Practicum 1: Primary Care for the Family  
NUR 822: (6 credits)  
Fall 2007

Course Description
NUR 822 focuses on the integration of assessment, the nursing process and applied theory in primary care management of clients across the lifespan. This course will assist the APN student with integration and application of assessment and management skills utilizing a collaborative model of primary care practice. Relevant conceptual and theoretical frameworks in the primary care management of families and individuals within the family are threaded throughout all class discussions.

Emphasis is on developing skills in health promotion, health maintenance, risk reduction strategies, management of common single acute conditions and understanding the basic health care needs of a individuals and families across the lifespan. The student will become increasingly independent in his/her clinical decision-making skills and ability to manage client health concerns in a practice setting. Documentation will be completed in the problem oriented format to facilitate organization of the client data.

Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Utilize advanced independent nursing interventions to conduct assessments, apply therapeutic reasoning and determine diagnoses when providing primary care to clients across the lifespan in the context of families related to health promotion, disease prevention and/or single acute frequently encountered primary health conditions based on age, gender, health risk, ethnicity and cultural background.

2. Apply appropriate diagnostic and therapeutic intervention regimens which reflect issues related to safety, cost, simplicity, evidenced based criteria, and efficacy.

3. Communicate data and initiate strategies to facilitate interdisciplinary team functioning, progressing from preceptor made decision making to student made decision making with preceptor validation.

4. Assume leadership in implementing applicable conceptual and theoretical frameworks, health promotion, disease prevention and educational strategies appropriate to the clients across the lifespan.

5. Utilize the clinical therapeutic reasoning process in the management of clients across the lifespan including documentation of individual and family assessment data, the medical and nursing diagnoses, the management plan and the individual and/or family measurable outcomes.
6. Analyze client case log data to determine patterns of practice in primary care, ensuring a variety of client types for preparation for advanced nursing practice.

7. Develop a personal portfolio using portfolio tools presented in class and present to peers and clinical instructor for review and further use when pursuing a position as an advanced practice nurse.

Course Faculty:

Mary Jane Cook, MSN, CCRN, APRN-BC, FNP
Assistant Professor

Patty Peek MS, APRN-BC, PNP
Associate Professor

Denise Soltow, MSN, APRN-BC, FNP
Assistant Professor

Brigid Warren, MSN, CS
Associate Professor

Instruction:

Learning Methodologies

Overview: As adult learners, it is expected that students will do relevant reading and study prior to clinical and clinical conference on topic areas identified. Faculty directed readings and web links will be provided for specific content areas when needed. It is expected that students will search the literature and suggest/share relevant findings with faculty and classmates. Case presentations, peer review, and other methods determined by the faculty will be the basis for this guided cooperative discussion. Guidelines for class interactions and specific methodology are located on ANGEL, Course Information.

There are a number of different learning modalities in this course including clinical practicum, clinical conferences (on-campus, webcam, online), discussion, portfolio development and a learning assessment center experience.

Required Textbooks & Electronic References
Textbooks from previous graduate nursing courses will serve as reference resources.

Technology Requirements
In order to fully participate in the online course experience, it is important that you have the appropriate technology available. Please go check the current requirements at http://nursing.msu.edu/downloads/Hardwareandsoftwarereq2006_000.pdf
Clinical practicum

All students participate in **16 hours of clinical per week for 14 weeks** at designated agencies, for a **minimum total of 224** clinical hours by the end of the semester. The agency experience is guided by the clinical preceptor at that agency in consultation with the MSU faculty. Preceptors will be oriented to the student clinical experience and will participate in providing input to the student’s clinical evaluation.

Expectations:

- Students must spend at least one day prior to the beginning of the semester, orienting to each clinical facility. It is expected that this experience will help the student to start the semester positively and prepared.

- Students are not to start clinical rotations until after the orientation on Thursday August 30, 2007.

- Clinical should be completed by December 7 prior to final’s week. If there is a need for makeup hours, the student should arrange this with his/her clinical faculty as well as preceptor.

- Students will provide direct services to clients and their families concerning well care, health maintenance and promotion, level of function and management of single acute illness.

- Students are responsible for increasing independence in collecting and determining:
  - Client history and physical examination
  - Nursing and medical diagnoses
  - Management plan including nursing and medical interventions
  - Recording on the patient record using the SOAP-POR method

- Documentation will be completed on every client encounter. The student will begin to generate outcome criteria for each management plan and form a master problem list and up to date medication list. All documentation will include:
  - Subjective data
  - Objective data
  - Assessment data
    - Medical diagnoses
    - Nursing diagnoses (only those appropriate and that truly represent non-medical)
  - Management Plan
    - **Diagnostic** (lab, special studies, radiographic, developmental assessment etc)
    - **Therapeutic**
      - Non-pharmacologic interventions (education, counseling)
Pharmacologic interventions

Education/counseling (includes patient teaching)

- Expected measurable outcomes that relate to medical & nursing diagnosis
- Referral and Follow-up

Absences: If the student becomes ill during the semester, it is her/his responsibility to notify her/his clinical preceptor, the clinical agency and your clinical instructor on the day of missed clinical. All missed clinical days must be made up prior to the final week of classes. Arrangements for make-up days are to be made with the clinical preceptor and clinical instructor. Attendance at on campus and web cam clinical conferences is required. In the event of an absence, arrangements will be made to make up the experience.

