



Course Outline for: NURS 2800 Chronic & Palliative Care

A. Course Description

1. Number of credits: 7
2. Lecture hours per week: 3
Lab hours per week: 2
Clinical hours per week: 9
3. Prerequisites: NURS 2700 and NURS 2750 or NURS 2720 and NURS 2750
4. Corequisites: NURS 2820 and NURS 2850
5. MnTC Goals: None

This course focuses on the nursing care of clients experiencing chronic illness and/or end of life. Emphasis is placed on understanding the “lived experience” of clients and families. Ethical issues related to advocacy, self-determination, and autonomy are explored. Evidence-based practice is used to support appropriate focused assessments and management of care of clients experiencing concurrent illnesses/co-morbidities.

B. Date last reviewed/updated: January 2022

C. Outline of Major Content Areas

1. Professional Development & Identity in caring for clients experiencing chronic illness and/or end of life.
 - A. Attributes and Roles of a Nurse
 - i. Professionalism
 - ii. Clinical decision making and judgement
 - iii. Ethics
 - iv. Leadership
 - v. Self-care
 - vi. Life-long learning
 - vii. Social justice
 - B. Care Competencies
 - i. Holistic nursing process
 - ii. Therapeutic and professional communication
 - iii. Collaboration
 - iv. Quality and safety
 - v. Technology and informatics
 - vi. Teaching and learning

- C. Health Care Delivery
 - i. Care coordination
 - ii. Evidence-based practice
 - iii. Health care infrastructure
- 2. Physiological Integrity in the nursing care of clients experiencing chronic illness and/or end of life.
 - A. Physiological homeostasis and regulation
 - i. Fluid and electrolyte balance
 - ii. Cellular regulation
 - iii. Intracranial regulation
 - iv. Metabolism
 - v. Elimination
 - vi. Oxygenation
 - vii. Perfusion
 - B. Protection and movement
 - i. Tissue integrity
 - ii. Sensory perception
 - iii. Comfort
 - iv. Mobility
- 3. Psychosocial integrity in the nursing care of clients experiencing chronic illness.
 - A. Psychosocial homeostasis and regulation
 - i. Family Dynamics
 - ii. Spirituality
 - iii. Motivation
 - iv. Adherence
 - v. Cognitive Function
 - B. Behavioral resilience
 - i. Coping/stress/adaptation
 - ii. Grief and loss
 - iii. Vulnerability
- 4. Lifespan growth and development considerations in the nursing care of clients experiencing chronic illness
 - A. Determinants of Health
 - i. Functional Ability
 - ii. Genetics
 - iii. Nutrition
 - vi. Environment
 - vii. Culture
 - viii. Individual behaviors
 - ix. Social and economic factors

D. Course Learning Outcomes

The student will be able to:

1. Incorporate the knowledge and methods of a variety of disciplines to inform decision-making in the care of the chronically ill client.
2. Promote achievement of safe and quality outcomes of care for individuals and families experiencing chronic illness and end of life issues.
3. Utilize evidence, clinical judgment, inter-professional perspectives and client preferences in planning, implementing and evaluating outcomes of care.
4. Recognize the role of information technology in improving client care outcomes and creating a safe care environment.
5. Discuss trends in healthcare as they relate to issues of access, equity, affordability and social justice.
6. Provide quality and safe client care as a member of the inter-professional team.
7. Utilize clinical judgment and decision-making skills while providing care to promote optimal health for clients experiencing chronic illness.
8. Explore one's own beliefs and values as they relate to caring for clients experiencing chronic illness and end of life issues.

E. Methods for Assessing Student Learning

Cognitive learning will be evaluated primarily by written examinations, quizzes, including alternative format, multiple choice and short answer questions, and at least one alternative written assignment. Rubrics will be used for formative and summative evaluations in the on-campus laboratory/simulation and clinical settings to evaluate the successful completion of course student learning outcomes.

In NURS 2800, each of the following parts must be successfully completed as defined below. Failure to successfully complete one or more of the following components will result in failing the course:

1. Part 1 – Theory: The student must obtain a 78% or greater to pass.
2. Part 2 – Medical dosage Exam – Students may have up to 3 attempts to pass successfully.
3. Part 3 – Clinical/lab/simulation: Students must achieve a 78% or greater and demonstrate safe practice.

Direct Focused Care: Clinical performance: Pass/Fail: Students must pass all clinical outcomes and skills to progress to the subsequent semester. (See clinical performance evaluation).

Concept-based experiences: Pass/fail: Include Learning activities and integrative experiences (portfolio artifacts)

Case-Based Activities Lab/simulation and case studies

Intervention skill-based activities: Met/Unmet (Instructor validation of skill performance)

Successful completion of each part of this course is necessary to progress to next semester. However, unsafe clinical performance or failure to meet clinical/lab/simulation student learning outcomes may result in failure of the course.

F. Special Information

Refer to nursing student handbook for additional details