WKU School of Nursing & Allied Health

NURS 508
Advanced Issues in Professional Nursing

Faculty

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Office hours –By appointment

The best way to contact me is by email. I check emails daily during the week and every 48 hours on the weekend and holidays. I am in practice on Mondays and will check emails at the end of the day.

Course Number	NURS 508
Course Title	Advanced Issues in Professional Nursing
Credit Hours	1 semester hour
Course Description	Analysis and synthesis of selected political, legal, ethical, socioeconomic, and technological issues impacting advanced nursing practice.

Course Objectives: At the conclusion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Analyze and synthesize the influence of political, legal, socioeconomic, and technological issues on advanced nursing practice.
2. Explore the statues and regulations that govern advanced practice nursing.
3. Analyze methodology utilized by advanced practice nurses to affect changes within the professional and political areas.

Goals of Course:

1. Understand the statues and regulations that govern your advanced practice nursing
2. Enhance the reading and understanding of current issues faced by advanced practitioners,
3. Provide insightful and scholarly evidence-based feedback to comments made by peers
4. Understand and demonstrate how APNs can participate in change

Instructional Methodology: This web-based course will use blackboard and a variety of instructional strategies, such as discussion board, online group activities, issues presentation,

Professional Meeting attendance with assignments and external link searches. Faculty believes graduate students are independent learners who are responsible for their own contribution to the learning effort. Therefore, students are expected to critically read, analyze and participate in all course activities.

Text:

1. American Nurses Association (ANA) (2021). *Nursing scope and standards of practice. 4th ed.* Washington D.C.:Author. (ISBN – 13- 9780999308868)

2. Buppert, C. (2023). *Nurse practitioner's business practice and legal guide (8th ed.).* Jones and Bartlett. (ISBN - 13- 9781284286434)

Both texts are **required** for this course. The ANA publication may be purchased online at http://www.nursingworld.org

3. American Psychological Association. (2020). *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (7th. ed.). Washington, DC: Author.

Additional Course Requirements
- Microsoft Word 2010 or later (NOT Microsoft WORKS) for submission of papers and assignments
- Power Point 2010 or later – these are available in all WKU computer labs.
- Blackboard – students must have a working knowledge. A Blackboard tutorial is available online.

Withdrawal from an Individual Class (while in progress)

For various reasons, it is sometimes necessary for a student to withdraw. Students will receive a failing grade if they cease to attend class without an official withdrawal from the Office of the Registrar. The last day to drop this course with a "W" is listed in the registration guide on the WKU.edu website under Quick Links. Students may withdraw from a full-semester course if meeting the requirements for "W" per the registration guide. The student should notify the instructor of the class AND their adviser in writing so that the student's plan of study can be reviewed and revised. Failure to follow this procedure could result in the student's failure to progress through the program in a timely manner.

Communication

Communication includes discussions in Blackboard and WKU email communications. All communications will be respectful and professional. Blackboard discussions and WKU email communications will be written in a formal business format (clear heading, salutation, concise content, and appropriate closing). Assignments will be posted in the course syllabus and/or in the Blackboard course. Email messages will be sent to individuals and groups of students via Blackboard to only **WKU email addresses**. Grades will be posted in the Grade Center on the Blackboard course site. Discussions/concerns about grades must be put in writing via WKU

email to the instructor within one week of when the grade is posted to Blackboard.

Campus Closure
In the event of WKU campus closure(s), please check with course faculty through Bb for alternate assignments and/or information. Hybrid courses will continue in the online format. Online courses will continue as scheduled.

Course Policies
Academic policies found in the Graduate Handbook and the WKU Graduate Catalog will be followed in this course.

- **American Psychological Association (APA) 7th edition format** *(in-text citations and references)* is required for written assignments.
- Students are responsible for keeping a copy of written assignments uploaded to Blackboard Discussion for grading.
- Students are responsible for assuring that Blackboard Discussion assignments are successfully uploaded for grading.
- Policy on written assignments: Students are required to meet pre-established deadlines for assignments.
- Late assignment will NOT be accepted UNLESS arrangements **PRIOR** to pre-established deadlines have been negotiated with faculty. Please DO NOT request an assignment extension unless *an unforeseen accident or illness* occurs. Student's failure to plan ahead, vacations, and working at your job are not acceptable reasons to ask for an extension, as these reasons do not meet the requirements of an unforeseen event.

