

FUNDAMENTALS OF NURSING PRACTICUM SYLLABUS

NUR151

Winter Term 2024

Day Program

Practical Nursing Program



Changes to the entries in this syllabus may be required with the understanding that the student will be fully informed of these changes. The student is accountable and responsible for knowledge from concurrent and/or previous courses in the curriculum. This course will build on those course materials.

COURSE INFORMATION

Course Number and Name: NUR151 Fundamentals of Nursing Practicum

Contact Hours: 152 Clock Hours

Pre-Requisites: None

Co-Requisites: NUR150

Description of Expected Practicum Activities

This practicum will develop the skills necessary for the student to deliver total care to the adult. The practicum emphasizes safety, legal, ethical, and pharmacological issues and incorporates care of the adult dealing in a variety of in-patient, outpatient and community settings. The practicum also includes a review of basic math skills (including systems of measurement and conversion between systems) and calculation of drug dosages.

The provision of client care in the practicum includes implementation of the nursing process, performance of focused client reviews, demonstration of critical thinking, and assistance with patient education.

Course Objectives and Program Student Learning Outcomes

1. Define how to use the nursing process holistically to guide the provision of therapeutic care to diverse clients (PSLO 1)
2. Recognize the impact of cultural and individual differences related to the nursing process (PSLO 2)
3. Discuss the use of informational technology and interpersonal skills to promote effective communication (PSLO 3)
4. Describe evidence-based bio-psycho-social cultural and spiritual nursing principles across the lifespan of clients (PSLO 4)
5. Identify/Demonstrate steps in foundational nursing skills that promote a safe client environment (PSLO 5)
6. Discuss how critical thinking and clinical judgement skills can be applied when providing nursing care to promote health (PSLO 6)
7. Identify ethical principles related to the nursing practice (PSLO 7)
8. Examine professional boundaries associated with the role of the licensed practical nurse (PSLO 8)
9. Demonstrate effective interpersonal skills to foster the development of therapeutic communication within the interdisciplinary health care team (PSLO 9)
10. Describe the use of technology in the provision of safe client care (PSLO 10)

Methods of Evaluation

Student work in this practicum is evaluated according to the following:

- Performance expected behaviors and activities (“Practicum Activities”) in this practicum experience may be evaluated based on the following tools (which are accessible in Canvas):
 - The Practicum Evaluation Tool. The tool utilizes a Satisfactory (S), Remediation Required (R), or Unsatisfactory (U) grading scale. The tool is utilized throughout the practicum experience and provides students with on-going assessments of their practicum activities.
 - Student Learning Outcome Evaluation Tool. This tool utilizes a four-point grading scale: (4) Met the objective independently with exceptional performance; (3) Met the objective with minimal guidance; (2) Met the objective with moderate assistance and (1) Did not meet the objective. The tool is completed at the end of the practicum experience.
- Assignment activities (lab exercises, case studies, medical calculation exams, Virtual Simulations (“vSims”), DocuCare assessments, nursing care plans, etc.) (“Practicum Assignments”) receive a numeric grade pursuant to course rubrics for each assignment.

Method of Instruction

This practicum involves supervised laboratory and clinical hands-on instruction that provide students with an opportunity to learn, practice and apply registered nursing skills and knowledge. Students will participate in the practicum under the direction of their course instructor and deliver safe and appropriate patient care utilizing the nursing process and the holistic nursing model for care. Certain practicum activities within affiliated healthcare facilities may be completed in collaboration with an assigned healthcare professional (provided that the course instructor is located onsite) or with an approved preceptor (when allowed by state regulations). Students are advised to review the Academic Catalog for the instructor to student ratio for this practicum. Students are expected to come to each practicum prepared and ready to make a valuable contribution to patient care and learning.

Methods of instruction employed in this practicum may also include multimedia class presentations, discussion, web-based instruction, case scenarios, handouts, computerized learning modules, and collaborative learning.

