Clinic Decision Making
NUR 807: 1 credit Didactic: 2 credits clinical component
On-line course
Summer 2014

Catalog Course Description: Clinical decision making in advanced practice nursing. Decision theory and related concepts. Application of critical thinking and clinical judgment to differential diagnoses of common primary care conditions.

Additional Course Description: Open only to CNS master's students in the College of Nursing. NUR 807 is an online instruction course.

Course Overview: NUR 807 is a “bridge” course between the MSN core courses and health assessment taken thus far and the clinical management courses that will be taken following NUR 807. The learning experiences in NUR 807 are intended to foster movement from a focus on gaining theoretical knowledge to the next steps in developing the Clinical Nurse Specialist role in the direct care sphere of influence. To achieve this aim, NUR 807 is offered in an online format. The theoretical portion of the course is offered primarily online and focuses on the concepts of using high-level assessment skills, evidence based practices and clinical decision-making to ensure sound clinical decisions. The clinical portion of the course has clinical precepted hours. The clinical hours for this course will provide practice experience in the direct care role by developing clinical data gathering skills, medical and nursing differential diagnosis, diagnostic reasoning and evidence based practice related to acute care issues.

Course Objectives: At the end of this course, students will:
1. Apply decision theory to formulate differential diagnoses.
2. Analyze the concept of clinical diagnoses in acute care.
3. Analyze the implications of diagnostic decision relative to cost and efficacy within the contemporary health care delivery system.
4. Document a history of present illness (HPI) by using the problem oriented record (POR).

Additional Course Objectives:
1. Formulate differential diagnosis based on evidence related to nursing and medicine with young adults to the frail elderly.
2. Appraise guidelines based on AGREE criteria
3. Apply the concepts related to evidence based practice to clinical situations.
4. Compose, research question and analyze data related to an identified concern in the Problem/Intervention/Comparison/Outcome (PICO) format.

Prerequisites: NUR 805, 860 (or permission)

Co-requisites: None
Professional Standards & Guidelines: The curriculum is guided by the following documents:


Faculty: Kathleen Poindexter, PhD, RN, CNE Asst. Professor, coordinator
   MSN CNS Adult-Gerontology and Education
   A109 Life Sciences
   East Lansing, MI 48824-1317
   E-mail: poindex9@msu.edu
   Note: Times can be arranged to accommodate student schedules.

Clinical Faculty:
   Linda Hansen MSN, RN, ACNS-BC, ACCNS-AG
   Instructor, Clinical
   MSU College of Nursing
   TBD
   E-mail: hansen99@msu.edu
   Note: Times can be arranged to accommodate student schedules

Faculty primary responsibilities:

All faculty in the course routinely collaborate on all aspects of the course to promote consistency and a team approach to facilitate student learning.
• Professor Kathleen Poindexter will be responsible for the overall course theory content, scholarly project proposals and overall clinical placement concerns. She will respond to theory and exam related questions and overall course/program concerns.
• Professor Hansen is the primary clinical faculty responsible for providing oversight to students in the clinical settings. Responsibilities include communication with faculty, preceptors, and students on a regular basis. Additional responsibility includes evaluation of student clinical performance, clinical written assignments, and documentation of competency achievement and completion of clinical hours.

Students are to contact their assigned clinical faculty for clinical related concerns and theory faculty for theory course issues.

Faculty Contact:

Faculty are available via email or by phone throughout the week. Please use the email located within the course D2L program to contact the appropriate faculty member. Email ought to be addressed to the specified faculty only and not to the entire class in an effort to reduce overall course emails and inappropriate messaging. Every effort will be made to return your email or call as soon as possible generally within 48 hours during regular week days. Note: During the weekends and Holidays faculty members may not be available.
**Instruction:**

a. **Methodology:**

NUR 807 is a combination of theory and clinical components. It is primarily an asynchronous online course that requires students to log into the class several times per week to read email, announcements, discussions, and to complete the weekly lesson assignments. **There are several mandatory synchronous on-line webinars that are noted in the course calendar.** The course will incorporate weekly lessons that utilize a variety of teaching and learning strategies such as weekly presentations; webcasts; reading assignments; weekly group/individual activities; group projects; and discussion forums. Students are expected to review all assignment materials and actively engage with their peers as informed participants.

