



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



**Nursing 115C: Foundations of Nursing and Healthcare  
Fall 2010**

**Class:**

Mondays & Wednesdays 7:30-8:40 AM

**Location:**

Moravian College South Campus,  
PPHC/SHILL/ Room 209

**Instructor:** Alma Anne Miles, PhD, RNCS

**Email:** milesa@moravian.edu

**Phone:** (610) 625-7862

**Office:** 102 Hamilton Hall

**Office Hours:** Mondays & Wednesdays 9:00-10:00 AM  
or by appointment (see BB for changes)

**Course Description:**

The process of critical thinking as a basis for open inquiry into assumptions, beliefs, and values about the discipline of nursing will be analyzed for nursing in a dynamic, multidisciplinary healthcare environment. Professional, historical, and socio-cultural issues, as well as ethical and legal standards, will be discussed within the context of healthcare challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

**Course Objectives**

1. Describe the evolution of professional nursing, nursing process and nursing theory.
2. Examine socio-cultural perspectives of health and health promotion.
3. Explain the process of inquiry and critical thinking in making decisions for evidence-based nursing care.
4. Explore nursing's role in promoting safe and quality care within a changing health care environment.
5. Develop an understanding of accountability as a member of the multidisciplinary health care team.
6. Recognize the importance of performance standards for professional and ethical practice.

This course provides an introduction to the process of knowledge acquisition in relation to nursing and health care concepts. The focus is on developing student's 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, nursing, and health care. Students will utilize a variety of active learning strategies to explore concepts and issues related to nursing and health care.

...and what does this really mean?

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, the classes and assignments will be focused on active learning processes. Nursing and health care issues will be utilized as a focus for developing critical analysis thinking skills.

**Course Credits/Unit/Hours**

Course Units: 1

Theory Hours: 3

Clinical Hours: None

**Prerequisites:** None

**Placement of course:** First year, fall term, required course for intended nursing majors

**Required Textbooks:**

Cherry, B & Jacob, S. (2008). *Contemporary nursing: Issues, trends, & management* (4<sup>th</sup> ed.). St. Louis, MO: Mosby Elsevier.

American Nurses Association, (2010). *Code of ethics for nurses with interpretive statements*. Silver Spring, MD: American Nurses Association.

American Nurses Association. (2010). *Nursing's social policy statement* (3<sup>rd</sup> ed.). Silver Springs, MD: American Nurses Association.

**Assess to Resources Required:**

American Psychological Association. (2010). *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (6<sup>th</sup> ed.). Washington, D.C.: American Psychological Association

Potter, P. & Perry A. (2009). *Fundamentals of nursing*: (7<sup>th</sup>). St. Louis, MO: Mosby Elsevier.

**Electronic Resource Required Access**

Nursing Student Undergraduate Handbook (2010-2011) Moravian College. Available at <http://home.moravian.edu/public/Nursing/UndergradHandbook.html>

**Items Available on Blackboard External Links:**

American Nurses Association. (2001). *Code of Ethics for Nurses with Interpretive Statements*. Silver Spring, MD: American Nurses Association. ISBN 978-1558-1017-60

**Course Requirements:**

1. **Class attendance is an expectation.** Students are expected to be prepared and attend all class meetings. This includes completing necessary assignments prior to attending class. Students who are not prepared for class may not be able to meet course standards and therefore are at risk for course failure. Arriving late to class is a distraction to those attending the class and will not be tolerated. The instructor reserves the right to deduct points off the student's final course grade after the second late arrival. Student will have 2 points deducted for each 5 minutes late and each following late arrivals.
2. **If unable to attend a class**, please contact the instructor via email, a minimum of one (1) hour prior to the start of the class session. **Failure to notify the instructor will result in one point off the final course grade. Absence due to illness requires written verification from a licensed physician or nurse practitioner. For each unexcused absence, the student course grade will be lowered one letter grade (i.e.: from an A to A-).** Holiday travel, routine medical appointments, and personal family vacations are not acceptable reasons to be absent from class or required learning activities. Students are responsible for obtaining any notes, handouts, or other class items from classmates. Students are encouraged to also review the *Attendance Policy in Nursing Student Handbook*.
3. **Use** of a computer, basic PC literacy, and Internet access are required.

4. **A Course Blackboard** is used for supplemental instruction in this course. Students are responsible for checking the Blackboard every 2 days for announcements and information posted there. Students experiencing difficulty with accessing the College network are accountable for seeking resolution from the CIT Help Desk within 24-48 hours.
5. **Completion of the course evaluation** (electronically available) before the last class meeting day of the term is required. This is an anonymous system required by the College in all courses. Failure to submit the course evaluation data will result in the withholding of the student's final course grade posting.
6. **Nursing students are held accountable for the policies** stated in the St. Luke's School of Nursing Student Handbook 2010-2011. The handbook may be found at the following <http://home.moravian.edu/public/Nursing/HandbooksPage.html>

### **Alternative Learning Programs**

In the case of unavoidable class absence due to pre-approved events and/or personal acute illness, a list of alternative learning options will be provided. Please notify the instructor in advance in the event a substitute assignment is indicated which will be subject to approval by the Instructor. A maximum of 2 substitutes for acceptable reasons may be made and each will require a written assignment report due at the following class session.

