



Course Syllabus: Care Coordination Across the Continuum of Care
College of Robert D. & Carol Gunn College of Health Sciences & Human Services

NURS 4743

Spring II 2026

Contact Information

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Course Description

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1. This course focuses on the concepts and principles underlying coordination of care for patients across the continuum of care. Communication and assessment skills are developed with an in-depth coverage of practical tools and strategies for connecting care for patients by describing research and evidence-based techniques while translating them into actionable tools.
2. AACN Essentials: For further information regarding the AACN Essentials identified for each course objective, refer to: [The Essentials of Baccalaureate Education for Professional Nursing Practice](#)
3. 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

Course Objectives		
Upon completion of this course the student should be able to:	AACN	DEC
1. Describe the nurse's role in connecting the elements of care in our complex healthcare environment to create the best outcomes for patients while achieving organizational outcomes.	II,III, IV, V, VI,VIII.	IA,IB,IC,IIB,IIC,IID,IIE,IIIB,IVA,IVB,IVD.
2. Define care coordination as defined by governmental and professional organizations as it relates to organization of patient care activities across the continuum of care.	II,III,V, VI,VIII.	IB,ID,IIB,IIC,IID,IIIB,IVA,I VD.
3. Analyze a realistic patient-center plan of care that will ensure effective workflow, good use of resources, and positive patient outcomes and satisfaction.	II, III,IV,V, VI,VIII.	IA,IB,IC,IIB,IIC,IID,IIE,IIIB,IVA,IVB,IVC,IVD.
4. Describe the role of the nurse in effective care coordination model.	II,III,IV, V,VI,VII I.	IA,IB,IC,IIB,IIC,IID,IIE,IIIB,IVA,IVB,IVC,IVD.
5. Describe the principles of team-based health care.	II,III,IV, V,VI,VII ,VIII.	IB,IC,IID,IIE,IVA,IVB,IVD.
6. Describe the key domains and activities of patient-centered and team-based care coordination	II,III,IV, VI,VI,VI I,VII	IB, IC,ID,IIA,IIB, IIC, IID, IIH,IVA, IVC, IVD.
7. Apply effective communication techniques to interactions with patients, families, and health care members.	I, VI,VIII.	IVA, IVB, IVD, IVE.

8. Describe the impact of care coordination services on patient outcomes, reduced costs, and improved patient experience.	V, VII, IX.	IIB,IIC,IID, IIE, IIF, IIF, IIH,IIIB, IIIC, IVA, IVB.
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Textbook & Instructional Materials

Required textbooks

American Psychological Association (2019). Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (7th ed.). Washington D.C.

Katz, B. (2020). Connecting care for patients: Interdisciplinary care transitions and collaboration. Burlington, MA: Jones & Bartlett Learning

Optional resources

Haas, S., Swan, B. & Haynes, T. (2014). Care coordination and transition management: Core curriculum. Pitman, NJ: American Academy of Ambulatory Care Nursing.

Lamb, G. Care coordination: The game changer: How nursing is revolutionizing quality care. (2014). Silver Spring, MD: American Nurses Association.

Lamb, G. & Newhouse, R. (2018). Care coordination: A blueprint for action for RNs. Silver Spring, MD: American Nurses Association.

Student Handbook

Refer to: Student Handbook 2025-2026

Academic Misconduct Policy & Procedures

Academic Dishonesty: Cheating, collusion, and plagiarism (the act of using source material of other persons, either published or unpublished, without following the accepted techniques of crediting, or the submission for credit of work not the individuals to whom credit is given). Additional guidelines on procedures in these matters may be found in the Office of Student Conduct.

Acceptable and Unacceptable Use of AI

The use of generative AI tools (e.g., ChatGPT) is permitted in this course for the following activities:

- Brainstorming and refining your ideas
- Fine-tuning your research questions
- Checking grammar and style

The use of generative AI tools is not permitted in this course for the following activities:

- Impersonating you in classroom contexts, such as by using the tool to compose discussion board

- prompts assigned to you or content that you put into a Zoom chat.
- Completing group work that your group has assigned you unless it is mutually agreed upon that you may utilize the tool.
- Writing a draft of a writing assignment.
- Writing entire sentences, paragraphs, or papers to complete class assignments.

You are responsible for the information you submit based on an AI query (for instance, it does not violate intellectual property laws or contain misinformation or unethical content). Your use of AI tools must be appropriately documented and cited to stay compliant with university policies on academic honesty. Any assignment that is found to have used generative AI tools in unauthorized ways will be given a grade of zero. When in doubt about permitted usage, please ask for clarification. Any Turnitin AI detectable score over 20% will result in a 0 for that assignment.

