

**Western Kentucky University  
School of Nursing  
RN to BSN Program  
Fall 2016**

**Course Name**

Professional Issues in Nursing

**Catalog Description**

This course will examine issues and trends in professional nursing practice. Students will focus on the influence of social, legal, economic, historical, political and ethical forces on professional nursing practice.

**Course Number**

NURS 408

**Class Time**

This is an on-line class. There will be one mandatory face-to-face meeting at the School of Nursing in Bowling Green on November 15<sup>th</sup> and for those in Owensboro there will be a face-to-face meeting November 16<sup>th</sup> at WKU-O. Both will be 9-11 a.m. (You are to attend only one of these-either the one in Bowling Green or the one in Owensboro).

**Course Credit**

3.0 Credit Hours

**Corequisite or Prerequisite**

This course must be taken in the final semester of the program.

**Faculty contact information**

Cathy H. Abell, PhD, MSN, MS, RN, CNE

Phone: 270-745-3499 (office)

Email: [cathy.abell@wku.edu](mailto:cathy.abell@wku.edu)

**Course Objectives**

At the completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Apply previous knowledge of the behavioral, biological, social sciences and the liberal arts as it relates to current practice. (PO, 1)
2. Describe the impact of selected nursing theories on professional nursing practice. (PO, 1, 4, 7)
3. Explain the influence of social and historical forces on professional nursing practice. (PO, 1, 4, 5, 8, 9)
4. Analyze ethical issues that impact professional nursing practice. (PO, 6, 8, 9)
5. Apply political and economic principles in professional nursing practice. (PO, 6, 8, 9)
6. Describe societal trends that may influence the health care delivery system and practice of professional nursing. (PO, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9)
7. Describe current issues that impact professional nursing practice. (PO, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9)

8. Relate research finding to professional nursing practice. (PO, 4, 7)

**Numbers at the end of each objective correspond to the appropriate program outcome.**

**Table aligning objectives to activities and assessment.**

<b>Objective</b>	<b>Activities</b>	<b>Assessment</b>
Apply previous knowledge of the behavioral, biological, social sciences and the liberal arts as it relates to current practice.	Lectures and assigned readings: Genetics and Genomics.	Discussion board
Describe the impact of selected nursing theories on professional nursing practice.	Lectures and assigned readings: Theory and nurse theorist	Quiz  Final Paper
Explain the influence of social and historical forces on professional nursing practice	Lectures and assigned readings: Importing Foreign Nurses; Entry into Practice; Unlicensed Assistive Personnel; Diversity in the Workforce; Mandatory Minimum Staffing Ratios; Mandatory Overtime; Historic Struggle; Social Policy Statement	Quiz  Final Paper  Meet and Greet  Book report <i>Social Policy Statement</i>
Analyze ethical issues that impact professional nursing practice.	Lectures and assigned readings: Code of Ethics; Genetics and Genomics; Mandatory Overtime; Violence in Nursing; Medical Errors; Ethical Models; Whistle-Blowing; Impaired Nursing Practice;	Quiz  Final Paper  Summary <i>Code of Ethics</i>
Apply political and economic principles in professional nursing practice.	Lectures and assigned readings: Importing Foreign Nurses; Unlicensed Assistive Personnel; Diversity in the Workforce; Mandatory Overtime; Violence in Nursing; Ethical Models;	Quiz  Book report <i>Social Policy Statement</i>

	Collective Bargaining; Historic Struggle; Public Policy; Nursing's Professional Associations Social Policy Statement	
Describe societal trends that may influence the health care delivery system and practice of professional nursing.	Lectures and assigned readings: Current Nursing Shortage, Important Foreign Nurses; Unlicensed Assistive Personnel; Diversity in the Workforce; Mandatory Minimum Staffing Ratios; Mandatory Overtime; Violence in Nursing; Medical Errors Ethical Models; Technology; Medical Errors; Historic Struggle; Identify and Image; Public Policy; Use of Social Media; Social Policy Statement	Quiz Final Paper Book report
Describe current issues that impact professional nursing practice.	Lectures and assigned readings: Genetics and Genomics, Current Nursing Shortage; Mandatory Overtime; Violence in Nursing; patient Safety; Ethical Models; Technology; Medical Errors; Whistle-Blowing; Impaired Nursing Practice; Identify and Image; Advanced Practice Nursing; Public Policy; Nursing's Professional Associations; Use of Social Media; Simulation; Transition to Practice Programs	Quiz Final Paper Discussion Board
Relate research finding to professional nursing practice.	Lectures and assigned readings: All	Quiz Discussion board Final Paper Ethical Paper

### Instructional Methods

The course is taught on-line uses Blackboard as delivery format. Instructional methods will include a variety of teaching strategies to meet the needs of students with various learning styles. During the course you will be listening to lectures delivered using tegrity, engaging in discussion board assignments, reading various material, and viewing NBC clips and youtube videos. To measure your knowledge, you will be completing assignments such as quizzes, papers, resume, and discussion boards.