EVALUATION
Your course grade will be based on the work outlined in this syllabus and schedule, as well as any additional work given. Grades are available on Blackboard. Any questions or comments regarding grades should be made within 72 hours of grades being posted
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The final course grade will be calculated as follows:

Assignment	Evaluates Course Outcome	Points
Issues Presentation	1, 3	100
Attend an APN Meeting Assignment*	1, 2	50
Discussion Board Participation	1, 2, 3	5 DB at 25 points
TOTAL		**275 points**

Graduate Program Grading scale:

A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79

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D	60-69

A grade of "B" or higher must be earned in this class to proceed in the program.

Assignment and Late Work:

1. **ALL** formal written assignments (final paper) are to be completed in **APA format** (cover and reference pages are not counted in the page limit). This does not relate to Discussion Board responses but must uses APA format for references.
2. Students are responsible for maintaining a copy of all written work.
3. Plagiarism Software (Safe Assign) will be used. All written assignments will be submitted to check for plagiarism before grading.
4. All assignments must be submitted electronically by 1159 PM CST of date due.
5. The grade earned for any assignment that is submitted after the due date will be reduced by a maximum of ten (10) percentage points. If more than 5 days late, zero credit will be given for that assignment.
6. It is the **student's** responsibility to keep up with class assignments. The class schedule has a clear due date for each assignment on it. If the schedule changes, a new schedule will be announced and distributed via email and Blackboard.

Work Submission:

All formal papers are to be typed and formatted according to APA style sheet through links in Blackboard. *Work must be submitted in the space provided for it on Blackboard. Papers must be submitted in .doc or .docx file format.* Papers not submitted in one of those file formats will receive a zero grade. Emailed assignments will not be accepted unless I specifically ask you to submit that way. You will have Assignment Drop Boxes for papers.
*** *Discussion board content **should** be entered into Bb and not uploaded as a file for the discussion. Uploaded files require extra work for peers to view and the assignment to be graded and will **not** be accepted and will result in a 50 % reduction in the overall grade.****

If you submit a file and realize that it was a draft or just not the right file in any way, simply send me an email with the correct file attached and let me know that the one with the email is the one to grade. No need to panic!

Likewise, **if Blackboard locks or is not available when you are trying to submit**, email me the file with that explanation, and then *when you next are able* (as in the next day), upload your file to Blackboard. You will have 24 hours past the deadline to do this. I will not grade your paper until a file is uploaded to Blackboard. This way I know you have it submitted on time, and you don't have to panic about Blackboard not playing fairly. I will compare the file submitted via email.

Technical Support

It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with technology and Blackboard nuances and observe WKU technology recommendations that can be found on the Information Technology Department website. The phone number for IT is 270-745-7000. Since this course is web-based, there may be an occasion(s) in which students cannot avoid technical difficulties. **If you are have technical difficulties that interfere with the submission of a timely assignment, you must notify the course instructor via email prior to the deadline *and* you must include your IT case number in your email *or* a copy of your email from IT that contains your IT case number.** Reported technical difficulties will be validated with WKU's IT department.

Required equipment
Bb: Access to the WKU Bb can be found through the WKU homepage by using the *Quick Links drop down box and clicking on My WKU*. You are responsible for checking for course updates and changes and you MUST have a WKU e-mail account/address for rapid communication with the instructor. WKU assigns all students an email account. It is all students' responsibility to check their WKU email account once every 24 hours for emails and notifications, as well as making sure that their email inbox is not full. All email communication is to be through your WKU email account.

Campus Resources
Students in this course have access to the WKU Library and to the WKU Writing Center either online or in person. Students are expected to utilize the WKU Library for research studies to support their scholarly work. If you need research studies that are not available at the WKU Library, please contact carol.watwood@wku.edu and ask her to obtain the research studies for you.
Do NOT pay for research studies, *as this is a service that is provided by the WKU Library.*
If students have difficulty with syntax, writing, APA citations, and/or APA references, they are expected to seek assistance at the WKU Writing Center. However, each student is responsible for the syntax and content of her/his paper(s).

Student Accessibility Resource Center
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 the first floor of the Downing Student Union, Room 1074. The phone number is 270.745.5004 and the email address is sarc@wku.edu. Please DO NOT request accommodations directly from the professor or instructor without a letter of accommodation from the Office for Student Disability Services.

