COURSE INFORMATION

Course Title: Clinical Reasoning in Nursing
Course Number: NURS 2032 A
         Summer 2017

Course Description:

The intent of this course is to strengthen participating Cohort 2018 students’ knowledge base, study/learning patterns, and test taking skills. The course is a blend of independent learning activities and group seminars. Subject matter foci were selected to meet learning needs identified from students’ performance patterns reflected on HESI specialty exams. Based on analyses of standardized tests, the majority of learning needs were related to medical-surgical concepts foundational to nursing practice associated with all specialty patient populations. Therefore, the course will focus on these subject matter areas. The course also will include relevant medication reviews and exams. The overarching goal is to enhance students’ knowledge base and clinical reasoning skills essential to success in completing their upcoming curriculum requirements and meeting or exceeding benchmark performance HESI exams. The course will be evaluated on a pass/fail basis using goal attainment scale rubrics to evaluate performance in each of 6 assessment areas.

Placement: Undergraduate

Required course for Cohort 2018 students who failed to meet 900 or above on HESI specialty exam and/or achieved less than 80 in a clinical course. See student 2016-2017 Student Handbook, pages 24-25.

Optional course for students who want to enhance or optimize their academic performance.

Prerequisite(s): Full Admission to the School of Nursing

Credit Hours: 3

Course Schedule: Seminars scheduled on Thursday’s from 1-4 pm (see course schedule posted on Bb)... 

Course Withdrawal “W” Date: The last day to drop course with a “W” is July 12, 2017.
# FACULTY INFORMATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title/Role</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Phyllis J. Waters,</td>
<td>Course Coordinator</td>
<td>Office: SON, 1200 Colquitt E-mail: <a href="mailto:watersp@stthom.edu">watersp@stthom.edu</a> Office: 713-942-3482 Cell: 409-392-1159 Office Hours: By Appointment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PhD, RN</td>
<td></td>
<td>BIOSKETCH: Dr. Waters is a Professor at University of St. Thomas, Peavy School of Nursing. She holds a Master’s Degree in Nursing from Texas Woman’s University and a PhD in Nursing from the University of Texas Medical Branch School of Biomedical Sciences. Dr. Waters has an extensive background in strategic planning, evaluation, leadership, and organizational development. Her research interests are healing environments and theory based Nursing Practice models</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Kristina Leyden,</td>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
<td>Office: 713-525-3857 Cell: 713-823-2263 E-mail: <a href="mailto:leydenk@stthom.edu">leydenk@stthom.edu</a> Office Hours: By Appointment</td>
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<tr>
<td>PhD, APRN, FNP-BC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maribel Bhojani,</td>
<td>Instructor and Counselor</td>
<td>Office: PSON, Advanced Simulation Lab E-mail: <a href="mailto:marquem1@stthom.edu">marquem1@stthom.edu</a> Cell: 713-382-3397 Office Hours: By Appointment</td>
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<tr>
<td>MS, BSN, RN-BC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pamela S. Winter, RN,</td>
<td>STEM Nursing Retention Manager</td>
<td>Office: CSHP Room 204 Phone: office 713-525-6975, Cell 409-739-1633 e-mail <a href="mailto:winterps@stthom.edu">winterps@stthom.edu</a> Office Hours: By Appointment</td>
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<tr>
<td>CCRN</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Mark Winter</td>
<td>Adjunct Faculty</td>
<td>Office: CSHP Room 212 Phone: office 713 525 3898 cell: 409 739 2852 Email: <a href="mailto:winterml@stthom.edu">winterml@stthom.edu</a> Office Hours: By Appointment</td>
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### REQUIRED COURSE RESOURCES
Saunders’ Comprehensive Review for the NCLEX-RN® Examination/7th Edition (may use 6th edition if already purchased)
BoardVitals [https://www.boardvitals.com](https://www.boardvitals.com) (available without charge through UST Doherty Library)
LEARNING OUTCOMES
Course Goals & Objectives
This course provides students the opportunity to demonstrate:
  a. Enhanced mastery of clinical concepts and clinical reasoning utilizing a range of learning and assessment tools.
  b. Improved mastery of skills associated with success on standardized test taking.
  c. Improved mastery of clinical knowledge base previously identified as deficient in meeting curricula expectations.

Course Outcome Competencies:
After completing this course, students will be able to
  1. Demonstrate a disciplined pattern of learning by completing assignments and adhering to deadlines.
  2. Achieve or exceed an acceptable level of performance on in-class quizzes that assess comprehension of assigned subject matter readings.
  3. Achieve or exceed an acceptable level of performance on Medication Challenge Mid-Term and Final exams using specified calculation formulas and accurately applying medication administration principles.
  4. Demonstrate acceptable level of achievement in performance on BoardVitals on-line assignments.
  5. Demonstrate acceptable level of achievement on HESI or other standardized tests focused on content areas targeted for improvement.

