

## **Nursing Course Challenge Policy and Procedure**

The purpose of the Nursing Course Challenge process is to provide experienced registered nurses with an opportunity to demonstrate achievement of course learning outcomes for selected nursing courses in the EIU RN to BS in Nursing Program. The Nursing Course Challenge process is available to all students who are admitted to the RN to BS in Nursing Program and have registered for the course which is to be challenged. In order to receive credit for the course, the student must enroll in and pay for the course.

A maximum of 9 credit hours can be earned through the Nursing Course Challenge process. Two nursing courses, NUR 3303 Advanced Nursing Health Assessment and NUR 4106 Leadership and Management in Nursing, may be challenged. A student may earn either total credit for both the theory and clinical practicum portions of the courses, or partial credit for either the theory portion or the clinical portion of the courses.

Students who desire to challenge a nursing course must first register for the course and complete the Nursing Course Challenge Application Form and submit it to the Nursing Office. Staff members in the Nursing Office will determine whether the student has been admitted to the Program and is registered for the course. If the student has met the admission and registration requirements, the application will be forwarded to the course faculty member for evaluation. If the course faculty member determines that it is appropriate for the student to challenge the course, he or she will provide the student with Course Challenge information and documentation requirements for the specified course.

Continuing students who wish to challenge nursing courses after fall, 2008 must submit all documentation and assignments, as well as complete all testing by November 15<sup>th</sup> for spring semester and by July 15<sup>th</sup> for fall semester. The nursing course faculty member will evaluate the documentation, assignments, and testing according to predetermined requirements and determine the number of hours of credit and type of credit granted and assign a grade for the course, if applicable. Students who successfully challenge both the theory and clinical practicum portions of a course will receive a grade for the course at the end of the semester. Students who successfully challenge either the theory or clinical portion of the course must complete the remainder of the course in the semester in which they are enrolled in order to receive credit and a grade for the course. Students who do not receive credit for either the theory or clinical portion of the course must complete all portions of the course. Students may attempt to challenge a specific nursing course only one time. The course challenge form may be found on the nursing web page, under the heading of "Prospective Student" titled "Resources" and under the heading of "Current Student" titled "Resources."

## Nursing Course Challenge Requirements

### NUR 3303

#### Advanced Nursing Health Assessment

Challenge of NUR 3303 consists of three components: a). written documentation, b). demonstration of health assessment skills, and c) a comprehensive examination.

1. Written documentation (Required for challenge of theory and clinical portions of the course).
  - a. Professional resume that includes professional experience and education.
  - b. Table that lists the course learning outcomes and how the student has met each specific outcome.
  - c. Documentation of formal learning experiences related to the course learning outcomes, if applicable.
    - i. Transcripts of previously earned credit related to the course learning outcomes.
    - ii. Course syllabi for related courses.
    - iii. List of continuing education units earned, staff development programs, or certificates of attendance for programs or conferences attended related to health assessment.
    - iv. Copy of certification card or certificate in any nursing specialty that requires assessment skills.
    - v. Test blueprint for certification examinations that indicate health assessment as part of the examination.
  - d. Documentation of clinical experience in health assessment
    - i. Letters from supervisors
    - ii. Relevant position descriptions
    - iii. Copies of projects relate to health assessment
  - e. Other relevant materials the student believes support the achievement of the course learning outcomes.
2. Demonstration of health assessment skills (Required for challenge of clinical portions of the course).
  - a. Submission of a complete written health history.
  - b. DVD of the performance of a complete head-to-toe physical examination, and
  - c. Written documentation of the findings of the physical examination.
3. Comprehensive examination (required for challenge of theory portion of the course).

Guidelines and grading rubrics for the health history, head-to-toe physical examination, and write up of the findings of the physical examination will be provided by the course instructor. The comprehensive examination will be equivalent to the final examination for the course and consist of a random selection of text questions based on the course textbook. The grade for the theory portion of the course, if successfully challenged, will be based on the score earned on the comprehensive examination.

## Nursing Course Challenge Requirements

### NUR 4106

#### Leadership and Management in Nursing

Challenge of NUR 4106 consists of two components: written documentation and a comprehensive examination.

4. Written documentation (Required for challenge of theory and clinical portions of the course).
  - a. Professional resume that includes professional experience and education.
  - b. Table that lists the course learning outcomes and how the student has met each specific outcome.
  - c. Documentation of formal learning experiences related to the course learning outcomes, if applicable.
    - i. Transcripts of previously earned credit related to the course learning outcomes.
    - ii. Course syllabi for related courses.
    - iii. List of continuing education units earned, staff development programs, or certificates of attendance for programs or conferences attended related to leadership and management.
    - iv. Copy of certification card or certificate in any nursing specialty that requires leadership and management skills.
    - v. Test blueprint for certification examinations that indicate leadership and management as part of the examination.
  - d. Documentation of clinical experience in health assessment
    - i. Letters from supervisors
    - ii. Relevant position descriptions
    - iii. Copies of projects relate to leadership and management
  - e. Other relevant materials the student believes support the achievement of the course learning outcomes.
  
5. Comprehensive examination (Required for challenge of theory portion of course).

The syllabus and clinical evaluation tool for NUR 4106 will be provided by the course instructor. The comprehensive examination will be equivalent to the final examination for the course and consist of a random selection of text questions based on the course textbook. The grade for the theory portion of the course, if successfully challenged, will be based on the score earned on the comprehensive examination.

[Course Challenge Application Online](#)

Password is nursing

## Nursing Course Challenge Application Form

**Directions:** Complete a separate form for each nursing course you would like to challenge. Submit the completed form to

Eastern Illinois University  
College of Sciences RN to BS in Nursing Program  
600 Lincoln Ave.  
Charleston, IL 61920  
FAX: 217-581-7050

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Nursing course to be challenged (circle one):

NUR 3303   **or**   NUR 4106

Portion of the nursing course to be challenged (circle one):

Theory                  Clinical                  Both Theory and Clinical

Semester and year of course to be challenged: \_\_\_\_\_

Registration for the course is required in order to be eligible for Nursing Course Challenge. Have you registered for the course that you would like to challenge? (circle one):

Yes                  No

Admission to the Nursing Program is required in order to be eligible for Nursing Course Challenge. Have you been admitted to the Nursing Program? (circle one):

Yes                  No

This form will be forwarded to the nursing faculty member teaching the course you wish to challenge. Upon receipt of the Application, the faculty member will send you information about the Challenge requirements for the specified course. All documentation and assignments, as well as testing must be completed by November 15<sup>th</sup> for spring semester and by July 15<sup>th</sup> for fall semester.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Date form received \_\_\_\_\_

Date placed in student file and copy sent to nursing course faculty \_\_\_\_\_

Nursing Council  
Approved 6-27-08  
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Revised 1-4-11