

Concepts in Clinical Reasoning and Judgment
NURS 4842
Spring 2021

Location

Tuesday 1000-1150 in Centennial Hall Room 340

Faculty/Course Coordinator

Stephanie Baker, MSN, BS, RN

Office

Centennial Hall N440F

Office: (940) 397-6371

Cell: (919) 648-3228

stephanie.baker@msutexas.edu

Office Hours

By Appointment

Email: Desire2Learn (D2L) is required for this course and is the preferred site for all communications between the course coordinator and students. If, for any reason, access to D2L is a problem, please notify MSU Distance Education at <http://distance.mwsu.edu/distance/OPRS/OPRS.asp>, or feel free to contact the course coordinator by campus email at stephanie.baker@mwsu.edu

Prerequisites

NURS 3813 Concepts of Pharmacology in Nursing Practice; NURS 3853 Concept in Caring for the Adult Client; NURS 3863: Concepts in Caring for the Pediatric Client; NURS 3873: Concepts in Mental Health Care; NURS 3882: Service Learning 1; NURS 4123: Data analysis

Co-requisites

NURS 4813: Concepts in Leadership in Nursing; NURS 4823: Concepts in Community Health; NURS 4833: Concepts in Caring for the Childbearing Family; NURS 4842: Concepts in Clinical Reasoning and Judgment; NURS 4852: Service Learning 2

AACN Essentials

For further information regarding the AACN Essentials identified for each course objective, refer to [AACN Essential Resources](#)

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 in each course, refer to [TX BON DEC Competencies](#)

Objectives	AACN Essentials	DEC Competencies
1. Apply 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,F
2. Use problem-solving approaches in recognizing and meeting client care needs.	I, IX	I: B,C,D II: B,D
3. Use the nursing process to plan, implement and evaluate nursing care.	II, VI, VII, VIII, IX	I: B II: B,C,D,E III: B,F IV: A,C,D,F
4. Apply clinical judgment skills in the planning, implementation and evaluation of nursing care.	I, IX	I: A,B II: B,C,D,E III: B
5. Implement effective communication, research and teaching-learning principles in providing nursing 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 nursing care.	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 clients.	II, VII, VIII, IX	I: A II: B,C III: E,F

Course Content

1. Clinical decision-making
2. Reducing error potential
3. Prioritizing assessments
4. Using diagnostic findings in clinical decision-making
5. Implementing best practices and protocols
6. Responding to changes in client condition

Credit Hours

Three (2) credit hours.

Learning Experiences

Students are expected to be self-directed in the acquisition of nursing knowledge. Learning activities available to students include:

1. Classroom activities (NURS 4842): Information relevant to each unit of study will be presented in class. Students should come to class prepared to participate using the various sources identified as course text/reference books or on-line sites.

2. Readings: Assigned readings are essential for each concept/unit of study. Content included in assigned readings may not necessarily be discussed in class but will be testable material!

3. Desire 2 Learn (D2L) supplement is available for announcements, questions, and discussions. Students are expected to check D2L daily for course announcements.

4. Midwestern State University BSN Handbook found [here](#)

Required Textbooks (Same as used in NURS 3853 and Electronic Textbooks may be used)

Exam Soft requires access to Exemplify for taking course exams (Exam Soft must be purchased on-line at the start of every semester).

Hinkle, J. L. & Cheever, K. H. (2018). *Brunner & Suddarth's Textbook of Medical-Surgical Nursing*, 14th ed. Philadelphia, PA: Lippincott Williams & Wilkins.

Giddens, J. F. (2017). *Concepts of nursing practice* (2nd ed.). St. Louis, MO: Mosby Elsevier. ISBN: 978-0-323-37473-6 (Used during summer 2017 courses).

TopHat Join Code is **797206**

Nursing Central e-references. Students will purchase "forever" access to Nursing Central e-references directly from the company after an email message is received from that company. All clinical research should be done using these e-references.

Personal laptop computer/iPad which meets Wilson SON system requirements for computer testing. Refer to handout entitled "Technology Requirements" on course D2L site, Course Contents, Computer Testing tab.

Taylor, C. R. (2015). *Fundamentals of nursing: The art and science of nursing care* (8th ed.). Philadelphia, PA: Lippincott Williams and Wilkins. (Same fundamentals text used during summer 2017)

Evaluation Methods

*The final course grade will be calculated in the following manner:

Evaluation Components	Percentage of Final Grade
• *Exam: Unit I	25%
• *Exam: Unit II	25%
• *Exam: Unit III	25%

Evaluation Components	Percentage of Final Grade
• **Concept Analysis Assignment	15%
• **TopHat Quizzes/Participation	10%
• ***Total	100%

*There will be no rounding of grades.

