

**WEBSTER UNIVERSITY NURSING PROGRAM  
NURS 3010 CONCEPTS OF PROFESSIONAL NURSING**

**Class:** Fall I, 2007

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**Course Description:**

This course integrates the student into Webster University and baccalaureate education. Aspects of professional practice provide the framework for this course. Critical thinking, oral and written communication skills are strengthened.

**Objectives:**

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

1. Recognize nursing theory as a framework for professional practice.
2. Describe the basic elements of holism and systems theory.
3. Discuss principles of health promotion across the lifespan.
4. Discuss the relationship between culture and health.
5. Apply the nursing process in self-assessment and care planning.
6. Discuss roles, education and service of the professional nurse.
7. Identify principles of ethics as a basis for decision-making.
8. Describe issues in health care influencing professional nursing practice.

**Required textbooks:**

American Psychological Association. (2001). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (5<sup>th</sup> ed.). Washington, DC: Author.

Blais, K. K., Hayes, J. S., Kozier, B., & Erb, G. (2006). *Professional nursing practice: Concepts and perspectives* (5<sup>th</sup> ed.). Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall.

**Essential Course Content:**

Holism	Health Promotion
Systems theory	Health and Wellness
Nursing theory	Complementary Therapies
Nursing Process	Communication
Culture	Nursing Roles
Ethics	Current Issues in Nursing & Healthcare

**Course Requirements:**

1. Attendance and participation in all class sessions is expected. Each student is to come to class prepared to discuss all assigned reading.
2. Narrative: Specific guidelines are described on a separate handout.
3. Nursing Role Discussion: Students will work in small groups to lead a 20 to 30 minute class discussion of issues to the nursing roles of Learner and Teacher, Leader and Manager, Research Consumer, Political Advocate, or Colleague and Collaborator.
4. Nursing and Culture: Bring in an article for class discussion that relates nursing to culture, i.e. nursing care of clients from different cultures, nursing diversity, communication.
5. Holistic Health Assessment Assignment: Each student will complete a self-assessment of his or her own functional health patterns. From this assessment, strengths and areas of concern will be identified, goals and plans for self-care will be written, and a plan for evaluation will be projected. (Guidelines will be distributed during class)
6. Issue Paper: Each student will write a formal paper, using APA format, on a current issue of importance to the nursing profession. (Guidelines found on page 6). A Worksheet related to this paper will be completed the first class session and the choice of topic is due by the end of the second class period.
7. Student Presentation: Each student will be part of a team presentation to the class on one aspect of holistic healthcare to include holistic approaches in nursing. (See attached guidelines page 7)

The following is an example of an evaluation and grading scale. Required components are determined by individual faculty and may vary section by section and course by course.

**Evaluation:**

Attendance, preparation and participation	10 points
Narrative	10 points
Nursing Role Discussion	5 points
Culture Article	5 points
Holistic self-assessment and plan of care	20 points
Issue paper	30 points
Presentation	20 points

**Grading scale:**

A 95-100	B+ 87-89	C+ 77-79
A- 90-94	B 84-86	C 75-76
	B- 80-83	

**BSN Outcomes assessed in this course: Oral Communication and Written Communication**

**Overall Course Considerations:**

1. Attendance and participation are very important. Promptness is expected. Late arrival disrupts class and interferes with planned class activities. Individual situations need to be discussed with the instructor in advance or within 24 hours of class. The final course grade will be lowered proportionally for absences, late arrivals and early departures.
2. Due dates for written work are identified on the Course Calendar and presentation dates will be assigned. Unless arranged prior to the due date, late work will not be accepted and will result in a grade of zero for that assignment. Approved extensions will have points deducted based on the number of days past the due date.
3. This is a three-semester hour course. The eight-week format of this course presumes adult learner behaviors. Students are expected to spend a minimum of three hours per week for each hour spent in class (12 hours per week) in course related activities outside class.
4. Elements of this syllabus are subject to change.