



**Course Syllabus: Community Health Nursing  
Midwestern State University  
Wilson School of Nursing  
NURS 4153 (Fall 2023)**

**Teaching Team**

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**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.

**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.

**Textbooks**

Stanhope & Lancaster. (2018 or 2022). *Foundations for Population Health in Community/Public Health Nursing*, 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> Ed.  
*Midwestern State University BSN Handbook.*

**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>

<b>Objectives</b>		AACN Essentials	DEC Competencies
Upon completion of the course, the student should be able to:			
1.	Apply the concepts of risk reduction, health promotion and disease prevention for individuals and populations in the community.		
2.	Incorporate health disparities and social determinants of health in caring for culturally diverse and vulnerable populations.		
3.	Based on research findings, assess the community and its strengths and weaknesses to identify needs for health and wellness improvement.		
4.	Identify the nurse's role in global health, epidemiology, advocacy, emergency preparedness, bioterrorism, and environmental health.		
5.	Describe the nursing role within community agencies that protects the health and meets the needs of individuals and populations within the community.		

### **Learning Experiences**

Lecture, group work, projects, assigned readings with 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.

### **Class Participation**

Students are expected to post a photo (head shot only) on the D2L class roster (no full length, group shots, family portraits, pets, glamour shots, hats, sunglasses, etc.). This is part of your participation grade.

Students are expected to participate in all class activities. Participation includes being attentive and not engaging in activities other than taking notes. There will also be assignments that will be done in class that students will not receive credit for if absent from class for any reason. Students are responsible for notifying their instructor of any absences. Unless it is an emergency, notification must be prior to the scheduled time of the classroom or clinical experience. Excessive unexcused absences from either classroom or clinical experiences will result in removal from the course at the discretion of the faculty.

### **Communication**

1. Communication with the instructor through D2L emails MUST indicate it is from student's Last Name, and "COMMUNITY" in the subject line. If you have a question submitted by email, and it pertains to the entire class, the answer will appear in "News" rather than e-mail so that everyone will see it.

2. All announcements for the course will also be posted in "News" on D2L.
3. All questions regarding clinicals will be sent to Professor Cordova.
4. Students are to check e-mail and "News" frequently and to respond to messages within the week.
5. The faculty is expected to respond to the course email within the week it is sent. Faculty is not expected to respond on evenings or weekends. Feedback on assignments can be expected within two weeks of the assignment due date

**Cell Phone/Smart Watch/Electronics**

All cell phones or smart watches should be deactivated (OFF) during classes. No text messaging or instant messaging during class. Cell phones or smart watches cannot be used during tests or at any other time faculty deem inappropriate. No electronics are permitted during classes without permission from the faculty. If an electronic device is allowed, the student must maintain the integrity of the classroom setting and refrain from using the electronic device for anything other than the task at hand (i.e. recording of faculty, social media, personal emails, playing games, doing work for other classes, etc.). This prevents the device from becoming a distraction in the classroom.

**Classroom Courtesy**

Students are expected to come prepared and ready to begin the class promptly. A 5-minute break will be given about the midpoint in the class and should be used appropriately without disruptions during class. If you must leave the room during class, do not return until the break.

**Evaluation**

Exams (3) .....	65%
Online open book quizzes (7).....	10%
Community Assessment (+ 12 clinical hours).....	8%
Behavior Change Project (+ 15 clinical hours) .....	8%
Program Planning / Health Fair (+ 15 clinical hours).....	8%
Participation.....	1%
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Grading Scale**

Grades will be based on whole number scores. Grades are NOT rounded up.

90 - 100 .....	A
80 - 89 .....	B
74 - 79 .....	C
65 - 73 .....	D
<64 .....	F

**Exams**

There will be 3 module exams this semester counting 65% of the final grade and 7 open book online quizzes counting 10%. In order to pass the course, the combined exam average must be at least 74%, regardless of the overall grade average.

