NURSING DEPARTMENT

Title: Nursing IV  
Catalog Number: NURS 2758K
Credit Hours: 9  
Lecture: 5  Clinical: 12
Total Contact Hours: 17

Instructors:  
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COURSE SYLLABUS

Course Description

In this final nursing course, students use prior theoretical and clinical learning experiences to incorporate the core concepts for competent nursing practice: nursing process, caring, and professional behaviors. Concepts introduced in prior nursing courses will be expanded, with emphasis placed on the development of leadership skills and the systematic use of nursing process and critical thinking to manage client care. Students are expected to consistently demonstrate professional behaviors in all settings. Concepts presented will be applied across the lifespan in the synthesis and evaluation of complex nursing situations in selected high acuity care and community settings. Successful completion of Nursing IV is required for students’ eligibility to take the NCLEX-RN examination.

Prerequisite(s): NURS-225, BIOL-250  
Corequisite(s): ENGL-115

After successfully completing the course, the student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate the knowledge, behaviors, and skills for successful transition to professional nursing practice.
2. Maintain legal, ethical, and professional accountability when leading and managing the care of clients.
3. Clarify interventions appropriate for clients in specialized settings and/or specific situations.
4. Collaborate with members of the health care team and instructor to solve problems, facilitating achievement of client goals/outcomes.
5. Use the nursing process to manage and meet client care needs.
6. Delegate tasks and responsibilities of nursing care to team members in accordance with their level of education/skill
7. Determine health education needed to facilitate informed decision-making, achieve positive outcomes, and support self-care activities.
8. Foster a caring environment with clients, support persons, and colleagues.
Concepts:
Self
Violence
Cognition
Oxygenation
Circulation and Perfusion
Stress and Coping
Mood and Affect
Leadership and Management
Cellular Regulation
Professional Behaviors
Quality Improvement
Intracranial Regulation
Skin Integrity
Accountability
Infectious Disease
Medication Administration
Health Policy
Safety

Course Requirements

- Students are expected to assume responsibility for meeting the course objectives and are responsible for prior learning.
- Written assignments are due on the dates indicated unless prior arrangements are negotiated with the faculty.
- If, for any reason, a student fails to take an exam at the scheduled time then the student must take a make-up exam (see nursing department policies)
- Student are expected to come to class prepared to participate in classroom activities and discussion.

Student Evaluation and Grading

Theory: Letter grades are given for the theoretical component of the course.

Grade Components:

- 4 announced hourly exams 60%
- Comprehensive final exam 25%
- Resume and letters 5%
- Class presentation 10%

Exam grades (including unit exams and final exam) must average 76 or better before the resume, letters and class presentation are factored in.

Numerical grades are rounded up or down.

This initial calculation is as follows:

- Hourly exams 65%
- Final exam 35%

When the average of the above is 76 or better than the percentages including the class presentation and the resume/letters are calculated for a final grade.

Dosage Calculation Competency

Nursing students are required to complete one dosage calculation competency test each semester throughout the program. The test will be given a maximum of three times on designated dates. Students must take the tests in sequence and pass the dosage calculation test once with a 90% or better by mid-semester. If a student fails to achieve 90% on the third attempt, s/he will not be allowed to progress in the program. The student will receive an F for the nursing course.

American DataBank Requirements

Students must provide appropriate documentation to the clinical instructor at the beginning of each
clinical rotation for compliance with annual criminal background checks, required immunizations with titer, annual flu vaccine, annual testing for tuberculosis, and current certification for BLS (Basic Life Support for Health Care Providers from the American Heart Association). Students must maintain a current account with American DataBank (ADB) by paying the annual fee. All requirements must remain current throughout the semester. If students do not have current required documentation they cannot be in clinical. This will count as a clinical absence.

Clinical Evaluation

The student's clinical performance will be evaluated by use of the clinical evaluation tool, written assignments, oral presentations, and anecdotal records. All clinical evaluation tools are completed on a satisfactory/unsatisfactory basis in each clinical rotation. Informal evaluation of clinical performance will be done on a weekly basis utilizing the anecdotal record. Formal evaluations of clinical performance will be done at the end of each clinical rotation by using the clinical evaluation tool.

IF AT ANY TIME A STUDENT ENDANGERS THE HEALTH OR SAFETY OF A PATIENT THROUGH REPEATED CARELESSNESS, LACK OF PREPARATION, OR FAILURE TO FOLLOW THE NURSING PROGRAM'S POLICIES AND PROCEDURES, THE STUDENT WILL BE DISMISSED FROM THE NURSING PROGRAM AND WILL NOT BE READMITTED.

Students are encouraged to seek instructor guidance at any time for either class or clinical concerns. An appointment may be made with the instructor during posted office hours. Students must pass both the theoretical component and the clinical component of this course to continue in the program.

