



Course Syllabus

Course title: Surgical, Acute and Chronic Illness Nursing Care

Class section: NURS - 233 - X01

Term: 2025W

Course credits: 3

Total hours: 60

Delivery method: In-Person

Territorial Acknowledgement

Camosun College respectfully acknowledges that our campuses are situated on the territories of the Łək̓ʷəŋən (Songhees and Kosapsum) and W̱SÁNEĆ peoples. We honour their knowledge and welcome to all students who seek education here.

Instructor Details

Name: Vesselina Ivanova

Email: IvanovaV@camosun.ca

Instructor Statement

As your course instructor, I endeavour to provide an inclusive learning environment. However, if you experience barriers to learning in this course, do not hesitate to discuss them with me. Camosun College is committed to identifying and removing institutional and social barriers that prevent access and impede success.

Instructor Office Hours

Office:	Hours:
Room #	Hours:
Virtual, online	Tuesday 1300 - 1400 or by appointment

Course Description

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Learners synthesize nursing and interdisciplinary knowledge into nursing care in the context of select acute and chronic illnesses, and the perioperative period, across the lifespan. Learners will integrate foundational knowledge and clinical reasoning skills in order to provide safe, patient-centred, evidence-based, and culturally competent care for persons across the continuum of health and across the lifespan. Learners will focus on some of Canada's most prevalent illnesses, including mental illnesses. Learners examine nursing practice and health care environments using the concepts of patient vulnerability, ethics and informed consent, health promotion, and Indigenous ways of knowing.

Prerequisites:

All of:

- C in BIOL 252
- C in NURS 232
- C in NURS 242
- C in NURS 260
- COM in NURS 280

Or all of:

- C in NURS 112
- C in NURS 252

And one of:

- C in ENGL 151
- C in ENGL 161
- C in ENGL 163

- C in ENGL 164

Pre or Co-requisites:

All of:

- C in BIOL 253
- C in NURS 243
- COM in NURS 281
- C in PHIL 250

Or all of:

- C in NURS 253
- C in PHIL 250

Course Learning Outcomes / Objectives

Upon completion of the course the student will be able to:

1. Apply the nursing process and clinical reasoning skills to develop plans of care for patients experiencing prevalent acute and chronic illnesses, or surgical procedures
2. Engage in quality improvement in the context of perioperative care, illness management, rehabilitation and supportive care
3. Examine nursing care across the lifespan for prevalent acute and chronic illness
4. Apply pharmacological knowledge related to nursing care of prevalent acute and chronic illnesses
5. Employ the principles of Informed Consent when providing nursing care for patients
6. Enact the Mental Health Act as it pertains to the role of the registered nurse
7. Apply select learning theory, to specific patient conditions, for the promotion of health and wellbeing
8. Consider the concept of patient vulnerability and its implications for nursing practice
9. Provide safe, competent, ethical and culturally competent care to patients from a health promoting perspective
10. Integrate knowledge of colonization, residential schooling, and the history of "Indian hospitals" with Indigenous peoples' sense of vulnerability in the health care setting
11. Integrate the Quality and Safety Education for Nurses (QSEN) competencies in advocating and promoting safe, patient-centred care

Course Materials - Required

Austin, W., Kunyk, D., & Peternelj-Taylor, C.J. (2023). Psychiatric & mental health nursing for Canadian practice (5th ed.). Wolters Kluwer.

Burchum, J. & Rosenthal, L.D. (2024). Lehne's pharmacology for nursing care (12th ed.) Elsevier.

El Hussein, M., & Osuji, J. (Eds.). (2020). Brunner & Suddarth's Canadian textbook of medical-surgical nursing (4th ed.). Wolters Kluwer.

Keenan-Lindsay, L., Sams, C., O'Connor, C. L., Perry, S. E., Hockenberry, M. J., Lowdermilk, D. L., & Wilson, D. (2022) Maternal child nursing care in Canada (3rd Cdn ed.) Elsevier.

Course Schedule, Topics, and Associated Preparation / Activity

The following schedule and course components are subject to change with reasonable advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor.

