NUR 274
Issues in Nursing Practice
Spring 2015

Course Description
NUR 274 Issues in Nursing Practice
Lec. 2.5 Lab 1.5 Cr. 3
This course addresses current issues in nursing practice.
Prerequisites: MAT 120, NUR 162, NUR 265.
Corequisite: ENG 102, Approved Humanities Elective, NUR 275

Course Focus
This course addresses current issues in nursing practice.

Text and References
Laws governing nursing in South Carolina (multiple dates). Columbia, SC: State Board of Nursing for South Carolina.

Course texts, optional

NOTE: earlier editions of this book are also useful if students wish to purchase used texts.


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Course Outcomes/Learning Outcomes. Upon successful completion of the course a student will be able to:

1. Examine issues that influence the integrity of the nursing profession. (1, 5)*
2. Recognize how selected nursing theories and research are used to improve nursing practice. (1, 3, 4, 6)*
3. Select effective strategies for communication with diverse groups who influence the delivery of health care. (1, 2, 4)*
4. Apply knowledge of the components of effective leadership and management to the role of the registered nurse. (1, 2, 3, 4, 6)*
5. Design a plan for successful entry into RN practice. (all)*
6. Identify curriculum concepts related to program outcomes

Goals
The following list of course goals will be addressed in the course. (*designates a CRUCIAL goal)

1. find internet NCLEX review course
2. analyze ethical issues
3. differentiate nursing practice laws
4. distinguish intentional and unintentional torts
5. evaluate clinical liability
6. adopt ethical decision making strategies*
7. incorporate self-determination laws
8. research health related bills
9. review ethical issues
10. summarize healthcare confidentiality importance
11. summarize South Carolina licensure requirements
12. synthesize legal concepts
13. translate accountability
14. validate ethical theories
15. write local congressmen
16. adopt nursing theory
17. adopt research findings
18. conduct health related internet searches
19. analyze South Carolina Nurse Practice Act
20. describe nursing image
21. differentiate nursing research methods
22. discuss nursing practice recognition
23. dress professionally
24. evaluate research studies
25. examine professional integrity issues
26. explain nursing theory
27. identify negative nursing actions*
28. use problem solving nursing process techniques*
29. utilize ethical decision making tool
30. utilize nursing research
31. understand safe and effective delegation*
32. analyze healthcare resources
33. characterize management
34. demonstrate leadership skills
35. distinguish malpractice and negligence principles
36. expand healthcare resource management knowledge
37. recognize nursing practice improvement theories
38. reveal healthcare system flaws
39. design practice success plan
40. apply positive communication techniques*
41. describe communication process
42. write memos*
43. examine conflict communication methods
44. select communication strategies*
45. incorporate sociocultural knowledge
46. integrate human value concepts
47. provide culturally competent care
48. respect belief and value differences
49. apply change theory management
50. demonstrate teamwork
51. implement team building skills
52. examine public and private mass casualty preparation roles
53. outline federal emergency response system
54. outline local emergency response system
55. outline state emergency response system

**Student Contributions**
Classes are designed to employ a variety of teaching techniques. In order to maximize learning, required readings and screen casts must be completed weekly. If a student is falling behind in clinical performance and/or academic achievement, it is imperative to seek immediate assistance from the instructor.
Students must receive satisfactory on clinical and laboratory evaluations to pass the course.

**This course is offered in an Online Learning Format.** This class is taught in an online format with scheduled onsite labs. Students are strongly encouraged to access an orientation to online learning from the college’s website prior to beginning this course. A mandatory on-campus orientation is provided on the first day of class. To successfully complete this course, a student must have an appropriately equipped computer with Windows Media Player, QuickTime Movie Player, or equivalent software to download screen casts and podcasts. Microsoft PowerPoint or PowerPoint reader is required to access PowerPoint Voice Narrations for this course. Help Desk assistance for Blackboard is available at 843-525-8344.

**Nursing Lab.** Learning experiences in the nursing lab focus on preparation for entry into practice and participative exploration of major issues/challenges facing the nursing profession. All students are required to come to the Beaufort campus for lab experiences. Students are responsible for material covered in campus laboratory. In order to graduate from the program, by the end of the course each student must achieve a satisfactory criterion in the laboratory.

NUR 265 Spring 2015 Syllabus/approved: GMLevicki Jan. 2015
At the conclusion of each laboratory experience, the student’s performance is evaluated. The student is awarded 1 point for each satisfactory performance and 0 points if performance is unsatisfactory. The student’s performance is evaluated based on environmental contribution, attendance, and preparedness. Expectations include but are not limited to:

1. Contributing to a productive learning environment for self and others by
   a. being prepared for the lab activities by completing reading assignments and watching videos and/or screencasts if applicable.
   b. answering questions and identifying steps or processes about nursing issues.
   c. demonstrating knowledge of nursing issues.
   d. remaining attentive.

