Foundations of Nursing Practice
NUR 340  Section 734
Online via Desire to Learn (D2L)
4 Credit Hours
Spring 2017

I. **Catalog Course Description:** Theories and principles underlying professional nursing practice. Development of basic principles for using empirical evidence and the research process to guide practice.

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

   a. Demonstrate the ability to access and analyze sources of information essential to evidence-based nursing practice and to communicate in a scholarly manner.
   b. Demonstrate application of a critical thinking approach in the analysis of theory and evidence (clinical decision-making)
   c. Explain the relevance of scholarly evidence and theory to standards of care and practice guidelines (nursing therapeutics)
   d. Explain theories and principles underlying health promotion and risk reduction (health promotion/risk reduction)
   e. Explain health care system and health financing factors relevant illness and disease management (illness and disease management).
   f. Describe major leadership components essential to contemporary nursing practice (professional leadership)
   g. Explain the importance of ethical decision-making to evidence-based nursing practice and research (ethical practice)
   h. Describe basic principles for using empirical evidence and the research process in scholarly nursing practice (evidence-based practice)
   i. Describe disparities in health and illness among various ethnic and cultural populations and their impact on nursing practice (global cultural competence).

III. **Additional Course Details: Additional Course Description:** This course will introduce students to the theories and principles underlying professional nursing practice, with a focus on the concepts that are used in the College of Nursing. Students will develop a working knowledge of several interrelated concepts, including: ethical problem solving, health promotion, cultural competence and health disparities; nursing theories; and basic principles for using the research process to guide evidence based practice consistent with university-approved description—you may follow this with a ‘longer’ course description, if desired

IV. **Prerequisites:** NUR 300 and completion of Tier I writing requirement

V. **Co-requisites:** NUR 330 concurrently.
VI. Standards Documents: The curriculum is guided by the following documents:

http://www.aacn.nche.edu/education-resources/BaccEssentials08.pdf

http://tinyurl.com/codeofethics2015

http://tinyurl.com/scopeandstandards2015

American Nurses Association (2015). *Nursing’s social policy statement: The essence of the profession (3rd ed.*). Washington, DC  
http://tinyurl.com/socialpolicy2015

VII. Course Faculty:

**Rhonda Conner-Warren, PhD, RN, CPNP-PC**  
Office A-105 Life Sciences  
1355 Bogue Street  
Phone: 517-355-4719  
Contact Information: Email: rhonda.conner-warren@hc.msu.edu  
Office Hours: TBD  
*Note: Meeting times can be arranged to accommodate student schedules.*

VIII. Instruction:

a. Methodology:

This course uses online discussion forums, online modules or voice over PowerPoint presentations. Students are required to prepare by completing the readings and assignments prior to participating in class. **This course will use the Desire to Learn (D2L) course management system.** [www.D2L.msu.edu](http://www.D2L.msu.edu). Lectures are only available online through D2L as PowerPoint lectures. Most lectures are divided up into 2-3 parts to make the file sizes manageable. The D2L course management system is also used for handouts, announcements, student-student communication and student-professor communication.

Students need reliable, high-speed access (cable or DSL) to the **D2L course management system.** Students also need the following programs: **RealPlayer, Macromedia Flash (also called Flash Player)** to view the narrated PowerPoint lectures and animations, and a recent version of **Adobe Reader** to download and access PDF documents. All programs have free, downloadable versions available online. If you are unsure about your current computer capabilities, try to open one of each kind of file from D2L. If you do not have the right programs, you will usually be prompted to install them when you try to open a file. If you have problems accessing any files on D2L call the Distance Learning and Technology Help Line: 1.800.500.1544 or 517.355.2345 (24/7!). They can answer any D2L-related questions including walking you through the appropriate installations.
b. **Writing Requirements:**

Specific guidelines and evaluation rubrics are available on D2L and will be used for each evaluated assignment. All written assignments must follow writing style requirements of the American Psychological Association (APA) as outlined in the required APA Publication Manual (6th ed. second printing) and CON requirements. Students are expected to write at an upper division college level. Writing assistance is available from the MSU Writing Center.

