

COURSE SYLLABUS

RNSG 1146 (1:1:0)

LEGAL AND ETHICAL ISSUES FOR NURSES

ASSOCIATE DEGREE NURSING PROGRAM

NURSING DEPARTMENT

HEALTH SCIENCES DIVISION

LEVELLAND CAMPUS

SOUTH PLAINS COLLEGE

Fall 2023

COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE TITLE: RNSG 1146 Legal and Ethical Issues for Nurses

INSTRUCTORS: Denise Glab MSN, RN

OFFICE LOCATION AND PHONE/E-MAIL:

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SOUTH PLAINS COLLEGE IMPROVES EACH STUDENT'S LIFE

I. GENERAL COURSE INFORMATION

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The course consists of the study of the laws, regulations, and ethical considerations related to the provision of safe and effective professional nursing care; with attention given to the impact of the political process on the regulations surrounding the practice of nursing. Topics also included are confidentiality, the Nursing Practice Act, professional boundaries, peer review, Safe Harbor, ethics, and health care legislation. Student self assessment is encouraged in order to facilitate each student to become accountable and responsible for professional, personal, ethical, and legal growth and development within the practice of nursing.

Prerequisites: RNSG 1413, 1105, 1160, 1115, 1144, 1443, 2460, 2213, 2261, 1443, & 2461.
 BIOL 2401, 2402, 2420. PSYC 2314, ENGL 1301, & Humanities course.

SPC ADN End-of-Program STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES (EPSLOs)

1. CLINICAL DECISION MAKING – Provides competent nursing interventions based on application of the nursing process and demonstration of critical thinking, independent judgment, and self-direction while caring for patients and their families.

2. COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION MANAGEMENT – Communicates effectively utilizing technology, written documentation and verbal expression with members of the health care team, patients and their families.
3. LEADERSHIP – Demonstrates knowledge of basic delegation, leadership management skills and coordinates resources to assure optimal levels of health care for patients and their families.
4. SAFETY – Implements appropriate interventions to promote a quality and safe environment for patients and their families.
5. PROFESSIONALISM – Demonstrates knowledge of professional development and incorporates evidenced based practice in the nursing profession. Incorporates concepts of caring, including moral, ethical, legal standards while embracing the spiritual, cultural and religious influences on patients and their families.

RNSG 1146 STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES (SLOs)

1. Demonstrate knowledge of professional development and incorporate evidence-based practice in the nursing profession. Incorporate concepts of caring, including moral, ethical, legal standards while embracing the spiritual, cultural, psycho-social, and religious influences on patients, their families, and the community in general.
2. Acquire an understanding of the Texas Nurse Practice Act and how it applies to the RN and LVN roles in leading to successful completion of the Texas Board of Nursing (BON) Jurisprudence (JP) Exam.
3. Upon satisfactory completion of RNSG 1146, the student will meet all End of Program Graduate Outcomes (EPSLOs) as specifically applied to nursing and the nurse's legal/ethical scope of practice. In addition, competencies and foundation skills of SCANS, WECM and the DEC's will be met through completion of the course content.

COURSE OUTLINE

Unit I – Nursing Ethics and Disciplinary Action

Unit II – Peer Review

Unit III – Nursing Practice

Unit IV – Nursing Licensure & Regulation

Unit V – Debate Issues to address Political Processes, Legislative Issues and Health (See Appendix for unit objectives)

EVALUATION METHODS

Successful completion of this course will result in a grade of “A, B, or C,” using the average from assignments; satisfactory achievement of course content, and regular classroom attendance. Additionally, the student must pass the Texas Board of Nursing Jurisprudence Exam in order to receive credit for the course. Upon successful completion of this course, each student will have demonstrated accomplishment of the student learning outcomes for the course, through a variety of modes (classroom participation, Blackboard postings, individual presentations, and group presentations).

