

Course Outline for: NURS 1057 Nursing Assistant

A. Course Description:

1. Number of credits: 4

2. Lecture hours per week: 3 Lab hours per week: 2

Prerequisites: None
Corequisites: None
MnTC Goals: None

The Minnesota State Nursing Assistant curriculum is the approved preparation for nursing assistants. Students are introduced to the basic nursing skills and concepts necessary to become a certified nursing assistant and work in a health care setting under the direct supervision of a licensed nurse. Students learn how to measure vital signs and assist individuals with physical needs such as personal hygiene, elimination, mobility, exercise, and nutrition. Students also learn about emotional, spiritual, and psychosocial needs, and receive basic training in behavior management. Students participate online and on campus in lecture and by practicing in the lab. Students apply what they have learned in class to care for residents in a long-term care facility during 16 hours of clinical participation at the end of the course. Attendance is mandatory per Department of Health regulations. Students successfully completing this course are ready to take the Headmaster LLP Nursing Assistant Competency Test. After passing this test, students can be placed on the Minnesota Department of Health Nursing Assistant Registry.

B. Date last reviewed/updated: November 2024

C. Outline of Major Content Areas:

Introduction to:

- 1. Healthcare
- 2. Basic human needs
- 3. Body systems and their common diseases
- 4. Aging process
- 5. Communication
- 6. Safe and clean environment
- 7. Infection control
- 8. Vital Signs
- 9. Activities of Daily Living
- 10. Activity and Exercise
- 11. Food and Fluid
- 12. Elimination
- 13. Caring for patients with special needs
- 14. Orientation to the workplace

D. Course Learning Outcomes:

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

- 1. Describe infection control relevant to the nursing assistant.
- 2. Describe legal and ethical issues relevant to the nursing assistant.
- 3. Demonstrate the ability to competently perform activities of daily living care and vital signs.
- 4. Describe the roles and responsibilities of the nursing assistant in various health care settings.
- 5. Utilize proper body mechanics during patient transfers.
- 6. Identify how psychosocial characteristics of patients can impact care.
- 7. Describe common safety/emergency procedures seen in the clinical setting.
- 8. Demonstrate appropriate interpersonal communication skills with patients and other healthcare providers.
- 9. Demonstrate the ability to provide nutritional assistance to patients.
- 10. Identify the parameters of normal and abnormal vital signs.
- 11. Recognize when patient status/behavior is outside patient care plan parameters and requires communication with the charge nurse.
- 12. Demonstrate the ability to make appropriate patient care decisions based on nursing assistant principals.
- 13. Exhibit professionalism in attitude, work ethic, and demeanor while performing assigned tasks.

E. Methods for Assessing Student Learning:

Methods for assessment may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- 1. Written exams
- 2. Demonstration of skills in lab
- 3. Clinical Performance

F. Special Information:

- 1. Student must be able to lift at least 50 pounds
- 2. Student must pass a MN Department of Human Service background check prior to participating in clinical
- 3. Student must have negative TB test prior to clinical
- 4. Student must be vaccinated against Rubella and Rubeola (MMR) or have a titer showing immunity
- 5. Indicate Covid-19 vaccination status
- 6. Students must pass the theory portion of class to attend clinical