Nursing Practicum V: Advanced Clinical Practice
Fall 2014
Section 0

COURSE: NURS. 4570.CRN 46466

TITLE: Nursing Practicum V: Advanced Clinical Practice

CREDIT: 2 Hours

FACULTY: Barbara Norwood, MSN, EdD, RN
Office phone: 425-4665
Office hours: Posted on Door
Email: Barbara-Norwood@utc.edu
Response time: 24 hours

Gloria Deml, MEd, RN
Office: Metro
Telephone: 903-7494 (cell) preferred. No texts accepted.
Email: Gloria-Deml@utc.edu
Response time: 24 hours

COURSE MEETING DAYS TIMES LOCATION: Varies with student clinical placement.

PREREQUISITES AND COREQUISITES: All Level 1, 2, 3, and 4 courses plus N4510 and N4560

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Application of Orem’s Conceptual Model to theory, practice, and research in a variety of clinical settings; preparation for entry into professional nursing practice.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES: Upon completion of the course, the student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate a repertoire of effective communications skills with patients, families, communities, and colleagues.
2. Incorporate knowledge of teaching and learning principles consistent with developmental self-care requisites to guide transformative teaching.
3. Respect differences in culture, attitudes, values, and expectations of others.
4. Embrace values of altruism, autonomy, human dignity, integrity, and social justice when engaging with and on behalf of patients, families, and communities.
5. Act to prevent unsafe, illegal, or unethical practices.
6. Promote a positive image of nursing by modeling the values and articulating the knowledge, skills, and attitudes of the nursing profession.

7. Pursue practice excellence, lifelong learning, and professional engagement to foster ongoing professional growth and development.

8. Exercise leadership in creating a culture of quality, safety, and caring in a variety of settings with diverse populations.

9. Participate in the development of imaginative, creative strategies, and/or evidence-based strategies to enable systems to change.

10. Synthesize theoretical and empirical knowledge from the natural, behavioral, and nursing sciences, and the humanities in understanding the human health experience and in making decisions about nursing practice.

11. Incorporate knowledge of basic conditioning factors, power components, and self-care requisites (universal, developmental, health deviations) to promote self-care agency for patients, families, communities.

12. Integrate skills of inquiry, analysis, and information literacy to address practice issues.

13. Tolerate ambiguity and unpredictability of the world and its effect on the healthcare system as related to nursing practice.

14. Incorporate Orem’s Power components into professional practice (See Level Objectives*).

15. Practice in an imaginative and creative way characterized by a high degree of innovation, divergent thinking, and risk taking.

**EVALUATION ASSESSMENT:**

Clinical Performance S/NC (self, preceptor and faculty evaluations)

Daily Reflective Journal S/NC (submitted weekly)

Case study as assigned S/NC

Weekly NCLEX questions S/NC

**GRADING SCALE:**

In order to pass Nursing courses that carry letter grades, a grade of at least 78% must be achieved. The grading scale is as follows:

92-100 A
84-91 B
78-83 C
70-77 D
<70 F

If 78% is **NOT achieved for the course grade**, the student will receive, at most, a “D” for the course and will not
progress to the next level in the nursing program. **Students with one D, NC, and/or F in the nursing major will be placed on probation. Students with more than one D, NC, and/or F in the nursing major will be dismissed from the program.** See the [UTC SON Undergraduate Handbook](#) regarding progression.

**Plagiarism and Cheating Declaration** Students will write and/or type one of the following statements on EVERY nursing exam and assignment: “I affirm that I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid on this quiz/exam/test.” **OR** “I affirm that this assignment reflects my own honest work and was completed with the integrity expected of me and my profession.”

The student will also be required to sign the statement.

**CLASS PARTICIPATION/ ATTENDANCE POLICY:** Students are expected to complete all the clinical days with their assigned preceptor in the clinical setting.

Patient safety is, of course, a higher priority than a student's learning. If at any time an instructor or preceptor believes that a student's actions will jeopardize the patient, it is his or her right and responsibility to intervene in the situation. These are grounds for dismissal under the UTC School of Nursing continuation policy.

**MAKE-UP POLICY:** Students who are absent from clinical practicum will be required to make up the missed time in accord with the preceptor’s schedule and with the approval of the course faculty.


**COMMUNICATION:** To enhance student services, the University and SON faculty will use your UTC email address (firstname.lastname@mocs.utc.edu) for communications. (See [http://onenet.utc.edu](http://onenet.utc.edu) for your exact address). If you have problems with accessing your email account, contact the Help Desk at 423-425-4000. You may expect to receive a response from faculty via email within 24 hours.