### Required Text (You should already have all books except two in bold font.)

American Nurses Association (2010). Nursing's social policy statement: The essence of the profession. Silver Springs, MD: Nursebooks.org.

American Nurses Association (2010). *Nursing: Scope and standards of practice* (3rd ed.). Silver Springs, MD: Nursebooks.org.

American Psychological Association (2010). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th ed.). Washington, DC: Author.

Fowler, M.D.M. (Ed.) (2015). *Guide to the code of ethics for nurses: Interpretation and application* (2nd ed.). Silver Springs, MD: Nursebooks.org.

**Huston, C.J. (2017). *Professional Issues in Nursing: Challenges & Opportunities* (4th edition). Philadelphia: Lippincott, Williams & Wilkins.**

**Sitzman, K. L., & Eichelberger, L. W. (2017). *Understanding the work of nurse theorist: A creative beginning* (3rd ed.). Sudbury, MA: Jones and Bartlett Publishers.**

**You will also need access the following article:**

**Tourville, C., & Ingalls, K. (2003). The living tree of nursing theories. *Nursing Forum*. 38(3), 21-30, 36.**

### **Grading Scale**

90-100%	A (184-205 points)
80-89%	B (163-183 points)
70-79%	C (143-162 points)
60-69%	D (122-142 points)
Below 60%	F (Below 122 points)

Please refer to the RN to BSN handbook for information about progression in the program.

### **Evaluation Methods**

Assignments will provide students the opportunity to apply knowledge and demonstrate meeting course objectives.

Below is a table with three columns. The first column indicates the assignment, the second contains the due dates (the time for the due date is 11:00 p.m. unless otherwise indicated), and the third contains possible points.

<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Due Dates</b>	<b>Points</b>
Summary Social Policy Statement	9/19/16	10 points
Professional Resume	9/5/16	20 points
Discussion Board (Three-10 points each)		30 points
• #1 Meet and Greet	#1-8/29/16	
• #2 (Infection Control)	#2- 9/16/16	

• #3 (Genetics/Genomics)	#3-10/10/16	
Ethical Assignment	10/3/16	30 points
Final Paper	11/14/16	65 points
Face-to-face meeting participation	<b>11/15/16 or 11/16/16</b>	10 points
Quizzes (Four-10 points each)	#1-9/12/16 #2- 9/26/16 #3-10/10/16 #4 10/17/16	40 points
<b>Possible Points</b>		<b>205</b>

Information about evaluation methods:

**I. Discussion Board:** The Discussion Board is an important part of the learning opportunities. Please refer to rubrics for discussion boards.

**II. Summary of *The Code of Ethics and Nursing's Social Policy Statement*.** These are two very important documents for the professional nurse. These were introduced in N323. You will be expected to re-read these two documents and write a short one-two page paper related to each *Nursing's Social Policy Statement*. A rubric for grading the assignment will be available on Blackboard. The other document will be utilized for your ethical assignment.

**III. Professional Resume:** Each student is expected to develop a professional resume which could be used as part of the application process for a nursing position. A rubric for grading the professional resume will be posted on Blackboard.

**IV. Ethical Assignment:** This assignment is to demonstrate your knowledge of ethical dilemmas. You will view assigned videos and submit paper following guidelines noted on rubric associated with this assignment.

**V. Final Paper:** The final paper provides you the opportunity to reflect on your educational journey in the RN to BSN program. You will be expected to illustrate your philosophy of nursing, how you have achieved the program outcomes, describe a nursing model/theory you use to guide your practice, and share your thoughts on how past and future ethical, social, historical, political, economic forces have shaped the health care delivery system and nursing practice of nursing. A rubric for grading will be posted on Blackboard.

**VI. Class Participation:** A mandatory face-to-face meeting is scheduled for November 15<sup>th</sup> or November 16<sup>th</sup>

**VII. Quizzes:**

- Will be on-line
- Only one attempt will be available for quizzes.
- All quizzes must be taken during scheduled time frame. **There will be no make-up quizzes.**

- Quizzes will be on assigned chapters as well as information from articles and other resources referenced.

