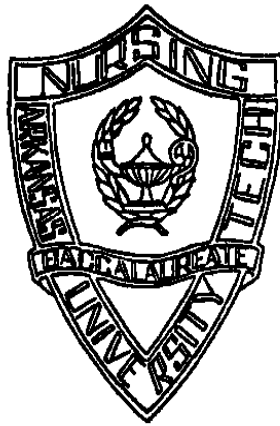


ARKANSAS TECH UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF NURSING



NUR 4903 (01)

**SYNTHESIS OF CLINICAL
AND THEORETICAL NURSING**

Fall 2009

STATEMENT OF UNDERSTANDING

I have read and understand the syllabus for the course NUR 4903. I understand the requirements for this course; that I must receive a passing score of 75.3 on the ATI Exam or a passing score of 900 on the HESI Exam. I understand that I must take both the ATI and HESI even if I have already successfully passed one. I understand that I have five (5) attempts to pass the NCLEX Review examinations and will not pass the course if I am unsuccessful.

STUDENT SIGNATURE

DATE

ARKANSAS TECH UNIVERSITY
Department of Nursing

Course Number: NUR 4903

Course Title: Nursing Synthesis

Credit Hours: 3 Semester Hours

Contact Hours: 72 Hours Preceptorship + 58 Hours NCLEX Review

Placement: Level IV Senior Year

Faculty:

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Course Description:

Synthesis of clinical and theoretical nursing knowledge occurs throughout the course. Students are expected to use all previously learned clinical knowledge in the management of a diverse client population for which they are planning and providing a full range of needed health care. Theory and clinical application of nursing knowledge must be integrated in order to prioritize, delegate, and ensure the delivery of comprehensive health care to clients in a variety of institutional and community based settings. Students work closely with designated professional nurse preceptors and faculty in carrying out these learning activities.

Required Textbooks:

Zerwekh, JoAnn & Claborn, Jo Carol (2006). Illustrated Study Guide for the NCLEX-RN Exam (6th ed). St. Louis: Mosby.

Justification/Rationale for the Course

By the completion of this course the student will progress toward program goals/outcomes 1, 2, 3, and 4.

This upper division professional nursing course provides opportunities for the student to apply knowledge and skills from the general education component and from nursing courses to the care of individuals, families and community.

Course Objectives:

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

1. Utilize critical thinking skills and attitudes to provide promotive, restorative and supportive health care to individuals, families, groups and communities.
2. Synthesize professional nursing roles in providing holistic nursing care to patients of all ages.
3. Incorporate professional nursing behavior into practice.
4. Collaborate with faculty to achieve national norm score on standardized test.
5. Improve seniors' career preparation and pre-professional development, that is, facilitate their transition from the academic to the professional world.

Evaluation:

1. Grading Scale:

A = 90 - 100

B = 80 - 89

C = 75 - 79

D = 68 - 74.99

F = 67 and below

I = Incomplete: All requirements not met.

2. A grade of "C" or above must be achieved in every nursing course in order to progress in the nursing program.
3. A grade of "I" may be recorded for a student whose work is incomplete due to circumstances beyond the student's control. The student must take responsibility for removal of the "incomplete" grade according to Arkansas Tech University's catalog requirements.

4. All required assignments are due as indicated by faculty. Assignments and due dates are posted on Blackboard. Students are responsible to make sure they are correctly enrolled in Blackboard by the first day of classes. Other course announcements may be posted as needed to Blackboard. The grade for late work will be lowered one letter grade for each late day.

5. Course Grade

Preceptorship	70%
a. Objectives (10%)	
b. Preceptorship Packet/Timeliness (10%)	
c. Application of Research (10%)	
d. Professionalism (10%)	
e. Accomplishment of Objectives (15%)	
f. Preceptorship Evaluation (15%)	
NCLEX Review	30%
Pass on first attempt	30 points
Pass on second attempt	30 points
Pass on third attempt	20 points
Pass on fourth attempt	15 points
Pass on fifth attempt	10 points
Do NOT pass	0 points

Passing on first attempt of both HESI and ATI will result in a 2 point bonus added to final grade.