c. **When to Look for Course Materials:**

Monday is considered the “beginning” day of each week of the course (please refer to the Course Calendar) except Week #1. The materials for Week #1 will be accessible to you starting on January 12th (the first day of Week #1). During each subsequent week of the course, you will be able to review the material for all past weeks. For example, on Monday, January 19th (Week #2), you will be able to see materials for the prior Week #1.

d. **Required Texts:**


e. **Optional Texts:** none

f. **Communication**

Questions about content and course details and course assignments should be posted on the appropriate D2L discussion board, NOT emailed to instructor. This helps minimize the number of times I have to re-respond to the same question and also enhances group learning. Students are strongly encouraged to respond to each others’ questions. Please use the discussion board as a dialogue space! Do not post questions about specific exam questions.

Please contact the course faculty via email with questions about other course issues that are personal. Please keep in mind that servers may be slow and email messages might not be received immediately. *If the instructor does not respond within 48 hours (excluding weekends and holidays), please resend your message!* Email will be answered within about 48 hours when they are received by the faculty, excluding weekends and holidays. If scheduling an appointment, please include 3 times you are available to meet, how much time you anticipate needing, and how you would like to meet (phone, on campus) so we do not bounce 5 emails to schedule one appointment. Voice mail will be checked regularly during the week but is not the most expedient form of communication. Email is the most efficient way of reaching the instructor.

If you have questions about using D2L or experience any D2L-related problems including technology problems during an assessment (exam or quiz) call the Distance Learning Services help desk immediately: 1.800.500.1544 or 517.355.2345 (24/7!). You can also access D2L Help online from...
If you have problems during a exam, please email the course chair in addition to calling the distance learning services help desk immediately. It is the students’ responsibility to regularly check D2L for announcements and updates. Communication problems with different email systems have occurred, and it is the student’s responsibility to check within D2L for communication as they are responsible for all information sent via D2L. Faculty will not respond to email from sources outside of MSU (gmail, yahoo, etc.)

Desire2Learn Helpline
1.800.500.1554 (24 hrs, 7 days/week)
517.355.2345 (24 hrs, 7 days/week)
www.d2l.msu.edu (D2L Help link in upper right corner)
http://help.d2l.msu.edu/
Always check with the Help Line first!

It is expected that students will log into and participate in course assignments within the first three (3) days of the semester and a minimum of two to three days a week.

g. Turnitin Statement:

Consistent with MSU’s efforts to enhance student learning, foster honesty, and maintain integrity in our academic processes, instructors may use a tool called Turnitin to compare a student’s work with multiple sources. The tool compares each student’s work with an extensive database of prior publications and papers, providing links to possible matches and a ‘similarity score.’ The tool does not determine whether plagiarism has occurred or not. Instead, the instructor must make a complete assessment and judge the originality of the student’s work. All submissions to this course may be checked using this tool.

Students should submit papers to Turnitin Drop boxes without identifying information included in the paper (e.g. name or student number), the system will automatically show this info to faculty in your course when viewing the submission, but the information will not be retained by Turnitin.

Specific directions for a use of the Turnitin product in the course are provided in assignment directions.

IX. American Nurses Association Electronic Books (E-books):


*Access these e-books through the MSU Libraries Catalog or the Nursing E-book page: http://libguides.lib.msu.edu/nursing ebooks. These e-books allow unlimited concurrent users.
X. Other Required Resources, References, Supplies:

a. Desire2Learn Helpline
   1.800.500.1554 (24 hrs, 7 days/week)
   517.355.2345 (24 hrs, 7 days/week)
   www.d2l.msu.edu (D2L Help link in upper right corner)
   http://help.d2l.msu.edu/
   Always check with the Help Line first!
   http://help.d2l.msu.edu/students/quick-start-guide

b. Frequently Called Telephone Numbers
   Simulation Lab, Life Sciences; 355-5765 (with answering machine)
   Media Lab (Andy Greger) Life Sciences, 353-9020
   College of Nursing Office of Student Support Services C120 Bott Building 353-4827.
   DMC – College of Osteopathic Medicine, 4707 St Antoine St, Detroit, MI 48201/517-884-9674.