Week	Date	Important Dates	Content
1	Jan 6-10		1st class: Module 1 Part 1: Informed Consent, vulnerability 2nd class: Module 1 Part 2: Pre-operative Nursing Care
2	Jan 13-17		1st class: Module 1 Part 3: Intraoperative Nursing Care 2nd class: Module 1 Part 4: Post-operative care Nursing Care
3	Jan 20-24		1st class: Module 2 Part 1: Respiratory and Metabolic Acidosis and Alkalosis 2nd class: Module 2 Part 2: Nausea and Vomiting
4	Jan 7 –31	Case study 1	1st class: Module 2 Part 2/3: Peds, Hyperemesis Gravidarum and Diarrhea 2nd class: Module 2 Part 4/5 Part 4: PUD/IBD
5	Feb 3 – 7	Quiz in 1st class	1st class: Module 3 Part 1: Dyspnea and resp pharmacology

			2nd class: Module 3 Part 2: Bronchiolitis and RSV
6	Feb 10- 14		1st class: Module 3 Part 3: Asthma 2nd class: Module 3 Part 4: COPD
	Feb 18-21		Reading Break
8	Feb 24- 28		1st class: Module 4 Part 1: Acute Kidney Injury 2nd class: Module 4 Part 2: Chronic Kidney Disease
9	Mar 3-7		1st class: Module 4 Part 2: Chronic Kidney Disease and Dialysis 2nd class: Module 5 Part 1: Cancer Medical Management
10	Mar 10-14	Midterm in 1st class	1st class: Module 5 Part 2: Cancer Lived Experience 2nd class: Module 5 Part 3: Nursing Care
11	Mar 17-21	Case Study 2	1st class: Module 6 Part 1: Stigma 2nd class: Module 6 Part 1: Mental Health Act, Mental Status Exam
12	Mar 24-28		1st class: Module 6 Part 2: Mood Disorders – focus on Depression 2nd class: Module 6 Part 2: Postpartum depression
13	Mar 31- Apr 4		1st class: Module 6 Part 2: Bipolar Disorders 2nd class: Module 6 Part 3: Suicidality
14	Apr 7-11		1st class: Module 6 Part 4: Psychotic Disorders 2nd class: Exam review

Evaluation of Learning: Weighted

DESCRIPTION	WEIGHTING
Quiz	20
Case Studies x 2	10
Midterm	35
Final Exam	35
TOTAL:	100%

Assignments

Should there be written assignments, unless otherwise noted, they must be typewritten and adhere to APA 7th edition writing and referencing format. Please refer to your Course Manual, Camosun College grading policy, and the Department of Nursing Handbook. Note that the grading policy incorporates APA format, spelling, grammar, and quality of critical thinking in the assigned grades.

Late assignments will be deducted 5% per day, weekend and holiday days included. Assignment details will be provided in the first two weeks of the course.

NOTE: Min passing grade for this course C

Camosun's Grading Systems

<https://camosun.ca/registration-records/student-records/camosun-grading-systems>

Grade Reviews and Appeals

If you have a concern about a grade you have received for an evaluation, please come and see me as soon as possible. Refer to the **Grade Review and Appeals policy** for more information.

<https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-08/e-1.14.pdf>

The Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) is part of Camosun's Student Affairs unit. CAL coordinates academic accommodations and provides related programs and services to students with documented disabilities.

Students who require academic accommodations are expected to request and arrange accommodations through CAL in a timely fashion. While we understand that not all accommodation needs are known to students at the beginning of a course, accommodations cannot be provided unless the proper process is followed through CAL and an accommodation letter has been released to the instructor. Students are responsible for providing CAL with the proper documentation prior to the beginning of a course.

Students registered with the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) who complete quizzes, tests, and exams with academic accommodations have booking procedures and deadlines with CAL where advanced notice is required.

Deadlines can be reviewed on the CAL exams page

<https://camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/accessible-learning/academic-accommodations-exams>

Please consult the CAL webpage for more information:

<https://camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/accessible-learning>

Artificial Intelligence: A Guide for Students

Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI) is an evolving technology that brings potential benefits but also substantial risks. While GenAI tools have the ability to transform how we work and learn, it is essential for the college community to adapt to these changes in a thoughtful and secure way.

When using GenAI tools, students should ensure proper citation and attribution guidelines are followed. This includes acknowledging AI assistance in reports ,presentations, or any external communications. Clear citation helps build trust, ensures ethical use, and reduces the risk of misinformation or copyright issues.

For citation support visit the college's citation style guide.

<https://camosun.libguides.com/cite>

Artificial Intelligence: A Guide for Students

Visit the following website to learn about AI use in academic settings.

