

COURSE OUTLINE
NUR 313 NURSING ASSESSMENT FOR RNS

Department:	Nursing
Credit Hours:	1
Prerequisites:	Admission to the Nursing Major, completion of an RN basic education program or permission by department chairperson
General Education:	N/A
Learning Outcomes:	This nursing assessment course relates to Learning Outcomes 1b Communication Competency, and 2a Critical Thinking Ability.

I. Course Description:

Focuses on the development of assessment skills for the registered nurse within the context of the nursing process. Emphasis is placed on the collection of data and the development of nursing diagnoses as the basis for promoting client adaptation. Interrelated classroom, supervised laboratory experience, individual review and faculty directed work focuses on interviewing, record review, observation, physical examination, instrumentation, and documentation.

II. Purpose of the Course:

To evaluate the student's ability to independently devise and implement a defined data base within a clinical nursing practice through the organization and expansion of the student's assessment and diagnostic skills including record review, vital statistics review, interviewing, history taking, observation, physical examination, the use of structured instruments and test including biophysical laboratory testing and diagnostic analysis.

III. College Learning Outcomes and Objectives:

NUR 313 relates to Learning Outcomes 1 Communication Competence, 2 Critical Thinking Ability, and 6 Cultural Awareness. Upon completion of the course students demonstrate competence and communicate effectively with clients during a nursing assessment (Outcome 1, Objectives b, d). Students will also be able to discuss and analyze a client's nursing assessment results. (Outcome 2, Objective a).

IV. Program Learning Outcomes

1. Utilize the adaptive nursing process to facilitate client adaptation
2. Promote adaptation in client health at all levels of prevention, complexity and acuity in a variety of settings
3. Embrace the professional/leadership role in current and future nursing practice through participation in society to improve the quality of health
4. Evidence independent critical reasoning and decision making abilities that incorporate rationale based in the science and art of nursing

V. Course Objectives:

1. Measure reportable and observable client adaptation behaviors using the assessment methods of record review, vital statistics review, interviewing, history taking, observation, physical examination, the use of structure instruments and tests and biophysical laboratory testing with individual clients as appropriate. (LO 1, 2, 6)
2. Describe and/or demonstrate age level appropriate performance assessment of adult and older adult populations with varying health states. (LO 1)
3. Demonstrate a client assessment. (LO 1, 2, 6)
4. Utilize theories and concepts from nursing science including the adaptation model and the nursing process, the biological, physical, psychological and social sciences and the humanities as a basis for client assessments to insure holistic nursing care. (LO 2, 6)
5. Diagnoses basic client coping mechanisms including their etiology and evidence independent clinical judgment through analysis of assessment data within the framework of the adaptive nursing process. (LO 2, 6)
6. Design data collection schema for use as a clinician, which are congruent with the adaptation conceptual model. (LO 2, 6)
7. Conduct client assessments within a therapeutic nurse-client interaction and relationship. (LO 1, 2)
8. Communicate assessment findings and diagnostic conclusions to clients and health-care colleagues using communication and documentation formats. (LO 1)
9. Evidence professional, ethical and legal accountability for theory based, multicultural client-centered nursing care and for self-directed learning. (LO 2, 6)

VI. Topical Outline:

Self Study Modules and Testing

Introduction, General Survey, Therapeutic Techniques
Nutritional Assessment
Mental Status
Assessment Techniques and Approach
Interview for a Database and Record Review
Lungs and Thorax
Cardiovascular
Peripheral Vascular
Abdominal
Musculoskeletal
Neurological
Head to Toe Assessment Competency