

# NURS-252: NURSING CARE OF PATIENTS WITH ACUTE ILLNESS II

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**Effective Term**

Fall 2025

**CC Approval**

12/06/2024

**AS Approval**

02/13/2025

**BOT Approval**

02/20/2025

**COCI Approval**

05/09/2025

**SECTION A - Course Data Elements**
**CB04 Credit Status**

Credit - Degree Applicable

**Discipline**

Minimum Qualifications	And/Or
Nursing (Master's Degree)	Or
Nursing Science/Clinical Practice (Any Degree and Professional Experience)	

**Subject Code**

NURS - Nursing

**Course Number**

252

**Department**

Nursing (NURS)

**Division**

Health Occupations (HEOC)

**Full Course Title**

Nursing Care of Patients With Acute Illness II

**Short Title**

Nursi Care Patients w/Acute II

**CB03 TOP Code**

1230.10 - \*Registered Nursing

**CB08 Basic Skills Status**

NBS - Not Basic Skills

**CB09 SAM Code**

C - Clearly Occupational

**Rationale**

According to the BRN we have more units than required and more hours than most programs and we need to reduce our overall hours and units and they are also considering the difficulty in student placements, faculty shortages, nursing shortages, and the ramifications of Title IV in regards to unit limitations. We also have struggled getting the clinical hours met based on clinical site availability and faculty limitations. The BRN recommends 8-10 student to instructor ratios for clinical depending on the clinical experience. Many of the clinical sites have reduced maximum student cohorts to 8 students per placement. Students and the faculty have found it challenging as at times they have to complete two 13-hour shifts per week and then lecture hours and other lab hours on top of that in order to complete the required BRN approved hours. Now we are going from an 18-week semester to a shorter 16-week cycle. And for these reasons maintaining the current number of hours is not feasible. The BRN has stated that the revisions we have made look reasonable and are in line with their requirements. Once we get them approved via the college channels, they will formally approve the entire curriculum revisions. Our revisions are primarily decreased units and slightly adjusted time frames. Last year, 3 FT faculty retired, and we only replaced two of them and we are currently on overload, so the reduction in hours would not displace any current FT tenure-track faculty positions. In actuality, we will need to evaluate in a year or so if (even with the reductions suggested) we would benefit from another instructor as we have to utilize many adjuncts to cover the clinical hours. Our overall Nursing Course reductions will result in an overall reduction from 47 units to 41 units.

**SECTION B - Course Description****Catalog Course Description**

This course focuses on the development of clinical reasoning and judgment to promote positive patient outcomes while providing safe, affirming, patient-centered care. Students will demonstrate their ability to care for the adult client in an acute medical- surgical clinical environment, in clinics, or in a simulation lab utilizing the knowledge and skills acquired from previous courses.

**SECTION C - Conditions on Enrollment****Open Entry/Open Exit**

No

**Repeatability**

Not Repeatable

**Grading Options**

Letter Grade Only

**Allow Audit**

Yes

**Requisites****Prerequisite(s)**

Completion of NURS-251 with a minimum grade of C.

**Requisite Justification****Requisite Description**

Course in a Sequence

**Subject**

NURS

**Course #**

251

**Level of Scrutiny**

Content Review

**Upon entering this course, students should be able to:**

Completion of NURS 251 with a minimum grade of C.

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## SECTION D - Course Standards

Is this course variable unit?

No

Units

8

Lecture Hours

72.00

Lab Hours

216

Outside of Class Hours

144

Total Contact Hours

288

Total Student Hours

432

## Distance Education Approval

Is this course offered through Distance Education?

Yes

Online Delivery Methods

DE Modalities	Permanent or Emergency Only?
Hybrid	Permanent

## SECTION E - Course Content

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:	
1.	Develop and implement nursing care to individuals with acute and/ or multi-system medical- surgical alterations in a variety of settings.
2.	Establish own professional nursing practice in accordance with the ethical and legal guidelines in The Nurse Practice Act, ANA Code of Ethics, and Nurse Practice Standards.
3.	Initiate effective therapeutic communication with individuals, families, groups, and members of the health care team.
4.	Evaluate theory and evidence-based knowledge, using quality improvement, evidence-based knowledge, teamwork, and collaboration for decision making to guide nursing practice.
5.	Manage safe and effective nursing care for a group of individuals with complex multi-system alterations in health, in collaboration with the inter-disciplinary team.
6.	Generate plan for continued personal and professional growth inclusive of improving clinical performance.

Course Objectives

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:	
1.	Develop and implement nursing care to individuals with acute and/ or multi-system medical- surgical alterations in a variety of settings.
2.	Establish own professional nursing practice in accordance with the ethical and legal guidelines in The Nurse Practice Act, ANA Code of Ethics, and Nurse Practice Standards.
3.	Initiate effective therapeutic communication with individuals, families, groups, and members of the health care team.
4.	Evaluate theory and evidence-based knowledge, using quality improvement, evidence-based knowledge, teamwork, and collaboration for decision making to guide nursing practice.

5. Manage safe and effective nursing care for a group of individuals with complex multi-system alterations in health, in collaboration with the inter-disciplinary team.
6. Generate plan for continued personal and professional growth inclusive of improving clinical performance.

