



*Fall 2020*

**“At WKU the Spirit Makes the Nurse”**

*Course Name:* High Acuity Nursing

*Course Number:* NURS 421-001, NURS 421-002

*Prerequisites:* NURS 429, 413, 432/433, 444/445

*Corequisites:* NURS 422, 403, 448/449

*Credit Hours:* 3.0 credit hours.

*Course Description:* Application and integration of advanced medical-surgical concepts to provide holistic nursing care to the high-acuity patient.

*Course Objectives:* (See Page 2)

**Lecture: Wednesdays 0800-1100**

Faculty:

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*\*Faculty reserves the right to make updates/changes of information/dates for NURS 421. Students will be notified of changes as they occur. \**

**\*Important statement for Fall 2020\*:** Based on the current state of emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the classroom construction underway, we are unable to predict the effects on the Fall 2020 semester. Due to these conditions, students should be prepared to be flexible with instruction methods and variable times of instruction. Students should secure a stable internet connection and device for lectures that may be required to be online. Attendance at weekly lectures is expected regardless if they are in-person or online.

**\*\*Students must follow the WKU COVID-19 Daily Health Check Procedure before attending any in-person activity.\*\***

<b>Program Objectives</b>	<b>Course Objectives</b>	<b>Teaching/Learning Strategies</b>
1. Apply knowledge from the behavioral, biological, physical and social sciences, and the liberal arts to provide holistic patient-centered care.	1. Integrate knowledge from other disciplines when providing holistic patient-centered care in the acute setting.	Lecture (recorded or live) Adaptive quizzing In-class questions Case Studies Pre-class Assignments Weekly exam Simulation
2. Use the nursing process and quality improvement to provide professional nursing care to promote the health and wellness of culturally diverse patients across the lifespan in a variety of settings.	2. Utilize the nursing process when identifying priority patient outcomes for complex patients in a variety of acute care settings.	Lecture (recorded or live) Adaptive quizzing In-class questions Case Studies Pre-class Assignments Weekly exam Simulation
3. Demonstrate leadership in the practice of professional nursing	3. Demonstrate leadership skills in designing/managing and collaborating with the healthcare team and assistive personnel in achieving identified patient outcomes.	Lecture (recorded or live) Assigned readings Case Studies Weekly exam Unit exams Simulation
4. Use critical thinking skills in professional nursing practice.	4. Demonstrate critical thinking and clinical decision-making by identifying rationale for nursing interventions and prioritization of care for the complex acute patient.	Lecture (recorded or live) Assigned readings Case Studies Pre-class assignment Weekly exam Unit exams Simulation
5. Use inter-and intra-professional communications and collaborative skills in professional nursing practice.	5. Identify effective communication skills and tools for use with individuals, families, groups, and the healthcare team.	Lecture (recorded or live) Case Studies Pre-class assignment Weekly exam Simulation
6. Demonstrate the role of teacher in professional nursing practice.	6. Integrate the role of teacher into nursing practice by identifying teaching needs and resources.	Lecture (recorded or live) Case Studies Pre-class assignments Weekly exam Unit exams
7. Integrate informatics skills in the selection of evidence-based interventions in professional nursing practice.	7. Discuss applicability of research findings for clinical practice and identify resources to obtain evidence-based practice.	Lecture (recorded or live) Assigned Readings Web Links Research articles Simulation
8. Adhere to the nursing code of ethics and standards of professional nursing practice.	8. Adhere to the nursing code of ethics and standards of professional nursing practice.	Lecture (recorded or live) Assigned Readings Simulation
9. Function as a safe and accountable member of the nursing profession.	9. Identify and integrate safe nursing practice as an accountable member of the nursing profession.	Lecture discussion Assigned readings Participation in KANS Self-learning assignments Simulation

