NUR 852
PRACTICUM I:
PRIMARY CARE FOR
ADULTS

COURSE SYLLABUS
FALL 2003

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Office Hours By Appointment

Class Time: Thursday from 0930 – 1130
East Lansing: 1220 Engineering (Codec)

Credits: 6

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

NUR 852 focuses on the integration of assessment, the nursing process and applied theory in primary care management of adult clients. This course will assist the APN student with integration and application of assessment and management skills utilizing a collaborative model of primary care practice. Relevant conceptual and theoretical frameworks in the primary care management of older adults are threaded throughout all class discussions.

Emphasis is on developing skills in health promotion, health maintenance and management, risk reduction strategies, management of common single acute conditions and understanding the basic health care needs of adults, within the context of family. The student will become increasingly independent in their clinical decision-making skills and ability to manage adult health concerns in a practice setting. Documentation will be completed in the problem oriented format to facilitate organization of client data.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Textbooks from previous graduate nursing courses will serve as reference resources.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

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

1. Conduct assessments, apply therapeutic reasoning and determine diagnoses when providing primary care to adults in the context of families related to health promotion, disease prevention and/or single acute frequently encountered primary health conditions.

2. Apply appropriate diagnostic and therapeutic intervention regimens which reflect issues related to safety, cost, simplicity, acceptability and efficacy.

3. Utilize advanced independent nursing interventions when managing clients’ health/illness states.

4. Initiate strategies to facilitate interdisciplinary team functioning.

5. Integrate applicable conceptual and theoretical frameworks in the development of a comprehensive management plan.

6. Evaluate client outcomes and effectiveness of care of the APN.

7. Assume leadership in implementing educational strategies appropriate to the adult and or the family.

8. Utilize the clinical therapeutic reasoning process in the management of adults including documentation of individual and family assessment data, the medical and nursing diagnoses, the management plan and the individual and/or family outcomes.
9. Provide health promotion and disease prevention services based on age, gender, health risk, ethnicity and cultural background.

10. Analyze client case log data to determine patterns of practice in primary care.

11. Communicate data in an appropriate data format

12. Demonstrate progression in level of decision making from preceptor made decision making to student made with preceptor validation


INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS

As adult learners, it is expected that students will do relevant reading and study prior to clinic and class on the topic areas identified. Faculty directed readings and web links will be provided for specific content areas. 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 in BlackBoard, Course Documents.

Clinical Experience

- All students participate in **16 hours of clinical per week for 14 weeks** at designated agencies. The agency experience is guided by the clinical preceptor at that agency. Clinical faculty in the college are available for consultation, assistance and evaluation. If at any time a student is deemed clinically or ethically unsafe by preceptor or faculty, the student will be reported to the appropriate college administrator and action will be taken.

- Students must spend at least one day prior to the beginning of the semester, orienting to each clinical facility. It is expected that this experience will help the student to start the semester positively and prepared.

- Students are not to start clinical rotations until the 1st week of September.

- The last week for clinical experiences will be December 4th.

- Students will provide direct services to adult clients and their families concerning well care, health maintenance and promotion, level of function and management of single acute illness. The majority of the caseload should be individuals over the age of 35.

- Students are responsible for increasing independence in collecting and determining:
  - Client history and physical examination

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○ Management plan including nursing and medical interventions  
○ Nursing and medical diagnoses  
○ 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:
  ○ Subjective data  
  ○ Objective data  
  ○ Assessment data  
  ○ Medical diagnoses  
  ○ Nursing diagnoses (only those appropriate & that truly represent non-medical)  
  ○ Management Plan  
    - Diagnostic studies (lab, special studies, radiographic, etc)  
    - Non-pharmacologic interventions (education, counseling, NIC/NOC when appropriate, etc)  
    - Pharmacologic interventions  
    - Patient teaching  
    - Expected outcomes  
    - Referral  
    - Follow up

- HIPAA Guidelines: since you have been educated about these federal regulations, you know the following is expected 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 spring semester  
  - 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

**Clinic Activity Log**

- This log will be utilized beginning in NUR 852 and carried through to NUR 854. The log helps all interested participants in the clinic experience understand what skill, technique or experience has been accomplished or needs to be accomplished.

- The log must be updated and validated on a daily basis to be kept current and accurate.

- The log is an excellent documentation tool that students can use in portfolio development and in seeking future advanced practice nursing employment.

