NURS 2300: Introduction to Professional and Clinical Concepts in Nursing
Fall 2019

Instructor Information

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Sections 001 & 007 Phyllis Pastwa MSN, RN
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Sections 004, 005, & 008 Kelle George, MSN, RN, CEN
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Office Hours: Wednesday 11:00am-12:00pm or by appointment

Course Information

Section Information:
NURS 2300 Sections 001, 002, 003, 004, 005, 006, 007, 008, 009, & 010

Time and Place of Class Meetings:
Section 001 Mon. 8:00-10:50, Pickard Hall 227
Section 002 Tues. 8:00-10:50, Pickard Hall 227
Section 003 Tues. 1:00-3:50, Pickard Hall 227
Section 004 Wed. 8:00-10:50, Pickard Hall 227
Section 005 Wed. 1:00-3:50, Pickard Hall 227
Section 006 Thurs. 8:00-10:50, Pickard Hall 223
Section 007 Mon. 1:00-3:50, Pickard Hall 227
Section 008 Thurs. 1:00-3:50, Pickard Hall 223
Section 009 Wed. 8:00-10:50, Pickard Hall 223
Section 010 Wed. 1:00-3:50, Pickard Hall 223
Description of Course Content:
Designed to introduce the pre-nursing student to specific professional concepts in nursing as well as academic success strategies. Selected concepts and processes for professional nursing will include an introduction to nursing's theoretical, philosophical, ethical, and legal dimensions with an emphasis on professional formation. Course activities will focus on development of teamwork, communication skills, effective decision-making and reflective practice.

Student Learning Outcomes:
- Discuss characteristics of professional nurses as well as the process of forming a professional nursing identity.
- Recognize multiple components of effective decision making within professional nursing scenarios.
- Apply effective communication concepts to both patient care and team situations.
- Demonstrate effective time management, learning, and test taking strategies

Required Textbooks and Other Course Materials:


Recommended Textbooks:

Technology Requirements: Canvas is available to each enrolled student and will be used in this course. It is very important to check Canvas at least once daily for course information and announcements. In addition, Microsoft Office is the standard office productivity software utilized by faculty, students, and staff. All assignments must be submitted to Canvas in Microsoft Word. Mac users, please be aware that we do not accept assignments in Pages (.pages) or other formats that are not in Microsoft Word. See the Supplemental Syllabus for additional information.

Major assignments and examinations:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Percent towards final grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exam 1</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam 2</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam 3</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final exam</td>
<td>25%</td>
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</tbody>
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Grading Information

Required Coursework & Percentages of Overall Course Grade

- **Reflective Journals (9%)**
  - 3 Reflective Journals, 3% each
- **Skills Assessments (7%)**
  - 7 Vital Skills Assessments, 1% each
- **Assignments (5%)**
  - Background Check Survey, 1%
  - Nursing Article Summary, 4%
- **Exams (54%)**
  - 3 Exams, 18% each
- **Comprehensive Final Exam (25%)**

**TOTAL=100%**

Students are expected to keep track of their performance throughout the semester and seek guidance from available sources (including the instructor) if their performance drops below satisfactory levels; see “Student Support Services,” below.

**Minimum Passing Criteria:**
In order to successfully complete an undergraduate nursing course at UTA, the following minimum criteria must be met:

- 70% weighted average on major proctored exams

The following exams are included in the 70% weighted average for major proctored exams:
**Exams 1, 2, 3, and Final Exam.**

In determining the final course grade, the weighted average on major proctored exams will be checked first. If a student achieves a 70.00% with no rounding of the average on these course components, the additional graded items will count toward the final course grade. If the student does not achieve a 70.00% with no rounding of the average on the components listed, the grade stands as a D or F as determined by the numerical value from the weighted average on the major proctored exams and/or major written assignments listed above. On all tests, the grades are rounded to two decimal places (i.e., 85.679=85.68). For the final course grade there will be no rounding (i.e., 89.67=B, 69.99=D). A final course grade of C or better is required in all nursing courses to pass.

