

Semester Credit Hours: 3

Contact Hours: 48

Prerequisites: Transitions to BSN Nursing

Corequisite (s):

Instructor

Tiffany N. Ricks, PhD, RN

Phone: 512-856-4369

Email: tiffany.ricks@austincc.edu

Delivery Format

This course is delivered in an online hybrid format with three (3) synchronous in-person/online meetings. ([ACC definition](#))

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Synthesize and apply knowledge gained from pre-requisite and co-requisite courses included in the program of study. This course discusses the application of law and ethical principles related to the practice of nursing in differing areas of practice.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS/INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

A. Learning resources to include:

- a. Wacker Guido, G. (2020). *Legal & ethical issues in nursing*. New Jersey: Pearson (7th edition).
- b. Computer access and Internet connection. The ability to access and navigate the Learning Management System Blackboard®. More information about Blackboard® can be found at <http://irt.austincc.edu/blackboard/StudentSupport.php>

B. Recommended (student will have to purchase)

- a. Nursing: Scope and Standards of Practice ([ANA, 2015](#))
- b. Principles of Nursing ([ANA, 2012](#))
- c. [ANA Code of Ethics](#) (2015)
- d. American Psychological Association. (2020). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (7th edition).

Instructional Methodology

- A. Learning activities are listed in the course modules and may include interactive discussion, small group discussion, case based scenarios, virtual simulation, and synthesis of journal articles to the community health setting. Additional activities may be listed on the Blackboard® course site.
- B. Supplemental readings or videos may come from evidence-based literature in the form of journal articles, editorials, and websites.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Synthesize knowledge gained from pre-requisite and co-requisite courses included in the program of study. DEC I.B.2.Clinical Judgements & Behaviors/AACN I
2. Apply regulatory standards to complex practice situations. DEC:I.A.1-4, DEC II.D.1.b-e.4-5/AACN V
3. Apply legal standards to complex patient care situations. DEC: I.B.1-2, DEC II.D.1.b-e.4-5/AACN V
4. Apply ethical principles to complex patient care situations. DEC: I.B.1-2, DEC II.D.1.b-e.4-5/AACN VIII
5. Apply constitutional, administrative, and criminal law in complex practice situations. DEC:III.A.1-5/AACN V
6. Analyze the legal implications inherent in nursing management. AACN V-VI

Attendance/Class Participation

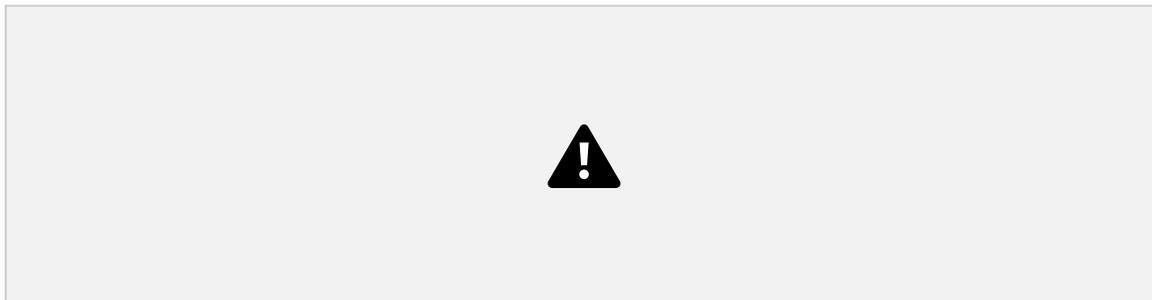
This course requires three (3) online seminars. All seminars will take place via Blackboard Collaborate. Students are required to attend all class meetings. Please refer to the ACC course schedule/calendar for specific times. Please refer to the Professional Nursing Student Handbook for detailed information regarding progressive discipline and withdrawal policy.

Late/Make-up Work Policy

If you have other priorities when an assignment (e. g. written assignment or discussion board post) is due, please plan ahead and submit the work early. Each student will get one virtual "Extension Token" that may be used for a 48-hour extension of a due date. Each token is only to be used once and will expire at the end of the semester. Papers submitted past the 48-hour extension (if the extension token is used) will incur a five point per day penalty. Except in extenuating circumstances, late work is not accepted, nor will make-up assignments be allowed. I will evaluate these instances on a case-by-case basis.

Grading

Students must achieve a passing score of 80% (B) or higher in each course for progression in the program. The grading for this course will be determined as follows:



Discussion Board

Each student will provide scholarly responses to four (4) discussion questions/topics on Blackboard. Students are expected to engage in dialogue that is thought-provoking and inquisitive, while contributing to the discussion. Discussion board responses must be completed by the due dates specified in the Course Schedule in the Start Here section on Blackboard.

Ethical Paper

Students will develop a professional paper addressing an ethical healthcare topic or issue. Students may choose from, **but are not limited to**, the following topics: rising healthcare costs and end-of-life care, impact of stigma/discrimination on the health of the LGBTQ community, assisted suicide, sexual harassment in the workplace, the impact of disability on autonomy in healthcare, nursing unions, or HIPAA regulations in patient care and management. A rubric will be provided to guide paper development.

Legal Paper

Students will develop a professional paper discussing a legal incident/court case involving nurses/nursing practice. The student will identify one healthcare related court case (**involving nurses/nursing practice**) and discuss the legal incident in detail. A rubric will be provided to guide paper development.

