HERZING UNIVERSITY

Course Syllabus

Course Title: Fundamental Concepts & Health Assessment

Course Code: NSG 521

Credit hours: 5.0

Lecture and Discussion (15 contact hours per credit) 75 Contact Hours

Course Description:

This course focuses on the concept of health assessment as the foundational step of the nursing process. Knowledge and skills necessary for the performance of comprehensive and focused health assessments will be presented. Students will learn and develop basic competencies necessary to facilitate the optimal well-being of the patient within the healthcare setting in a safe, legal, and ethical manner. Focus is placed on the nursing process, health promotion, disease prevention, professional communication, and interdisciplinary collaboration within the context of meeting basic patient needs in a healthcare environment.

Program: DEMSN Nursing

Program Outcomes:

Upon completion of their program, the student should be able to:

1. Prioritize patient-centered care using clinical judgment and the nursing process. (Knowledge for Nursing Practice, Person-Centered Care)
2. Collaborate with patients, families and team members to provide safe and culturally competent care. (Population Health, Quality and Safety)
3. Integrate evidence-based practice within diverse clinical settings to deliver optimal care. (Scholarship, Systems-Based Practice)
4. Minimize risk of harm to patients and providers through both systems effectiveness and individual performance. (Quality and Safety)
5. Use informational technology to communicate, mitigate error, support decision making, and manage patient care. (Informatics and Healthcare Technologies)
6. Evaluate quality improvement processes to enhance patient outcomes. (Quality and Safety)

7. Integrate professionalism and advanced leadership skills within the interdisciplinary healthcare environment. (Interprofessional Partnerships, Professionalism, Personal, Professional, and Leadership Development)
8. Analyze national and global policies, legislative concepts, and economics to address population outcomes. (Professionalism)

Course Learning Objectives:

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

1. Apply the nursing process and the role of the nurse as it applies to health assessment and health promotion.
2. Apply relevant anatomy and physiology to the health assessment process.
3. Differentiate normal assessment findings, variations from normal, and cultural and lifespan differences.
4. Develop patient and interprofessional communication skills.
5. Define holistic nursing care to patients based on assessment of their specific healthcare needs.

Competencies:

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

1. Demonstrate a comprehensive physical examination.
2. Exhibit history-taking and interviewing skills necessary for comprehensive data collection.
3. Safely perform patient assessments.
4. Demonstrate accurate documentation of health assessment findings.
5. Perform dosage calculations for administration of oral and parenteral medications accurately.

***NOTE: The comprehensive physical examination check-off during the NSG522 skills intensive must be passed in order to pass the course (Comprehensive Health Assessment).**

Topics & Learning Activities

Unit	Topics & Activities	Points Possible
Unit 1 **Professional Nursing: Introduction to the Nursing Profession, The Role of the Nurse, Therapeutic Communication, Appropriate Use of Technology, and Legal and Ethical Concerns**	**Topics:** • Introduction to Professional Nursing • The Role of the Nurse in Health • Assessment and Health Promotion • The Role of the Nurse in Teaching and • Counseling • The Role of the Nurse in Communication • Ethical and Legal Dimensions of Nursing Care **Reading**: • Chapter 1, Nursing Today [Potter] • Chapter 6, Health and Wellness [Potter] • Chapter 22, Ethics and Values [Potter] • Chapter 23, Legal Implications in Nursing Practice [Potter] **Assignments**: • Sherpath Lesson: Health Promotion, Illness Prevention, and Levels of Preventive Care • Sherpath Lesson: Ethical Considerations in Nursing Practice • Sherpath Lesson: Legal Considerations in Nursing Practice • Discussion Topic **Quizzes:** • EAQ Custom Quiz • EAQ Custom Quiz • EAQ Custom Quiz	10 pt/each 5 20 pt/each
Unit 2 **The Nursing Process and Components of the Health Assessment**	**Topics**: • Introduction to the Nursing Process • Assessment • Subjective Data Collection: Interviewing • and the Health History • The Objective Assessment • Nursing Diagnosis • Planning • Implementation	

