JAMESTOWN COMMUNITY COLLEGE
State University of New York

INSTITUTIONAL COURSE SYLLABUS

Course Title: Introduction to Nursing

Course Abbreviation and Number: NUR 7010   **Credit Hours:** 3   **Course Type:** Lecture/Lab

Course Description: This course provides students with a foundational understanding of the nursing profession, focusing on the essential roles, responsibilities, and skills needed in the field of nursing. Students will explore the history and evolution of the nursing profession, the nursing process, key clinical skills, patient safety, communication, and more. This course prepares students for further nursing education or career exploration by laying the groundwork for success in the healthcare field.

Prerequisites/corequisite: ENG 1510

General Education Requirements Met

Student Learning Outcomes:
   Students who demonstrate understanding can:
1.   Understand the history and evolution of the nursing profession and its impact on healthcare.
2.   Recognize the roles and responsibilities of nurses in various healthcare settings.
3.   Comprehend and apply the nursing process in the context of patient care.
4.   Develop basic nursing skills, including first aid, CPR, and vital sign measurement.
5.   Gain foundational knowledge of basic anatomy, physiology, and medical terminology.
6.   Understand the principles of pharmacology and medication administration.
7.   Learn about patient safety, ethical principles, and legal considerations in nursing.
8.   Develop effective communication skills for healthcare settings.
9.   Understand the influence of culture, development, and diversity on patient care.
10.   Explore various career paths in nursing and the education required for each path.

Topics Covered:

Introduction to Nursing and Its History
•Overview of the Nursing Profession
•History and origins of nursing
•Key milestones in nursing history (e.g., Florence Nightingale)
•Evolution of nursing education and professional organizations
•The Role of Nurses in Healthcare
•The development of nursing as a healthcare profession

Roles and Responsibilities of Nurses
•Overview of Nursing Roles
•Nurses in different healthcare settings: hospitals, outpatient, homecare
•Specialties and areas of focus (e.g., pediatrics, geriatrics, ICU)
•Scope of Practice and Ethical Responsibilities
•Professional scope of nursing practice
•Ethical standards in nursing

The Nursing Process
•Introduction to the Nursing Process
•The five steps of the nursing process: Assessment, Diagnosis, Planning, Implementation, Evaluation
•Critical Thinking in Nursing
•Applying the nursing process to real-world scenarios

Fundamental Nursing Skills I (Basic Life Support and Vital Signs)
•Basic Life Support (BLS)
•CPR, first aid techniques, and emergency response
•Vital Signs Measurement
•Temperature, pulse, respiration, blood pressure measurement
•Interpreting vital signs
• Fundamental Nursing Skills II (Basic Clinical Skills)
•Additional Clinical Skills
•Wound care, infection control, patient positioning
•Personal protective equipment (PPE) use
•Patient Safety and Comfort
•Ensuring safety in the clinical environment

Healthcare Needs Across Life Stages
•Developmental and Healthcare Needs
•Healthcare needs of infants, children, adults, and elderly
•Understanding the impact of aging on health
•Challenges of Caring for Different Age Groups
•Physiological and emotional considerations

Basic Anatomy and Physiology
•Overview of Human Anatomy
•Major body systems: circulatory, respiratory, digestive, etc.
•Basic Physiological Processes
•How the body functions as an integrated system

Medical Terminology
•Introduction to Medical Language
•Understanding prefixes, suffixes, and root words
•Common terms in nursing practice (e.g., diseases, procedures, anatomy)
•Medical Terminology in Clinical Settings
•Applying medical terms to patient care scenarios

Pharmacology and Medication Administration
•Pharmacology Basics
•Drug classifications, routes of administration, side effects
•The "Five Rights" of Medication Administration
•Right patient, right drug, right dose, right route, right time
•Safety in Medication Administration
•Preventing medication errors

Patient Safety and Ethics
•Patient Safety Protocols
•Safety guidelines in healthcare environments
•Reducing the risk of errors and accidents
•Ethical Considerations in Nursing

•The four main ethical principles: autonomy, beneficence, non-maleficence, justice
•Ethical dilemmas in patient care

Communication Skills in Nursing
•Effective Communication Techniques
•Verbal and non-verbal communication with patients, families, and healthcare teams
•Therapeutic Communication
•Active listening, empathy, and rapport building
•Barriers to Communication
•Cultural, emotional, and cognitive factors

Career Paths in Nursing and Conclusion
•Exploring Nursing Career Paths
•Registered Nurse (RN), Nurse Practitioner (NP), Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA), Nurse Educator
•The education and certifications required for each role
•Final Reflection on Nursing Education and Career Opportunities
•Discussing how the course influenced future career interests in nursing

Information for Students
- Expectations of Students
  - Civility Statement
  - Student Responsibility Statement
  - Academic Integrity Statement
- Accessibility Services
  Students who require accommodations to complete the requirements and expectations of this course because of a disability must make their accommodation requests to the Accessibility Services Coordinator.
- Get Help: JCC & Community Resources
- Emergency Closing Procedures
- Course grade is determined by the instructor based on a combination of factors, including but not limited to, homework, quizzes, exams, projects, and participation. Final course grade can be translated into a grade point value according to the following:

A=4.0	B+=3.5	B=3	C+=2.5	C=2	D+=1.5	D=1	F=0

- Veterans and active duty military personnel with special circumstances (e.g., upcoming deployments, drill requirements, VA appointments) are welcome and encouraged to communicate these to the instructor.

Effective Date: Summer 2025