



Ferris State University  
College of Health Professions  
School of Nursing  
Master of Science in Nursing Program

**NURS 521 Health Care Systems, Policy, & Advocacy**

### **Course Description**

This course is designed to explore the political structures and social forces that shape health care delivery. In this course, students will examine the role of the masters-prepared nurse as political activist and policy advocate within the U.S. health care delivery systems of care. Policies that influence health care economics, access, safety, quality, or efficacy will be investigated.

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

Pre-requisite: Graduate Status

### **Course Outcomes**

1. Examine theories and models of policy making (theoretical base for practice).  
Assessment Method: Selected Discussions
2. Evaluate the role of the masters-prepared nurse in policy development and political advocacy within the U.S. health care system towards the goal of improving the health of the public or the profession of nursing (specialty leadership role in practice) (collaborative leadership) (professionalism).  
Assessment Method: Group healthcare issue presentation
3. Analyze the changing health care environment and the factors that influence it on a local and global level (health care environment)  
Assessment Method: Individual health care issue analysis (paper)
4. Interpret research evidence as it relates to policy development (scholarship for practice).  
Assessment Method: Group debate

### **Instructional Delivery Method & Schedule**

This is a fully online 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

### Course Learning Activities & Assessment Methods

Assignment	Course Outcome(s) Assessed (by #)	Percent of Total Grade	Due Date
Online Assignments & Participation	1	30%	
Group Legislative Action Presentation	2	20%	
Health Care Issue Analysis Paper	3	30%	
Group Debate of Current Challenge and Debate Analysis (Individual grade)	4	20%	

### Course Policies

Students are referred to the College of Health Professions for standard academic policies established by Ferris State

University: <http://www.ferris.edu/HTMLS/colleges/alliedhe/Policies.htm>

Students are referred to the *Handbook for Graduate Nursing Students* for academic policies established by the School of Nursing:

[http://www.ferris.edu/HTMLS/colleges/alliedhe/Nursing/MSN-program/Handbook\\_for\\_Graduate\\_Nursing\\_Students\\_2013.pdf](http://www.ferris.edu/HTMLS/colleges/alliedhe/Nursing/MSN-program/Handbook_for_Graduate_Nursing_Students_2013.pdf)