	• Evaluation • Documentation • Introduction to Evidence-Based Practice • (EBP) & Nursing Research **Reading**: • Chapter 5, Evidence-Based Practice [Potter] • Chapter 16, Nursing Assessment [Potter] • Chapter 3, The Interview [Potter] • Chapter 4, The Complete Health History [Potter] • Chapter 24, Communication [Potter] • Chapter 26, Informatics and Documentation [Potter] **Assignments**: • Sherpath Lesson: Collecting Assessment Data • Sherpath Lesson: Interviewing Basics • Sherpath Lesson: Components of a Patient History • Sherpath Lesson: Overview of Communication • Sherpath Lesson: Communication in Nursing **Quizzes:** • EAQ Custom Quiz • EAQ Custom Quiz • EAQ Custom Quiz	10 pt/each 20 pt/each
Unit 3 **Patient Safety, including Hygiene, Infection Control, and Asepsis and Medication Administration/Introduction to Medication Administration and Complementary Therapies**	**Topics**: • National Patient Safety Goals • Quality Improvement • Infection Control and Asepsis • Hygiene Practices • Complementary and Alternative Therapies • Pharmacology Concepts • The Nursing Process for Administration of • Oral, Topical, Otic, Ophthalmic, Nasal, and Suppository Medications **Reading**: • Chapter 27, Patient Safety and Quality [Potter] • Chapter 28, Infection Prevention and Control [Potter] • Chapter 31, Medication Administration [Potter] • Chapter 32, Complementary, Alternative, and Integrative Therapies [Potter]	

	• Chapter 40, Hygiene [Potter] **Assignments**: • Sherpath Lesson: Safety in Nursing Practice • Sherpath Lesson: Spread of Infection • Sherpath Lesson: Principles of Safe Medication Administration **Quizzes:** • EAQ Mastery Quiz • NGN Case Studies	10 pt/each 20 pt/each
Unit 4 **General Assessments and Health Equity**	**Topics**: • Nutritional Assessment • The Nursing Process for Nutrition • Mental Health, Substance Abuse, & Violence Screening • Cultural and Spiritual Considerations in Nursing Care • Cultural, Social, and Spiritual Assessments • Social Determinants of Health and Health Equity **Reading**: • Chapter 5, Mental Status Assessment [Jarvis] • Chapter 6, Substance Use Assessment [Jarvis] • Chapter 7, Family Violence and Human Trafficking [Jarvis] • Chapter 12, Nutrition Assessment [Jarvis] • Chapter 9, Cultural Competence [Potter] • Chapter 45, Nutrition [Potter] **Assignments**: • Sherpath Lesson: Findings for Mental Status • Sherpath Lesson: Patient History: Nutrition • Sherpath Lesson: Assessing Nutrition Status • Sherpath Lesson: Culturally Competent Nursing Care • HESI Exam 1 ProctorU Assignment **Quizzes:** • EAQ Mastery Quiz • EAQ Custom Quiz	10 pt/each C/I 20 pt/each
Unit 5 **General Survey, Vital Signs, and Pain Assessment and**	**Topics**: • General Survey and Pain Assessment • Nursing Support of Pain Management	

Assessment of the Skin, Hair and Nails and Nursing Support of Tissue Integrity	• Anthropometric Measurements & Body Temperature • Measurement of Heart Rate, Pulse, and Blood Pressure • Pulse Oximetry and Measurement of Respiratory Rate • Structure and Function of the Skin, Hair, and Nails • Subjective Assessment of the Skin, Hair, and Nails • Objective Assessment of the Skin, Hair, and Nails • Tissue Integrity and Wounds **Reading**: • Chapter 9, General Survey and Measurement [Jarvis] • Chapter 10, Vital Signs [Jarvis] • Chapter 11, Pain Assessment [Jarvis] • Chapter 13, Skin, Hair, and Nails [Jarvis] • Chapter 48, Skin Integrity and Wound Care [Potter] **Assignments**: • Sherpath Lesson: Vital Signs • Sherpath Lesson: Pain • Sherpath Lesson: Assessing Skin, Hair, and Nails • Sherpath Lesson: Findings for Skin, Hair, and Nails • Sherpath Lesson: Skin Integrity and Wound Care: Implement and Take Action; Evaluate **Quizzes:** • EAQ Custom Quiz • EAQ Mastery Quiz • NGN Case Studies • NGN Case Studies	10 pt/each 20 pt/each
Unit 6 **Assessment of the Head and Neck**	**Topics**: • Structure and Function of the Head and Neck • Subjective Assessment of the Head and Neck • Objective Assessment of the Head and Neck **Reading**: • Chapter 14, Head, Face, Neck, and Regional Lymphatics [Jarvis] • Chapter 15, Eyes [Jarvis] • Chapter 16, Ears [Jarvis] • Chapter 17, Nose, Mouth, and Throat [Jarvis]	

