Stephen F. Austin State University
DeWitt School of Nursing
Nursing Theory for the Advanced Practice Role
Course Number: NURS 5301
Fall 2021

Course Instructors:
Sara Bishop, PhD, RNC-OB, CNE
Kesha T. Becnel, MSN, RN, CNE

ALL INFORMATION IN THIS SYLLABUS IS SUBJECT TO THE WRITTEN POLICIES AND PROCEDURES OF THE SCHOOL OF NURSING, STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY, NACOGDOCHES, TEXAS

IN THE CASE OF COMMISSION, OMISSION, AMBIGUITY, VAGUENESS, OR CONFLICT, THE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES OF THE SCHOOL OF NURSING SHALL CONTROL.

EACH STUDENT SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ACTUAL AND/OR CONSTRUCTIVE KNOWLEDGE OF THE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES OF THE SCHOOL OF NURSING AND FOR COMPLIANCE THEREWITH.

THE STUDENT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL INFORMATION IN THIS SYLLABUS.

This syllabus is provided for information purposes only.
Faculty Information

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Weds. By appointment.  
Thurs. By appointment.  
Friday. By appointment.

Please email for an appointment. Faculty will respond to emails and questions within 24 hours during the week and within 48 hours on the weekend.

Class Meeting Time and Place

This course is taught in an online format. Calendar available in Brightspace.

Required Textbooks


Course Description

This course provides students with the knowledge of nursing philosophies, theories, and conceptual models. Nursing theory and theories from other relevant disciplines will be analyzed as a foundation for nursing practice, research, and professional development.

Credit Hour Justification
This course spans 15 weeks and has a major theory paper as the final project. The course contains extensive reading content requiring student engagement at least 12 hours each week throughout the semester. The required reading and module content are designed to meet the course objectives and facilitate mastery of the theoretical content to advance nursing knowledge and practice. Students are expected to participate in frequent discussion board assignments, reflective journals, a concept analysis presentation, APA formatting, and a final theory paper.

**Prerequisites:** Admission to SON Graduate Program

**Credit Hour Distribution:** 3 credit hours

**Program Outcomes**

The student will:

1. Synthesize nursing science with knowledge from other disciplines as the basis for the advanced level of nursing practice.
2. Evaluate effective strategies for managing the ethical and legal dilemmas inherent in patient care, the health care organization, and research.
3. Employ effective communication and collaborative skills in interdisciplinary teams for creating change in health care.
4. Analyze concepts of health promotion and culturally competent care across the lifespan.
5. Assume responsibility for the use of health care information systems and patient care technology to improve patient outcomes.
6. Demonstrate leadership and accountability in the development and implementation of health care policy.
7. Critically appraise existing literature from nursing and other disciplines to determine and implement the best evidence for practice.
8. Advocate for the advanced practice role within the policy related to access and health care communities.
9. Value continuing competence, growth, and development in the profession.

**Course objectives:**

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

1. Synthesize responsibility and accountability using consistent behavior patterns and professional communication.
2. Describe the history of contemporary nursing knowledge.
3. Examine the relationship of concepts, philosophies, conceptual models, theories, and empirical indicators to contemporary nursing knowledge.
4. Incorporate the components of theory into evidence based advanced nursing practice and research.
5. Analyze theory development.
6. Apply theories to advanced practice nursing.
7. Critique selected theories and conceptual models for nursing.
8. Apply theories from other disciplines to advanced clinical practice.
MSN Essentials

I. Background for Practice from Sciences and Humanities
II. Quality Improvement and Safety
III. Translating and Integrating Scholarship into Practice
IV. Informatics and Healthcare Technologies
V. Health Policy and Advocacy
VI. Interprofessional Collaboration for Improving Patient and Population Health Outcomes
VII. Clinical Prevention and Population Health for Improving Health
VIII. Master’s-Level Nursing Practice

NONPF Core and FNP Population Specific Competency Outcomes

I. Scientific Foundation Competencies
II. Leadership Competencies
III. Family/Across the Lifespan NP Competencies
IV. Quality Competencies
V. Practice Inquiry Competencies
VI. Technology and Information Literacy Competencies
VII. Policy Competencies
VIII. Health Delivery System Competencies
IX. Ethics Competencies
X. Independent Practice Competencies