### Course Content

1. **Leadership:**
  - a. Foundations for Effective Leadership
  - b. Clinical Reasoning & Judgment
  - c. Critical Triad: Decision making, management and leadership
2. **Emergency and Disaster Nursing:**
  - a. Types of Traumatic Brain Injuries (TBI); Bleeding or Diffuse Axonal Injury
  - b. Types of Brain Hemorrhage; SDH & SAH
  - c. Increased Intra-Cranial Pressure (ICP)
  - d. Measures & Tx to Reduce Increased ICP
  - e. Brain Death Criteria
  - f. SIADH (Syndrome of Inappropriate Diuretic Hormone)
  - g. DI (Diabetes Insipidus)
  - h. Seizures, Safety, Causes, & Medication Administration
3. **Dermatologic & Skin Integrity Issues**
  - a. Braden Scale & Prevention, Staging, & Pressure Injuries
  - b. Categorizing Burns, Rule of Nines, Parkland Formula
  - c. Diagnostic Procedures; Patch Testing, Biopsy, & Scrapings
  - d. Treatments for wounds: Wound Vac Therapy, Dressings & Crusting
  - e. DIWAMOPI: Debridement, Identifying Infection, Wicking, Absorption, Maintaining Moisture, Opening Wound Edges, Protecting, Insulating.
4. **Problems related to the Gastrointestinal System:**
  - a. Digestion & Enteric Feedings
  - b. Absorption & Malabsorption
  - c. Elimination; Bristol's Stool Chart & C-Diffocole Infection & Pt. Isolation
  - d. Gastric & Duodenal Disorders
  - e. Hepatic & Biliary Disorders
  - f. Intestinal & Rectal Disorders
5. **Endocrine Disorders:**
  - a. Thyroid; Hyperthyroidism & Hypothyroidism;
  - b. Diabetes; Type I & Type II
  - c. Management of Diabetic Ketoacidosis & HHS
6. **Reproductive Disorders:**
  - a. Male & Female Reproductive Disorders
  - b. Sexually Transmitted Diseases

### Methods of Instruction

#### Methods of Instruction

Types	Examples of learning activities
Discussion	Assigned case studies, nursing care plans.
Lab	Practice and demonstration of skills as per Skills Videos
Lecture	On line power points and audio lecture
Observation and Demonstration	Observe skills videos to reinforce class/ lab demonstration.
Projects	Presentations to classmates online

#### Instructor-Initiated Online Contact Types

Announcements/Bulletin Boards  
 Discussion Boards  
 E-mail Communication  
 Telephone Conversations  
 Video or Teleconferencing

**Student-Initiated Online Contact Types**

Discussions

**Course design is accessible**

Yes

**Methods of Evaluation**

**Methods of Evaluation**

Types	Examples of classroom assessments
Exams/Tests	Exams will be proctored and non-proctored as assigned. Some are in Canvas and some are via an online learning platform that includes standardized national tests.
Essays/Papers	1. Write clinical diagnosis and nursing diagnosis for assigned clinical patients. 2. Write the plan of care and outcomes to be achieved for assigned clinical patients.
Simulation	1. Demonstration of nursing skills, interpersonal communication and critical thinking during patient care in simulation scenarios.
Projects	Group Projects - Read case studies assigned and discuss outcomes with class.
Class Participation	1. Active verbal participation in class and seminar required. 2. Participate in small group assignments and presentations for pertinent current topics
Homework	1. Write clinical diagnosis and nursing diagnosis for assigned clinical patient. 2. Write nursing plan of care and outcomes to be achieved for assigned clinical patient.
Lab Activities	Practice nursing skills and perform return demonstration.
Other	Must satisfactorily pass clinical to pass the class.

**Assignments**

**Reading Assignments**

Reading as assigned in Wolters Kluwer e-books and online case studies.

Unit 1: Huston Chapters: 1-6 Leadership

Unit 2: Read Honan: Emergencies, Trauma, & Disasters Ch. 44, 45, 53, 54, 55

Unit 3: Read Honan: Skin, Wounds, & Burns Ch. 50, 51, & 52

Unit 4: Read Honan: Problems with Digestion Ch. 20, 21, 22, & 24

Unit 5: Read Honan: Endocrine Ch. 28, 29, & 30

Unit 6: Read Honan: Reproductive System Issues Ch. 31, 32, & 33

**Writing Assignments**

Written plans of care & some in class case studies.

**Other Assignments**

As per course syllabus & as assigned in "The Point" with Lippincott Wolters Kluwer

**SECTION F - Textbooks and Instructional Materials**

**Material Type**

Textbook

**Author**

Honan, L.

**Title**

Medical Surgical Nursing: Focus on Clinical Judgment: PassPoint & Skills

**Edition/Version**

3rd edition

**Publisher**

Wolters Kluwer

**Year**

2024

**Rationale**

To promote active participation and learning: Online fully integrated package with Canvas from Lippincott Wolters Kluwer

**ISBN #**

Online fully integrated package with Canvas from Lippincott Wolters Kluwer

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**Material Type**

Textbook

**Author**

Huston. C.

**Title**

Leadership and Management Functions in Nursing

**Edition/Version**

11th ed.

**Publisher**

Wolters Kluwer

**Year**

2023

**Rationale**

Part of an online interactive integrated package with Wolters Kluwer and Lippincott

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**Course Codes (Admin Only)**

**ASSIST Update**

No

**CB00 State ID**

CCC000584193

**CB10 Cooperative Work Experience Status**

N - Is Not Part of a Cooperative Work Experience Education Program

**CB11 Course Classification Status**

Y - Credit Course

**CB13 Special Class Status**

N - The Course is Not an Approved Special Class

**CB23 Funding Agency Category**

Y - Not Applicable (Funding Not Used)

**CB24 Program Course Status**

Program Applicable

**Allow Pass/No Pass**

No

**Only Pass/No Pass**

No