	Assignments: • Sherpath Lesson: Head and Neck • Sherpath Lesson: Eyes • Sherpath Lesson: Ears, Nose, and Throat **Quizzes:** • EAQ Mastery Quiz • NGN Case Studies **Assessments:** • HESI Exam 1	10 pt/each 20 pt/each 100
Unit 7 **Assessment of the Thorax, Lungs, Breasts, and Axillae and Nursing Support of Oxygenation**	**Topics**: • Structure and Function of the Thorax, Lungs, Breasts, and Axillae • Subjective Assessment of the Thorax, Lungs, Breasts, and Axillae • Objective Assessment of the Thorax, Lungs, Breasts, and Axillae • Principles of Oxygenation and Perfusion • The Nursing Process for Oxygenation **Reading**: • Chapter 18, Breasts, Axillae, and Regional Lymphatics [Jarvis] • Chapter 19, Thorax and Lungs [Jarvis] • Chapter 41, Oxygenation [Potter] **Assignments**: • Sherpath Lesson: Assessing the Breasts and Axillae • Sherpath Lesson: Assessing Chest and Lungs • Sherpath Lesson: Findings for Chest and Lungs • Sherpath Lesson: Oxygenation and Perfusion: Analyze Cues and Prioritize Hypotheses; Plan and Generate Solutions • Sherpath Lesson: Oxygenation and Perfusion: Implement and Take Action; Evaluate • HESI Remediation Packet **Quizzes:** • EAQ Mastery Quiz • NGN Case Studies • NGN Case Studies **Assessments**:	10 pt/each 100 20 pt/each

	• Dosage Calc Exam v1	P/F
Unit 8 **Assessment of the Cardiovascular, Peripheral Vasculature, and Lymphatic Systems and Fluids and Electrolytes**	**Topics**: • Structure and Function of the Cardiovascular, Peripheral Vasculature, and Lymphatic Systems • Subjective Assessment of the Cardiovascular, Peripheral Vasculature, and Lymphatic Systems • Objective Assessment of the Cardiovascular, Peripheral Vasculature, and Lymphatic Systems • Fluid, Electrolyte, and Acid-Base Balance • The Nursing Process for Fluid Balance and Intravenous Fluid Therapy **Reading**: • Chapter 20, Heart and Neck Vessels [Jarvis] • Chapter 21, Peripheral Vascular System and Lymphatic System [Jarvis] • Chapter 42, Fluid, Electrolyte, and Acid-Base Balance [Potter] **Assignments**: • Sherpath Lesson: Assessing the Heart • Sherpath Lesson: Findings for the Heart • Sherpath Lesson: Assessing the Peripheral Vascular System • Sherpath Lesson: Findings for the Peripheral Vascular System • Sherpath Lesson: Assessing the Lymphatic System • Sherpath Lesson: Electrolyte Imbalance • Sherpath Lesson: Fluid Imbalance **Quizzes:** • EAQ Custom Quiz • EAQ Custom Quiz • EAQ Custom Quiz • NGN Case Studies	10 pt/each 20 pt/each
Unit 9 **Assessment of the Gastrointestinal and Genitourinary Systems and Nursing Support of Urinary and Bowel Elimination**	**Topics**: • Structure and Function of the Gastrointestinal and Genitourinary Systems • Subjective Assessment of the Abdomen, Genitalia, and Rectum Objective Assessment of the Abdomen, Genitalia, and Rectum • Nursing Support of Urinary Elimination • Nursing Support of Bowel Elimination • Gender and Sexuality Considerations in Nursing Care	