ADA Statement

Jersey College is committed to responding to the needs of students with disabilities as outlined in both the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. To request reasonable accommodations for a disability, please complete and submit a Request for Reasonable Accommodations form (available at www.jerseycollege.edu/policies).

Student Performance Expectations

Successful completion of this practicum is defined as receiving a passing grade on each assigned activity. The following chart provides the passing score for the various activities that may be assigned throughout the practicum.

| Activity | Passing Score |
|--|---|
| Skill Lab Exercises | A score of Satisfactory or “S” in each day in lab |
| Practicum Evaluation Tool | A score of Satisfactory or “S” in each competency |
| Student Learning Outcome Evaluation Tool | A score of 2 or higher on in each competency |
| Dosage and Medical Calculation Examination | A score of 80% or higher on at least one exam |
| Quiz | A score of 73% or higher (averaged for all quizzes) |
| Skills Test Out | A score of Satisfactory or “S” in each activity |
| Case Study | A score of 73% or higher on each case study |
| Care Plan | A score of 73% on each care plan |
| Teaching Plan | A score of 73% on each teaching plan |
| Virtual Simulation Exercise | A score of 85% or higher on each component within an exercise |
| DocuCare Assignment | A score of “3” on each component of assignment |
| Other Assignments | A score of 73% or higher on each assignment |

Students that do not receive a passing grade on each assigned activity will receive a grade of Unsatisfactory (“U”) for the practicum and a grade in the associated course equal to the lesser of 72% or their final course grade calculated per the “Method of Evaluation” in the course syllabus.

STUDENT ACADEMIC AND CONDUCT INFORMATION¹

Students are expected to abide by Jersey College's student academic policies and code of conduct as set forth in the Academic Catalog. The following specific academic and conduct policies apply to this course.

Grade Determination

The course instructor for each class has the sole authority and responsibility to evaluate a student's performance in the class (including lab, clinical and preceptorship). In the absence of fraud, bad faith, or mistake, the course instructor's grades are final. Any student who questions or raises a complaint about a grade or the grading procedure normally should first contact the course instructor. If that does not provide a satisfactory resolution, the student may contact the Program Administrator. Students are further directed to the Student Complaint and Grievance Policies in the Academic Catalog.

Attendance Policy

Academic Progression

Graduation from the Practical Nursing program requires students to complete 1,501 clock hours of instruction (hereafter referred to as "Academic Progression"). Academic Progression is accomplished through active and continuous participation in and completion of course activities. As such, any lack of attendance which causes a faculty member to conclude that unsatisfactory Academic Progress is being made may result in administrative withdrawal from the course. Such a withdrawal may be counted as a course attempt in accordance with the College's promotion and repeat policies.

Attendance

Regular and prompt attendance is each student's individual responsibility. Students who are unable to attend a practicum must notify their instructor or administration prior to the start of the practicum and only in emergency situations after the scheduled start of the practicum. Tardiness will count as an absent day for the practicum experience, and the student will be sent off the facility and the unit and/or the college campus. Failure to timely notify the course instructor of an absence may be considered unprofessional conduct and may result in administrative withdrawal.

Absences

Absences from practicum experiences are expected to be avoided. In the rare case of a (i) significant illness, (ii) personal instances of distress or emergency², (iii) religious observance, or (iv) required court or legal appearances, student will be excused from class. Students may not be excused from more than two (2) practicum experiences. Unexcused absences and/or excused absences beyond two (2) may result in administrative withdrawal from the course.

¹ All policies are subject to review by and/or appeal to the Campus Director.

² The determination of whether a situation is distress or emergency shall be in the sole discretion of the Dean.

For clarification purposes, unexcused absences include, but are not limited to, (i) tardies and/or early departures the practicum, (ii) absences related to travel circumstances³, (iii) absences to attend a gathering⁴, and (iv) childcare absences (other than emergency situations)⁵.

