/F

Skills Lab/simulation labs P/F

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

70% weighted average on proctored exams (does NOT include quizzes)

70% weighted average on major written assignments

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 exams, 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

Written assignments are mandatory. Completion of portions of Prep Sheets (definitions, medications and normal/expected physical assessment findings) and passing of the Math Quiz with a minimum of 90% are required prior to participation in clinical. Satisfactory completion of Prep Sheets, oral/online Care Plan, Professional Clinical Assignment, attendance at skills lab and community panel, a minimum score of 90% on the Math Quiz, completion of 90 clinical hours, and satisfactory clinical performance evaluation, are required to pass clinical. Online post conferences will require compliance with posted essentials for discussion and participation. Failure in clinical is an automatic failure (F) in the course.

**Incompletes:** No incompletes will be given except on the basis of a doctor’s certification that you are medically unable to complete the course.

**Evaluation Methods:**

1. Examinations

Course: Three content quizzes, three exams and one comprehensive final will be given.  Multiple choice questions and essay/short answer type items may compose the exams. The final exam will be a HESI exam. Exams are typically given via computer. In the event that technical issues occur and cannot be immediately resolved, exams may be given via traditional paper/pencil method. Although faculty strives to provide a quiet learning/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. Please bring ear plugs with you if needed.

Late for an exam/quiz: Students are expected to arrive on time for each exam or quiz. Students who arrive late for an exam/quiz will NOT be given extra time to complete the exam/quiz.

Missed Exams

All students are expected to take exams at the scheduled time. In the event a student anticipates missing an exam, the student is expected to notify the lead teacher on or before the exam day and prior to the start of the exam. A make up examination may be given at the discretion of the lead teacher. (This does not relate to quizzes. Missed quizzes are a “0.”) Make up exams must be taken within 7 calendar days of the missed exam and will not be scheduled during any current course times. For students missing more than one exam the make-up will be at the faculty’s discretion, may result in receiving a grade of 0% (zero percent) on the second exam/makeup with possible failure in the course.

If the HESI final is missed, the student will be required to take a makeup exam and that may not be in the form of a HESI. If you miss an exam, you may be **required** to show acceptable proof of the extenuating circumstances that kept you from the exam.

**Exams will not be rescheduled for convenience of vacation travel, work schedules, job interviews or child care issues. Ensure you are aware of the exam schedule before making work schedules and travel arrangements.**

Exam Integrity

In order to maintain the integrity of the exams, instructors may choose not to allow a student to enter the testing area if any tester has already completed the exam and left the testing area. A tester that arrives late to the testing area, if allowed in, will only have until the predetermined end time of that exam to finish. Additionally, all students in this course must read and sign the **Class Honor Code** on the first class day. This Honor Code is attached as the last page to this syllabus.

2. Math Quiz

**All students will be required to pass the Math Quiz.** This quiz emphasizes safe medication dosage and administration. All students are expected to take the Math Quiz during the first week of classes. See student schedule for dates. Second and third attempts to pass the Math Quiz must be done prior to placement in the hospital. A remedial review packet must be completed prior to a third math test attempt. It is the student’s responsibility to schedule time with the clinical instructor for second and third Math Quiz attempts. The instructor may choose to give the Math Quiz retakes during the clinical day in the clinical agency. A minimum score of 90% is required for successful completion of the Math Quiz. The student will not be able to administer medications if the Math Quiz is not completed with a minimum score of 90%. Safe medication administration is a criterion for satisfactory clinical performance. An unsatisfactory (failure) clinical performance constitutes failure in the course. Failure to pass the Math Quiz after three attempts may constitute failure of the course.

3. Required Assignments

**Required assignments must be submitted on time.**  If an assignment (traditional or online) is late, 10% of the assignment grade, per day, will be deducted until the assignment is turned in, not including weekends and holidays. Satisfactory completion of clinical prep sheets/ patient documentation for each clinical day is required to pass clinical.

