PRACTICUM II: 
PRIMARY CARE OF THE ADULT 
NUR 854-Hybrid-Credits-7 
SPRING 2009

Catalog Course Description: Integration and application of assessment and relevant conceptual and theoretical frameworks in the primary care management of adults within the context of family using a “collaborative model” of primary care practice. Management of complex and stable chronic health problems. Independence in practice. Independent decision making with preceptor validation.

Course Objectives: At the conclusion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate a high level of advanced nursing practice by conducting assessments, engaging in therapeutic reasoning, and arriving at diagnoses for individuals with stable chronic or complex health problems.
2. Utilize advanced independent nursing interventions when managing individuals with stable chronic health states.
3. Demonstrate the components of the peer review process.
4. Analyze client caseload data to determine student patterns of practice in primary care.
5. Demonstrate increasing independence in clinical decision-making.
6. Communicate data on clients with chronic health problems utilizing the POR (problem oriented record) format within legal and ethical health care parameters.

Prerequisite(s):
- NUR 852 and 853
- Students are expected to enter NUR 854 with adequate physical assessment and documentation skills for the advanced practice level. Additionally, a comprehensive knowledge base in pharmacology and pathophysiology is expected. Remediation at this level will be done independently (with faculty approval and guidance) prior to re-enrollment in the clinical course sequence.

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Clinical Instructor Contact

If you need to contact your clinical instructor due to illness, emergency, or course issues please contact the instructor either by email or phone message. We will try to return your call or email message within 24-48 hours. Messages sent after noon on Friday and over the weekend may not be addressed until Monday. If you need to speak with someone due to an emergency contact an administrative assistant at 1-800-605-6424 who will get the information to your instructor, Monday – Friday between 8 am and 5 pm.

Clinical faculty will provide students with contact information on the first day of class. It also will be available within the ANGEL online course system.

Required Texts

Textbooks from NUR 852, NUR 853 and previous graduate nursing courses will serve as reference resources.

Clinical evaluation and grading (form will be available online in the ANGEL class)

The clinical evaluation of student performance is based on the NONPF competencies (2006). A copy of the competencies and the clinical evaluation will be reviewed with students during orientation. Evaluation is based on MSU faculty observation of student performance, preceptor observation of performance, clinical conferences, online discussion, participation in peer review and documentation.

At midterm, students will meet with their campus faculty to discuss their progress towards meeting objectives and competencies. The student should submit a completed self-evaluation one week prior to midterm and provide rationale for rankings. It is expected that at midterm, most competencies will not be met since they reflect end of semester behaviors. Faculty and the student will discuss strategies for meeting the behaviors during the second half of the semester. In addition, the caseload data (Typhon) and clinical activity log will be reviewed at midterm to see if the appropriate patient population is being managed by the student. Options for obtaining appropriate patients will be discussed.

At end of semester, the student will complete a final self-evaluation including rationale for rankings. This should be submitted prior to the evaluation time (to be determined by the faculty and student). The student must have 80% or more of the competencies met as determined by the faculty by the end of the semester in order to receive a Pass in the course. Less than 80% constitutes a failing grade.

In addition, students must complete the quality improvement project with a passing grade (80% or higher) in order to pass the course. Students will be provided with a remediation opportunity to achieve an 80% if not successful on the first attempt. If the project is not completed with an 80% or higher grade, the student will not pass the course. (Criteria for grading will be provided in the ANGEL course documents).
ANGEL Communication Guidelines & Rules of Conduct

Please go to http://angel.msu.edu, login, and click on the Online Teaching/Learning-ANGEL group for examples of netiquette and ANGEL communication guidelines. The course will also provide you with some online discussion guidelines.

ANGEL Help Line
1.800.500.1554 (24 hrs, 7 days/week)
517.355.2345 (24 hrs, 7 days/week)
www.angel.msu.edu (ANGEL Help link in upper right corner)
Always check with the ANGEL Help Line first

Library Resources

1. Library Services: http://www.lib.msu.edu/services/
2. MSU Library: http://www.lib.msu.edu/
3. Proxy server: To access MSU library resources from an off-campus site you must set up a proxy server. Directions to set up a proxy server are at:
   http://techbase.msu.edu/viewpathfinder.asp?id=2507

Disability Resources and Services

The full range of disability resources and services for students is located at:
http://www.msu.edu/current/index.html
Additional Course Description:

This course is designed to help the APN student with the integration of assessment, the nursing process and applied theory in primary care management of the adult client. This course will assist the APN student with the integration and application of assessment and management skills utilizing a collaborative model of advanced care practice. The individual client is considered within the context of family and community.

Emphasis is on developing skills in the health care management of adult clients with stable chronic or complex health problems and functional losses. The student will become increasingly independent in their clinical decision-making skills and ability to manage individual health concerns in a practice setting.

