MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF NURSING

NUR 413
Issues in Professional Nursing
Course Syllabus

Course Description
NUR 413, Issues in Professional Nursing, is a 2 (2-0) credit course which occurs at the senior level of the undergraduate curriculum. The content is aimed at examining the past, current and future impact of selected themes related to health care in general, and nursing practice in particular, at the local, national, and international levels. This course emphasizes the longitudinal nature of many contemporary issues and trends which have a direct impact on the development of nursing science, nursing practice and nursing education.

A variety of teaching methods will be utilized in NUR 413 including lecture, seminar, group discussions and media review. Students will be responsible for accessing recent professional literature. NUR 413 is a designated Tier II writing course in the nursing curriculum. Therefore, a variety of writing assignments will be required.

Course Objectives
Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:
1. Identify the impact of health care system changes on society and nursing.
2. Describe the evolution of nursing as a profession.
3. Identify external forces which have an impact on nursing practice such as economics and governmental policy.
4. Identify nursing’s progress in achieving cultural diversity.
5. Identify nursing’s role in achieving health care needs within society.

Required Resources
Course Syllabus - available on the web

Course Faculty
Louise C. Selanders, RN, EdD
A202 Life Sciences
355-3804
selander@msu.edu

413syllabusSpring.02
Student Evaluation
The course grade for NUR 413 will be determined based on the following components:
  Annotated bibliographies                  15%
  Midterm synthesis exam                    25%
  Final synthesis exam                      25%
  Student-Led Seminar                       25%
  Group Bill Analysis                      10%

  TOTAL                                      100 %

The following scale will be used to convert percentage of points to a grade point allocation:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percent</th>
<th>Grade Point</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>94-100</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>88-93</td>
<td>3.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>82-87</td>
<td>3.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>76-81</td>
<td>2.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>70-75</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65-69</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60-64</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt; 60</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Policies
  Student-Faculty Relationship – Students are encouraged to consult with Dr. Selanders regarding questions or concerns related to NUR 413. This may either be done in person or through the chairs of the various student groups. Office hours are by appointment. Dr. Selanders may be contacted easily either by e-mail or voice mail at her office number.

    Attendance and Due Dates - Attendance at all class sessions for the entire class session is an expectation. A pattern of absences may result in lowering of the final grade of up to one grade point. In the case of illness resulting in absence, a health care provider’s statement may be required at the discretion of the instructor.

    It is expected that examinations and other assignments will be complete on the designated dates unless prior arrangements have been made with a course instructor. If the instructor cannot be reached, the student is expected to call the College of Nursing Office (355-6523) and leave a message regarding the reason for the absence. Alternative examinations may be used for alternative testing times. Late assignments will have the final point total lowered by up to 10% of the possible points.

    Academic Dishonesty - Academic dishonesty in any form will not be tolerated. If these practices are observed or suspected in any form, the student will be reported to the appropriate authorities for disciplinary action. A grade of 0.0 may be issued.

    Communication Devices – All electronic communication devices are to be turned off while in class.
Course Calendar - Spring, 2002

All classes will be held on **Wednesdays, 1:50-3:40 in A131 LS** unless otherwise indicated. Major unit headings are in **BOLD** type. * indicates student-led seminar.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week #</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1      | Jan 9 | **Professional Development Issues**  
Course Overview  
Identification of professional trends and issues | Cherry & Jacob ch 1,3            |
| 2      | Jan 16| Issues and trends in nursing education                     | C & J ch 4                      |
| 3      | Jan 23| The role of professional organizations  
Group discussion on collective bargaining | C & J ch 12                     |
| 4      | Jan 30| **Issues of Government Policy and Regulation**  
Legal Issues in Nursing  
Guest: Mary Conklin | C & J ch 5                      |
| 5      | Feb 6 | *Government Policy Development  
Group discussion of analyzed bills  
**Distribute definitions of nursing**  
**Midterm Examination Distributed** | Analyzed bills due               |
| 6      | Feb 13| Regulation of Nursing Practice  
Group discussion of definitions of nursing and characteristics of a profession | C & J ch 13  
**Legislative letter due** |
| 7      | Feb 20| Legislative Committee Hearing                              | C & J ch 27                     |
| 8      | Feb 27| **MIDTERM SYNTHESIS EXAM**                                 | All previous material           |
| 9      | Mar 6 | SPRING BREAK                                               |                                 |
| 10     | Mar 13| N-CLEX Strategy Seminar                                   | C & J ch 7                      |
| 11     | Mar 20| **Issues of Economics and The Health Care System**  
Health care financing: Guest – Faith Priester | C & J ch 8                      |
<p>| 12     | Mar 27| Third Party payers, medicare, and Medicaid                 |                                 |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week #</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Apr 3</td>
<td>Economic Impact of the Nursing Shortage</td>
<td>C &amp; J ch 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Apr 10</td>
<td>Cultural/Environmental Issues of Health Care</td>
<td>C &amp; J ch 2&lt;br&gt;*The Image of Nursing in Society in audio and print media&lt;br&gt;<strong>Final Examination Distributed</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Apr 17</td>
<td>*Nursing as a global entity</td>
<td>C &amp; J, ch 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Apr 24</td>
<td>*Issues in the workplace: Environmental safety, violence, harassment and burnout.</td>
<td>C &amp; J, ch 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>May 1</td>
<td>Final Examination</td>
<td>All previous Material</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Additional Course Materials**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week #</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Additional Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Legislative Bills</td>
<td>Suggested web sites: <a href="http://thomas.loc.gov">http://thomas.loc.gov</a>&lt;br&gt;<a href="http://www.nursingworld.org">www.nursingworld.org</a>&lt;br&gt;<a href="http://www.minurses.org">www.minurses.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Legislative letters</td>
<td><a href="http://www.house.gov/writerep">www.house.gov/writerep</a>&lt;br&gt;<a href="http://www.senate.gov">www.senate.gov</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Course Structure**

