



Course Syllabus

NURS 4153-201 – Community Health Nursing

Robert D. & Carol Gunn College of Health Sciences & Human Services
Fall 2025

Contact Information

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Office hours: Appointment by text or email

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Class Times & Place:

Monday, Wednesday and Friday every other week (off-clinical weeks)

1700-1650-Centennial Hall - Room 101

All fifth semester scheduled exams will be given at 1300. Class will move to 1500-1650 on dates when Clinical Decision Making (CDM) or Nursing Childbearing Family (NCF) have scheduled exams.

Prerequisites / Co-requisites:

Student will be eligible to be a graduating senior by either being enrolled in NURS 4013 and/or NURS 4613 or will have completed those courses. NURS 4152 is the clinical component of NURS 4153.

Credit Hours:

Five credit hours to include three (3) lecture hours and two (2) clinical hours (90 hours for the semester). Weekly times will change throughout the clinical assignments to meet the needs of the assigned agencies and schools.

Course Description

The focus is on application of holistic nursing principles in the community. Application of nursing process within the community will be explored. Utilization of epidemiological data, health promotion, disease prevention, health planning/teaching, and issues of diversity will be emphasized at the local, state, national, and global levels.

AACN Essentials:

For further information regarding the AACN Essentials identified for each course objective, refer to <http://www.aacn.nche.edu/education-resources/baccessentials08.pdf>

DEC Competencies:

In the DEC Competencies below, the following designations apply: I: Member of a Profession II. Provider of Patient-Centered Care, III: Coordinator of Care, III: Patient Safety Advocate and IV: Member of the Health Care Team. For further information regarding the competencies identified for each course objective, refer to <http://www.bon.texas.gov/about/pdfs/delc-2010.pdf>

Course Objectives

Objectives		AACN Essentials	DEC Competencies
Upon completion of the course, the student should be able to:			
1.	Discuss the development of community health practice and community health nursing from a theoretical and historical perspective.	I,VII	II. E
2.	Discuss the concepts of wellness in communities and quality of care.	IV,V,VI,V II	IV. A
3.	Apply the concepts of health promotion and disease prevention to individuals and families in the global community	IV,VII,VI II,IX	III. C
4.	Synthesize knowledge to develop sustainable wellness programs.	IV,VII,VI II,IX	IV. A
5.	Examine the impact of cultural diversity on health promotion and disease prevention within the global community.	VII	IV. C
6.	Analyze the impact of vulnerable populations on health promotion and disease prevention within the global community.	VIII	IV.C
7.	Based on research findings analyze community needs and global health to identify interventions for wellness programs.	II, III	IV. A ,B
8.	Identify community resources for health promotion and disease prevention based on current research.	III, V	IV. B, c
9.	Discuss and analyze the role of programs such as coordinated school health in the wellness of a community.	VII	IV. C
10.	Demonstrate a nursing role in identifying and coordinating community health resources to meet the needs of individuals and families within the community.	I,II, V,VI, IX	II. B, C, D, E
11.	Describe the nurse's role in community preparedness, global health and bioterrorism.	II	III. C
12	Demonstrate understanding of epidemiological principles in health promotion and disease prevention.	II,VII	III. B, C

Textbook & Instructional Materials

Required Textbook:

Stanhope & Lancaster. (2022). *Foundations for Population Health in Community/Public Health Nursing*, 6th Ed.

Midwestern State University BSN Handbook.

Textbook and laptop computer are required for all classes.

Learning Experiences:

Lecture, group work, projects, assigned readings with open-book online quizzes, web-based educational assignments, and community clinical assignments comprise the learning experiences for this course. Students are expected to be self-directed in the acquisition of basic community health nursing knowledge. Students should arrive for lecture and clinical prepared to participate, having read assignments and completed quizzes prior to class. Students are encouraged to ask questions for clarification purposes as appropriate during the didactic and clinical learning experiences.

Grading

Assignment	Grading Percent
Module Exams (3)	60%
Online Open Book Quizzes (7)	15%
Community Assessment (+15 clinical hours)	5%
Behavior Change Project (+15 clinical hours)	5%
Program Planning / Community Health Fair (+ 15 clinical hours)	5%
Clinical Grade	10%
Total	100%

Total percent for final grade. The final exam average of 74% or above is required to successfully pass this course, regardless of the overall grade average. Online quizzes are due at midnight on Sundays, and cannot be made-up for any reason.

No grades will be rounded.