Additional Course Objectives: At the conclusion of this course, the student will be able to:

7. Demonstrate professional development by initiating strategies for interdisciplinary team functioning with awareness of professional, ethical, legal and political issues.
8. Critically evaluate outcomes and effectiveness of care.

Instructional Methods:

As adult learners, it is expected that students will do relevant reading and study prior to clinic and class in order to fully participate in case discussions and presentations. It is expected that students will search the literature and suggest/share relevant findings with faculty and classmates. Case presentations, peer review, specific topic presentation and other methods determined by the faculty will be the basis for this guided cooperative discussion. Guidelines for class interactions and specific methodology are located on ANGEL, Course Documents.

Clinical Experience

- All students participate in **19 hours of clinical per week for 15 weeks** at designated agencies. The agency experience is guided by a clinical preceptor. If at any time a student is deemed clinically, ethically unsafe or acting in an unprofessional manner by the preceptor or faculty, the student will be reported to their MSU clinical faculty.
- It is required for students to spend at least one day prior to the beginning of the semester, orienting to each clinical facility they are assigned. This day does not count toward the total number of required clinical hours.
- Students are not to start clinical rotations until the week of January 12, 2009.
- The last week for clinical experiences will be the week of April 30, 2009.
- Students will provide direct services to individual patients and their families concerning well care, health maintenance and promotion, level of function, management of single acute illness, stable chronic illness and complex health issues. **The major focus for this semester is on management of patients/families from adolescence through adulthood who have chronic and complex health care issues.** Appropriate utilization of community resources is expected. **Evaluation of care is a critical component for 854.**
• Students are responsible for increasing independence in collecting and determining:
  o Client history and physical examination.
  o Management plan including nursing and medical interventions
  o Nursing and medical diagnoses
  o Recording on the patient record using the SOAP-POR method
• Documentation will be completed on every client encounter. The student will begin to generate outcome criteria for each management plan and form a master problem list and up to date medication list. All documentation will include:
  o Subjective data
  o Objective data
  o Assessment data
  o Medical diagnoses
  o Nursing diagnoses (only those appropriate and that truly represent non-medical)
  o Management Plan
  ▪ Diagnostic studies (lab, special studies, radiographic, etc)
  ▪ Treatments: both non-pharmacologic and pharmacologic interventions
  ▪ Patient teaching/counseling
  ▪ Expected outcomes
  ▪ Referral
  ▪ Follow up
• Copies of patient SOAP or Progress notes need to be turned in to your clinical instructor every week, the number of SOAP notes to be submitted will be determined by the clinical faculty, and may vary between students. Clinical faculty will determine the type and number of writeups and notify students during the first week of classes.
• Transportation to and from clinical agencies is the responsibility of the student.
• Students are to wear white lab coats or jackets while working at all clinical agencies.
• Personal equipment needed at your clinical site:
  o Stethoscope
  o Pen light
  o PDA (not required)

• University ID tags, nametags should be worn on your lab coat or jacket.
• Immunizations, licensure, HIPAA training, BBP training, background check, drug screening and CPR must be current and up to date or the student will not be able to participate in the clinical experience. If this occurs, the student will have to drop the course and make sure all are up to date and reenter the following spring.
• Absences: If the student becomes ill during the semester, it is her/his responsibility to notify her/his clinical preceptor, the clinical agency and your clinical instructor on the day of missed clinical. All missed clinical days must be made up prior to the final week of classes. Arrangements for make-up days are to be made with the clinical preceptor and clinical instructor. Attendance at on campus, online and phone/web cam clinical conferences is required.
• Clinical Agency: Each clinical site is selected to give the student a good learning experience with a qualified clinical preceptor. Each clinical site will be contacted by the clinical placement office or clinical coordinator to verify the learning experience. Your clinical instructor will be contacting the preceptor during the semester. By midterm, each student will be visited by an MSU faculty member to observe the student/patient and student/preceptor interaction as well as evaluate the appropriateness of the clinical site for learning. This site visit will also allow the preceptor to discuss student performance. Students will be responsible for signing up for a visit time/date. Sign up sheets will be made available to students by the middle of January. Additional site visits may be arranged if necessary. When not on site, MSU faculty are available for consultation, assistance and evaluation. You will be provided with contact information by your clinical instructor at orientation. In the unlikely event that the student or faculty identify a real or potential problem with the clinical
site being an appropriate learning environment for the student, the issue will be discussed with the preceptor and faculty immediately to determine options. If there is no readily available resolution of the issues, the student may be placed in an alternative site.

- **HIPAA and Federal Compliance Guidelines are expected to be followed at all times:**
  - All patient identifying information must be blocked out in black prior to copying or distributing to faculty or classmates.
  - All information copied from the clinical site must be shredded by the student after use and prior to completion of program.
  - Instead of copying patient information from the chart, it is expected that you will transcribe pertinent information from the medical records and include in your SOAP documentation.