b. **Weekly Lessons:** Individual lessons will be available to the class at 8:00 am on Wednesday morning of each week and remain accessible for the duration of the course. Assignment due dates will be listed on the course calendar and on the appropriate discussion forums or drop boxes. All assignments must be posted or submitted in the appropriate discussion board or drop box no later than **Midnight on the assigned due date.** Late assignments or postings may not be accepted or evaluated for grading purposes unless prior arrangements have been established with the student’s assigned course faculty.

c. **Precepted clinical practice hours** – Ninety (90) precepted clinical hours in a selected practice setting are to be arranged with the clinical faculty. It is strongly recommended a student participated in no more than 16 precepted clinical hours within a one-week time period. The expectation is that this time will be spread out over the **time period of May through July. All precepted clinical hours must be completed by July 30th** in order to receive a course grade for NUR 807. See the Course Documents folder in the D2L course web site for additional information. You must complete and pass clinical requirements to be successful in the course.

d. **Required Texts:**


e. *Optional Texts:* Students are required to have a laboratory tests reference. Michigan State University library also provides access to select electronic texts that are available to MSU students.

Required Resources, References, Supplies:

Course Requirements:

Desire to Learn (D2L) Help Line  
1.800.500.1554 (24 hrs, 7 days/week)  
517.355.2345 (24 hrs, 7 days/week)  
www.angel.msu.edu (ANGEL Help link in upper right corner)  
Always check with the ANGEL Help Line first!

Computer Hardware and Software requirements:

1. Computer with camera for webinars  
2. High speed internet access  
3. Microsoft Office (The MSU Computer Store offers special pricing for students [http://cstore.msu.edu/](http://cstore.msu.edu/))  
4. Strongly recommend computer spyware and virus protection

Clinical Requirements:  
MSU Graduate Nursing lab coat: order from Nye Uniform.  
http://www.nyeuniform.com  
MSU clinical Name Badge (must be work at all times in clinical settings)  
Stethoscope

Evaluation of Academic Performance:

1. Learning Assessments and Grading: Assignments to be graded will include discussion forum postings; weekly lesson activities as assigned; exams; AGREE activity, reflective journals, history and physical & Scholarly Project paper. Specific assignment details and evaluation requirements will be available on-line.

2. Precepted clinical practice hours – graded on a [pass-fail](http://cstore.msu.edu/) basis. Successful completion of the clinical experience is required to receive a passing grade in the course. Failure to pass clinical means failure to pass the course. Students must be compliant with all MSU and CON requirements AND receive approval of personalized clinical objectives from MSU Faculty prior to beginning clinical hours.
b. Course Grading Scale:

The MSU 4.0 grading system will be utilized to report final course grades.

Points will be rounded to whole numbers using the 0.5 rules. Points at ≥ 0.5 will be rounded up while those < 0.5 will be rounded down to the nearest whole number.

There is no opportunity for “extra credit” in this course.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>%</th>
<th>GRADE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>94 – 100</td>
<td>4.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>93 - 87</td>
<td>3.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>86 – 80</td>
<td>3.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Minimum passing grade)</td>
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<tr>
<td>79 – 75</td>
<td>2.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>74 – 70</td>
<td>2.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>69 – 65</td>
<td>1.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>64 – 604</td>
<td>1.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Below 60</td>
<td>0.0</td>
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Allocation of Grades will be based on the following:

