



Course Syllabus: Clinical Decision-making and Clinical
College of Health Sciences and Human Services
NURS 4613 and 4612
Fall 2019

Contact Information

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Course Description

This course is an application of clinical judgment skills. Emphasis is placed on integrating previously learned concepts and theories with the student in the role of coordinator of care. Critical thinking is applied in resolving actual clinical problems.

Pre-requisites: Family Health Nursing Care II and Clinical, Pediatric Nursing Care and Clinical, and Leadership
 Credit hours: Five credit hours with three lecture hours and six clinical hours per week

Course Objectives

<p>AACN Essentials: For further information regarding the AACN Essentials identified for each course objective, refer to http://www.aacnnursing.org/Portals/42/Publications/BaccEssentials08.pdf</p> <p>DEC Competencies: In the DEC Competencies below, the following designations apply: I: Provider of Patient-centered Care, II: 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/pdfs/publication_pdfs/delc-2010.pdf</p>		
Upon completion of this course the student should be able to:	AACN	DEC
1. Apply the theories and concepts learned throughout the program to clinical situations.	I, VII	I - A, B, C, D II - A, B, C, D, E, F III - B, D, E, F IV - C, D, E, V
2. Utilize problem-solving approaches in recognizing and meeting patient care needs.	I, IX	I - B, C, D II - B, D
3. Apply clinical judgment skills in the coordination of patient care.	I, IX	I - A, B II - B, C, D, E III - B
4. Implement the nursing role of coordinator of care.	II, VI, VII, VIII, IX	I - B II - B, C, D, E III - B, F IV - A, C, D, F
5. Integrate effective communication, research, and teaching-learning principles in coordinating patient care.	II, IV, VI, VII, VIII, IX	I - B II - A, B, C, F III - B, D, E IV - A, C, D, E, F
6. Evaluate effective and non-effective nursing interventions in providing care to patients.	I, II, IV, VII, VIII, IX	I - B, D II - B, C III - B IV - D
7. Examine the legal, ethical, cultural, economic, and spiritual issues related to the care of patients.	II, VII, VIII, IX	I - A II - B, C III - E, F

Required Textbooks and Supplies

Lewis, S.L., Bucher, L., Heitkemper, M.M., Harding, M.M, Kwong, J., & Roberts, D. (2017). Medical-surgical nursing (10th ed.). St. Louis, MO: Elsevier. ISBN: 978032332854.

Elsevier NCLEX-RN Success Package (includes NCLEX-RN online review, Adaptive Quizzing, and HESI Exit Exam) (Obtain from the bookstore) (See instructions on Content Module in D2L labeled Test for Success Package)

Lippincott DocuCare. Purchase website is

<https://lippincottdirect.lww.com/NursingEducation-MidwesternStateUniversityWichitaFalls-Fall2019>

Class codes:	Section 101 – Prof. Anderson	– F5EDAFE6
	Section 102 – Prof. Close	- 5EA7A268
	Section 103 – Prof. Platt	- A8DEBF00
		(0 is zero)

Top Hat (will receive an e-mail to purchase and join the course)

Nursing Central.

Examplify for ExamSoft access

Laptop computer that meets the Technology Requirements posted in D2L

Learning Experiences

Students are expected to be self-directed in the acquisition of basic nursing knowledge. Learning activities available to students include by are not limited to:

1. Course activities (NURS 4613): Information relevant to each unit of study will be presented in class. Students should come to class prepared to participate using Nursing Central resources.
2. Clinical (NURS 4612): A total of 90 clinical hours will be completed.
3. Readings (NURS 4613 and 4612): Assigned readings are essential for each unit of study.
4. Desire 2 Learn (D2L) supplement: Is available as a communication tool. Students are expected to check their D2L course for course announcements each 24 hours.
5. Midwestern State University BSN Handbook: Is available from the MSU homepage. Refer to: [BSN Student Handbook](#)

MSU Student Handbook

Refer to: [MSU Student Handbook](#)

Grading

Table 1: Course Grade

*Assignments	Percentage
**Unit Exams (4 exams each worth 16% of total grade)	64
***Test for Success	11
***Clinical Documentation (five at 3% each)	15
***Course Activities	10
Total	100

Table 2: Course Grade Calculation

*The final course grade will be calculated in the following manner:
*There will be no rounding of grades except as necessary to accommodate the electronic testing and grade book limitations.
**Students must score at least a 74% average on the four unit exams. This is called the exam average. Students who pass clinical but do not earn at least a 74% average for the exam average will receive the exam average as the course and clinical grade.
***Students who earn at least a 74% average on the exam average will have the clinical and course activities grade included as the course and clinical grade.