### *Nursing 421 Lecture Outline – Fall 2020*

August 26	Chapter 1: High Acuity Nursing Chapter 2: Holistic Care of the High Acuity Patient Chapter 5: Acute Pain in the High Acuity Patient Review: Chapter 4: The Older Adult (discussed in each system)	Cornell
September 2 *PCA 1 Due 8am	Chapter 25: Determinants of Fluid and Electrolyte Balance Chapter 26: Alterations in Fluid and Electrolyte Balance Chapter 27: Acute Kidney Injury	Weekly exam 1 DeHay
September 9 *PCA 2 Due 8am	Chapter 21: Assessment of GI, Hepatic, Pancreatic Function Chapter 24: Alterations in Pancreatic Function Chapter 23: Alterations in Hepatic Function Review: Chapter 22: Alterations in Gastrointestinal Function	Weekly exam 2 Cornell
September 16 *PCA 3 Due 8am Sim 9/21, 9/22	Chapter 11: Determinants/Assessment of Pulmonary Function Chapter 12: Alterations in Pulmonary Function Respiratory Failure, ARDS, Pulmonary embolus	Weekly exam 3 Cornell
Sim 9/21, 9/22 September 23	Chapter 7: Mechanical Ventilation	Unit Exam 1 Miller
September 30 *PCA 4 Due 8am	Chapter 13: Determinants and Assessment of Cardiac Function Chapter 9: Basic Cardiac Rhythm Monitoring Review: Chapter 14: Alterations in Cardiac Function Chapter 15: Alterations in Myocardial Tissue Perfusion	Weekly exam 4 Miller
October 7 *PCA 5 Due 8am	Chapter 8: Basic Hemodynamic Monitoring	Weekly exam 5 DeHay
October 14 *PCA 6 Due 8am Sim 10/19, 10/20	Chapter 34: Determinants and Assessment of Oxygenation Chapter 37: Shock States Chapter 38: Multiple Organ Dysfunction Syndrome	Weekly exam 6 DeHay
Sim 10/19, 10/20 October 21	Chapter 33: Diabetic Crisis	Unit Exam 2 Cornell
October 28 *PCA 7 Due 8am	Chapter 16: Determinants/ Assessment of Cerebral Tissue Perfusion Chapter 19: Traumatic Brain Injury Review: Chapter 18: Acute Stroke Injury	Weekly exam 7 Miller
November 4 *PCA 8 Due 8am	Chapter 28: Determinants and Assessment of Hematologic Function Chapter 39: Solid Organ and Hematopoietic Stem-Cell Transplantation	Weekly exam 8 DeHay
November 11 *PCA 9 Due 8am Sim 11/16, 11/17	Chapter 35: Multiple Trauma	Weekly exam 9 Cornell
Sim 11/16, 11/17 November 18	Chapter 20: Acute Spinal Cord Injury	Unit Exam 3 DeHay
November 25	Thanksgiving Break November 25-27	
December 2 *PCA 10 Due 8am	Chapter 36: Acute Burn Injury Review: Chapter 10: Complex Wound Management	Weekly exam 10 Miller
December 7	Monday: Final Exam 0800 am	

**\*PCA- Pre-class Assignment due by 8:00AM day of class. Submit in Blackboard 0 points for late submission**

**Required Materials**  
(All HESI products have been purchased)

Wagner, K.D., Hardin-Pierce, M.G., & Welsh, D. (2018). *High acuity nursing* (7<sup>th</sup> ed). Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson Education. **(Required)**  
(nursing care plan, laboratory/ diagnostics and medical-surgical texts from previous nursing courses)

ExamSoft/Examplify account registration and download. **(Required)**

Device with Minimum System Requirements (MSR's) as outlined on the BSN Blackboard Student Organizational site for ExamSoft. **(Required)**

A second device with a camera and microphone and Zoom capability for exam proctoring. **(Required)**

Access to a stable internet connection and a quiet environment for exams and to attend lectures for on-line instruction. **(Required)**

A small dry erase board and dry erase marker to use for "scratch paper" during exams. **(Required)**

**Evaluation Methods:** Points will be distributed as follows:

10 weekly exams (10 points each)	<b>100 points</b>
3-unit exams (35 points each)	<b>105 points</b>
Final exam (75 points)	<b>75 points</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>280 points</b>
<b>*Must achieve minimum (77%) 216/280 points to receive these additional 40 points but all must be completed in order to pass the course regardless of points.</b>	
*10 Pre-class assignments (4 pts each/ if complete by due date)	<b>40 points</b>
Critical Care HESI exam (conversion score)	<b>25 points</b>
<b>Total possible points</b>	<b>345 points</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The student must achieve <b>216 points</b> (77%) on the weekly and unit examinations to pass NURS 421. Students who do not obtain a passing grade for NURS 421 will be required to repeat NURS 421 and NURS 422. NURS 422 will need to be repeated so that NURS 422 occurs during the last 7 months prior to graduation as mandated by the Kentucky Board of Nursing.</li><li>Students who have an average grade below 77% after Exam I or any examination thereafter <b>are required to schedule a meeting weekly</b> with the faculty until an average grade of 77% is achieved. Any student may schedule a meeting with faculty during office hours. <b>Exam review with faculty must occur within one week of the exam.</b> After this time period the exam may not be reviewed and there will be no review of the final after submitted.</li><li>The points for pre-class assignments will be added only if the student achieves a total of <b>216 points (77%) or above on the weekly and unit examinations.</b> The student must also achieve <b>266 total final points</b> to obtain a passing grade for NURS 421.</li><li><b>Pre-class (PCA) Assignments:</b> All pre-class assignments must be turned in at the beginning of class (0800) on the assigned day. All work must be complete and submitted on time in order to receive credit. <b>All assignments must be completed in order to pass the course.</b></li><li><b>In order to pass N421, all assignments (i.e. case studies, pre-class assignments) are required to be completed with accuracy and submitted for grading. Those submitted after the due dates will not be calculated in the totals.</b></li></ul>	