Grading Scale:

Grade	Percent
A	90-100
B	80-89
C	74-79
D	65-73
F	64 and below

Individual questions and concerns should be handled through an email directly to the instructor using the email address at the top of this syllabus or through D2L email. Students must use the MSU Student Email system. Contact information for the instructor is listed at the beginning of this syllabus.

The instructor will respond or at least acknowledge email messages from students within a maximum of two (2) business days when MSU is in session. Beyond standard university holidays and breaks, the instructor will notify students of any extended periods of time when email contact is not practical (professional meetings, etc.). The instructor will be available to meet with any interested students by request. Meetings are optional and must be confirmed by email ahead of time with the instructor.

Desire-to-Learn (D2L)

Extensive use of the MSU D2L program is a part of this course. Each student is expected to be familiar with this program as it provides a primary source of communication regarding assignments, examination materials, and general course information. You can log into [D2L](#) through the MSU Homepage. If you experience difficulties, please contact the technicians listed for the program or contact your instructor.

Attendance:

Students are expected to attend all meetings of the classes in which they are enrolled. Although in general students are graded on intellectual effort and performance rather than attendance, absences may lower the student's grade where class attendance and class participation are deemed essential by the faculty member. Some assignments will be completed in class for which credit will only be given to students who are present. Each class meeting is critical to overall success in the course. The student must be vigilant in both classroom and online attendance. Students must also be vigilant in logging onto D2L. Regular checks will ensure that messages from the faculty are received in a timely manner. Strict adherence to the schedule is required. See the Course Schedule for specific information about activities and due dates.

Assignments

Community Assessment / Windshield Survey (15 clinical hours)

Students will be assigned teams to complete a Windshield Survey / Community Assessment to identify strengths and weaknesses of a census tract, formulate a nursing diagnosis, and suggest possible nursing solutions. This assignment counts as **15** clinical hours and counts as **5%** of your grade.

Behavior Change Project (15 clinical hours)

Each student will perform a personal health risk assessment and work to change a behavior to reduce a health risk and to improve their health this semester. This awards **15** clinical hours and counts **5%** of the final grade.

Program Planning / Community Health Fair (15 clinical hours)

Student teams will plan and implement a Community Health. Program planning and implementation will count **15** clinical hours. This project counts **5%** of the final grade.

Child Protection Training (1 clinical hour)

Taken during the first week of school in preparation for clinical assignments for School Nursing. On the MSU homepage, check **"Search MSU", and click on "Child Protection."** Upload certificate to the Drop Box. This content will count **1** clinical hour and will be on Exam I.

Culturally & Linguistically Appropriate Services in Nursing (4 clinical hours)

<https://thinkculturalhealth.hhs.gov/education/nurses>

There are 4 parts of this program - **you need to complete all 4.** Upon completion of ALL parts, upload certificate showing ALL parts to the Drop Box. (This content will count as **4** clinical hours and will be on Exam III.)

Module Exams

Three (3) exams comprised of 50 questions will be administered using Examsoft. The student will be given 80 minutes for each exam. The exams will reflect content from in-class discussions, assigned readings, and activities. Module exams will comprise 60% of the final grade. In order to pass the course, the combined exam average must be at least 74%, regardless of the overall grade average.

If a student anticipates their absence from an exam, *notification must be provided to the course instructor at least two hours prior to the exam.* Notice of absence due to an unexpected cause must be provided to the instructor as soon as possible following the incident. Failure to comply with this policy will result in a zero for the exam. Make-up exams will be offered at the discretion of the instructor. Following a missed exam, failure to attend the scheduled make-up exam will result in the recording of a grade of zero (0) in the gradebook.

Online Textbook Quizzes

Seven (7) online (open book) textbook quizzes will be over chapters in the textbook related to upcoming class subjects. The online quiz passwords are "Quiz 1", Quiz 2", etc. The dates these are due at midnight on dates listed in the calendar. They can be taken any time but must be completed before the listed closure dates and cannot be made up for any reason. These quizzes count 5% of the course grade.

Late work:

Late work will be accepted under exceptional circumstances, subject to a penalty. Students must communicate with the instructor in advance or as soon as possible afterwards to discuss the situation.

Missed Quizzes or Other Graded Item Policy:

Assignments that are not completed and submitted as scheduled will be subjected to a "0" for that specific grade. Circumstances that may prevent you from completing an assignment as schedule must be communicated to the instructor prior to the due date. All assignments must be completed by the end of class on the due date (with the exception of online quizzes due by 11:59 pm on the date due.

