NURS 522.01W
Healthcare Economics and Financial Management
(MSN Program)

Texas A&M University
Texarkana
Fall 2011
COURSE NUMBER: NURS 522.01W


CREDIT HOURS: 3 semester hours (3-0)

PREREQUISITES: None

OFFICE HOURS: 1:30 PM to 4:30 PM from Monday through Thursday and/or by appointment which may be made online or by phone.

COURSE FACULTY: Shirley Garick, Ph.D., RN, FAIHQ
Professor of Nursing
Department of Nursing
Office: 194
Phone: 903-223-3177  Fax: 903-223-3107
Email: Shirley.garick@tamut.edu
Office Hours: As posted in office or by appointment.


COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course focuses on providing the nurse administrator/manager with a basis for understanding the fiscal status of health care organizations. The nurse executive role in financial management, strategic planning and marketing, quality assurance and risk management initiative for health care organizations is explored. Prerequisite: Student must have graduated with a BSN and be admitted to the MSN program.

Student Learner Outcomes: The following outcomes apply to successful achievement of this course. The student must be able to demonstrate the ability to:

1. Articulate knowledge of the financial management process as related to healthcare.

2. Utilize the defined terminology related to economic and financial management of healthcare finance in presentations and papers.
3. Discuss revenue determination, managed healthcare products in class and on line discussions.

4. Analyze the role of Chief Executive Officers (CEOs) and Chief Financial Officers (CFOs) role in the economics and finance of the health care system.

5. Write a APA style research paper regarding healthcare finance within the healthcare system.

6. Demonstrate through verbalization & presentations the ability to evaluate all areas of healthcare economics and finance as it relates to the nurse administer/manager role.

7. Write a budget critique including capital project analysis, consolidations and mergers.

Methods of Evaluation for Achieving Student Learner Outcomes:

Every student learner outcome must have a score of 80% or more in order to successfully complete this course.

Course Outline:

Overview of course

- Concepts and theories for economics & finance in the healthcare system
- Factors of Change and Complexity in the healthcare system finance

Organization and Strategy

- Organizational structure and analysis of healthcare system finance
- Human resource development
- Strategic financial planning within nursing management/leadership
- Issues regarding change within healthcare finance system

Budget, risk management, regulatory issues and performance appraisals

- Principles of budgeting for nurse managers/leaders
- Financial Risk management issues
- Quality management issues within Economic & Finance parameters

Understanding the Economic impact dynamic healthcare systems and Ethical practice for managers/Leaders

- Changing economic paradigms for healthcare systems
- Understanding finance issues impact on a culturally diverse workforce
- Review ethical guidelines for business finance
- The impact of ethics on financial management for nursing management/leaders.
Wrap up course

- Financial and managerial
- Summation of course topics
- Evaluation of course

Criteria for Four articles on the Evolution of the Healthcare Finance System:

The student will be researching online articles on evolution of the healthcare financial system. You will then write four reflective analyses on each research article and be prepared to discuss the articles and the reflective analyses online in discussion board. Each reflection will then be emailed to the faculty via Blackboard. The student is expected to do online research for appropriate articles in the area of healthcare economics and finance. The written reflections will be 25% of the students grade and are to be written in APA style.

Four separate articles from the articles mentioned above will be researched online and these articles will also be posted on the discussion board. The entire class will participate in discussion of the informative articles online. It is expected each student will find a minimum of four articles that will be discussed in order to achieve the 15% for the final grade.

The following criteria are to be addressed within each reflective analysis:

Evolution of the Healthcare Financial System and the Role of Nursing within that System.

A. Stages and milestones
B. Evolutionary trends in approaches to healthcare finance changes and development.

Governmental Involvement in the Healthcare Financial system.

A. Toward the development of the Executive Nurse involvement in healthcare finance.
B. Analyzing and synthesizing healthcare finance within the parameters of government control, the development of Medicare/Medicaid, etc

Health Care Finance Research Paper

Development & Evaluation of Healthcare Finance within the Healthcare System.