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<tr>
<th>Evaluation Activity</th>
<th>#</th>
<th>OVERALL %</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exams I &amp; II</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion Forums/Activities</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EBP Scholarly Paper</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agree Assignment</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<th>Clinical Assignments</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>*Competency and Hours Documentation (mandatory)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reflective Journal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Precepted Clinical Practicum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Synchronized Clinical Seminar</td>
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<tr>
<td>History &amp; Physical</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TOTAL 100%

*All individual assignments MUST be passed with a satisfactory passing score, or “pass” in order to pass the course. Requires documentation of achieving all competencies, completion of all required clinical hours, attendance at all synchronized seminars and passing score on Scholarly Project paper.
Exams: All students are expected to take exams at the **designated date and time. All exams are proctored. Please see separate document for instructions and proctor application.** A score of zero (0.0) points will be given for that exam if students do not take the exam at the **designated date and time. If there is an unexpected personal or family emergency, such as medical emergency or death of immediate family member, all course faculty members must be contacted immediately via email or phone.** Make-up examinations must be completed within one week of the scheduled exam week.

If you have questions about D2L or experience any D2L-related problems including technology problems during an exam call the D2L Help Line immediately: 1.800.500.1544 or 517.355.2345 (24/7!). You can also access D2L Help online from [https://d2l.msu.edu](https://d2l.msu.edu) (D2L Help link in upper right corner). If you have technical problems during an exam, please contact the D2L Help Line immediately. They will notify faculty of unusual circumstances.

**Content Discussion Boards:** Students are expected to follow appropriate etiquette rules at all times. Postings deemed inappropriate will be removed by the faculty.

**Organizational Confidentiality**

Protection of the privacy of the organization by confidential reporting is an expected ethical responsibility of students in this course. Like patient confidentiality, we do not disclose information about employees or the organization, except on a “need-to-know” basis. In oral or written discussions of the clinical experience complete anonymity is required.

**Clinical Site Dress Code/Professionalism:**

Make sure to dress and conduct yourself in accordance with agency policy and your prospective role of a Clinical Nurse Specialist. Ask your preceptor about the appropriate dress for the different course activities that is in accordance with the College of Nursing professional dress policy. While in the clinical area students will wear MSU Lab Jackets and they **must wear their MSU nametag at all times.**

**When to Look for Course Materials:**

Wednesday is considered the “beginning” day of each week of the course (please refer to the Course Calendar). The materials for Week #1 will be accessible to you starting on Wednesday, May 14th, (the first day of Week #1). During each subsequent week of the course, you will be able to review the material for all past weeks. For example, on Wednesday (Week #2), you will be able to see materials for the prior Week #1.

**Attendance Policy**

Students are expected to log into weekly lessons, activities, and actively participate in any discussions on the unit message boards as required. Scholarly interchange is vital to everyone's understanding of the material.

**University & College Policies:**

The College of Nursing expects that students will demonstrate professional behavior in all situations. Specific expectations for clinical and other professional venues can be found in the appropriate handbook. You are responsible for reviewing and acting in accordance with the policies and procedures found in the following sources, including the following topics: Professionalism, Academic Integrity, Accommodations for Students with Disabilities, Disruptive Behavior, Attendance, Compliance, and Progression.

- CON Student handbook [http://nursing.msu.edu/handbooks.asp](http://nursing.msu.edu/handbooks.asp)
- Information for Current Students—including Rights, Responsibilities and Regulations for Students [http://www.msu.edu/current/index.html](http://www.msu.edu/current/index.html)
- Academic Programs [http://www.reg.msu.edu/UCC/AcademicPrograms.asp](http://www.reg.msu.edu/UCC/AcademicPrograms.asp)
**Academic Integrity:**

**Academic Honesty:** Article 2.3.3 of the Academic Freedom Report states: “The student shares with the faculty the responsibility for maintaining the integrity of scholarship, grades, and professional standards.” In addition, the College of Nursing adheres to the policies on academic honesty specified in General Student Regulation 1.0, Protection of Scholarship and Grades; the all-University Policy on Integrity of Scholarship and Grades; and Ordinance 17.00, Examinations. (See *Spartan Life: Student Handbook and Resource Guide* and/or the MSU Web site www.msu.edu.)