The grading scale is

91-100%	314 – 345 points	<b>A</b>
84-90%	290– 313 points	<b>B</b>

77-83%	266 – 289 points	C
69-76%	239 – 265 points	D
68% and below	238 points and below	F

**Rounding:** Per the BSN prelicensure grading policy, no points or percentages will be rounded.

**Grading, Testing, and Test Review:** Students will have the opportunity to schedule a meeting with faculty to review examinations for one week after they are graded. Examination results will be posted as soon as possible. Students who have questions about exams should submit the question in writing/email, document the discussion by citing text pages or class notes, and submit to the faculty for review. Once the final grades are calculated and posted, no additional test review, or bonus points will be considered.

**\*See BSN Testing Guidelines in BSN student handbook**

- Any student who displays behaviors consistent with academic dishonesty may be asked to change seats or may receive a grade of zero if the offense is blatant or repetitive.
- Students must not communicate before, during, or after an exam with any other person about the content of the exam.
- Exam questions and/or content of any exam questions are not to leave the exam room in any form: orally, electronically or in writing. A violation would result in a penalty at the discretion of the faculty. A meeting may be required with the BSN Program Coordinator and Director of the School of Nursing.
- Any violation of the BSN testing policy or any of the following may result in a 5% deduction on the exam or a grade of zero.
  - Leaving the exam environment without turning in scratch paper
  - Leaving the exam environment without confirming exam upload with the instructor
  - Having notes in any form including open on your device while in the testing environment
  - Talking while in the testing environment
  - Having your phone or other electronic device out while in the testing environment

**Course Grade appeals must follow the university academic complaint process** outlined in the WKU Student Handbook at <https://www.wku.edu/handbook/academic-complaint.php>. Grade appeals (students seeking a change in grade) **must be based on an error in grading** (the student did not get the same points for the same response as everyone else in the class). If there is no error in grading and there is no math error in calculating the student's grade, then there is no basis for a grade appeal. Grades will not be changed because a student has inadequate points to pass the course. Additional points for test or other assignments will not be considered after the student has failed the course, unless the test falls within the one week challenge period. Any test item challenges must be conducted in the week following the exam, and must be resolved with the faculty member at that time, based on information from the course materials such as the textbook. The faculty member is considered the expert and the faculty member's option of the correct answer will be the final answer.

**Important Complaint Exceptions:**

Student Disability regarding denial of accommodations, the student must report to Student ADA Compliance Officer and follow WKU policy #6.1010

Discrimination and Harassment concerns, see below reporting process and follow WKU policy #0.2040

1. Discrimination must be reported by the student to the Office of Equal Opportunity Employment (EEO)
2. Student-to-student harassment must be reported by the student to Office of Student Conduct
3. Student-to-faculty/employee harassment must be reported to the Office of Equal Opportunity Employment (EEO)

**Instructional Methods:** Instructional methods will include, but are not limited to, lecture, discussion, and group activity. Audiovisual material will be used when appropriate. **Students are responsible for material and lecture posted on Mediasite.** Students will have assigned readings and are expected to come to class prepared for the content being discussed.

**Class Attendance/Tardiness:** Registration in a course obligates the student to be regular and punctual in class. "Students are expected to be present, punctual, and attentive for the classroom period. . . When absences constitute greater than 20% of the total semester class hours, the student will receive a professional misconduct. Extenuating circumstances may be considered by the faculty after being reviewed by the Director of the SON, the program director, and the course faculty." Students who arrive after the class has begun must sit in the designated "tardy" area or wait until the next break to enter the classroom to avoid disruptions. Faculty reserves the right to lock the classroom doors when class is in session.

**Disciplinary Action for Professional Misconduct:** Students in the prelicensure program are to follow the NSNA Code of Ethics and all policies outlined in the WKU SON Student Handbook. Expectations for appropriate student conduct are discussed in the Policies for Student Behavior section of the student handbook. If a faculty member considers a student's behavior to be in violation of these policies, a written conduct warning will be issued. Copies of conduct warnings will be given to the student and Program Coordinator and a copy shall be placed in the student's file. Students in the prelicensure program will be required to meet with the Program Coordinator and Director if they receive more than one conduct warning. A student receiving a third conduct warning will be dismissed from the nursing program. Any student may be immediately dismissed with or without previous conduct warnings for behavior that endangers patients, staff, faculty or peers; performing actions outside of the nursing student scope of practice, use of drugs/alcohol during class/clinical and/or violation of state/federal laws.

#### **Student Responsibilities:**

Students are expected to follow all policies as printed in the WKU BSN *Student Handbook*.