The student will select a healthcare finance area of their choice and write a 20 page paper which includes cover page, abstract, references in APA style. The students will share the title of their paper, so that each of their colleagues may post a question regarding the title of the paper with the author giving an answer to the posed question. The professor will announce the length of this presentation during the first online class. This paper will include the following:

I. Process of finance development within the area of the nurse executive/administrator
   A. Strategies for finance development
      1. Practice-research linkages within a framed budget process
2. An integrated approach to financial management and development
3. Tools for budgetary development

B. Strategic construction of the nurse executive/administrators role
   1. The concepts of billing, legal/regulatory to capital formation continuum
   2. Propositions and the process of cost variance analysis
   3. Differentiation of consolidation and mergers
   4. Construction of practice role formation

II. Evaluation of current health care finance situations.

Course Requirements with Grade Percentage:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>ASSIGNMENT</th>
<th>PERCENTAGE OF GRADE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research online the four Articles regarding the evolution of health care economics and finance. Then write a reflective 6 page analysis on each article with APA style including cover sheet with no abstract but do include the reference page. (4 articles)</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assignments (There will be approximately 4 assignments, however that may change over the course of the semester and you will be notified if the number is increased or decreased)</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research articles posted on the discussion board</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Concept Analysis Research Paper regarding the nurse administrators’ role in Health Care Finance</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam (essay and questions) Located in Course content on Blackboard</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>100%</td>
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Grading Scale:

A = 90-100
B = 80-89
C = 70-79
D = 60-69
F = 59 or below

Student Technical Assistance:

- Solutions to common problems and FAQ’s for your web-enhanced and online courses are found at this link: [http://www.tamut.edu/webcourses/index.php?pageid=37](http://www.tamut.edu/webcourses/index.php?pageid=37)
- If you cannot find your resolution there, you can send in a support request detailing your specific problem here: [http://www.tamut.edu/webcourses/gethelp2.php](http://www.tamut.edu/webcourses/gethelp2.php)
- Blackboard Helpdesk contacts:
Office hours are: Monday - Friday, 8:00a to 5:00p
Kevin Williams (main contact) 903-223-1356 kevin.williams@tamut.edu
Frank Miller (alternate) 903-223-3156 frank.miller@tamut.edu
Nikki Thomson (alternate) 903-223-3083 nikki.thomson@tamut.edu

Technical Requirements

Minimum System Requirements
The following computer system requirements are recommended for an online course:
   OS: Windows 2000/XP/Vista; Mac OSX 10.2 & above
   RAM: 256 MB, Processor: 2.0 GHz, Free space on HDD: 500MB
   Internet Connection: (Broadband/DSL preferred), Dial Up 56k minimum
   Browser: Internet Explorer 6 or 7, Mozilla Firefox 2.0, Safari 1.0
   Java: Version 6 Update 11 or later
   Sound card and speakers

Software Requirements

Pop-up Blockers
All pop-up blockers installed on your computer must be set to allow pop-ups from Blackboard
Java Runtime Environment
You must have the Java Runtime Environment installed. This is a free plug-in for your browser that can be obtained by going to http://www.java.com
Additional Plug-ins
You may need additional software based on the content that your instructor posts in their course. Commonly needed applications are:

Microsoft Office 2007/2003/XP Suite/Works (not free software)
Adobe Acrobat Reader (free download)
Windows Media Player (free download)
Quick Time Media Player (free download)
Macromedia/Adobe Flash (free download)
Macromedia/Adobe Shockwave (free download)

Disability Accommodations: Students with disabilities may request reasonable accommodations through the A&M-Texarkana Disability Services Office by calling 903-223-3062."

Academic Integrity: Academic honesty is expected of students enrolled in this course. Cheating on examinations, unauthorized collaboration, falsification of research data, plagiarism and undocumented use of materials from any source constitute academic dishonesty and may be grounds for a grade of “F” in the course and/or disciplinary actions. Additional information is in the university catalog.

A&M-Texarkana Email Address:
Upon application to Texas A&M University-Texarkana an individual will be assigned an A&M-Texarkana email account. This email account will be used to deliver official university correspondence. Each individual is responsible for information sent and received via the
university email account and is expected to check the official A&M-Texarkana email account on a frequent and consistent basis. Faculty and students are required to utilize the university email account when communicating about coursework.