It is expected that students will adhere to HIPAA Guidelines. In addition, students should follow these procedures.

All patient identifying information must be blocked out in black prior to copying or distributing to faculty or classmates.

Instead of copying patient information from the chart (ie., lab sheets, procedure records, referral letters ), it is expected that you will transcribe pertinent information from the medical records and include in your SOAP documentation.

In the unlikely event that the student or faculty identify a real or potential problem with the clinical site being an appropriate learning environment for the student, the issue will be discussed with the preceptor and faculty immediately to determine options. If there is no readily available resolution of the issues, the student may be placed in an alternative site.

Site Visit: By midterm, each student will be visited by an MSU faculty member to observe the student/patient and student/preceptor interaction as well as evaluate the appropriateness of the clinical site for learning. This site visit will also allow the preceptor to discuss student performance. Students will be responsible for signing up for a visit time/date. Sign up sheets will be made available to students by the middle of September. Additional site visits may be arranged if necessary.

When not on site, MSU faculty are available for consultation, assistance and evaluation. You will be provided with contact information by your clinical instructor at orientation.

If at any time a student is deemed clinically or ethically unsafe by preceptor or faculty, the student will be asked to leave the site and will be reported to the appropriate college administrator and action will be taken according to guidelines in the student handbook.
Documentation of clinical experience:

Students are expected to provide copies of clinical documentation to faculty on a WEEKLY basis. The clinical faculty will provide guidelines for the number of patient notes needed as well as the type of patient encounters/diagnoses. Feedback will be provided to the student by the faculty.

A weekly activity log must be completed (see ANGEL for copy of log form). The log contains types of patients, procedures, diagnoses that are expected to be seen by students in this course. The preceptor will be responsible for signing off on the form when the student has successfully completed the required task. The form should be taken to clinical weekly and reviewed by both the student and preceptor in order to plan for encounters which will meet the student’s learning needs. At midterm, the clinical faculty and student will also review the log and determine where there may be deficiencies.

Following each clinic day, students will be expected to record all of their patient encounters into the TYPHON system.
- Specifics of the types of data needed for entry into the Typhon system will be provided at orientation.
- This system can be accessed through the internet. Instructions for access will be provided to students on ANGEL.
- Students are required to collect and record data on every client seen. Data logs will be reviewed weekly, during midterm and final evaluation meetings with clinical instructor.

Clinical Evaluation
The clinical evaluation of student performance is based on the NONPF competencies (2006). A copy of the competencies and the clinical evaluation will be reviewed with students during orientation. Evaluation is based on MSU faculty observation of student performance, preceptor observation of performance, clinical conferences, online discussion and documentation.

At midterm, students will meet with their campus faculty to discuss their progress towards meeting objectives and competencies. The student should submit a completed self-evaluation one week prior to midterm and provide rationale for rankings. It is expected that at midterm, most competencies will not be met since they reflect end of semester behaviors. Faculty and the student will discuss strategies for meeting the behaviors during the second half of the semester. In addition, the caseload data (Typhon) and clinical activity log will be reviewed at midterm to see if the appropriate patient population is being managed by the student. Options for obtaining appropriate patients will be discussed.

At end of semester, the student will complete a final self-evaluation including rationale for rankings. This should be submitted prior to the evaluation time (to be determined by the faculty and student). The student must have 80% or more of the competencies met as determined by the faculty by the end of the semester in order to receive a Pass in the course.
Clinical conferences:
Clinical conference is an integral part of the learning experience. The sharing of cases is an excellent way to enhance learning, develop excellent communication skills and provide an opportunity for peer review.

There are three forms for clinical conference: on campus, technology-assisted (ie., Webcam) and online.

Guidelines for case presentations and discussion participation will be provided on ANGEL and will be reviewed at orientation.

Students will be expected to provide rationale for decision making. APA format is required for all references and citations.

All communication devices are to be turned off during the entire clinical conference meeting time. Students are provided time for a break during on campus clinical evaluations so you may respond to messages at that time. If you need to be reached for an emergency, you may give the College of Nursing main office number and emergency messages will be forwarded to you by support staff. 1-800-605-6424.

