

COLLEGE OF NURSING

GERONTOLOGICAL NURSING

NURS 4212

FALL 2015



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The content of this syllabus/WEB site is subject to change at the discretion of the faculty leaders according to current learning needs.

Welcome!

I am excited to have you learning with me this semester! The semester will go by very quickly and there is much to do. Gerontological Nursing has been developed as an entirely online course. The important thing is that you students have an outstanding learning experience and we instructors can discern that you have met course objectives. I expect that you will spend some time every day to complete the course in the short time allocated. This includes time to complete readings and learning activities such as questionnaire, discussion board, journal entries, and community-based investigations and / or service. You are adult learners and the course has been designed to include many independent activities. I trust that you will complete all of the activities as required.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

TITLE: NURS 4212 GERONTOLOGICAL NURSING

SEMESTER HOURS: 2 Hours Online Course

PREREQUISITES: Full admission to the nursing program and completion of Adult Health 1 and Mental Health.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Theories and concepts related to gerontology and nursing principles are presented within the framework of critical thinking and caring. The focus is on health promotion through nurturing, protective, and generative, evidence based practice interventions emphasizing the well and the vulnerable older adult population.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. Recognize attitudes, values, and expectations about aging and their impact on care of older adults and their families.
2. Analyze aging theories, concepts, and models that guide healthcare for the aging population.
3. Use interpersonal caring, critical thinking, and evidence based practice to reduce risk, maintain, and restore health of older adults and caregivers.
4. Identify cultural and ethical issues to consider when providing nursing care for older adults.
5. Analyze the impact of health policy related to access, equity, and affordability of care for older people.
6. Identify beliefs and attitudes about death and dying and methods nurses can employ to ease patient and family's transition.

REQUIRED TEXTS and RESOURCES

Eliopoulos, C. (2014). *Gerontological nursing*. Philadelphia: Wolters Kluwer/Lippincott Williams & Wilkins. ISBN/ISSN: 9781451172775

American Psychological Association Publication Manual 6th edition ISBN: 978-1-4338-0561-5

Examinations/Assignments and Grading Policy

Completion of NURS 4212 is based on satisfactory attainment of all course criteria. Any student failing to meet the course objectives and expectations must repeat the course and may not progress to the next level.

Grades for the course will be weighted as below. Grades will not be rounded when calculating the average to pass the course (74.5 -74.9 is not rounded to 75). Letter grade will be assigned according to the following scale:

A 90-100

B 80-89

C 75-79

D 60-74

F 60 and below

There are eight modules. Assignments, due dates, and assignment weighting by

Modules are:

MODULE	DUE DATE	ASSIGNMENT	% OF TOTAL GRADE	POINTS POSSIBLE
1	midnight	1. Survey: Aging Changes	1. 1%	1. 2.5 points
		2. Journal Entry: Age of Champions	2. 4%	2. 10 points
		3. Discussion Board post: Experiment – getting older (<i>1 original post & 1 post</i>) <i>Start on Consultant Chat project!!!!</i> <i>Read ahead to Module 6 about Group Presentation...takes longer than you think!</i>	3. 10%	3. 100 points
2	midnight	1. Discussion Board post: Theory <i>(1 original post & 1 response)</i>	10%	100 points
3	midnight	1. Discussion Board post: Physio Question <i>(1 original post & 1 response)</i>	10%	100 points
		2. Journal Entry: Consultant Chat 1	4%	10
4	midnight	1. Policy Assignment	10%	100 points
		2. Journal Entry: Consultant Chat 2	4%	10
5	midnight	1. Adaptation Assignment	10%	100 points
		2. 2. Journal Entry: Consultant Chat 3	4%	19
6	midnight	1. Survey: End of Life 2. Advanced Directives	1. 1%	1. 2.5 points

		3. Group Presentation 4. 2. Journal Entry: Consultant Chat 4	2. 1% 3. 10% 4. 4%	2. 2.5 points 3. 100 points 4. 10 points
7		1. Survey: Alzheimer's Disease 2. Discussion Board post: Memory Loss Case Study (<i>1 original post & 1 response</i>)	1. 2% 2. 10%	1. 5 points 2. 100 points
8		1. Survey: Aging Changes 2. Journal Entry: Final Reflections	1. 1% 2. 4%	1. 2.5 points 2. 10 points

Student assignments will not be re-graded. Instructors will not pre-grade or give opinions on assignments before they are submitted.

