Course Title: NURSING INFORMATICS (BL)

Course number: NURS4351
Summer 2015

Course Description:
This three-credit course (3 theory) introduces students to basic concepts and tools associated with the structure, management and communication of information to support the role of the nurse as a knowledge worker. Emphasis will be placed on the use of clinical information systems, electronic health records and telecommunication technologies in nursing. The course will be offered using a blended course format that includes a limited number of face-to-face classroom sessions, with the majority of the course materials presented on-line.

Prerequisites: NURS2542 Foundations of Holistic Nursing Practice, NURS2342 Health Assessment, and NURS3551 Holistic Nursing: Care of Adults.

Credit Hours 3

Course Goals & Objectives:
This course will provide students the opportunity to achieve the following learning outcomes:

• Describe the application of nursing informatics competencies in nursing practice, education and knowledge development in nursing.
• Demonstrate basic computer and information literacy skills applicable to the nursing practice environment.
• Access and evaluate internet-based information resources for use in professional practice.
• Understand the use of clinical information systems, standardized nursing terminologies and electronic health/medical records to describe and document nursing’s unique contributions to patient care outcomes
• Discuss the use of embedded clinical decision support tools and safeguards in electronic health/medical records to support the creation of safe practice environments.
• Describe ethical and legal issues regarding privacy and confidentiality of personal health information and mechanisms used to protect this information in the computerized patient record environment.
• Discuss point-of-care information technology to access clinical information and document nursing care using a virtual clinical information system.
• Discuss the application of telehealth technologies and systems in patient care delivery.
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Cell: 281-451-8206  
Skype: Juliana.Brixey  
Office Hours: By appointment

Course Text and Resource Materials:  

Suggested Resources:  


Suggested Grammar and Spell Check Tool  

Recommended Websites:  
- ANIA [https://www.ania.org/](https://www.ania.org/)  
- Institute for Healthcare Improvement [http://www.ihi.org/explore/patientsafety/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.ihi.org/explore/patientsafety/Pages/default.aspx)  
- Sigma Theta Tau International [http://www.nursingsociety.org/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.nursingsociety.org/Pages/default.aspx)  
- The Joint Commission [http://www.jointcommission.org/topics/patient_safety.aspx](http://www.jointcommission.org/topics/patient_safety.aspx)
- TNA Health Information Technology Task Force http://www.texasnurses.org/displaycommon.cfm?an=1&subarticlenbr=610

**Methods of Instruction**
- Assigned readings from required textbook
- Online instruction and activities via Black Board
- Small group work
- Class discussion

**Blackboard Course Access:** Pre-class interactive preparation for the course is posted on UST’s Blackboard, which can be accessed through the UST website at http://www.stthom.edu (right column has the Blackboard link).
# Course Outline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Tasks</th>
<th>Activity &amp; Quiz Due</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 1</strong></td>
<td><strong>Course orientation</strong></td>
<td><strong>Meet at University of St Thomas</strong></td>
<td><strong>Holiday</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>May 25</td>
<td>May 26</td>
<td><strong>Tuesday, May 26 from 1-3 pm, F2F, Course Orientation, Art Gallery</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>May 26 – May 30</strong></td>
<td><strong>Introduction &amp; Professional Networking</strong></td>
<td><strong>Read Chapter 5</strong></td>
<td><strong>June 1 at 11:59 PM (2359)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 2</strong></td>
<td><strong>The Informatics Discipline</strong></td>
<td><strong>Read Chapter 17</strong></td>
<td><strong>June 8 at 11:59 PM (2359)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>May 31- June 6</td>
<td><strong>Introduction to Nursing Informatics</strong></td>
<td><strong>Complete and submit the unit activity</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 3</strong></td>
<td><strong>Basic Electronic Healthcare Information Systems</strong></td>
<td><strong>Read Chapter 18</strong></td>
<td><strong>June 15 at 11:59 PM (2359)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>June 7 – June 13</td>
<td><strong>Specialized Electronic Health Systems</strong></td>
<td><strong>Complete and submit the unit activity</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 4</strong></td>
<td><strong>Nursing Documentation in the Age of Electronic Health Record</strong></td>
<td><strong>Read Chapter 16</strong></td>
<td><strong>July 6 at 11:59 PM (2359)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>June 14 – June 20</td>
<td><strong>Interoperability at the International and the National Level</strong></td>
<td><strong>Complete and submit the unit activity</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 5</strong></td>
<td><strong>Electronic Healthcare Issues</strong></td>
<td><strong>Read Chapter 20</strong></td>
<td><strong>July 20 at 11:59 PM (2359)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>June 21 – June 27</td>
<td><strong>Legal and Ethical Issues</strong></td>
<td><strong>Complete the unit activity</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 6</strong></td>
<td><strong>Work on completing End of Semester Project and Reflection Paper</strong></td>
<td><strong>Project and Reflection paper due Aug 5 at 1159 PM (2359)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>June 28 – July 4</td>
<td><strong>July 19 - July 25</strong></td>
<td><strong>Read Chapter 25</strong></td>
<td><strong>July 27 at 11:59 PM (2359)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 7</strong></td>
<td><strong>July 26 – August 1</strong></td>
<td><strong>Complete the unit activity</strong></td>
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<td><strong>August 2 - 8</strong></td>
<td><strong>Work on completing End of Semester Project and Reflection</strong></td>
<td><strong>Project and Reflection</strong></td>
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<td>Reflection Paper</td>
<td>paper due Aug 5 at 11:59 PM (2359)</td>
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Course Projects Calendar
Mid-Semester Project Due Monday June 22 at 11:59 PM (2359)
End of Semester Project Due Wednesday Aug 5 at 11:59 PM (2359)
Reflection Paper Due Wednesday Aug 5 at 1159 PM

