

Virginia Western Community College

PNE 181

Clinical Experience I

Prerequisites

Acceptance to the Practical Nursing Program

VWCC Discipline Specific Course Description

Provides guided nursing experiences in the hospital setting. Practices skills and applies principles of nursing in basic areas. Includes supervision in administration of medicines. Encourages students to develop basic skills in analyzing patient needs and making nursing decisions. Part I of II.

Semester Credits: 5

Lecture Hours: 0

Laboratory/Clinical: 15 hours per week

Required Materials

Textbook

- Willihnganz, Michelle & Clayton, Bruce D. (2021) Clayton's Basic Pharmacology for Nurses, (19th Ed.), Elsevier, St. Louis, ISBN: 9780323041492
- Morris, Deborah C., (2022). Calculate with Confidence, (8th Ed.), Elsevier, St. Louis ISBN: 978-0-323-69695-1
- Stromberg, Holly K., (2023). Medical-Surgical Nursing Concepts and Practices, (5th Ed.), Elsevier, St. Louis, ISBN: 978-1-975155-34-6
- Williams, Patricia, (2022) Fundamentals Concepts and Skills for Nursing (6th Ed.), Elsevier, St. Louis, ISBN: 9780323873642
- Giddens, Jean Foret, (2025). Concepts for Nursing Practice, (4th Ed.) Elsevier, St. Louis, ISBN: 978-0-323-08982-5
- B., Bell,, F. et al. ***Structure & Function of the Body***. Available from: Elsevier, (17th Edition). Elsevier - Evolve, 2024.
<https://pageburstls.elsevier.com/books/9780323871754>

Other Recommended Materials:

Nursing Diagnosis Handbook, Nursing Drug Book, Diagnostic and Laboratory Manual

VWCC AND DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC OUTCOMES

Course Objectives

At the end of the clinical course the student will be able to:

1. **Safety:** Perform and demonstrate select basic skills in a safe manner according to guidelines to meet patient needs in the hospital, mental health, and long-term care settings.
2. **Critical thinking:** Apply critical thinking skills to plan for meeting the basic human needs of a patient.
3. **Informatics:** Demonstrate appropriate communication with patients, families, and the interdisciplinary healthcare team in terms of verbal communication and communication via electronic documentation while maintaining client privacy and confidentiality.
4. **Culture:** Demonstrate practice within the profession's ethical and legal framework while upholding an understanding of patients' culture, ethnicity, and spirituality.
5. **Patient centered care:** Apply theory in managing patient centered care of the individual in clinical performance.
6. **Evidence-based practice:** Incorporate the best current evidence to provide practice for minor alterations in safety, comfort, nutrition, and elimination using the nursing process.
7. **Teamwork:** Participant in a working healthcare team using appropriate forms of communication.
8. **Critical Thinking:** Demonstrate knowledge of professional behavior.
9. **Safety:** Demonstrate safe medication, administration and documentation.
10. **Critical Thinking:** Provide safe and effective care maintaining client rights, privacy, and confidentiality.

VWCC AND DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC TOPICAL DESCRIPTIONS

A. Each student will attend clinical **approximately 15 hours per week**. Clinical attendance is mandatory in order to meet the course objectives and pass the course. Clinical experience for specialty areas may have the opportunity for students to stay longer than the required hours to experience special procedures. **(Example: Birth, Court hearings, etc.) This is not mandatory but highly encouraged.**

B. Each student will participate in geriatric, medical-surgical nursing, and mental health nursing, Maternity/Pediatrics experience during this semester.

C. A **maximum of two clinical absence per semester** will be allowed for personal illness, family illness, quarantine, or death in the *immediate family*. Covid-19 cases will be handled on a case-by-case basis

D. Any absence from clinical experience must be made up; failure to do so can result in a failing grade for the course. Only a documented, excused absence may be made up. An excused absence is an absence in which there is verifiable documentation. Examples of

verifiable documentation include a (but not limited to) a physician's note, a court appearance summons, jury duty summons, or an obituary notice. Clinical make-up time is scheduled at the sole discretion of the instructor and must be completed prior to the week of final exams.

E. The Virginia Board of Nursing (VBON) requires that students complete a minimum number of clinical hours. The VWCC Practical Nursing Program contains more than the minimal number of clinical hours required by the VBON. All of the program hours must be completed.

F. If absent, it is the responsibility of the student to notify the instructor at least 30 minutes prior to the beginning of the scheduled shift. Failure to follow this requirement will result in a grade of "0" for that day for the first occurrence. A second occurrence of failure to notify will result in dismissal from the program and a grade of "F" will be recorded for the course. No exceptions will be made except in the case of documented personal or family emergency, or other dire circumstance subject to verification.

G. Tardiness is considered unprofessional behavior and will negatively impact your clinical grade for the day. Tardiness can result in being sent home for the clinical day at the discretion of the instructor. The number of times a student is tardy is counted in the number of absences. Three tardies count as one absence. A tardy is assessed as soon as the instructor has started pre-conference. If a student is **15 minutes late** for clinical, they will be **sent home** except for **Mother/Baby rotation at LewisGale. You must be there at 0630 or you will be sent home and have missed a specialty experience.**

H. Make-up/Late-work policy: This is addressed under the attendance section. Late-work due date will be discussed by each instructor during clinical orientation.

