

Grande Prairie Regional College
Department of Nursing Education
Rural Nursing Certificate Program

RN 4804
Maternal-Infant Nursing
Credits 9

Course Outline

January 1996

**Grande Prairie Regional College
Department of Nursing Education**

COURSE OUTLINE

RN 4804 - Maternal-Infant Nursing

MINIMUM COURSE HOURS: 45

CLASSROOM: Self-study

Laboratory: 0

Clinical: 210

CREDIT VALUE: 9 credits

COURSE PREREQUISITES: University transferable health assessment course

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS:

This course provides students with the opportunity to develop their obstetrical knowledge base and clinical skills to a level which allows them to recognize and deal with common complications. Clinical experiences will allow the student to apply the nursing process and integrate knowledge of health assessment, theories of growth and development, communication, teaching and learning health promotion. Modules address topics such as antenatal and postpartum bleeding, premature labour, vaginal examination, pregnancy-induced hypertension, resuscitation of the newborn, respiratory distress in the newborn and inter-hospital transfer. The theory portion of this self-study course is equivalent to 45 hours of theory. The clinical placement will normally occur over a 6-7 week time period, and will be a minimum of 210 practice hours and 5 assisted/observed deliveries.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

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

1. Identify and describe normal and abnormal maternal physiological and psychosocial changes during the antepartum, intrapartum, and postpartum, and postpartum periods.
2. Identify and describe normal and abnormal physiological adaptations of the newborn infant to extrauterine life.
3. Demonstrate competence in fetal, maternal, and neonatal assessment.

4. Using the principles of the nursing process, apply theoretical knowledge to the clinical setting through development and implementation nursing interventions which meet the needs of the mother, the newborn, and the family.
5. Collaborate with regional community resources to optimize the well-being of the mother, fetus, and newborn during the antepartum, intrapartum and postpartum periods.
6. Critically consider nursing and other research relevant to the care of the mother, the newborn, and the family.
7. Demonstrate research based practice.

CORE COURSE CONTENT:

1. Assessment of the pregnant woman and the woman in labor
2. Hypertensive disorders of pregnancy
3. Preterm labor
4. Antenatal hemorrhage
5. Unassisted delivery
6. Complicated deliveries
7. Assessment of the newborn
8. Transition to extrauterine life
9. Respiratory distress in the newborn
10. Infection in the neonate
11. Postpartum hemorrhage
12. Transfer to regional/tertiary centre

PRINCIPLES/CRITERIA:

1. Student must have the required prerequisites: i.e. health assessment course.
2. The course contains substantive nursing knowledge related to the practice of Maternal-infant Nursing .
3. The knowledge to be learned has both theoretical and clinical application.
4. The student will have the name of a tutor to contact regarding any theoretical questions or concerns.
5. In the clinical setting the student will always have a R.N. as a preceptor/mentor who has experience working in the department of the given facility.

6. Student advisement for RN 4804 is an essential component prior to selection of the clinical practicum site
7. Adequate orientation to the clinical setting must be provided.
8. The supervision and guidance provided to the student must ensure safe practice and support the student's learning.
9. The student's clinical component will be evaluated by the preceptor and monitored by the tutor and Program Coordinator.
10. Students must pass both the clinical and theoretical components in order to receive credit in the course.

KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS FROM PREVIOUS COURSES WHICH ARE REQUIRED PRIOR TO THE COURSE:

The student is expected to be familiar with:

- the physical and psychological changes of pregnancy
- nursing care of the healthy pregnant woman
- anatomy and physiology of the birth process
- nursing care of the healthy intrapartum and postpartum woman
- nursing care of the low-risk newborn infant

Core Learning Experiences and Resources

This is a distance delivery self-study course. Students work at their own pace using the headings and a study guide. Clinical experience in a maternal-infant setting is required.

METHODS OF EVALUATION

Theoretical:

Students will be evaluated on the basis of three assignments and a final examination.

Assignment #1 Prenatal Record Analysis

The purpose of this assignment is to give the student practice in interpreting a written record and to plan the physical and emotional care of the mother-fetus dyad. Mark allocation 10%.

Assignment #2 Oral Presentation

This assignment involves designing and presenting a teaching session on term labour. It is intended to give the student experience in surveying topical literature, designing content, and presenting information to a target group. Mark allocation 25%.

Assignment #3 Medication Calculation

This assignment involves dosage and volume calculation. Mark allocation 5%.

Assignment #4 Research Paper

The purpose of this assignment is to allow the student to explore the experiences of a maternity client and compare those experiences to existing research data. Mark allocation 20%.

Final Exam

A comprehensive final exam using short answer, multiple choice, matching and true/false questions cover the theoretical content. Mark allocation 40%

Clinical Nursing Practice

Attendance is compulsory. Students who are unable to fulfil the clinical requirements are at risk of failing the course. Each student will have their clinical performance evaluated on an ongoing basis during their clinical practice. Each clinical evaluation will be based on the objectives as outlined in the Clinical Evaluation Booklet. The preceptor, in consultation with the course tutor and program coordinator will determine the clinical grade.

In order to receive credit for the course, all assignments and the final examination must be completed. A satisfactory grade must be achieved in clinical practice. The passing grade for the course is an overall average of 65%.