**Per the BSN Student Handbook: Students must score at least a 74% average on the three objective exams in the course to successfully complete the course. If students score less than a 74% average on the three objective exams, the average of the three objective exams will be the final grade for the course.

***Once the student has scored at least a 74% average on the three objective exams, the average of the course activities will be added representing 25% of the final grade.

Grading Scale Letter Grade	Grading Scale Numerical Conversion
A	90-100
B	80-89
C	74-79
D	65-73
F	≤64

Exams (75% of course grade)

1. There are three unit exams. A total of 80 minutes will be provided to complete each unit exam on the laptop computer/iPad
2. Each unit exam will be comprised of 45 multiple choice questions and five fill-in-the-blank math for nurses/dosage calculation problems. Each exam will be worth a total of 100 points.
3. Unit objectives are found at the beginning of each assigned chapter. These objectives will help you focus on what to study for each exam. Required readings are found on the course calendar.
4. Students will be held responsible for lecture/discussion content, all assigned readings, and audiovisual materials on written exams. When the lecture material is more current than the textbook, lecture material takes precedence.
5. Unit exams will be taken on the student's personal laptop/iPad using Exam Soft and Softest. During exams, students must comply with the Wilson SON computerized testing policy (refer to policy on course D2L site, Course Content section, Computerized Testing tab.) Cell phones must be turned off and placed in a location away from the student during exam administration.
6. All exams are required.

Top Hat

We will be using the Top Hat (www.tophat.com) classroom response system in class for attendance and participation. You will be able to submit answers to in-class questions, some for participation credit and some for correctness credit, using Apple or Android smartphones and tablets, laptops, or through text message.

You can visit the Top Hat Overview ([TopHat Overview](#)) within the Top Hat Success Center which outlines how you will register for a Top Hat account, as well as providing a brief overview to get you up and running on the system.

An email invitation will be sent to you by email, but if don't receive this email, you can register by simply visiting our course website: Unique Course URL

Note: our Course Join Code is **797206**

Should you require assistance with Top Hat at any time, due to the fact that they require specific user information to troubleshoot these issues, please contact their Support Team directly by way of email (support@tophat.com), the in app support button, or by calling 1-888-663-5491.

Missed Exams

If a student is to be absent from an exam, he/she must notify the course instructor at least two hours prior to the exam. Failure to comply with this policy will result in a "0" for the exam. Make-up exams may be constructed differently from the unit test. The student must email, or call, the course faculty to schedule a make-up exam.

Math for Nurses (Dosage Calculation Competency)

During each exam administration, five medication dosage calculation problems will be included and will be monitored by course faculty. Students who miss more than one dosage calculation problem on each exam (less than 80% correct) are recommended to seek remediation regarding dosage calculation skills.

Testing Development and Effectiveness

If students make a grade of less than 74% on a unit exam, it is recommended that students meet with the course faculty for exam review/remediation strategies at least one [1] week prior to the next scheduled exam.

Should the student be absent from an exam, arrangements must be made per the procedure found in the B.S.N. Student Handbook. Specifically, it is the student's responsibility to notify the course coordinator.

Failure to comply with this policy will result in a "0" for the exam missed. Any make-up exam may be different to the original exam and may include multiple choice, essay, short answer, true/false, and/or matching questions.

Computer testing using Exam Soft

1. Exam Soft requires loading Exemplify application for taking course exams (Exam Soft must be purchased on-line at the start of every semester). See Exam Soft tab on course D2L Course Content site for hyperlink.

2. Laptop computer which meets Wilson SON system requirements (refer to handout entitled "Technology Requirements" on course D2L site, Course Content section, Exam

Soft tab) for computer testing. Must have battery use for at least 1.5 hours when testing (extra charged battery; portable battery charger; etc). Suggest power cord and extension cords/power strips, but please understand that electrical outlets in the classroom are scarce.

3. All exams will be administered using Exam Soft and Exemplify on students' personal laptop computers. Exam Soft will provide students with user IDs, initial passwords, and instructions on how to load Exemplify. Students must maintain ready access to user IDs 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 the grade of "0." .

Course Attendance

Students are encouraged to attend all lectures. Students may be dropped from the course for excessive absences per University policy.