Therefore, unless authorized by your instructor, you are expected to complete all course assignments, including homework, lab work, quizzes, tests and exams, without assistance from any source. You are expected to develop original work for this course; therefore, you may not submit course work you completed for another course to satisfy the requirements for this course. Also, you are not authorized to use the www.allmsu.com Web site to complete any course work in this course. Students who violate MSU rules may receive a penalty grade, including but not limited to a failing grade on the assignment or in the course.

**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 Services 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 for use with others. **Any quiz or exam should not be printed. Printing an exam or quiz will be considered academic dishonesty.** According to university policy, consequences for academic dishonesty may include failure of the course, expulsion from the major, or expulsion from the university. You are advised to complete and submit your own work. The exams are NOT group projects and must not be shared with other students in any way.

Online discussions and other course activities are confidential and should not be shared or discussed with others who are not enrolled in the class. The course provides an opportunity for each course participant to express his/her ideas and all are expected to do so. All ideas need to be respected in discussions and exercises. Any “group projects” (that are required) still require individual work as a minimal expectation, and individual work will be graded.

For further information you can access any of the following sites:

- International Studies and Programs
  http://www.msu.edu/international/index.html

**Disruptive Behavior:** Article 2.3.5 of the Academic Freedom Report (AFR) for students at Michigan State University states: "The student's behavior in the classroom shall be conducive to the teaching and learning process for all concerned." Article 2.3.10 of the AFR states that "The student has a right to scholarly relationships with faculty based on mutual trust and civility." General Student Regulation 5.02 states: "No student shall . . . interfere with the functions and services of the University (for example, but not limited to, classes . . .) such that the function or service is obstructed or disrupted. Students whose conduct adversely affects the learning environment in this classroom may be subject to disciplinary action through the Student Faculty Judiciary process.
**Attendance:** Students whose names do not appear on the official class list for this course may not attend this class. Students who fail to attend the first four class sessions or class by the fifth day of the semester, whichever occurs first, may be dropped from the course. See the Ombudsman's web site for a discussion of student observance of major religious holidays, student-athlete participation in athletic competition, student participation in university-approved field trips, medical excuses and a dean's drop for students who fail to attend class sessions at the beginning of the semester.