Grading

Table 1: Points allocated to each assignment –

Item	Percentage
Discussion post (4)	40%
Assignment 1	15%
Assignment 2	15%
Assignment 3	15%
Assignment 4	15%
Total	100%

Table 2: Total points for final grade.

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

Projects Required

Assignments vary in each module and each assignment has its own rubric for completion and grading. Written work is to be completed and submitted electronically in the appropriate assignment (drop box) on D2L and submitted by

10:59 pm Central Time on due date. A course average of at least 74% is required to pass this course. Faculty reserves the right to make changes at any time to this syllabus. Students are to be accountable for all communications sent by faculty on Desire 2 Learn; therefore, you **must** check the site for announcements, assignments, and messages. If you are unable to access D2L, you may contact faculty via campus email. Phone/Virtual appointments are available upon request.

Discussion Board

You must post a substantive response to each of the required questions. A substantive response is constructive and adds value to the weekly discussions. Substantive responses should be at least 150 words in length. Rarely should each require more than 200 words. Your responses need to reflect critical thought and demonstrate an understanding of the relevant concepts. All factual knowledge must be supported with appropriate citation of sources. Response to the discussion board questions must be posted by 10:59 PM on or before the due date on the Discussion Board section in the appropriate Discussion Question thread as stated in the course outline. Initial response posts not received by due date, but received within two days will be accepted, but will receive a 10 point/day deduction. In addition to posting your responses to the discussion questions you must post a substantive comment to at least two of your classmate's posts. These peer comment response posts may be made anytime during the week but must be made prior to the close of the week by the due date and time. Comment posts made after the due date and close of the week will not be accepted for credit.

Late Work

Assignments more than three days late will not be accepted. Assignments submitted late which are within three days of the due date and time will receive a ten-point deduction for each day they are late.

Important Dates

Last Day to drop with a grade of "W":
April 29, 2026 for Term B

<https://msutexas.edu/registrar/assets/files/pdfs/dropslip-instructions-web.pdf>
Refer to: [Drops, Withdrawals & Void](#)

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.

Online Computer Requirements

Taking an online class requires you to have access to a computer (with Internet access) to complete and upload your assignments. It is your responsibility to have (or have access to) 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.*** Computers are available on campus in various areas of the buildings as well as the Academic Success Center. **Your computer being down is not an excuse for missing a deadline!!** There are many places to access your class! Our online classes can be accessed from any computer in the world which is connected to the internet. Contact your instructor immediately upon having computer trouble. 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, log into [D2L](#).

Instructor Class Policies

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 lack of engagement in the online learning environment. For example, failure to participate in online discussions as scheduled and on time is considered being absent. Prior to dropping a student from the class, the instructor must give the student a verbal or written warning. An instructor's drop of a student takes precedence over the student-initiated course drop at a later date. The instructor will assign a grade of WF or F the 6th week of a 10-week summer term. After this time, the grade will be an F. The date the Office of the Registrar receives the instructor drop form is the official drop date. RN Transition students must complete all nursing courses within a two-year period of time beginning with the first nursing course. RN Transition students must maintain enrollment in at least two courses per semester. If a student does not maintain enrollment for one semester they will be placed on inactive status. If a student were to withdraw for a second time from the same and/or any nursing course and/or received a second D or F in the same and/or any nursing course, even if the student has repeated a course and received a grade of C or above the student will be dismissed from the program.

Turn-it In grading policy: **All submissions earning a Turn-it In Similarity score above 20% will receive a 30-point deduction, unless it denotes above 20% detection of AI generated content, which will result in assignment grade of "0". Students may submit assignments as many times as needed before the due/date and time to review and revise as**

needed to earn a Turn-it In Similarity score at or less than 20%. Only the last submission before the due date and time will be graded.

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).

Disability Support Services

Midwestern State University is committed to providing equal access for qualified students with disabilities to all university courses and programs, and by law all students with disabilities are guaranteed a learning environment that provides reasonable accommodation of their disability. This guarantee is provided through Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act. The ADA reads: "No qualified individual with a disability shall, by reason of such disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs, or activities of a public entity, or be subject to discrimination by any such entity." The Director of Disability Support Services serves as the ADA Coordinator and may be contacted at (940) 397-4140, TDD (940) 397-4515, or 3410 Taft Blvd., Clark Student Center 168.

College Policies

Campus Carry Rules/Policies

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.