PRINCIPAL UNITS OF THE COURSE
Navigating Course Resources and Requirements
Care of the Patient with Respiratory Problems
  Fundamental Concepts-Acid/Base, Oxygen, Gas Exchange
Care of the Patient with Cardiovascular Problems
  Fundamental Concepts-Fluids and Electrolytes: Perfusion
Care of the Patient with Renal Problems
  Fundamental Concepts-Fluids and Electrolytes: Elimination
Care of the Patient with Gastrointestinal Problems
  Fundamental Concepts-Nutrition
Care of the Patient with Endocrine Problems
  Fundamental Concepts-Metabolism and Tissue Integrity
Care of the patient with Immunology/Hematology/Oncology Problems
  Fundamental Concepts-Infection, Pain, and Comfort
Care of the patient with Neurological Problems
  Fundamental Concepts-Sensory, mobility, and safety
METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

Seminars featuring case studies related to subject matter focus for the week, online assessments, textbook readings, in-class quizzes and interactive discussions. The Seminars and other assignments are designed using the Socratic Method as the principle learning approach. The Socratic Method facilitates critical thinking regarding the subject matter being addressed, “The oldest, and still the most powerful, teaching tactic for fostering critical thinking is Socratic teaching. In Socratic teaching we focus on giving students questions, not answers. We model an inquiring, probing mind by continually probing into the subject with questions” (quote taken from online resources provided by The Community for Critical Thinking).

METHODS OF ASSESSMENT

Students will receive a Pass/Fail grade in the Course based on criteria outlined in Goal Attainment Scale rubrics that reflect performance for each variable being evaluated. The overall score is determined by calculating the student’s achievement by performance level and weighting of the variable being evaluated.

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<tr>
<th>✔️</th>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Optimal Level of Achievement (+2)</td>
<td>Performance is outstanding relative to the variable being evaluated</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Noteworthy level of Achievement (+1)</td>
<td>Exceeds expectations relative to the variable being evaluated.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Acceptable Level of Achievement (0)</td>
<td>Meets expectations or requirements relative to the variable being evaluated</td>
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<tr>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>Level</td>
<td>Description</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Less than Acceptable level of Achievement (-1)</td>
<td>Did not meet expectations relative to variable being evaluated but performance indicated improvement</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Unacceptable level of Achievement (-2)</td>
<td>Failed to meet expectations relative to variable being evaluated and performance did not improve or declined.</td>
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Evaluation

Attendance........................................................................................................................................5%
Online Assignments in BoardVitals (8).............................................................................................15%
In-Class Quizzes designed to assess Comprehension of Reading Assignments (7)..................5%
Medication Challenge Midterm........................................................................................................5%
Medication Challenge Final..........................................................................................................10%
HESI Exam on Clinical Subject Matter ..........................................................................................55%

TOTAL 100%

Course Grading Rules

Missed Assignments and Missed Exams

Missed Tests/Quizzes: Students who are not able to take a test when it is scheduled must notify the faculty member as soon as possible before the test period begins. The Course Coordinator will determine the make-up process, if any.

Incomplete Grades: The faculty may grant an incomplete if a student has not met all of the criteria for passing the course. Such situations may include students who have a documented emergency in the last few days of a semester.

Late Work: Assignments are due at the beginning of the class period unless otherwise indicated. All late papers/assignments will have five (5) points deducted per day, this includes weekend days. Due dates will be provided in the course calendar. Assignment guidelines and grading rubrics will be provided in Bb.

Testing Policies

Exam Regulations

1. UST-SON Classroom Exam Agreements
   - All bags are placed outside of classroom on cart.
   - All personal items (including phones) are placed outside classroom.
   - All phones MUST be off or silenced.
   - No bottles or food on desks at any time.
   - Test items should never be copied/pasted/forwarded/photographed or reproduced in any form.
Scrap paper will be provided by faculty.
Scrap paper must be returned to faculty with the student’s name on it when the student completes the exam.
Concerns about specific test questions should be written on scrap paper and personally handed to faculty at the end of the exam.
Students cannot leave the classroom for any reason during the exam (except for exams lasting more than 2.5 hours and only one student may leave at a time).
Students must exit the classroom quietly immediately after completing the exam.
2. Students must direct all questions and concerns to the exam facilitator by raising their hand. Failure to comply may lead to student being asked to leave the classroom.
3. Students will not be allowed into the classroom to take the exam after the scheduled start time. The Course Coordinator will determine the consequences of missing the exam(s).

METHODS OF BLENDED LEARNING

Blended learning is an educational approach that assesses and integrates the strengths of face-to-face, mobile, and online learning to address a course’s educational goals. The use of multiple interactive learning environments outside the classroom makes interaction inside the classroom more effective and productive. All SON courses are offered in a blended learning or completely online format. These formats incorporate teaching and learning activities using online and/or face-to-face methods of instruction. Blackboard (Bb), a web-based management system, houses the main components of the courses. Course content, assignments, due dates, and quizzes will be provided through Bb. Students must use UST email to respond to the course instructors and peers about assigned topics. Students must participate in all online (graded or ungraded) activities.