Table 3: Grading Scale

Grade	Points
A	90-100
B	89-80
C	74-79
D	65-73
F	Less than 65

Midterm Progress

In order to help students keep track of their progress toward course objectives, the instructor for this course will provide a Midterm Progress Report through each student's WebWorld account. 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/>).

Course Activities

1. Throughout the semester, course activity points are offered. Students who complete the assignments when offered, earn the points.
2. Some of the course activity points are provided through the Top Hat platform.
3. Course lectures will be provided through the Top Hat platform and include course activities within them.
4. There are no make-up assignments for course activities.
5. Two missed-course activities will be dropped and the average of the remaining points will be used as the course activities grade in the calculation of the grade after a 74% exam average is obtained on the four objective exams.

Test for Success

1. Each student will complete the 10 modules and comprehensive exam within the NCLEX Review Course and the 8 adaptive quizzes to mastery in the Elsevier Adaptive Quizzing program. Each student will complete the Evolve Exit Exam.
2. Due dates have been assigned for each module as listed below and in the calendar of the review course.
 - 9/6/19 – module 1: Developmental Stages and Transitions
 - 9/13/19 – module 2: Health Promotion and Disease Prevention
 - 9/20/19 – module 3: Mental Health Concepts
 - 9/27/19 – module 4: Psychosocial Alterations
 - 10/4/19 – module 5: Management of Care
 - 10/11/19 – module 6: Safety and Infection Control
 - 10/18/19 – module 7: Basic Care and Comfort
 - 10/25/19 – module 8: Pharmacology and IV Therapies
 - 11/1/19 – module 9: Monitoring for Health Problems
 - 11/8/19 – module 10: Physiological Health Problems
 - 11/15/19 – Comprehensive Exam
3. Module completion consists of completing all the lessons within the module as well as the end of module exams.
4. Mastery testing must be completed by 2359 on November 15, 2019.

5. Points will be awarded as such:
 - a. 10 points for each module including the module exam completed by the due date (total 100 points)
 - b. 10 points for the comprehensive exam completed by the due date (total 10 points)
 - c. 10 points for each adaptive quiz at mastery level completion by the due date (total 80 points)
 - d. 10 points for completing the Evolve Exit Exam, 10 points for earning at least an 850 to 899 on the Evolve Exit Exam, and 10 points for earning at least a 900 on the Evolve Exit Exam (total 30 points)
 - e. Grade will be calculated as the total points earned divided by the total possible points. There are 220 possible points. The grade will be added to the course grade after earning at least a 74% for the exam average.

Exams

1. Exam Soft requires loading Examplify application for taking course exams. Exam Soft is purchased online each semester.
2. 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.
3. Students are responsible for having a compatible computer or tablet on which to participate in the course activities and take the exams.
4. Exam unit exam will be comprised of 45 multiple-choice questions and 5 Math for Nurses questions. Exams begin at 1300 in CE 101 and the testing period is 80 minutes.
5. The Evolve Exit Exam is comprised of 160 multiple-choice and alternate format questions. The exam will begin at 1300 in CE 101. The testing period is 240 minutes. Each student will need earphones or a headset to hear the audio questions.
6. Exam Soft will provide students with user identity codes, initial passwords, and instructions on how to load Examplify. Students must maintain ready access to user identity codes and passwords on exam days. If these access codes are not available for use, the student runs the risk of not taking an exam and earning a grade of zero.

Missed Exams

Should the student be absent from an exam, it is the student's responsibility to notify the course coordinator at least two hours prior to the exam or as soon as possible if an emergency is the cause of missing the exam. Students may make-up exams on the two make-up exam sessions as documented on the course calendar.

Failure to comply with this policy will result in a zero for the exam(s) missed. Any make-up exam may be different from the original exam and may include multiple choice, essay, short answer, true and false, and/or matching questions.

Nursing Program 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.

University Policies

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>.

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 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.

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 47 at <https://msutexas.edu/student-life/assets/files/handbook.pdf>.

Campus Carry Rules/Policies

Senate Bill 11 passed by the 84th Texas Legislature allows licensed handgun holders to carry concealed handguns on campus, effective August 1, 2016. areas excluded from concealed carry are appropriately marked, in accordance with state law. For more information regarding campus carry, please refer to: [Campus Carry Rules and Policies](#)

Smoking/Tobacco Policy

College policy strictly prohibits the use of tobacco products in any building owned or operated by WATC. 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.

