



St. Luke's School of Nursing
at Moravian College
Bethlehem, Pennsylvania



NURSING 110: PROCESS AND INQUIRY: A HEALTH CARE PERSPECTIVE
Fall 2008

Janet A. Sipple, RN, EdD
Section B

Class Meets: Monday & Wednesday
2:30-3:40 PM

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Office hours at Moravian:
Monday & Wednesdays
11:30 AM – 2:00 PM
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Catalog/Course Description:

An introduction to the process of knowledge acquisition in relation to health care concepts. The focus is on developing students' intellectual capabilities as independent thinkers. Critical thinking is a basis for open inquiry into assumptions, beliefs and values about one's self in relation to human caring and health care. Students will utilize a variety of active learning strategies to explore concepts and issues related to health care. Course open to non-nursing majors.

....and what does this really mean?

When you "think" about it, most of the thinking that we have developed has occurred rather effortlessly. There are many factors that have affected how we think; some of which are from word of mouth as occurs in the family setting, others are from television, movies, or the popular press. Learning to think critically involves the practice of skills consciously and deliberately in order to take charge of your thinking. The class will focus on processes used in critical inquiry; therefore, there will be little lecture. Health care issues will be utilized as a focus for developing critical analysis thinking skills.

Course Objectives:

1. Establish beginning awareness of resources for knowledge acquisition related to health care concepts and issues.
2. Gain an increased appreciation of inquiry as a process foundational to personal and professional growth.
3. Analyze techniques useful to the process of inquiry.
4. Utilize principles of active learning inquiry in examining health care concepts or issues of interest.
5. Develop higher order thinking skills through critical analysis of readings.

6. Begin to appreciate multiple perspectives through group discussion and collaborative peer projects.

Required Texts:

Diestler, S. (2009). *Becoming a critical thinker: A user friendly manual (5th ed)*. Upper Saddle River, New Jersey: Pearson Prentice Hall.

Edson, M. (1999). *Wit: a play*. New York: Faber and Faber, Inc.

Tolstoy, L. (1960). *The death of Ivan Ilych and other stories* (R. Edmonds, Trans.). London: Penguin Books.

Recommended Text:

Hacker, D. (2006). *The Bedford Handbook (7th ed)*. Boston: Bedford/St. Martin's.

Course Requirements:

1. Class attendance is required. Students are expected to be prepared for all class meetings; that means having completed assignments prior to attending class. If unable to attend a class, please contact the instructor at least one hour before class via email or phone.

Any absence from class must be accompanied by an appropriate written verification of absence (physician's /nurse practitioner's note for illness or other written verification of emergency circumstances). Absences without this appropriate written verification will be considered as unexcused. **Based on a 4 point scale, a grade point reduction of .25 may be taken off the final course grade for each unexcused absence.**

Students are responsible for obtaining any notes, handouts, or other class items from classmates.

2. College policy will be followed relative to inclement weather. Please check the College web-site or call (610) 625-7995 for any announcements relative to weather and the cancellation of class.
3. Plagiarism is the intentional use of another's words or ideas as your own. This can range from using another individual's direct words or changing the words slightly (paraphrasing) without the appropriate citation, cutting and pasting from Internet sources without appropriate citation, to purchasing a paper from the Internet or a professional writing service. Evidence of plagiarism or academic dishonesty will be handled according to the college policy on academic honesty. Copies of the statement on academic dishonesty are published in the Student Handbook.
4. Learning activities stated on the topical outline section of this syllabus are to be completed prior to class time. The student can expect to work approximately 6-8 hours per week in preparing for this class.

5. Communication between instructor & student can be facilitated through the use of email. Students are expected to check their email every day/24-48 hours.
6. Students with disabilities who believe that they may need accommodations in this class are encouraged to contact the Learning Services Office as soon as possible to enhance the likelihood that such accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion.

Classroom Policy:

Adult behavior based on custom and tradition is expected at all times. Mutual respect of each other and consideration for ideas and opinions is required of all. Cell/laptop phone use including text messaging is inappropriate in the classroom.

