

Department of Practical Nurse & Health Care Aide

COURSE OUTLINE – Spring 2026

NP1450 (3): Clinical Nursing Skills – 3 (2-0-6) 120 Hours for 15 Weeks

Northwestern Polytechnic acknowledges that our campuses are located on Treaty 8 territory, the ancestral and present-day home to many diverse First Nations, Metis, and Inuit people. We are grateful to work, live and learn on the traditional territory of Duncan's First Nation, Horse Lake First Nation and Sturgeon Lake Cree Nation, who are the original caretakers of this land.

We acknowledge the history of this land and we are thankful for the opportunity to walk together in friendship, where we will encourage and promote positive change for present and future generations.

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CALENDAR DESCRIPTION: Development of skills for practical nursing. Focus is on skill attainment, clinical reasoning, clinical judgement, safe nursing practice, and safe client care.

Note: Available only to practical nursing students.

PREREQUISITE(S): NP1205, NP1250, NP1280, NP1500

COREQUISITE(S): NP1400, NP1410, NP1480, NP1600, NP1700

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

Cobbett, S. (2024). Perry & Potter's Canadian Clinical Nursing Skills and Techniques (2nd ed.). Elsevier

NWP Approved Lab Supply Kit

Supplies as per PN Handbook

DELIVERY MODE(S): In-person Lecture and Lab

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon successful completion of NP1450 learners will be able to:

1. Describe critical thinking, clinical reasoning, and clinical judgement in the context of decision-making during client care.
2. Apply the nursing process in simulated clinical settings to develop and refine nursing skills.
3. Adhere to safety protocols and infection control measures to ensure both personal and client safety.
4. Perform clinical nursing skills efficiently and effectively following evidence- based practices.
5. Complete and document client interactions and nursing procedures accurately in client records, adhering to legal and ethical nursing documentation standards.
6. Articulate the roles, scope, and responsibilities of a Practical Nurse, highlighting collaborative and autonomous aspects of the role.
7. Identify and adhere to policies, procedures, and protocols relevant to clinical skills, ensuring alignment with regulatory and instructional guidelines for safe nursing practice.

TRANSFERABILITY:

Please consult the Alberta Transfer Guide for more information. You may check the transferability of this course at the Alberta Transfer Guide main page

<http://www.transferalberta.alberta.ca>.

**** For courses with alpha (letter) grading, a grade of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions. Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact the receiving institutions to ensure transferability.**

EVALUATIONS:

Assignment	Weight	Date	Related Course Learning Outcomes

OSCEs	Pass/Fail	Week 8 & 14	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7
Tickets to Lab	20% (1% per ticket)	During Labs (x20)	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
Skills Completion Checklist	Pass/Fail	Each Lab	2, 3, 4
Midterm Exam	25%	Week 8	1, 6, 7
SIM Reflection	25%	Week 15	1, 5, 6
Final Exam	30%	In Exam Week	1, 6, 7

1. Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE)

OSCEs provide students with the opportunity to demonstrate competency in clinical nursing skills. Students must achieve a PASS for each OSCE to continue in and pass the course. Students will be given TWO attempts to successfully pass an OSCE. If they are unsuccessful after the second attempt, they will not be permitted to continue in NP1450 and will be unsuccessful in the course. OSCE rubric will be posted on D2L.

2. Tickets to Lab

These quizzes evaluate student preparation for lab. Quizzes will be written at the start of each lab and students who are late without prior approval will not be permitted to write and will receive a grade of zero on the quiz. Students with unexcused absences will not be permitted to write the quiz and will receive a zero. Students with an excused absence will be permitted to write the missed quiz at a later date. It is the student's responsibility to contact the instructor to arrange an alternate time.

3. Skills Completion Checklist

Students will be required to have each skill set practiced in the lab signed off by their instructor. Two or more skill sets not signed off without prior approval from the instructor will result in a course failure.

4. Midterm Exam

The Midterm Exam includes all content covered up to and including Week 7. Question format includes a variety of styles including but not limited to multiple choice, short and long answer, matching, true or false, and select all that apply.

5. SIM Reflection

Students will write a personal reflection based on their SIM experience and provided prompts. Assignment overview and rubric will be posted on D2L.

6. Final Exam

The final exam is cumulative and includes all content covered in the course. Question format may include a variety of styles but not limited to multiple choice, short and long answer, matching, true or false, and select all that apply.

GRADING CRITERIA

Please note that most institutions will not accept your course for transfer credit IF your grade is **less than C-**.

Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines		Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines
A+	4.0	95-100		C+	2.3	67-69
A	4.0	85-94		C	2.0	63-66
A-	3.7	80-84		C-	1.7	60-62
B+	3.3	77-79		D+	1.3	55-59
B	3.0	73-76		D	1.0	50-54
B-	2.7	70-72		F	0.0	00-49

COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:

Week	Topic	Resources
1	Hygiene, Infection Control, Medical Asepsis, Activity & Mobility	Ch. 5, 6, 11, 12, 13, 18 D2L
2	Wound Care	Ch. 39, 40 D2L
3	Non-Parenteral Medications	Ch. 20, 21 D2L
4	IV Initiation and Pump Programming	Ch. 29 D2L
5	Parenteral Medications	Ch. 22 D2L

6	CVADs	Ch. 29 D2L
7	Nutrition, NGs	Ch. 31, 32, 33 D2L
8	Midterm Exam & OSCEs	
9	SPRING BREAK	
10	Blood Administration	Ch. 30 D2L
11	Elimination, Foley Catheters, Rectal Tubes, Ostomy Care	Ch. 34, 35, 36 D2L
12	Oxygenation, Chest Tubes, Tracheostomy Care	Ch. 23, 25, 27, 28 D2L
13	Post Op, Drains, SIM	Ch. 37 SIM Resources D2L
14	OSCEs	
15	Review (Final Exam during Exam Week)	

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES: As a student at NWP, you have rights and responsibilities. It is your responsibility to be familiar with the information contained in this Course Outline and the PN student handbook and to clarify any areas of concern with the instructor. It is also your responsibility to be familiar with NWP Policies. Please take the time to familiarize yourself with the policies that might impact you while you are here:

- Practical Nurse Program Student Handbook

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1rC9OZjzQmSUDuEdrgUaiC0g5_8GtIJYx6y7PAtkHyA/edit?tab=t.0

STATEMENT ON ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT:

Academic Misconduct will not be tolerated. For a more precise definition of academic misconduct and its consequences, refer to the Student Rights and Responsibilities policy available

at <https://www.nwpolytech.ca/about/administration/policies/index.html>.

****Note:** all Academic and Administrative policies are available on the same page.

Additional Information

Students are required to come to lab in proper attire with the required supplies and equipment as per the PN Student Handbook. Personal cell phone use is not permitted during lab hours