Missed Time and Makeup

All missed practicum sessions (excused and unexcused) must be made-up. The site, date, and time of make-ups will be assigned by the nursing administration in collaboration with the instructor and clinical agencies and must be completed prior to the start of the next term. Makeup time is expected to be completed prior to the start of the next term. Students with more than one (1) practicum absence may be required to make-up their missed day(s) during the scheduled vacation week.

Failure to make-up missed practicum days prior to start of the next term will result in the student receiving a “U” for the practicum and a course grade in the co-requisite course equal to the lesser of 72% or their final course grade calculated per the “Method of Evaluation” set forth in the co-requisite course syllabus.

Students who are allowed to make up hours may be responsible for the costs of the additional instruction.

From time to time, extenuating circumstances (e.g., snow storm, hurricane, etc.) require the school to close. Attendance missed due to school closings will be made up on a date communicated to students

Practicum Exams

Dosage and Medical Calculation Examination

Students are required to demonstrate dosage and medical calculation skills by undertaking and passing a dosage and medical calculation examination (the “Dosage and Medical Calculation Examination”). The Dosage and Medical Calculation Examination is graded on a numeric scale (out of 100%). The passing score on the exam is 80%. Students who score less than 80% on the exam will be provided with two opportunities to retest. The retesting must occur and be completed prior to the last scheduled practicum day associated with this course.

Skills Test Out

Students are required to demonstrate mastery of clinical and other skills learned during the practicum through a test-out (the “Skills Test Out”) that occurs towards the end of the practicum experience. The Skills Test Out typically contains multiple components. Each component is graded on a Satisfactory (S) or Unsatisfactory (U) basis, and students must receive a grade of Satisfactory (S) in all components to pass the Skills Test Out. Attendance for the Skills Test Out is mandatory. Students who are unsuccessful on a component will be provided with an opportunity to remediate and retest. The remediation and retesting must occur and be completed prior to the start of the next term.

³ Including, but not limited to, delayed or cancelled flights, car troubles, traffic delays, etc.

⁴ Including, but not limited to, a funeral (other than a close family member), graduation, wedding, etc.

⁵ For instance, a childcare absence required for a planned elementary school holiday (e.g., President’s Day) would be unexcused, while a childcare absence related to a school closing due to snow would be excused.

Practicum Assignments

General Assignment Obligations

Students are expected to complete all assignments on or before the dates that they are due. Assignments submitted after the due date may not be accepted or may be subject to penalty.⁶ Any lack of completion of assignments and/or consistent lateness of assignment which leads a faculty member to judge that unsatisfactory progress is being made may result in the student being administratively withdrawn from the course and require the course to be repeated. This syllabus (including the course calendar) and/or Canvas include due dates with regards to the completion of assignments. To the extent no written due date for an assignment is in the course calendar or Canvas, the course instructor will establish and announce the due date for such assignment.

Nursing Care Plan

This practicum requires students to develop one short-form nursing care plan on a facility client⁷ or on an assigned virtual patient. The nursing care plan form and the rubric utilized to grade the nursing care plan is accessible in Canvas.

The care plan must be completed and submitted prior to its due date (see Canvas for assignment information and due date). Care plans are graded on a numeric scale (out of 100%). Students must receive a grade of 73% or above on each assigned care plan. Students who are unsuccessful on a care plan may remediate and resubmit.⁸ Such remediation and resubmission must occur and be completed prior to the last scheduled practicum day associated with this course.

Other Assignments

Students may be required to complete the following assignments and activities in this practicum. These assignments will be graded on a numeric scale (out of 100%). Students must receive a grade of 73% or above on each assignment. Students who are unsuccessful on an assignment may remediate.⁹ Such remediation must occur and be completed prior to the last scheduled practicum day associated with this course.

Evidence-Based Care and 3-2-1 Sheets. The Evidence-Based Care and 3-2-1 Sheets involve a review of evidence-based nursing care considerations for illness and disorders. The activities are designed to enhance students' understanding of patient care best practices and the link between evidence-based practices and improved patient outcomes. After students have reviewed and analyzed the Evidence-Based Care documents, they will complete a 3-2-1 sheet (downloadable from Canvas) addressing the following (i) three things learned that should be applied when caring for patients with the illness/disorder examined, (ii) two things that could be incorporated into patient teaching with regards to the patients with the illness/disorder examined and (iii) one open question with regards to the illness/disorder examined.

