COURSE SYLLABUS

NSG 492
SEMINAR: PROFESSIONAL PERSPECTIVES IN NURSING

COURSE CREDIT
Two (2) semester hours.

COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course is designed to facilitate the students' synthesis of the major professional components of the baccalaureate prepared nurse. The student will consider historical, ethical, legal, sociopolitical issues confronting the profession of nursing. Through analysis of various ethical dilemmas, the student clarifies her/his own moral values. Course content will assist students in designing strategies to achieve career goals. The role of the nurse as advocate in the shaping of health care delivery is explored.

COURSE OBJECTIVES
1. Explore historical and social factors influencing the development of ethics in nursing practice.
2. Synthesize the major professional role components of the baccalaureate nurse.
3. Analyze ethical problems inherent in contemporary practice of nursing.
4. Discuss legal issues impacting current nursing practice.
5. Analyze the advocate role in professional nursing practice.
6. Develop strategies nurses can use to enhance career management.
EVALUATION

Class Participation .................. 40 points
Written assignments ................ 40 points
Case Study ............................ 60 points
Oral Presentation .................... 60 points (references to be typed)

For Grading Scale refer to the division of Nursing Handbook

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS


UNIT ONE: CAREER MANAGEMENT

OBJECTIVES:

1. Identify the causes and manifestations of stress.

2. Explain the dynamics of burnout.

3. Describe various strategies for coping with stress.

4. Compare a job perspective with a career perspective.

5. Discuss resumes, curricula vitae, and cover letters and list rules for writing each.

6. Discuss the interviewing process and its follow-up from an interviewee's perspective.
COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Class attendance is expected. The instructor reserves the right to require any make-up work necessary to insure that educational objectives are met. Students are responsible for materials in assigned texts and for selective readings as indicated in the syllabus.

2. Attendance and active participation are required. Unless otherwise approved by the instructor, non attendance/non participation will mean a zero (0) for participation portion of that class session.

3. Written assignments:
   a. Papers are to be submitted in class on the date due. Late papers will not be accepted except by special arrangement with the instructor. The instructor reserves the right to attach a grade penalty to any late paper.
   b. Papers must be typed and double spaced. It is expected that grammar, spelling, sentence and paragraph structure, punctuation and format will be correct according to APA guidelines when the papers are submitted.
   c. Papers must be referenced. Inadequate referencing will result in a grade penalty of one letter grade. Overt plagiarism will result in a grade of "F".
   d. Students who have difficulty with written assignments are advised to seek assistance from the Learning and Communication Center.

TEACHING STRATEGIES

1. Lecture
2. Class discussion
3. Small group discussion
4. Case Studies
5. Selected audio visual materials
6. Assigned readings
7. Written assignments
UNIT TWO: VALUES, ETHICS, AND PHILOSOPHIES IN NURSING

OBJECTIVES:

1. Explain how attitudes, beliefs, and values develop and how they influence health care.

2. Discuss the importance of values and values clarification in the health professions.

3. Discuss the stages of moral development as they apply to the behavior of nurses.

4. Compare deontological and teleological ethical theories and give real-life examples of how they may affect the ethical decisions of nurses.

5. Discuss the difference between personal ethics and ethical codes.

6. Explain the ethical principles of autonomy, nonmaleficence, beneficence, veracity, confidentiality, accountability, and justice, giving examples of how each applies in nursing practice.

7. Apply the decision-making process to a real-life ethical dilemma, showing how the dilemma can be resolved.

UNIT THREE: PROFESSIONAL ROLE COMPONENTS OF NURSING

OBJECTIVES:

1. Analyze the concept of advocacy.

2. Explore the nurse’s capacity to function as an advocate in professional practice.

3. Discuss the concept of standards of care.

4. Identify the major roles of professional nursing.

5. Describe the evolving roles in nursing practice.

6. Analyze the roles required of the nurse in the 21st century.

UNIT FOUR: CURRENT ISSUES THAT SHAPE THE FUTURE OF NURSING

OBJECTIVES:

1. Discuss issues involving the economic status and working conditions of nurses.

2. Discuss issues surrounding nursing’s future challenges.
Interview Guidelines

1. Identify the individual's role and title, length of time in this role and why you chose this person to interview.

2. Give a brief history of the person: other titles, jobs, level of education, years of experience, etc.

3. Give this person's definition of ethics and how the person developed this particular definition.

4. Describe the type of dilemmas faced by this individual as a health care provider.

5. Describe the method or approach the person uses to solve the dilemmas.

6. Analyze how the person became prepared to solve these dilemmas; e.g., through formal education, life experiences, seminars, etc.

7. What does this person feel is the most important ethical issue now facing health care providers?

8. Evaluate your response and reaction to the interview.