ASSIGNMENTS

As you can see, there are four types of assignments: (a) surveys, (b) journal entries, (c) individual discussion board posts, and (d) a group assignment. All assignments for each Module are due at midnight on the date indicated. **Five points will be deducted for each day a 100 point assignment and 0.5 points will be deducted each day for all other assignments that are late.** If unavoidable situations occur, e.g. work or family emergencies or illness that prevents timely submission of assignments, contact your instructor **BEFORE** the assignment is due. Extensions to assignment deadlines can be negotiated but this needs to be done in advance; retrospective extensions will not be awarded. Student assignments will not be regraded. Instructors will not pre-grade or give opinions on assignments before they are due. Grading rubrics for all assignments are linked in each assignment. Rubrics vary by assignment so be sure to review the rubric for each assignment to ensure your submission meets expectations. The last day to withdraw from a course without penalty is , 2015.

Discussion Board

The purpose of the discussion board (DB) in an online course is to take the place of conversations that would occur in a face-to-face class. It is your opportunity to demonstrate your mastery of the assigned readings and your ability to supplement those readings with expanded exposure to related information. To that end, I will expect you to share ideas you have gained from the literature noting the source and interpreting into your own words (read: do NOT plagiarize!). I do not care if you use big words or a lot of words, but I am eager to read your thoughtful insights into the questions and statements. There will be different types of discussion board assignments including individual and group activities. The type of assignment is clearly described in the Module.

Group Assignment

In the group assignment in Module 6, **ONE** document per group should be posted to the appropriate DB forum. **We urge you to connect with your small group colleagues early on in the course and plan on how you will communicate about the assignment (use Blackboard, WIKI, or via email).** Place all students' names that contributed to the completion of the assignment at the top of the page. All students whose names are listed will receive the same grade. Group work can be fun

and often produces better outcomes than individual efforts. Why? Because there are multiple brains working on the same problem. You also have the opportunity to explore more issues and problems in the context of group work. Yes, it is difficult to get everyone on the same page. Do you know what? That will ALWAYS be the case whether you work in the hospital, community, a doctor's office or clinic, or teach. It is called "process" or "teamwork" and a necessary life skill. We hope that you will embrace this opportunity and sincerely look forward to the outcomes produced! **You are expected to do this assignment with other members of your class and not individually.**

Whether the Discussion Board assignment is individual or group, there are a few things that must be addressed:

1. Each student is responsible for participating in the asynchronous discussions. This participation will include posting answers to questions posed by the instructor and / or replying to other participants' postings (read: you may respond twice to colleagues, twice to the instructor's questions, or once to the instructor and once to a colleague). Two posts from each student are expected during most discussions.
2. APA format is expected including grammar, spelling, and punctuation, accurate presentation of reference citations in text and with full references at the bottom of the post. And remember, plagiarism is not tolerated.
3. Postings must be timely. Deadlines are listed in the Course Schedule. Please note that all discussion postings must be completed by midnight Central Standard Time on the due date. Postings should be done in advance of the deadline in order to allow other participants the opportunity to read and comment.
4. Participants should plan on entering the DB forum at least two times in order to read and comment on others' postings.
5. Quality of answers is as important as quantity. A participant's comments should add to the discussion. Comments should identify who they are responding to, a summary of what the colleague wrote, a clearly stated opinion in complete sentences and it must be supported with references cited appropriately. The instructor and/or participants may use synchronous chats as the need arises. **All required points outlined in the assignment should be in the body of the posted comments.**
6. If you disagree with a colleague or the instructor, that is OK. PLEASE show respect when you share a different opinion or idea.

Note: When posting assignments to this course, please type in your comments directly into the discussion board or journal entry provided. Do not type your comments into a document and then attach it to the discussion board or journal entry-this method is difficult for some students and instructors to access. You may type your comments into a Word document, then copy and paste it into the BlackBoard. You must use the "clipboard icon" on the top of the discussion board frame into which you are typing in order to paste in Blackboard.