Technical problems:

Students who experience technical difficulties should notify the Distance Learning and Technology help desk immediately in an attempt to resolve the problems. Helpful information on taking exams via D2L will be posted in the course. If the technical difficulty impacts or may impact the timely submission of required course work, the faculty is also to be notified immediately via email to discuss options prior to the submission deadline. If the problem has not been reported to the Distance Learning and Technology help desk, no extension will be granted. Students are expected to plan ahead, and have back-up technology plans in place should the need arise.

XII. Evaluations:

h. Learning Assessments and Grading:

   ■ Health disparity project. Identify, describe and evaluate a health disparity in the United States and the possible role of health literacy on that health disparity. Students will evaluate census and population data as it relates to the disparity and health literacy. (Curricular concept/competencies assessed are health promotion/risk reduction and global cultural competence).

   ■ Nursing theory scholarly paper. Formal paper examining one selected nursing theory presented in the class and its relevance to nursing practice, research and the profession of nursing (curricular concepts/competencies assessed are professional leadership, critical thinking, and evidence-based practice).

   ■ Ethical problem solving process project. Case study analysis that will identify the following: ethical consideration that create the problem, alternatives to resolving the problem, critical examination of the pros and cons for selecting any given alternative solution, and, on the basis of this analysis, selection of a solution (curricular concepts/competencies assessed is ethical practice).

The final course grade will be determined using the following weighting of assignments:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Projects and Papers</th>
<th>40%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Health disparity project</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theory Paper</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EBP paper</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Ethics Paper 10%
Exams 60%
   Exam One 20%
   Exam Two 20%
   Exam Three 20%

No study guide will be provided for exams in this course. Each exam will be closed at 11:55PM EST. There is no extra point for this course.

**Late Assignments:** All assignments MUST be turned in on time. Late assignment will have 10 points per day taken off the grade for that particular assignment. For example, a student turns in the assignment 2 days after the due date; the student will have 20 points taken off the final grade for that assignment. All assignments must be turned into the drop box. **Assignments that are emailed to the course faculty will NOT be graded.** Students must follow the instruction to complete each assignment or the assignment will not be read.

The course grade is comprised of written work and exams. All assignments must be completed for progression in the nursing program and to pass the course. Also, completion of IRB training (Institute Review Board) is required to pass the course.

i. **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>89-93.99%</td>
<td>3.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>84-88.99%</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79-83.99%</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75%-78.99% (Minimum passing grade)</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70%-74.99%</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65%-69.99%</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt;65%</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

“Final Course Grades will not be rounded”

*For specific information regarding grading related to student progression through the curriculum, please reference the “Progression through the Major Policies” section of the Baccalaureate Student Handbook.

XIII. **Examination**

a. Tardiness: If a student is late, he/she will only be allowed the allotted time remaining to complete the exam.

b. Absences: Students must notify course faculty of any absence prior to the start of the exam

c. Excused Absence: Absence from an exam may be excused for such reasons as a family death, serious family illness, court mandated appearance, and personal illness (requiring HCP documentation). Excused absence must have appropriate documentation in order to be excused.
Course faculty will make the determination of whether an absence is excused if it meets the above criteria.

d. Unexcused Absence: No make-up exam will be scheduled. Student will receive a zero grade.

e. Make-Up Exams (for excused absences only)

1. Students must contact the faculty member to schedule the make-up examination. The exam must be made-up within 1 week of the original examination date; any extension beyond 1 week is at the discretion of faculty and would only occur in the event of extraordinary circumstances. Faculty will determine the date and time of the make-up exam.

2. Make-up exams may differ from the original exam and include, for example, essay, short answer, matching, and true/false type questions.

f. Proctor process: See the BSN Student Handbook for the proctoring process.