2. Arriving and departing on time. Attendance is expected for each scheduled laboratory experience.

See Course Evaluation for point requirements in this course.

**Course Evaluation**

1. Examinations: 60% Unit exams (3)
   28% Final exam
   7% Debate
   5% Quality Improvement Assignment & Poster Presentation

2. Required assignments, graded as satisfactory or unsatisfactory. Satisfactory completion required.
   " Community professional
   " Leadership and management clinical activity
   " RN Predictor Exam
   " NCLEX-RN preparation plan
   " RN-BSN Roadmap
   " Laboratory

ATI achievement testing as assigned

Laboratory evaluations must be satisfactory to pass the course. At the end of the semester, each student must earn a minimum of 5 points in laboratory experiences for successful completion of the course.

Achievement assessments are given to assist in the evaluation of individual student progress and to support student success. The dates for completion of these tests are posted on the course calendar. Students who do not achieve the required scores are encouraged to meet with the course coordinator and complete the prescribed remediation. The date for completion of remediation, completion of ATI tutorials, focused reviews, and practice assessments when required, are due prior by designated dates as determined by the course coordinator. Failure to complete ATI testing, tutorials, focused reviews, or required remediation by the dates indicated will result in a grade of Incomplete ("I") for the course and non-progression in the nursing program. Students having difficulty with either the tests, tutorials, focused reviews, or remediation components of this course must speak personally with the course coordinator three (3) business days or more in advance of the published due dates.
Course Schedule
Classes are online with weekly assignments and discussions. Labs are live and/or online. In order to maximize learning, required readings should be done prior to a unit. All students are required to login at least twice weekly and complete all discussion assignments. Discussion assignments are due every Monday by 3:00 pm. If a student is falling behind in clinical performance or academic achievement, it is imperative to seek immediate assistance from the instructor.

ADA STATEMENT
The Technical College of the Lowcountry provides access, equal opportunity and reasonable accommodation in its services, programs, activities, education and employment for individuals with disabilities. To request disability accommodation, contact the counselor for students with disabilities at (843) 525-8242 or (843) 525-8219 during the first ten business days of the academic term.

ATTENDANCE
1. The College’s statement of policy indicates that students must attend ninety percent of total class hours or they will be in violation of the attendance policy.

2. Students not physically attending class during the first ten calendar days from the start of the semester must be dropped from the class for NOT ATTENDING.

3. Students taking an online/internet class must sign in and communicate with the instructor within the first ten calendar days from the start of the semester to indicate attendance in the class. Students not attending class during the first ten calendar days from the start of the semester must be dropped from the class for NOT ATTENDING.

4. For all online courses, students must complete an assignment designated by the instructor during the first week of classes. The instructor will drop the student from the course if the initial assignment is not completed.

5. Reinstatement requires the signature of the division dean.
   a. In the event it becomes necessary for a student to withdraw from the course OR if a student stops attending class, it is the student’s responsibility to initiate and complete the necessary paperwork. Withdrawing from class may have consequences associated with financial aid and time to completion.
   b. When a student exceeds the allowed absences, the student is in violation of the attendance policy. The instructor MUST withdrawal the student with a grade of “W”, “WP”, or “WF” depending on the date the student exceeded the allowed absences and the student’s progress up to the last date of attendance or
   c. under extenuating circumstances and at the discretion of the faculty member teaching the class, allow the student to continue in the class and make-up the work. This exception must be documented at the time the allowed absences are exceeded.
d. Absences are counted from the first day of class. There are no "excused" absences. All absences are counted, regardless of the reason for the absence.

6. A student must take the final exam or be excused from the final exam in order to earn a non-withdrawal grade.

7. Students are expected to be in class on time. Arrival to class after the scheduled start time or leaving class prior to dismissal counts as a tardy. Three tardies and/or early departures are considered as one absence unless stated otherwise. Arrival to class, clinical, and lab by the published time is an expectation for all students. Class, clinical, and lab times are measured by the clock in these teaching areas. Failure to attend class, clinical, and lab on time as measured by the clock in these areas may result in point reductions.

8. It is the student's responsibility to sign the roll/verify attendance with instructor upon entering the classroom. Failure to sign the roll/verify attendance results in a recorded absence. In the event of tardiness, it is the student’s responsibility to insure that attendance is marked. The student is responsible for all material/announcements presented, whether present or absent.

9. Continuity of classroom and laboratory (which includes clinical experiences) is essential to the student’s progress in providing safe and competent patient care. Students are expected to use appropriate judgment for participating in clinical activities. To evaluate the student’s knowledge and skills, it is necessary for the student to be present for all clinical experiences. If absence does occur, the designated clinical site, in addition to the Division of Health Sciences Administrative Assistant, must be notified by telephone no later than 30 minutes prior to the start of the clinical experience. A student who has not arrived or contacted the clinical agency 30 minutes after the start of clinical will be considered a No Call NO Show and will be withdrawn from the nursing program with a WF. The Division of Health Sciences telephone number is 843-525-8267. Students must meet with the course coordinator and program director after clinical absences.