DB Grading Rubric:

Points	0	50	100
Form	Spelling and grammar errors detract from the substance of the posting; random thoughts with no sense of a plan to reach a logical conclusion. No clear ideas.	Midpoint	Form is superior; obvious attention to proofreading and grammar. Ideas are stated clearly; ideas relate to topic of discussion.

Thoughtfulness	Posting shows superficial thinking based on personal experiences or opinions only. No reference citations.	Midpoint	Posting shows critical thinking and application of information learned from reading or online assignments. At least one reference citation included.
Punctuality	Posting is late leaving little opportunity for student colleague feedback and interchange.	Midpoint	Posted well before deadline with opportunity for student interaction and feedback.

Surveys

In some Modules, you will be asked to complete a survey before completing other learning activities. These surveys are meant to raise awareness about certain aspects of aging issues. You will receive credit for completing the survey in the grade book and is part of your engagement grade. Answers to survey questions are anonymous.

Journal Entries

There are two journal entry assignments. The first entry is in response to the video, Age of Champions, in Module One. The last is your Final Reflections in Module Eight summarizing your reflections about what you learned in the course. **Note: When posting a journal entry, type your comments directly into the journal window.** Do not type your comments into a document and then upload it. Include your critical reflections as outlined in the grading rubric to receive all available points.

Consultant Chat Project

You will interview an older adult, your Consultant, using assigned topics pertinent to the course content. For this Consultant interview/interviews, you will create short papers summarizing your conversations and sharing your critical thoughts about what you learned. *Critical reflections of your consultant chat are a required component of the journal entries and are included in the grading rubric.*

Academic Integrity

1. Students are expected to assume full responsibility for the content and integrity of all academic work submitted as homework and examinations.
2. Students are advised to review the UT Tyler Academic Dishonesty Policy and Academic Integrity Policy in the Current College of Nursing Student Handbook and Academic Integrity Policy for UT Tyler students at www.uttyler.edu; click on current students, then Vice-President for Student Affairs, then Student Guide for Conduct and Discipline at UT Tyler. These policies are fully endorsed and enforced by all faculty members within the College of Nursing.
3. Plagiarism, cheating, and collusion are unacceptable and if found violating any of these standards the student will be disciplined accordingly (See BSN/MSN Nursing Student Guide for definitions).
4. The College of Nursing reserves the right to dismiss students from the program for any infraction of a legal, moral, social, or safety nature, pursuant to the procedures detailed in the Regent's Rules.

Student Dress Code for the University of Texas, College of Nursing

It is the philosophy of the College of Nursing that the student has a responsibility to be neatly groomed and modestly dressed. Appearances should promote good health, safety and general well-being of the student. Clothing should avoid brevity and/or design that are offensive to the dignity and rights of others. School officials have the right and responsibility to counsel with the student or take any other corrective action. Types of clothing (other than those specified in this document) may be worn at the direction of the nursing instructor for special events.

Course Information

A. General

1. All assignments are located in modules, which will be posted on Blackboard a minimum of two days prior to the date printed on the calendar for that module. Each Module will remain accessible throughout the course.
2. All submitted written material (papers, assignments, journals, etc.) are the property of the College of Nursing. They will be maintained in an archived file in the College of Nursing.
3. All nursing students are required to use their student email accounts (Patriot accounts) for all correspondence. Faculty is not required to open any other emails sent by students.

(Approved FO: 2/03)

B. Expectations of Students in NURS 4212:

1. Students will read and prepare at least weekly (most likely daily) according to syllabus and objectives.
2. All students must have reliable access to Internet including ability to view Tegrity recordings. Students must have alternative plans to access Internet in case their primary source is unavailable.
3. Students are responsible for all announcements, course assignments and course materials placed on BlackBoard as well as textbook assignments.
4. ***Assigned project will be turned in on the date assigned unless prior arrangements have been made with faculty. Late work will only be accepted at the discretion of the faculty. Due dates can be negotiated in advance; please talk to your faculty in the case of personal or family emergency.***
5. Last date to withdraw from the course is , 2015.