### **Statement of Student Commitment**

We are pleased that you have made the commitment to continue your nursing education. The didactic (lecture) courses in the RN to BSN program are delivered using an on-line delivery method with limited face-to-face meetings on WKU's main campus. You can expect to have similar time commitments for an on-line course as you would in a more traditional course that meets weekly in a classroom environment.

For example, for each 3-hour face-to-face course, there would be a 3-hour time commitment per week for attendance at class. This same timeframe should be allotted for on-line classes. This is when you could watch lectures, take quizzes, submit assignments, etc. As with a face-to-face class, there is also an additional commitment for working on assignments, reading, and doing other class preparation. You should expect this to be approximately 6-9 hours per week for a 3-hour course.

We are excited to have the opportunity to be a part of your RN to BSN program.

### **Student Etiquette/Social Environment**

You will be participating in on-line discussions in this course. It is expected that in addition to following guidelines on rubrics, you will be respectful of your peers. You may pose questions and/or challenge a view of a classmate, but this must be done in a courteous manner.

### **Confidentiality Policy**

Material presented is to be used only for purposes of this class. You must not allow any other person access to the Blackboard site for this class or information presented on Blackboard. No audio taping of any class material presented on-line is allowed. When posting information on Blackboard, you are not to use names of any individual or facility.

### **Testing policy**

If a student goes over the time frame allotted for an on-line test, the following penalty will be instituted based on number of questions on test/quiz.

<b>Number of questions on test/quiz</b>	<b>Penalty</b>
35-50	No penalty for the first 5 minutes over. For each additional 5 minutes over the student will be penalized 2 points.
16-34	No penalty for the first 3 minutes over. For each additional 3 minutes over, the student will be penalized 1 point.

15 or less	No penalty for the first 1 minute over. For each additional minute, the student will be penalized 0.5 point
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Please note: This penalty would be in addition to the penalty for late submission.

If you go over the time limit due to encountering a problem during testing which results in you having to leave the test or quiz and return, please send you instructor an email at this time.

### **Time Frame for Assignments**

All assignments must be completed in a timely manner. Assignments not submitted electronically via Blackboard will not be accepted. Papers submitted after the due date will lose 10%. Papers will not be accepted 1 week past the due date.

Assignments (papers, quizzes, test, discussion boards, etc.) will be able to be taken or submitted during the week they are assigned starting on Monday at 8:00 a.m. Availability will be through to the following Monday at 11:00 p.m. There may be times when faculty have different schedules for specific assignments. Lectures, outlines, and handouts will be posted on Monday at 8:00 a.m. of the week they are scheduled. They will remain available for the rest of the semester. Again, in specific cases this may vary.

### **Student Responsibilities**

- Students are expected to follow all policies as printed in the *Western Kentucky University School of Nursing (SON) Student Handbook*, revised Summer 2016 and the *WKU Student Handbook* ([WKU Handbook](#)). You can find the SON handbook on the RN to BSN Blackboard site under the Information button.

Students are expected to be self-directed and responsible in their own learning. It is the student's responsibility to seek assistance, make up deficiencies, and check blackboard daily for announcements.

### **Academic Honesty**

A score of zero will be applied to any quiz, examination, or any assignment for academic dishonesty.

Please refer to the departmental and university handbooks for specific policies regarding academic dishonesty, cheating, and plagiarism.

The faculty member reserves the right to turn any assignment into programs that help detect plagiarism.

### **Librarian**

The library has a librarian for every department on campus. To schedule an appointment, call 745-6125 or e-mail [web.reference@wku.edu](mailto:web.reference@wku.edu), and you will be connected with the appropriate subject librarian.

**Help desk**

If you have technical problems with blackboard, please contact the help desk. The phone number and hours are noted on Blackboard. This does not include having a test reset. If you encounter a problem which results in the need for a test to be reset, you must contact faculty member.

**Disability Statement**

In compliance with university policy, students with disabilities who require academic and/or auxiliary accommodations for this course must contact the Office for Student Disability Services in Downing University Center, A-200. The phone number is 270-745-5004.

Please DO NOT request accommodations directly from the professor or instructor without a letter of accommodation from the Office for Student Disability Services.

**Affirmative Action Statement**

Refer to student handbook.