⁶ Acceptance of assignments after due dates is at the sole discretion of the course instructor and Dean.

⁷ HIPAA must be strictly adhered to when completing nursing care plan on a facility client.

⁸ The right to remediate is at the sole discretion of the course instructor and Dean when a student fails to complete and submit the care plan by its due date.

⁹ The right to remediate is at the sole discretion of the course instructor and Dean when a student fails to complete and submit the assignment by its due date.

Skills-based Activities. The skills-based activities involve students reviewing and analyzing Clinical Skills Sheets and watching Evidence-Based Practice (EBP) videos of the skill being performed. After completion of the EBP videos, students will “surf” the web for non-EBP videos related to the skill and compare and contrast the EBP video against the non-EBP video. The critique of the non-EBP video should identify the differences between the best practices and the technique performed, including proper and improper techniques (missing steps, extra steps, etc.) and other nuances observed.

Short Case Study. Students can expand their critical thinking and clinical judgment in the Practicum through completion of short case studies focused on specific illnesses and disorders and patient-centered safe care. After completing the short case study, the student will be asked to reflect on the care provided during the short case study and to create an end-of-shift report using the SBAR communication tool (downloadable from Canvas).

Drug Cards. The drug card activities involve students completing the Jersey College Drug Card Form (downloadable from Canvas) for assigned medications. Through this exercise students are expected to demonstrate their understanding of (i) pharmacologic classes of drugs and nursing considerations to create safe medication delivery and to identify (ii) potential medication interactions and adverse effects when administering medications.

Practice Dosage Calculations. To further build and support students’ nursing toolkit, students may be required to complete practice dosage calculation exercises. The purpose of these activities is to allow students to (i) practice accurate medication dosage calculation principles and (ii) ensure that medication administration is conducted in a safe and accurate manner. To complete the assignments, students must review, interpret and solve dosage calculation problems incorporating: (i) basic math; (ii) measurement systems; (iii) drug administration records; (iv) oral, topical and rectal drugs; (v) parental administration; and (vi) special scenarios (pediatrics, obstetrics, etc.).

Turnitin©

Unless otherwise instructed, assignments in this practicum must be submitted through Canvas in order for the papers to be uploaded to Turnitin®; Turnitin® is an automatic text-recognition system made for detecting, preventing and handling plagiarism. Students can review the Turnitin® website to obtain additional information regarding the plagiarism checking process -- <https://www.Turnitin.com/>.

Remediation Policy

Students who do not receive a passing grade in an assignment given in the course may be required to remediate and retake or redo the assignment. When students fail to satisfactorily remediate an assignment by the end of the course such students will receive a grade of Unsatisfactory/“U” in this practicum and a grade in the associated course equal to the lesser of 72% or their final course grade calculated per the “Method of Evaluation” in the course.

Collaboration

Assignments are individual efforts (other than group projects). While students are encouraged to share information and to study together, collaboration on assignments (other than group projects), is strictly prohibited. All submitted assignments must be a student's individual work, and not the work of others. Any violation of this policy will be considered academic misconduct. This misconduct can result in a zero on the assignment, administrative withdrawal from the course, suspension and/or termination from the program.

Practicum Responsibilities

In the practicum, students may perform under the direction of their practicum instructor or their preceptor all procedures which have been previously taught through the use of lecture, demonstrations, audio-visual aids, and/or school laboratory practice. Students are responsible for preparing appropriately prior to providing patient care; inadequate preparation as determined by your practicum instructor will result in dismissal from the clinical site which will count as an absence. Safe client care cannot be given without adequate preparation. In addition, students are expected to report for duty appropriately dressed according to the institution's nursing uniform dress code, and be ON TIME. Students must wear photo identification badge and name tag for all practicum activities (unless otherwise notified).

