Course Information

Course Number: GNUR 207  
Course Title: Individual, Family, Community, and Health  
Credit Hours: 3

Faculty Information

Instructor: Kim Whitmore, RN, MSN, CPN  
Telephone: 414-403-2699  
Email: kwhitmore@luc.edu

Course Description

This course focuses on the concepts of family, community, culture, and health, exploring the complex relationships that exist among these concepts in the context of health and wellness. This course enables students to view the interactions among individuals, families, and communities, and their environments. Content includes family theory, the tenets of family-centered care, community resources, levels of prevention, and the principles of population-focused and culturally sensitive care. Roles and responsibilities in interdisciplinary teamwork are emphasized. Students are introduced to the historical and political influences of the current US health care delivery system with an emphasis on issues of health care access and health care disparities among culturally diverse and vulnerable populations. Assessment of clients' cultures and an examination of culturally derived health practices aid students in the development of cultural sensitivity and in an appreciation and respect for the values of diverse cultural groups. Throughout this course, students focus on cultural forces and health care disparities that impact the health of individuals, families, and communities.

Course Outcomes

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

1. Explain the relationship between culture and health beliefs. The focus of this course is to explore the impact of culture on the health beliefs and practices of individuals, families, and communities.
2. Explore the concept of community, identifying the cultural aspects of one’s own community of origin and the resultant impact of these forces on one’s own health beliefs and practices. The course teaches the principles underlying the assessment of an individual’s, a family’s and a community’s health beliefs and practices.
3. Describe the concept of family within a systems framework. Through ongoing class discussion we will apply family theory and cultural concepts to clinical settings that require the provision of family-centered and culturally sensitive care.
4. Describe the principles of epidemiology, including implementation of risk reduction strategies aimed at the leading causes of morbidity and mortality. We will examine the natural life history of a disease, and the application of this knowledge in strategies for disease prevention among diverse cultural groups.
5. Describe the U.S. Health Care Delivery System within the context of global health. Through the study of the evolution of the current U.S. health care delivery system and comparison of health care delivery systems in other developed nations, we will examine the strengths and weaknesses of the U.S. health care system, with a special focus on health care access issues of persons from culturally diverse and vulnerable populations.

Course Resources
Required Text Book

Required Web Resource
Loyola Libraries’ Research Guide: Cultural Competence
http://libguides.luc.edu/content.php?pid=255655&sid=2110752

Recommended (Optional) Book

Recommended Journal Reading Resources
Journal of Transcultural Nursing
Journal of Public Health Nursing
Journal of Immigrant Health
Journal of Health Disparities Research and Practice
Journal of Community Health
Journal of Epidemiology
Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health

Note: Additional materials will be available from the course site.

Course Activities

Weekly readings, knowledge checkpoints, discussions, video presentation, assignments, and web-based tutorials

Course Evaluation

Assessments

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Live Well Inventory</td>
<td>5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reflection Activities (7 x 5%)</td>
<td>35%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Discussion Participation (2 x 7.5%)</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Family/Cultural Assessment Assignment</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Web-based Tutorials Assignments (3 x 10%)</td>
<td>30%</td>
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Grading Scale

Letter grades will be assigned by the following grading scale:

A    100 - 94
A-   93 - 92
B+   91 - 89
B    88 - 86
B-   85 - 84
C+   83 - 80
C    79 - 77
C-   76 - 75
D+   74 - 72
D    71 - 69
F    68 and below
Academic Integrity

Academic honesty is an expression of an ethic of interpersonal justice, responsibility, and care applicable to Loyola University faculty, students and staff, which demands that the pursuit of knowledge in the university community be carried out with sincerity and integrity. Please review Loyola University Chicago's Standards and Regulation: Academic Integrity statement and the Marcella Niehoff School or Nursing Undergraduate Nursing Student Handbook for more information.

Course Policies and Requirements

- Written assignments are due on the date indicated in the class schedule. Two points will be deducted for each day the assignment is late. Written assignments must be submitted online.
- Respect for the faculty and fellow colleagues must be demonstrated at all times and in all modes of communication (ex. phone, email, discussion boards, etc.).
- All students are required to use their Loyola-provided email address for correspondence during the course. All course announcements will be sent to Loyola-provided email addresses.