Participation

Participation is of utmost importance in this class. Students will be working both individually and in groups to analyze the provided case study. Expected participation includes the following: Engaging in class conversation, avoiding completing other class assignments or surfing the web on laptops, and maintaining respect and positivity in actions and words towards classmates and faculty. If faculty notes students are not maintaining appropriate student participation, the student's participation points will be deducted for that day (10 points/day).

Late Work

Late work will not be accepted for this course. If a student expects to turn in work late, they need to notify the faculty at least 24 hours in advance to make other arrangements.

Concept Analysis Paper

The purpose of this assignment is to choose a case study in which the student examines a common adult client diagnosis and prioritizes and applies accurate nursing diagnosis. The student will then perform a literature review to discuss the importance and rationale behind nursing interventions for the chosen nursing diagnosis. Please see the assignment attachment as well as the attached rubric in D2L for further instructions (100 points).

Average Time Commitment

This course requires two (2) lecture hours weekly. Standard university out of class preparation calculations are three (3) hours of preparation for every credit hour. Therefore, the average student can expect to spend 6 hours a week reading in preparation for class work and doing out of class assignments.

It is expected that students attend and prepare for class. In-class assignments will be graded. If the student has an unexcused absence, the in-class assignment will not be available for make-up. If there is an excused absence for a University related event, the

assignment will be available for make-up as long as the student notifies the faculty before the date of the absence.

Course Communication

Please e-mail within Desire2Learn (D2L), listed under communication tools, if you want to contact the professor for this course. If that isn't possible, then use the professor's office e-mail listed at the top of this syllabus. I (Stephanie Baker) will respond to your email within 48 hrs of receipt Monday-Friday 8-5 pm.

Additional Course Requirements

1. If a student is to be absent from an exam, he/she must notify the course instructor at least two hours prior to the exam. Make-up exams will be administered twice during the semester. Failure to comply with this policy will result in a "0" for the exam. Make up exams may be constructed differently than the unit test.
2. Exam review will be available by individual appointment with the faculty who constructed the exam. Students have two weeks from administration of the exam to review the exam.
3. Faculty reserves the right to make changes to this syllabus at any time.

Disruptive Behaviors

Electronic Devices: All smart-watches, phones, and other electronic communication devices are to be turned OFF and put away during class and exams, unless it is being used for a faculty-directed in-class assignment. Students found to be wearing Bluetooth devices or phones on their person or in the vicinity of their workspace during exams or other course evaluations will receive a zero "0" for that exam/evaluation. If a student's phone rings or buzzes during exams/evaluations, that student will earn a zero for that evaluation.

Timeliness to Class

Students are expected to be in their seats, ready to start class at the official class start time. Please have your outlines printed prior to the start of class. The clock in the classroom will be used to determine tardiness. A student will not be allowed to enter the classroom during exams after the official class start time. Students who are late to exams will be required to make-up the exam on the scheduled exam make-up dates.

Administrative Failure Policy

A student who receives a "D" or lower in an ACCEL-RN course will not be permitted to continue in the accelerated BSN program. In the event of course failure, the student may contact the BSN coordinator for consideration in enrolling in the 28-month prelicensure BSN program.

The faculty reserves the right to recommend to the Program Chairs, Graduate Coordinator, Department Chair, and College Dean withdrawal of a student from the nursing program for health, legal, or academic reasons, particularly if patient care is

jeopardized. In addition, the student must perform within the ANA standards of practice and code of ethics.

If student performance falls below acceptable standards of practice, then the student will **NOT** successfully complete the clinical component of this course. Certain aspects of these standards directly relate to safety in patient care and professionalism in practice. If student performance drops below the standard in these two areas, then the possibility of successful completion of the clinical component of the course is unlikely. The faculty recognizes that the issues of patient safety and professional standards cannot be compromised; therefore, any student who does not meet these standards will immediately receive a failing clinical evaluation. The severity of these infractions warrants immediate failure of the clinical component of this course. The ANA standards of practice and code of ethics are posted in the Undergraduate and Graduate Student Handbooks.

Behaviors that detract from the learning process will not be tolerated. Tardiness will not be tolerated. Excessive talking to classmates during class time will not be tolerated. Beepers and cellular phones should be turned off during all class sessions. Text messaging during lectures is considered unacceptable behavior. Children are not to be brought to class per University policy. **Students who demonstrate distracting behaviors will be asked to leave the classroom. If a student demonstrates continuing behaviors that are distracting to his/her classmates, the student will be administratively dropped from the course IAW the 2012-2014 MSU undergraduate catalog, page 76, which reads:**

Instructor Drop. An instructor may drop a student 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 student 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 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

Professionalism

1. All students are expected to be punctual for all classes. Students may be excluded from the classroom if unprofessionally late to class. As stated above, students will not be allowed to take exams after the official class start time.
2. Class attendance and participation are expected. Assignments should be read or viewed in advance of class to facilitate learning. Students will be held responsible for lecture/discussion content, all assigned readings and audiovisual materials on written exams. When the lecture material is more current than the textbook, lecture material takes precedence.