Grade Appeal Process

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

Notice

Changes in the course syllabus, procedure, assignments, and schedule may be made at the discretion of the instructor.

Clinical Requirements

Clinical Hours Breakdown

Simulation experiences - 6 hours

 Three two-hour experiences - 6 hours

Epic training and clinical orientation – 7 hours

Patient care experiences - 77 hours

 Six twelve-hour experiences - 72 hours

 Five DocuCare assignments – 5 hours

Clinical Compliance Requirements

Students are required to be compliant with immunizations, health insurance, liability insurance, and CPR via Castlebranch for the entire semester. Failure to maintain compliance will result in academic withdrawal from the course.

Simulation experiences

1. Each student is to self-schedule in D2L using the group function.
2. Students are to wear the approved dress code attire and bring a pen, paper, watch with second hand, blood pressure cuff, stethoscope, exam gloves, lab pack supplies, penlight and tape measure.
3. The student is to notify the Simulation Center prior to the experience if the student needs to cancel an appointment or reschedule the experience.

4. Rescheduling of simulation experiences is on an available basis. Should there be no option for the student to complete the experience, then the student will need to seek the assistance of the clinical instructor to make-up the clinical hours.

5. Reasons for non-approval of a simulation absence are:

- a. Failure to notify the simulation lab prior to being absent.
- b. Being absent for a reason other than personal illness or family or personal emergency situation.
- c. Failure to show documentation of personal illness or family or personal emergency situation.

Patient-care experiences

1. Each student is scheduled for six patient-care experiences with a preceptor from the agency.

2. Students are to report to the clinical agency by 0630, wearing the approved dress code attire and in possession of the required supplies (stethoscope, penlight, watch with a second hand, tape measure, and a pen).

3. A thirty-minute lunch time will be provided during these time. Students may bring their lunch or purchase one at the clinical facility.

4. Absences from the patient care clinicals must be approved by the clinical instructor. The student must inform the clinical instructor before being absent from the clinical experience. The student must complete an absence form and submit it to the clinical instructor before rescheduling missed clinicals. If the instructor does not approve the absence, the student will not have an opportunity to reschedule the absence and will fail the clinical component of the course.

5. Reasons for non-approval of a clinical absence are:

- a. Failure to notify the instructor prior to being absent.
- b. Being absent for a reason other than personal illness or family or personal emergency situation.
- c. Failure to show documentation of personal illness or family or personal emergency situation.

6. The student is to complete an evaluation of the preceptor following each clinical experience and attach it within one week to the dropbox in Desire 2 Learn.

7. Once a clinical experience is completed, the post-clinical DocuCare documentation is due by 1700 one week after completion of the experience.

8. The assignments are graded using the rubric published in Desire 2 Learn.

Infractions Constituting Clinical Failure

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 all 90 hours of clinical. Absences will be rescheduled at the discretion of the course coordinator.

Clinical is defined as any activity that earns the student clinical hours and includes but is not limited to patient care experiences, simulation experiences, skill practice and testing sessions, orientations, and clinical meetings.

Certain behaviors result in an unsatisfactory rating in the professional behavior section of the evaluation rubric or some form of remediation as deemed appropriate by the course faculty.

Students who receive five or more infractions within the program are no longer eligible to progress in the program. Students may repeal the decision to be removed from the program by submitting to the Student Affairs Committee a paper that explains why they should be allowed to remain in the program. The decision of the committee is final.

Three incidents of infractions to the standard of professional behavior to include but not limited to:

- Arriving to a clinical experience without bringing a completed pre-clinical assignment or the pre-simulation assignment even if allowed to stay in the clinical
- Not conforming to the dress code even if allowed to stay in the clinical
- Not bringing appropriate supplies to the clinical experience even if allowed to stay in the clinical
- Unprofessional/inappropriate language or gestures
- Unprofessional/inappropriate behavior such as disrespectful behavior, chewing gum, using tobacco products in non-smoking areas, disruptive behavior, or failure to comply with a written or verbal instruction
- Arriving late to any clinical site even if allowed to stay in the clinical
- Non-compliance with the policy to notify the instructor and the agency of a clinical absence prior to the absence or as soon as possible if immediate notification is not possible
- Non-compliance with the policy to receive written prior approval before attending the clinical and/or the policy to notify the clinical instructor of absences prior to missing the clinical or as soon as the student realizes he/she must leave the clinical experience
- Leaving the premises without permission from the clinical instructor
- Failure to complete assignments by the due dates
- Failure to return from meals or breaks at the assigned time
- Use of a cell phone for calling, texting, e-mailing, or receiving calls, texts, or e-mails in the clinical area unless given permission by the clinical instructor

