

Course Code: NUR 255

Course Title: Medical-Surgical Nursing II

Department: Nursing

Effective Date: Summer 2026

PCS Code: 1.2 - Occupational/Technical Instruction

CIP Code: 51.3801

Repeatability: 0

Credit Hours

Catalog Notation: 2-6-4

Credit Hour Distribution:

Lecture: 2

Lab: 0

Clinical: 6

Total: 4

General Course Information

Catalog Description

Nursing care of clients with alterations in functional health patterns as a result of changes, variations, and/or illnesses in selected medical-surgical areas.

General Course Objectives

At the completion of this course the student will:

- Be prepared to sit for and pass the NCLEX.
- Integrate ethical, legal, and regulatory frameworks and standards of professional nursing practice through a holistic approach to care in the adult patient and family.
- Demonstrate effective communication through caring, compassion, and cultural awareness for the adult patient and family to achieve positive outcomes.
- Demonstrate effective use of technology to manage care and complete 2-3 patient assessments with appropriate documentation prior to the end of clinical as well as completing an effective and complete patient care plan.
- Demonstrate the orderly collection of information from multiple sources to establish a foundation of holistic nursing care to meet the needs of the adult patient and family.
- Analyze and utilize assessment and reassessment data to plan and provide individualized care for the adult patient and family.
- Analyze and evaluate care using data, facts, and patient response while utilizing evidence-based care and practice.
- Demonstrate caring behaviors that are nurturing, protective, safe, compassionate, and person-centered where client choices are related to cultural values, ideas, perspectives, ethnicity, gender, religion, sexual orientation; beliefs and lifestyle are respected in the adult patient and family.
- Develop, implement, and evaluate individualized teaching plans for the adult patient and family to achieve desired outcomes.
- Demonstrate shared planning, decision making, problem solving, goal setting, cooperation, and communication with the adult patient, family, and members of the healthcare team.
- Manage and prioritize nursing care of the adult patient and family.

Minimum Placement Levels

English	Reading	Math
Credit in ENG 101 with a grade of C or higher	Placement out of CCS 099	None

Prerequisites

Credit in NUR 113, NUR 114, NUR 117, NUR 118, NUR 151, BIO 121, BIO 122, and PSY 101

Credit or concurrent enrollment in NUR 236, NUR 238, BIO 123, and PSY 209

Admission into the Nursing program

Methods of Evaluation

4-15 quizzes with approximately 25-50 questions apiece, approximately 25-50 participation assignments randomly assigned as homework or completed in class, teaching project during post-conference worth 20-40 points, Kaplan Assessments as assigned, 2 objective exams, 1 midterm, and 1 final examination. Participation and clinical competency as defined by the program's Core Components and Competencies, ability to complete 2-3 patient assessments with appropriate documentation prior to the end of clinical of the 3rd semester. Kaplan assessment.

Instructional Materials and Additional Supplies

Medical Surgical Nursing: Assessment and Management of Clinical Problems, Lewis, Dirksen, Heitkemper and Bucher. Current edition, Mosby. All other required course materials. Course Point Plus.

Clinical uniform \$50, stethoscope \$20-\$200 depending on the preference, bandage and scissors \$5-\$10, pen light \$5-\$10.

Course Content

General Learning Outcomes (GLOs)

- Communication: Students will demonstrate the ability to read, write, listen, and speak effectively.
- Critical Thinking and Information Literacy: Students will demonstrate the ability to evaluate perspectives, evidence, and implications, and to locate, assess, and use information effectively.

