Theoretical Foundations and Role Development for the Advanced Practice Nurse

NUR 802
3 Credits
Fall 2011

Catalog Course Description: Integration of theories from nursing and related disciplines to provide a foundation for the graduate student to transition into the advanced practice role.

Course Objectives: At the end of this course, students will:

1. Analyze theoretical concepts that support advanced nursing practice.
2. Integrate theoretical perspectives from nursing and related sciences to enhance, modify or support holistic healthcare patterns of clients within healthcare delivery systems by addressing primary, secondary, and tertiary health needs.
3. Analyze Advanced Practice Nursing roles and interdisciplinary collaboration to expand, advocate and disseminate culturally competent healthcare.
4. Evaluate quality indicators related to Advanced Practice Nursing role within the health care systems.
5. Demonstrate ethically sound leadership and care competencies throughout the decision making process from a theoretical, personal, and organizational framework.
6. Develop teaching, counseling, and conflict resolution strategies based on a theoretical framework, to empower groups of varied racial and ethnic backgrounds to attain maximal functional wellness.

Additional Course Objectives: In the course content each week, the student will be provided with specific class objectives.

Prerequisites: None

Co-requisites: None

Professional Standards & Guidelines: The curriculum is guided by the following documents:


Faculty:
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Associate Professor
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Lorraine Robbins, PhD, RN, FNP-BC
Associate Professor
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Phone: 517-353-3011
Email: Lorraine.robbins@hc.msu.edu
Telephone communication: Please conduct telephone communications during regular office hours when possible or by appointment for times other than regular office hours.

Email communication: Email communication for this course is preferred when possible. Instructors will be using student msu.edu email addresses. Our goal will be to respond to your questions within 72 hours between 8am and 5pm, as a general rule.

Course website: This is an on-line course that can be accessed through the ANGEL course management system (https://angel.msu.edu/default.asp). You can log into this site using your MSUNetID name and password. The NUR 802 web site includes the course syllabus, and weekly course objectives, readings and activities. Please see Part B of the syllabus for more details.

Please contact me by phone as soon as possible if you need particular accommodations due to a disability so that we can make suitable arrangements.

Instruction:

a. **Required Texts:** All required materials can be obtained from Spartan Bookstore located in the basement of Fee hall on campus (http://www.msu.edu/dig/msumap/fee.html). On the web at http://www.spartanbook.com. By phone at 517.353.9560; by fax at 517.353.9827; by e-mail at casecarol@htomail.com.


Electronic references will be used throughout the course to supplement text readings and course content.

b. **Optional Texts**


c. Required Resources, References, and Supplies:

This online course uses a system called A New Global Environment for Learning (ANGEL). To learn the ANGEL online system, in addition to tips for being a successful online student, please check out the (ANGEL) Self-paced Training Modules by:

- clicking on [http://angel.msu.edu](http://angel.msu.edu)
- clicking on the ANGEL HELP link prior to logging into ANGEL (see “?”), clicking on the Student tab and completing those sections of interest.

For additional questions, please contact the:

**ANGEL Help Line**
1.800.500.1554 (24 hrs, 7 days/week)
517.355.2345 (24 hrs, 7 days/week)
[www.angel.msu.edu](http://www.angel.msu.edu) (ANGEL Help link in upper right corner)

*Always check with the ANGEL Help Line first for technical/computer problems!*

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**Course Evaluation:**

**a. Learning Assessments and Grading:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Highest Number of Points (Equivalent to 100%)</th>
<th>Percentage of Course grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Discussion Forums</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Paper</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**b. Course Grading Scale:** The standard College of Nursing grading scale will be utilized.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>%</th>
<th>GRADE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>94 – 100</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>93 – 90</td>
<td>3.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>86 – 80</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Minimum passing grade)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79 – 75</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>74 – 70</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>69 – 65</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60 – 64</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Below 60</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

“Final Course Grades will not be rounded”
Specific Assignment Information

Midterm Examination

The midterm exam will be a 2 and 1/2-hour exam covering material to-date. The midterm exam may include both multiple choice (majority of exam) and some true/false questions. The exam will be open for 48 hours (12:01am to 11:59pm) on the dates specified on the course schedule. You may take it for any continuous 2.5 hour time period during the exam days. This is not an open-book exam. You are not allowed to download or print the exam. It is very clear in Angel if anyone has done either. This activity falls under the heading of "academic dishonesty." A grade of zero will be assigned for failure to take and complete the midterm by the due date and time.

The midterm exam accounts for 100 points, or 25% of the course grade.

