



NURS 4223: Professional Nursing Trends
Spring 2015

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Nursing-4223-Sections 001 and 002

Time and Place of Class Meetings:

Section 001 – Monday, 8 AM – 10:50 AM, Room 223 Pickard Hall

Section 002 – Monday, 1 PM – 3:50 PM, Room 223 Pickard Hall

Description of Course Content: Analysis of societal issues and trends influencing health care. Application of ethical, legal, economic, and political concepts. Identification of strategies for personal and professional empowerment. Prerequisite: NURS 4431, 4441, and 4581.

Student Learning Outcomes:

Course Performance Outcomes <i>At the end of this course, the student should be able to:</i>	Performance Measurement
1. Apply Nursing Jurisprudence, focusing on the Texas Nursing Practice Act and Texas Board of Nursing's Rules and Regulations, to professional nursing practice. <i>Program Outcomes: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9</i>	Exams, Class Discussion
2. Implement the standards and professional interventions required to avoid malpractice litigation and license investigation and engage in legislative and employment opportunities to influence the profession of nursing and patient safety. <i>Program Outcomes: 1, 2, 3, 4, 7</i>	Exams, Class Discussion
3. Model characteristics and responsibilities of a professional nurse. <i>Program Outcomes: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8</i>	Exams, Class Discussion, Class Presentation, Professional Paper
4. Analyze the legal, ethical, employment, economic, political, and educational trends in the practice of professional nursing. <i>Program Outcomes: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9</i>	Exams, Class Discussion, Class Presentation, Professional Paper

Textbooks: No Required Textbook

Assignments/Exams:

Exam #1	35 %
Exam #2	35 %
Small Group Presentation	15 %
Professional Paper	15 %

Refer to the course schedule posted on Blackboard for time and location of exams and due dates for assignments.

UTA College of Nursing and Health Innovation and Health Innovation Grading Criteria

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

- 70% weighted average on proctored exams
- 70% weighted average on major written assignments
- 90% on math test (if applicable)
- 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

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 METHODS:

1. Examinations:

There will be two exams.

Missed Exams:

Students absent on a scheduled exam day are expected to notify the faculty person on or before that day. Arrangements will be made for a make-up exam, subject to the professor's schedule and availability.

2. Student Achievement:

Students are responsible and accountable for their own achievement, including seeking consultation with the faculty regarding problems related to the course. 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.

3. Written Assignment Requirements:

Written assignments should exemplify professional appearance and communication skills. Reports and papers must be legible, follow format guidelines, and use correct grammar, spelling, and punctuation, according to the latest APA Publication Manual and UTACONHI Student Handbook guidelines.

Late Assignments:

Required assignments must be submitted on the date that they are due, prior to the beginning of class or when designated in Blackboard. It is the student's responsibility to notify the faculty of unavoidable delays. If this does not occur and specific arrangements have not been contracted with the faculty in advance, a late assignment will result in that assignment grade being reduced.

Policy on Retaining Student Papers:

According to policy in the UTACONHI Faculty Handbook, all examinations and other written work on which grades are based, unless returned to the student, will be kept for a period as specified by University of Texas at Arlington policy. The decision whether or not to return written materials is the prerogative of the professor. Examination booklets and quizzes will not be returned to the student. However, the student may make an appointment and review these in the faculty office. The professor reserves the right to make a photocopy of any written materials submitted for evaluation, prior to returning them to the student, to be used for accreditation, documentation, and other school-related purposes.

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, I have established the following attendance policy: 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.

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 including but not limited to removal from the discussion board.

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

http://web.uta.edu/catalog/content/general/academic_regulations.aspx#10

Drop Policy: Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. **Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance.** Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (<http://wweb.uta.edu/aao/fao/>). Courses with adjusted drop dates are as follows: Management, Trends, Community Health and Capstone.

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. If any exams are administered in a non-proctored environment, I reserve the right, at any time, to require a student to take or re-take any or all exams in a proctored environment. If I deem this necessary, the student is responsible for making the proctoring arrangements, subject to my approval. This policy applies to any and all assignments required in this course.

Per UT System *Regents' Rule* 50101, §2.2, which states “*Academic 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.*”

Suspected violations of university's standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Community Standards. Being found responsible for violating Regents' Rule 50101, §2.2 by the Office of Community standards will result in course failure. 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: 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>.

Student Feedback Survey: At the end of each term, students enrolled in classes categorized as “lecture,” “seminar,” or “laboratory” shall be directed to complete an online 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.

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 handicapped individuals.

Student Support Services: [Required for all undergraduate courses] 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.

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>

**Undergraduate
Support Staff:**

Holly Woods, Administrative Assistant I, Pre-nursing & Senior II
660 Pickard Hall, (817) 272-7295
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Suzanne Kyle, Administrative Assistant I, Junior I - Senior I
661 Pickard Hall, (817) 272-0367
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Student Code of Ethics

The University of Texas at Arlington College of Nursing and Health Innovation 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 CONHI 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. “Zero tolerance” for any expressed behavior that is disrespectful, unprofessional, or displays incivility by students toward other students, preceptors, staff at assigned clinical facilities or faculty.

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 UTACONHI with some specific requirements for the undergraduate courses. The sample title page & instructions, as well as a Manuscript Preparation document can be found in the Student Handbook which can be found by going to the following link and clicking on BSN Student Handbook: <http://www.uta.edu/nursing/bsn-program/>

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.

Testing Environment:

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. While measures are taken to avoid internet connection disruptions, *Web based testing includes the risk of unexpected/uncontrolled connectivity interruptions. In the event such interruptions occur*, faculty will modify test end time to assure that students have the full scheduled length of time to complete the exam.

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.

Observance of religious Holy Days:

Undergraduate Nursing faculty and students shall follow the University policy regarding Observance of Religious Holy Days: (http://web.uta.edu/catalog/content/general/academic_regulations.aspx#6

No Gift Policy:

In accordance with Regents Rules and Regulations and the UTA Standards of Conduct, the College of Nursing and Health Innovation has a “no gift” policy. A donation to the UTA College of Nursing and Health Innovation 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 located in the lower left-hand corner.

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.