COURSE NUMBER: GNUR 327

COURSE TITLE: Introduction to Spiritual Care: Practicing the Art of Loving Interchange

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PRE-REQUISITES: None

DESCRIPTION: Spiritual Care is essential to providing quality nursing care. This course is focused on the nurse as integral to the provision of whole person care. Historical, theoretical and practical perspectives of providing spiritual care are discussed as well as the nursing process, cultural considerations, therapeutic use of self, and most frequently used nursing interventions related to spiritual care.

COURSE OUTCOMES:

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

1. Discuss the professional mandates for spiritual care.

2. Understand the requirement for the development of personal spiritual self-awareness in caring for the spirit of the patient, family and community.

3. Integrate elements of a spiritual assessment into the overall assessment of a patient.

4. Identify other professional groups that can collaborate in the provision of spiritual care for a patient.

5. Use prayer as a means of comforting patients.


7. Discuss religious rituals that may enhance a patient’s spiritual well-being.

8. Understand how art, music and poetry may be source of comfort for the spirit.
REQUIRED TEXT


Additional Readings:


Additional Resources:

. For APA formatting and writing assistance:


Loyola University Writing Center

http://www.luc.edu/writing/

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Transformative Education in the Jesuit Tradition:

http://www.luc.edu/transformativeed/index.shtml

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EVALUATION

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**Intention:** Remember those who were killed most recently in the Tucson, Arizona Shootings and more broadly all victims of violence.

**Reflection:** Whether we are interested or not it seems that every day brings another act of violence that leaves its mark. Two Saturdays ago on what most people would consider a casual Saturday morning a Judge went about this normal ritual of going to Mass, afterwards he decided he would stop and see a friend. He did. He died. A little girl interested in learning more about politics went with a friend to hear a woman who was a politician speak. She died. An older couple interested in hearing what this political leader had to say decided to go to the Plaza where she was speaking in front of the Safeway grocery store. They did. He died protecting his wife. An aide to the Congress woman was just doing his job. He went with his boss often to support her in engaging her constituents in the issues of the day and keep them informed. He was doing his job. He died. So isn’t it right to take some time and think about those people and I could have named more who started their day assuming it would be like many other Saturdays. They did not anticipate violence. But violence came uninvited, as violence does.

Where do I experience violence in my own life? Maybe not to the extent of the incidence in Tucson, but still disruptive of my personal peace and serenity – it lurks every day waiting for me to overextend myself. I remember the words of Thomas Merton “to allow one’s self to be carried away by a multitude of conflicting concerns, to surrender to too many demands, to commit one’s self to too many projects, to want to help everyone in everything is to succumb to violence. Frenzy destroys our inner capacity for peace. It destroys the fruitfulness of our work, because it kills the root of inner wisdom which makes work fruitful”.

**Prayer**

Dear Lord, be with us. Help us to guard our own sense of peace and serenity. We ask that you watch over us as we make our way through our days trying to serve another. Guard us from all violence and keep us in the palm of your hand.
Loyola University Chicago
Marcella Niehoff School of Nursing
Guide for Reflection

Intention:

Reflection:

Prayer: