

Austin Community College, Health Professions Institute
5930 Middle Fiskville Road, Austin, TX 78752
Course Syllabus
VNSG 2033: LVN Refresher Theory
128 hours

Description: Designed for inactive vocational nurses returning to active practice. The focus of the course is to expand the nurse's knowledge, skills and attitudes by applying information related to new technology, equipment, current nursing trends and legalities to previously acquired formal education and skills competency.

Rationale: This course is designed to meet the educational needs of vocational nurses who have been out of the clinical setting for some time and desire to re-enter the workplace, update previous knowledge, and as part of the Texas Board of Nursing's requirement for reinstatement of licensure. Content is based on The Texas Board of Nursing recommendations for "nursing refresher" courses.

Prerequisites: Although the course is designed for nurses who are seeking to return to active practice, there are no prerequisites.

WECM Learning Outcomes: Identify the role and functions of the vocational nurse including process application as patient advocate, provider of care, and member of the health care team; identify the legal and ethical aspects of Vocational Nursing practice; discuss current trends, issues, and client management in disease process across the life span; demonstrate competency in nursing skills.

Course Objectives: Upon completion of this course the LVN student will meet minimum educational preparation for the required didactic component for re-entry into the practice of nursing which is consistent with the standards and protocols outlined in the nursing literature. Specifically, the student will be able to:

1. Utilize clinical problem solving to:
 - A) collect data and perform focused nursing assessment
 - B) participate in the planning of nursing care for patients
 - C) participate in the development and modification of comprehensive nursing care for assigned patients
 - D) implement appropriate aspects of care within the LVNs scope of practice
 - E) assist in evaluation of the patient's responses to nursing interventions and the identification of patient needs.
2. Demonstrate knowledge and safe appropriate administration of pharmacological agents.
3. Utilize the communication process as a with all members of the healthcare team,.
4. Integrate teaching/learning into assigned care to promote individualized nursing care.
5. Demonstrate the appropriate application of legal/ethical principles to nursing practice.

Course Overview: This self-paced course must be completed within 16 weeks of registration (approximately 2 weeks per unit). A total of 8 units complete the course. Students will begin with an Orientation and Unit 1 and proceed through each unit in numerical order. Each unit must be completed before moving on to the next.

Orientation

Unit 1- Nursing Practice

Unit 2- Pharmacology Review

Unit 3- Systems Review

Unit 4- Care of the Client

Unit 5- IV Therapy

Unit 6- Communication and Documentation

Unit 7- Care of the Terminally Ill

Required Materials:**Text:**

1. Medical-Surgical Nursing Critical Thinking in Client Care (5th edition). 2008. Lemone, P. & Burke, K. Pearson/Prentice Hall Publishers.
ISBN #: 9780131713086
2. Clinical Nursing Skills Basic to Advanced (7th edition). 2008. Smith, S., Duell, D. & Martin, B. Pearson/Prentice Hall Publishers.
ISBN #: 9780132243555
3. Any Current Drug Handbook

Computer Requirements for the Course:

- Use e-mail effectively. Maintain a working e-mail address
- Download PDFs and/or MS WORD documents. Save documents to a computer desktop.
- Download any needed "Software *Plug-ins" required, to view course content: Such as:
- Real One Player, Adobe Reader, Adobe Flash Player, QuickTime Player
- Navigate inside the learning platform/screen (Black Board)
- Complete the program "Orientation" Module – at the start of the 16-week online course
- Keep up with the Course Modules as scheduled
- Complete "Discussion/Activities."

PC Windows Minimum:

- I. 300 MHz Pentium II Processor (600 MHz recommended)
- II. 64 MB RAM (128 MB RAM recommended)
- III. Internet connection: 56 K Modem (cable or DSL connection recommended)
- IV. Audio sound card & external speakers
- V. Video card (2 MB; 4 MB recommended)

Method of Instruction: the primary components of the program will be disseminated on-line using a variety of delivery media formats including streaming video. On-line testing, on-line activities, on-line student discussion forums, and links to other resource material on the internet. Students will have access to an instructor and other students via email and on-line discussion boards.

Evaluation: The student's successful completion will be determined by a grade of 80 % or more on the unit post-tests, the medication dosage calculation examination and active participation in all assigned on-line activities including discussion forums.

Determination of Final Grade: Student's will receive either credit or non-credit for the entire course based on the successful completion of the activities described above. No partial credit will be offered. An 80% or better performance in each unit of the course is considered successful completion.

Certificate of Completion: Upon successful completion of all course requirements, the student will be given a certificate of completion as verification of receiving credit for this course. Continuing Nursing Education (CNE) cannot be awarded because this course is considered basic nursing by the Board of Nurse Examiners. Some CNE will be awarded for identified continuing education topics within the re-entry nursing update.

Course and Instructor Evaluations: Students will be asked to complete an on-line evaluation of both the course and the instructor.

Course Contacts:

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