NUR 834
PRACTICUM II:
PRIMARY CARE FOR OLDER ADULTS

COURSE SYLLABUS
SPRING 2003

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Office Hours By Appointment

Class Time:  Thursday from 0930 – 1130
East Lansing:  TBA
Gaylord:  University Center at Gaylord

Credits: 7

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

NUR 834 focuses on the integration of assessment, the nursing process and applied theory in primary and long term care management of older clients. This course will assist the APN student with integration and application of assessment and management skills. Relevant conceptual and theoretical frameworks in the primary care management of older adults are threaded throughout class discussions. A collaborative model of primary and long term care practice will be utilized. Topics will include the health care management of older adults and frail elderly with stable chronic or complex health problems and functional losses. The student will become increasingly independent in their clinical decision-making skills and ability to manage older adult health concerns in a practice setting.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

At the conclusion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate a high level synthesis through advanced utilization of assessment, diagnosis, outcomes, planning, interventions, evaluation and clinical judgment with patients experiencing stable chronic or complex health problems.

2. Communicate data on patients with chronic health problems utilizing POR format within legal and ethical health care parameters.

3. Demonstrate increasing independence in clinical decision-making.

4. Participate and evaluate components of the peer review process.

5. Analyze personal practice philosophy and patient encounter log data to develop a portfolio reflective of the individual clinical experience and demonstrating the ability to evaluate outcomes and effectiveness of care.

6. Discuss and apply aging and loss theories and their relevance to the management of clients with multiple and/or chronic health problems.

INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS

As adult learners, it is expected that students will do relevant reading and study prior to clinic and class on the topic areas identified. Faculty directed readings and web links will be provided for specific content areas. Case presentations, peer review, specific topic presentation and other methods determined by the course coordinator will be the basis for guided cooperative discussion. Guidelines for peer review and topic presentation are provided in Blackboard.

Clinical Experience

- All students participate in 19 hours of clinical per week for 14 weeks. These hours occur at student-selected agencies under the mentorship of a preceptor from that agency.
• Students will provide direct services to adult patients and their families concerning well care, health maintenance and promotion, level of function, management of single acute illness, stable chronic illness and complex health issues. The majority of the caseload should be individuals over the age of 50.

• Students are responsible for increasing independence in collecting and determining:
  o Patient history and physical examination
  o Medical and nursing diagnoses
  o Management plan including medical and nursing therapeutic interventions
  o Follow up and expected outcomes
  o Recording on the patient record using the SOAP-POR method

• Documentation will be completed on every patient 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:
  o Subjective data
  o Objective data
  o Assessment data
  o Medical diagnoses
  o Nursing diagnoses (appropriate & non-medical)
  o Management Plan
    • Diagnostic studies (lab, special studies, radiographic, etc)
    • Non-pharmacologic interventions (education, counseling, NIC/NOC when appropriate, etc)
    • Pharmacologic interventions
    • Patient teaching
    • Expected outcomes
    • Referral
    • Follow up

  • Copies of ALL patient SOAP or progress notes need to be turned in to the course coordinator every week with the matching Client Encounter Log. It is expected that obvious learning and increasing progression for accuracy and completeness will be demonstrated from week to week on documentation.

Clinic Activity Log

• This log was initially utilized in NUR 832 and will be carried through to NUR 834. The log helps all interested participants in the clinic experience understand what skill, technique or experience has been accomplished or needs to be accomplished.

• The log must be updated and validate on a daily basis to be kept current and accurate.

• The log is an excellent documentation tool that students can use in portfolio development and in seeking future advanced practice nursing employment.
• The actual tool can be found in BlackBoard, Course Information.

Caseload Data

• This section includes the Client # Log and the Client Encounter Log (both can be found in BlackBoard, Course Information). The Client # Log will be continued from NUR 832 for those students continuing in the same clinical site. Students having all new sites will begin the Client # Log from scratch.

• Students are required to collect and record data on every patient seen. Data logs will be reviewed during midterm and finals week and at any time during the course of the semester. Both logs should be brought to class every week so faculty can review the information. The Client Encounter Log will be handed in on a weekly basis. Information needs to be neat and accurate. Points will be awarded for appropriate materials being turned in at the beginning of every class.

Web-Based Activities

• We are utilizing BlackBoard (BB) as the basis for this course. BB is a web-based classroom experience that allows material to be up to date with easy access. It is the individual students responsibility to learn how to work through the system.

• Weekly readings, course information and forms, course documents, activities, grades and discussion board are all located in BB. It is strongly suggested that you check into BB on a frequent basis at it is the students responsibility to be present and active in the course.

• Access to BB is through the College of Nursing web page and then accessing NUR 834 course syllabus. Another route is http://www.blackboard.msu.edu Access requires use of your MSU pilot account.

• Guiding Principles have been developed for the use of the Discussion Board and email. You will find this document in BB, Course Information. Please be sure that you are very familiar with these principles.

• A portion of the Professional Participation points are related to frequency and quality of Discussion Board access and information shared. It is expected that each student will provide thoughtful commentary at least two times a week.

Topic Presentations

• Each student will select 3 topics to present over the course of the semester. Guidelines for presentation can be found under BB, Course Information.

• Weekly attendance is required!

• Peers will provide a constructive evaluation for each presentation. Further information can be located in BB, Course Information.
COURSE EVALUATION & GRADING

A grade of 3.0 (80%) must be achieved in order to pass NUR 834 and progress in the nursing program or to graduation. 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 rule. Points at $\geq 0.5$ will be rounded up while those $< 0.5$ will be rounded down to the nearest whole number.

The following point scale will be used for final grade determination:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>RANGE</th>
<th>GRADE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Low</td>
<td>High</td>
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<td>188</td>
<td>200</td>
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<td>174</td>
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<td>148</td>
<td>159</td>
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<td>140</td>
<td>147</td>
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</tbody>
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Point Determination Will Be As Follows:

- Clinical Evaluation: 100
- Professional Participation: 30
- Peer Review: 30
- Client Encounter Log & Documentation: 28
- Course Activities: 12
- Clinic Activity Log: P/F

Total = 200

A clinical evaluation form will be completed by the student and the course coordinator at midterm and at the conclusion of clinical. The rating at midterm is expected to be at a low level since it is highly unlikely that a student will be meeting end course objectives at this time. The midterm point totals are utilized to help identify areas that need work. The midterm evaluation is NOT used to calculate the final grade. Only the rating on the final evaluation will be used to determine the course grade.
The final evaluation will count for a possible 100 points toward the final grade. The student is expected to provide rationale/evidence for their self-rating if it exceeds a #2. The course coordinators evaluation will be used to calculate the final grade. If there is a discrepancy, the student must provide documentation. The final grade is determined by the course coordinator.

* If the Clinic Activity Log, Encounter Logs or Course Activities are NOT COMPLETED in an ACCEPTABLE MANNER (spelling, accurate & appropriate abbreviations & medical terminology, etc), the student will not pass the course regardless of their performance in the clinical setting. All course forms and materials must be completed in a timely fashion and be presented in a legible, organized manner.

**COURSE INFORMATION LOCATED IN BLACKBOARD**

- Course Requirements & Student Responsibilities
- Guiding Principles For Web-based Activity
- Proposed Content Schedule
- Topic Presentation Guidelines
- Peer Review Guidelines
- Peer Review Case Study Form
- Clinic Placement Log
- Patient Encounter Log
- Clinic Activity Log
- Clinic Evaluation Tool
  - Midterm
  - Final
- Professional Participation Form