ADA Accommodation
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, Room 1074. The SARC can be reached by phone number at 270-745-5004 [270-745-3030 TTY] or via email at sarc.connect@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.

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Title IX/ Discrimination & Harassment

Western Kentucky University (WKU) is committed to supporting faculty, staff and students by upholding WKU's Sex and Gender-Based Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation (#0.070) and Discrimination and Harassment Policy (#0.2040). Under these policies, discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct based on sex/gender are prohibited. If you experience an incident of sex/gender-based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct, you are encouraged to report it to the Executive Director, Office of Institutional Equity/Title IX Coordinator, Ena Demir, 270-745-6867 or Title IX Investigators, Michael Crowe, 270-745-5429 or Joshua Hayes, 270-745-5121. Please note that while you may report an incident of sex/gender based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct to a faculty member, WKU faculty are "Responsible Employees" of the University and MUST report what you share to WKU's Title IX Coordinator or Title IX Investigator. If you would like to speak with someone who may be able to afford you confidentiality, you may contact WKU's Counseling and Testing Center at 270-745-3159.

Artificial Intelligence:

Artificial intelligence (AI) tools are not permitted for any type of work in this class. If you choose to use these tools, your actions will be considered academically dishonest and a violation of the WKU Student Code of Conduct.

Regular and Substantive Interaction

The U.S. Department of Education requires that distance education courses must include regular and substantive interaction between students and faculty. For more information about Regular and Substantive Interaction at WKU, please visit the Regular and Substantive Interaction in Online and Distance Learning webpage.

In this course, regular and substantive interaction will take place in the following ways:
- Discussion boards with interactions between students and faculty
- Announcements
- Feedback on graded assignments
- Timely response to questions via email

Academic Honesty

"Western Kentucky University nursing students are expected to demonstrate a high standard of academic honesty in all aspects of their academic work and college life. Without intellectual integrity there cannot be genuine learning. Academic dishonesty represents a direct attack on this integrity. In taking tests and examinations, completing homework, laboratory and clinical work, writing papers, and using information technology, students are expected to demonstrate honesty. Cheating, plagiarism or other forms of academic dishonesty will lead to a failing grade on the assignment and/or a failing grade in the course. Repeat occurrences of this type of behavior can result in dismissal from the program" (Western Kentucky University, School of Nursing Student Handbook, 2014, p. 16).
"Academic Dishonesty-Students who commit any act of academic dishonesty may receive from

the instructor a failing grade in that portion of the coursework in which the act is detected or a failing grade in the course without the possibility of withdrawal. The faculty member may also present the case to the Office of the Dean of Student Life for disciplinary sanctions." "A student who believes a faculty member has dealt unfairly with him/her in a course involving academic dishonesty may seek relief through the Student Complaint Procedure" (Western Kentucky University Graduate Handbook, 2014-2015, p. 41). The Western Kentucky University Statement of Student Rights and Responsibilities can be found in the Western Kentucky University Undergraduate Catalog.

Plagiarism
Students' work is expected to be the result of their own thought, research, or self-expression. Plagiarism is the act of presenting the information, ideas, organization or phrase of another source without appropriate acknowledgment or credit given, <u>either intentionally or because of gross negligence</u>. Any act of plagiarism by a nursing student is not acceptable. Abstracted from Western Kentucky University Undergraduate Catalog.
"Plagiarism-Represent written work taken from another source as one's own is plagiarism. Plagiarism is a serious offense. The academic work of a student must be his/her own. One must give any author credit for source material borrowed from him/her. To lift content directly from a source without giving credit is a flagrant act. To present a borrowed passage without reference to the source after having changed a few words is also plagiarism" (Western Kentucky University Graduate Handbook, 2014-2015, p. 41).

Student work may be checked using plagiarism detection software. A score of zero will be applied to any assignment in which academic dishonesty has occurred. If it is considered cheating in the classroom, then it is considered cheating online. The Western Kentucky University School of Nursing Student Handbook (current issue) governs all policies and guidelines not specifically addressed in this syllabus.

Course Changes:

Faculty members reserve the right to make changes in the syllabus including adding or subtracting assignments or changing due dates if, in the opinion of the instructor, such changes will improve the course and/or enhance student learning. An updated syllabus will be given to students in writing by posting on the class blackboard site in such an event.

** Should you have any questions regarding the syllabus, please reach out**

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