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Please refer to the SPC ADNP Nursing student handbook “Honesty Policy”. This policy covers testing violations, record falsification violations and plagiarism violations for the ADN Program. Plagiarism violations may result in dismissal from the ADN Program.

Examples of student plagiarism¹

- Copying material without quotes, in-text citations, and/or referencing
- Paraphrasing content without in-text citation and/or referencing
- Copying ideas, words, answers, exams, or shared work from others when individual work is required
- Using another’s paper in whole or in part
- Allowing another student to use one’s work
- Claiming someone else’s work is one’s own
- Resubmitting one’s own coursework, when original work is required (self-plagiarism)
- Falsifying references or bibliographies
- Getting help from another person without faculty knowledge or approval
- Purchasing, borrowing, or selling content with the intent of meeting an academic requirement for oneself or others

Smith, L. (2016), Nursing 2016, 46 (7) p. 17

COLLEGE HANDBOOK INFORMATION ON ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: It is the aim of the faculty of South Plains College to foster a spirit of complete honesty and a high standard of integrity. The attempt of any student to present as his or her own any work which he or she has not honestly performed is regarded by the faculty and administration as a most serious offense and renders the offender liable to serious consequences, possibly suspension.

Cheating - Dishonesty of any kind on examinations or on written assignments, illegal possession of examinations, the use of unauthorized notes during an examination, obtaining

information during an examination from the textbook or from the examination paper of another student, assisting others to cheat, alteration of grade records, illegal entry or unauthorized presence in the office are examples of cheating. Complete honesty is required of the student in the presentation of any and all phases of coursework. This applies to quizzes of whatever length, as well as final examinations, to daily reports and to term papers.

Plagiarism - Offering the work of another as one's own, without proper acknowledgment, is plagiarism; therefore, any student who fails to give credit for quotations or essentially identical expression of material taken from books, encyclopedias, magazines and other reference works, or from themes, reports or other writings of a fellow student, is guilty of plagiarism.

VERIFICATION OF WORKPLACE COMPETENCIES

Successful completion of the SCANS; DECS; Graduate Outcomes at the semester four level; and RNSG 1412 Student Learning Outcomes will allow the student to graduate from the program. Upon successful completion of the program students will be eligible to apply to take the state board exam (NCLEX) for registered nurse licensure.

BLACKBOARD

Blackboard is an e-Education platform designed to enable educational innovations everywhere by connecting people and technology. This educational tool will be used in this course throughout the semester.

FACEBOOK

The nursing program has a Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/SPCNursing17/>

SCANS AND FOUNDATION SKILLS

Completion of course content will satisfy required scans and foundation skills.

While there are no external workplace (clinical) experiences included, classroom role play, and group experiences provide situations and settings in which the student may apply workplace competencies. Successful completion of the end of program graduate outcomes (EPSLOs) will allow the student to complete specific program requirements. Upon successful completion of the nursing program, the student will be eligible to take the State Board Exam (NCLEX) for licensure as a Registered Nurse.

SPECIFIC COURSE REQUIREMENTS**ATTENDANCE POLICY**

Occurrence	Consequence
Absences	Each course instructor will determine their absences based on their course hours. It is the student's responsibility any missed class content and in class assignments (quizzes) will not be made up.
Tardies	The class starts at the designated time, if the student enters the room after the classroom doors are closed, they are considered tardy. After 2 tardies it considered one absence. Each course instructor will determine their absences based on their course hours. It is the student's responsibility if any missed class content and in class assignments (quizzes) will not be made up. If the instructor has been properly notified prior to class, exceptions may be made on a case-by-case basis of emergency and/or school sponsored event.
Exams	Once doors are closed and instructions are started in the designated testing environment (computer lab or classroom). The student will not be able to take the test and will receive a zero. If the instructor has been properly notified prior to exams exceptions may be made on a case-by-case basis of emergency and/or school sponsored event.

