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University of West Georgia
School of Nursing
Master of Science in Nursing Program
NURS 6010 N01 and N81 – Perspectives on Caring in Nursing
Fall 2012

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Credit: 1-0-1

Prerequisite: Admission to the program

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Course Description: An examination of the concept of caring and the philosophy of self-care as an essential component of caring for others will be the focus of the course. Exploration of one's ability for self-care and participation in self-care activities will illuminate the meaning of caring for self to nursing practice. Theory and research related to caring will be explored.

This course is designed to be greater than 50% online via CourseDen. Class will be conducted synchronously and asynchronously online as well as ground, as designated in the course calendar. Computer/CourseDen requirements: Students are required to access the University of West Georgia CourseDen site at http://westga.view. usg.edu/. Support and CourseDen questions can be answered through this site.

For technical assistance, please contact:
- The University of West Georgia (UWG) Distance Education (CourseDen) helpline from 8am to 5pm Monday through Friday at 678-839-6248
- E-mail CourseDen support for help, using http://westga.view. usg.edu/.
- The CourseDen company toll-free 24-hour support line at 1-877-855-3238 or
- If you are having problems getting online, The University of West Georgia Informational Technology Services helpline is open 8am to 5pm Monday through Friday at 678-839-6587.

Learning goals:
1. Explore the meaning of self-care to caring nursing practice through development and implementation of a self-care plan.
2. Explore selected caring theoretical models and the relationship to caring as the essence of nursing practice, education and leadership. (1)

3. Explore the concept of caring as it relates to the role of the advanced practice nurse in leadership and education roles. (9)
4. Examine the concept of caring as it relates to providing holistic care in a culturally diverse environment. (3,10)
5. Demonstrate the ability to communicate within a caring philosophy to improve nursing education, the quality of professional nursing practice and the health care system (7).

Course Content:
1. The relationship between self-care and quality caring
2. Caring as the essence of quality nursing practice.
3. Theoretical and evidence based frameworks for caring
4. Quality caring and cultural competence
5. Ethical decision making and caring.
6. Caring in the context of nursing education and nursing management

Required Textbooks:

Duffy, J.R. (2009). *Quality caring in nursing: Applying theory to clinical practice, education and leadership.* New York: Springer.

Learning Activities:
1. Reading assignments (books and articles)
2. Online written assignments
3. Discussions: Online: both synchronous and asynchronous and face to face
4. Graded assignments as described in Learning Activities
5. Oral presentation
6. Caring Groups

Evaluation Methods for Learning Activities and Assignments

30% Oral Presentation: Self-Care Journey
70% Self-Care Reflective Journal and Activities
  Holistic Self-Assessment –   10%
  Self-Care Journal – (4 @ 10% ea.) 40%
  Personal Reflective Summary – 20%

Caring Groups
This course focuses on the opportunity for students to gain an understanding of the importance of caring for self and others for quality nursing practice.

Individual learning activities within the course provide the opportunity to learn caring for self.

Through Caring Groups, students will engage in activities designed to promote caring for colleagues.

Students will be given the opportunity to sign up for caring groups. These groups will be designed to function as work groups during face to face and online in-class experiences. Students will also be encouraged to engage electronically with their Caring Group members to provide support to each other throughout the course.

Grading Scale:
A = 90-100
B = 80-89
C = 75-79
F = < 75

Grading of Learning Activities/Assignments

Grades for learning activities will be awarded based on Paul and Elder's (2008) standards of clarity, accuracy, precision, relevance, depth, breadth, logic, and significance. Grading rubrics will provided in advance to assist students in preparation.
This course will be delivered approximately 95% online . This requires the online equivalent of 550 minutes of instruction and an additional 1000 minutes of supporting activities.

As such, you will be required to complete the following online activities during this course:

Activity	Instructional Equivalent
Discussion posts	250 minutes
Audio/video instruction	100 minutes
Online assignments	200 minutes

Additionally, it is anticipated that students will need to work independently for twice the number minutes listed above to complete the online activities.

Academic Honesty:
The policies related to academic dishonesty for this course are those found in the *MSN Student Handbook* and *The UWG Connection and Student Handbook , Appendix A.* Evidence of student cheating, fabrication, or plagiarism (including copying of reference materials directly into class projects or papers without proper citations) will result in failure of this course.
** Please note: plagiarism prevention technology will be used in this course to evaluate written papers to ensure academic honesty.

DISABILITY STATEMENT

The Student Development Center coordinates special services for disabled students including physical disabilities or learning disorders. Students must register with Disabled Student Services to receive certain accommodations including extended test time or individual testing. For further information, call 678-839-6428.

Official Communication Statement
It is University policy that all electronic communication between the faculty and students must take place only through the campus e-mail network, utilizing MyUWG or CourseDen. Students

at UWG are required to have ready access to computers for their course work and will be expected to use CourseDen as directed by the faculty. Information about needed computer specifications is found at http://www.westga.edu/~techlife

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