

COURSE OUTLINE

NURS-230 Trends in Nursing 1 Semester Hour

HOWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Description

This course provides the nursing student with an overview of the current trends and issues occurring today in nursing and health care including health care financing and economics, the health care delivery system, legal and ethical issues, health policy and politics. Students will develop competencies required to administer safe, technical nursing care to patients with an emphasis on resources, culture, management of care, trends, communication, clinical judgment, and professional behavior. Students will be challenged to examine how these issues and other current events shape nursing practice. Prerequisites: NURS-133 and NURS-134. (1 hour theory)

Overall Course Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course the student will have demonstrated the ability to:

1. Integrate knowledge of health care resources, access and financing into managing professional nursing care.
2. Analyze the effect of health care delivery systems on health care cost, quality, and access, and on the delivery of nursing care.
3. Differentiate between accountability and liability for one's actions in professional nursing practice.
4. Apply an ethical decision-making process to specific ethical issues encountered in clinical practice.
5. Demonstrate knowledge to be an informed and responsible politically active nurse.
6. Integrate respect for differences in beliefs and values of others as a component of nursing practice.
7. Describe both internal and external workplace strategies that support efficient and effective quality patient care.

Major Topics

- I. Economic Issues
 - a. Health Care Financing
 - b. Allocation of Resources
 - c. Implications for Nursing
- II. The Health Care Delivery System
 - a. Continuum of Care
 - b. Managed Health Care
 - c. External Oversight
- III. Legal Issues in Nursing and Health Care
 - a. Legal Implications
 - b. Liability
 - c. Patient's Rights

- IV. Ethical and Bioethics in Nursing and Health Care
 - a. Bioethics
 - b. Ethical Decision –Making
- V. Health Policy and Politics
 - a. The Legislative Process
 - b. Political Organizations in Health Care
 - c. Current Health Policy Issues
- VI. Cultural Competency
 - a. Population Trends
 - b. Diversity
 - c. Cultural Competence
 - d. Poverty
 - e. Alternative Healing
- VII. Workplace Advocacy and Issues
 - a. The Nursing Shortage
 - b. Staffing Issues
 - c. Patient Advocacy
 - d. Workplace Safety
- VIII. Current Events
 - a. Terrorism
 - b. Weapons of Mass Destruction
 - c. Emerging Infections

Course Requirements

Grading procedures will be determined by the nursing program but may include the following: exams, written assignments, and a group project and presentation.

Other Course Information

This course will be offered over a seven week period, requiring two hours of theory per week.