Role of the Master’s Prepared Nurse in Contemporary Health Care  
NUR 801: 2 Credit Hours  
Spring 2008

Course Description

This 2 credit fully online graduate seminar explores roles of the master’s prepared nurse (MSN) in contemporary health care organizations and education.

One of the primary aims of the course is to assist the student to begin the socialization process into the new role of MSN.

Course Objectives

At the end of NUR 801, the student will be able to:

1. Compare and contrast the role domains and competencies of the masters-prepared nurse with other health care providers.
2. Apply theoretical concepts to role development.
3. Recognize critical elements in managing the impact of the environment, including organizations and systems, on the role of the MSN.
4. Devise strategies to meet role competencies.
5. Integrate historical information into the development of the MSN role.
6. Analyze parameters of function of the MSN including scope of practice and responsibility.
7. Analyze quality and performance indicators appropriate to the evaluation of the MSN.

Students will also be provided with objectives for each of the classes. These will be found in the course content each week.

Pre-requisites  None

Co-requisites  None

Course Faculty  
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Required Textbooks & Electronic Reference


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

Textbooks may be purchased online at: [http://www.spartanbook.com/](http://www.spartanbook.com/) Enter the semester, year, course number and section number for a list of textbooks for your course.

Foundational Documents

Common Foundational Documents:


Foundational Documents from Nurse Anesthesia Sub-Group:

4. (An Elaboration of Standard VII of AANA Standards for Nurse Anesthesia Practice)

Foundational Documents from Nursing Education Sub-Group:


Foundational Documents from Nurse Practitioner Sub-Group:

Technology Requirements

In order to fully participate in the online course experience, it is important that you have the appropriate technology available. Please check the current requirements at [http://nursing.msu.edu/downloads/Hardwareandsoftwarereq2006_000.pdf](http://nursing.msu.edu/downloads/Hardwareandsoftwarereq2006_000.pdf) or contact ANGEL HELP at 1 800-500-1554.

Calendar

The calendar for assignments and content is available within the course. Classes begin the week of January 7. To give you some flexibility, the first two weeks will open on the 9th, Wednesday, at 1201am. Each week, a new class will open on Wednesday shortly after midnight. In case content needs to be reviewed, previously opened classes will remain open until May. The Final Exam for this course will take place on Tuesday, April 29th. Please plan NOW to have 2-3 hours available on this date!

The MSU academic calendar with important dates is located at: [http://www.reg.msu.edu/ROInfo/Calendar/Academic.asp](http://www.reg.msu.edu/ROInfo/Calendar/Academic.asp)

Learning Methodologies

NUR 801 uses an online format which serves as a web-based classroom. The classroom includes many important areas including group discussions, a place for class notes, presentations, readings, handouts, a final exam, and other activities.

Class Availability

IMPORTANT: Individual team member postings in the discussion forum will be expected by 10 PM on the Sunday after the class opens. A team leader posting will be expected within the next 48 hours or no later than Tuesday at 10 PM. The next week’s class will open in the early AM on Wednesday shortly after midnight. Two points will be deducted for late postings in the discussion forum. It is wise to check in on the class frequently since it is also a place where the instructors will be able to post announcements and other news.

You can access the class by going to [http://angel.msu.edu](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 801 course. Click on the class and you will be taken to the course spot! Make sure to spend some time to orient yourself to the site. Again, check in frequently (at least twice per week).

In order for the discussion room to work effectively, a few “rules” have been developed (these will be discussed in more depth online). After week one, only your team will be entering the discussion forum. A faculty member will evaluate your discussion. Make sure to check class regularly!!

Other suggestions include:

--try to keep your discussions in the “right room”. In other words, it helps everyone if the discussion fits the conversation. For example, it is best to keep discussion of paper requirements or exams in the chat room or other area set up for this purpose rather than in the discussion forum.

If you find you want a new area created for conversation, please let your instructor know.
--Check in frequently since we will use the site to make announcements about readings, new web sites, changes in schedule, student course-related questions, etc.
--Remember that the discussion is open to others in the course so private conversations with either faculty or other students should be done via email. Private or personal information should not be shared in course discussions. Professional behavior is expected.
--If you find some new websites, articles, or current topics related to the MSN role that you think others would like to see, please post them and send them to the course faculty member via email.

**University Policies:**

**Academic Integrity:**

**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, (insert name of unit offering course) 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 the www.allmsu.com Web site 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 integrity links
  [http://www.msu.edu/unit/ombud/honestylinks.html](http://www.msu.edu/unit/ombud/honestylinks.html)

*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 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 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 final exam is NOT a group project.

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

- MSU Spartan Life Student Handbook and Resource Guide
  http://www.vps.msu.edu/SpLife/index.htm
- Information for Current Students – including Rights, Responsibilities and Regulations for Graduate Students
  http://www.msu.edu/current/index.html
- International Studies and Programs
  http://www.msu.edu/international/index.html
- MSN Student Handbook
  http://www.nursing.msu.edu/handbooks.asp

**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 CON MSN Student Handbooks at CON website. Students are responsible for the information found in the CON MSN Student Handbook.