Evaluation
Weekly Activities …………………………… 35%
Midterm Project …………………………… 25%
End of Semester Project …………………………… 25%
Reflection Paper …………………..….15%

Grades are awarded based on the following scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Minimum</th>
<th>Maximum</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>95 - 100</td>
<td>B-</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90 - 94</td>
<td>B+</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87 - 89</td>
<td>C+</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>84-86</td>
<td>C-</td>
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<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>81 - 83</td>
<td>C</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>78 - 80</td>
<td>D</td>
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<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>75 - 77</td>
<td>D+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>72 - 74</td>
<td>D</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>65 - 68</td>
<td>F</td>
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<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>69 - 71</td>
<td>F</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>&lt;65</td>
<td>F</td>
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Course Requirements

Attendance: Class attendance is required and the student is responsible for all material covered. If the student is not able attend class, the instructor should be notified immediately – preferably before the missed session or the student may relinquish their ability to make up missed material.

Netiquette: Netiquette refers to the generally accepted rules of behavior for communicating in the online environment.

Please follow these guidelines in all your online responses and discussion groups.

RESPECT. We would like to suggest respectful exchanges as a basic ground rule. We feel that informational errors should be pointed out respectfully (even if stated strongly). Disagreements that honor the viewpoints of the various contributors are productive and can lead to new learning and understanding. If you use abusive or offensive language, you will be blocked from the discussion area and potentially removed from this course. If that is the case, you will not receive a refund of your tuition or fees.

PRIVACY. Keep in mind not only your own privacy rights, but others' as well. Do not reveal any information that you deem private.

BE CONSIDERATE of grammatical/spelling errors.

REMEMBER that humor and satire are often misinterpreted online. Communication is more than words. So be prepared for some misunderstanding and requests for clarification.

BE SUPPORTIVE. We are all still learning. Our job is not to judge or condemn or even praise, although genuine encouragement is a necessary ingredient. We are here to provide information, to address topics in a discussion forum, and to provide assistance in helping each participant use her/his own unique learning style. Reflection generally precedes growth. So reflect upon what is said, provide sincere comments, and hopefully, we will all grow.
One good way to avoid problems is to reread your postings before sending them. Something written in haste may be misread.

**Cell phones and beepers:** During class sessions, please keep cell phones and beepers on vibrate or silent mode during class. Do NOT text during class or talk on your cell phone. This is disruptive to the class and you will be asked to leave the classroom if you cannot follow this rule. If you have an emergency communication, please exit and discuss this outside of the classroom to prevent class disruption.

**Computer Use Policy:** You may use a computer to take notes or refer to class materials in class but not during quizzes or exams. You may be asked to turn off your computer if it is used in ways not permitted in the classroom.

**Course Evaluation**
There is an end of semester evaluation for this course. This evaluation is short and confidential and we encourage you to complete it since your input is very valuable to us. Two weeks prior to the end of the semester, you will be able to access the evaluation by going to the evaluation page.

**Student Resources**
Students are encouraged to go the UST library as well as other internet sources as needed.

**Student Accommodations**
In accordance with Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the instructor will make all possible and reasonable adjustments in policies, practices, services, and facilities to ensure equal and optimal educational programs and activities. Whenever a special accommodation is necessary to ensure access to full participation by students with disabilities, the student must inform the instructor of any disability or needed accommodations. The University Office for ADA Compliance may ask to seek proof of disability and specify accommodations as requested by students. Students with special needs should inform the instructor within the first two weeks of class. Students must also contact the Office of Counseling and Disability Services (2nd floor of Crocker Center) by calling Dr. Rose Signorello at 713-525-3162 or Ms. Debbie Jones at 713-525-6953; the Office is open 8-5 Monday through Friday. The accommodations will become official when the instructor receives official, written notification from the officer in charge of ADA compliance. Students should contact the instructor immediately if new needs arise. Students can see the instructor before or after class or request another time to discuss any matters. All information will be kept confidential.

**Academic integrity**
UST Students should demonstrate integrity in all of their activities, both personal and professional. Any unprofessional behavior or failure to adhere to the honor system is a serious violation of integrity and may result in failure of the course.

The SON Student Handbook contains detailed information on plagiarism and related policies. Students are held accountable for knowing and adhering to these policies. Please note that Turn It In software will be used routinely to help address insufficient documentation; this software can detect plagiarism.