Course Syllabus

General Course Information

Concepts in Professional Nursing
Junior level course, Winter 2009

Theory: 2 credits
28 hours of class instruction

Please refer to the pacing schedule for topics to be covered and times when assignments are due and exams will be.

Required Texts


Course Description

This course focuses on current issues and trends in nursing and health care for individuals from diverse cultural populations. The course provides an overview of professional issues in nursing, nursing education, the history of nursing and health care delivery. The course will also introduce legal, ethical and cultural issues that impact nursing practice.

Course Objectives

Upon successful completion of the course, the student will:

1. Describe the history of nursing and how it relates to current trends in nursing practice.
2. Define a profession and discuss how nursing measures as a profession.
3. Describe the emerging roles and functions of the professional nurse.
4. Identify the collaborative role of the professional nurse in politics and policy making.
5. Describe economic changes and their impact of the nursing profession.
6. Explore ethical and cultural issues in nursing.
7. Understand the need for continued personal and professional growth in
nursing.

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**Course Format:** The course may include use of a variety of teaching methods:

- Active Learning Strategies such as Gaming, Role-playing...
- Discussions
- Field Trips
- Guest Speakers
- Lectures
- Power Point Presentations
- Quizzes
- Scholarly Paper
- Student Presentations and Projects
- Videos

The complete course outline with required readings will be located under Course Home to the left.

General Policies

Learning is an active process. There is no one great authority. Rather it is the exploration of new ideas or concepts or ways of thinking which stimulates a person or people to reflect their actions and ideas in a different light.

The course employs a learning strategy called, "Think, Pair, Share" (TPS).

There is an ancient Chinese proverb which says:

Tell me, I will forget.  
Show me, I may remember.  
Involve me, and I will understand.

The educational philosophy underlying this course is based on this proverb. Research has found that long lasting learning only takes place when we are actively involved in acquiring knowledge. Education is not a passive sport. Therefore we each student will be expected to take an active role in the course.

**CLASSROOM PARTICIPATION & PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOR:** Participation during class is expected. Participation includes attendance and engaging in classroom discussion. Professional behavior is outlined in the student handbook. This includes behaviors such as:

1. Submission of assignments on the date assigned. Ten points will be deducted from the grade for each day late.

2. Reporting to class on time. You must inform the professor of illness or emergencies prior to class. You are responsible for making up any missed
material while absent.

3. Quizzes will be given throughout the semester as indicated under the grading of the course. These may be announced or unannounced quizzes. If you are unable to attend class, you must notify the professor prior to the start of class. If a quiz was given that day, you will be allowed to take it during that week. You must contact the professor to make arrangements. Quizzes cannot be made up if you fail to notify the professor prior to class that you will be absent. Emergencies will be considered on an individual basis.

4. Students are required to keep a hard copy and electronic copy of any written assignments required for the course.

5. It is your responsibility to seek help from faculty regarding any problem(s) or questions about assignments or course work. The student should review the Nursing Student Handbook for information regarding the chain of command or for unresolved problems.

6. Students are responsible to communicate effectively with faculty via verbal and written techniques such as email, and that email should be checked daily.

7. Students are expected to follow the Honor Code of Cedar Crest College.

   **Honor Code:** Plagiarism or any other form of academic dishonesty may result in a failing grade for the assignment or the entire course, at the discretion of the faculty member. Plagiarism is the presentation of someone else's idea or language as one's own. Examples of plagiarism include turning in someone else's paper under one's own name with or without additions or modifications, downloading and turning in a paper from the Internet, or including concepts, phrases, sentences, or paragraphs from print or electronic sources--whether verbatim or paraphrased--in one's own paper without proper attribution. Please refer to the student handbook for further clarification.

   Please refer to your customs book for an explanation of the Cedar Crest Honor Code. Violations will result in failure of the course.

8. The faculty involved in this course fully support the Cedar Crest College Community standards for academic conduct found in the Cedar Crest College A Student's Guide and expect the same from all the students.

9. Appropriate classroom behavior is implicit in the Cedar Crest Honor Code. Such behavior is defined and guided by complete protection for the rights of all students and faculty to a courteous, respectful classroom environment. That environment is free from distractions such as late arrivals, early departures, inappropriate conversations, use of cell phones and pagers and any other behaviors that might disrupt instruction and/or compromise a student's access to their Cedar Crest College education. Inappropriate, non-professional behaviors in class may result in dismissal.

10. Students with documented disabilities who may need academic accommodations should discuss these needs with their instructor during the first
two weeks of class. Students with disabilities who wish to request accommodations should contact Academic Services.

11. Students wishing to tape record in class can do so, but must make the instructor aware of the tape recording.

12. Students must be enrolled in SPS 170171 concurrently with NUR 323. Students who have previously completed SPS 170/171 may enroll in SPS 170/171 as an "audit" but must participate in all assignments as directed by the course instructor. Students who do not complete the required assignments in SPS 170/171 cannot receive a passing grade in NUR 323.

Grading Policies

**Grading of the course:**

- Individual Scholarly Paper
  - First half: 20%
  - Complete and final paper: 30%
- Quizzes 20%
- Participation 15%
  - Attendance 5% (unexcused absence -5pts/2hours, excused absence -3pts/2 hours, unexcused late -2, excused late -1)
  - Debates 5%
  - Online discussion 5%
- Presentation 15%

Only the final course grade will be rounded up.

**Plagiarism:** Either plagiarism or careless scholarship, or both, may result in additional points being taken off the grade of your paper, so that the grade may be lowered down to, and including, a 0. This includes, but is not limited to, omitting quotation marks for a quoted sentence or phrases, even if the rest of the documentation is present. Penalties for academic dishonesty may be even more severe. See "Academic Dishonesty or Plagiarism" in your Student Handbook.

*All assignments must be submitted on the day they are due. For each day late, will result in the loss of ten points. This includes the weekends. A minimum of 73%( C or better) is required for passing all nursing classes.*

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Grades below C are Unacceptable for Nursing