

NURS 407

Quality Issues and Responsibilities in Professional Practice

Spring 2013

Course Syllabus

Revised 01/2013

Texas A&M University -Texarkana



**TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-
Texarkana
NURS 407: Quality Issues and
Responsibilities in Professional
Practice
Spring 2013
Course
Syllabus**

Effective Date: Spring 2013

I. Course Number: NURS 407

II. Course Title: Quality Issues and Responsibilities in Professional Practice

III. Semester Credit Hours: (2)

IV. Course Faculty: Gloria Mugno, MS, RN

Office: 19-2 STEM Building

Phone: 903-223-3175

Email: gloria.mugno@tamut.edu

Office Hours: Tues 2pm – 5pm; Wed 2pm – 5 pm

V. Course Description: An online seminar course that explores political, legal, ethical, and policy issues affecting the quality of health care delivery and of nursing practice. The responsibility and means by which professional nurses can affect quality are included.

VI. Course Delivery Method: Web-based – Blackboard 9.1

VII. Required Textbooks/Resources:

Huston, C.J. (2006). *Professional issues in nursing: Challenges and opportunities* (2nd ed.). Lippincott Williams & Wilkins: Philadelphia.

American Nurses Association <http://www.ana.org>

Arkansas State Board of Nursing <http://www.arsbn.org>

Texas Board of Nursing www.bon.texas.gov/

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services <http://www.healthypeople.gov>

National Council of State boards of Nursing <http://ncsbn.org>

VIII. Student Learning Outcomes:

The student successfully completing this course will have the opportunity to:

- A. Compare and contrast the functions of laws, standards, and codes in health care practice.
- B. Investigate the legal, ethical and professional issues surrounding current health care practice.
- C. Compare the health care standards and models regionally, nationally and globally.
- D. Identify political strategies that may be effective in influencing health care policy

at the local, state and federal levels.

E. Discuss the issues affecting nursing which emerge from the politics of the health care system.

F. Analyze issues related to cost, quality and access to the health care system and their affect upon nursing and the health of society.

IX. Course Outline:

A. Furthering the Profession

1. Entry into Practice: The Debate Rages On
2. Evidence-Based Practice
3. Blending the New Essentials of Baccalaureate Education and Distance Learning Education Methods
4. Using Simulation to Teach Nurses

B. Workforce Issues

1. The Current Nursing Shortage: Causes, Consequences, and Solutions
2. Importing Foreign Nurses
3. Unlicensed Assistive Personnel and the Registered Nurse
4. Socialization and Mentoring
5. Diversity in the Nursing Workforce

C. Workplace Issues

1. Mandatory Minimum Staffing Ratios: Are They Working?
2. Mandatory Overtime in Nursing: How Much? How Often?
3. Violence in Nursing: The Expectations and the Reality
4. Technology in the Health Care Workplace: Benefits, Limitations, and Challenges
5. Medical Errors: An Ongoing Threat to Quality Health Care

D. Legal and Ethical Issues

1. Whistle-blowing in Nursing
2. Impaired Nursing Practice - What Are the Issues?
3. Collective Bargaining and the Professional Nurse
4. Assuring Provider Competence through Licensure, Continuing Education, and Certification

E. Professional Power

1. The Nursing Profession's Historic Struggle to Increase Its Power Base
2. Professional Identity and Image
3. Advanced Practice Nursing: The Latest Issues and Trends
4. Nursing and Public Policy: Getting Involved
5. Nursing's Professional Associations

X. Methods of Evaluation:

Quizzes	25%
Discussion Board	40%
APA Formatted Research Paper	35%
	100%

XI. Grading Scale:

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

XIII. Student Participation:

- A. Participation Policy:** Students are expected to participate fully in class discussion on the Blackboard Discussion Board. Full participation is defined as visiting the discussion board a minimum of two times to post assignments and respond to others as assigned. Online assignments are expected to be turned in on time. If completion by the scheduled deadline is problematic, the student should discuss this with the faculty prior to the designated deadline. Equal participation of all students in any group assignments is expected.
 - B. Course Etiquette:** All online correspondence is to be respectful of other students and faculty. Foul language or derogatory remarks will not be tolerated. If issues arise between students, private contact is to be made with the faculty member to assist in resolving.
 - C. Discussion Board Standards:** Discussion Board assignments will be graded per instructions.
- XIV. Disability Accommodations:** Students with disabilities may request reasonable accommodations through the Texas A&M University-Texarkana Disability Services Office by calling 903-223-3062.
- XV. 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. For additional information, see the university catalog.
- XVI. Texas A&M University-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.
- XVII. Drop Policy:** To drop this course after the census date (see [semester calendar](#)), a student must complete the Drop/Withdrawal Request Form, located on the University website <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 (7101 University Ave., Texarkana, TX 75503) 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.