	Reading: • Chapter 22, Abdomen [Jarvis] • Chapter 25, Male Genitourinary System [Jarvis] • Chapter 26, Anus, Rectum, and Prostate [Jarvis] • Chapter 27, Female Genitourinary System [Jarvis] • Chapter 46, Urinary Elimination [Potter] • Chapter 47, Bowel Elimination [Potter] **Assignments**: • Sherpath Lesson: Assessing the Abdomen • Sherpath Lesson: Findings for the Abdomen • Sherpath Lesson: Assessing the Anus, Rectum, Prostate, and Male Genitalia • Sherpath Lesson: Assessing Female Genitalia • Sherpath Lesson: Urinary Elimination: Implement and Take Action; Evaluate • Sherpath Lesson: Bowel Elimination: Implement and Take Action; Evaluate • HESI Exam 2 ProctorU Assignment **Quizzes:** • EAQ Custom Quiz • EAQ Mastery Quiz • EAQ Mastery Quiz • NGN Case Studies • NGN Case Studies • NGN Case Studies **Assessments**: • Dosage Calc Exam v2	10 pt/each C/I 20 pt/each P/F
Unit 10 **Assessment of the Musculoskeletal System and Nursing Support of Activity and Mobility**	**Topics**: • Structure and Function of the Musculoskeletal System • Subjective Assessment of the Musculoskeletal System • Objective Assessment of the Musculoskeletal System • Introduction to Activity, Mobility, and Exercise • The Nursing Process for Activity **Reading**: • Chapter 23, Musculoskeletal System [Jarvis] • Chapter 38, Activity and Exercise [Potter]	

	• Chapter 39, Immobility [Potter] **Assignments**: • Sherpath Lesson: Assessing the Musculoskeletal System • Sherpath Lesson: Findings for the Musculoskeletal System • Sherpath Lesson: Activity and Movement: Implement and Take Action; Evaluate **Quizzes:** • EAQ Mastery Quiz • EAQ Mastery Quiz • NGN Case Studies • NGN Case Studies	10 pt/each 20 pt/each
Unit 11 **Assessment of the Neurologic System and Nursing Support of Coping, Sleep, and Pain Management**	**Topics**: • Structure and Function of the Neurologic System • Subjective Assessment of the Neurologic System • Objective Assessment of the Neurologic System • Nursing Support of Rest and Sleep • Nursing Support to Reduce Stress and Anxiety • Self-Concept and Well-Being **Reading**: • Chapter 24, Neurologic System [Jarvis] • Chapter 33, Self-Concept [Potter] • Chapter 37, Stress and Coping [Potter] • Chapter 43, Sleep [Potter] • Chapter 44, Pain Management [Potter] **Assignments**: • Sherpath Lesson: Assessing the Neurologic System • Sherpath Lesson: Findings for the Neurologic System • Sherpath Lesson: Overview of Stress and Coping • Sherpath Lesson: Overview of Sleep • Sherpath Lesson: Overview of Pain • HESI Remediation Packet **Quizzes:** • EAQ Mastery Quiz • EAQ Custom Quiz • NGN Case Studies	10 pt/each 100 20 pt/each

	Assessments: • HESI Exam 2	 100
Unit 12 **Assessment of the Hospitalized Client and Special Populations and Nursing Support of the Aging Adult and Care During Loss and Grief**	**Topics**: • Subjective Assessment of the Hospitalized Client • Objective Assessment of the Hospitalized Client • The Nursing Process for Administration of Parenteral Medications • Communication, Collaboration, and Interdisciplinary Teams • Assessment During Pregnancy • Assessment During Infancy, Childhood, and Adolescence • Nursing Support of the Aging Adult • Nursing Support During Loss and Grief **Reading**: • Chapter 29, The Complete Physical Assessment [Jarvis] • Chapter 31, Pregnancy [Jarvis] • Chapter 32, Functional Assessment of the Older Adult [Jarvis] • Chapter 36, Loss and Grief [Potter] **Assignments**: • Sherpath Lesson: Pediatric Head-to-Toe Examination • Sherpath Lesson: Physiologic Changes • Sherpath Lesson: Physiologic and Functional Assessment of the Older Adult • Sherpath Lesson: Overview of Loss and Grief • HESI Remediation Packet **Quizzes:** • EAQ Custom Quiz • EAQ Custom Quiz • EAQ Custom Quiz • EAQ Custom Quiz	 <

