

**WILMINGTON UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS
NUR 363
NURSE AS CAREGIVER: CHRONIC & PALLIATIVE CARE
BASIC COURSE INFORMATION**

COURSE TITLE: NURSE AS CAREGIVER: CHRONIC & PALLIATIVE CARE

COURSE NUMBER: NUR 363

I. COURSE OBJECTIVES

With successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Analyze conceptual foundations relevant to the continuum of chronic illness.
2. Examine the family as a client based on family assessment principles.
3. Evaluate nursing roles related to comprehensive individual and family care throughout the continuum of chronic illness.
4. Evidence critical thinking skills in class discussion, written work, online assignments, and oral presentations.

II. TOPICAL OUTLINE

1. **Objective:** Analyze conceptual foundations relevant to the continuum of chronic illness.
 - A. Selected terminology
 - B. Incidence, prevalence, and demographics of chronic illness/disability.
 - C. Factors influencing responses of client and care providers.
 - D. Structural, interpersonal, intrapersonal, and societal barriers.
 - E. Body Image, Sexuality, Stigma, Coping/Social Isolation, Financial Impact Altered Mobility, Rehabilitation, Advocacy, Teaching, Compliance, Change, Quality of Life, Complementary/Alternative Modalities, Palliative Care, End of Life Issues, Research, Community Resources, Assistive Technologies
2. **Objective:** Examine the family as a client based on family assessment principles.
 - A. Strategies and tools to assess structure, function, responses, and relationships in family systems.
 - B. Developmental Stages: individual and family
 - C. Physical, psycho-social, sexual, spiritual, ethical, & cultural considerations across the life span.
3. **Objective:** Evaluate nursing roles related to comprehensive individual and family care throughout the continuum of chronic illness.
 - A. Nursing roles as advocate, teacher, change agent, resource, and collaborator.
 - B. Nursing roles in palliative care.
 - C. Nursing roles in rehabilitation.
 - D. Nursing roles related to complementary/alternative modalities
 - E. Nursing roles in case management.
4. **Objective:** Evidence critical thinking skills in class discussion, written work,

online assignments, and oral presentations.

- A. Written work, oral presentations, and discussions reflect thoughtful consideration of topic.
- B. Statements are supported with information from class and the literature.
- C. Utilization of appropriate informational resources.

III. METHODOLOGY & POLICIES

- A. Teaching Methods
Interactive Lecture; Discussion; Group Activities; Student Presentations; Online/Independent Activities
- B. Evaluation Methods

Media Awareness Presentation (Objectives 1-4) 20%

This project is designed to assist the student in assessing how the media presents persons with chronic conditions. The student chooses a popular medium (video, book, or a series of magazine or newspaper articles) and provides a brief summary of relevant content. Discuss how 3 major concepts related to chronic illness are presented in the video/book/articles. Evaluate how this media influences public perception of others with disabilities and/or chronic illnesses. Further information will be provided by the instructor.

Journal (Objectives 1-4) 20%

This assignment is designed to examine the relationship of numerous personal, family, social, and health care concepts to chronic illness(es) and/or disability. For weeks 2-5, each student will choose and “assume” a chronic condition scenario. You will keep a *Journal* which relates your assumed chronic condition scenario to concepts in class readings. In designated weeks, you will be prepared to read your journal to the class as you share how the concepts relate to your condition.

You may handwrite your Journal and use first person language. Use the journal for class discussion to address the asterisked (*) items on the class schedule. Each week’s journal entry should mention the concepts of the week and should average 5 minutes in length. See grading form “Chronic Illness Journal Evaluation.”

Family Assessment Project (Objectives 1-4) 30%

The purpose of this project is to extend the student’s assessment skills to the family especially in terms of chronic illness and palliative care. Each student “assumes” an illness or disability and relates course concepts to this condition. Students will complete a family assessment, genogram, and ecomap. This paper is to be in APA format. Further guidelines for the formal paper will be provided by the instructor.

Research Article Review (Objectives 1-4) 10%

Students will review a peer reviewed research article related to course concepts. Students will create a “fact sheet” that outlines key components of the study and application to nursing practice. Students will share the information with classmates. Further information will be provided by the instructor.

Participation/Activities (Objectives 1 - 4) 20%

The success of this course depends on active participation and critical reflection by all students.

Please Note: A minimum grade of C- is required to pass this course.

IV. ATTENDANCE POLICY

College of Health Professions Attendance Policy: Because class sessions are highly interactive, any student's absence degrades the quality of learning for everyone.

The individual nursing faculty who is teaching the course must be contacted prior to class regarding absences or lateness in all cases except valid emergencies. The faculty member must approve all requests for exceptions to the University attendance policy. Note that the instructor has the right to lower the final course grade for any time missed.