**Clinical Activity Log & Case load Data**

- The Typhon tracking system will be utilized to track clinical activity, it is expected that you access and update this system on a weekly basis in addition a clinical activities log will be provided to track information not contained within the Typhon system.
- This system can be accessed through the internet. To login to the Typhon Group Student Tracking System, go to:
  http://www.typhongroup.net/np/data/login.asp?facility=7151
  You will then put in your MSU NetID and the password Welcome
- Students are required to collect and record data on every client seen. Data logs will be reviewed weekly, during midterm and final evaluation meetings with clinical instructor.

**Web-Based Activities**

- We are utilizing ANGEL web site as the basis for this course. This can be accessed by going to [http://angel.msu.edu](http://angel.msu.edu). It is the individual student’s responsibility to learn how to work through the system.
- Course information, course documents, grades and informational updates will be presented on ANGEL. It is strongly suggested that you check into ANGEL on a frequent basis as it is the student’s responsibility to be present and active in the course.
- It is expected that each student will participate in online discussion during the weeks that students are not involved in on campus or web-cam clinical conferences. Thoughtful commentary at least two times a week during the weeks designated for online discussion is expected. Online discussion guidelines are posted in Angel under course documents. Participation in on-line discussion is required in order to pass the course and will be included as part of the clinical evaluation data.
- Some clinical conferences will be held via Breeze meeting (webcam), students are encouraged to have/or have access to a web-cam for these meetings. If this is not available, the student will participate via phone conference. The breeze meeting times will be set-up by each clinical faculty for their group.

**Simulated-Patient Experience at the Learning Assessment Center**

- The Learning Assessment Center will be utilized to evaluate student knowledge and ability to apply management concepts during a simulated experience.
- This experience is mandatory and considered a pass/fail experience. The student must participate in the experience in order to pass. Evaluation data from this experience will contribute to the final clinical evaluation
- This experience will count as 4 hours toward the required clinical hours for this course.
Peer Review
- Peer Review will be utilized during the on campus clinical conference periods
- It is expected that each student will participate in Peer Review based on guidelines that can be found in Angel.

Quality Improvement Project (criteria for the paper are on the ANGEL site)
- Students will conduct a quality improvement project in one of their clinical sites
- This project will be submitted as a written paper that is 8 – 10 pages in length (divided into two sections. The first section is due at midterm and the second section due on or before the final clinical conference)
- APA format is required for this paper
- Students will present their project at the last clinical conference session
- Guidelines for the project can be found on the Angel web-site

Clinical Conference Discussions
- Mandatory attendance in clinical conferences is required
- Students will present 1 – 2 cases that they managed, in presentations the student needs to include rationale for decision making, and theory they utilized to guide their management plan
- Clinical conferences will be on campus and via breeze meetings using web-cam system.

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Safety in Clinical: Professional Development Guidelines:
Preparation for the professional practice of nursing requires more than the acquisition and application of knowledge. Therefore, in addition to the academic standards listed, the student must demonstrate:
1) Appropriate interpersonal relations and communication with clients, peers, faculty and other healthcare personnel.
2) Responsible fulfillment of class and practicum obligations, including provision of safe nursing care in the practicum setting.
3) Honesty and integrity in all academic professional matters.

These expectations are reflected in the Graduate (MSN) Clinical Performance Criteria for each clinical nursing course. Failure to meet each Professional Development Objective will result in the student earning a failure for the course.

Faculty reserve the right to dismiss a student from clinical areas if the student is too ill, unprepared, or deemed to be a risk to patient safety. Dismissal from clinical for any reason, excluding student illness, is deemed unexcused and will result in a failure for the course.

**Academic Integrity**

Academic integrity is a minimal expectation of this course. *Academic dishonesty in any form will not be tolerated.* Any student involved in academic dishonesty will be reported to the Office of Academic Affairs and the Office of Student Affairs 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. According to university policy, consequences for academic dishonesty may include failure of the course, expulsion from the major, or expulsion from the university.

Online discussions and exercises are confidential and should not be discussed with others who are not enrolled in the class. It is important for each course participant to express his/her ideas. All ideas need to be respected in discussions and exercises. Any “group projects” that are required, still require individual work as a minimal expectation.

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

- Academic Integrity resource at MSU  
  [http://www.msu.edu/unit/ombud/RegsOrdsPolicies.html](http://www.msu.edu/unit/ombud/RegsOrdsPolicies.html)

- MSU Spartan Life Student Handbook and Resource Guide  

- Information for Current Students – including Rights, Responsibilities and Regulations for Graduate Students  
  [http://www.msu.edu/current/index.html](http://www.msu.edu/current/index.html)

- International Studies and Programs  
  [http://www.msu.edu/international/index.html](http://www.msu.edu/international/index.html)

**COMMUNICATION DEVICES**

All communication devices are to be turned off during clinical conferences and class time. If you need to be reached for an emergency, you may give the College of Nursing main office number (800) 605-6424 and emergency messages will be delivered to you. You may also set your mobile phone to accept voicemail messages.