**Exam Policy:** Exam scheduling and administration procedures are standardized among all pre-nursing and upper-division courses in the pre-licensure nursing program. The full policy, located in the CONHI Policy and Handbook Library, includes details related to exam development, exam scheduling and accommodations, exam administration, testing environment, and post-exam procedures.

1. **Excused Absences:** legal obligation, military obligations, pre-approved university-sponsored events, emergency situations, religious holy days, death of family member, or illness
   - **Requirements:** To be considered for a re-scheduled exam, the student must notify faculty prior to exam start date and time; documentation of incident is required and must be provided within 48 hours following exam due date and time. Documentation for illness requires proof of a visit to a healthcare provider. There are no exceptions to this rule.
   - The make-up exam may include alternative questions and/or test format. There will be no point deductions for an excused exam absence.
2. Unexcused Absences: oversleeping, exam date oversight, computer / technical issues, or other reasons not listed under excused absences
   - Requirements: To be considered for a re-scheduled exam, the student must notify faculty with their request within 48 hours of the exam due date and time. The exam must be scheduled within 7 days of the original exam due date and time.
   - The make-up exam may include alternative questions and/or test format and will have a point penalty of 20 points.
   - A student may only have one unexcused absence per course. Subsequent unexcused absences will result in a ‘0’ on the exam.
   - Students will not be allowed to take exam in another section without penalty due to an unexcused absence.
3. Exam Tardy:
   - Proctored Exams: If a student arrives late to a proctored exam, they are only allowed the remaining time to complete the exam. For example, for a 60-minute exam, if a student arrives and has only 13 minutes left, that is all the time they will be given to complete their exam.
4. Students will only be allowed one 20-point penalty per course

Late Assignment Submission:
- Vital Skills Assessments Survey: No late points will be given for late assessment surveys.
- Assignments/Journals: There will be 10 points deducted for each day an assignment is late, up to 2 days, at that time the assignment will be a 0 UNLESS you have approval PRIOR to the due date from your faculty for an extension.
- Exams: Exams must be completed on the date and time specified. Please see policy above specific to exams.
  *The official time for assignments, journals, and vital skills will be determined by the submission time to Canvas and is based on Central Time.*

Grade Grievances:
Any appeal of a grade in this course must follow the procedures as published in the College of Nursing and Health Innovation Undergraduate Student Handbook (https://www.uta.edu/conhi/students/policy/index.php). In an attempt to resolve a complaint, the student must first make a serious effort to resolve the matter with the individual with whom the grievance originated. Faculty of the course has the primary responsibility for assigning grades. Appeals of the official grade assigned to a student for a course will not, therefore, be considered at levels above the faculty unless a student offers evidence of:
- Differential treatment – examples might be providing benefits such as extra time for assignments to some but not all students in the class; excluding some students from attendance or other course requirements, OR
- Procedural irregularities – examples might be adding a new requirement that was not listed in the class syllabus; using criteria for grades not made available to the student ahead of time.

More information about the university's grade grievance policies can be found in the Undergraduate Grading Policies section of the catalog (https://catalog.uta.edu/academicregulations/grades/#undergraduatetext). Information regarding grievances for matters other than grades is available in the Student Rights section of the catalog (https://catalog.uta.edu/academicregulations/security/).
Institution Information

UTA students are encouraged to review the below institutional policies and informational sections and reach out to the specific office with any questions. To view this institutional information, please visit the Institutional Information page (http://www.uta.edu/provost/administrative-forms/course-syllabus/index.php) which includes the following policies among others:

- Drop Policy
- Disability Accommodations
- Title IX Policy
- Academic Integrity
- Student Feedback Survey
- Final Exam Schedule

