

COURSE OUTLINE
NURS-211
Enhancing Clinical Competence
Intersession
1 or 2 Semester Hours

HOWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Description

The student will practice as a member of a nursing team under the supervision of a designated R.N. preceptor. The student will identify patients' responses to stress and factors which may affect differences. The nursing process will be used to determine appropriate nursing intervention with foci on assessment, organization and quality patient care. Variables associated with delegation of nursing tasks and management skills will be identified. Increased understanding of the complexities of the clinical setting is expected as well as heightened levels of self-awareness, self-confidence, and effectiveness of nursing practice.

Pre-requisite: Completion of NURS-201 within the past year with a grade of C or better.

Overall Course Objectives

At the completion of the experience, the student will be able to:

1. Identify or explain nursing actions which are common to and/or unique to the nursing unit.
2. Describe patient's responses to stress as affected by the time of day, environmental factors and pathophysiology.
3. Organize, prioritize and administer care to a small group of patients on varying nursing shifts.
4. Develop proficiency in performing technical skills.
5. Consult with other members of the health care team to coordinate patient care activity.
6. Identify basic principles of effective management of a unit.
7. Describe strategies to resolve conflict situations.
8. Evaluate nursing practice in relationship to quality in patient care.

Major Topics

Clinical Experience Related to:

Course Objectives
Individual Objectives
Roles of Faculty, Student Preceptors
Requirements for Satisfactory Clinical Practice

Course Requirements

Hours:

Section 361 - 1 Clinical credit, 5 clinical shifts plus planning and evaluation meetings with faculty and preceptors.

OR

Section 362 - 2 Clinical credits, 10 clinical shifts plus planning and evaluation meetings with faculty and preceptors.

Students may register for 1-2 credits choosing from the above sections.

Grading: Students may audit this course or contract for a grade with criteria including both quality and quantity of assignments. Clinical performance must be at a satisfactory level to receive credit.

Written: Includes preparation of individual objectives. Written assignments related to patient and family assessments, outcomes of care and the health care delivery system will be assigned for students depending on student status in the course, i.e., credit or audit and number of credits.

Other Course Information

Students are encouraged to experience day and evening and/or night shifts. Eight or twelve hour shifts are available in many areas.

Many students choose to audit this course. In auditing, the responsibility for written assignments is reduced. All students are required to write individual learning objectives in addition to the course objectives.

Preceptorship: A preceptorship is a one-to-one relation between an experienced nurse and a novice nursing student. The assumption underlying the use of clinical preceptors is that a consistent one-to-one relationship is the most effective mechanism for learning. The preceptorship provides students with experiences in the “real world”.

The students, faculty and preceptor must work together throughout this course. Although a preceptorship is a one-to-one relationship between an experienced nurse and a nursing student, faculty must also be kept informed of learning progress and meeting the requirements for satisfactory clinical practice.