Course Requirements

1. Students must complete all the components of the course to pass.
2. Classroom and clinical performances (campus and clinical experiences) will be evaluated. Students are expected to pass both and clinical and classroom components of the course. Failure in either one will constitute failure in the course.

Clinical Requirement

You are required to score at least **85% clinical grade average** within the course. Less than 85% clinical grade average, results in a failure of the course. Students who fail clinical will receive an "F" as the course and clinical grade.

Clinical Components

Community Assessment/Windshield Survey	15 hours
Behavior Change Project.....	15 hours
Program Planning / Health Fair	15 hours
Clinical Agencies.....	40 hours
Online Courses.....	5 hours
Total.....	90 hours

Clinical Attendance

Students are expected to attend all clinical experiences that are scheduled. Students are responsible for notifying their clinical instructor if they must be absent from clinicals. Students are also to notify the agency of the absence as well. Unless it is an emergency, notification must be *prior to the scheduled clinical experience*. All clinical time missed must be made up to pass the class. Any clinical absences will be made up at the discretion of the faculty member and will be scheduled by the faculty.

Clinical Agency Competence

Clinical Competence will be graded by the Clinical Instructor using the **Daily Clinical Evaluation** form in the areas of **Preparation** (0-4 points), **Professionalism** (0-2 points), and **Performance** (0-4 points) for a maximum of 10 points per clinical assignment. Assignments will be made to Community Health Center, WFISD School, Home Health, Hospice, Faith Mission/Refuge, and Outpatient Infusion/Wound Care. Participation in clinical will exemplify professional community nursing. Students must comply with guidelines and contract stipulations at their clinical site. The clinical preceptor will fax a clinical evaluation to the clinical instructor (see form in D2L content). There will also be clinical paperwork for all agency and school clinicals. The student submits all clinical paperwork via the drop box **within one week** of the clinical experience. ***Failure to submit clinical paperwork on time may result in the need to repeat the clinical experience.***

Dress Code

The goal of the dress code is to present a professional appearance that does not compromise communication, safety, or infection control. Refer to the BSN Student Handbook for general dress code requirements. Refer to Clinical Information – Clinical Agencies under Content in D2L for specific information about Dress Code for each Clinical Agency. Appearance that presents less than a professional appearance will not be allowed. Failure to comply with the agencies dress codes can result in clinical failure in the course.

Professional Image

Students are to present a professional image **at all times**.

1. Behaviors that detract from the learning process or disruptive behavior will NOT be tolerated. Professional appearance and behavior is expected in class as well as clinical.
2. Students must be prompt to clinical. In the event of an emergency that might necessitate your tardiness, you are to contact the **clinical instructor and agency representative**. A re-assignment of a make-up clinical will be done if deemed more appropriate.
3. Beepers and cellular phones are to be muted during all class sessions and clinical experiences so that others will not be disturbed. You are only allowed to use cell phones during breaks away from the clinical setting or after the clinical experience is over.

Clinical Failure

Clinical failures are earned by students who fail to meet the objectives of the clinical experience, students who fail to uphold the ANA Practice Standards and the ANA Code of Ethics, students who fail to maintain patient safety, and students who fail to complete all of their clinical hours. **Students must score 85% or greater on clinical grade requirements to pass the course.**

Failure Policy

1. Students must meet all course requirements or a grade of F will be assigned.
2. Students are expected to pass both clinical and classroom components of the course. Failure in either clinical or classroom will result in failure in both. Clinical failure results in a course and clinical grade of F. Classroom failure results in the grade earned in the classroom for both course and clinical.
3. A student who withdraws/drops or receives a D or an F in two nursing courses must seek reentry to the nursing program to be eligible to continue in the program.
4. The faculty reserves the right to recommend to the School of Nursing Chair and College of Human Services and Health Sciences Dean withdrawal of a student from the nursing program for health, legal, or academic reasons, particularly if

client care is jeopardized. In addition, the student must perform within the ANA Standards of Practice and Code of Ethics.

STUDENTS ARE NOT TO ADMINISTER MEDICATIONS UNLESS DIRECTLY SUPERVISED BY A FACULTY MEMBER OR PRECEPTOR

Failure of the clinical component of the course occurs when the student receives an unsatisfactory rating in any area of the evaluation tool or does not complete the 90 hours of clinical. Absences will be rescheduled at the discretion of the clinical instructor.

Certain behaviors result in an unsatisfactory rating in the professional behavior section of the evaluation rubric. Please understand that these infractions can occur during the same clinical and result in a failure.

Refer to the BSN Student Handbook for “Infractions constituting clinical failure”.