COVID CONSIDERATION

If you are experiencing any of the following symptoms, please do not attend class and either seek medical attention or get tested for COVID-19.

- Cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing
- Fever or chills
- Muscles or body aches
- Vomiting or diarrhea
- New loss of taste and smell

Please also notify DeEtte Edens, BSN, RN, Associate Director of Health & Wellness, at dedens@southplainscollege.edu or 806-716-2376

1. SPC will follow the recommended 5-day isolation period for individuals that test positive.

a. Please note that day 0 is the date of positive test. Day 1 begins the first full day after the date of positive result.

2. COVID reporting a. Please have students and employees notify DeEtte Edens if they have tested positive to verify dates before returning to class or work.

b. The home tests are sufficient but students need to submit a photo of the positive result. The date of test must be written on the test result and an ID included in the photo. If tested elsewhere (clinic, pharmacy, etc.), please submit a copy of the doctor's note or email notification. Results may be emailed to DeEtte Edens, BSN, RN at dedens@southplainscollege.edu.

c. A student is clear to return to class without further assessment if they have completed:

The 5-day isolation period, symptoms have improved and they are afebrile for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication.

3. Please instruct students and employees to communicate with DeEtte Edens prior to their return date if still symptomatic at the end of the 5-day isolation.

4. Exposed individuals will not be required to quarantine. If exposed, SPC does request individuals closely monitor themselves. If an individual does become symptomatic, please do not attend class or work and be tested.

ASSIGNMENT POLICY

1. All required work must be in on time. Assigned outside work is due on the dates specified by the instructors. Assignments turned in later than the due date will not be accepted unless the student clears the circumstance with the instructor. A grade of zero will be given for the assignment if the student has not communicated with the instructor before the assignment is due.

2. A student should retain a copy of all assignments turned in. If an assignment turns up missing, the student is responsible for turning in the copy or redoing the entire assignment if a copy was not retained.

3. The only exam is the Texas Board of Nursing Jurisprudence Exam. A student must communicate with the course instructor if unable to complete the test on the scheduled day. (If the student has taken the Jurisprudence Exam in an LVN Program, a copy of the certificate or proof of taking the exam must be turned in to the instructor, please ask for guidance in seeking this information if needed).

GRADING POLICY

1. A student must receive a minimum grade of "C" to pass.

2. Grading scale: 77% or better =

Note: The student MUST pass the Texas Board of Nursing Jurisprudence Exam to receive credit for this course. Students who do not pass or are not eligible to take the NJE *, will receive an "I" (Incomplete) until such time as the exam is passed, not to exceed six months. If the course Grade requirements are not met after six months, the "I" will be converted to an "F"

Course grade will be compiled of the following:

All Students Nursing Jurisprudence Exam 25%

All students: Article Critiques 20%

Students in Debate: participation 30%

Students in Debate: questions 15%

Students in mini presentations: participation 30%

Students in mini presentations: questions 15%

****Students will either participate in a debate or mini presentation, not both****

All students: test over content 10%

Grades must total 77% or better to pass the course.

COMPUTER USAGE

As computer technology in the field of health occupations continues to become more popular, computers will be used in this course for several assignments. All students have access to computers and printers on the South Plains College campus. Students will be expected to utilize computers to access assignments and classroom resources. All registered students are supplied with a working email account from South Plains College. In order to take exams, students must have their username and password.

COMPUTER LAB USAGE

The computer lab B in the Allied Health Building may not be used for printing by students due to COVID restrictions at this time. If the restrictions are lifted during the Fall 2021 semester, students will be advised of the availability.

ALL STUDENTS ARE EXPECTED TO KNOW THEIR SPC STUDENT USERNAME AND PASSWORD.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Class will meet scheduled on Tuesdays or Wednesdays during the semester. Please see detailed calendar on Blackboard course.