Points from the NCLEX Review will be added to grade for preceptorship
 Example: Preceptorship 90 X 70% = 63 + NCLEX (3 attempts) 20 = 83.0

6. The student is required to pass the NCLEX Review Exam. The student must complete the non-proctored exam with a passing score of 80% prior to sitting for the proctored examinations. The student is allowed five attempts to pass the NCLEX Review exam (Two ATI, and three HESI). Any student not achieving a passing score on the 1st attempt must complete a review prior to a 2nd attempt on the exam. This review includes completion of the ATI/HESI non-proctored exams, review of material available from the resource drawer, and/or completion of NCLEX review chapters. If a passing score is not achieved on the 2nd attempt, the student must meet with faculty to discuss requirements of a review course prior to subsequent attempts. The student must wait at least 3 weeks between the 2nd and 3rd attempts. If a passing score is not achieved on the 5th attempt, the student will receive a “0” for that 30% of the grade, a failing grade for this course and must repeat all components of the course, including the preceptorship. If a student desires to take an official review course such as Kaplan, the student may do so and if successfully completes the course, may forego further testing after the first ATI and first HESI attempt are completed.

Conduct of the Course:

Policies:

Class Attendance:

1. It is considered essential that the student regularly attend all nursing experiences. Absences will be reflected in the evaluation of the student's ability to meet course objectives and may seriously jeopardize the student's grade. The policy regarding makeup work for absences is determined by the clinical faculty.
2. It is the student's responsibility to be prepared and on time for all clinical experiences.
3. **In the rare event of a necessary absence, personal notification must be made to the proper agency as well as to the clinical faculty prior to the absence. Failure to report will be reflected in the Clinical evaluation tool under professionalism.**
4. If a consistent pattern of absences from practicum develops, the situation will be addressed by the faculty.
5. In addition to the assigned clinical practicum, other learning experiences may be scheduled. All students are expected to participate.

Assignments:

Course assignments for the NCLEX Review will be posted to Blackboard. Assignments and due dates are posted on Blackboard. Students are responsible to make sure they are correctly enrolled in Blackboard by the first day of classes. Other course announcements may be posted as needed to Blackboard.

Insurance:

All students must show evidence of having liability insurance prior to starting clinical experiences.

C.P.R. Certification:

All students must present evidence of current AHA verification for cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR).

T.B. Skin Test

All students must present evidence of current (within 12 months) TB screening.

Dress and Behavior:

1. The dress code of the Department of Nursing is the same as that of Arkansas Tech University. In those instances when the student visits clinical agencies to gather information for any course, they are required to wear a laboratory coat over appropriate dress, be identified by a photo I.D. badge, and a patch identifying the University. Required dress for the students in practicum consists of black school uniform scrubs and white shoes. Students are identified with a photo I.D. badge and an “ATU” patch in the shoulder area of the left sleeve. Students in specialty areas will wear dress appropriate to the special nursing setting.
2. The students will be expected to maintain a professional attitude at all times while in the clinical area. Client confidentiality must be maintained. Students will abide by the agency’s regulating policies.
3. Students are reminded of the signed honesty statement and are expected to:
 - a. Present written work that is theirs alone.
 - b. Correctly document any materials from a textbook, pamphlet, journal, etc. that is used for an assignment.
 - c. Only use authorized devices or material for an examination and no copying from other student’s papers. Note: Plagiarism is defined as stealing and presenting as one’s own ideas or words of another, or not documenting properly.