College Policies

Attendance/Class Participation

Regular and punctual class, seminar, or required event attendance is expected of all students. If attendance or compliance with other course policies is unsatisfactory, the instructor may withdraw students from the class.

Withdrawal Policy

It is the responsibility of each student to ensure that his or her name is removed from the roll should he or she decide to withdraw from the class. The instructor does, however, reserve the right to drop a student should he or she feel it is necessary. If a student decides to withdraw, he or she should also verify that the withdrawal is submitted before the Final Withdrawal Date. The student is also strongly encouraged to retain their copy of the withdrawal form for their records. Students who enroll for the third or subsequent time in a course taken since Fall of 2002, may be charged a higher tuition rate for that course. State law permits students to withdraw from no more than six courses during their entire undergraduate career at Texas public colleges or universities. With certain exceptions, all course withdrawals automatically count towards this limit. Details regarding this policy can be found in the ACC college catalog.

Incompletes

An instructor may award a grade of "I" (Incomplete) if a student was unable to complete all of the objectives for a passing grade in a course. An incomplete grade cannot be carried beyond the established date in the following semester. The completion date is determined by the instructor but may not be later than the final deadline for withdrawal in the subsequent semester.

Statement on Scholastic Dishonesty

A student attending ACC assumes responsibility for conduct compatible with the mission of the college as an educational institution. Students have the responsibility to submit coursework that is the result of their own thought, research, or self-expression. Students must follow all instructions given by faculty or designated college representatives when taking examinations, placement assessments, tests, quizzes, and evaluations. Actions constituting scholastic dishonesty include, but are not limited to, plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, collusion, and falsifying documents. Penalties for scholastic dishonesty will depend upon the nature of the violation and may range from lowering a grade on one assignment to an "F" in the course and/or expulsion from the college. See the [Student Standards of Conduct](#) and [Disciplinary Process](#).

Student Rights and Responsibilities

Students at the college have the rights accorded by the U.S. Constitution to freedom of speech, peaceful assembly, petition, and association. These rights carry with them the responsibility to accord the same rights to others in the college community and not to interfere with or disrupt the educational process. Opportunity for students to examine and question pertinent data and assumptions of a given discipline, guided by the evidence of scholarly research, is appropriate in a learning environment. This concept is accompanied by an equally demanding concept

of responsibility on the part of the student. As willing partners in learning, students must comply with college rules and procedures.

Statement on Students with Disabilities

Each ACC campus offers support services for students with documented disabilities. Students with disabilities who need classroom, academic or other accommodations must request them through the office of Student Accessibility Services (SAS). Students are encouraged to request accommodations when they register for courses or at least three weeks before the start of the semester, otherwise the provision of accommodations may be delayed. Students who have received approval for accommodations from SAS for this course must provide the instructor with the 'Notice of Approved Accommodations' from SAS before accommodations will be provided. Arrangements for academic accommodations can only be made after the instructor receives the 'Notice of Approved Accommodations' from the student. Students with approved accommodations are encouraged to submit the 'Notice of Approved Accommodations' to the instructor at the beginning of the semester because a reasonable amount of time may be needed to prepare and arrange for the accommodations. Additional information about [Student Accessibility Services](#).

Safety Statement

Austin Community College is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for study and work. You are expected to learn and comply with [ACC environmental, health and safety procedures and agree to follow ACC safety policies](#). Because some health and safety circumstances are beyond our control, we ask that you become familiar with the Emergency Procedures poster and Campus Safety Plan map in each classroom. Additional information about emergency procedures and how to sign up for ACC Emergency Alerts to be notified in the event of a serious emergency can be found at. Please note, you are expected to conduct yourself professionally with respect and courtesy to all. Anyone who thoughtlessly or intentionally jeopardizes the health or safety of another individual will be immediately dismissed from the day's activity, may be withdrawn from the class, and/or barred from attending future activities.

Concealed Handgun Policy

ACC faculty may notify students in their classes or learning environment about the Texas Campus Carry law taking effect at Austin Community College (and other Texas community colleges) on August 1, 2017. The following is recommended syllabus language, approved by legal counsel and the college. For courses including ACC-sponsored field activities, language is still being drafted.

1. Statement for standard classroom courses (non-exclusion zone)

The Austin Community College District concealed handgun policy ensures compliance with Section 411.2031 of the Texas Government Code (also known as the Campus Carry Law), while maintaining ACC's commitment to provide a safe environment for its students, faculty, staff, and visitors. Beginning August 1, 2017, individuals who are licensed to carry (LTC) may do so on campus premises except in locations and at activities prohibited by state or federal law, or the college's concealed handgun policy. It is the responsibility of license holders to conceal their handguns at all times. Persons who see a handgun on campus are asked to contact the ACC Police Department by dialing 222 from a campus phone or 512-223-7999. Refer to the [concealed handgun policy online](#).

Use of ACC E-mail

All College e-mail communication to students will be sent solely to the student's ACCmail account, with the expectation that such communications will be read in a timely fashion. ACC will send important information and will notify you of any college related emergencies using this account. Students should only expect to receive email communication from their instructor using this account. Likewise, students should use their ACCmail account when communicating with instructors and staff. [Instructions for activating an ACCmail account](#).

*Throughout the syllabus, following the course objectives are a series of parenthetical Roman numerals, letters, and numbers. These designations represent the Differentiated Essential Competencies (DECs) which identify those competencies graduates of Texas nursing programs should possess, based on level of education, to provide safe, competent, and compassionate care. Additional information about the DECs may be viewed on this [site](#).