Division: Health Sciences
Area: Nursing

Course Number: NURS 280.61

Course Name: Clinical Application of Nursing Care

Prerequisite: NURS 220, 260, 270, 290

Corequisite:

Hours Required: Class: Lab: 360 Credits: 8

Course Description/Purpose

This is an eight-credit hour clinical course that focuses on the practice of nursing in selected settings (in-patient, out-patient and community settings) and with varying client populations. Students apply nursing process to assist clients and families to achieve maximum holistic health through continuous adaptation and growth and development. Students will respond to health changes ranging from normal childbearing to severe illness and crises. Students will manage care for increasing numbers of clients within selected settings. Communication skills with clients, peers and the health care team are emphasized, as are professional nursing behaviors. Knowledge is demonstrated by the safe and effective clinical care to clients in the mental health, childbearing, childrearing and medical-surgical settings over 15 weeks of clinical experience. The student receives a "P" or "F" rather than a letter grade.

Major Units

- Clinical Experience in Mental Health Nursing
- Clinical Experience in Obstetrical Nursing
- Clinical Experience in Pediatric Nursing
- Clinical Experience in Medical-Surgical Setting
Instructional Methods:

Students will meet the course objectives by demonstrating behaviors consistent with the National League for Nursing competencies (2000) as reflected in the Guidelines for Clinical Evaluation. Students must demonstrate satisfactory performance for each of the seven (7) objectives in each of the clinical rotations. Clinical rotations will consist of 90 hours in mental health and 45 hours in both obstetrics and pediatrics, and 180 hours in a medical-surgical setting.

The student will work with a preceptor, mutually agreed upon, in each of the assigned areas. The student will demonstrate increased responsibility for client care throughout the semester. Management experiences will be integrated into the student’s clinical experience. The preceptor will be providing feedback concerning student performance to both the student and the faculty member. Students will be expected to progress toward mastery of the clinical behaviors defined in the Guidelines for Clinical Evaluation. The student, preceptor and faculty will have weekly interactions to discuss student progress.

The student will keep a weekly journal which will be kept confidential and read only by the student and faculty member. The journal will be sent to the faculty using email or the digital drop box in Blackboard.

A scheduled lab for review of clinical skills deemed necessary by the faculty will be required prior to beginning clinical experiences.

Course Objectives:

Upon completion of this course, the student will be expected to:

Cognitive Performance
- Demonstrate critical thinking abilities through the application of the nursing process to promote wellness and to meet the needs of various populations of clients in in-patient, outpatient, and community settings.

Performance
- Safely function at the level of a beginning associate degree nurse practitioner within the structure of the health team.
- Utilize the nurse-client relationship to assist individuals, families, and groups adapt spiritually, biologically, and psychologically.

Performance Attitudinal
- Use effective communication with the health team members and clients across the life span.
- Demonstrate accountability and meet legal and ethical standards of care.
- Advocate for the rights of individuals to choose their own health and cultural practices, moral codes, and life styles.

Performance
- Manage the nursing care for increasing numbers of clients, appropriate to the setting.
- Meet final program outcomes.