4. Clinical Experience

Students will complete 90 clinical hours under the supervision of their clinical instructors to include hospital based experiences, skills lab/simulation, and/or computer simulations and community prenatal experiences. Clinical post conferences may be online. **Students must perform an assessment while providing nursing care to clients during their hospital clinical experience.** The definition, medication and normal assessment parameters section of the Prep Sheets specific to all units must be completed when in specific unit and prior to clinical exit. Separate portions of Prep Sheets specific to all units will be completed and presented orally to peers and clinical instructor at post conference unless otherwise determined by faculty. Professional clinical assignment and care plan expectations may differ for online post conferences. All assignments will be submitted to the clinical faculty for evaluation and feedback. A mandatory skills lab will be held during the last week of class.

The SACKS (Student Acquired Clinical Knowledge and Skills) quiz will be required and completed by all students. Information for completion of the SACKS will be available on your Class Black Board page. SACKS preparation and skills lab attendance is in lieu of clinical hours. ***An open-book quiz covering the SACKS materials will occur during the***

***hospital orientation***. (See student schedule for dates/times.)

Students who demonstrate consistent satisfactory accomplishment of the clinical objectives including skills lab attendance, completed assignments, skills check off (as applicable) and a score of 90% on the Math Quiz will receive a PASS for clinical. Students deemed unsafe or incompetent will fail clinical and receive a course grade of F.

Failing behaviors are noted on pages 12 & 13 of the syllabus. Course specific clinical evaluation criteria are used to determine the Pass/Fail status of clinical performance.

Students may be expected to meet with individual clinical faculty for mid-semester evaluations and must sign up for final semester evaluation conferences with individual clinical faculty at the end of clinical. Final evaluation conferences are required to pass the clinical.

\*Case Studies: There are six case studies in Evolve. These are not required, however, you have purchased access to them. You can complete the case studies as a means to supplement course/text content or to test your understanding of the various processes they cover.

6. Missed Clinical Lab/Clinical Experience Policy

In the case of illness, remember to take appropriate health precautions. Students are expected to notify clinical faculty immediately if they anticipate they will not be able to attend an assigned clinical assignment. Absence of any part of a clinical day will require make-up in the simulation lab or another alternative at the clinical faculty’s discretion. More than one absence from clinical may result in failure to meet clinical requirements and failure in the course. All clinical experiences **must** be made up. Additionally, it is imperative that students attend all orientation days**. Hospital orientation days are typically scheduled for the first clinical day in the course (usually the second week of class). It is not an option to miss or reschedule. Completion of 90 clinical hours along with a passing grade of 90% on the Math Quiz, attendance at skills lab, community panel and check off of skills (if applicable), plus completed written assignments are required to pass clinical. A failure in clinical is a failure in the course.**

**Attendance Policy:** 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:

Classroom: **Students enrolled in the course are expected to attend all lectures**. This is not an on-line class. Students are expected to be on time and ready for class at the scheduled time. No children are allowed in class without prior permission. Adult visitors may attend class with prior permission of the instructor teaching the class.

Successful students are the ones who come to class prepared, attend lecture, routinely review notes after class to fill in “gaps” in notes while the information is still fresh. All posted reading material on blackboard is testable material.

Clinical: **Students are expected to attend all clinical experiences on the scheduled day and time**. **All clinical deficiencies must be cleared prior to attending clinical experience. Entrance into clinical requires a passing grade (90%) on the Math Quiz, and completion of the clinical prep-sheets. Additional time may be required by your clinical setting.**

**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 University Catalog. <http://catalog.uta.edu/academicregulations/grades/#undergraduatetext>

**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://wweb.uta.edu/ses/fao>).

**The drop dates in FALL 2014 for N4441-Obstetrics and N4431-Pediatrics:**

**The course and clinical drop date for the first 7-week course/clinical rotation is**

**February 24, 2015**

**The course and clinical drop date for the second 7-week course/clinical rotation is**

**April 21, 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](http://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](http://www.uta.edu/titleIX).

