

PNUR 113: PROFESSIONAL ISSUES (20 hours)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course helps prepare the learner to take on the role of the licensed practical nurse. Learners will be invited to further explore their role as an advocate and partner. Issues such as Standards of Practice, professional and union affiliation in practical nursing will be discussed. The importance of being an effective team member and lifelong learner will be explored. The role of the practical nurse as an agent of change will be examined. Students will also prepare for and practice writing the Canadian Practical Nurse Registration Exam (CPNRE).

LEARNING OUTCOMES

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

1. Function within the legal and ethical parameters of the practical nurse role
2. Recognize the importance of Standards of Practice, and regulatory bodies (professional and union affiliation) to practice.
3. Use a self-reflective process to determine own learning needs and how to meet these needs in light of continuous change
4. Contribute to positive change within own profession and the healthcare system
5. Effectively prepare for the Canadian Practical Nurse Registration Examination

CONTENT

Roles and Responsibilities of the Practical Nurse

- ⇒ understanding the strengths and parameters of the PN role
- ⇒ exploring the meanings of partnership, collaboration and advocacy
- ⇒ examining the independent and interdependent functions of the PN
- ⇒ understanding the organizations that regulate the practice of the PN e.g. the College of Licensed Practical Nurses, union affiliations
- ⇒ understanding the regulations that influence PN practice e.g. Health Professions Act, Standards of Practice.
- ⇒ exploring the meaning of professional practice

Contributing to Positive Change

- ⇒ examining theories about change, and how individuals deal with change
- ⇒ exploring ways to be an effective agent for change
- ⇒ exploring ways to support the learning, development and practice of colleagues
- ⇒ examining ways that the PN can participate in analyzing, developing, implementing, evaluating nursing practice and policy within the workplace
- ⇒ discussing collaborative, interdisciplinary strategies
- ⇒ exploring how and when to challenge questionable actions or decisions made by other team members

Lifelong Learning

- ⇒ exploring the PN's lifelong commitment to learning
- ⇒ reflecting on own practice as it relates to the Standards of Practice
- ⇒ identifying new abilities and knowledge required for present and future functioning
- ⇒ developing a professional portfolio

The CPNR Examination

- ⇒ Discussing the format and content of the Canadian Practical Nurse Registration Examination
- ⇒ Developing strategies for writing multiple choice exams
- ⇒ Practicing writing exams similar to the CPNR exam

OVERVIEW: EVALUATION STRATEGIES

Evaluation Criteria			Completion Date
1.	Resume & Cover Letter	40%	Class 5
2.	Practice Issues	40%	Class 6
3.	Participation (includes class attendance, punctuality and staying till the end of class, involvement in class discussions, involvement in small group work)	20%	Throughout course

EVALUATION CRITERIA

1. PRACTICE ISSUES PAPER (40% of final grade) - 92 Marks Total

Licensed Practical Nurses Association of British Columbia (LPNABC) and the College of Licensed Practical Nurses of British Columbia (CLPNBC).

This Assignment allows the student to:

1. Explore the identity and purpose of the LPNABC and the CLPNBC and their impact on the professional practice of LPN's.
2. Compare and contrast the information provided by the expert guest speakers from the LPNABC and CLPNBC.
3. Research both the LPNABC and CLPNBC for more in depth information.
4. Analyse all the information from a variety of sources and determine its relevance to the professional practice of LPN's.

The assignment should be no more than 10 pages double spaced.

1.1 INTRODUCTION (6 marks)

Provide a brief overview of the paper including the purpose, the content to be discussed and the research and information sources used.

- a) Purpose. (2 marks)
- b) Content to be discussed. (2 marks)
- c) Research and information sources. (2 marks)

1.2 CONTENT (38 marks)

- a) What is the purpose of the LPNABC and the CLPNBC? (8 marks)
- b) How large is the membership of each group? (2 marks)
- c) What are the advantages and disadvantages to belonging to each group?
(10 marks)
- d) What is the yearly cost of belonging to each group? (2 marks)
- e) What improvements could each group make to its service to better serve its membership? (12 marks)
- f) Who is the president of the LPNABC and how is this position decided? (2 marks)
- g) Who is the Executive Director (ED) of the CLPNBC and who does the ED report to? (2 marks)

1.3 CONCLUSION (48 marks)

Answer each of the criteria below as part of your assignment conclusion.

- a) Summary of answers from 1.2 content. (4 marks)
- b) Compare and contrast similar functions of each and their different roles and responsibilities. (12 marks)
- c) Provide an analysis of how the information in “b” above affects LPN’s professional practice. (12 marks)
- d) Discuss how the knowledge you have obtained in this assignment will assist you as you move forward in your practical nursing education and in your future as a LPN. (12 marks)

1.4 FORMAT (8 marks)

The criterion below will be used to evaluate the organization of your paper:

- a) Logical sequence (1 mark)
- b) Grammar and spelling (1 mark)
- c) Writing style (1 mark)
- d) Clarity (1 mark)
- e) Title page (1 mark)
- f) Correct referencing including a reference page (3 marks)

2. COVER LETTER & RESUMÉ 40%

This assignment will help you prepare to apply for a job as a LPN on completion of this program.

- a) Look in the newspaper, internet, magazine or hospital posting board and chose a LPN posting you would be interested in applying for.
- b) Write a cover letter to the contact person in the job posting indicating your interest in the job
- c) Complete a current resumé appropriate for this job application

Criteria for Grades:

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| 1. | <i>Supply:</i> A copy of the advertisement that you are sending a cover letter and resumé to | 5% |
| 2. | <i>Cover Letter:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• appropriate content | 10% |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• organized, grammar and visual appeal | 5% |
| 3. | <i>Resumé:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• appropriate content | 15% |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• organized, grammar and visual appeal | 5% |

COURSE OUTLINE

CLASS	OUTLINE
1	Introduction to Professional Issues Changing Role of the Practical Nurse in Acute Care Lifelong Learning
2	Cover Letter & Resumé Writing
3	Change Theory (2 hour class)
4	CLPNBC
5	LPNABC and Union Membership
6	Introduction to the CPNRE's and registering for the CPNRE's
7	Preparation for the CPNR Exam