**Consultants/Guest Speakers**

The course may include some content areas developed by faculty other than those formally assigned to the course. Faculty contributors will be acknowledged in the appropriate content area.

**Course Structure**

This online course uses a system called A New Global Environment for Learning or ANGEL. To learn the ANGEL online system, in addition to tips for being a successful online student, please complete the course demonstration by:

- clicking on [http://angel.msu.edu](http://angel.msu.edu),
- clicking on the ANGEL HELP link prior to logging into angel,
- clicking on the Student tab,
- and completing all sections defined in the student tab.

**Course Content, Textbook Readings & Course Activities**

All presentation content, readings, and course activities, such as the discussion or assignments, will be outlined weekly.
Grading

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<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Totals</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Discussion</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interview Paper</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final exam</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>40%</td>
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</tbody>
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The following grading scale, which is used for this course, is based on the MSU 4.0 system:

- 94-100: 4.0
- 87-93: 3.5
- 80-86: 3.0 (passing = 80% or greater)
- 75-79: 2.5
- 70-74: 2.0

IMPORTANT: PLEASE READ! The final exam will be worth 40% of the grade and will include both multiple choice (majority of exam) and possibly some true/false or short answer/essay questions examining the extent to which the student can meet course objectives. Application of major concepts of the course will be the focus of the exam. The final exam will be online and will be given on April 29th Tuesday. You MUST be available to take the exam for 2-3 hours between the hours of 8a-8p. Once you log onto the exam, you must complete it. Unless there is an unexpected personal or family emergency, EVERYONE is expected to take the exam during the scheduled time on the scheduled exam day (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!

Discussion forums are an important component of the course. Active, relevant, professional, and ethical participation is expected. Each student will be evaluated each week during the semester. You will receive information about how the discussion is graded in the course. Points will range from 0 – 10 (excellent).

Writing assignments:
Discussion Forum: You will be expected to complete writing assignments during the course. For the discussion, each team member will post a 1½ double-spaced response with 2 references (from professional journals; in APA format) to the question(s) for the week. Please try to use references other than those listed for the course. Please adhere to this strategy for posting responses unless instructed to do otherwise during a certain week. The team leader for the week will submit a 2-page overview summarizing and integrating team members’ responses. The team leader’s final response (summary) to the week’s discussion question(s) should be double-spaced and be a maximum of 2 pages with 4 references. References should be current (within the last 5 years).

Paper: You will be asked to interview a masters-prepared professional who is currently in a role that you are planning to assume following graduation from this program. Your interview will explore how
the masters-prepared nurse that you are interviewing is meeting the competencies discussed in this course or what recommendations the person has for you to meet the competencies. This paper should be no longer than 6 pages total. The last page should include a self-critique of your interview and specific ways to improve your interviewing ability in the future. The paper should be double-spaced and include 8-10 current references from professional journals. Grades for the paper will range from 0 to 100%. MSU College of Nursing faculty members expect students to use the American Psychological Association (APA) format in all papers or postings. So, if you do not have the current edition of the APA Publication Manual, please purchase it. You will need it in future courses. Some nursing journals, such as Nursing Research, use APA format. You can use the articles in these journals as a guide to help you with APA format.

Due date for the paper (Interview with masters-prepared nurse) is: March 30, 2008, Sunday, at 10 pm. If the final paper is turned in late, 10 points will be deducted from the grade.

Papers will be read and graded in the order in which they are received. Please allow 14 working days for faculty to return papers. There will be a discussion area posted so that you will be able to ask questions about the assignment.

You must complete every assignment each week in order to pass NUR 801. Any assignment not completed will result in a failure in the course.

If a student has an emergency situation, the expectation is that the student will contact the course faculty member prior to the assignment due date to make alternative arrangements.

**ANGEL Communication Guidelines & Rules of Conduct**

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

**Library Resources**

1. Library Services: [http://www.lib.msu.edu/services/](http://www.lib.msu.edu/services/)
2. MSU Library: [http://www.lib.msu.edu/](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](http://techbase.msu.edu/viewpathfinder.asp?id=2507) or contact the reference librarian for the CON.

**Writing Resources**

1. American Psychological Association (APA) format is required in the College of Nursing courses. Please refer to the most recent edition of the APA Publication Manual for guidelines and examples.
2. MSU Writing Center online is located at: [http://writing.msu.edu/](http://writing.msu.edu/)
3. One excellent link for step-by-step assistance to college level writing is the Online Writing Lab at Purdue (University of Indiana) found at: [http://owl.english.purdue.edu/](http://owl.english.purdue.edu/)
Disability Resources and Services

Students with disabilities should contact the Resource Center for Person with Disabilities to establish reasonable accommodations. For an appointment with a disability specialist, call 353-9642 (voice), 355-1293 (TTY), or visit http://MyProfile.rcpd.msu.edu. The full range of disability resources and services for students is located at: http://www.msu.edu/current/index.html

Email

If you need to contact the course faculty member, please use the email system in ANGEL unless you have an emergency situation and need assistance or advice immediately. In the latter case, please send email to robbin76@msu.edu. Please allow 24 hours for a reply.