<https://camosun.libguides.com/artificialintelligence/home>

Course Guidelines & Expectations

A basic expectation is to actively engage with course content and participate meaningfully in all class activities, discussions, and group work throughout the semester. This level of engagement is essential for developing critical thinking, clinical reasoning, and professional communication skills required in nursing practice.

Refer to the BSN Handbook and the course package for detailed information on policies and guidelines. They outline expectations for professionalism, attendance, and academic integrity, which are integral to your success in this course and the nursing program.

School or Departmental Information

Students are required to read and are accountable for the College policies (outlined below) and practicum guidelines as described in the School of Health and Human Services (HHS) and program handbooks.

Clinical and Practice Placements in HHS

<https://camosun.ca/programs-courses/school-health-and-human-services/hhs-programs/practicums>

School of Health and Human Services (HHS)

<https://camosun.ca/programs-courses/school-health-and-human-services/information-health-and-human-services-students-1#top>

BSN Program Handbook

<https://camosun.ca/programs-courses/school-health-and-human-services/information-health-and-human-services-students-5>

Student Responsibility

Enrolment at Camosun assumes that the student will become a responsible member of the College community. As such, each student will display a positive work ethic, assist in the preservation of College property, and assume responsibility for their education by researching academic requirements and policies; demonstrating courtesy and respect toward others; and respecting expectations concerning attendance, assignments, deadlines, and appointments.

College Policies

Academic Integrity

Students are expected to follow the college's [Academic Integrity policy](#), and be honest and ethical in all aspects of their studies. To help you understand these responsibilities review the online [Academic Integrity guide](#).

The college's [Academic Integrity policy and supporting documents](#) detail the process for addressing and resolving matters of academic misconduct.

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

If you have a documented disability and need accommodations contact the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL). CAL will arrange the appropriate academic accommodations so you can participate in all academic activities. Visit the [CAL website](#) for more information

Academic Progress

The [Academic Progress policy](#) details how the college monitors students' academic progress and what steps are taken if a student is at risk of not meeting the college's academic progress standards.

Acceptable Technology Use

The [Acceptable Technology Use](#) policy outlines how students are expected to use college technology resources, this includes using your own devices on the college's network. The use of the college resources in a way that violates a person's right to study in an environment free of discrimination, harassment or sexual violation is prohibited.

Course Withdrawals Policy

For details about course withdrawal see the [Course Withdrawals policy](#). Be aware of the [deadlines for fees, course drop dates, and tuition refunds](#).

Grading Policy

To learn more about grading see the [Grading Policy](#).

Grade Review and Appeals

The process to request a review of grades is outlined in the [Grade Review and Appeals policy](#).

Medical / Compassionate Withdrawals

If you have experienced a serious health or personal issue, you may be eligible for a [medical/compassionate withdrawal](#). The [Medical / Compassionate Withdrawal Request form](#) outlines what is required.

Sexual Violence

If you have experienced sexual violence on or off campus, you can get support from the Office of Student Support. The Office of Student Support is a safe and private place to talk about what supports are available and your options for next steps. Visit the [sexual violence support and education site](#) to learn more or email oss@camosun.ca or phone: 250-370-3046 or 250-370-3841.

Student Misconduct (Non-Academic)

Camosun expects students to conduct themselves in a manner that contributes to a positive, supportive, and safe learning environment. Review the [Student Misconduct Policy](#) to understand the college's expectations of conduct.

Looking for other policies? See [Camosun College Policies and Directives](#)

Services and Supports

Services are free and available to all students.

Academic Supports	Enrollment Supports
Centre for Accessible Learning	Academic Advising

English, Math and Science Help Centres	Financial Aid and Awards
Library	Registration
Writing Centre & Learning Skills	Tuition and Fees
Health and Wellness	Applied learning
Counseling	Co-operative Education and Career Services
Fitness and Recreation	Makerspace
Office of Student Support	

The [Centre for Indigenous Education Centre and Community Connections](#) provides cultural and academic supports for Indigenous students.

[Camosun International](#) provides supports to international students.

[The Ombudsperson](#) provides an impartial, independent service to ensure students are treated fairly. The service is a safe place for students to voice and clarify concerns and complaints.

If you have a mental health concern, contact Counselling. Counselling sessions are available at both campuses during business hours. If you need urgent support after-hours, contact the Vancouver Island Crisis Line at 1-888-494-3888 or call 911.

Changes to this Syllabus

Every effort has been made to ensure that information in this syllabus is accurate at the time of publication. The College reserves the right to change the course content or schedule. When changes are necessary the instructor will give clear and timely notice.