**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 exams 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.

**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.

**LIBRARY INFORMATION: Peace Ossom Williamson, MLS, MS, AHIP**

Nursing Liaison Librarian, Central Library Office 216

<http://www.uta.edu/library> | [peace@uta.edu](mailto:peace@uta.edu)

Research information on nursing:

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

**Undergraduate Support Staff:**

**Holly Woods, *Administrative Assistant I, Pre-nursing & Senior II***

660 Pickard Hall, (817) 272-7295

Email: [hwoods@uta.edu](mailto:hwoods@uta.edu)

**Suzanne Kyle*, Administrative Assistant I, Junior I through Senior I***

661 Pickard Hall, (817) 272-0367

Email: [skyle@uta.edu](mailto:skyle@uta.edu)

**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.

**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.

**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>

**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.

**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.

Each course syllabus will list the Essential Skills required for that specific course. Each course will make the Course Specific Essential Skills Experience Passport available to the student either by attaching it to syllabus or in the course material in Blackboard. The Course Specific 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.

UTA students are required to perform and document ALL the essential skills for each course 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. The completed Course Specific Passport will be attached to the final clinical evaluation and maintained in the student’s record located in the Student Services Office.

**VITALS SIGNS**

1. Heart rate (apical pulse) & rhythm
2. Respiratory rate & rhythm
3. Temperature
4. Blood pressure - manual and/or automated device
5. Pulses – rate, quality
6. Auscultation of heart sounds
7. Auscultation of lung sounds
8. Pain assessment

**BASIC CARE**

1. Bathing
2. Making beds
3. Turning and positioning
4. Peri care

**ASSESSMENT**

1. Physical assessment: Head to Toe
2. Physical assessment: Problem-Focused
3. Fetal monitoring & assessment
4. Maternal /Child dyad – bonding
5. Psychosocial assessment

**MEDICATION ADMINISTRATION**

1. Six rights
2. Safe dose range calculation/determination
3. Intramuscular – Newborn Only

**TREATMENTS**

1. Cold application

**INTRAVENOUS (IV) ACCESS LINES**

1. Monitoring/care epidural lines

**CARE AND MANAGEMENT OF WOUNDS & DRAINS**

1. Circumcision site care
2. Cord and/or umbilicus care

**AIRWAY MANAGEMENT**

1. Nasal suctioning (bulb suction)

**NUTRITION AND FEEDING**

1. Bottle feeding/breast feeding

**INFECTION CONTROL PROCEDURES**

1. Handwashing/cleansing
2. Standard/universal precautions

**SAFETY**

1. Use of correct body mechanics

**MISCELLANEOUS**

1. Documentation
2. Therapeutic communication techniques– patients
3. Therapeutic communication techniques–families
4. Nursing Math Skills

**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.

**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.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Clinical Failing Behaviors | Matched to NPA |
| 1. Performance is unsafe. | 1,2,3,5,6,7,9,10,11,12,13,14 |
| 2. Questionable decisions are often made. | 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14 |
| 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.bne.state.tx.us) for any additional information regarding the Texas Nursing Practice Act.

**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”.*

**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://wweb.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.

**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.

**N 4441**

**Nursing of the Childbearing Family**

All students are requested to read and the Honor Code and Sign and date

**Related to Activities on Blackboard**

1. I will not divulge my user ID or password to anyone
2. I and only I will post answers to course assignments using my user ID and password.
3. I and only I will take the online quizzes/exams\*\* using my user ID and password
4. I understand that the on-line quizzes/exams are closed book and I will not refer to my textbooks or references (this includes books, notes, study sheets, PDA internet search, individual or group interaction), while taking the quizzes/exams.
5. I will not print or attempt to copy in any manner any part of the exam or reproduce same in any way.
6. I will not divulge the content to the on-line quizzes/exams to any other student/individual, whether enrolled in the class or not.

\*\*To include Blackboard quizzes/exams

**Related to Other Class Assignments**

1. I will not share content information about any in-class exam or assignment with another student or individual or use any electronic means of distributing information.
2. I will not receive content information about in class exams or assignments from another individual verbally, written, or electronically.
3. I understand that all assignments, quizzes, & exams are the product of my own work.

**Related to Course Syllabus**

1. I have read the Course Syllabus and understand what is expected of me and what constitutes appropriate and professional behaviors/expectations.

Having read the above statements, I understand that violation of this code will constitute an act of Academic Dishonesty and I will be subject to the appropriate sanctions of the University.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Print Name Date

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature

This must be completed and submitted prior to taking first quiz or exam – Failure to comply will result in a Zero.

Please print, sign and bring with you the first class day.