

PNUR 111: PROFESSIONAL GROWTH (24 hrs)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course introduces the learner to the evolution of practical nursing as a health profession within the Canadian health care system. It focuses on the legal, ethical, and philosophical bases for practice. The roles and responsibilities of the practical nurse will be examined in relation to the interdisciplinary team, partnership, delegation, reporting and documenting. The importance of personal reflection, critical thinking skills will be explored.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon completion of this course, the learner will be able to:

1. Base decisions on a sound understanding of the parameters of the PN role, including legal/ethical and professional standards for practice
2. Use a flexible and innovative problem-solving process.
3. Collaborate with other members of the health care team.
4. Practice effective time management and organization in relation to own learning and nursing practice.
5. Practice self-reflection and self-direction in relation to own learning and practice.

CONTENT

Being a successful learner/practitioner

- ⇒ understanding responsibility/accountability as a learner/practitioner
- ⇒ examining various organizational and study skills
- ⇒ accessing and using resources for support
- ⇒ understanding own and others learning styles
- ⇒ discussing concepts of life long learning, active, cooperative and consultative learning
- ⇒ exploring concepts of self advocacy and empowerment
- ⇒ developing support systems

Philosophical and attitudinal base for PN practice

- ⇒ exploring values, assumptions about beliefs and attitudes about people, health, healing, education
- ⇒ discussing beliefs about holism
- ⇒ exploring concept of caring, definition, concepts of, cultural aspects of, responses to, factors influencing
- ⇒ exploring concept of change, definition, barriers to, positive aspects of, personal response to etc.
- ⇒ exploring concept of empowerment, definition, personal meaning
- ⇒ exploring advocacy, definition, for self and for others

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- ⇒ describing factors influencing individual's perceptions (e.g. values, past experiences, goals, cultures--personal meanings)
- ⇒ introducing critical and intuitive reasoning/thinking
- ⇒ exploring responsibility and accountability for own actions as a PN

Legal /Ethical base for PN practice

- ⇒ discussing the role of the practical nurse within a changing healthcare system
- ⇒ exploring how changing demographics and new technology are influencing the roles and responsibilities of the PN
- ⇒ examining the historical perspective of practical nursing within the context of the Canadian healthcare system

Problem Solving Process

- ⇒ discussing assessment, planning, implementation, evaluation
- ⇒ introducing the conceptual framework for the practice of Practical Nursing
- ⇒ exploring flexibility and innovation related to problem-solving/decision-making
- ⇒ discussing relationship of critical and intuitive reasoning/thinking
- ⇒ relating the above to supporting people through health promotion
- ⇒ relating concepts of health promotion to PN practice
- ⇒ discussing the concept of collaboration with clients in the development of a plan of care

Self reflection/Self understanding/Self awareness

- ⇒ considering/reflecting on one's own family, culture, heritage
- ⇒ identifying feelings about one's own learning experiences
- ⇒ examining and clarifying own values, beliefs and attitudes, and identity
- ⇒ understanding/clarifying one's limits and boundaries
- ⇒ using beginning tools for self reflection and evaluation

Being responsible and accountable

- ⇒ discussing the maintenance of confidentiality and privacy
- ⇒ discussing individual rights, informed consent
- ⇒ discussing freedom of information and protection of privacy acts
- ⇒ introducing professional ethics
- ⇒ exploring roles and responsibilities, functioning within the PN role

The interdisciplinary team

- ⇒ defining the interdisciplinary team
- ⇒ discussing the roles and responsibilities of different team members
- ⇒ exploring the boundaries of roles and responsibilities
- ⇒ exploring the concept of partnership

Organization and Time Management

- ⇒ defining organization and time management
- ⇒ describing how time is used effectively in the student role and the caregiving role
- ⇒ discussing the values placed on organization and time management in PN practice

OVERVIEW: EVALUATION STRATEGIES

The Professional Growth course must be passed with a minimum 65% grade in order to progress into the Community Practicum and Semester II.

Evaluation Criteria	Grade Value	Completion Date
1. Ethical Case-Study	50%	Paper due Week 10, Wednesday AM Presentation Class 11
2. Final Exam	50%	Class 12

EVALUATION CRITERIA

1. Ethical – Case Study Assignment (50%)

This is a group project. There will be 7 groups of 4 or 5 students, assigned randomly. The presentation is to be 15 - 20 minutes in length. As part of the group assignment, you will be asked to evaluate your group members in the following areas:

- participation in the process of group work
 - sharing the workload evenly
 - attending group meetings and being on time
 - whether you would want to work with these peers in a group again
 - working together in a collaborative/cooperative spirit
 - interacting with one another in a respectful manner
- In addition, you will be asked to give each group member a mark out of 10. Marks will be individual for group work (6%), with everyone receiving the same grade for the content and presentation (14%). Please see below for complete break down of grades.

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Criteria for Grades

WRITTEN REPORT: (30%)

The written report is to due in Week 10 on Wednesday at 0830. It should be typed, double-spaced and have a title page with the group members' names and student number clearly identified.

3% Introduction – overview of case study and its significance to you as a practical nurse

5% Use your standards of Practice, LPN Code of Ethics, Nurse-Client Relationships and Legal Issues studied in class

15% Content, clarity of presentation with demonstration of ethical dilemma process

Based on research findings, the report should include:

- Indicate steps of the ethical decision-making process in resolving your case study
- Identify any areas where legal verses ethical conflicts arose and how you resolved these issues
- Discussion of the groups values and beliefs as related to the case study
- Discuss alternative actions considered and the consequences
- Conclusion to the groups outcome indicating resolution of the best course of action

5% Organization, clarity, conciseness, spelling, grammar

1% Conclusion

1% Reference List

CLASS PRESENTATION: (20%)

4% Creativity of presentation to classmates. Did it “hook” the students?

6% Completeness and clarity of content (must cover majority of concepts from the written paper)

6% Group work (see above for breakdown)

4% Use of your standards of Practice, LPN Code of Ethics, Nurse-Client relationship demonstrated.

2. **Final Exam (50%)**

This will be an exam that may include a variety of different formats including case study, short answer, true/false, matching and multiple choice. You will have 2 hours to complete the exam.

COURSE OUTLINE

CLASS	OUTLINE
Class 1	Introduction to Course, Evaluation Strategies and Program Philosophy Library/Learning Centre Tour/Study Skills
Class 2	Assignment Writing and Research Papers
Class 3	Adult Self-directed learning, Cooperative Learning and Group Process.
Class 4	Learning Styles/Gregorc Style Delineator
Class 5	Critical and Intuitive Thinking
Class 6	Problem Solving: Setting goals for Learning
Class 7	Ethical Behaviour and Decision-making: Legal Issues
Class 8	Partnership Role of the Practical Nurse
Class 9	Responsibility and Accountability
Class 10	Health Care Within the Canadian Context
Class 11	Ethical Case Studies: Presentations
Class 12	Final Exam