



Ferris State University
College of Health Professions
School of Nursing
Bachelor of Science in Nursing Program
Pre-Licensure Track
NURS 471: Nursing Capstone

Course Description

This course focuses on current healthcare trends and issues related to professional nursing practice, nursing research, and professional development. Students will have the opportunity to synthesize their learning experiences throughout the nursing program to demonstrate personal professional growth and a commitment to professional development.

3 credits (3+0) = 45 hours /semester

Pre-requisite: NURS 460, 461, 462, 463

Corequisite: NURS 470, 472, 473

Course Outcomes

1. Synthesize personal professional development throughout the nursing program including an understanding of the positive impact of collaboration, professional communication, and lifelong learning on high quality, safe patient care. (Collaborative Leadership)
Assessment Method: Portfolio rubric sections on collaborative leadership and professionalism.
2. Integrate theoretical concepts from nursing and other disciplines as related to current health care trends or nursing practice issues in diverse settings. (Theoretical Base for Practice)
Assessment Method: Issue analysis paper and seminar presentation (section B: Titled Theory Base).
3. Assess the health care environment utilizing a systems framework to consider policy, resources, and quality and safety related to nursing practice settings. (Generalist Nursing Practice)
Assessment Method: Issue analysis paper and seminar presentation (section C: Titled Assessment of the Health Care Environment).
4. Distinguish research gaps related to health promotion or disease prevention at the individual or population level through review of evidence-based nursing literature. (Scholarship for Practice)
Assessment Method: Research presentation.
5. Propose improvements to nursing practice related to a specific healthcare trend or professional issue using a critical thinking and clinical reasoning framework. (Health Care Environment)
Assessment Method: Issue analysis paper and seminar presentation (section E titled Recommendations for Quality and Safety Improvements.)
6. Evaluate personal commitment to the values inherent to the nursing profession. (Professionalism)
Assessment Method: Personal Reflection

Instructional Delivery Method & Schedule

This didactic course is offered in a mixed delivery format, meeting once per week, with some coursework also completed online.

Required Course Materials

No text, readings to be determined.

American Psychological Association. (2009). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th ed.). Washington, DC: American Psychological Association

Course Learning Activities & Assessment Methods

Assignment	Course Outcome(s)	Percent of Total Grade	Due Date
Self-Assessment Paper (Service Learning)	6	5%	
Portfolio (Collaborative Leadership & Professionalism Sections)	Course: 1	15%	
Participation	6	7%	
Analysis of Issue			
Presentation	2, 3, 4, 5	25%	
Paper	2, 3, 4, 5	25%	
Poster	2, 3, 4, 5	15%	

A minimum grade of "C+" (79%) is required to progress to the next nursing course.

School of Nursing Grading Scale

A	95-100	C	75-78
A-	92-94	C-	72-74
B+	89-91	D+	69-71
B	85-88	D	65-68
B-	82-84	D-	62-64
C+	79-81	F	61 and below

University and Program Policies

Students are referred to the College of Health Professions for standard academic policies established by Ferris State University. Please review the policies pertaining to: Academic misconduct, probation, and dismissal; disruptive behavior, and attendance.

<http://ferris.edu/HTMLS/colleges/alliedhe/faq/Policies-Resources-Faculty-Staff-Students.htm>

Students are referred to the *Handbook for Pre-Licensure Nursing Students* for academic policies established by the School of Nursing. Please review the policies covered in the General Information and Academic Policies for nursing sections.

<https://ferris.edu/HTMLS/colleges/alliedhe/Nursing/BSN/bsn-student-policies.htm>

Students are referred to the Code of Conduct:

<http://www.ferris.edu/HTMLS/colleges/alliedhe/Nursing/pdfs-docs/Nursing-Student-Code-of-Conduct.pdf>

NURS 471 Specific Course policies

- You must complete all assignments in order to pass the class.
- Make sure to attach the Grading Criteria (if any) with each assignment you submit as well as the APA checklist unless otherwise instructed.
- All assignments are due **on the date indicated** on the schedule in the syllabus.
- Due dates may be re-negotiated on an individual basis, if necessary, and if there is a sound excuse. Assignment due dates will only be re-negotiated **before** the due date, not on it.
- Re-negotiated due dates may result in a reduced grade or the grade of incomplete.
- Assignments will be refused and not accepted if submitted late unless negotiation and arrangements have been made with the instructor **at least 24 hours prior** to the due date and time.
- Assignment grades may be reduced and marked down by 10 points for each day they are late, except for re-negotiated due dates. Assignments later than 1 week will not be accepted without a re-negotiated due date.
- Plagiarism (copying) of themes or other written work shall also be considered an infraction. Students are required to present the results of their own work except under circumstances in which the instructor may have requested or approved the joint effort of a number of students. The penalty for the first offense of cheating consists of the student receiving a zero for the assignment in which the infraction occurs. However, cheating on quizzes or examinations means failure in the course. The student may appeal the decision to the Disciplinary Committee. Further offenses may result in suspension or dismissal from the University.
- Absence from class sessions will result in deductions in the participation grade unless for authorized reasons.

Writing Requirements

Students are required to submit all papers using APA format as described in the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*, 6th ed. (2009). Written work in this course is expected to be on time and of the professional quality required of the senior level professional nursing student. Students who have known difficulty with writing requirements are encouraged to seek the assistance of the University Writing Center, to use the writing checklist provided, and to be diligent in proofreading work prior to submission. It is advised that you review plagiarism information so that you do not inadvertently plagiarize your paper. Specific grading rubrics for the assignments are provided.

Writing expectations

Writing is a cornerstone for demonstrating an understanding of nursing concepts. The nursing faculty are dedicated to grading this writing with consistency. The rubric provided in the BSN Writing Guidelines has been developed to establish professional writing standards for the nursing program. All papers will be graded according to the criteria identified.