## **Exam Instructions**

1. All exams will be computerized and given during class. Students are responsible for having a compatible computer on which to take the exams. Bring your laptop to class on exam day.
2. Exams will be conducted through D2L using a lockdown browser.
3. The desks in CE 101 do not provide electrical outlets. It is the student's responsibility to provide an alternative charging source to ensure computer battery remains charged.
4. Each unit exam will be comprised of 50 questions and will be worth 100 points. Seventy five (75) minutes will be allowed for each exam.
5. Using resources other than your own memory will be considered academic dishonesty and result in an automatic zero on the exam.
6. Taking exam questions from the classroom will be considered academic dishonesty and result in an automatic zero on the exam.
7. Presence of a device capable of making a call, texting, or recording either text or voice in the classroom during the testing period will be considered academic dishonesty and result in an automatic zero on the exam whether the device was on or off and whether you had submitted the exam.
8. No food or drink allowed during exams.
9. When you have finished, upload your exam and close your computer prior to leaving the classroom.
10. Failure to return the scrap paper with your name on it prior to leaving the classroom will be considered academic dishonesty and result in an automatic zero on the exam.
11. We will NOT discuss the answers until the item analysis is completed and all students have taken the exam.

## **Missed Exam**

Students are expected to take exams on the day they are scheduled. Should the student be absent from an exam, arrangements must be made according to the procedure found in the B.S.N. Student Handbook. Specifically, it is the student's responsibility to notify the course coordinator at least two hours prior to the exam. Failure to comply with this policy will result in a "0" for the missed exam. Any make-up exam may be different from the original exam and may include multiple choice, essay, short answer, true/false, and/or matching questions. All make-up exams must be taken prior to the next scheduled exam.

## **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/>).

## **Assignments**

### **Community Assessment / Windshield Survey (12 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 solutions. This assignment counts as **12** clinical hours and counts as **8%** 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 **8%** of the final grade.

### **Program Planning / Health Fair (15 clinical hours)**

Student teams will plan and implement a Health Fair project. Program planning and implementation will count **15** hours. Print project and submit to the Dropbox. This project counts **8%** of the final grade.

### **Child Protection Training (1 clinical hour)**

<https://secure.msutexas.edu/personnel-training/Child-Protection/> Taken during the first week of school in preparation for clinical assignments for school nursing. Print your certificate and submit in the Dropbox. (This content will be on Exam I.)

### **Health Care Practitioner Human Trafficking Prevention Training\_(1 clinical hour)**

<https://hhs.texas.gov/services/safety/texas-human-trafficking-resource-center/health-care-practitioner-human-trafficking-training> Print your certificate and submit in the Dropbox. (This content will be on Exam II.)

## **Cultural Competency Certification (6 clinical hours)**

<https://ccnm.thinkculturalhealth.hhs.gov/>

There are 3 parts of this program - **you only need to complete the first TWO**. Upon completion of both parts, print your certificate (that shows completion of both parts) and submit in the Dropbox. (This content will be on Exam III.)

## **ProMED-mail**

<http://www.promedmail.org/>

Each team will select a current global disease outbreak (approved by the instructor) and follow its spread (numbers & locations) on **ProMED-mail**. The first report will include information about the disease, method of transmission, symptoms, and recent outbreaks, with follow up reports by other team members every 3-4 weeks on global outbreaks of that disease. Each student in the team is expected to give a report. A single form to keep track of those reports will be submitted to the Drop Box when all reports are completed. Completion of these reports is part of your participation grade.

## **Late Assignments**

Contact the instructor immediately whenever you determine that an assignment will be late. Grade adjustments and penalties will be given as warranted. Contact the instructor immediately if circumstances exist that will make your work late.

## **Clinical Components**

Community Assessment/Windshield Survey .....	12 hours
Behavior Change Project.....	15 hours
Program Planning / Health Fair .....	15 hours
Clinical Agencies.....	40 hours
Online Courses.....	8 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 Competence**

All clinical components (attendance, participation and assignments) will be graded as **Pass / Fail**. All clinical components of the course must be completed with a passing grade to successfully complete the course.

The clinical instructor, in collaboration with the clinical preceptor, will use the Grading Criteria for the Community Clinical Components to evaluate competence in clinical performance. All components must be completed with a grade of "Pass" to successfully complete the course.