Expectations of faculty in NURS 4212

1. Class materials will be posted in a timely manner.
2. Response to student emails will be done in a timely manner. Responses will be given Mondays through Fridays during work hours, 8:00 a.m. through 5:00p.m. Faculty will only respond to Patriot email. If a response is not received by student in 2 working days, email should be re-sent.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES

ACADEMIC/SYLLABUS POLICY

Students Rights and Responsibilities

To know and understand the policies that affect your rights and responsibilities as a student at UT Tyler, please follow this link: <http://www2.uttyler.edu/wellness/rightsresponsibilities.php>

Grade Replacement/Forgiveness and Census Date Policies

Students repeating a course for grade forgiveness (grade replacement) must file a Grade Replacement Contract with the Enrollment Services Center (ADM 230) on or before the Census Date (**2015**) of the semester in which the course will be repeated. Grade Replacement Contracts are available in the Enrollment Services Center or at <http://www.uttyler.edu/registrar>. Each semester's Census Date can be found on the Contract itself, on the Academic Calendar, or in the information pamphlets published each semester by the Office of the Registrar. If you are repeating this course for a grade replacement, you must file an intent to receive grade forgiveness with the registrar by the 12th day of class. Failure to file intent to use grade forgiveness will result in both the original and repeated grade being used to calculate your overall grade point average. A student will receive grade forgiveness (grade replacement) for only three (undergraduate student) repeats during his/her career at UT Tyler. (2006-08 Catalog)

Failure to file a Grade Replacement Contract will result in both the original and repeated grade being used to calculate your overall grade point average. Undergraduates are eligible to exercise grade replacement for only three course repeats during their career at UT Tyler; graduates are eligible for two grade replacements. Full policy details are printed on each Grade Replacement Contract.

The Census Date is the deadline for many forms and enrollment actions that students need to be aware of. These include:

- . Submitting Grade Replacement Contracts, Transient Forms, requests to withhold directory information, approvals for taking courses as Audit, Pass/Fail or Credit/No Credit.
- . Receiving 100% refunds for partial withdrawals. (There is no refund for these after the Census Date)
- . Schedule adjustments (section changes, adding a new class, dropping without a "W" grade)
- . Being reinstated or re-enrolled in classes after being dropped for non-payment
- . Completing the process for tuition exemptions or waivers through Financial Aid

State-Mandated Course Drop Policy

Texas law prohibits a student who began college for the first time in Fall 2007 or thereafter from dropping more than six courses during their entire undergraduate career. This includes courses dropped at another 2-year or 4-year Texas public college or university. For purposes of this rule, a

dropped course is any course that is dropped after the census date (See Academic Calendar for the specific date).

Exceptions to the 6-drop rule may be found in the catalog. Petitions for exemptions must be submitted to the Enrollment Services Center and must be accompanied by documentation of the extenuating circumstance. Please contact the Enrollment Services Center if you have any questions.

Student Accessibility and Resources Services (Formerly Disability Services)

In accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the ADA Amendments Act (ADAAA) the University offers accommodations to students with learning, physical and/or psychiatric disabilities. If you have a disability, including non-visible disabilities such as chronic diseases, learning disabilities, head injury, PTSD or ADHD, or you have a history of modifications or accommodations in a previous educational environment you are encouraged to contact the Student Accessibility and Resources office and schedule an interview with the Accessibility Case Manager/ADA Coordinator, Cynthia Lowery Staples. If you are unsure if the above criteria apply to you, but have questions or concerns please contact the SAR office. For more information or to set up an appointment please visit the SAR office located in the University Center, Room 3150 or call 903.566.7079 . You may also send an email to cstaples@uttyler.edu.

Student Absence due to Religious Observance

Students who anticipate being absent from class due to a religious observance are requested to inform the instructor of such absences by the second class meeting of the semester.

Student Absence for University-Sponsored Events and Activities

If you intend to be absent for a university-sponsored event or activity, you (or the event sponsor) must notify the instructor at least two weeks prior to the date of the planned absence. At that time the instructor will set a date and time when make-up assignments will be completed.

Social Security and FERPA Statement:

It is the policy of The University of Texas at Tyler to protect the confidential nature of social security numbers. The University has changed its computer programming so that all students have an identification number. The electronic transmission of grades (e.g., via e-mail) risks violation of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; grades will not be transmitted electronically.

Emergency Exits and Evacuation:

Everyone is required to exit the building when a fire alarm goes off. Follow your instructor's directions regarding the appropriate exit. If you require assistance during an evacuation, inform your instructor in the first week of class. Do not re-enter the building unless given permission by University Police, Fire department, or Fire Prevention Services.