**ACCOMODATION STATEMENT:** If you are a student with a disability (e.g. physical, learning, psychiatric, vision, hearing, etc.) and think that you might need special assistance or a special accommodation in this class or any other class, call the Disability Resource Center (DRC) at 425-4006 or come by the office, 102 Frist Hall
COUNSELING CENTER STATEMENT: If you find that personal problems, career indecision, study and time management difficulties, etc. are adversely impacting your successful progress at UTC, please contact the Counseling and Career Planning Center at 425-4438.

COURSE SCHEDULE/ TOPICAL OUTLINE: Weekly clinical decision-making based on patient assessment.

TEACHING/LEARNING STRATEGIES: Clinical application of nursing science.

HONOR CODE PLEDGE: From the UTC Student Handbook I pledge that I will neither give nor receive unauthorized aid on any test or assignment. I understand that plagiarism constitutes a serious instance of unauthorized aid. I further pledge that I exert every effort to insure that the Honor Code is upheld by others and that I will actively support the establishment and continuance of a campus-wide climate of honor and integrity.

The instructor of this class reserves the right to submit papers to the UTC Learn (Blackboard) text-matching software (SafeAssign) for review and analysis of originality and intellectual integrity. If the results of the review indicate academic dishonesty, disciplinary action may be taken against the student as outlined in the UTC Student Handbook.

URL for course: None

Additional Course Requirements:

1. SELF-ASSESSMENT OF SKILL LEVEL. Students must complete a self-assessment of skill level prior to beginning the clinical experience. This will be done using the skills sheet found under the syllabus button in Blackboard. This assessment must be shared with the preceptor on the first clinical day. This determines, in part, the student’s current scope of practice. Failure to share skills list on the first day will result in an Unsatisfactory for the day.

2. SELF-EVALUATION AND PRECEPTOR EVALUATIONS. A mid-experience evaluation is to be completed by your preceptor after you have completed 3 days of clinical practice and again at the completion of the experience. These evaluations are shared with the student and faculty. The 3 day evaluations must be handed in to course faculty before the student begins day 5 of the practicum. Failure to hand in the completed mid-experience evaluation will result in an Unsatisfactory evaluation for day five. A final self-evaluation using the form provided must also be completed. The final evaluations must be handed in within 4 days of finishing the experience.

3. REFLECTIVE JOURNAL ENTRIES must be kept each clinical day.
a. These reflections must be written near or at the end of the day. If you delay in writing a reflection, it ceases to be reflective.

b. Please respond to each of the prompts below for each day’s journal entry as you reflect on your clinical experiences. Be sure to fully explain your responses.

1. When I think about my feelings during the clinical day, I would describe them as... but I was able to......
2. My impression of my performance in clinical today was that I....
3. The thing that gave me the most difficulty in clinical today was..... I was able to handle this by .........
4. My preceptor and I left on time: yes_____ no_____
   As I look back at my time management abilities.....

c. The second section should show your thoughts about the characteristics of nurse agency. Select one characteristic of nurse agency to reflect on each day. Reflect upon and describe specifically how it is manifested by the nurses on your unit and how your nursing care reflects the identified characteristic.

d. The third section consists of you choosing one of the course objectives and providing data regarding how you met that objective.

The journals are to be turned in weekly—at the beginning of class for N4510. It is the student’s responsibility to keep the journal up-to-date and to submit it weekly. Part of successfully passing the course depends on timely submission.

4. CASE STUDY. Students may be required to complete a care study for selected patients. When assigned, submit the care study with the journal. The Orem care plan form will be used for these care studies.

5. SCHEDULES. Students will complete 7, 12 hour shifts with their preceptors. Students MUST work at least 1, 12 hour shift with their preceptors each week and no more than 2, 12 hour shifts per week. Weeks run from Friday through Wednesday. Preceptorship shift schedules must be updated weekly on Thursday before the end of N4510 class. Students may not change their preceptorship shift schedules IN ANY WAY FOR ANY REASON without faculty approval. Students working preceptorship shifts on the 7p – 7a shifts may not work on Wednesday nights nor Thursday nights. Students are not allowed to work preceptorship shifts on UTC designated holidays nor administrative closings. Students who work a preceptorship shift on a day faculty have not approved, will receive an Unsatisfactory for the day and the hours will not be counted. According to School of Nursing policy, 2 Unsatisfactory days will result in a grade of NC in the course.