Course Segments and Student Learning Outcomes

Course Segment	Learning Outcomes	Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Clinical Hours
Nursing Process and Critical Thinking	1. Apply the nursing process in relation to the care of patients with alterations in functional health patterns. 2. Demonstrate the use of critical thinking and clinical judgment in the care of patients.	5	0	15
Fluid, Electrolyte and Acid/Base Imbalance	1. Describe the mechanisms for maintaining fluid and electrolyte balance and acid and base disturbances. 2. Describe rationale for nursing actions and identify outcomes that indicate success of nursing actions. 3. Explain the roles of the lungs, kidneys, and chemical buffers in maintaining acid/base balance. 4. Interpret arterial blood gas measurements. 5. Describe the pathophysiology of fluid deficits; fluid excess; electrolyte imbalances of sodium, potassium, calcium, phosphorus, and magnesium; and acid/base disorders. 6. Identify nursing actions for fluid, electrolyte, and acid and base imbalances.	5	0	15

Course Segment	Learning Outcomes	Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Clinical Hours
Renal Disorders	1. Compare and contrast the pathophysiology of acute kidney injury and chronic renal failure. 2. Differentiate between peritoneal dialysis and hemodialysis including purpose, indications for use, advantages, disadvantages, and nursing responsibilities. 3. Describe the clinical course of acute kidney injury and chronic renal failure. 4. Explain nursing care and collaborative care of a patient in acute kidney injury and chronic renal failure. 5. Compare common vascular access devices used for hemodialysis and for peritoneal dialysis. 6. Describe renal transplantation and treatment of end stage renal disease. 7. Identify the nursing care of preoperative and postoperative care of kidney transplantation.	5	0	15
Upper and Lower GI Disorders	1. Describe the etiology, clinical manifestations, pathophysiology, and nursing care of oral cancer, esophageal disorders, gastritis, obesity, and gastric and duodenal ulcers. 2. Describe pre- and postoperative needs of gastric surgery. 3. Analyze lab and diagnostic tools to diagnose the different upper GI disorders. 4. Differentiate between ulcerative colitis, Crohn's disease, and diverticular disease. 5. Describe the etiology, pathophysiology, and clinical manifestations of intestinal and rectal disorders including colon cancer, surgery, and intestinal obstruction and nursing care of each. 6. Discuss the management of constipation, diarrhea, and fecal incontinence.	5	0	15
Liver, Biliary Tract, and Pancreas Disorders	1. Describe the clinical manifestations, etiology, and pathophysiology of gall bladder and exocrine pancreas disorders and describe nursing interventions for clients with biliary and exocrine pancreatic disorders. 2. Describe the pathophysiology, etiology, and manifestations of liver disorders and appropriate nursing interventions.	5	0	15
Neurological Function	1. Differentiate types of head injuries and manifestations, and identify nursing interventions. 2. Identify the common types of strokes and risk factors of strokes and manifestations of stroke. 3. Identify the etiology, clinical manifestations, complications, diagnostic studies, and collaborative management of seizure disorder, multiple sclerosis, Parkinson's disease, and myasthenia gravis. 4. Describe the clinical manifestations and collaborative care of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis and Huntington's disease, and outline the treatment goals of chronic progressive neurological diseases. 5. Describe etiology, clinical manifestations, diagnostic studies, and nursing management of Guillain-Barre syndrome. 6. Describe brain tumors and common complications. 7. Compare the primary causes, pathophysiology, and nursing management of meningitis, encephalitis, and brain abscesses.	5	0	15

Course Segment	Learning Outcomes	Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Clinical Hours
Neurological Function (cont'd)	8. Compare and contrast the etiology and pathophysiology of ischemic and hemorrhagic strokes along with medications used in managing strokes. 9. Describe the acute care of a stroke and the purpose of rehabilitation, and explain the psychosocial impact of a stroke on the patient and family. 10. Describe the major anticonvulsant drug classifications and common side effects. 11. Identify the clinical manifestations, diagnostic studies, and nursing management of delirium, dementia, and Alzheimer's disease. 12. Identify and describe spinal cord injuries and tumors including the clinical manifestations, rehab potential, and major physical and psychologic problems of the patient.			

Total Contact Hours

Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Clinical Hours
30	0	90