WILMINGTON UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS
COURSE OUTLINE & SCHEDULE OF ASSIGNMENTS

COURSE NUMBER: NUR 363

COURSE TITLE: NURSE AS CAREGIVER: CHRONIC & PALLIATIVE CARE

PREREQUISITES: NUR 303 OR NUR 305

FACULTY MEMBER:

TERM:

METHOD OF CONTACT/ OFFICE HOURS:

IDEA ESSENTIAL ITEMS: Learning to Apply Course Material (to improve thinking, critical thinking, problem solving, and decisions).

Developing specific skills, competencies, and points of view needed by professionals in the field most closely related to this course.

IDEA IMPORTANT ITEMS: Learning fundamental principles, generalizations, or theories

Developing skill in expressing myself orally or in writing.

Learning how to find and use resources for answering or solving problems.

I. TOPICAL OUTLINE

1. Objective: Analyze conceptual foundations relevant to the continuum of chronic illness.
   A. Selected terminology.
   B. Incidence, prevalence, and demographics of chronic illness/disability.
   C. Factors influencing responses of client and care providers.
   D. Barriers and challenges: structural, interpersonal, intrapersonal, attitudinal, and language.
   E. Concepts: Chronicity, Illness Experience, Psychosocial Adjustment, Loss, Spirituality, Social Isolation, Uncertainty, Quality of Life, Adherence, Family Caregiving, Intimacy, Powerlessness, Culture, Self-management, Client & Family Education, Health Promotion, Complementary & Alternative Therapies, Models of Care, Home Health Care, Long-term Care, Palliative Care, Health Policy, Rehabilitation, Financial Impact, End-of-Life Issues, Research & Evidence-based Care,
2. **Objective:** Examine the family as a client based on family assessment principles.
   A. Strategies and tools to assess structure, function, responses, and relationships in family systems.
   B. Developmental perspectives: individual and family models, stages, and tasks.
   C. Holistic perspectives: physical, psycho-social, intimacy, spiritual, ethical, & cultural considerations across the life span.

3. **Objective:** Evaluate nursing roles related to comprehensive individual and family care throughout the continuum of chronic illness.
   A. Nursing roles such as care provider/clinician, advocate, teacher, resource, liaison, collaborator, and change agent.
   B. Nursing roles in palliative care and end-of-life care.
   C. Nursing roles in rehabilitation.
   D. Nursing roles related to complementary/alternative modalities.
   E. Nursing roles in case/care management.
   F. Nursing roles in systems and models of care.
   G. Nursing roles throughout continuum of care: assessment, plan, intervention, and outcomes.

4. **Objective:** Evidence critical thinking skills in class discussion, written work, online assignments, and oral/visual/voice-enhanced presentations.
   A. Written work, oral presentations, and discussions reflect thoughtful consideration of topic.
   B. Statements are supported with information from class and the literature.
   C. Utilization of appropriate informational resources.

**II. METHODOLOGY**

A. **Teaching Method Options**
   Readings, Lecture, Multimedia, Discussion Board, and Group Activities

B. **Evaluation Methods**
   Rubrics and grading criteria are provided for all assignments. Please read the rubrics and the grading criteria before completing the assignments. Following the assignment criteria will optimize your efforts toward successful course completion.

**Media Awareness Presentation** (Objectives 1-4) 20%

This project is designed to assess how the media presents persons with chronic conditions. Students review a popular medium such as a DVD and prepare a presentation. Students briefly
IDEA Objective: E= 3, 4  
I= 2, 8, 9

summarize relevant content. Students discuss how the medium presents two major concepts related to chronic illness. Students evaluate how this medium influences public and healthcare provider perceptions of chronic illnesses. Further information will be provided by the course faculty.

**Journal**  
(Objectives 1-4)  
20%

This assignment is designed to examine the relationship of numerous personal, family, social, and healthcare concepts to chronic illness(es) and/or disability. For weeks 2-5, each student will “assume” a chronic condition scenario. Students will create a character and family who are living with this condition. Students will keep a journal which relates course concepts to this “assumed” chronic condition scenario. In designated weeks, students will share their journal with their classmates. Further information will be provided by the course faculty.

**Family Assessment Project**  
(Objectives 1-4)  
30%

The project is designed to extend the student’s assessment skills to the family, especially in terms of chronic illness and palliative care. Each student “assumes” a chronic condition and creates a character and family who are living with this condition. Students will complete a family assessment and ecomap for the character and family whom they have created. Further information will be provided by the course faculty.

**Research Article Review**  
(Objectives 1-4)  
10%

This assignment is designed to expose students to peer-reviewed research in chronic and palliative care. Students will review a research article related to course concepts. Students will create a “fact sheet” that outlines key components of the study and application to nursing practice. Further information will be provided by the course faculty.

**Participation/Activities**  
(Objectives 1 - 4)  
20%

The success of this course depends on active participation and critical reflection by all students.

**Please Note:** A minimum grade of C- is required to pass this course.