### **Course General Information**

1. Students are expected to maintain an electronic copy of all written work for replacement in case of lost papers. Such loss is unavoidable due to volume of papers being submitted in a semester.
2. The course topical outline serves as a general guide and is subject to change with classroom or email notification to students. There are three sections of NURS 115 and each may be run by the Instructor in a different manner, content, or schedule. Be aware of this fact when you are exchanging information with other students who may be in a different section of the course.
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 to purchasing a paper from the Internet or a professional writing service. Refer to the **Moravian College Academic Honesty Policy** in the Student Handbook. APA format is required for all written assignments.
4. Students are encouraged to participate in the full range of the college community programs, events, and sports. These events are routinely scheduled to begin at 4:00 PM; therefore, students should not request to leave class early to participate in extra curricula events.
5. Instructor absence – In the event of acute illness of the instructor, a substitute teacher will cover the class or an alternative will be assigned via Blackboard. Should a class session need to be cancelled it will be announced on the course Blackboard or posted on the classroom door. Every attempt will be made to notify the student in advance.
6. 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.
7. Disability accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) cannot be provided until authorization is received from the Office of Learning Services. Students who wish to request accommodations in this class should contact Joseph Kempfer,

- Assistant Director of Learning Services for Disability Support, in the Learning Services office (610-861-1510).
8. Communication between instructor & student can be facilitated through the use of email. Students are expected to check their email every day or two. The instructor will respond in a timely manner, however usually the instructor does not check emails after 6:00 PM or before 6:00 AM.
  9. 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.
  10. Nursing students are held accountable for the Nursing Department policy stated in the School of Nursing Student Handbook 2009-2010. The handbook may be found on the P drive of the college at **<http://home.moravian.edu/public/Nursing/UndergradHandbook.html>**. The student will be required to sign a statement that this information was announced to them as part of this course content.
  11. Students who wish to improve their writing or are experiencing issues in writing will be referred to the College Writing Center. This is an excellent resource available to students in support of being a successful student. All students may take advantage of this resource

#### **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. Chewing gum, hats, and food are inappropriate to a collegiate classroom setting. **Students will be responsible to adhere to the *Classroom Guidelines for courtesy & respect*.** This document will be reviewed, discussed and agreed upon in class and will then be posted on blackboard.

#### **Methods of Evaluation:**

Quizzes & Examinations (40%)	
• Quizzes/In-class work/homework	20%
• Midterm exam	10%
• Final exam	10%
Formal Papers (45%)	
• Reflective papers	15%
• Scholarly paper	20%
• Research reflections	10%
Projects (15%)	
• Historical/theorist nursing presentation	5%
• Group project	10%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>

Note: The Moravian College nursing program is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education. As part of the accreditation process the program must provide evidence of assignments completed by students. Any of the methods of evaluation used in this course, may be used as evidence of student assignments during the accreditation process.

### **Directives for Assignments**

A general guideline will be posted on Blackboard to assist students in understanding the expectation for assignments with regard to academic performance

#### **Teaching Strategies:**

- Seminar/discussion
- Required readings and internet searching
- Thinking exercises
- Group Projects
- Media/film critique
- Written paper, oral presentation
- Case study
- Self-reflection

### **Core Curriculum Components :**

<b><u>Community</u></b>	<b><u>Holism</u></b>	<b><u>Inquiry</u></b>	<b><u>Professionalism</u></b>
Health Care	Health	Critical Thinking	Accountability
Culture	Health Promotion	Nursing History	Collaboration
Health Care Systems	Wellness	Evidence-Based	Professional Values
Human Diversity		Practice	Standards: Legal
			Ethical
			Nursing Process
			Multidisciplinary
			Team

### **GRADING POLICY:**

1. Assignments are expected on or before their due date both for class and clinical. If class assignments are submitted late, five points per day will be deducted from the grade. The grading scale is as follows:

A =93-100	B- =80-82	D+ =67-69
A- =90-92	C+ =77-79	D =63-66
B+ =87-89	C =73-76	D- =60-62
B =83-86	C- =70-72	F = <60

2. Any student with a physical, psychological, medical, or learning disability should contact the Director of the Learning Center to arrange for appropriate support services to be able to meet the requirements of this nursing course.

## **NURS115: TOPICAL OUTLINE**

- I. Nursing** –What is it? What is it not?
- II. Professional Values**
  - A. Evolution of Professional Nursing
    - 1. Historical context
    - 2. Current context
  - B. Nursing Theories & Theorist
- III. Critical Thinking**
  - A. Ways of Knowing
  - B. Critique of literary or media influences on health care
- IV. Information Literacy**
  - A. Primary vs. secondary sources
  - B. Database searching
  - C. Controlled vocabulary
- V. Scholarly Writing**
  - A. Critique of literature
  - B. APA Style
- VI. Professional Accountability**
  - A. Professional Standards
    - 1. Nurse Practice Act
    - 2. Credentialing: Accreditation and Licensure
    - 3. Quality and Safety: IOM, NDNQI
    - 4. Nursing: Scope and Standards of Practice
    - 5. Nursing's Social Policy Statement
    - 6. Multidisciplinary collaboration
  - B. Ethical Theory and Principles
    - 1. Values, Morals, and Ethics
    - 2. Ethical Principles
    - 3. Ethical Decision-Making Process
    - 4. Code of Ethics for Nurses with Interpretive Statements
  - C. Legal Issues
    - 1. Sources of Law
    - 2. Types of Law
    - 3. Elements of Liability for Malpractice
    - 4. Client Rights: Informed Consent, Advance Directives, Confidentiality
- VII. Connecting Critical Thinking to Clinical Judgment**
  - A. Nursing Process and Nursing Diagnosis
  - B. Gordon's Functional Health Patterns
  - C. Evidence Based Practice

### **VIII. Concepts of Health and Wellness**

- A. Cultural Relevance & Culturally Competent Health/Nursing Care
- B. Health Care Policy
- C. Health Promotion and Illness Prevention
- D. Cultural Context of Health
- E. Global Perspectives
- F. Healthy People 2010

Please note while the instructor will try to hold to the flow of the course outline, it may change over the course of the semester. Students will receive notification of syllabus changes in class or through electronic communication