QSEN Graduate Competencies

1. Patient-centered Care
2. Teamwork and Collaboration
3. Evidence-based Practice (EBP)
4. Quality Improvement
5. Safety
6. Informatics

NLN Core Competencies for Nurse Educators

1. Facilitate learning
2. Facilitate learner development and socialization
3. Use assessment and evaluation strategies
4. Participate in curriculum design and evaluation of program outcomes
5. Function as a change agent and leader
6. Pursue continuous quality improvement in the nurse educator role
7. Engage in scholarship
8. Function within the educational environment
Topics:
1. Introduction to theory: History and significance
2. Theory development & the structure of contemporary nursing knowledge
3. Essentials for Master’s Level Education
4. Nursing philosophies
5. Concept analysis
6. Philosophies of nursing
7. Nursing conceptual models
8. Grand nursing theories
9. Middle range nursing theories
10. Interdisciplinary philosophies and theories
11. Relationship between scholarship and clinical practice
Evidence-based practice related to theory

Instructional Methods
Discussion board, individual written assignments, online presentation, reflective journal

Teaching Strategies
Discussion, reading/resources, online content delivery/presentation, video, online interactions

Course Requirements
Faculty developed coursework to provide students with a foundation to meet the program outcome objectives which are consistent with the Essentials of Master of Science in Nursing and the National League for Nursing’s Nurse Educator Core Competency expected outcomes. The course requirements for this course are:

- Complete all course assignments by the assigned due date/time. Late work will not be accepted without prior faculty approval and a 10% late penalty will apply.
- Communication should be professional, respectful of other views, and have a positive and polite tone.
- All assignments are to be completed by the individual student unless assigned as a group project.

Additional Course Requirements for the online forum:

- The electronic week begins on Monday at 0000 CST (12:00 AM) and ends on Sunday at 2359 CST (11:59 PM).
- The three weekly posts consist of **one main post and a minimum of two responses to peers. All will be posted on separate days.**
- There are no “make-ups” for not posting to the Weekly Discussions and late posts will not be accepted at the close of the module week.
- Students must post a main post to the Discussion board each week on or before Thursday at 2359.
• Points will be deducted for not having the initial post completed on or before Thursday to ensure active learning and engagement with peers and course faculty. See the grading rubric for details.
• Students must read and respond to a minimum of two peer posts each week unless otherwise specified.
• Students must provide references in current APA format for all posts.
• It is recommended that you prepare your weekly discussion posts in Microsoft Word and then cut and paste into the BRIGHTSPACE discussion.
• All discussions posted must reflect scholarly writing.
• Posts must be in the correct Weekly Discussion board or no points will be awarded.

Grades and Grading

Assignments and the associated grading rubrics are available in BRIGHTSPACE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Concept analysis presentation</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly discussion board (x10)</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reflective journal</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APA assignment</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final theory paper</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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SON Rounding Policy:

1. Rounding is confined to the final course grade.
   Grades on individual exams (including comprehensive or HESI), assignments, quizzes, and projects are recorded in the gradebook (Brightspace) in their original form without rounding.
2. Final course grades are rounded to the closest whole number using the 0.5 math rule and using one decimal point to the right of the whole number. If the final course grade is not a whole number, the following rounding rules apply:
   a. If the decimal attached to a whole number is 0.5 or greater, then round up to the next whole number (equal to or greater than 85.50 = 86)
   b. If the decimal attached to a whole number is less than 0.5, then round down to the previous whole number (equal to or less than 85.49 = 85).
3. The grading schedule for all Nursing Courses is as follows:
   90-100 = A  
   80-89 = B  
   75-79 = C  
   Less than 75 = F

Grading Scale

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Score Range</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>90-100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>80-89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>75-79</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
No course with a grade below B can be used to satisfy MSN degree requirements. A student may repeat one course one time.

Students have the responsibility for monitoring grades in the course website throughout the semester and in communicating with course instructors regarding grade status. Two course failures will result in dismissal from the program (Retention and Progression Policy 3.16)

In the event of course failure, the student must petition the Student Affairs Committee to repeat the course and to remain in the program. See the School of Nursing Policy 3.16 for details.