**CRITICAL PATHWAY
FOR
MANAGEMENT
PRECEPTORSHIP**

Identify area of interest	>	Email level coordinator with area of interest	>	Obtain preceptor name and vitae for approval
				V
Present objectives, preceptor, site, dates, and times to faculty for approval	<	Collaborate with faculty for clarification of objectives	<	Meet with preceptor to identify learning objectives, schedule, clinical site, and times of clinical
V				
Implement plan of preceptorship	>	Report progress to faculty	>	Review with preceptor objectives achieved - prepare evaluation
				V
				Meet with faculty for final evaluation

Preceptor Role in Clinical Preceptorship

The preceptor:

1. Serves as a role model for the student.
2. Assists the student to meet the learning objectives of the course.
3. Works with the student to select appropriate assignments/learning experiences.
4. Provides assistance to the student as needed.
5. Communicates effectively with the student and faculty.
6. Facilitates student's transition to the identified nursing role.
7. Assists the student to communicate effectively with others.
8. Evaluates student progress.
9. Completes clinical evaluation at the end of the clinical experience.
10. Provides feedback to the student in a timely manner.
11. Confers with faculty about student progress.
12. Conforms to employer's institutional policies on restriction of student clinical activities.

Faculty Role in Clinical Preceptorship

The faculty member will:

1. Guide students in selection of a preceptor and clinical experience.
2. Orient the clinical preceptor to the role.
3. Facilitate communication between the preceptor and student.
4. Confer with each student and preceptor regarding student's progress.
5. Be available during office hours to the student and clinical preceptor.
6. Immediately respond to a request for assistance by either the student or the preceptor.
7. Facilitate the learning experience of the student.
8. Assume responsibility for the final grade for this experience.
9. Mentor preceptors in their teaching role with students.
10. Function as liaison between academic and clinical environments.
11. Intervene in situations that have impact on student progress.
12. Conform to agency policies and guidelines.

Student Role in Clinical Preceptorship

The student will:

1. Come to the clinical experience prepared with working knowledge of clinical objectives.
2. Keep a written log that includes clinical experiences and achievement of objectives.
3. Seek assistance when needed from the preceptor and faculty.
4. Communicate honestly and effectively with the preceptor and faculty.
5. Foster the harmonious working relationship within the clinical area.
6. Schedule clinical days and time to coincide with schedule of preceptor.
7. Notify clinical instructor of clinical schedule prior to experience.
8. Notify clinical instructor immediately of unexpected schedule changes.

Nur 4903
Clinical Preceptor Guidelines

During the clinical experience, the student will:

1. Demonstrate professional behavior and accountability at all times.
 2. Utilize appropriate and effective communication skills with persons cared for, family members, peers, staff, and other health care professionals, including documentation in the patient's medical record.
 3. Utilize the nursing process by:
 - A. Using appropriate nursing assessment skills to collect pertinent data
 - B. Formulating applicable nursing diagnoses for assigned patient(s)
 - C. Developing pertinent nursing care plans based on mutually agreed upon goals
 - D. Implementing the plan of care/interventions
 - E. Evaluating process and outcome goals
 4. Demonstrate personal and professional growth.
-
1. Each student will be assigned a group of patients to coordinate with the preceptor's patient care assignments. The purpose of this rotation is to integrate the theory and skill taught in previous classes in a "real world" setting. The student will receive patient assignments, perform holistic nursing assessments on the assigned patients and develop pertinent nursing care plans collaboratively with the preceptor.
 2. The student may perform skills as pertinent to their knowledge base. The student must be directly supervised for any invasive skill/procedure including medication administration.
 3. If the student has any questions about a procedure, he/she will review the procedure in the procedure manual prior to implementation. The preceptor will supervise the student in his/her first performance of this procedure. If there is not a written procedure, the student shall verbally review the steps of this procedure with the preceptor, as defined by the specific agency.
 4. The Nurses' Notes and Medication Administration Record (MAR) will be co-signed by the preceptor. If an error is made, the charge nurse/supervisor, instructor, and physician will be notified as outlined in agency policy. A medication error report/variance report will be completed and submitted to the appropriate department per agency policy.

Student nurses will not be allowed to:

- Take verbal or telephone orders
- Administer chemotherapy drugs.
- Administer anesthesia or conscious/moderate sedation medications.
- Manage epidural pain medications.
- Administer a medication prepared by another person.
- Obtain or sign out narcotics or carry the narcotic key or count narcotics alone.
- Access the PYXIS system.
- Draw ABGs.
- Witness consent form signatures.