**Faculty reserve the right to make changes in the syllabus including adding or subtracting assignments or changing due date. An updated syllabus will be posted on Blackboard if this occurs.**



### Weekly Schedule

Below is a table that has three columns. The first indicates the weekly date, the second is the weekly topic, and the third contains weekly assignments.

Date	Topic	Assignment
<b>Week 1 (Week of August 22)</b>	Introduction to class  Professional Resume	<b>Db #1 Meet and Greet</b>  Syllabus  Carefully look through your syllabus and address any questions via the discussion board.
<b>Week 2 (Week of August 29)</b>	Furthering the Profession	Houston (Chapters 1, 2, 4)  <i>Nursing: Scope and standards of practice. (Standard Due 13: Evidence-based Practice and Research)</i>  <b>Professional Resume Due</b>
<b>Week 3 (Week of September 5)</b>	Workforce Issues: Is There a Current Nursing Shortage Importing Foreign Nurses Unlicensed Assistive Personnel Diversity in the Workforce  Social Policy Statement  <b>Quiz #1 (Chapters 1,2,4, 5, 6, 7, 8)</b>	Huston (Chapters 5, 6, 7, 8)  <i>Nursing's social policy statement: The essence of the profession.</i>

<b>Week 4 (Week of September 12)</b>	Workplace Issues: Mandatory Minimum Staffing Ratios Mandatory Overtime in Nursing Violence in Nursing Use of Social Media Medical Errors	Huston (Chapters 9, 10, 11, 12, 13)  <i>Nursing: Scope and standards of practice. (Standard Due 5:Implementation)</i>  <b>Summary Social Policy Statement Paper Due</b>
<b>Week 5 (Week of September 19)</b>	Nursing Education Issues: Using Simulation to Teach Nurses New Graduate RN Transition to Practice Programs  <b>Quiz #2 (Chapters 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 16)</b>	Huston (Chapters 14, 16)  <i>Nursing: Scope and standards of practice. (Standard Due 12: Education)</i>  <b>Db #2 (Infection Control)</b>
<b>Week 6 (Week of September 26)</b>	Legal and Ethical Issues: Whistle-Blowing Impaired Nursing Practice  Code of Ethics  Ethical Models	Huston (Chapters 19, 20)  <i>Guide to code of ethics for nurses: Interpretation and application.</i>  <i>Nursing: Scope and standards of practice. (Standard Due 7: Ethics)</i>  <i>Nursing: Scope and standards of practice. (Standard 10: Ethics)</i>  <b>Ethical Assignment Due</b>
<b>Week 7 (Week of October 3)</b>	Genetics and Genomics	<b>Discussion Board #3 (Genetics/Genomics)</b>
<b>Week 8 (Week of October 10)</b>	Professional Power: Nursing's Professional Associations	Huston (Chapter 23, 24, 25, 26)

	<b>Quiz # 3 (Chapters 19, 20, 23, 24, 25, 26)</b>	
<b>Week 9 (Week of October 17)</b>	<p>Introduction to Nursing Theory: What is Nursing Theory? Why are theories important in nursing? The Development of Nursing Theories</p> <p>Evaluating a Theory</p> <p>Theories: Virginia Henderson Ernestine Wiedenbach</p>	<p>Sitzman &amp; Eichelberger (Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8)</p> <p>Article: Tourville, C., &amp; Ingalls, K. (2003)</p> <p><i>Nursing: Scope and standards of practice. (Standard Due 5:Implementation)</i></p>
<b>Week 10 (Week of October 24)</b>	<p>Theories: Jean Watson Sister Callista Roy Dorothea Orem Madeleine Leininger Nola Pender Patricia Benner</p>	<p>Sitzman &amp; Eichelberger (Chapters 9, 13, 14, 15, 19, 22)</p> <p><i>Nursing: Scope and standards of practice. (Standard Due 5B, 8: Health Teaching and Health Promotion; Culturally Congruent Practices)</i></p>
<b>Week 11 (Week of October 31)</b>	<b>Quiz #4 (Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 13, 14, 15, 19)</b>	<b>Final Paper Due</b>
<b>Week 12 (Week of November 7)</b>	Aging Population	To be assigned
<b>Week 13 (Week of November 16)</b>	<b>MANDATORY CLASS MEETING November 15<sup>th</sup> (Bowling Green) or November 16<sup>th</sup> (WKU-O) 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.</b>	To be assigned
<b>Week 14 (Week of November 21)</b>	<b>Happy Thanksgiving</b>	
<b>Week 15 (Week of November 30)</b>	<b>TBA</b>	