

NURSING 1040
HEALTH ASSESSMENT WITHIN NURSING PRACTICE

5 credits - (3-3-3). Health assessment and basic nursing skills will be introduced. Students will assess the health status of adult patients and provide basic nursing care. Corequisites: Nursing 1000, 1010, & Physiology 1621.

Minimum Course Hours:

Classroom: 39 Clinical: 39 Laboratory: 39

Faculty Resources:

	Office	Phone
Dorothy Eiserman	H208	539-2752
Meg McDonagh	H212	539-2755
Mary Ann Wiebe	H204	539-2787
Kelly Wrzosek	H202	539-2761
Dawn Zimmer	H228	539-2896

Course Description:

Health assessment is a skill and an integral part of the nursing process. As a skill it includes the health history and the four classical techniques of physical examination. As part of the nursing process, it provides the data base for nursing practice. Basic health assessment and selected nursing interventions will be taught concurrently. The student will use the data base to screen and monitor the health status of adult patients in order to provide appropriate basic nursing care. Relevant legal, ethical, and cultural issues will be included.

Course Objectives:

1. Within the context of the nursing process, the student will perform basic health assessment and selected nursing interventions according to the underlying principles.
2. The student will identify, describe, and record expected and atypical findings of adult patients.
3. The student will explain the rationale underlying the procedures used during the physical examination.
4. The student will relate knowledge of anatomy and physiology to the physical examination.
5. The student will demonstrate effective communication in interactions throughout the course.

Core Course Content:

Underlying belief:

Health assessment is essential for the practice of nursing. Assessment data collected will be organized, reported, and recorded in a manner consistent with the nursing process.

The health history will include the following subjective data: lifestyle, health and illness patterns, health promotion and protection patterns, and growth and development.

The physical assessment will be performed in a logical sequence, either according to body systems or using the head-to-toe approach. The four classical techniques of inspection, palpation, percussion, and auscultation will be used to collect the objective data.

Course Schedule:

Nursing 1040 is comprised of three hours of lecture, three hours of clinical practice, and three hours of laboratory practice per week. Students are responsible for the medical terminology content through self-study. Lectures will be scheduled for Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Clinical and laboratory practice will be scheduled for Tuesday and Thursday.

Course Requirements:

In order to obtain credit for Nursing 1040, students must pass the theoretical, laboratory and nursing practice components of the course. Students who have not received a pass in the nursing practice and laboratory portion of the course will not be given credit for the course and will be required, if readmitted, to repeat the theoretical, laboratory, and nursing practice components of the course.

Methods of Evaluation:

1. Theoretical

- a. Quizzes: There will be 5 quizzes on class content and medical terminology throughout the year. Each quiz will be worth 4%. **Mark allocation 20%.**
- b. Final Examination: This will be a comprehensive examination covering all course content including medical terminology. The examination will be primarily multiple choice. **Mark allocation 40%.**

2. Laboratory

- a. Practical Lab Examination: Attendance is compulsory. Students who are unable to attend are at risk for failing the course. Students will be required to demonstrate proficiency of health assessment skills in a practical examination. Instructors will inform students of the possible units of examination prior to the lab exam. **Mark allocation 20%.**

3. Nursing Practice

- a. Students must have current CPR, up to date immunizations, and have begun their Hepatitis B immunization series prior to commencing their clinical practice.
- b. Attendance is compulsory. Students who are unable to fulfil the clinical requirements are at risk for failing the course. Students are responsible for all laboratory content as it is essential in order to be prepared for clinical practice. Students who have been absent from labs may be asked to demonstrate competence to their instructor prior to being able to practice the skill in the clinical setting.
- c. Assignment: The documentation of a complete history and physical assessment of an adult client will comprise the assignment for this portion of the course. **Mark allocation 20%.** Students will have their clinical performance evaluated on an ongoing basis through weekly meetings with their clinical instructor. Instructors will supervise a minimum of two client visits per student.

Course Grade:

Grade Points	Equivalence in Percentage
9	90 - 100
8	80 - 89
7	72 - 79
6	65 - 71
5	57 - 64
4	50 - 56
3	45 - 49
2	26 - 44
1	0 - 25

Required Textbooks :

Du Gas, B. & Knor, E. (1995). Nursing foundations: A Canadian perspective. Scarborough, ON: Appleton & Lange.

O'Toole, M. (Ed.). (1992). Miller-Keane Encyclopedia & Dictionary of Medicine, Nursing, & Allied Health (5th ed.). Toronto, ON: W.B. Saunders.

Seidel, H., Ball, J., Dains, J., & Benedict, G. (1995). Mosby's Guide to Physical Examination (3rd ed.). St. Louis, MS: C.V. Mosby.

Smith, G., Davis, P., & Dennerll, J. (1995). Medical Terminology: A Programmed Text (7th ed.). New York, NY: Delmar Publishers.

Recommended Textbooks:

Seidel, H., Ball, J., Dains, J., & Benedict, G. (1995). Mosby's Physical Examination Handbook. Toronto, ON: Mosby.

Seidel, H., Ball, J., Dains, J., & Benedict, G. (1995). Student Workbook to accompany Mosby's Guide to Physical Examination (3rd. ed). Toronto, ON: Mosby.

Equipment:

Students are responsible for purchasing the following equipment:

- 1 penlight
- 1 black pen
- 1 stethoscope
- 1 watch with a second hand
- 1 name tag (available from the Nursing Office)