Methods of Evaluation:

Some learning activities will be non-graded but designed to facilitate thought and/or processes involved in achieving learning outcomes.

The following are graded learning activities:

Graded learning activities:

Quizzes & Examinations		45%
• Homework	15%	
• Midterm	15%	
• Final	15%	
Formal Papers		30%
• Research/Reflection	15%	
• Reaction Paper	15%	
Collaborative Project		25%
• Collaborative Presentation	15%	
• Individual Presentation / Participation	10%	
Completed Portfolio		0%
	Total:	100%

Grading Policy:

1. Formal papers must be typed according to APA style (5th Ed.). Use of a computer and Internet access are required. Formal papers are to be submitted electronically.
2. Assignments are expected on or before their due date. Five points per day will be deducted from grade if assignments are handed in late.

The grading scale is as follows:

A = 93-100	C = 73-76
A- = 90-92	C- = 70-72
B+ = 87-89	D+ = 67-69
B = 83-86	D = 60-66
B- = 80-82	D- = 60-62

C+ = 77-79

F = <60

NURS 110 COURSE OUTLINE

Date	Topic	Learning Activity
Week 1		
M – 8/25	Course Overview: Strategies for effective learning	Course syllabus & requirements Student Information
W – 8/27	Foundations of Critical Thinking	Diestler: Chapter 1
Week 2		
M – 9/1	NO CLASS	
W – 9/3	Values / Ethics	Diestler: Chapter 2
Week 3		
M – 9/8	Critical Thinking Assessment	
	<i>Meet in Computer Lab</i>	
W – 9/10	Assumptions / Deductive Reasoning	Diestler: Chapter 3
Week 4		
M – 9/15	CT case application: Wit	View or Read: Edson (1999) <i>Wit: A play</i>
W – 9/17	Inductive Arguments	Diestler: Chapter 4
Week 5		
M – 9/22	Inductive Generalizations	Diestler: Chapter 5
W – 9/24	Reasoning Errors	Diestler: Chapter 6
Week 6		
M – 9/29	Database Searching; Primary & secondary sources	Selection of topic for collaborative project due

**CLASS SESSION will meet in
Reeves Library (Amy)**

W – 10/1 **Midterm Examination**

Week 7

M – 10/6 NO CLASS – FALL BREAK

Date	Topic	Learning Activity
W – 10/8	Evaluating the evidence: research vs. non-research	Bring research-based article on selected collaborative project to class
<u>Week 8</u>		
M – 10/13	Power of Language & Media	Diestler: Chapters 7 & 8 View <i>Wit</i> (video) on library reserve
W – 10/15	<i>Continued from above & discussion of media image of health care: Wit</i>	
W – 10/15 5:30 PM	Sipple Lecture: “ <i>Perspective in Global Health: Mission in Ahuas, Honduras</i> ”	Prosser Auditorium, The HUB Students are invited and encouraged to attend.
<u>Week 9</u>		
M – 10/20	Clinical judgment in nursing: The nursing process	Diestler: Chapter 9 Other assigned reading TBD
W – 10/22	<i>Continued from above</i>	
<u>Week 10</u>		
M – 10/27	Portfolio Discussion	Research / Reflection Due
W – 10/29	<i>Scientific writing: Overview of APA</i>	Bedford Manual (APA) reference list for assigned collaborative project
<u>Week 11</u>		
M – 11/3	Class Discussion	“Death of Ivan Ilych”
W – 11/5	Collaborative Group Meetings	
<u>Week 12</u>		
M – 11/10	Group Work: Constructive Criticism	
W – 11/12	Persuasive Speaking	

Week 13

M – 11/17 OPEN

W – 11/19 OPEN

Week 14

M – 11/24 OPEN

Date	Topic	Learning Activity
<u>Week 15</u>		
M – 12/1	Collaborative Project	
W – 12/3	Collaborative Project	
<u>Week 16</u>		
M – 12/8	Collaborative Project	
W – 12/10	Collaborative Project	
<u>Week 17</u>		
TBA	FINAL EXAM	