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 attend scheduled classes. In the event of an absence, the student is responsible for information and assignments made during the class.***

If a student is unable to attend a scheduled examination, the student should notify the faculty prior to the examination and **contact the faculty as soon as possible to schedule a make-up examination. The make-up examination must be scheduled to complete within 2 business days, or the student will receive a zero. The make-up examination will be of a different format.** A student who does not notify the faculty of an absence prior to an exam and/or who cannot provide a satisfactory justification for the absence may receive a grade of zero for the examination without the opportunity for make-up. *Calculators will be provided for examinations. Use of personal calculators will not be permitted.*

**Academic Dishonesty:** A score of zero will be applied to an examination or assignment for academic dishonesty and will be addressed in a conference with the student and a panel of faculty.

**Student Accessibility Resource Center (SARC):** "In compliance with University policy, students with disabilities who require academic and/or auxiliary accommodations for this course must contact the Student Accessibility Resource Center located in Downing Student Union, 1074. The phone number is 270.745.5004 [270.745.3030 V/TTY] or email at sarc@wku.edu. Please do not request accommodations directly from the professor or instructor without a faculty notification letter (FNL) from The Student Accessibility Resource Center."

#### **Recommended review:**

Western Kentucky University-School of Nursing Student Handbook (2018). Available at [https://www.wku.edu/nursing/left\\_nav/son\\_student\\_handbook\\_2018\\_2019.pdf](https://www.wku.edu/nursing/left_nav/son_student_handbook_2018_2019.pdf)

Western Kentucky University-School of Nursing BSN Prelicensure Handbook (2019-2020). [https://www.wku.edu/nursing/left\\_nav/bsn\\_handbook\\_2019\\_2020.pdf](https://www.wku.edu/nursing/left_nav/bsn_handbook_2019_2020.pdf)

***Updated Student Testing Policy (Updated 8/2019) - NEW POLICY*** available at  
[http://www.wku.edu/nursing/left\\_nav/policies\\_handbooks\\_forms.php](http://www.wku.edu/nursing/left_nav/policies_handbooks_forms.php)

National Student Nurses' Association, Inc.  
45 Main Street, Suite 606, Brooklyn, New York 11201

[www.nsna.org](http://www.nsna.org) [nsna@nsna.org](mailto:nsna@nsna.org)

Code of Ethics

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/a229ong58d5jx4p/Code%20of%20Ethics.pdf?dl=0>

## STANDARDS OF PROFESSIONAL NURSING PRACTICE

(Source: American Nurses Association (ANA)

Scope and Standards of Nursing Practice, 2015)

### ANA Standards of Care

**Standard 1 Assessment** The registered nurse collects comprehensive data pertinent to the healthcare consumer's health and/or situation.

**Standard 2 Diagnosis** The registered nurse analyzes the assessment data to determine the diagnoses or issues.

**Standard 3 Outcome Identification** The registered nurse identifies expected outcomes for a plan individualized to the healthcare consumer or the situation.

**Standard 4 Planning** The registered nurse develops a plan that prescribes strategies and alternatives to attain expected outcomes.

**Standard 5 Implementation** The registered nurse implements the identified plan.

**Standard 5A Coordination of Care** The registered nurse coordinates care delivery.

**Standard 5B Health Teaching and Health Promotion** The registered nurse employs strategies to promote health and a safe environment.

**Standard 6 Evaluation** The registered nurse evaluates progress toward attainment of outcomes.

### ANA Standards of Professional Performance

**Standard 7 Ethics** The registered nurse practices ethically.

**Standard 8 Education** The registered nurse attains knowledge and competency that reflects current nursing practice.

**Standard 9 Evidence Based Practice and Research** The registered nurse integrates evidence and research findings into practice.

**Standard 10 Quality of Practice** The registered nurse contributes to quality nursing practice.

**Standard 11 Communication** The registered nurse communicates effectively in a variety of formats in all areas of practice.

**Standard 12 Leadership** The registered nurse demonstrates leadership in the professional practice setting and the profession.

**Standard 13 Collaboration** The registered nurse collaborates with healthcare consumer, family, and others in the conduct of nursing practice.

**Standard 14 Professional Practice Evaluation** The registered nurse evaluates one's own nursing practice in relation to professional practice standards and guidelines, relevant statutes, rules and regulations.

**Standard 15 Resource Utilization** The registered nurse utilizes appropriate resources to plan and provide nursing services that are safe, effective, and financially responsible.

**Standard 16 Environmental Health** The registered nurse practices in an environmentally safe and healthy manner.

## AACN Standards for Acute and Critical Care Nursing Practice

<https://www.aacn.org/~media/aacn-website/nursing-excellence/standards/scopeandstandardsacuteandcriticalcare2015.pdf>