XVII. Class Participation: Students are responsible for beginning their participation on the FIRST CLASS DAY by logging on and completing assignments according to the COURSE CALENDAR. Failure to submit online assignments between the first day of classes and the University census date (according to the University schedule) will result in an ADMINISTRATIVE DROP from the course.

XVIII. Student Technical Assistance:

- Solutions to common problems and FAQ's for your web-enhanced and web courses are found at this link: <http://www.tamut.edu/Training/Student%20Training/index.html> _
- If you cannot find your resolution there, you can send in a support request detailing your specific problem here: <http://www.tamut.edu/techde/support.htm>
- Blackboard Helpdesk contacts (office hours are: Monday - Friday, 8:00a to 5:00p)
Julia Allen (main contact) 903-223-3154 julia.allen@tamut.edu
Nikki Thomson (alternate) 903-223-3083 nikki.thomson@tamut.edu
Jayson Ferguson (alternate) 903-223-3105 jayson.ferguson@tamut.edu

XVIII. Technical Requirements:

Minimum Windows PC Requirements:

- Pentium IV 1.5GHz+ (preferred: Core Duo)
- 1 GB RAM minimum (preferred: 2 GB)
- 128MB Video Card minimum - Sound Card is required for some courses
- 56K modem minimum (Cable or DSL required for some courses)
- Windows 2000, XP, Vista or 7
- Web browser (Internet Explorer 7.0+; Firefox 3.0+)
- Microsoft Word, minimum Office 97

Some courses will need plug-ins such as Flash player 10 +, QuickTime player 7.0+, Adobe Reader 9.0+, Java Runtime Environment (Java 1.6.0_15), Windows Media Player 10+, RealPlayer, and Macromedia/Adobe Shockwave.

Some online courses may also require a CD ROM (8x minimum, higher recommended)

Blackboard has certified the following browsers for computers running Windows Operating Systems:

- Internet Explorer 8 or 9 (IE is not supported on Windows XP)
- Mozilla Firefox 3.6+

- Google Chrome

Minimum Apple Macintosh Requirements:

- Intel Core 2.0GHz+
- 1 GB RAM (preferred: 2 GB)
- 128MB Video Card minimum - Sound Card is required for some courses
- 56K modem minimum (Cable or DSL required for some courses)
- Web browser (Firefox 3.0+ ; Safari 3.0+)
- Microsoft Word, minimum Office 97

Some courses will need plug-ins such as Flash player 10+, QuickTime player 7.0+, Adobe Reader 9.0+, Java Runtime Environment, RealPlayer, and Macromedia/Adobe Shockwave.

Some online courses may also require a CD ROM (8x minimum, higher recommended)

Blackboard has certified the following browsers for computers running Macintosh Operating Systems:

- Mac OS 10.2 (Jaguar): (Safari 1 is compatible)
- Mac OS 10.3 (Panther): Safari 1.2 (Firefox 1.5 is compatible)
- Mac OS 10.4 (Tiger): Safari 2 and Firefox 1.5
- Mac OS 10.5 (Leopard): (Firefox 2.0 is compatible)

I-OS and Android Devices

These devices are currently supported using the Blackboard Mobile App, available for free from your App Store or scan the code below:



To access Texas A&M University - Texarkana, there is an individual license fee of \$1.99 per year or \$5.99 lifetime. This fee gives you access to the university from all your (same platform) devices; it is not necessary to pay the fee for each device you own.

NURS 407
Quality Issues Paper
Rubric

Criteria for Evaluation	Points	Points	Comments
Begin the paper with an introductory paragraph briefly describing the setting. Do not use any name identifiers. Initials are acceptable.	5		
Provide a detailed narrative <u>summary</u> of the data collected in identifying an area for improvement.	6		
Describe a plan of action you <u>would</u> carry out if you had the opportunity.	6		
Describe how you would implement a plan. Who would be involved?	6		
Include a plan of action to maintain improvement. Who would monitor. (remember confidentiality)	4		
Use correct spacing, margins, grammar, spelling and punctuation of APA format. Including a title and reference page.	3		
Total	30		

Student

Date

Graded By