GOVERNORS STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS
DIVISION OF NURSING

Course Title: Critical Care Nursing
Course Number: NURS 760
Credit Hours: Three (3)
Professor: Debra L. Houdek MSN, RN, TNS
Trimester: Spring/Summer

Catalog Statement:
Students integrate the psychosocial, biological, and pathophysiological components of critical illness and disease processes. In addition, students synthesize theory and knowledge of advanced nursing practice in the management of critically ill/injured clients and their families.

Prerequisites:
NURS 50A, NURS 730, HLSC 750.
Co-requisite NURS 740.

Course Overview:
This course focuses on integration of theory and advance skill in critical care nursing. Students relate current research to critical nursing practice and emergency care.

This course provides the theoretical basis for intervening with complex clinical problems in case management of trauma, critical illness and disease of adults and children, and emergency care. The content includes such topics as cardiac and neurological trauma, various respiratory and cardiac emergencies, renal and fluid alterations and emergency procedures.

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

1. Synthesize knowledge of nursing theory, practice and related sciences to support rationales for critical care nursing interventions.

2. Apply the process of critical thinking to the intervention of complex clinical problems.
Course Objectives: (continued)

3. Intervene effectively by prioritizing nursing interventions as they relate to a specific system and consequent effects on other systems.

4. Synthesizes the knowledge of current nursing research and practice to conceptualize the most favorable approach to client and family management.

5. Apply Standards of Critical Care to define futuristic approaches to comprehensive management of critically ill/injured clients and family.

6. Incorporate current research findings in critical care nursing practice.

7. Provide leadership by initiating collaborative multidisciplinary approaches to family care.

8. Review your critical care advanced nursing practice model and revise if indicated.

Teaching/Learning Methods:

1. Weekly lecture/discussions of current research and topics in critical care, emergency and trauma.
2. Required readings
3. Textbook study
4. Regular classroom attendance
5. Computer simulated instruction
6. Presentation of individual critical care model
7. Weekly research article review

Required Textbook:


**Evaluation:**

1. Three hourly exams. (10 points each)
2. Revise your critical care advanced nursing practice model and present it to the class. (10 points)
3. Weekly research article discussion. (20 points)
4. Attendance. (10 points)
   *(Each absence will constitute a 2 point deduction.)*
5. Synthesis paper/manuscript (30 points)

**Grading Scale:**

- 100 - 93 = A
- 92 - 85 = B
- 84 - 75 = C
- 65 - 74 = D
- 64 or below = F

**Topical Outline:**

I. Conceptual approach to system alterations: Includes diagnostic procedures, ethical-legal issues, therapeutic modalities, childhood illness, dysrhythmia management, traumatic injury, surgical management for the following:

   A. Cardiovascular
   B. Pulmonary
   C. Neurological
   D. Renal and Fluid
   E. Gastrointestinal
   F. Endocrine

II. Theory and concept development in critical care advanced practice nursing, case management, family theory and it's impact on health care.

5/7/96DH