

## Department of Practical Nurse and Health Care Aide

### COURSE OUTLINE –Spring 2026

#### **NP2250 (3): Community Nursing Theory – (6-2-0) 60 Hours for 7 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.

**INSTRUCTOR:**  
Amanda Hickson

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**OFFICE:** HEC342

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**OFFICE HOURS:**  
By appointment

**CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:** Introduction to concepts, theories, and practices of community health nursing. Focus is on health promotion strategies for communities as clients. Note: Available only to Practical Nursing Students

**PREREQUISITE(S):** NP2100, NP2110, NP2130, NP2150

**COREQUISITE(S):** NP2230, NS2220

**REQUIRED MATERIALS:** MacDonald, S. A., & Jakubec, S. L. (2021). Stanhope and Lancaster's community health nursing in Canada (4th ed.). Elsevier.

**DELIVERY MODE(S):** In-class lecture and seminar.

## LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon successful completion of NP2250, learners will be able to:

1. Explain how a caring nursing practice can be applied to a community as the client.
2. Identify and analyze cultural considerations that influence nursing practice, including how cultural competence affects patient care.
3. Describe key concepts, theories, and practices of community health nursing, and apply them to real-world community health issues.
4. Discuss evidence-based health promotion strategies and their application in improving community health outcomes.
5. Compare and contrast the roles, responsibilities, and settings of public health nursing and home health nursing.

## 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:

The final grade is based on the following assessments, and there are no additional assignments or marks provided in the course. All evaluation components must be completed to pass the course.

| Assignment             | Weight             | Date                                                               | Related course learning outcome |
|------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Tickets to class       | 30%<br>(2.5% each) | Lecture classes<br><b>Weeks 1-6</b>                                | 1,2,3,4,5                       |
| Community Health Essay | 30%                | <b>June 5/2026 @2400</b>                                           | 1,2,3,4,5                       |
| Final exam             | 40%                | During class, In-person<br><b>June 18/2026</b><br><b>0830-1130</b> | 1,2,3,4,5                       |

## **Tickets to Class (30% total grade weight, 2.5% per ticket)**

Each lecture (weeks 1–6) will include a Ticket to Class at the start of each class to assess the required pre-reading knowledge. This exercise is designed to encourage students to keep up with class readings, refresh their memory of the subject matter, and prepare them to engage in class discussions, which are essential to the course. Tickets to Class will be available weekly on D2L and at the beginning of each class, with a 10-minute time limit for completion. Students who arrive late to class will not be permitted to complete the Ticket to Class. Students who are absent will not be given an opportunity to complete the ticket at a later time, and a grade of zero will be assigned.

## **Community Health Essay (30% of total grade)**

Learners will write a research-based essay exploring a community health issue that affects a vulnerable population. They will describe the selected issue, identify the population most impacted, and analyze the social determinants of health that contribute to the problem. Learners will also examine the role of the practical nurse in promoting health, preventing illness, and supporting individuals, families, and communities. The assignment requires the use of current, credible research to support analysis and encourages the application of community nursing concepts to real-world practice.

## **Final Exam (40% of total grade)**

The final exam includes all content covered throughout the course. Question format includes a variety of styles including, but not limited to, multiple choice, short answer, long answer, matching, and select all that apply.

| 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                 |

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

## COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:

| Week | Chapter and Topic                                                                                                                                                                    |
|------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1    | 1. Community Health Nursing<br>2. The Evolution of Community Health Nursing in Canada                                                                                                |
| 2    | 3. Community Health Nursing in Canada: Settings, Functions, and Roles<br>7. Diversity and Relational Practice in Community Health Nursing<br>9. Working With the Community           |
| 3    | 4. Health Promotion<br>10. Health Program Planning and Evaluation<br>5. Evidence-Informed Practice in Community Health Nursing                                                       |
| 4    | 8. Epidemiological Applications<br>17. Environmental Health                                                                                                                          |
| 5    | 11. Working With the Individual as Client: Health and Wellness Across the Lifespan<br>12. Working With Families<br>15. Working With People Who Experience Structural Vulnerabilities |
| 6    | 16. Communicable and Infectious Disease Prevention and Control<br>Canadian vaccine schedule: Online external resource on D2L.                                                        |
| 7    | Final exam                                                                                                                                                                           |

**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:

- NWP Department of Nursing Education & Health Studies Handbook PN Student Handbook [NWP Department of Practical Nurse & Health Care Aide: Practical Nurse Handbook](#)
- NWP Policies: Northwestern Polytechnic administrative/academic policies NWP Students Rights & Responsibilities Policy: [Policies | Northwestern Polytechnic](#)

## **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 <https://www.nwpolytech.ca/about/polytechnic-leadership/policies-directory>.

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

## **Additional Information:**

### **LATE ASSIGNMENT POLICY**

To obtain credit in the course ALL evaluations methods must be completed. Students are expected to make every effort to complete assignments on time. Assignment submissions are expected on the date determined by faculty. If extensions are necessary, they may be requested up to 48 hours prior to the assignment due date and should be submitted in writing to the faculty member involved. Not all extensions will be granted. In exceptional situations, extension requests within the 48-hour period may be considered. Late assignments will have 5% of total marks (or one letter grade) for the assignment deducted for each day/ partial day (including weekend days) beyond the due time.

For example, a paper marked at B+ would receive an adjusted grade of B if handed in one day late. After 5 days, a grade of 0 will be awarded to the assignment. If the late penalty places the grade below the necessary pass grade, students will be unsuccessful in the course. When submitting assignments electronically, it is the student's responsibility to

ensure the assignment has been received. Papers/ assignments may not be rewritten for a higher grade. Concerns regarding grading are to be discussed with the faculty member involved.

## **TURNITIN SOFTWARE**

As part of NWP's commitment to academic integrity, all written assignments submitted by students will be reviewed using Turnitin software, an online plagiarism detection tool, to verify originality and ensure academic integrity. Turnitin compares student work to a vast database of academic sources, publications and previously submitted assignments to identify potential instances of plagiarism or improper citation(s). By enrolling in this course, students acknowledge and consent to the use of Turnitin for assignment submissions.