XIV. 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 BSN Student Handbook: http://nursing.msu.edu/BSN%20Programs/Handbooks/default.htm
  - Includes Professional Development Guidelines
  - Students are responsible for the information found in the CON BSN Student Handbook.
- Information for MSU Students: http://www.msu.edu/current/index.html
- Academic Programs: http://www.reg.msu.edu/AcademicPrograms
- Code of Teaching Responsibility and Student Assessments and Final Grades: http://www.reg.msu.edu/AcademicPrograms/Print.asp?Section=514
- Integrity of Scholarship and Grades: http://www.reg.msu.edu/AcademicPrograms/Print.asp?Section=534

Professionalism

MUTUAL RESPECT should be demonstrated by all faculty and students.

It is expected that a professional, courteous, and positive demeanor will be exhibited to peers, faculty and College of Nursing staff with each encounter. It is expected that you will be on time to theory, lab and clinical. If for some reason you have to be late or leave early, the course coordinator or your lab instructor should be notified and plans will be made so you will not disturb the entire class. Talking, utilizing Wi-Fi enabled devices to surf the web and sleeping are considered unacceptable during lecture. Asking questions and requesting clarification of information is highly encouraged as student input is valued and worthwhile. Timeliness, honesty and integrity, a positive attitude, assertive communication skills and motivation are some of the personal skills that one should be developing,
or refining, during nursing school. These positive skills will be utilized in your time at the College of Nursing and in your chosen profession.

On Line 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 or her ideas freely. All ideas need to be respected in discussions and exercise. Professional conduct and language in clinical settings, discussion boards and course communication is expected. Students who do not show respect and/or professional communication will receive one written warning (via email) informing them of the communication that did not meet course standards, suggestions for change, and that any further breaches in professional communication will result in disciplinary action, from the lowering of the student's grade up to dismissal from the course. During the course, you will be participating in discussion forums to help relate the content you are learning to your practice. It is important that you maintain confidentiality in all postings, including names of individuals and organizations and that any information shared in discussion forums not be shared in any other venue.

Student Faculty Relationship

It is expected that a professional, courteous, and positive demeanor will be exhibited to peers, faculty and College of Nursing staff with each encounter. It is expected that you will participate in class on a regular, ongoing basis. Asking questions and requesting clarification of information is highly encouraged as student input is valued and worthwhile. Timeliness, honesty and integrity, a positive attitude, assertive communication skills and motivation are some of the personal skills required for effective online learning.

Clinical Course Compliance Requirements

All Michigan State University College of Nursing (CON) Undergraduate Nursing Students are required to be in compliance with all health/immunization requirements, criminal background checks, BLS certification, blood borne pathogen training, HIPAA training, and any other agency specific requirement while in the nursing program (Refer to BSN Handbook for detailed policy and procedures).

Students will be considered out of compliance if a designated immunization or other item required to be submitted to the University Physician's Office, Office of Student Support Services, ACEMAPP, or other agency is not updated by the designated deadline.

Students enrolled in clinical nursing courses who are out of compliance will receive a 1% reduction to the overall course grade which will be applied at the end of the semester for each item out of compliance during the course. If an item is not brought into compliance within 1 week an additional 1% reduction will be taken for each week the student is out of compliance.

Additionally, students enrolled in clinical courses who are identified as out of compliance will not be permitted to attend clinical until documentation has been submitted to the correct compliance monitoring office. Clinical absences that result from out of compliance status may affect the ability of the student to successfully meet clinical course objectives, which may result in course failure.
Guidelines to Enhance Personal Safety

The following are recommendations to enhance personal safety when traveling to and from clinical experiences.

**Travel Using Public Transportation**

- Follow the recommended route when traveling by bus or subway.
- Know the directions to the clinical site prior to leaving home.
- Travel in groups, never alone.
- Have your clinical faculty member’s telephone number in your cell phone in case you become lost.
- Never carry a purse. Keep your money and keys in a small wallet that fits in your pocket.
- Always walk with one arm free.
- Walk with confidence. Use eye contact when looking at others.
- Do not openly talk on your phone or text while walking.
- Do not have earbuds in use.
- Be aware of your surroundings; do not engage in excessive conversation.
- Avoid isolated areas.
- Trust your instincts. If you feel unsafe, leave the area. Call your instructor when it is safe to do so.
- Communicate any safety concerns to your clinical instructor or any faculty member immediately.

