

**J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College
Course Content Summary**

Course Prefix and Number: NUR 208

Credits: 6

Course Title: Acute Medical-Surgical Nursing

Course Description

Focuses on the use of nursing process to provide care to individuals and families with acute medical or surgical problems or to prevent such problems. Includes math computational skills and basic computer instruction related to the delivery of nursing care. Provides supervised learning experiences in cooperating agencies. Prerequisite: NUR 111 or 115, 112, 226, 204, and 206. Lecture 3 hours. Laboratory 9 hours. Total 12 hours per week.

General Course Purpose

This course is designed to provide learning opportunities that will enable the student to integrate and synthesize knowledge and skills learned in previous courses, to promote critical thinking and to provide opportunities to care for clients in the acute care environment. It introduces new concepts of acute medical-surgical nursing.

Course Prerequisites/Corequisites

NUR 111 or 115, 112, 226, 204, and 206

Course Objectives

Upon completing the course, the student will be able to:

- A. Examine concepts and theories of nursing and apply it to the assessment and delivery of care for the client with a complex medical-surgical illness in the acute care environment.
- B. Examine selected ethical and legal issues in acute medical-surgical nursing and related role responsibilities and its impact on delivery of nursing care.
- C. Use therapeutic communication techniques to interact with acute medical-surgical clients and their families.
- D. Utilize strategies for increasing self-awareness and maintaining own physical and mental wellness, establishing appropriate boundaries necessary for client and collegial communication.
- E. Implement principles of critical thinking in performing comprehensive, systematic physical status assessment and care of the acute medical-surgical client.
- F. Apply critical thinking and problem solving skills in assessing and planning care of acute medical-surgical clients.
- G. Prioritize and perform nursing care for clients with acute medical-surgical health problems.
- H. Demonstrate principles of teaching and learning as they apply to clients with acute medical-surgical problems.
- I. Examine how the nurse works collaboratively as a multidisciplinary team member with clients and their support networks within the scope of practice, in the delivery of acute-medical surgical care.
- J. Discover how cost containment measures and the use of technology impact on the delivery of acute medical-surgical nursing care.

- K. Apply principles of leadership and management and utilize strategies for nursing career success and delivery of nursing care using critical thinking and application.
- L. Demonstrate caring, culturally sensitive behaviors into practice as an associate degree nurse.

Major Topics to be Included

- a. Meeting the Needs of Clients with Health Problems related to Oxygenation;
- b. Oxygen Delivery; Gaseous Exchange;
- c. Urinary Elimination; Ingestion,
- d. Digestion and Elimination;
- e. Hormonal Homeostasis;
- f. Perception, Movement and Coordination.

Effective Date of Course Content Summary: January 12, 2009