Midterm Progress

Students making unsatisfactory grades at midterm will be reported to the Registrar. Midterm grades will not be reported on the student’s transcript; nor will they be calculated in the cumulative GPA. They simply give students an idea of where they stand at midpoint of the semester. Students earning below a C at the midway point should schedule a meeting with the professor and seek out tutoring through the Tutoring & Academic Support Programs (link to the website <https://msutexas.edu/academics/tasp/>).

Board of Nursing (BON) Requirements

Students were expected to be compliant with current CPR certification, immunizations, TB testing, health and liability insurance, drug screen and criminal background checks, throughout the semester. Contact the school secretary at 397-2802 if you have questions about your compliance. TB testing needs to be repeated every 12 months.

Online Computer Requirements

This class requires you to have access to a computer (with Internet access) to complete and upload your assignments. It is your responsibility to have a working computer in this class. *Assignments and tests are due by the due date, and personal computer technical difficulties will not be considered reason for the instructor to allow students extra time to submit assignments, tests, or discussion postings. Your computer being down is not an excuse for missing a deadline or exam!!* If you have technical difficulties in the course, there is also a student helpdesk available to you. The college cannot work directly on student computers due to both liability and resource limitations however they are able to help you get connected to our online services. For help, email D2Lhelp@msutexas.edu

Instructor Class Policies

1. Students are accountable for information in the learning management system (D2L). Communication for this course will be through D2L News.
2. Personal computers will be utilized for testing purposes. Students are accountable to maintain their charge on the computers or bring an extra battery for testing.
3. You are expected to participate in class discussions and be a good team member.

College Policies

Classroom Etiquette

Students are expected to act respectful to all peers, faculty, and guests during online environment, face-to-face, and in clinical settings. Cell phones and pagers must be turned off or placed in silent mode before class begins. Should emergency communication need to be made, the student must step outside of the classroom.

Students are responsible for lecture/discussion content, all assigned readings, and audio-visual materials on written exams. If the lecture material is more current than the textbook, lecture material takes precedence.

Weather Closure Practices

In the event of severe weather conditions or other emergencies, class cancellations and closure information will be communicated through official campus channels, including MSU Alert, MSU Safety app, Postmaster (email), and the MSU website. Students are advised to check these platforms regularly for updates and follow safety guidelines provided by the institution. Adjustments or modifications to scheduled class content will be communicated through D2L.

MSU Student Handbook

Refer to: [MSU Student Handbook](#)

Instructor Drop

An instructor may drop a student at any time during the semester for excessive absences, for consistently failing to meet class assignments, for an indifferent attitude, or for disruptive conduct. The instructor must give the students a verbal or written warning prior to being dropped from the class. An instructor's drop of a student takes precedence over the student-initiated course drop of a later date. The instructor will assign a grade of either WF or F through the 8th week of a long 45 hours semester, the 6th week of a 10 week summer term, or the 11th class day of a 4 or 5 week summer term consisting of 20 days. After these periods, the grade will be an F. The date the instructor drop form is received in the Office of the Registrar is the official drop date. Refer to page 27 at <https://msutexas.edu/student-life/assets/files/handbook.pdf>.

Academic Dishonesty

All students are expected to pursue their scholastic careers with honesty and integrity. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating on a test or other course work, plagiarism (offering the work of another as one's own), and the unauthorized collaboration with another person. Students found guilty of dishonesty in their scholastic pursuits are subject to penalties that may include suspension or expulsion from the University.

All written work submitted for evaluation is to be the work of the student who submits it. The faculty considers collaboration during examinations or obtaining previous test questions from past students as cheating and cheating is in violation of Midwestern State University Policy. A score of zero (0) will be given for students participating in collaboration of tests and any other paperwork.

By enrolling in this course, the student expressly grants MSU a "limited right" in all intellectual property created by the student for the purpose of this course. The "limited right" shall include, but shall not be limited to, the right to reproduce the student's work product in order to verify originality and authenticity, and for educational purposes.

Use of Artificial Writing Generators

The use of any artificial writing generator (ex: Chat GPT) is strictly prohibited. The use of artificial writing generators can and will be deemed a violation of the university's honor system. Any or all parts of a written assignment identified as having elements of writing attributed to an artificial writing source will automatically receive a zero (0) for a grade. Students will not be allowed to make up those assignments. This course uses software that detects AI generators. For more policy information regarding cheating and plagiarism, see the Honor System section in this syllabus. PLEASE NOTE, by enrolling in this course, the student expressly grants MSU a "limited right" in all intellectual property created by the student for the purpose of this course. The "limited right" shall include but shall not be limited to the right to reproduce the student's work product in order to verify originality and authenticity, and for educational purposes. Specifically, faculty may submit student papers and assignments to an external agency to verify originality and authenticity and to detect plagiarism.