**Attendance at on campus and web cam clinical conferences is required.**

Online discussion:
The ANGEL platform will be used for online discussion. In addition to the formal online discussion associated with case presentation (discussed under clinical conference), there will be discussion forums available for more general questions/comments re the course and clinical experience. Faculty will be monitoring the discussion rooms. However, faculty are not available 24/7. It is expected that faculty will respond within 2-3 days during the week. It is not expected that faculty will be online during weekends/holidays.

If there is a technical problem with ANGEL, the student should contact the HELP line 1-800-500-1554. This is available 24 hours a day.

If there is a need to contact faculty on an emergent basis, the student should call the faculty number provided.

Students are encouraged to check the ANGEL site at least twice a week as well as check MSU mail. The student may forward his/her MSU mail address to a preferred address. All ANGEL mail goes through the MSU mail system.

Portfolio development:
The portfolio project is a important part of the course and will include specific components and information that may be used while job seeking in the future.

Students will present the portfolio to peers and clinical instructor in a “mock interview” during the last weeks of the semester. Students are expected to come professionally dressed to the “interview” and be prepared to answer questions posed by peers and faculty. The portfolio is a Pass/Fail experience. A copy of the criteria for grading the portfolio as well as suggested interview questions is available on the ANGEL course site.

Post master’s students are not required to complete this project.
Learning Assessment Center (LAC) Experience

Students will have one LAC this semester. The experience will allow students to demonstrate competency in providing care to selected patients consistent with NUR 822 goals and NONPF competencies. All students will participate in the experience on November 15. Times will be assigned by the LAC staff and provided to students early in the Fall semester.

Specific instructions and guidelines for evaluation will be provided in clinical conference by midterm.

Course Evaluation and Grading

The course is graded as either Pass or Fail. In order to Pass the course, the student must have met 80% of the competencies identified on the clinical evaluation by the clinical faculty at the completion of the semester. Failure to meet 80% will constitute a failing grade and the student will not be allowed to continue on to the next clinical practicum. The MSN student handbook discusses the procedures in the event of a failure of a course.

Students will not be provided with a grade until the activity log and complete TYPHON data have been turned into the clinical faculty.

Academic Integrity

Please read each part of the following site to fully understand your responsibilities and the position of the University regarding:
- cheating,
- plagiarism,
- MSU regulations, ordinances and policies regarding academic honesty and integrity
- Academic Integrity links
http://www.msu.edu/unit/ombud/honestylinks.html

Academic dishonesty in any form will not be tolerated in the College of Nursing. Any student involved in academic dishonesty will be reported to the Office of Academic Affairs and the Office of Student Affairs in the College of Nursing and a grade of 0.0 may be issued for the course.

Lectures, quizzes and examinations must remain the property of the College of Nursing and must not be copied from the internet. According to university policy, consequences for academic dishonesty may include failure of the course, expulsion from the major, or expulsion from the university.

Online discussions and exercises are confidential and should not be discussed with others who are not enrolled in the class. It is important for each course participant to express his/her ideas. All ideas need to be respected in discussions and exercises. Any “group projects” that are required, still require individual work as a minimal expectation.
For further information you can access any of the following sites:

- MSU Spartan Life Student Handbook and Resource Guide  
- Information for Current Students – including Rights, Responsibilities and Regulations for Graduate Students  
  [http://www.msu.edu/current/index.html](http://www.msu.edu/current/index.html)
- International Studies and Programs  
  [http://www.msu.edu/international/index.html](http://www.msu.edu/international/index.html)

**Consultant**

The course may include some content areas developed by faculty other than those formally assigned to the course. Faculty contributors will be acknowledged in the appropriate content area.

**ANGEL Communication Guidelines & Rules of Conduct**

Please go to [http://angel.msu.edu](http://angel.msu.edu), login, and click on the Online Teaching/Learning-ANGEL group for examples of netiquette and ANGEL communication guidelines. The course will also provide you with some online discussion guidelines.

**Library Resources**

1. Library Services: [http://www.lib.msu.edu/services/](http://www.lib.msu.edu/services/)
2. MSU Library: [http://www.lib.msu.edu/](http://www.lib.msu.edu/)
3. Proxy server: To access MSU library resources from an off-campus site you must set up a proxy server. Directions to set up a proxy server are at: [http://techbase.msu.edu/viewpathfinder.asp?id=2507](http://techbase.msu.edu/viewpathfinder.asp?id=2507)

**Disability Resources and Services**

The full range of disability resources and services for students is located at: [http://www.msu.edu/current/index.html](http://www.msu.edu/current/index.html)

**Calendar**

The calendar for assignments and content is available online within the course. The online component of the course will be available to students on Monday, August 27 at 12:01a. All students are expected to attend the first on-campus orientation and clinical conference on Thursday, August 30 from 8a-12n.

The MSU academic calendar with important dates is located at: [http://www.reg.msu.edu/ROInfo/Calendar/Academic.asp](http://www.reg.msu.edu/ROInfo/Calendar/Academic.asp)