This course has content/activities delivered from both synchronous and asynchronous. This course has three main components:
- The Syllabus which has key information for the course along with course guidelines and expectations.
- Individualized Study Plan- this communicates your assignments and due date to help with your road map to success

Some Helpful Information
- Access to internet – You must have daily access to the internet and use Bb site regularly between classes to keep up with announcements and to complete assigned activities.
- Learning is not a spectator sport – You are expected to take responsibility to actively use the online materials and manage your time so that you complete assigned readings and online activities in between face-to-face sessions.
- **Use of new technologies** – Online tutorials on the use of Bb tools are located at http://www.stthom.edu/Offices_and_Services/Information_Technology/Services/Training/Student_Tutorials.aqf?Page_ID=5512. Training on how to use other required technologies will be provided to students by the faculty as needed.

- **Student resources**: Students are encouraged to access the UST library as well as other appropriate internet sources as needed.

- **Library Link** – http://libguides.stthom.edu/Nursing

- **Student computing services** – Call the UST Help Desk at 713-525-6900 or email Ithelp@stthom.edu. Available services are detailed on their website.

- **Nursing Success Center (NSC)** – Provides academic advising, peer mentoring, state board licensing preparation, study skills tutorials, and time management tutorials for nursing and pre-nursing students.

**COURSE POLICIES**

**Attendance/Punctuality/Participation**

**Attendance**: Class attendance is required and the student is responsible for all material covered. If the student is not able to attend class, the student is to notify the instructor before the missed session. Failure to notify the instructor could constitute an unexcused absence as determined by the Course Coordinator.

**Absence and Tardy Policies**: Absences and tardiness are recorded beginning from the first class session after the student has enrolled in the course. Course Coordinators are not obligated to allow students to make up work they miss due to unexcused absences. Students who have excessive absences will be at risk for failing the course, might not be allowed to take the final exam, or might receive an incomplete. Course Coordinators may apply additional attendance policies as deemed appropriate to individual courses. Refer to the SON Student Handbook.

**Dropping a Class**: YOU MUST OFFICIALLY DROP OR WITHDRAW FROM A COURSE. Once a student registers for a course, the student will receive a grade for the course unless the drop or withdrawal process is completed through the Registrar’s Office. This includes students who may have never actually attended class or who may never have completed payment of tuition and fees for each course.

**Computer Use Policy**: Students may use their own personal electronic devices to take notes or refer to class materials in class but NOT during quizzes or exams. Students will be told to turn off electronic devices if they are being used in ways that are not permitted in the classroom and during exams/quizzes.
Mobile Electronic Devices: All personal electronic mobile devices will be kept on vibrate or silent mode. No texting or talking on phones is permitted during class time. Any personal recording during class requires the instructor’s permission. All emergency situations must be handled outside of the classroom environment.

Netiquette: Refers to the generally accepted rules of behavior for communicating in an 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.

Integrity of Student Work

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 UST Student Handbook and Planner are located in Bb under My Organizations, then SON Student Resources.

The SON Student Handbook contains detailed information on plagiarism and related policies. The SON Student Handbook is located in Bb under My Organizations, then SON Student Resources. Students are held accountable for knowing and adhering to these policies. Turn It In software may be used routinely to help address insufficient documentation; this software detects plagiarism.
Policy on Written Assignments
The Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (most current edition) is the required style manual that must be used in writing papers in the UST School of Nursing.

Academic Policies and Procedures

ADA 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 for students who need special accommodations. Students must contact personnel in the Office of Counseling and Disability Services (2nd floor of Crooker Center). This office is open Monday through Friday, 8 am – 5 pm. The compliance officer will ask for proof of disability and specific accommodations that are needed by students. Academic Accommodations must be applied for in writing EACH semester. Students with special needs should inform the instructor within the first two weeks of class EVERY semester. Students should be aware of and take into consideration if their accommodations conflict with the AACN (2001) Nursing Essential Functions as identified in the SON Student Handbook.

If academic accommodations are approved, the student provides the Letter of Accommodations to the Course Coordinator. 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 such matters. All information will be kept confidential.

Course and Instructor Evaluations: There is an end of semester evaluation for this course and the Course Coordinator. This evaluation is confidential. Students are strongly encouraged to complete the evaluations because input is very valuable. Instructions on how to access evaluations will be provided two to three weeks before the end of each semester.

CLASS SCHEDULE

See separate course schedule for specific information.
Clinical Reasoning in Nursing

NURS 2032

Acknowledgement of Receipt of Course Syllabus

Course faculty will review the syllabus on the first day of class. I understand that it is my responsibility to read the syllabus which is available on Blackboard. If I am unclear about any portion of the syllabus, I will ask for clarification from the Course Coordinator, as well as, refer to the SON and UST Student Handbooks.

This form must be signed on or before the 2nd week of class.

Initial the following statement and sign below. This form will be placed in your SON student file.

_______ I acknowledge that I have access to the online NURS 2032 Clinical Reasoning in Nursing course syllabus.

_______ I acknowledge that I have read the syllabus and that I have been given an opportunity to ask questions about the details of the course.

_______ I acknowledge that I understand the methods of evaluation and course grading rules.

_______ I acknowledge that I have sufficient information to sign this form. I understand its contents.

Print Name ______________________________________________________________

Student Signature ___________________________ Date: ________________

Revised and Approved by SON Faculty – December 2014