- The actual tool can be found in BlackBoard, Course Information.
Caseload Data

- This section includes the Client # Log and the Client Encounter Log (both can be found in BlackBoard, Course Information).

- Students are required to collect and record data on every client seen. Data logs will be reviewed weekly, during midterm and finals week and at any time during the course of the semester. Both logs should be brought to class every week so faculty can review the information.

- The Client Encounter Log will be handed in on a weekly basis. Information needs to be neat and accurate. Points will be awarded for appropriate materials being turned in at the beginning of every class.

Web-Based Activities

- We are utilizing BlackBoard (BB) as the basis for this course. BB is a web-based classroom experience that allows material to be up to date with easy access. It is the individual students responsibility to learn how to work through the system.

- Weekly readings, course information and forms, course documents, activities, grades and discussion board are all located in BB. It is strongly suggested that you check into BB on a frequent basis at it is the students responsibility to be present and active in the course.

- Access to BB is through the College of Nursing web page and then accessing NUR 852 course syllabus. Another route is http://www.blackboard.msu.edu Access requires use of your MSU pilot account.

- Guiding Principles have been developed for the use of the Discussion Board and email. You will find this document in BB, Course Information. Please be sure that you are very familiar with these principles.

Topic Presentations

- Each student will select 2 topics to present over the course of the semester. Guidelines for presentation can be found under BB, Course Information.

- Weekly attendance is required!

- Peers will provide a constructive evaluation for each presentation. Further information can be located in BB, Course Information.
COMMUNICATION DEVICES

All communication devices are to be turned off during the entire course time. If you need to be reached for an emergency, you may give the College of Nursing main office number and emergency messages will be delivered to you by support staff.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

Weekly attendance at clinical conference is MANDATORY! Additional student responsibilities and expectations can be found at BlackBoard, Course Information. It is the student’s responsibility to understand what the expectations are for successful completion of the course.

Students are expected to enter NUR 852 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.

Immunizations, licensure 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 out of the current course sequence and seek re-enrollment the following fall.

COURSE EVALUATION & GRADING

A grade of 3.0 (80%) must be achieved in order to pass NUR 832 and progress in the nursing program. The MSU 4.0 grading system will be utilized to report final course grades.

Points will be rounded to whole numbers using the 0.5 rule. Points at ≥ 0.5 will be rounded up while those < 0.5 will be rounded down to the nearest whole number.

The following point scale will be used for final grade determination:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RANGE</th>
<th>GRADE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Low to High</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>141 to 150</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>131 to 140</td>
<td>3.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>120 to 130</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(80% passing)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>111 to 119</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>105 to 110</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Point Determination Will Be As Follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clinical Evaluation</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional Participation</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course Activities</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Encounter &amp; Activity Logs</td>
<td>P/F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total = 150

A clinical evaluation form will be completed by the student and the course coordinator at midterm and at the conclusion of clinical. The rating at midterm is expected to be at a low level since it is highly unlikely that a student will be meeting end course objectives at this time. The midterm point totals are utilized to help identify areas that need work. The midterm evaluation is NOT used to calculate the final grade. Only the rating on the final evaluation will be used to determine the course grade.

The final evaluation will count for a possible 100 points toward the final grade. The student is expected to provide rationale/evidence for their self rating if it exceeds a #2. The course coordinators evaluation will be used to calculate the final grade. If there is a discrepancy, the student must provide documentation. The final grade decision is determined by the course coordinator.

The Clinical Evaluation Tool can be found under Course Documents.

NOTE: If the Clinic Activity Log, Encounter Logs or Course Activities are NOT COMPLETED in an ACCEPTABLE MANNER (spelling, accurate & appropriate abbreviations & medical terminology, etc), the student will not pass the course regardless of their performance in the clinical setting. All course forms and materials must be completed in a timely fashion and be presented in a legible, organized manner.

ADDITIONAL COURSE INFORMATION LOCATED IN BLACKBOARD

- Course Requirements & Student Responsibilities
- Guiding Principles For Web-based Activity
- Proposed Content Schedule
- Topic Presentation Guidelines
- Peer Review Guidelines
• Peer Review Case Study Form
• Clinic Placement Log
• Patient Encounter Log
• Clinic Activity Log
• Clinic Evaluation Tool
• Professional Participation Form