Midland College
Syllabus
VNSG 1304
Foundations of Nursing (3-0-0)

Course Description:

This course is an introduction to the nursing profession including history, standards of practice, legal and ethical issues, and the role of the vocational nurse. Topics will include mental health, therapeutic communications, cultural and spiritual diversity, nursing process, and holistic awareness.

Text, References, and Supplies:

- Assessment Technology Institute (ATI) – PN Nursing Education Program

Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Discuss the historic evolution of nursing and current issues in nursing practice.
2. Explain the role of the vocational nurse in relationship to nursing organizations and regulatory agencies.
3. Recognize positive and negative factors that affect the public image of nursing.
4. Define the difference between the roles and responsibilities of the:
   a. vocational nurse
   b. registered nurse
   c. nurse practitioner
   d. case manager
   e. other health care professionals of the interdisciplinary team
5. Explain the chain of command within structured health care settings.
6. Recognize the legal scope of practice for the vocational nurse in relationship to:
   a. policies and procedures used in health care facilities.
   b. The Nurse Practice Act of Texas.
   c. Health Insurance Portability and Accountability.
7. Identify the roles of the vocational nurse by understanding:
   a. the legal and ethical components of nursing
   b. the professional responsibilities of nursing
c. and as a member of the interdisciplinary health care team

8. Describe the characteristics of the nurse/patient relationship that include:
   a. communication techniques
   b. health and holistic practices
   c. awareness of cultural influences
   d. respecting spiritual diversity
   e. nonjudgmental and nondiscriminatory

9. Explain how evidenced based practice in the foundation for nursing practice by learning to use current nursing literature.

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11. Describe how the nurse will develop lifelong learning goals in order to remain competent.

12. Identify how to use the nursing process and scope of practice for the LVN in the decision making process.

13. Examine data collection methods which assist the nurse in identifying problems and formulate goals in order to provide patient-centered care.

14. Identify how the interdisciplinary health care team cooperates with the patient and their families to formulate a plan of care.

15. Select family, political, economic and societal factors that can change nursing practice and impact an individual’s health.

16. Identify verbal, nonverbal, technological or written forms of communications to effectively teach patients and their families.

17. Differentiate the parts of the care plan by identifying the legal, ethical and regulatory parameters used.

18. Describe the patient’s Bill of Rights including the rights and responsibilities regarding health care, self-determination and the right of the patient to refuse care.

19. Define the fundamental principles of disease prevention and health promotion/restoration of patients.

20. Explain the nurse’s role as:
   a. a patient advocate
   b. in the quality improvement process
   c. identifying resources for continuing patient care in the
   d. as a case manager
   e. as a teacher and learner
Student Contributions, Responsibilities and Class Policies:

1. Each student is expected to spend two hours preparing for each scheduled hour in class.

2. The student must have a means of transportation to be at the assigned site at the assigned time for the duration of the assignment.

3. The student is responsible for having a ScanTron and sharpened pencils for all major exams. Online testing will be implemented as soon as possible for this course.

4. In order to meet the goals of VNSG 1304, the student must attend class, participate in all learning activities and the clinical component associated with this course.

5. The attendance policy in the Midland College Vocational Nursing Student Handbook will be enforced. The student must contact the instructor prior to class to report an absence or being late. A student is considered late up to 15 minutes from the time class is scheduled to start. More than 15 minutes late is considered an absence. Two tardies are considered an absence. Time is determined by the instructor’s cell phone. Students are always responsible for material presented during absences.

6. Major exams that are missed due to an excused absence will be taken on the first day back to school and/or at the discretion of the instructor. For this course, the make-up will be an essay exam. In the event that the make-up test is not taken within the timelines, the student will receive a zero (0). When the reason for missing a test is due to a physician’s appointment, a note from the doctor is required.


8. No assignment is optional and no exams will be retaken.

9. All cell phones are to be turned off during class. Cell phones disrupt the communication system used in the interactive classroom between Midland and Fort Stockton. Instructors are the only ones permitted to have their cell phone on for connection to the emergency communication system Midland College employs.

10. Tape recordings of lecture material only will be permitted but students may not record or video any test review.

11. Academic Honesty: There will be zero tolerance for academic dishonesty.

12. If you are caught cheating: Your exam/quiz will be collected and you will leave the room. You will receive a zero (0). You will be sent to meet with the Vocational Nursing Program Director.

13. If you are caught cheating a second time: You will receive an “F” for the course. You will be referred to meet with the Dean of the Health Sciences Division and most likely will be removed from the nursing program and possibly the college.
14. **Plagiarism**: is the intentional use of another person’s idea, data, information or work without giving credit. You must cite your sources. Please refer to the Midland College Catalog, the Student Handbook and the current class syllabus for specific policy statements.

15. **Privacy Issues**: Since this is a health science class, discussions may involve actual experiences or knowledge, students and the instructor would discuss as it relates to the topic’s involved in nursing. Please, keep personal identification information confidential as it relates to others and use discretion in sharing personal experiences.

16. **Group/Individual Work**: All students are expected and required to actively participate in class activities, discussions and projects. You may be given group work or individual work to do in class or at home to enhance your learning experience. Participation in group exercises is expected as a part of your learning experience and will count towards your grade.

17. The student is required to refer to the *Midland College Vocational Nursing Handbook 2016-2017* for other program policies.

**Evaluation of Students:**

Scores are determined as follows:

- A = 90 – 100
- B = 80 – 89.9
- C = 75 – 79.9
- D = 60 – 74.9
- F = 59.9 or below

The passing grade is 75%. Scores less than 75% will not be permitted to advance in this program. There is no rounding of scores.

The final grade is derived as follows:

- Daily grades (homework, projects, quizzes) 10%
- Major exams 55%
- Final exam 35%

**Course Schedule:**

This class meets for three lecture hours per week. A schedule will be distributed in class and posted on CANVAS. The schedule is subject to change at the instructor’s discretion. Changes will be posted on CANVAS course announcements.

**Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA):**

Any student who, because of a disabling condition, may require some special arrangements in order to meet course requirements should contact Shep Grinnan as soon as possible. Mr. Grinnan’s office is located in the Scharbauer Student Center Building. These conditions may include documented physical
or educational disabilities. Please be aware that services or accommodations are not automatic. Each student must request them and secure the proper authorizations/documentation.

Health Sciences Division Information:

Division Dean: Carmen Edwards, DNP, MNS, RN, 210 Davidson Family Health Sciences Building (DFHS), (432) 686-4822, cedwards@midland.edu

Program Chair: Lea Keesee, BSN, MSN, RN, 157 Technology Center Building (TC), (432) 685-5594, lkeesee@midland.edu

Division Secretary: Kay Floyd, CAP-OM, 206 Davidson Family Health Sciences Building (DFHS), (432) 685-4600, kfloyd@midland.edu