POLICIES

Attendance Policy: Your participation in class is expected, is essential to the learning experience and your contribution valued.

Mid-term and Drop Dates: Refer to University Calendar

Academic Integrity and Honesty: Academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism.

Definition of Academic Dishonesty: Academic dishonesty (SFA policy 4.1) includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) the falsification or invention of any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Examples of plagiarism are (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one’s own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from an Internet source or another source; and (3) incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one’s paper without giving the author due credit.

The University updated the definitions of, penalties for, and procedures to handle Academic Dishonesty (4.1) in January 2017. This updated information can be found at http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/

Self-Plagiarism Statement
As a student, self-plagiarism is the presentation of your own previously completed work as an original and is considered unethical (APA,2021). In specific circumstances, students may wish to duplicate their written work; however, appropriate notation of previous work is required. Normally, if one is repeating a course in the nursing program and the student previously successfully completed the assignment, but is required to complete the assignment again as part of the course work, the vast majority of the assignment should constitute new work of the
student. If the student needs to add a small segment of the work into any assignment, it should be noted in the new document. For example, "As discussed in the Spring 2021 assignment XYZ, COVID-19 vaccinations are essential for promoting public health (Name, 2021)." This clearly identifies the student's intent to point the reader to the previous document.

References


Withheld Grades Course Grades Policy (SFA Policy 5.5): (http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/course-grades.pdf) At the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic unit head, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F, except as allowed through policy [i.e., Active Military Service (6.14)]. If students register for the same course in future semesters, the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average.

Students with Disabilities: To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aides, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004/468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aides to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/

Acceptable Student Behavior: Course behavior should not interfere with the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or the ability of other students to learn from the instructional program. Unacceptable or disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Students who disrupt the learning environment may be subject to judicial, academic or other penalties. The prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including electronic, classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The instructor shall have full discretion over what behavior is appropriate/inappropriate in the on-line classroom. Students who do not access the course regularly or who perform poorly on class projects/exams may be referred to the Early Alert Program. This program provides students with recommendation for resources or other assistance that is available to help SFA students succeed.

Communication with Instructor: The Instructor will communicate with students about the course through the use of Brightspace. Students are required to check this site at least three times a week (daily is recommended) for announcements and posted material and are responsible for information posted in Brightspace. Grades will be posted electronically. Students are highly recommended to make appointments to speak with instructor if making less than 80 on any assignment.
**Evaluation Input from Students:** The faculty of the School of Nursing places great value on evaluative input from students. Evaluation of courses, instructors and clinical facilities provides the College with important data which is used to strengthen the program. Data is analyzed as to trends and themes and is important to curriculum and sequencing decisions. All evaluation for the courses are posted on-line. The online mechanism allows us the opportunity to tabulate and store information in order analyze trends within the curriculum. Please be assured that this information is secured and not released until after grades are submitted. No names are available to faculty at any time. In order to garner some reliability and validity, the College must have representative data from the student population. The representation, based on the literature has been set at 70%. The College is anticipating that the students with thoughtfully participate in the evaluation process which will assist the faculty with the growth of the programs. A link to evaluation will be available on Brightspace toward the end of the semester. Thank you in advance for your assistance with the evaluation process.

**Online Resources:**
Purdue Owl: [https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/](https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/)
Brightspace Course Platform: [https://d2l.sfasu.edu/](https://d2l.sfasu.edu/)

**Course Calendar/Timeline:** copy provided in Brightspace

**Technology Requirements**
All students are required to have access to a laptop or desktop computer for academic and testing purposes. You may view the complete list of technical requirements below for Windows and Mac computers. We do not currently support mobile devices for Examsoft or HESI exams (iPads, Androids, etc). We do not support any computer systems other than Windows or Mac (no Chromebooks, Linux devices, etc). For questions regarding laptop hardware or software, please contact The SFA Help Desk at [https://help.sfasu.edu/TDClient/2027/Portal/Home/](https://help.sfasu.edu/TDClient/2027/Portal/Home/) or 936-468-HELP.