COMMUNICATION POLICY

Electronic communication between instructor and students in this course will utilize the South Plains College "My SPC". We will also utilize and prefer text messaging and phone calls for communication. The instructor will not initiate communication using private email accounts. Students are encouraged to check SPC email and Blackboard announcements on a regular basis

each week of class. Students will also have access to assignments, web-links, handouts, and other vital material which will be delivered via Blackboard. Any student having difficulty accessing Blackboard or their email should immediately contact the IT Help Desk or an instructor for direction.

STUDENT CONDUCT

Rules and regulations relating to the students at South Plains College are made with the view of protecting the best interests of the individual, the general welfare of the entire student body and the educational objectives of the college. As in any segment of society, a college community must be guided by standards that are stringent enough to prevent disorder, yet moderate enough to provide an atmosphere conducive to intellectual and personal development.

A high standard of conduct is expected of all students. When a student enrolls at South Plains College, it is assumed that the student accepts the obligations of performance and behavior imposed by the college relevant to its lawful missions, processes and functions. Obedience to the law, respect for properly constituted authority, personal honor, integrity and common sense guide the actions of each member of the college community both in and out of the classroom.

Students are subject to federal, state and local laws, as well as South Plains College rules and regulations. A student is not entitled to greater immunities or privileges before the law than those enjoyed by other citizens. Students are subject to such reasonable disciplinary action as the administration of the college may consider appropriate, including suspension and expulsion in appropriate cases for breach of federal, state or local laws, or college rules and regulations. This principle extends to conduct off-campus which is likely to have adverse effects on the college or on the educational process which identifies the offender as an unfit associate for fellow students.

Any student who fails to perform according to expected standards may be asked to withdraw. Rules and regulations regarding student conduct appear in the current Student Guide.

Effective August 1, 2023: **For information regarding official South Plains College statements about intellectual exchange, disabilities, non-discrimination, Title V Pregnancy Accommodations, CARE Team, and Campus Concealed Carry, please visit: <https://www.southplainscollege.edu/syllabusstatements/>**

BASIC SKILLS--Reads, writes, performs arithmetic and mathematical operations, listens and speaks

F-1 Reading--locates, understands, and interprets written information in prose and in documents such as manuals, graphs, and schedules.

F-2 Writing--Communicates thoughts, ideas, information and messages in writing, and creates documents such as letters, directions, manuals, reports, graphs, and flow charts.

F-3 Arithmetic--Performs basic computations; uses basic numerical concepts such as whole numbers, etc.

F-4 Mathematics--Approaches practical problems by choosing appropriately from a variety of mathematical techniques.

F-5 Listening--Receives, attends to, interprets, and responds to verbal messages and other cues.

F-6 Speaking--Organizes ideas and communicates orally.

THINKING SKILLS--Thinks creatively, makes decisions, solves problems, visualizes, and knows how to learn and reason

F-7 Creative Thinking--Generates new ideas.

F-8 Decision-Making--Specifies goals and constraints, generates alternatives, considers risks, and evaluates and chooses best alternative.

F-9 Problem Solving--Recognizes problems and devises and implements plan of action.

F-10 Seeing Things in the Mind's Eye--Organizes and processes symbols, pictures, graphs, objects, and other information.

F-11 Knowing How to Learn--Uses efficient learning techniques to acquire and apply new knowledge and skills.

F-12 Reasoning--Discovers a rule or principle underlying the relationship between two or more objects and applies it when solving a problem.

PERSONAL QUALITIES--Displays responsibility, self-esteem, sociability, self-management, integrity and honesty

F-13 Responsibility--Exerts a high level of effort and preservers towards goal attainment.

F-14 Self-Esteem--Believes in own self-worth and maintains a positive view of self.

F-15 Sociability--Demonstrates understanding, friendliness, adaptability, empathy, and politeness in group settings.

F-16 Self-Management--Assesses self accurately, sets personal goals, monitors progress, and exhibits self-control

F-17 Integrity/Honesty--Chooses ethical courses of action.