	• Chapter 30, Health Assessment and Physical Examination [Potter] **Assignments**: • Sherpath Lesson: Adult Head-to-Toe Examination • Sherpath Lesson: Focused Assessments • HESI Final Exam ProctorU Assignment **Quizzes:** • EAQ Mastery Quiz **Assessments**: • Dosage Calc Exam v3	10 pt/each C/I 20 pt/each P/F
Unit 14 **Putting It All Together in the Clinical Setting/Reflection Activities**	**Topics**: • Self-Reflection **Assignments**: • Comprehensive Health Assessment Head to Toe **Quizzes:** • EAQ Mastery Quiz	P/F 20
Unit 15 **Final Exam**	**Topics**: • Reflection • Final Exam **Assessments**: • HESI Final Exam	100

*Pass rates may vary by program requirement- Refer to the University Catalog

Graduate Grade Scale

A	90.00%-100.00%
B	80.00%-89.99%
F	0.00-79.99%

Grading Summary

Grade Summary	Weight	Method of Scoring
Assignments (Sherpath Lessons)	5%	Points
Remediation	5%	Points
Quizzes (Sherpath EAQ Quizzes)	10%	Points
HESI Unit Exams	40%	Points
Final Exam	40%	Points
Dosage Calc Exams	P/F	P/F
Total	**100%**	

HESI Conversion Chart

HESI Score	Percentage Conversion
>= 1100	100
1050 – 1099	95
1000 – 1049	90
950 – 999	85
900 – 949	82
875 – 899	80
850 – 874	78
800 – 849	75
750 – 799	71
700 – 749	67
600 – 699	59
500 – 599	50
400 – 499	41
< 400	32

POLICIES

*University policies, such as attendance philosophy, notification of absences, extenuating circumstances, accommodation requests, academic dishonesty, late policy, grading and grading symbols, and student conduct are included in the University catalog. Students should reference the catalog for the complete listing of policies.

**Note: In some cases, program and/or course specific information may be appended to the syllabus as an addendum. In these instances, students must consider the syllabus to be inclusive of any appended information, and as such, students must adhere to all course requirements as described in the document in its entirety.*

Proctoring Policy for Remote Testing

Examinations in the nursing program are proctored. The following applies to exams that are taken remotely or on-campus that are proctored exclusively via third-party proctoring services. Herzing University is committed to protecting each student's privacy while also maintaining the integrity of assessments used to determine student achievement of learning objectives. As part of its efforts to do so, Herzing uses third-party proctoring services with software that allows for recorded or live proctoring of exams, to maintain the integrity of the exams administered by the University.

The automated and live proctoring solutions monitor test takers via a webcam, microphone, browser, and device to uphold the integrity of the assessment. This process includes compliance with testing guidelines including securing the testing environment, monitoring test taker behavior, prohibiting speaking aloud, dropped internet connections, and other activities that may indicate irregular or unapproved testing activities. When the process includes a live proctor, irregular testing activities may result in the proctor ending the testing session early. An institution-approved representative will determine if any further action is warranted based on University policy.

Any student accessing an exam without the use of the required proctoring service will receive a zero on the exam.

Dosage Calc Exams

Students will have a total of three opportunities to pass the exam. An exam score of 80% or greater is required to be successful on the exam. If a student fails both the first two attempts, they may be eligible for a third attempt, contingent upon completing all required remediation and Program Chair approval. Failure to pass the dosage calculation exam after the final attempt results in course failure.