Final Examination

The final exam will be a 2 and 1/2-hour comprehensive exam. The final exam may include both multiple choice (majority of exam) and some true/false questions. The exam will be open for 48 hours (12:01am to 11:59pm) on the dates specified on the course schedule. You may take it for any continuous 2.5 hour time period during the exam days. This is not an open-book exam. You are not allowed to download or print the exam. It is very clear in Angel if anyone has done either. This activity falls under the heading of "academic dishonesty." A grade of zero will be assigned for failure to take and complete the midterm by the due date and time.

The final exam accounts for 100 points, or 25% of the course grade.

On-Line Examination Guidelines

Unless there is an unexpected personal or family emergency, EVERYONE is expected to take the exam during the scheduled time on the scheduled exam days (a family vacation, need to work, etc. does not constitute an unexpected emergency). You NEED TO PLAN far in advance to be free from any work or family responsibilities for that time! Once you log onto the exam, you must complete it. You have ample time for the exam. Usually, with a multiple choice test, one minute is recommended for each question. You are being given enough time to deal with a technical problem if one arises and/or to carefully review your exam answers before submitting. IMPORTANT: Try to avoid using the mouse to scroll during the exam since this activity may change one or more of your answers on the exam. If you have any questions regarding this information, please contact ANGEL help for advice. Be sure to carefully check your answers before submitting the exam. If you see an icon on the exam for saving, save it regularly – at least every 15 or 20 minutes. If you do not see an icon, your exam responses will be saved automatically. A grade of zero will be assigned for failure to take and complete the midterm by the due date and time.

Small Group Discussion Participation

Class participation is critical to a successful graduate-level course. Each student is expected to prepare in advance to participate in on-line small group discussions and activities as assigned. Students are responsible
for all materials covered in on-line lectures, assigned readings, and small group activities. Participation in small group discussions and activities is mandatory.

Throughout the semester you will be working in an assigned team to complete 7 discussion forums. Two of the discussion forums will be included in introductory activities to the class and your group and will not be graded. The remaining 5 will take place within your assigned groups and will be graded. Groups will be assigned between the first and third week of class. The “Activities” section of the corresponding content week will include a description of the small group discussion activity. Each discussion is worth 20 points, or 20% of the discussion forum grade. The grade for all of the discussion forums (total of 100 points possible) is worth 25% of the final course grade. Each team member is required to post their individual responses to the team’s discussion (contribute to the discussion); the team discussion will close at 10pm Thursdays. The team leader for each week will lead the discussion, synthesize the team’s discussion (individual posts and responses), and post a Final Response by 10pm on Friday of the assigned week. A grade of zero may be assigned for failure to submit a response by the due date and time.

The team leader for the week will receive a grade for the team summary, and individual members will receive a grade for their individual contributions to the discussion. Points will be allocated so long as it is clear that each team member has submitted a comprehensive answer for each assignment, and the team response is submitted on time. Individual responses may earn maximum points with a comprehensive response. Grading will be based on the integration of reading and slideshow content, comprehensive responses, and rationale supporting responses, using the rubric described below.

New class material will open at 0700 on the preceding Friday. This will give you the weekend to get a start on the next assignment.


1. Demonstrates excellence in grasping key concepts; critiques work of others; stimulates discussion; provides ample citations for support of opinions; readily offers new interpretations of discussion materials. Ideas are expressed clearly, concisely; uses appropriate vocabulary. (Best=18-20)

2. Shows evidence of understanding most major concepts; will offer an occasional divergent viewpoint or challenge; shows some skill in support for opinions. Some signs of disorganization with expression; transition wording may be faulty (Better=16-17).

3. Has mostly shallow grasp of the material; rarely takes a stand on issues; offers inadequate levels of support. Poor language use garbles much of the message; only an occasional idea surfaces clearly; expression seems disjointed; overuse of the simple sentence and redundancy with works and commentary; paragraphs often appear unrelated to each other. This student requires constant prompting for contributions (Good=14-15).

4. Minimal posting of material. Shows no significant understanding of material. Language is mostly incoherent. Does not respond readily to prompting (Not so good, try again=<14)

Small group discussion participation is worth 25% of the course grade, or 100 points.

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Personal Practice Theoretical Framework Paper
Due 12/2/11 by 10pm
The Personal Practice Theoretical Framework Paper is your opportunity to formulate and defend a conceptual/theoretical framework that supports your practice as a master's prepared nurse. In preparation for this paper, consider the personal and professional values and philosophy that guide your practice/professional role. Identify one existing or emerging nursing theory that best aligns with your values and philosophy.