Honor System

HSHS 1013 adheres to the MSU Code of Conduct. In particular, academic dishonesty, however small, creates a breach in academic integrity. A student's participation in this course comes with the expectation that his or her work will be completed in full observance of the MSU Code of Student Conduct. A student should consult the current Student Handbook for answers to any questions about the code.

Many components of HSHS 1013 are designed to be highly interactive with students helping each other learn. Students are encouraged to take full advantage of many resources available including online D2L course resources, Internet sites, other textbooks and journals, faculty, and peers when answering objectives. This interactive collegial learning environment is conducive to lifelong learning. Specific components of HSHS1013 are designed to represent the efforts of each student INDIVIDUALLY and are

NOT to be shared or copied (plagiarized) from other sources. When students submit their efforts for grading, they are attesting they abided by this rule. Cheating includes, but is not limited to, (1) use of any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, or examinations; (2) dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or completing other assignments; or (3) the acquisition of tests or other academic materials belonging to the university faculty or staff without permission.

Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to, the use of, by paraphrase or direct quotation without correct citation in the text and on the reference list, the published or unpublished works of another person. Students may NOT submit papers and assignments that they have previously submitted for this or other courses. The use of materials generated by agencies engaged in "selling" term papers is also plagiarism. Students are encouraged to review the tutorials and suggested websites for more information about plagiarism. Papers and other assignments may be submitted to an external agency for verification of originality and authenticity. Academic dishonesty (cheating, plagiarism, etc.) will not be tolerated in this class. Whenever a student is unsure of whether a particular situation will be interpreted as academic dishonesty, he/she should ask the instructor for clarification. If students are guilty of academic dishonesty, a grade of zero (0) may be given for the quiz, assignment, etc. Cases may also be referred to the Dean of Students for possible dismissal from the university.

Services for Students with Disabilities

In accordance with Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Midwestern State University endeavors to make reasonable accommodations to ensure equal opportunity for qualified persons with disabilities to participate in all educational, social, and recreational programs and activities. After notification of acceptance, students requiring accommodations should make application for such assistance through Disability Support Services, located in the Clark Student Center, Room 168, (940) 397-4140. Current documentation of a disability will be required in order to provide appropriate services, and each request will be individually reviewed. For more details, please go to [Disability Support Services](#).

Campus Carry Policy

Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes has prohibited. The new Constitutional Carry law does not change this process. Concealed carry still requires a License to Carry permit, and openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit [Campus Carry](#).

For more information regarding campus carry, please refer to the University's webpage at <https://mwsu.edu/campus-carry/rules-policies>.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact MSU Chief of Police

Steven Callarman, phone 940-397-4638. Email: steven.callarman@msutexas.edu

Active Shooter

The safety and security of our campus is the responsibility of everyone in our community. Each of us has an obligation to be prepared to appropriately respond to threats to our campus, such as an active aggressor. Please review the information provided by MSU Police Department regarding the options and strategies we can all use to stay safe during difficult situations. For more information, visit [MSUReady – Active Shooter](#). Students are encouraged to watch the video entitled "Run. Hide. Fight." which may be electronically accessed via the University police department's webpage: ["Run. Hide. Fight."](#)

Alcohol and Drug Policy

To comply with the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989 and subsequent amendments, students and employees of Midwestern State are informed that strictly enforced policies are in place, which prohibits the unlawful possession, use or distribution of any illicit drugs, including alcohol, on university property or as part of any university-sponsored activity. Students and employees are also subject to all applicable legal sanctions under local, state and federal law for any offenses involving illicit drugs on University property or at University- sponsored activities.

Grade Appeal Process

Students who wish to appeal a grade should consult the Midwestern State University [Undergraduate Catalog](#)

Administrative Process

Unresolved issues related to this course should be first addressed between the student and the course instructor. If there is no resolution, students must follow this sequence:–
Chair/Associate Professor - Dr. Robin Lockhart (940-397-4614)
College Dean – Dr. Jeff Killion (940-397-4594)
Dean of Students – Matthew Park (940-397-7500)

Notice

The information contained in this syllabus is for information purposes only and may change at the discretion of the faculty.

The course calendar is provided on D2L as a separate document.

