Course Description:

Students build upon basic assessment skills to perform comprehensive nursing health assessment of individuals. History taking, including risk assessment, as well as physical and psychosocial assessment will be practiced. The development of sound clinical judgments based on accurate assessments will be applied. Each student is responsible for obtaining and maintaining the appropriate CPR certification, documentation of health requirements, and appropriate certified background checks as required by the specific clinical agency. Writing active.

Credit: 2-2-3

Prerequisites: Concurrent enrollment in NUR 3103

Instructor: Dr. Susan Gosse, PhD, RN
McAfee 3320
Office Hours TBA

Objectives: The student will:
1. Explain health assessment methods utilized and variances in findings for individuals through the lifespan
2. Differentiate between normal and abnormal findings noted during health assessment
3. Utilize appropriate communication skills when performing a health assessment and when documenting health assessment data
4. Demonstrate an organized head-to-toe physical examination of an adult using appropriate technique
5. Analyze nursing assessment data to identify the individual’s level of wellness, health risks, and unmet health needs.

Required texts:


Content Outline:

Unit 1
- Overview and Introduction to Nursing Health Assessment
- Overview of Course Assignments
- The History and Interviewing Process
- Examination Techniques and Equipment
- Documentation of the Health History and Physical Exam
- Demonstration and Practice of Health Assessment Techniques

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Unit 2
Cultural Awareness
Mental Status
Assessment of Pain
Clinical: 2 hours
Practice assessment of culture, mental status and pain
Documentation of assessment findings related to culture, mental status, and pain

Unit 3
Growth and Measurement
Nutrition
Clinical: 2 hours
Practice assessment of growth, measurements, and nutrition
Documentation of assessment findings related to growth, measurements, and nutrition

Unit 4
Skin, Hair, and Nails
Clinical: 2 hours
Practice assessment of the skin, hair, and nails
Documentation of assessment findings related to skin, hair, and nails

Unit 5
Lymphatic System
Clinical: 2 hours
Practice assessment of the lymphatic system
Documentation of assessment findings related to the lymphatic system

Unit 6
Head and Neck
Clinical: 2 hours
Practice assessment of the head and neck
Documentation of assessment findings related to the head and neck

Unit 7
Mid-term Exam
Theory:
Eyes
Clinical: 2 hours
Practice assessment of the eyes
Documentation of assessment findings related to the eyes

Unit 8
Ears, Nose, and Throat
Clinical: 2 hours
Practice assessment of the ears, nose, and throat
Documentation of assessment findings related to the ears, nose, and throat

Unit 9
Chest and Lungs
Clinical: 2 hours
Practice assessment of the chest and lungs
Documentation of assessment findings related to the chest and lungs

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Unit 10
Heart
Blood Vessels
Clinical: 2 hours
Practice assessment of the heart and blood vessels
Documentation of assessment findings related to the heart and blood vessels

Unit 11
Abdomen
Clinical: 2 hours
Practice assessment of the abdomen
Documentation of assessment findings related to the abdomen

Unit 12
Musculoskeletal System
Clinical: 2 hours
Practice assessment of the musculoskeletal system
Documentation of assessment findings related to the musculoskeletal system

Unit 13
Neurological System
Clinical: 2 hours
Practice assessment of the neurological system
Documentation of assessment findings related to the neurological system

Unit 14
Breasts and Axillae
Female and Male Genitalia
Anus, Rectum, and Prostate
Clinical: 2 hours
Practice complete health history and head-to-toe exam
Documentation of complete health history and head-to-toe exam

Unit 15
Sports Participation Evaluation
Emergency or Life Threatening Situations
Clinical: 2 hours
Practice complete health history and head-to-toe exam
Documentation of complete health history and head-to-toe exam

Unit 16
Comprehensive Final Examination

Evaluation:

Midterm Exam 50 points
Class Participation 50 points
Physical assessment performance pass/fail
Written physical assessment 50 points
Clinical log pass/fail
Clinical log 50 points
Final Exam 50 points
Total 200 points

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Grading Scale:

A = 92-100
B = 83-91
C = 75-82
D = 68-74
F = below 67

A grade of ‘C’ or higher is required to pass the course. The course may be repeated one time.

RN to BS in Nursing Completion Portfolio

The completion portfolio consists of a collection of materials used to evaluate achievement of student and program outcomes. The portfolio consists of copies of items from each course including class assignments and evaluations, clinical logs and evaluations, academic papers and reflections. It will be utilized as part of the course grade for NUR 4604. Please review the Completion Portfolio Policy and Procedure for complete information.

For NUR 3303, electronic copies of the following items will be included in the portfolio:

- Health history write up and evaluation
- Physical examination write up and evaluation
- Final clinical evaluation

You are responsible for maintenance of your portfolio on the disk provided, and for ensuring that the appropriate documents are added to it each semester.

Clinical Information:

See clinical handbook.

Class Preparation/Participation:

Students assume responsibility for all assigned materials. It is expected that the student will complete the reading assignments and complete all course assignments. Class attendance is voluntary. Contact your instructor for further details.

Late Submission of Assignments:

Submit all assignments on or before the due date in a format compatible with Microsoft Word. Contact the instructor for course specific information on late assignments prior to the assignment due date.

Plagiarism

Any assignment submitted with plagiarized contents will receive a grade of zero and result in a filing of a Notification of Academic Misconduct form with the Office of Student Standards.

Students With Disabilities:

If you are a student with a documented disability in need of accommodations, please contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS). All accommodations must be approved through ODS. Please stop by 9th Street Hall, Room 2006 or call 217-581-6583 to make an appointment.

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