Prepare a paper that presents your Personal Practice Theoretical Framework, including the following elements:

1. Describe your practice setting, practice goals or other context that will frame your Personal Practice Theoretical Framework as a master’s prepared nurse (10 pts).
2. Provide statements about the personal and professional values and philosophy that will guide your practice and/or professional role as a master’s prepared nurse (10 pts).
3. Identify, discuss, critique and apply an existing or emerging nursing theory that is aligned with your values and philosophy (60 pts). Include the following components:
   a. Present the rationale for selecting this theory in terms of your practice values and philosophy.
   b. Describe the concepts of the theory.
   c. Provide examples of how the theory or framework can be applied to direct clinical practice as well as one or more additional APN competencies as described in Hamric et al., 2009.
   d. Provide brief clinical examples of how the relationships among the concepts of the theory help you predict, explain or intervene in your practice.
   e. Evaluate your theory for missing concepts, missing or different theoretical relationships, or additional concepts you would add.
4. Describe how you anticipate applying this theory as a guide to your practice/professional role (10pts).
5. Mechanics (grammar, spelling, and correct use of APA format) (10 points).

The recommended length for this paper is 7-8 pages. Use APA (6th ed) format to cite your sources.

The Personal Practice Theoretical Framework Paper is worth 25% of the course grade, or 100 points.
University & College Policies:

The College of Nursing expects that students will demonstrate professional behavior in all situations. Specific expectations for clinical and other professional venues can be found in the appropriate handbook. You are responsible for reviewing and acting in accordance with the policies and procedures found in the following sources, including the following topics: Professionalism, Academic Integrity, Accommodations for Students with Disabilities, Disruptive Behavior, Attendance, Compliance, and Progression.

- CON Student handbook http://nursing.msu.edu/handbooks.asp
- Information for Current Students—including Rights, Responsibilities and Regulations for Students http://www.msu.edu/current/index.html
- Academic Programs http://www.reg.msu.edu/UCC/AcademicPrograms.asp

Course Policies:

Technology Requirements
In order to fully participate in the online course experience, it is important that you have the appropriate technology available. Please contact ANGEL HELP at 1 800-500-1554 with concerns or questions about the technological requirements.

Learning Methodologies
NUR 802 uses an online format which serves as a web-based classroom. The classroom includes many important areas including Power Point presentations, class notes/handouts, readings, group discussion forums, drop boxes for assignments, a midterm and final exam, and other activities.

Course Content, Textbook Readings, & Course Activities
All lesson objectives, readings, and course activities (including the presentations, presentation slides for printing, discussion forums or assignments, and other relevant activities) will be outlined weekly. Each week there will be an opening page with a brief overview of the week’s content, followed by ANGEL links to objectives for the week, readings for the week, and activities for the week.

Class Availability
You can access the class by going to http://angel.msu.edu Once you are enrolled in the course and have activated your MSU email account, you will be able to log on and find the 802 course. Click on the course and you will be taken to the lessons for each week. Make sure to spend some time getting oriented to the course site during the first week. Familiarity with navigating the site and ANGEL will save you time in the long run. You can check your mail or send mail to faculty or other students by using the communication tab. Again, check the site and class of the week frequently.

Check in frequently since the course site will be used to: make announcements about readings, new websites, and changes in the schedule; answer course-related questions, etc.

If you find new websites, articles, or current topics related to the MSN role that you think others would like to see, please send them to the course faculty member via ANGEL email as attachment in .pdf format or as a direct link to the source if possible.

Consultants/Guest Speakers
The course may include some content developed by faculty other than those formally assigned to the course. Faculty contributors or guests will be acknowledged in the appropriate area of the course.

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Academic Integrity and Policies
Academic Honesty: Article 2.3.3 of the Academic Freedom Report states: “The student shares with the faculty the responsibility for maintaining the integrity of scholarship, grades, and professional standards.” In addition, the College of Nursing adheres to the policies on academic honesty specified in General Student Regulation 1.0, Protection of Scholarship and Grades; the all-University Policy on Integrity of Scholarship and Grades; and Ordinance 17.00, Examinations. (See Spartan Life: Student Handbook and Resource Guide and/or the MSU Web site www.msu.edu.)

Therefore, unless authorized by your instructor, you are expected to complete all course assignments, including homework, lab work, quizzes, tests and exams, without assistance from any source. You are expected to develop original work for this course; therefore, you may not submit course work you completed for another course to satisfy the requirements for this course. Also, you are not authorized to use student websites that contribute to academic dishonesty to complete any course work in this course. Students who violate MSU rules may receive a penalty grade, including but not limited to a failing grade on the assignment or in the course.