At all times, the computer should be capable of running the software below or contain the necessary hardware listed. It is the responsibility of the student to ensure that his/her computer has the required software installed upon admission, and it is updated throughout his/her time as a student.

Upon admission, students will attend an orientation session. The orientation for each course provides instructions on how to access each of the software programs used in the DeWitt School of Nursing program.

**TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS MAC LAPTOPS/DESKTOPS**
- Operating System – OS 10.14 Mojave (or newer)
- Hard Drive – 250 GB hard drive or solid state drive
- RAM – 8 GB
- Battery Life – Minimum of 6 hours required (8 hours recommended).
- High Speed Internet Connection – We require a minimum connection speed of 20 Mbps.
• Safari Browser (free)
• Mozilla Firefox Browser (free)
• Chrome Browser (free)
• Microsoft Office 365 – Is provided to you through your My SFA account. Your Microsoft Office 365 can be installed on up to 5 additional devices.
• SFASU Duo Authentication – You will be required to verify your identity using dual authentication on a mobile device.
• SFASU Jacks Email – You will be required to read your SFASU Jacks email. It is recommended that you access your account daily and connect to a mobile device so you never miss any critical announcements.
• Examsoft Examplify – Software will be provided upon admission. All testing is completed using this software platform.
• Adobe Reader (free)
• Adobe Flash Player (free)
• Anti-Virus Solution – We support Sophos for MAC (free version). There is also a paid version, but this in not required or necessary. We only support Sophos at exams. If you choose to use another anti-virus solution and encounter problems, you will have to contact the vendor or general helpdesk for support.
• Scanning Capabilities – You may use a mobile app (such as Turbo Scan) or visit a store which provides scanning services (such as Fed Ex Office).
• Webcam
• Computer Microphone
• Computer Headset and/or Ear Buds

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS WINDOWS LAPTOPS/DESKTOPS
• Operating System – Windows 10. We do not support 7 or 8.
• Processor - Intel Core 2 Duo, i3,i5 or i7 processor
• Hard Drive – 250 GB hard drive or solid state drive
• RAM – 8 GB
• Battery Life – Minimum of 6 hours required (8 hours recommended).
• High Speed Internet Connection – We require a minimum connection speed of 20 Mbps.
• Internet Explorer Browser (free)
• Mozilla Firefox Browser (free)
• Chrome Browser (free)
• Edge Browser (for Windows 10 users only) free
• Microsoft Office 365 – Is provided to you through your My SFA account. Your Microsoft Office 365 can be installed on up to 5 additional devices.
• SFASU Duo Authentication – You will be required to verify your identity using dual authentication on a mobile device.
• SFASU Jacks Email – You will be required to read your SFASU Jacks email. It is recommended that you access your account daily and connect to a mobile device so you never miss any critical announcements.
• Examsoft Examplify – Software will be provided upon admission. All testing is completed using this software platform.
• Adobe Reader (free)
• Adobe Flash Player (free)
• Anti-Virus Solution – We only support Windows Defender (Windows 10). Before testing, disable any other anti-virus programs that you may have other than Windows Defender. We do not provide support for any anti-virus solution with exams other than Windows Defender. If you choose to use another anti-virus solution and encounter problems, you will have to contact the vendor or general helpdesk for support.
• Scanning Capabilities – You may use a mobile app (such as Turbo Scan) or visit a store, which provides scanning services (such as Fed Ex Office).
• Webcam
• Computer Microphone
• Computer Headset and/or Ear Buds

Mental Health Statement

SFASU values students’ mental health and the role it plays in academic and overall student success. SFA provides a variety of resources to support student's mental health and wellness. Many of these resources are free, and all of them are confidential.

On-campus Resources:
SFASU Counseling Services
www.sfasu.edu/counselingservices
3rd Floor Rusk Building
936-468-2401

SFASU Human Services Counseling Clinic
www.sfasu.edu/humanservices/139.asp
Human Services Room 202
936-468-1041

Crisis Resources:
Burke 24-hour crisis line 1(800) 392-8343
Suicide Prevention Lifeline 1(800) 273-TALK (8255)
Crisis Text Line: Text HELLO to 741