**Calendar of Complete Course Schedule:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>One</td>
<td><strong>Online</strong> Orientation and overview of course. <strong>Power points will be available for each chapter in the course content section in the Blackboard menu. All Assignments will be located in the course content section of Blackboard. Assignments are due by the next Thursday, as they will be posted each Thursday.</strong> Read chapters 1 and 2 in Text. There will be articles posted on discussion board by your faculty person on the historical development of finance in healthcare.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two</td>
<td>Discussion board of assignment &amp; reflections. <strong>Read</strong> chapters 3 and 4. Also, there will be power points in the course content section for each chapter. Assignments will be posted on discussion board.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Three</td>
<td><strong>Readings</strong> Chapters 5 and 6 More articles posted for comment. Please go to page 127 and answer the questions in the assignment/ then go to page 128 and check your answers, then send a copy of your work to the instructor.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Four</td>
<td>Discussion board questions over research article assignment. <strong>Read</strong> Chapters 6 and 7. Assignments will be posted with exercises to be done.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Five</td>
<td><strong>Read</strong> chapters 8 and 9 in the Texts. Discussion board questions will be posted for you to answer.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Six</td>
<td><strong>Read</strong> chapter 10 in text. Do Assignment for this week.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Seven</td>
<td><strong>Read</strong> chapter 11 and then go to discussion board for an in class discussion of strategic planning. Your faculty person will be posting articles regarding financial analysis within the framework of strategic planning.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eight</td>
<td><strong>Read</strong> chapter 12 and then go to discussion board for a discussion the area you work in for strategic planning. Also go to course content and take the midterm exam. This exam will cover chapters 1 through 11 and some of the Assignments content.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nine</td>
<td><strong>Read</strong> Chapters 13 and 14 in the text and review module. Do assignment for this week.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ten</td>
<td><strong>Read</strong> Chapter 15, then go to the discussion board and the type of management control you would consider for your work area. Do assignment for this week.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eleven</td>
<td><strong>Read</strong> Chapters 16 and 17. Then go to discussion board to find articles posted by your faculty person regarding costs variance analysis and financial math. Do assignment for this week.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Twelve</td>
<td><strong>Read</strong> Chapters 18 regarding the use of computers in financial management. Review Assignments.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thirteen</td>
<td><strong>Read</strong> Chapter 19 and 20. Be prepared to describe and discuss capital formation and mergers for your work area and read the posted articles on discussion board.</td>
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</table>
Week Fourteen  **Read** Chapters 21 and 22. Paper is due and 3 reflective critiques are due. They will not be accepted after December 9th, that will be your last day to turn these items in via email, not on discussion board to the faculty person.

Week Fifteen  Evaluation of course and instructor, online.

**Participation Policy:**

Students are to be prepared with addressing the discussion board topics. This preparedness will include an analysis and synthesis of the topics presented and scholarly inquiry aimed at addressing each area of the discussion. Online modules will be presented and discussion board topics will be presented for class input. Students are expected to complete the assignments within each module. Specific instructions for completing each assignment will be included in each module. Students are to be responsible for their own work and when interacting online must not make any untoward comments such as profane words, personal attacks on your colleagues or any type of offensive materials that would be considered as inappropriate for a graduate level course.

**Discussion Board Standards:** The student will be on the discussion board a minimum of 3 times per week or more, if needed, since this course is only five weeks you are expected to participating the minimum amount, without lowering your grade (See above statements).

**Drop Policy:** University Drop Policy: To drop this course after the 12th class day, a student must complete the Drop/Withdrawal Request Form, located on the University website [http://tamut.edu/Registrar/droppingwithdrawing-from-classes.html](http://tamut.edu/Registrar/droppingwithdrawing-from-classes.html) or obtained in the Registrar’s Office. The student must submit the signed and completed form to the instructor of each course indicated on the form to be dropped for his/her signature. The signature is not an “approval” to drop, but rather confirmation that the student has discussed the drop/withdrawal with the faculty member. The form must be submitted to the Registrar’s office for processing in person, email Registrar@tamut.edu, mail (P. O. Box 5518, Texarkana, TX 75505) or fax (903-223-3140). Drop/withdraw forms missing any of the required information will not be accepted by the Registrar’s Office for processing. It is the student’s responsibility to ensure that the form is completed properly before submission. If a student stops participating in class (attending and submitting assignments) but does not complete and submit the drop/withdrawal form, a final grade based on work completed as outlined in the syllabus will be assigned.

**Potential Resources**

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality ([www.ahrq.gov](http://www.ahrq.gov))
American Hospital Association ([www.aha.org](http://www.aha.org))