Please read each part of the following site to fully understand your responsibilities and the position of the University regarding:

- cheating,
- plagiarism,
- MSU regulations, ordinances and policies regarding academic honesty and integrity

Academic dishonesty in any form will not be tolerated in the College of Nursing. Any student involved in academic dishonesty will be reported to the Office of Academic Affairs and the Office of Student Services in the College of Nursing and a grade of 0.0 may be issued for the course.

Lectures, quizzes and examinations must remain the property of the College of Nursing and must not be copied from the Internet for use with others. Any quiz or exam should not be printed. Printing an exam or quiz will be considered academic dishonesty. According to university policy, consequences for academic dishonesty may include failure of the course, expulsion from the major, or expulsion from the university. You are advised to complete and submit your own work. The exams are NOT group projects and must not be shared with other students in any way.

Online discussions and other course activities are confidential and should not be shared or discussed with others who are not enrolled in the class. The course provides an opportunity for each course participant to express his/her ideas and all are expected to do so. All ideas need to be respected in discussions and exercises. Any “group projects” (that are required) still require individual work as a minimal expectation, and individual work will be graded.

For further information you can access any of the following sites:

- Academic integrity links
  [http://www.msu.edu/unit/ombud/honestylinks.html](http://www.msu.edu/unit/ombud/honestylinks.html)
- International Studies and Programs
  [http://www.msu.edu/international/index.html](http://www.msu.edu/international/index.html)

Disruptive Behavior: Article 2.3.5 of the Academic Freedom Report (AFR) for students at Michigan State University states: "The student's behavior in the classroom shall be conducive to the teaching and learning process for all concerned." Article 2.3.10 of the AFR states that "The student has a right to scholarly relationships with faculty based on mutual trust and civility." General Student Regulation 5.02 states: "No student shall . . . interfere with the functions and services of the University (for example, but not limited to, classes . . .) such that the function or service is obstructed or disrupted. Students whose conduct adversely affects the learning environment in this classroom may be subject to disciplinary action through the Student Faculty Judiciary process.

Attendance: Students whose names do not appear on the official class list for this course may not attend this class. Students who fail to attend the first four class sessions or class by the fifth day of the semester,
whichever occurs first, may be dropped from the course. See the Ombudsman’s web site for a discussion of student observance of major religious holidays, student-athlete participation in athletic competition, student participation in university-approved field trips, medical excuses and a dean's drop for students who fail to attend class sessions at the beginning of the semester.

**College of Nursing Policies:** Professional Development Guidelines are found in the CON MSN Student Handbook at the CON website. Students are responsible for the information found in the CON MSN Student Handbook.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Content Opens</th>
<th>Weekly content</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>8/31</td>
<td>Introduction to the course</td>
<td>Ungraded discussion forum: class-wide introductions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>9/2</td>
<td>Introduction to role of the APN</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>9/9</td>
<td>Review of basic theoretical components</td>
<td>Ungraded discussion forum: team introductions and organization (submit team leader schedule by 9/16/11 (10pm))</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>9/16</td>
<td>Overview/comparison of nursing theorists</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>9/23</td>
<td>Middle-range theory and conceptual models</td>
<td>Graded Discussion Forum #1: Personal practice philosophy. Team Summary #1 due: 9/30/11 10pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>9/30</td>
<td>Role theory, domains and competencies</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>10/7</td>
<td>Direct clinical practice: clinician</td>
<td>Graded Discussion Forum #2: Compare/contrast NP and PA role Team Summary #2 due: 10/14/11 10pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
<td>MIDTERM exam 10/18-10/19</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>10/21</td>
<td>Expert coaching/guidance/teacher</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>10/28</td>
<td>Health behavior models</td>
<td>Graded Discussion Forum #3: Health behavior models journal club. Team Summary #3 due: 11/4/11 10pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>11/4</td>
<td>Models of care/practice Systems/organizational theory</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>11/11</td>
<td>Researcher</td>
<td>Graded Discussion Forum #4: Compare/contrast PhD and DNP Team Summary #4 due: 11/18/11 10pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>11/18</td>
<td>Collaboration Consultation</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>11/25</td>
<td>Leadership</td>
<td>Final Paper Due: December 2, 2011 (10pm).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>12/2</td>
<td>Ethical decision-making Culturally competent care</td>
<td>Graded Discussion Forum #5: Top 3 Insights Team Summary #5 due: 12/9/11 10pm</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>FINAL exam 12/13-12/14</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The course content for each week will open at 0700 on the preceding Friday (For example, Week 2 content will be available at 0700 on Friday of Week 1). You will be unable to access course content before this time. However once a class is open, it will remain open for the semester. This will allow you to know that you are on target each week and also to review any material that you would like to, prior to exams.