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.*

Clinical Competence will be evaluated through establishment and completion of individual clinical objectives, and interaction with clinical instructor and preceptors. Participation in clinical will exemplify professional community nursing. Students must comply with guidelines and contract stipulations at their clinical site. In order to successfully complete the clinical, a clinical evaluation must be completed by the preceptor and faxed to the clinical faculty. Talk with your clinical faculty for further information.

### **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 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”.**

### **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 397-2808 if you have questions about your compliance. TB testing needs to be repeated every 12 months.

### **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 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.

**Refer to the BSN Handbook for Cheating Policy , Plagiarism Statement and MSU Student Honor Creed.**

### **Academic Misconduct Policy & Procedures**

This course 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.

Students are encouraged to take full advantage of many resources available including online Desire 2 Learn course resources, Internet sites, other textbooks and journals, faculty, and peers when accomplishing objectives. This interactive collegial learning environment is conducive for life-long learning.

However, all components of the course are designed to represent the efforts of each student individually or each group of students when completing a



group project and are not to be shared, copied, or plagiarized from other sources. When students submit their efforts for grading, they are attesting they abided by this rule.

Academic dishonesty includes cheating, collusion, plagiarism or the acquisition of tests or test questions and other academic materials such as test banks without the permission of the faculty. Cheating, collusion, or plagiarism is defined as: (1) cheating - intentionally using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, equipment, or study aids in any academic exercise; (2) collusion - the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing work offered for credit; (3) plagiarism - intentionally representing the words or ideas of another as one's own in any academic exercise.

Academic dishonesty (cheating, collusion, 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 or she should ask the instructor for clarification.

Any student found to be academically dishonest as defined above and under each assignment will automatically receive a grade of "0" on the assignment.

### **COVID-19 Policies**

All students will need to monitor their health and if they believe they have been exposed to COVID-19 or are exhibiting symptoms related to COVID-19, they will need to self-report on the MSU Texas Report COVID-19 Website. Students will then need to follow any instructions regarding quarantine or isolation as given to them by the Vinson Health Center.

Students at clinical facilities will be required to observe any personal protective equipment (PPE) and vaccination policies of the facility. Students unable or unwilling to comply may request relocation to another facility subject to the above conditions. Relocation is never guaranteed, and students unable to be relocated will have to withdraw from the clinical course.

Students are encouraged to visit the MSU Texas Coronavirus Update page. If students have any questions about the COVID-19 policy for their program, they should contact their department chair.

### **University Policies**

#### **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](https://msutexas.edu/student-life/_assets/files/handbook.pdf).

### **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 page 24 at [https://msutexas.edu/student-life/\\_assets/files/handbook.pdf](https://msutexas.edu/student-life/_assets/files/handbook.pdf)

### **Change of Schedule**

A student dropping a course (but not withdrawing from the University) within the first 12 class days of a regular semester or the first four class days of a summer semester is eligible for a 100% refund of applicable tuition and fees. Dates are published in the Schedule of Classes each semester.

### **Refund and Repayment Policy**

A student who withdraws or is administratively withdrawn from Midwestern State University (MSU) may be eligible to receive a refund for all or a portion of the tuition, fees and room/board charges that were paid to MSU for the semester. HOWEVER, if the student received financial aid (federal/state/institutional grants, loans and/or scholarships), all or a portion of the refund may be returned to the financial aid programs. As described below, two formulas (federal and state) exist in determining the amount of the refund. (Examples of each refund calculation will be made available upon request).

### **Smoking/Tobacco Policy**

College policy strictly prohibits the use of tobacco products in any building owned or operated by MSU TEXAS. Adult students may smoke only in the outside designated-smoking areas at each location.

### **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.

### **Campus Carry**

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 as 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 allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit [Campus Carry](#).

### **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 [Safety / Emergency Procedures](#). Students are encouraged to watch the video entitled "*Run. Hide. Fight.*"

### **Grade Appeal Process**

Update as needed. Students who wish to appeal a grade should consult the Midwestern State University MSU Catalog

**The Course Calendar is provided on D2L as a separate document.**

Please note: This is the official course syllabus for student use this semester, and students enrolled in this course will be held accountable for its contents. The Community Nursing faculty reserves the right to make additions or changes to this syllabus on D2L at any time. If a change is made, it will be announced in the "News" on D2L.