

## Course Syllabus

**Name of Course:** Fundamentals for Nursing

**Course Description:** Introduction to the role of the professional nurse as provider of care, coordinator of care, and member of the profession. Topics include but are not limited to the fundamental concepts of nursing practice, history of professional nursing, a systematic framework for decision-making, mechanisms of disease, the needs and problems that nurses help clients manage, and basic psychomotor skills. Emphasis on knowledge, judgment, skills and professional values within a legal/ethical framework.

**Learning Outcomes:** Describe the roles of the nurse in the delivery of health care; demonstrate competence in the performance of basic nursing skills; and begin critical thinking in a systematic problem solving process.

**Key Concepts and General Course Plan:** Fundamentals of Nursing Practice is designed to enable the beginning nursing student to develop basic skills in using the nursing process and holistic assessment to identify health status and monitor changes in the health of clients. This course builds on the foundation of client needs. Dietary modifications, selected pharmacological treatments, basic care, health promotion/disease prevention, and mental health nursing concepts (communication, relationships, roles, stress and coping) are included.

### **Learning Objectives:**

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

1. describe health as it is affected by biological, psychological, and sociological components.
2. use with assistance, the nursing process and the holistic model to assess, analyze, plan, implement, and evaluate nursing care for clients.
3. identify deviations from health using the holistic model for clients.
4. relate a rationale for nursing actions.
5. present oral and/or written reports that are concise, pertinent, organized, accurate, legible, and grammatically correct.
6. recognize basic concepts of interpersonal relationships.
7. interact deliberately with others using therapeutic communication skills.

8. examine with assistance, therapeutic use of self in the development of interpersonal relationships.
9. demonstrate basic skills in performing physical and psychosocial assessments.
10. demonstrate those technical skills commensurate with knowledge base:
  - A. handwashing
  - B. hygiene measures
  - C. comfort measures
  - D. wound care
  - E. vital signs
  - F. application of restraints
  - G. selected methods of alternative feeding
  - H. urinary catheterization and catheter care
  - I. techniques for Infection Control
  - J. administration of oral, intramuscular, subcutaneous, intradermal, rectal, and topical medications.
11. discuss factors that contribute to a safe environment for the provision of nursing care for the individual.
12. differentiate role expectations of the various members of the health care team.
13. describe nursing's past and potential contributions to the community as a participant in the health care system.
14. identify with assistance, community resources available for health care referral.
15. examine and identify with direction, values and beliefs of self and others.
16. discuss nursing measures to promote and maintain health.
17. incorporate health teaching in the care of clients.
18. adhere to the policies of the Health Occupations Division college and external agencies.
19. demonstrate ability to access current professional literature.
20. differentiate normal/abnormal laboratory and radiological results.
21. discuss the importance of providing cost-effective organized, efficient nursing care.
22. identifies components of the Patient Bill of Rights.
23. exhibit behaviors which demonstrate personal and professional growth.

24. describe the role of the nurse and the client in the performance of activities of daily living.

25. display behaviors which exemplify belief in an individual's worth and dignity.

26. develop a beginning understanding of the legal and ethical implications of nursing practice.

**Methods of Instruction:**

1. Lecture/Discussion

2. Written, computer, and library assignments

3. Audiovisual Aids

4. Demonstrations

5. Role-Playing

6. Reports and Projects

7. Critical Thinking assignments

8. Conference-Individual and Group

9. Simulated Skills: Practice Return Demonstration of Selected Essential Competencies