6. NUMBER OF CONSECUTIVE SHIFTS. Due to patient safety concerns students may not work more than 2, 12 hours shifts in a row with their preceptors. Exceptions to this policy may be made only by course faculty. Students must give priority to preceptor clinical shifts in order to successfully complete the course.

7. CLINICAL START TIMES. Students are expected to begin their shifts at the official starting time of the unit. They must be present and ready to assume patient care at the start of report. Tardiness is unacceptable. See the tardy policy below.
8. **NCLEX QUESTIONS**: All students as part of their NCLEX preparation will complete 10 NCLEX review questions weekly or 75 questions every 3 weeks from the required review text and turn in their answer sheets for these questions to the professor who will monitor these for completion.

9. **UNIFORMS AND DRESS POLICY**: Dress code and professional behavior standards are to be followed during preceptorship. Shoes and uniform must be clean, hair must be up and off the shoulder, nametags must be worn, one pair of earrings and only one flat ring without a stone may be worn. If a sweater or jacket is worn, it must be navy blue or white. Chewing gum is never acceptable. In addition, students must follow the dress code restrictions for the agency in which s/he is placed.

10. **RN PREDICTOR**: Students who earned less than Proficiency Level 2 on the Med-Surg ATI on the first attempt, and/or <96% probability of passing on the ATI RN Predictor must enroll in the online Virtual ATI course through ATI toward the end of the semester through the time they take the NCLEX exam.

**SCHOOL OF NURSING POLICIES** In keeping with the policies of the School of Nursing, the following will be in effect for this course:

**Clinical Requirements**
Failure to have all of the clinical requirements in your clinical file in the School of Nursing by 5:00pm the second Monday of the semester will result in one unsatisfactory rating for each day the requirement is not completed. For example, an outstanding requirement at 5:00pm on the second Monday means you will receive your first unsatisfactory at 8:00am on Tuesday morning.

**Drugs and Solution Calculation Exam**
In order to qualify for clinical placement in levels 2-5, the student will be given two attempts to pass the dosage calculation test with a grade of 90%. If they are unsuccessful on the 2nd attempt they will not be allowed to attend clinical and they must withdraw from all courses that contain a clinical component or the student will receive a grade of F. For level 1, the student will be given three attempts to pass the dosage calculation test with a grade of 90%. If they are unsuccessful on the 3rd attempt they will not be allowed to attend clinical and they must withdraw from all courses that contain a clinical component or the student will receive a grade of F.

**Tardy, Absence**
Students who arrive after the designated clinical laboratory start time will be considered tardy. Two (2) tardy arrivals to the clinical lab will count as one unexcused absence. If in the clinical judgment of the faculty, the student is unprepared to assume patient care and/or meet the objectives of the clinical experience, the student will receive an unexcused absence for the day and will be dismissed from clinical lab. Two unexcused absences will not allow the student to meet course objectives and will result in no credit and thus an unsuccessful attempt of the course [NC/F and thus failure of the course.]

**Change Statement**
This syllabus is subject to change depending on student learning needs and other circumstances. If absent from class, it is the student’s responsibility to keep informed of announcements and changes made during class time. Students are expected to check the Announcements in the Blackboard Course regularly.

**Statement on Academic Integrity and Conduct**
Students are expected to perform according to the standards of academic honesty and integrity as outlined in the School of Nursing and University of Tennessee at Chattanooga policies. As stated in the University of Tennessee Student Handbook, "To plagiarize means to take someone else’s words and/or ideals (or patterns of ideas) and to present them to the reader as if they are yours." (See University of Tennessee at Chattanooga Student Handbook for definitions, policies and judicial procedures).

Students must abide by the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga Honor System regarding Academic Dishonesty (refer to University of Tennessee at Chattanooga Student Handbook). Students may not give or receive help on any test from any other student. Students may not discuss the content of any tests with other students until all students have taken the test. This includes students who may have missed the scheduled test time due to illness or emergency.

The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga Student Code of Conduct and policies on Academic Dishonesty are located at the following websites. We encourage you to read these carefully. Students will be held to these standards in all areas of academic performance.

http://www.utc.edu/Administration/StudentDevelopment/studenthandbook.php
http://www.utc.edu/Administration/StudentDevelopment/handbook/academics.pdf
http://www.utc.edu/Administration/StudentDevelopment/handbook/rights.pdf

If a student is found to be in violation of any academic dishonesty, s/he may be placing themselves at risk for School of Nursing program dismissal.