MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF NURSING

A History of Nursing in the United States
2 credits
NUR 424 Course Syllabus®

Additional Course Description:
A History of Nursing in the United States will explore the origins and development of nursing as an organized profession. The concept of nursing as a historical cultural construct will be explored through exploration of the history of disease and disease theories.

This course will be taught entirely as an online offering using the ANGEL platform. Class segments will open on a weekly basis on Wednesdays starting September 9, 2009. The course will utilize a variety of instructional formats including lecture, independent study, video segments and online discussion.

Course Objectives:
By the completion of NUR 424, the student will:
1. Identify the major historical strands which have contributed to the development of nursing practice and education in the United States.
2. Critique an example of published nursing historiography
4. Thoroughly explore one historical theme relevant to the development of American nursing history.

Directed Journal:
Each student will submit 3 journals which address specific issues relative to the class. The instructor will give content information on a weekly basis. Refer to class calendar for submission dates. It is expected that these journals will be analytical and demonstrate synthesis from lectures, reading materials and class filed trips. These may be hand-written.

Quizzes and Homework:
Quizzes will be given throughout the course and may be announced or unannounced. Homework will be assigned relative to the course content and observational field trips. It is expected that these will be submitted on the due date announced by the course faculty.

Critical Analysis Paper and Presentation:
Paper Requirements:
1. The text of the paper is to be 4-6 typewritten pages in 12 point font with appropriate margins. You will have access to computers in the classroom building as well as printing privileges.
2. The paper should include a cover page. If you are a non-MSU student you must include a mailing address as the papers will be returned after the conclusion of the course.
3. The paper should include a reference page that indicates all sources that you have utilized in the paper. If web sources are used, be certain to include the date that it was retrieved.
1. Content:
   At the outset of this course, it was asserted that nursing and culture are intrinsically linked. A number of experiences in this course has been directly related to this assumption. Therefore, construct a paper according to the above guidelines which addresses the following content:
   1. Define culture and its elements.
   2. How does nursing shape the idea of nursing, reciprocally, how does nursing shape culture?
   3. How have culture and nursing interacted in the last 400 years?
   4. How do government and nursing interact within a culture?

2. Process:
   1. Identify and print journal resources on the topic prior to departure. At least 4 journal sources should be used. Articles should be no older than 2000.
   2. It is suggested that you keep a journal of cultural interactions.
   3. The final paper is due the last day of class. See the course calendar.

3. Evaluation:
   The paper will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

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4. Comparative Analysis Presentation
   Each student will participate in a group presentation relative to the course content. Students will identify group preferences prior to departure. The purpose of the presentations is to compare and contrast how the topic is viewed in the United States and in the United Kingdom. The topics for presentation are:
   A. The image of the nurse and nursing
   B. Nursing education
   C. Nationalized vs. privatized health care
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