Course Evaluation

Evaluative Criteria: <i>Clinical Performance</i>		
91-100 (A)	Exceeds Expectations	Performance or behavior far exceeds expected level.
82-90.9 (B)	Skilled	Performance or behavior is skilled ; Shows a thorough knowledge base.
78-81.9 (C)	Average	Performance or behavior is average ; Shows an average knowledge base.
67-77.9 (D)	Minimally Competent	Performance or behavior is safe, but minimally competent ; Weak knowledge base.

Evaluative Criteria: <i>Clinical Performance</i>		
Below 66.9 (F)	Unacceptable /Unsafe	Performance, behavior, or lack of knowledge is unacceptable and poses a serious threat to client, the profession, the facility, or the program.

Evaluative Criteria: Written Assignments		
91-100 (A)	Exceeds Expectations	Outstanding effort and thought are obvious. All required areas are addressed in a complete and thorough manner. Information is accurate and paperwork is professional in appearance. Assignment is turned in on time.
82-90.9 (B)	Skilled	Overall, written work is complete and accurate. All required areas are addressed. Paperwork is professional in appearance. Assignment is turned in on time.
78-81.9 (C)	Average	Most of the assigned areas are addressed, but there are obvious gaps. Information is missing and/or not accurate. Paperwork is acceptable but improvement needed. Assignment is turned in on time.
67-77.9 (D)	Minimally Competent	Large or important pieces of information are missing and/or not accurate. Little effort or thought is evident. Paperwork is unprofessional. Assignment is turned in on time.
Below 66.9 (F)	Unacceptable/Unsafe	Most of the required information has not been completed and/or information is inaccurate and/or assignment is turned in late.

1. Clinical Evaluation Tool

- A. The Clinical Evaluation Tool will be used to document the student's progress in meeting the course objectives, to provide rationale for the assigned grade, and to identify student's strengths and areas needing improvement.
- B. Success in meeting the course objectives is determined by the student's performance in the clinical setting and completion of written assignments.
- C. The student must earn an average of "78" (C) or better to pass this course.

2. Instructors will meet with each student individually at the end of each clinical rotation to review the student's progress in meeting the course objectives. Additional conferences may be held at the discretion of the instructor.

General Clinical Evaluation Tool- (Specialty Clinical Areas are specific to that area.)

OBJECTIVES	COMMENTS/STRENGTHS/WEAKNESSES	SCORE
OBJECTIVE 1: PATIENT SAFETY ○ Identifies client prior to interventions. ○ Follows policy & procedure of practicing facility. ○ Complies with all precautionary measures. ○ Fall/Aspiration/Seizure precautions, skin integrity, etc.		

OBJECTIVES	COMMENTS/STRENGTHS/WEAKNESSES	SCORE
○ Demonstrates organization and efficiency when performing nursing skills. ○ Displays caring, respectful, and empathetic behaviors. ○ Maintains client privacy and confidentiality in compliance with HIPPA regulations. ○ Advocates on behalf of the client ○ Complies with standard precautions and all infection control standards. ○ Handwashing, medical asepsis, surgical asepsis, uses PPE appropriately, disposes of wastes and sharps appropriately		
OBJECTIVE 2: CLINICAL JUDGEMENT/NURSING PROCESS ○ Collects data that is relevant to the client's condition and presenting problems. ○ Uses clinical judgement to identify actual or potential health problems. ○ Sets goals and formulates outcomes personalized to the client's unique needs. ○ Perform interventions according to facility policies and procedures. ○ Evaluate interventions to ensure desired outcome has been met.		
OBJECTIVE 3: PROBLEM-SOLVING SKILLS ○ Asks pertinent questions related to client condition and care. ○ Differentiates between normal and abnormal findings. ○ Prioritizes interventions related to the client's presenting problems. ○ Verbalizes the rationale for nursing interventions. ○ Seeks assistance when a situation is beyond knowledge and experience.		
OBJECTIVE 4: COMMUNICATION AND COLLABORATION ○ Focuses on patient-centered communication, goals, and concerns. ○ Establishes therapeutic relationship with clients.		

OBJECTIVES	COMMENTS/STRENGTHS/WEAKNESSES	SCORE
○ Uses language consistent with the client's level of understanding. ○ Reports pertinent data to staff and instructor in a timely manner. ○ Verbal shift report is complete, appropriate, and accurate. ○ Uses professional, respectful, and appropriate language when communicating with patients, staff, faculty, and peers.		
OBJECTIVE 6: INFORMATICS ○ Uses facility electronics to obtain needed patient information. ○ Documentation is accurate, complete, current, concise, and organized.		
OBJECTIVE 7: PROFESSIONALISM ○ Arrives on time and prepared to practice for all clinical activities. ○ Complies with dress code and grooming standards per the nursing handbook. ○ Informs primary nurse and faculty prior to leaving unit at any time. ○ Follows proper call-in procedure when tardy or absent. ○ Interacts with patients, staff, faculty, and peers in a respectful, professional manner and does not exhibit disrespectful, dismissive, or inappropriate behavior or attitude in the clinical setting.		
WRITTEN ASSIGNMENT		
DAILY AVERAGE (total of ratings divided by 8)/score		

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