**NURS 3261:** Nursing of Older Adults

Fall 2015

**Instructor(s):** Janet McLean MSN, RN

**Office Number:** Pickard Hall Room 539 (do not leave voice mail- use cell number which will be provided in class)

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

**Office Hours:** by appointment

**Time and Place of Class Meetings:**

**Section 001-**Pickard Hall 212, Tuesday 1-4:50pm **Section 002-**Pickard Hall 204, Tuesday 8-11:50

**Description of Course Content:**

This course is presented both in the classroom and online through Blackboard. There may be weeks in which students will not be required to attend class but will be responsible for content presented on Blackboard.

Selected concepts and issues related to aging and its impact on society and health care. Introduction to gerontologic nursing principles. Clinical application in diverse settings across the continuum of care. Prerequisite: NURS 3632 or concurrent enrollment.

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| --- | --- |
| * **Student Learning Outcomes** | **Method of Instruction and Evaluation** |
| * Promote adherence to the evidence-based practice of providing restraint-free care (both physical and chemical restraints). | **Lecture, readings, class discussion**  **Exam**  **Quiz** |
| * Implement strategies and use online guidelines to prevent and/or identify and manage geriatric syndromes | **Lecture, online readings, text, class discussion**  **Exam** |
| * Recognize the complex interaction of acute and chronic co-morbid physical and mental conditions and associated treatments common to older adults | **Lecture, video, readings, online resources**  **Discussion**  **Exam**  **Quiz** |
| * Identify actual or potential mistreatment (physical, mental, or financial abuse, and/or self neglect) in older adults and refer appropriately | **Lecture, video, readings, class discussion**  **Exam**  **Quiz** |
| * Assess barriers for older adults in receiving, understanding and giving of information | **Lecture, readings, online resources**  **Life Review project** |
| * Facilitate ethical, no-coercive decision making by older adults and /or families/caregivers for maintaining everyday living, receiving treatment, initiating advance directives and implementing end of care | **Lecture, video, group discussion**  **Exam, Grief Assignment** |
| * Recognize and respect the variations of care, the increased complexity and the increased use of healthcare resources in caring for older adults | **Lecture, readings, online resources**  **Exam** |
| * Incorporate professional attitudes, values and expectations about physical and mental aging in the provision of patient centered care for older adults and their families | **Lecture, class discussion, readings**  **Life Review project**  **Exam** |
| * Implement and monitor strategies to prevent risk and promote quality and safety (eg., falls, medication mismanagement, pressure ulcers) in the nursing care of older adults with physical and cognitive needs | **Lecture, class demonstrations, video, guest lecture**  **Exam** |
| * Utilize resources/programs to promote functional, physical and mental wellness in older adults. | **Use of online resources in class, lecture**  **Exam**  **Life Review project** |

**Required Textbooks and Other Course Materials: THERE IS NO REQUIRED TEXBOOK**

**If a student wishes to utilize a book the following text is recommended:**

Touhy, T & Jett, K. (2012). *Ebersole and Hess’ toward healthy aging*. (8th ed). Elsevier. ISBN 9780323073165

**Readings:**

**There will be other required readings and videos that will all be available online either through internet links or through the UTA Library online. Many of the articles will be made directly available to the student via Blackboard.**

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

Course Schedule with dates and assignments available on Blackboard

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Assignment** | **Weighted % of Course Grade** |
| Exam #1 | 25% |
| Exam #2 | 25% |
| Quiz #1 | 7.0% |
| Quiz #2 | 7.0% |
| Life Review Assignment | 20% |
| Cost of Dying Discussion in class | 7.0% |
| Alzheimer Discussion | 7.0% |
| Grief & Reflections Assignment | 2.0% |

**UTA College of Nursing Grading Criteria**

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

70% weighted average on proctored exams (Exam I & II)

70% weighted average on major written assignments

90% on math test (not applicable for this course)

90% on practicum skills check offs (not applicable for this course)

**All major assignments must be submitted in order to pass this course regardless of the course average**

**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.

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

**NOTE:**

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.

**If a student is not passing the exams with a 70% the student is responsible for making a plan of how to improve future grades and should make an appointment with Ms. Lynn Cope (Ext. 20704; Room 657) to discuss how remediation will take place).**

**All assignments must be submitted in order to pass the course, regardless of grade point average for the course.**

**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 6 hours per week of their own time in course-related activities, including reading required materials, completing assignments, preparing for exams, etc.**

**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, see responsibilities below:

**Student Responsibilities:**

* Clear communication from students to course faculty, elders, and other healthcare professionals is expected.
* As adult learners, and as life-long learners, students are responsible and accountable for their own achievement, including seeking consultation with the professor about 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.
* 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.
* 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. When a written work is required in APA format, the student is to follow the *APA Publication Manual* (5th edition) and Student Handbook guidelines.

**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 N3261 Gero and N3321 Research:**

**The course drop date for the first 7-week course is**

**9/29/2015**

**The course drop date for the second 7-week course is**

**11/25/2015**

**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>

**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. Major papers will be submitted through Safe Assign.

**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. 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 exit, which is located [insert a description of the nearest exit/emergency exit]. 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 - Senior I***

661 Pickard Hall, (817) 272-0367

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

**Make-up Exam Policy**:

All students are expected to take exams at the scheduled time. In the event a student anticipates missing an exam due to circumstances beyond his/her control, the student is expected to notify the instructor before the exam day. If an emergency situation on the day of the exam occurs, the student must make contact with the instructor via phone. The instructor must approve a make-up exam. If proper notification is not given, there is no guarantee that a make-up exam will be approved. In that case, the grade for that exam will become a 0%. **The make-up exam will cover the scheduled material and will be in a format at the instructor’s discretion which may include an essay/short answer format or multiple choice questions.** The exam must be made up within one week of the scheduled date of the exam unless approval is obtained from the instructor.

**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 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 exam end time to assure that students have the full scheduled length of time to complete the exam.

**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>

**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 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.