Learning Methods:

Lecture/Discussion  Simulation  Special Class/Clinical
Audiovisual Materials  Concept Mapping  Paper
Demonstrations  Pre- and Post- Conferences
Role Playing/Oral Presentations  Discussion Board

Texts, Tools, and/or Supplies

Required:


Ignatnivicius & Workman (2016). Medical Surgical Nursing: Patient-Centered Collaborative Care, 8th ed. Saunders. USED BOOKS DO NOT HAVE COMPUTER ACCESS CODES. IF A USED BOOK IS PURCHASED, COMPUTER ACCESS CODES MUST BE PURCHASED SEPARATELY.

Recommended:


Yoost: Fundamentals of Nursing. Elsevier

Jones. ECG Notes. F.A. Davis or Aehlert. ECGs Made Easy, Mosby.

NCLEX Review Book. (Springhouse or Mosby or Kaplar)

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**Attendance Policy**

Students are expected to attend class. Class attendance may be considered if a student applies for readmission. Students who miss more than 12 hours of clinical in a clinical or lab rotation will fail the course.

Late start policy: When the college announces a delayed opening, any remaining class, lab, or clinical time will be held and begin at the announced time unless otherwise notified by faculty.

**End-of-Course Evaluation**

Students complete evaluations for each course attended at SMCC. Evaluations are submitted online and can be accessed through the student portal. Students can access the course evaluations beginning one week before the end of classes. The deadline for submission of evaluations occurs Monday at 5 p.m. following the last day of the class. You will receive an e-mail to your student e-mail account when course evaluations are available.

**ADA Syllabus Statement**

Southern Maine Community College is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution and employer. For more information, please call 207-741-5798. If you have a disabling condition and wish to request accommodations in order to have reasonable access to the programs and services offered by SMCC, you must register with the Disability Services Coordinator, Sandra Lynham, who can be reached at 741-5923. Further information about services for students with disabilities and the accommodation process is available upon request at this number. Course policies about online testing are modified to suit each individual’s accommodations.

**SMCC Pay-for-Print Policy**

Each semester students receive a $20 printing credit. The balance resets at the end of the semester and any remaining credits are removed. The College’s pay-for-print system monitors printing on all printers (including those in general access labs, library printers, Tutoring Services, Campus Center Lounge and technology labs). Be sure to log OUT of the system when you’ve finished your printing, to prevent unauthorized access to your account. Students can check the number of pages they have printed by using the Printing Balance tool available on SMCC computers (located in the lower right corner of the screen, near the clock). Printing is 10cents/page one-sided or two sided. If you have questions about the pay-for-printing policy or your printing charges, please contact the Help Desk at 741-5696 or send an e-mail to helpdesk@smccme.edu.

**Refunds**

Print jobs are eligible for a refund in the event of mechanical or electronic error on the part of the printer, print server, or software used to submit the job. Jobs are not eligible for a refund in cases where the job was not set up correctly, was submitted multiple times, or the student is not satisfied with the result. To request a refund, please bring the offending print to the IT Department in the basement of the Ross Technology Center. Refunds will be granted in the form of a credit to the student’s account.

**Add-Drop Policy**

Students who drop a course during the one-week “add/drop” period in the fall and spring semesters and the first three days of summer sessions receive a 100% refund of the tuition and associated fees for that course. Please note any course that meets for less than the traditional semester length, i.e., 15 weeks, has a pro-rated add/drop period. There is no refund for non-attendance.
Withdrawal Policy
A student may withdraw from a course only during the semester in which s/he is registered for that course. The withdrawal period is the second through twelfth week of the Fall and Spring semesters and the second through ninth week of twelve-week Summer courses. This period is pro-rated for shorter-length courses, usually 75 percent of course meeting times; please check with the Registration Office. To withdraw from a course, a student must complete and submit the appropriate course withdrawal form, available at the Registration Office. This process must be completed either in person or by using SMCC e-mail accounts.

Plagiarism Statement
If an instructor suspects that a student has knowingly committed a violation defined in the Maine Community College System Policy on Student Grade Appeals and Academic Misconduct, the instructor has the authority to review the alleged misconduct and determine the grade that the student should receive for the assignment and the course. The instructor may assign a failing grade for the assignment or course and may require the student to complete additional work for the course. The instructor may consult with the department chair and/or the College’s chief academic officer prior to making such decisions. If a student seeks to challenge an instructor’s determination, the student should submit a grade appeal. Grade appeal forms are available in the Advising Office on the South Portland Campus or in the administrative offices in the Learning Commons on the Midcoast Campus. An instructor may also refer the matter to the College’s disciplinary officer for review under the procedures of the MCCS Student Code of Conduct.