Patient Safety

Any student who unduly compromises the safety of a patient and/or displays clinical misconduct behavior will receive a clinical grade of unsatisfactory for the term and will be subject to disciplinary action, including dismissal from the program.

Transportation

Students will be responsible for their own transportation, parking and any other incidental expenses associated with the practicum in this course.

DISCLAIMER AND RELEASE

EACH STUDENT IS ADVISED THAT PRACTICUM PARTICIPATION INVOLVES CERTAIN INHERENT RISKS AND DANGERS, INCLUDING, WITHOUT LIMITATION, EXPOSURE TO ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS, EXPOSURE TO X-RAY RADIATION HAZARDS, EXPOSURE TO CONTAGIOUS DISEASES, EXPOSURES TO NOXIOUS ODORS, AND RESULTING EMOTIONAL, PHYSICAL OR OTHER DISTRESS OR DISCOMFORT (E.G., VOMITING, FAINTING, ETC.). THROUGH PARTICIPATION IN PRACTICUM EXPERIENCES EACH STUDENT KNOWINGLY, FREELY AND VOLUNTARILY WAIVES AND RELEASES, TO THE FULLEST EXTENT ALLOWABLE BY LAW, ON BEHALF OF THEMSELVES AND TO THE EXTENT PREGNANT, THE STUDENT'S UNBORN CHILD, ANY AND ALL RIGHTS OR CAUSES OF ACTION OF ANY KIND WHATSOEVER (INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO PAST, CURRENT OR FUTURE CONTRACT, TORT OR STATUTORY RIGHTS AND CAUSES OF ACTION), RELATING TO, ARISING OUT OF OR RESULTING FROM PARTICIPATION IN PRACTICUM ACTIVITIES (BOTH EXPERIENCES IN THE COLLEGE'S LABORATORY AND AT CLINICAL SITES).

Additional Documents

The clinical facility students will be attending may require students to participate in an orientation session, execute certain agreements (including with respect to confidentiality, HIPAA, patient rights, etc.), undertake drug screens and/or background checks before allowing students to participate in the clinical rotation. In addition, while participating in clinical students may be required to have a drug screen at any time during the rotation. Participation in this practicum is subject to student consent and completion of all clinical facility requirements.

Administrative Withdrawal

Any administrative withdrawal that occurs a result of an activity referenced in this supplement syllabus (e.g., related to attendance, missed assignments, etc.) will (i) be counted as a course attempt (students will receive a grade equal to the lesser of 72% or their final course grade calculated per the “Method of Evaluation” in the course syllabus) and (ii) may result in withdrawal from the program (see Academic Progression policies in the Academic Catalog). Students are responsible for any cost of retaking the course, course fees, etc. related to the administrative withdrawal.

Academic Misconduct

Academic misconduct is defined as the use of unfair means in any examination or assessment procedure (including papers, projects, presentations, etc.). This includes, but is not limited to, (i) Cheating, (ii) Fabrication or Falsification, (iii) Facilitating Academic Misconduct, (iv) Forgery, (v) Plagiarism, (vi) Self-plagiarism, (vii) Unauthorized Collusion and (viii) Tampering.

Cheating involves, among other things, giving, using or attempting to use or attempting to gain access to unauthorized materials, information, notes, study aids or other devices in any academic exercise including unauthorized communication of information. Examples of cheating include, but are not limited to, copying from another student’s exam or assignment; receiving and/or providing unauthorized assistance during a quiz, test or examination; talking to oneself or others during an exam; sharing information about an exam with classmates in advance of the test; using books, notes or other devices such as calculators and other electronic devices when these are not authorized; acquiring without authorization copies of tests or examinations before the scheduled exercise; acquiring, possessing or utilizing publisher’s test banks and/or copies (electronic or otherwise) of publisher’s and third-party’s testing materials; attempting to gain access or gaining access to materials restricted to faculty members; telling anyone or receiving information about the items or answers seen in or on an examination; reconstructing questions or topics from an examination or attempting to do the same; receiving reconstructed questions or topics about an examination from another student; copying/lending homework, reports, laboratory work, computer programs, files from other students, storing data on programmable calculators, cell phones or other electronic devices and retrieving the data to assist during an exam; leaving the test room with test materials; writing information on cheat sheets, other items or on one’s body; acquiring answers or information from artificial intelligence (unless specifically authorized by instructor); utilizing unauthorized software and devices (including VMWare) during an test; or breaching, unsecuring, avoiding or otherwise tampering with exam “lock-down” browsers.