**Work Groups:** Students will participate in one of four work groups. The purpose of these groups will be to:

1. select and analyze a proposed legislative bill at the national or state level which will/may impact nursing.
2. participate as groups in the pro and con collective bargaining discussion.
3. develop one of four student led seminars.
4. explore a given definition of nursing for its professional characteristics.
5. develop a letter to a legislator relative to pending health care legislation.

Each group is expected to elect a group chair who will act as student liaison to Dr. Selanders and with other group chairs.
Synthesis Examinations: A synthesis examination is designed to demonstrate integration and applicability of course content. Two or three questions will be distributed to students in advance of the testing date. A specified number of journal articles from the recent literature articles are to be found relative to these two questions and annotations developed (See below). The student is required to develop a substantive outline for each question. At the time of the examination, one of the questions will be distributed for the student to complete as an essay. Integration of the journal articles is imperative. All articles and annotations are to be submitted with the exam even if all are not utilized for the question that was answered. Exams and articles are to be submitted to the student folders found in the file at the front of the room.

Exams will be evaluated according to the following broad categories:

4.0 Exam shows evidence of exceptional effort and critical thinking (analysis, synthesis, creativity). Student has gone beyond expected requirements for satisfactory and correct conceptualizations and has demonstrated an exceptional grasp of the material.

3.0 Exam shows evidence of obvious effort and critical thinking (analysis, synthesis, creativity). Student has correct and satisfactory grasp of the material that goes beyond textbook and classroom descriptions.

2.0 Exam shows evidence of satisfactory effort and critical thinking reflective of textbook and classroom descriptions (limited analysis, synthesis, and creativity).

0.0 Exam not submitted or not submitted on due date or content reflects incorrect or unsatisfactory conceptualizations.

Journal References With Annotations: References are designed to provide the student with supplemental information about a topic not provided in class or the assigned text. These are to be used to develop content for the synthesis paper and for group discussions. The following apply to the development of these references:

1. Journal articles are to be found relative to the synthesis exam topics. They should be submitted at the time of the examination. These will be returned to the student.

2. Articles are to be no older than 3 years.

3. Editorials and reviews are NOT acceptable. Articles are to be substantive and REFERENCED.

4. Each set of articles must be from at least 2 different journals. At least 1/2 of the total of the articles must be from the nursing literature.

5. Articles will be evaluated on the following criteria:

   1. Relevance to topic 30%
   2. Strength of article 60%
   3. References/recent publication date 10%
6. **Format:** Citation for the article in APA format is to be placed at the Beginning of the annotation. The annotation and the article should be stapled together. All annotations should be typed or word-processed. Each annotation should contain a multi-paragraph summary of the article content and a discussion as to why this article is relevant to the selected content.

**Student-Led Seminars:** The student-led seminars are done as a combined individual and group effort. Each student will participate in one seminar to be assigned early in the semester. The grade will be assigned as a group effort. It is expected that each presentation will be about 1-1/2 hours in length. Visuals aids assist the learner in grasping the content. Please contact Dr. Selanders if you require transparencies or any additional equipment such as a VCR.

These seminars should be based on the current literature surrounding the topic. Be prepared to hand in one copies of a prepared bibliography which lists the references used to prepare the presentation.

Evaluation will be a combined process between the instructor and the class participants. 75% of the group grade will reside with the instructor. 25% will be an average of the score awarded by the student audience. Criteria found on the evaluation tool will be used to determine the group score.
Seminar Evaluation Tool

Date: ______________________

Topic

Presenters:

___________________________________           ___________________________________

___________________________________

___________________________________           __________________________

___________________________________

___________________________________

___________________________________

___________________________________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CRITERIA</th>
<th>POSSIBLE PERCENT</th>
<th>PERCENT RECEIVED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Topic is clearly introduced</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Topic is clearly discussed with emphasis on why this is an issue in nursing and what the evolving trend or trends are</td>
<td>45</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All students in the group participate</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presentation is organized and clear</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>References are submitted, relevant and reflect a thorough review of the current literature</td>
<td>20</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students in the class are encouraged to participate</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

POINT TOTAL  100

Additional Comments:
ANALYSIS OF A LEGISLATIVE BILL

1. Name and Identification number of bill:

2. Level of bill __________State (Identify)______________________________
   __________Federal

3. Bill Sponsors and affiliations: (ie: party, special interest groups) (Sections 1, 2, 3 = 10 pts)

4. Synopsis of proposed bill: (30 pts.)
5. Probable impact on nursing. (30 pts)

6. Supporting data from the literature: (See criteria for annotations). Provide a short synopsis. A full annotation is not necessary. Attach the article. (30 pts)

7. Support _________ or Non-Support _________ for the bill (Choose one)
8. Attach bill