Honor System

Students enrolled in this course will/must adhere 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 this course 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 for life-long learning.

All components of this 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.

The Wilson School of Nursing and Midwestern State University do not condone cheating in any form and considers it a serious offense. Cheating is defined by the faculty to include dishonesty on examinations, providing testing information that would advantage another student, and plagiarism. Specifics are to be found in the Undergraduate and Graduate Student Handbooks and the MSU Student Handbook. Offending material that may constitute plagiarism includes, but is not limited to, the following: Bibliography cards, formal papers, book reports, written nursing care plans, etc. Cheating may include, but is not limited to: removing quiz or exam content, disseminating quiz/exam content, sharing quiz/exam information, being in possession of or using electronics during testing.

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. Reference or use of other authors' works will be cited according the 6th edition of the APA Publication Manual. 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.

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) will be given for the quiz, assignment, etc. Cases may also be referred to the Dean of Students for possible dismissal from the university.

For further information regarding cheating and any subsequent actions to be taken, please refer to the policy statement in the MSU Student Handbook.

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 for plagiarism

For further information regarding cheating and any subsequent actions to be taken, please refer to the policy statement in the BSN Student Handbook.

MIDWESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY STUDENT HONOR CREED

“As an MSU Student, I pledge not to lie, cheat, steal, or help anyone else to do so.”

As students at MSU, we recognize that any great society must be composed of empowered, responsible citizens. We also recognize universities play an important role in helping mold these responsible citizens. We believe students themselves play an important part in developing responsible citizenship by maintaining a community where integrity and honorable character are the norm, not the exception.

Thus, We, the Students of Midwestern State University, resolve to uphold the honor of the University by affirming our commitment to complete academic honesty. We resolve not only to be honest but also to hold our peers accountable for complete honesty in all university matters.

We consider it dishonest to ask for, give, or receive help in examinations or quizzes, to use any unauthorized material in examinations, or to present, as one’s own work, work or ideas which are not entirely one’s own. We recognize that any instructor has the right to expect that all student work is honest, original work. We accept and acknowledge that responsibility for lying, cheating, stealing, plagiarism, and other forms of academic dishonesty fundamentally rests within each individual student.

We expect of ourselves academic integrity, personal professionalism, and ethical character. We appreciate steps taken by University officials to protect the honor of the University against any who would disgrace the MSU student body by violating the spirit of this creed.

Written and adopted by the 2002-2003 MSU Student Senate

American Disability Act (ADA)

Midwestern State University does not discriminate on the basis of an individual's disability and complies with section 504 and the Americans with Disabilities Act in its admissions, accessibility, and employment of individuals in programs and activities. MSU provides academic accommodations and auxiliary aids to individuals with disabilities, as defined by the law, who are otherwise qualified to meet academic employment requirements. For assistance, call (940) 397-4618 or (940) 397-4515, TDD. Please see the instructor outside of class to make arrangements involving special

accommodations. It is the student's responsibility to declare any disabilities. After declaration, preferably at the beginning of each semester, the student needs to contact their individual instructors to determine any reasonable accommodations that may be required.

Senate Bill 11

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 the University's webpage at <https://mwsu.edu/campus-carry/rules-policies>.

Research and Creative Activity Opportunities at MSU

Enhancing Undergraduate Research Endeavors and Creative Activities (EURECA) is a program that provides opportunities for undergraduates to engage in high-quality research and creative activities with faculty. EURECA provides incentives and funding through a system that supports faculty and students in a cooperative research process. For more information contact the Office of Undergraduate Research, (940) 397-6275 or eureca@mwsu.edu. Information and resources are available at www.mwsu.edu/eureca.

Council on Undergraduate Research (CUR)

To support undergraduate research and creative activities, Midwestern State University holds an enhanced institutional membership with the Council on Undergraduate Research (CUR). This institutional membership includes unlimited memberships for any interested faculty, staff, and students. Students may find information on benefits and resources at www.cur.org/resources/for_students and may sign up at members.cur.org/members_online/members/newmember.asp.