Two incidents of infractions to the standard of professional behavior to include but not limited to:

- Disregarding patient confidentiality without malice or intent to disclose
- Patient negligence that does not result in patient injury
- An error in care that does not result in patient injury
- Cheating, collusion, plagiarism, or stealing. Cheating/collusion/plagiarism - cheating means intentionally using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, or study aids in any academic exercise; collusion means the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing work offered for credit; plagiarism means intentionally representing the words or ideas of another as one's own in any academic exercise
- Committing two infractions from the list above as well as one in this list

Infractions to the standard of professional behavior that results in immediate failure of the clinical component of the course to include but not limited to:

- Administering medications or implementing sterile or invasive procedures without the direct supervision of a faculty member or preceptor
- Failing to check two patient identifiers prior to administering medications or implementing sterile or invasive procedures
- Failing to maintain compliance with clinical requirements
- An error in care or patient negligence that harms a patient
- Falsification, omissions or lying
- Intentionally revealing confidential information
- Placing self, staff, or patient at risk of harm due to abandonment of duties and/or sleeping during clinical experiences
- Failure to report a patient care error or incident
- Physical or verbal abuse of patients, patient's family members, faculty or staff
- Testing positive for illicit drugs or alcohol results in immediate ineligibility to continue in the program

Dress Code

The goal of the dress code is to present a professional appearance that does not compromise communication, safety, or infection control. Appearance that presents less than a professional appearance will not be allowed.

Clinical Uniform

- School uniform of matching maroon pants or skirt and maroon tunic top is the required uniform.
- Undershirts, if worn should be plain (solid, no adornments or logos, no patterns) and white, black, gray, or maroon that matches the uniform.
- Pants cannot touch the floor and must be hemmed properly.
- When sitting down, bending over or squatting down, or raising arms there can be no gap at the waist between the uniform pant and the top showing skin or underwear.

- No cleavage can be showing.
- Uniform must be well-laundered, without wrinkles, beyond what occurs during typical wear, and fit appropriately.
- Skirts must be knee length or longer, but may not touch the floor, must be properly hemmed and allow for ease of movement.
- Clean and closed toe and heel shoes that are black, gray, white, or maroon that matches the uniform are to be worn.
- Socks and hosiery must match either skin color, uniform or shoes.
- Proper MSU identification (MSU or approved clinical agency name tag and MSU patch). The MSU patch is obtainable at the bookstore and is to be sewn on left sleeve, centered and 1" from shoulder seam.
- MSU nametag must contain the name of the university, name of the student, designation of student, and a photograph of the student. The nametag is obtained through Card Services at the Clark Student Center.
- If a student desires a cover, he/she may wear a matching maroon scrub jacket with the appropriate name tag and MSU patch sewn on left sleeve, centered and 1" from shoulder seam.
- Hair must be self-contained and unadorned and must be a natural hair color. Any containing articles such as head wraps, barrettes, bands, or clips must be plain (solid, no jewels, adornments, patterns, or logos) and same color as hair, or white, black, gray, silver, gold, or maroon that matches the uniform.
- Hair may not fall forward past shoulder/neck area or fall over eyes when leaning over at the waist.
- Sideburns, beards, and mustaches must be clean and neatly trimmed.
- Hats or caps are not allowed.
- Short natural and clean fingernails are required. Nail enhancements are not allowed to include polish, dips, tips, overlays, acrylics, or gels. Tips of nails may not be seen when looking at the hands from the palm side up.
- Hygiene must include being clean without fragrances or strong odors.
- No jewelry other than a plain wedding ring (band) and a watch with an analog second hand are allowed.
- Visible body piercings may not contain any jewelry, gauges or spacers.
- If a clinical requires "professional dress" other than the Nursing Uniform, the student will be asked to wear a maroon polo shirt and pants or a skirt that is black, gray, khaki, or maroon that matches the maroon polo shirt with the appropriate name tag.
- Clinical agencies retain the right to refuse access to any student whose appearance is deemed inappropriate. For this reason, visible tattoos should not contain symbols, drawings or wording likely to be deemed offensive.
- The nursing uniform may not be worn when working outside of clinical experiences.