*Please refer to the Division Handbook for clarification of the No Call/No Show process.*

A copy of TCL’s STATEMENT OF POLICY NUMBER: 3-1-307 CLASS ATTENDANCE (WITHDRAWAL) is on file in the Division Office and in the Learning Resources Center.

HAZARDOUS WEATHER
In case weather conditions are so severe that operation of the College may clearly pose a hardship on students and staff traveling to the College, notification of closing will be made through the following radio and television stations: WYKZ 98.7, WGCO 98.3, WGZO 103.1, WFXH 106.1, WWVV 106.9, WLOW 107.9, WGZR 104.9, WFXH 1130 AM, WLVM 101.1, WSOK 1230 AM, WAEV 97.3, WTOC TV, WTGS TV, WJWJ TV, and WSAV TV. Students, faculty and staff are highly encouraged to opt in to the Emergency Text Message Alert System. [www.tcl.edu/textalert.asp](http://www.tcl.edu/textalert.asp)

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT
There is no tolerance at TCL for academic dishonesty and misconduct. The College expects all students to conduct themselves with dignity and to maintain high standards of responsible citizenship.
It is the student’s responsibility to address any questions regarding what might constitute academic misconduct to the course instructor for further clarification.

The College adheres to the Student Code for the South Carolina Technical College System. Copies of the Student Code and Grievance Procedure are provided in the TCL Student Handbook, the Division Office, and the Learning Resources Center.

Health care professionals hold the public trust. Academic misconduct by health science students calls that trust into question and academic integrity is expected.

It is a fundamental requirement that any work presented by students will be their own. Examples of academic misconduct include (but are not limited to):

1. copying the work of another student or allowing another student to copy working papers, printed output, electronic files, quizzes, tests, or assignments.
2. completing the work of another student or allowing another student to complete or contribute to working papers, printed output, electronic files, quizzes, tests, or assignments.
3. viewing another student’s computer screen during a quiz or examination.
4. talking or communicating with another student during a test.
5. violating procedures prescribed by the instructor to protect the integrity of a quiz, test, or assignment.
6. plagiarism in any form, including, but not limited to: copying/pasting from a website, textbook, previously submitted student work, or any instructor-prepared class material; obvious violation of any copyright-protected materials.
7. knowingly aiding a person involved in academic misconduct.
8. providing false information to staff and/or faculty.
9. entering an office unaccompanied by faculty or staff.
10. misuse of electronic devices.

## GRADING POLICY

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<th>Grading scale</th>
<th>W withdraw</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90% - 100%</td>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>82% - 89%</td>
<td>B</td>
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<tr>
<td>75% - 81%</td>
<td>C</td>
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<tr>
<td>70% - 74%</td>
<td>D</td>
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<tr>
<td>Below 70%</td>
<td>F</td>
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<tr>
<td>W</td>
<td>withdraw with passing grade</td>
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<td>WP</td>
<td>withdraw with failing grade</td>
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<td>I</td>
<td>Incomplete</td>
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**Grading Methodology.** The final grade must be 75.000 or more in order to pass the course and progress in the program. Students absent from an examination or presentation will receive a “0” grade for the examination unless other arrangements are made with the individual instructor prior to the examination or presentation day or on the examination or presentation day before the test/presentation is scheduled to be given. Arrangements may be completed by telephone. If the instructor is not available, a message should be left on the instructor’s voice mail **AND** with another member of the faculty or
administrative assistant. Messages sent by other students are unacceptable. The student is responsible for notifying the instructor for the reason of the absence. Students who are tardy for an examination will take the examination in the remaining allotted time. *There is a 10 point penalty on the test for any noise emitting from an electronic device.*

Make up quizzes and/or examinations *may* be offered, at the instructor’s discretion, during the final examination period. Additional options for make-up testing include reweighting the final examination. It is the responsibility of the student to contact the appropriate instructor to arrange to make up the examination. The instructor will decide the method of examination. Grades are posted on Blackboard within one week of administration of tests and examinations.

*Students with concerns or questions regarding grades earned for class assignments should contact the course coordinator within one week of grades being posted. Students who score less than 80 on exam 1 must create a success plan and meet with the course coordinator to discuss success strategies. Students must meet with the course coordinator within three weeks of taking exam 1.*

**COURSE COORDINATOR:** Sharon F. Beasley, PhD, RN, CNE  
**OFFICE LOCATION:** Building 4 Room 201 (office Hours as posted)  
**TELEPHONE NUMBER:** 843-525-8263  
**E-MAIL:** sbeasley@tcl.edu