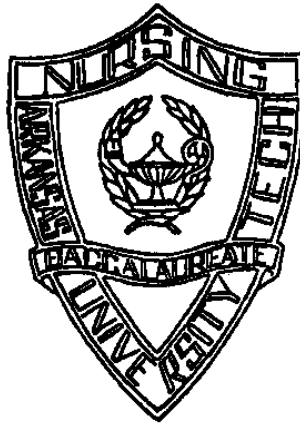


ARKANSAS TECH UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF NURSING



PRINCIPLES OF ACLS

NUR 4502

FALL 2009

ARKANSAS TECH UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF NURSING

Course: NUR 4502

Course Title: SELECTED TOPICS: SURVIVING A CODE: ACLS FOR NURSING STUDENTS

Credit Hours: TWO (2) SEMESTER HOURS

Contact Hours:

Placement: DEPARTMENTAL PERMISSION

Instructors:

Cheryl Smith
Office: Dean 224 H
Office Hours: Posted on door
Phone: 968-0440
E-mail: csmith@atu.edu

Course Description:

This course is designed to offer the student the knowledge and skills necessary to provide appropriate early treatment for cardiopulmonary arrest in the adult, pediatric, and neonatal client. Students will examine ethical considerations in resuscitation as it applies to clinical practice. Simulated laboratory experiences will be provided utilizing current ACLS protocols as guidelines for emergency care.

Instructional Resources--Required Textbooks:

American Heart Association. Advanced Cardiac Life Support.

Recommended Websites to Review:

www.acls.net

www.cdemaned.com/sample_test_questions2.htm

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 student will:

1. Analyze and interpret cardiac rhythm strips.
2. Demonstrate the knowledge to direct a code using the ACLS protocols for emergency care.
3. Discuss ethical considerations in resuscitation.

Evaluation:

1. Grading Scale
A = 90 - 100
B = 80 - 89
C = 75 - 79
D = 68 - 74
F = 67 and below
2. As required in all Nursing Courses a grade of "C" or above is required to pass this course. Any grade below 75% will not be rounded up.
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 the Arkansas Tech University's catalog requirements.
4. Examinations will be taken at designated times. If a student cannot take the examination at the regularly scheduled time, he/she is responsible for contacting the instructor as soon as possible to make appropriate arrangements to make up the examination. Make-up examinations will not necessarily be the same format as the original exam.

5. A \$10.00 certification fee will be required by students should verification be available through the American Heart Association.

Course Requirements:

- A. Rhythm strip analysis
- B. Participation in simulated “Mock Code”.
- C. Final Exam

Course Grade:

The course will be established by calculating the following components:

Analysis of Rhythm Strips	30%
Mock Code	40%
Final Exam	<u>30%</u>
Total Possible for Final Grade	100%

Conduct of the Course:

Teacher Roles: Educator, Facilitator, Evaluator, Resource Person, and Supporter.

Student Roles: Learner, Presenter, Health Care Provider and Collaborator.

Teaching/Learning Strategies:

Lecture and discussion, individual presentations, guest speakers, laboratory simulation, and selected readings.

Policies

Class Attendance:

1. The faculty considers attendance at all classes to be of major importance in order to assure that the students will progress to maximum potential. The Arkansas Tech University catalog provides content concerning class attendance.
2. If a consistent pattern of absences from class develops, the situation will be dealt with by the faculty and/or the level/team member.

Outline / Course Objectives / Learning Activities

I. Overview of ACLS

1. Identify symptoms of cardiac/respiratory distress and appropriate intervention measures.
2. Discuss algorithms used to direct/treat patients with identified cardiac dysrhythmias.
3. Participate in “mock code”.

Learning Activities: Guest Lecturer, Slide presentation, return demonstrations

II. Cardiac Rhythms/Dysrhythmias

1. Differentiate between normal sinus rhythm and various cardiac dysrhythmias.
2. Discuss steps to rhythm identification.

III. Learning activities: Slide presentation, practice sheets, rhythm test

1. Discuss symptoms and treatment of patients with Acute MI and Stroke.
2. Identify treatment modality/algorithm for patients diagnosed with Respiratory Arrest with pulse.
3. Analyze rhythm and discuss appropriate treatment of patient with Bradycardia; identifying algorithm used to guide treatment, medications, etc.

Learning activities: Lecture, case studies, mock codes, return demonstration

IV. Asystole/PEA/Stable and Unstable Tachycardia

1. Identify rhythms and algorithms used for treatment of the above listed conditions.
2. Differentiate between stable and unstable tachycardia and appropriate treatment modalities.

Learning activities: Lecture, mnemonics, case studies, and pretest/post-test

I. V. Fib/Pulseless V. Tach

1. Identify rhythms associated with V. fib and Pulseless V. Tach.
2. Differentiate between Fine V. Fib and Asystole.
3. Discuss treatment modalities used in resuscitation of patients diagnosed with V. Fib and/or Pulseless V. Tach.

II. Respiratory Equipment/Airway Management

1. Identify various respiratory devices used during a “code”; identifying those used most often, more successfully.
2. Review the ABC’s of Airway management.
3. Demonstrate the ability to intubate a respiratory mannequin.

Learning Activities: Lecture, guest presentation, return demonstrations

III. ACLS Review/Mock Codes

1. Participate in various case scenarios, serving in role of code leader, respiratory technician, CPR provider, medication nurse and/or stenographer.
2. Demonstrate competency in leading a code.