PRECEPTOR RESUME

Name: _____
(Last) (Middle) (First)

Home Address: _____
(Street) (City) (State) (Zip)

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

****Arkansas State Board requires the following information for NCLEX**

Audit/Review:**Gender _____ **Race _____

**License Number _____

EDUCATION

School/Institution: _____

Year: _____ Diploma/Degree: _____

PRESENT EMPLOYMENT

Hospital/Agency: _____ Job Title: _____ Unit: _____

PRIOR CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

Years ___ Hosp/Agency: _____ Job Title: _____ Unit: _____

Years ___ Hosp/Agency: _____ Job Title: _____ Unit: _____

Years ___ Hosp/Agency: _____ Job Title: _____ Unit: _____

Years ___ Hosp/Agency: _____ Job Title: _____ Unit: _____

Years ___ Hosp/Agency: _____ Job Title: _____ Unit: _____

CERTIFICATION:

(e.g., verification such as ACLS, or national certifications such as CCRN)

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS:

Guidelines for Selection of Clinical Preceptors

The student shall select a clinical preceptor with the following qualifications:

- 1) Minimum educational level equivalent to B.S.N.**
- 2) At least one year clinical experience in current practice setting.**
- 3) Student should not select their clinical area in an area where they work.**

Guidelines for Clinical Preceptorship

The student shall select one clinical site for completion of seventy-two (72) hours preceptorship. The student may precept with one preceptor. Overlapping of preceptor hours with another student is not permitted. Student cannot precept in area where they work.

Students are to complete the distributed packets and turn in all tasks completed by the scheduled due date. Failure to turn in the packet by the due date, without permission of their assigned faculty mentor, will result in a dropped letter grade for the experience.

**NUR 4903 Synthesis in Nursing
Rubric for Preceptorship Expectations**

Criteria	Meets Expectations	Needs Improvement	Unsatisfactory
Objectives (10%)	Initial rough draft contains sufficient number of objectives (6-8 minimum). Includes skill, management, & research objectives. Student meets with faculty mentor to review objectives in a timely manner. Has rough draft of objectives prepared prior to first meeting with faculty member. Shares objectives with preceptor at beginning of preceptorship.	Lacks adequately written objectives to meet learning needs in the chosen specialty ---OR--- Objectives not specific to the clinical environment. Meets with faculty mentor at the last minute. Schedules inadequate number of meetings with faculty to adequately review and revise objectives as needed. Requires several prompts to revise objectives.	Turns in inadequate number of objectives (<6). Objectives are very general, not specific to the nursing unit. Student does not schedule meetings with the faculty mentor. Requires last minute assistance to meet deadline. Requires numerous prompts to revise objectives.
Packet and Timeliness (10%)	Packet is turned in by the due date and packet is complete. If the preceptor schedule is unavailable by due date, the student provides written documentation specifying date when schedule will be available, then provides the schedule at that time.	Packet is turned in by the due date, but is incomplete and lacks written documentation by student for the missing articles.	Packet not turned in by due date
Application of Research (10%)	One or more high quality research articles included in preceptorship log, with application of research discussed in log.	One research article included in preceptorship log, but is not high quality, or pertinent to clinical area, or is not discussed in-depth in the log.	No research article included in preceptorship log
Professionalism (10%)	Dresses professionally, Communicates professionally with preceptor, faculty and colleagues, Maintains a positive attitude during preceptorship experience	Dress needs improvement to meet professional expectations. Inconsistent with professional communication and attitude during preceptor ship experience.	Dresses inappropriately while representing the ATU Department of Nursing; Communicates inappropriately with faculty, preceptor or colleagues; Negative attitude
Accomplishment of Objectives (15%)	Objectives were accomplished and explained in adequate detail in the preceptorship log. Any objectives that were not met due to unavailability within the experience are explained.	Some objectives were not met with little or no explanation for the lack of the experience.	Some objectives clearly not met, with inadequate explanation in the log.
Preceptor Evaluation (15%)	Preceptor reports that student satisfied all requirements of the written objectives. Preceptor evaluation positive.	Preceptor reports that student satisfied some but not all of the requirements of the written objectives. Preceptor evaluation reveals areas of improvement needed.	Preceptor reports that student did not satisfy requirements of the written objectives. Preceptor evaluation reveals unsatisfactory performance.