Fabrication or Falsification involves, among other things, negligent, false or misleading representation of evidence, results, data or information which forms part of one's submitted work, with the intention to deceive the marker. Fabrication or falsification also includes concealing material information. Examples of fabrication or falsification include, but are not limited to, inventing or counterfeiting data or lab procedures; the false citation of a source of information; altering grade reports or other academic records; altering a returned examination paper and seeking a better grade.

Facilitating Academic Misconduct involves, among other things, intentionally or knowingly helping or attempting to help another to commit an act of academic misconduct. Examples include, but are not limited to, allowing another student to copy from one's paper during an examination or test; distributing test questions or substantive information about the material to be covered on a test before the exam; sharing of work and/or answers with other persons within or beyond the College, whether shared privately or via a cheat site (such as Chegg, Quizlet, CourseHero or other sites); not adequately safeguarding one's own answers; allowing someone else to use one's assignment or exam answers for academic credit; collaborating on work with the knowledge that the collaboration will not be reported; reconstructing questions or topics from an examination or attempting to do the same; taking an examination or test for another student or signing a false name on an exam or paper; assisting another with exam answers through unauthorized software and devices (including VMWare); or assisting another with breaching, unsecuring, avoiding or otherwise tampering with exam "lock-down" browsers.

Forgery involves, among other things, forging an official's signature on any document or record and falsification (see above) of evidence, results, data or other information.

Plagiarism involves, among other things, presenting the work of another as one's own without proper acknowledgment. Inadvertent or unintentional misuse of another's work (such as relying heavily on source material that is not expressly acknowledged) is still considered plagiarism. Examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to, submitting as your own work the work of another; the use of a ghost writer, commercial writing service, or extensive help from another; submission of work written and/or created by artificial intelligence and technologies as one's own work; downloading and submitting a paper from a web site; directly quoting from a source without acknowledgment; paraphrasing or summarizing another's work without acknowledging the source (including machine-generated paraphrasing); or using facts, figures, graphs, charts or information without acknowledging the source.

Self-plagiarism involves, among other things, the reuse of one's own words, ideas, or works from preexisting material, especially without acknowledgment of earlier use. Examples of self-plagiarism include, but are not limited to, submitting previously completed papers, assignments, projects and other works as completely new and original, or copying or paraphrasing passages from one's previously submitted work in a new work, each without informing the instructor that this material was submitted or been used before.

Unauthorized Collusion involves, among other things, the submission of work presented as if it is one's own that has been done in unauthorized collaboration with someone else or something else, such as other people or artificial intelligence and technologies. Examples of unauthorized collusion include, but are not limited to, acquiring answers or information from artificial intelligence when such source was not authorized; or using another's assignment or exam answers for academic credit when collaboration was not authorized.

Tampering involves, among other things, interfering with, altering or attempting to alter College records, grades, assignments, laboratory experiments or other documents without authorization. Examples of tampering include, but are not limited to, using a computer or false-written document to change or affect a grade; erasing records or information of a student; unauthorized access to a College record by computer or unauthorized entry into an office or file; obtaining information from the College without proper authorization; or utilizing software, artificial intelligence or other devices to tamper with test proctoring, test answers and/or test results.

Jersey College may disclose student disciplinary records of academic dishonesty to third parties after a final determination of a disciplinary proceeding is completed, subject to FERPA.