Additional Information

Attendance:
At the University of Texas at Arlington, taking attendance is not required but attendance is a critical indicator of student success. Each faculty member is free to develop his or her own methods of evaluating students’ academic performance, which includes establishing course-specific policies on attendance. As the instructor of this section, **attendance is not required. Although class attendance is not factored into the course grade, frequent absences will interfere with mastering the content of this course and may therefore result in poor course grades.** However, while UT Arlington does not require instructors to take attendance in their courses, the U.S. Department of Education requires that the University have a mechanism in place to mark when Federal Student Aid recipients “begin attendance in a course.” UT Arlington instructors will report when students begin attendance in a course as part of the final grading process. Specifically, when assigning a student a grade of F, faculty report must the last date a student attended their class based on evidence such as a test, participation in a class project or presentation, or an engagement online via Canvas. This date is reported to the Department of Education for federal financial aid recipients.

Emergency Exit Procedures:
Should we experience an emergency event that requires evacuation of the building, students should exit the room and move toward the nearest exit, which is located **through the doors, turn left, and proceed straight to the stairwell.** When exiting the building during an emergency, do not take an elevator but use the stairwells instead. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist students in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist individuals with disabilities.

Please subscribe to the MavAlert system at [Emergency Communication System](http://www.uta.edu/studentsuccess/success-programs/resource-hotline.php); this will send information in case of an emergency to cell phones or email accounts.

Student Support Services:
UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include [tutoring](http://www.uta.edu/studentsuccess/success-programs/programs/resource-hotline.php), [major-based learning centers](http://www.uta.edu/studentsuccess/success-programs/programs/resource-hotline.php), developmental education, [advising and mentoring](http://www.uta.edu/studentsuccess/success-programs/programs/resource-hotline.php), personal counseling, and [federally funded programs](http://www.uta.edu/studentsuccess/success-programs/programs/resource-hotline.php). For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to resources@uta.edu, or view the information at [http://www.uta.edu/studentsuccess/success-programs/programs/resource-hotline.php](http://www.uta.edu/studentsuccess/success-programs/programs/resource-hotline.php)

The [IDEAS Center](http://www.uta.edu/studentsuccess/success-programs/programs/resource-hotline.php) (2nd Floor of Central Library) offers **FREE tutoring** to all students with a focus on transfer students, sophomores, veterans and others undergoing a transition to UT Arlington. Students can drop in, or check the schedule of available peer tutors at [www.uta.edu/IDEAS](http://www.uta.edu/IDEAS), or call (817) 272-6593.
The English Writing Center (411LIBR): The Writing Center offers FREE tutoring in 15-, 30-, 45-, and 60-minute face-to-face and online sessions to all UTA students on any phase of their UTA coursework. Register and make appointments online at https://uta.mywconline.com. Classroom visits, workshops, and specialized services for graduate students and faculty are also available. Please see www.uta.edu/owl for detailed information on all our programs and services. The Library’s 2nd floor Academic Plaza offers students a central hub of support services, including IDEAS Center, University Advising Services, Transfer UTA and various college/school advising hours. Services are available during the library’s hours of operation. http://library.uta.edu/academic-plaza

Librarian Contact Information:
UTA Library: http://www.uta.edu/library/help/subject-librarians.php
  Nursing Librarians: nursinglibrarians@uta.edu
  Gretchen Trkay: gtrkay@uta.edu
  Peace Ossom Williamson: peace@uta.edu
  RaeAnna Jeffers: raeanna.jeffers@uta.edu

CONHI Student Handbook: The Undergraduate BSN Student Handbook can be found by going to the following link: https://www.uta.edu/conhi/students/policy/index.php

Emergency Phone Numbers

In case of an on-campus emergency, call the UT Arlington Police Department at 817-272-3003 (non-campus phone), 2-3003 (campus phone). You may also dial 911. Non-emergency number 817-272-3381. Enter the UTA Police Department’s emergency phone number into your own mobile phone.