NorthWest Arkansas Community College
Division of Health Professions

Course Number and Title
NURS 9108 Fundamentals of Nursing

Catalog Description
This introductory course is a competency-based course that introduces the student to the nursing process, the roles of the Associate Degree nurse, nursing behaviors, needs theory, developmental theory, stress and adaptation, the environment, health-illness continuum and legal-ethical issues. Basic principles of pharmacology, nutrition, and medication administration are also included. The focus is on technical skills to assist the Patient to meet biopsychosocial needs. The role of the A.D. nurse as direct care provider, utilizing communication skills is emphasized.

The campus lab/clinical component correlates theory and clinical first in long-term care settings. The student is introduced to the acute care setting later in the first semester. Fundamental psychomotor nursing skills are taught in the camp us lab. The student is provided the opportunity to develop technical skills by giving direct patient care.

Prerequisites
MATH 1204 College Algebra ***or*** MATH 1103 Survey of College Math
BIOL 2214 Anatomy and Physiology I

Co-requisites
BIOL 2224 Anatomy and Physiology II
PSYC 2003 General Psychology

Credit hours/Contact hours/Load hours
Credit hours: 8
Contact hours: 80 class + 81 campus lab + 63 clinical = 224
Load hours: 37.5, depending on class size

Target Audience/Transferability
Students apply for and are selected for admission into the Nursing Program. While licensure as a Registered Nurse is an end-goal for some individuals, all AAS Nursing graduates are eligible to seek advanced placement towards a BSN degree at most colleges and universities.

Student Learning Outcomes
Following completion of this course the student:

As a direct care provider will:
1. Describe the components of the nursing process and how they can be utilized to provide direct nursing care to Patients.
2. Describe selected health-related biopsychosocial needs and developmental tasks

and their implications for nursing care.

3. Discuss the use of assessment skills and data interpretation to identify biopsychosocial needs and developmental tasks.
4. Identify nursing skills necessary to assist Patients in a long-term care setting to meet their physiological and safety and security needs.
5. Describe ways to assist the Patient to maintain position on health-illness continuum by utilization of health maintenance nursing behaviors.
6. Discuss mathematical concepts and pharmacological principles to develop a base for safe nursing practice with regard to drug dosage calculation and administration.

As a manager of Patient care will:

1. Identify therapeutic and non-therapeutic communication techniques that occur during Patient interactions.
2. Describe organization of time and activities to provide care for one Patient.

As a member within the profession of nursing will:

1. Explore the expectations of the role of the A.D. nurse as a member within the profession of nursing.
2. Recognize the personal attributes necessary to become a productive member of the nursing profession.

Topics

Introduction to Nursing
Foundational Skills and Concepts
Biopsychosocial Considerations

Forms of Assessment

Unit exams and final exam
Pharmacology evaluations
Quizzes/homework evaluation
Calculation assessment
Laboratory skills validations
Clinical performance evaluation
Clinical assignments: Interpersonal Process Recording, Major Nursing Care Plan & Clinical presentation grading tools
Standardized computerized fundamentals assessment formulated by an outside entity