**Travel Using Personal Vehicle**

- Obtain directions to site prior to the first clinical day.
- Test drive your vehicle to the clinical site and calculate estimated travel time.
- Check with your clinical instructor about the availability for parking prior to deciding to drive.
- If street parking is the only option, park in view of the clinic site.
- Residents often save a parking spot by placing lawn chairs in front of their homes. Do not remove.
- Keep your doors locked at all times while in vehicle.
- Do not text or talk on your cell phone while driving, parking, and exiting your vehicle.
- Lock your car upon exiting. Lock valuables in your trunk prior to traveling to the clinical site. Never have valuables visible in your car.
- Do not carry a purse; keep money and valuables in a pocket.
- Do not exit the car if you feel unsafe. Find a different parking spot or call your instructor.
- When returning to your car, have keys in hand when leaving the clinical site.
- Do not drive down dead-end streets which makes turning around difficult.
- Do not drive down alleys with debris or glass which may cause flat tires.
- Do not drive down narrow streets which could restrict movement if you need to exit the vehicle.

**Honors Option:** H-Option is available only for traditional undergraduate students (not second degree students).
XV. University Policies:

Academic Integrity

Article 2.3.3 of the Academic Freedom Report states that "The student shares with the faculty the responsibility for maintaining the integrity of scholarship, grades, and professional standards." In addition, the College adheres to the policies on academic honesty as specified in General Student Regulations 1.0 on Protection of Scholarship and Grades, the all-University Policy on Integrity of Scholarship and Grades, and Ordinance 17.00 on Examinations. (See Spartan Life: Student Handbook and Resource Guide http://splife.studentlife.msu.edu/ 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 the www.allmsu.com web site or other similar sites to complete any course work for this course. Students who violate course, College, or University policy may receive a penalty grade, including – but not limited to – a failing grade on the assignment or in the course. Contact your instructor if you are unsure about the appropriateness of your course work.

See also: https://www.msu.edu/unit/ombud/academic-integrity/index.html#regulations

Accommodations for students with disabilities

Students with disabilities should contact the Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities to establish reasonable accommodations. For an appointment with a disability specialist, call 353-9642 (voice), 355-1293 (TTY), or visit MyProfile.rcpd.msu.edu. Students who use RCPD accommodations must adhere to the RCPD policies and procedures.

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.

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 that “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.
Grief Policy

The faculty and staff should be sensitive to and accommodate the bereavement process of a student who has lost a family member or who is experiencing emotional distress from a similar tragedy so that the student is not academically disadvantaged in his/her classes. It is the responsibility of the student to: a) notify the Associate Dean by completing the grief absence request form https://reg.msu.edu/StuForms/Stuinfo/GriefAbsenceForm.aspx, b) complete all missed work as determined by the instructor. It is the responsibility of the Associate Dean or designee to: a) determine with the student the expected period of absence – it is expected that some bereavement processes may be more extensive than others depending on individual circumstances, b) notify the faculty that the student will be absent, and c) receive verification of the authenticity of a grief absence request upon the student’s return. It is the responsibility of the instructor to work with the student to: a) make reasonable accommodations and b) to include appropriate language describing such accommodations in their course syllabus, so that the student is not penalized due to a verified grief absence. Students who believe their rights under this policy have been violated should contact the University Ombudsperson.

Spartan Honor Code

“As a Spartan, I will strive to uphold values of the highest ethical standard. I will practice honesty in my work, foster honesty in my peers, and take pride in knowing that honor is worth more than grades. I will carry these values beyond my time as a student at Michigan State University, continuing to endeavor to build personal integrity in all that I do.”

XVI. Course Calendar: