



Course Outline

2026-2027 Catalog

NSG 3 - Accelerated Track Medical Surgical Nursing IA

Catalog Description

Transfer Status: CSU

Prerequisite: Admission to Accelerated Track Registered Nursing Program

Unit(s): 1.50

Lecture: 25.50 Contact hours/51.00 Out of class hours/76.50 Total hours/1.50 Unit(s)

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Course Description: This course examines the pathophysiological foundations of health and disease and introduces the role of the nursing process in the maintenance, restoration and promotion of health. This course also explores concepts and challenges in client management in acute and chronic illnesses. Emphasis is placed on developing familiarity with the role of the professional nurse: gathering information, formulating nursing diagnoses, planning interventions, implementation or care, medication administration, and evaluation of outcomes.

Topics include: fluid and electrolyte balance and disturbances, parenteral therapy, diabetes and respiratory disorders. The focus is on the care of clients with acute and chronic problems and client education. Graded only.

Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Identify the nursing assessment skills required to formulate nursing diagnoses in the care of clients with acute or chronic health care conditions in order to assist clients in maintaining health, restoration of wellness, and/or promoting adaptation.
2. Identify the pathophysiology, medical and nursing diagnosis, and common treatments to include pharmacologic, non-pharmacologic, and nutritional aspects for patients across the lifespan with acute or chronic health care conditions.
3. Identify nursing interventions and nursing techniques used in the care of clients with acute and chronic health conditions.
4. Identify methods of primary, secondary, and tertiary prevention of acute or chronic health care conditions used to maintain and support health across the lifespan.
5. List criteria for evaluating the effectiveness of selected nursing therapeutic interventions and recognize data indicating a need to modify a client's care plan.
6. Identify factors such as genetics, developmental level, psychosocial, socioeconomic, sexuality, nutrition, and culture that affect client and familial support system's adaptation to acute, chronic, and terminal illness.
7. Define nursing care based on assessment data and nursing diagnosis for clients with acute and chronic health care conditions.
8. Define the professional role of the nurse in the care of clients with acute and chronic health care conditions as it relates to collaboration within health care teams, interprofessional communication skills, legal and ethical parameters, and client advocacy.
9. Describe formal and informal teaching methods for clients, familial support systems, health care teams, and communities in order to optimize care for clients with acute or chronic health care problems.
10. Describe community resources available to assist clients and familial support systems in managing acute or chronic health care problems prior to and after discharge from a healthcare system.

Course Content

Topic Titles / Suggested Time Topic	
	<u>Lecture</u>
<u>Topics</u>	<u>Lec Hrs</u>
Endocrine system and diabetes mellitus	6.00
Musculoskeletal system and disorders	6.00
Gastrointestinal system and disorders	6.00
Urinary system and urinary elimination disorders	6.00
Fluid and electrolytes	1.50
Total Hours: 25.50	

Methods of Instruction

- A. Discussion
- B. Homework: Students are required to complete two hours of outside-of-class homework for each hour of lecture
- C. Lecture
- D. Multimedia Presentations
- E. Reading Assignments

Methods of Evaluation

- A. Exams/Tests
- B. Papers
- C. Homework
- D. Group Participation

Examples of Assignments

Reading Assignments

1. In the assigned medical/surgical nursing textbook, read the chapter on patients with gastrointestinal disorders. Be prepared to discuss nursing interventions for these GI disorders.
2. In the assigned medical/surgical nursing textbook, read the chapter on assessment of musculoskeletal function. Answer an instructor set of objectives.

Writing Assignments

1. Write a 2-3 page paper using APA formatting describing an assigned cancer type, including signs and symptoms, diagnosis, treatment and prognosis.
2. Write a 3-4 page paper on diabetes mellitus including signs and symptoms, diagnosis, treatment and different types of insulin.

Out-of-Class Assignments

1. Complete reflective online module for the patient with gastrointestinal disorder and complete a post assessment quiz online.
2. Set up a teaching plan to optimize a patient's nutrition given a set of nutritional guidelines and standards.

Recommended Materials of Instruction

Harding, M. M., Kwong, D. Hagler, D. Roberts, & C. Reinisch, Eds. (2022). Lewis's medical-surgical nursing: assessment and management of clinical problems. *Elsevier*, 12th. 978-0-323-82519-1.

Lilley, L.L. Harrington, Collins, S. R., Snyder, J.S. (2022). Pharmacology and the Nursing Process. *Elsevier*, 10th. 978-0-323-82797-3.

Wilson, S. F., & Giddens, J. F. (2025). Health assessment for nursing practice. *Elsevier*, th. 9780323661195.

Minimum Qualifications

Nursing (Masters Required)

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