Preceptorship Performance Evaluation Tool
(To be completed by Clinical Preceptor)

Student _____ Date _____

Agency _____ Preceptor _____

Preceptor: Evaluation Criteria	Preceptor: Anecdotal Notes	Preceptor: Scores
I. Leadership characteristics (60%)		
A. Uses effective communication skills (10%)		
B. Organizes time effectively (10%)		
C. Collaborates with others (10%)		
D. Self-directed (10%)		
E. Decisive (10%)		
F. Self-assured (10%)		
II. Professional Appearance/Attitude (10%)		
A. Analyzes own attitudes and feelings towards client's values		
B. Responsible for own learning and actions		
C. Appearance/hygiene follows school/agency's guidelines		
D. Demonstrates legal/ethical behavior		
III. Timeliness/attendance (10%)		
A. Punctual/prompt notification if tardy/absent		
B. Reports to duty as assigned		
C. Submits paperwork on time		
IV. Communication/Staff Rapport (10%)		
A. Collaborates		
B. Seeks help appropriately		
C. Effective communication		
D. Patient advocate		
V. Documentation (10%)		
A. Documents mutual outcomes, modification of plan, effectiveness of nursing interventions, teaching, using nursing process		

Preceptor Signature _____ Date _____

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Faculty Signature _____ Date _____

Faculty Evaluation Tool
(To be completed by ATU Faculty Mentor)

Faculty: Evaluation Criteria	Faculty: Anecdotal Notes	Faculty: Scores
I. Preceptorship (70%)		
A. Objectives (10%)		
B. Preceptorship Packet/Timeliness (10%)		
C. Application of Research (10%)		
D. Professionalism (10%)		
E. Accomplishment of Objectives (15%)		
F. Preceptor Evaluation (15%)		
III. NCLEX Review (30%)		

FACULTY/PRECEPTOR COMMUNICATION:

Student: _____

Preceptor: _____

Agency: _____

Unit: _____

Guidelines for Writing Preceptorship Objectives

The objectives developed for your preceptor experience should be written as a guide to help focus your attention and efforts into what you want to accomplish. They must be written in a manner that allows measurement of whether or not they are completed. The following rules apply to your objective development.

1. The objective must state who will do what and when in order to be measurable.
2. The objective must be written utilizing verbs that convey what behaviors will be accomplished. *See listing of verbs on last page of syllabus.*
3. Objectives will be graded utilizing the *Rubric for Preceptorship Expectations* located in the syllabus.

An example of a behavioral objective for preceptorship follows this format:

When: By the end of the rotation

At the end of the shift

By the completion of the meeting

Who: the student nurse will

What: Behavioral verb with actions to be completed.

VERBS FOR STATING BEHAVIORAL OBJECTIVES/COGNITIVE OUTCOMES

				<u>Evaluation</u>
				judge appraise <i>evaluate</i> <i>compare</i> value rate revise score select choose <i>assess</i> estimate measure <i>verify</i>
				<u>Synthesis</u>
				compose plan propose design formulate arrange assemble collect construct create set up organize manage prepare
			<u>Analysis</u>	
			distinguish analyze differentiate appraise calculate experiment test compare contrast criticize diagram inspect debate inventory question relate solve examine categorize	
		<u>Application</u>		
		<i>provide</i> interpret apply employ use <i>demonstrate</i> dramatize practice illustrate operate schedule shop sketch <i>insert</i> <i>administer</i> <i>perform</i> <i>discharge</i> <i>teach</i> <i>complete</i>		
	<u>Comprehension</u>			
	translate restate discuss recognize explain express <i>identify</i> <i>locate</i> report review tell			
<u>Knowledge</u>				
define repeat record list recall relate underline				