**College of Nursing Policies:** Professional Development Guidelines are found in the CON MSN Student Handbook at the CON website. Students are responsible for the information found in the CON MSN Student Handbook.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week Date</th>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Textbook Readings</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 5/14</td>
<td>Introduction to the course CNS Role; Overview of course CNS Role dimensions; Scope of Practice; Distinguishing features of APNs; CNS and CNL role differentiation; Clinical experience</td>
<td>Fulton, Lyon &amp; Goudreau – Chapters 1, 2, &amp; 3; Hamric, Hansen, Tracy, &amp; O’Grady – pp. 10-14, Chapter 2 (review); AACN - Adult-Gero competencies</td>
<td>Read syllabus; Review course layout in Angel; Clinical objectives &amp; Proposed clinical schedule due May 19th; OBJECTIVES NEED TO BE APPROVED PRIOR TO STARTING CLINCALS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 5/20</td>
<td>Evidence Based Practice (EBP); Benefits and barriers; Critical Appraisal of Evidence Guidelines; Agree Scholarly Project: Problem Identification and PICO and Root Cause</td>
<td>Fulton, Lyon &amp; Goudreau – Chapter 10; Melnyk, &amp; Fineout- Overholt – Chapters 1, 2, 3, 8 and pp. 73-77, 102 &amp; 518; Hamric, Hansen, Tracy, &amp; O’Grady – Chapter 2 (review); Hickey &amp; Brosnan - Chapters 2, &amp; 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 5/28</td>
<td>Nursing and Medical Differential Diagnosis; Decision Theory; Root Cause</td>
<td>Ackley &amp; Ladwig - section 1; Melnyk, &amp; Fineout- Overholt – Chapters 11, 12, &amp; 13</td>
<td>Discussion Forum (DF) #1 due June 3th; Agree Assignment Individual and group project.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 4 6/4 | Test Characteristics:  
| o Specificity/Sensitivity  
| o Validity & Reliability  
| o Positive Predictive Value  
| o Negative Predictive value  
| o Likelihood ratio  
| Risk Assessment:  
| o Population Care  
| o NNT versus NNH  | Fulton, Lyon & Goudreau – Chapter 17  
| Hickey & Brosnan – Chapter 8  
| Melnyk, & Fineout– Chapters 4, 5 & 6  | Synchronized clinical seminar DUE: 6/4  
| Reflection Log #1, clinical hours, and CNS competency form due June10°  |
| 5 6/11 | Cardiovascular  
| o Acute MI  
| o Heart Failure (acute and chronic)  
| o Interventional cardiology  
| Nursing diagnoses  
| o Activity intolerance  
| 6 6/18 | Pulmonary (acute and chronic)  
| o COPD  
| o Asthma  
| o Pneumonia  
| o Powerlessness  
| o Ineffective coping  
| Hypoxia ABGs  
| Renal  
| o Acute renal failure  
| Failure to rescue  | Ackley & Ladwig – pp. 294 – 299; 665 – 672  
| Fulton, Lyon & Goudreau – pp. 438 – 440  | Exam #1 June 19th 14:00-16:00  
| Midterm self, preceptor and clinical faculty assessments/meetings to be completed by end of week 7.  |
| 7/6/25 | Chronic disease management  
| | o Endocrine  
| | o GI  
| | o Nutrition  
| | Nursing diagnoses:  
| | o Anxiety  
| | o Body image  
| | o Nutrition  
| | Ackley & Ladwig – pp. 142-148; 172-176; 575-594  
| | AGS – pp. 80-87; 103-114; 135-137 & 163-167  
| | Fulton, Lyon & Goudreau - Chapter 34  
| | Reflection Log #2, clinical hours and competency documentation form due on June 30  
| 8/7/1 | Chronic Disease management  
| | o Stroke  
| | o Delirium  
| | o Dementia  
| | Nursing diagnoses  
| | o Adult failure to thrive  
| | o Caregiver role strain  
| | o Immobility  
| | Ackley & Ladwig – pp 209-215; 350-354; 506-508; 569-574; 775 – 783.  
| | AGS – pp. 57-65; 186-188; 260-264; 276-278 & 283  
| | H & P complex patient - due July 8  
| | No clinical on the 4th of July Holiday! You can be in clinical any other time that week.  
| 9/7/9 | Vulnerable populations  
| | o Risk for falls  
| | Ackley & Ladwig – pp. 335 – 361  
| | Fulton, Lyon & Goudreau – Chapter 23  
| | Discussion Forum (DF) #2 due July 15th  
| 10/7/16 | Electronic Health Record  
| | o Application  
| | o Analysis  
| | Hickey & Brosnan – pp. 113-124  
<p>| | Synchronized Clinical Seminar: July 16th |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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| 11/7/23 | Families across the continuum Dynamics  
Place in health and wellness  
Nursing Diagnosis  
- Family Coping  
- Family Process  
- Therapeutic Regimen Management | Fulton, Lyon & Goudreau – Chapter 15  
Scholarly Project ROL: due July 23rd  
Last possible day of clinical July 30th |
| 12/7/30 | Exam Week  
Clinical Assessment and Evaluations |  | Exam II- July 31st  
14:00-16:00  
Clinical Evaluations with faculty will be arranged & completed prior to August 1st  
Course Evaluation due August 1st |

Faculty reserve the right to revise the calendar based on assessment of student learning. Revisions will be posted in a timely manner and all students will receive email notifications.

Assignments color code: **theory** – **clinical**