Course Schedule

Week	Weekly Objectives (To be completed as independent study, building upon prior knowledge. Self-determined competence)	Assignment Due Date (Graded submissions)
Week 1 Course Orientation, Introductions on Discussion Board, Introduction to care coordination and transition management.	Introduction to Care Coordination and Transition Management and Health Assessment: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Define key care coordination and transition management terms. 2. Explain the significance of the care coordination transition management model and how the model standardizes the work of ambulatory, acute, subacute ad home care health care providers using evidence from interdisciplinary literature on care coordination and transition management. 3. Describe and differentiate robust patient engagement tools that can be used in care coordination. 4. Describe the impact care coordination has on improving the quality and safety of patients and key quality measurement indicators. Readings	Assignment #1 Due by Sunday 10:59PM Central Standard Time.

Week	Weekly Objectives (To be completed as independent study, building upon prior knowledge. Self-determined competence)	Assignment Due Date (Graded submissions)
	Katz Chapter 1 and 2 Videos Music of Coordinated Care Anatomy of Care Coordination	
Week 2 Transitions: Fractured or Flowing?	Care Transitions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify types of care transitions. 2. Describe the scope and impact of high-risk care transition gaps. 3. List care transition consensus standards and measures. 4. Describe evidence-based care transition programs. 5. Explain key elements of effective care transitions. 6. Assess the effectiveness of own organizational care transitions 7. Identify evidence-base transition tools and techniques for use in organization. 8. List common failures in care transitions Readings Katz Chapter 3 Videos What is integrated care Preventing re-admissions through care coordination	Discussion for Week 2 Initial discussion post due by Friday, 10:59PM Central Standard Time. The 2 peer posts are due by Sunday 10:59PM Central Standard Time.
Week 3 Leading for Connected Care-The Senior Management Role and Middle Managers and	Leading for Connected Care-The Senior Management Role and Middle Managers and Connected Care <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Describe the role of the senior leader in advancing care coordination. 2. Compare and contrast transactional leader and transformational leader and impact these leadership styles have on care coordination. 	Assignment #2 (Exam) Due by Sunday 10:59PM Central Standard Time.

Week	Weekly Objectives (To be completed as independent study, building upon prior knowledge. Self-determined competence)	Assignment Due Date (Graded submissions)
Connected Care	3. Describe how nurses are positioned to provide leadership to improve care coordination in every sector of healthcare and all nurse positions. 4. Describe behaviors of effective team leaders and these behaviors impact care coordination. Readings Katz Chapters 4, and 5	
Week 4 Care Coordination and Communication on the Front Lines- The Clinician Role	Care Coordination and Communication on the Front Lines: The Clinician Role <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Define teamwork and collaboration. 2. Demonstrate the knowledge, skills, and attitudes required for cross-setting communication and transitions in care. 3. Describe processes that provide sufficient, timely and useful information necessary to achieve successful patient care transitions. 4. Identify key characteristics of effective communication for care transitions. Readings Katz Chapter 6	Discussion for Week 4 Initial discussion post due by Friday, 10:59PM Central Standard Time. The 2 peer posts are due by Sunday 10:59PM Central Standard Time.
Week 5 Experiencing Connected Care-The Patient Role	Experiencing Connected Care-The Patient Role <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pulling Together for the Patient: Teamwork in Healthcare. • Digital Connections, Communication and Collaboration Readings Katz Chapter 6, and 7 Videos Coaching for safer healthcare transitions	Assignment #3 Due by Sunday 10:59PM Central Standard Time.

Week	Weekly Objectives (To be completed as independent study, building upon prior knowledge. Self-determined competence)	Assignment Due Date (Graded submissions)
Week 6 Pulling Together for the Patient: Teamwork in Healthcare	Pulling Together for the Patient: Teamwork in Healthcare. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teamwork Part 1- Team Research Teamwork Part 2- Building an Effective Healthcare Team Step by Step Readings Katz Chapter 8 Video Healthcare should be a team sport	Discussion for Week 6 Initial discussion post due by Friday, 10:59PM Central Standard Time. The 2 peer posts are due by Sunday 10:59PM Central Standard Time.
Week 7 Digital Connections, Communication, and Collaboration	Digital Connections, Communication and Collaboration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The landscape of Healthcare Technology Electronic Communication Tools for Connected Care Telemedicine Cost and Quality Nurses and the Technology Revolution Readings Katz Chapter 9	Assignment #4 Due by Sunday, 10:59PM Central Standard Time.
Week 8 High Risk Connected Care Trends and Collaboration Best Practices.	High Risk Gaps and Cracks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Social Determinants of Health, Health Disparities and Mental Health Caregivers, Dementia, and End-of-Life Care Readings Katz Chapters 10 and 11	Discussion for Week 8 Initial discussion post due by day designated in schedule, 10:59PM Central Standard Time. NO PEER POST Due

Week	Weekly Objectives (To be completed as independent study, building upon prior knowledge. Self-determined competence)	Assignment Due Date (Graded submissions)
		NO LATE WORK ACCEPTED