NUR 3301  
Health Policy & Professional Issues  
SPRING 2020

Instructor: Lenore Cortez, MSN, RNC  
Email: lcortez5@angelo.edu  
Phone: 325-486-6859  
Office: Archer 318T

Office Hours:  
M: 9:00 A – 1:00 P (Lecture 2:00 - 4:50 PM)  
T: 10:00 A – 3:00 P (2nd 8 weeks MH lecture from 1:00 - 3:50 PM)  
W: By appointment  
Th: 10:00 A – 1:00 P (2nd 8 weeks MH lecture from 12:00 - 2:50 PM)  
F: Meetings, by appointment

Office hours subject to change based on needs of the department. *Appointments may be scheduled for alternate times if prescheduled. To schedule an appointment, please email or call my office phone and leave a message.

Course Information

Course Description  
This course evaluates pertinent trends and issues impacting professional nursing, quality of care, access to care and the delivery of health care. Students analyze political, societal, ethical, cultural and economic factors that impact health care and professional nursing practice. Assignments elicit critical thinking related to public health and nursing practice delivered in a diverse population.

You are responsible for reading, understanding, and abiding by all content in this syllabus!!!

Course Credits  
3-0-0  
Online Class: Meets completely online using Blackboard
Prerequisite and Co-requisite Courses
NUR 1341, NUR 1363

No co-requisite courses

Prerequisite Skills
Accessing internet web sites, use of ASU Library resources, and proficiency with Microsoft Word and/or PowerPoint are an expectation of the Generic BSN program. Computer requirements are further delineated in the Department of Nursing Undergraduate Student Handbook. Tutorials for ASU Library and for Blackboard are available through RamPort. The ASU Nursing Program Undergraduate Student Handbook should be reviewed before taking this course (http://www.angelo.edu/dept/nursing/handbook/index.html)

BSN Program Outcomes
Upon completion of the program of study for the ASU Nursing program, the graduate will be prepared to:

1. Integrate nursing and related theories into the planning and/or delivery of safe nursing care.
2. Engage leadership concepts, skills and decision-making in the planning and/or implementation of patient safety and quality improvement initiatives.
3. Identify and appraise best research evidence to improve and promote quality patient outcomes.
4. Utilize technology to access information, evaluate patient data, and/or document care.
5. Participate in political/legislative processes to influence healthcare policy.
6. Engage in effective collaboration and communication within interdisciplinary teams.
7. Design and/or implement health promotion & disease prevention strategies for culturally competent care.
8. Demonstrate standards of professional, ethical, and legal conduct.
9. Practice and/or coordinate, at the level of the baccalaureate prepared nurse, to plan and/or implement patient centered care.

Student Learning Outcomes
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Learning Outcome</th>
<th>Assignment(s) or activity(ies) validating outcome achievement:</th>
<th>Mapping to BSN Program Outcomes</th>
<th>Mapping to BSN Essentials</th>
<th>Mapping to QSEN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Demonstrate basic knowledge of health care policy, finance, and regulatory environments, including local, state, national and global health care trends.</td>
<td>Discussion Boards, quizzes</td>
<td>1,2</td>
<td>1,6</td>
<td>EBP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Describe how health care is organized and financed, including the implications of business principles, such as patient and system cost factors.</td>
<td>Discussion Boards, Quizzes</td>
<td>4, 5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>EBP, TC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compare the benefits and limitations of the major forms of reimbursement on the delivery of health care services</td>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>QI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Examine legislative and regulatory processes relevant to the provision of health care.</td>
<td>Current Health Topics Assignment</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1,5</td>
<td>EBP, QI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Describe state and national statues, rules, and regulations that authorize and define professional nursing practice.</td>
<td>Discussion Boards, Current Health Topics Assignment</td>
<td>1,2,4</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>EBP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Explore the impact of socio-cultural, economic, legal, and political factors influencing health care delivery and practice.</td>
<td>Discussion Boards, Current Health Topics Assignment</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1,5</td>
<td>TC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Examine the roles and responsibilities of the regulatory agencies and their effect on patient care</td>
<td>Discussion Boards, quizzes</td>
<td>3,4,5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>TC, S, QI</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Student Learning Outcome

By completing all course requirements, students will be able to:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment(s) or activity(ies) validating outcome achievement:</th>
<th>Mapping to BSN Program Outcome(s)</th>
<th>Mapping to BSN Essentials</th>
<th>Mapping to QSEN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>quality, workplace safety, and the scope of nursing and other health professionals’ practice.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discuss the implications of health care policy on issues of access, equity, affordability, and social justice in health care delivery.</td>
<td>Discussion Boards, Current Health Topics Assignment</td>
<td>6,7</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use an ethical framework to evaluate the impact of social policies on health care, especially for vulnerable populations.</td>
<td>Discussion Boards, Current health Topics Assignment</td>
<td>6,7</td>
<td>1,5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Articulate, through a nursing perspective, issues concerning health care delivery to decision makers within health care organizations and other policy arenas.</td>
<td>Current Health Topics Assignment</td>
<td>2,5,6</td>
<td>2,4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advocate for consumers and the nursing profession.</td>
<td>Current Health Topics Assignment</td>
<td>5,9</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**QSEN Competencies:** Patient-Centered Care (PCC), Teamwork and Collaboration (TC), Evidence-based Practice (EBP), Quality Improvement (QI), Safety (S), Informatics (I)

### Course Delivery

**ON-LINE:** This class is asynchronous, meaning you do not have to be on-line at a certain time. There are readings which you will have to complete to be able to adequately participate in individual and group assignments. In order to complete this course successfully, you do have to participate in all course activities i.e. discussion boards, course projects, reflective logs, etc. Students are expected to engage in course activities and submit work by due dates and times. All activities and assignments are listed for Central Standard Time (CST). The hope is that students will make substantive contributions which reflect integration of assigned materials as well as any outside readings as appropriate.
Full participation in the course is a professional expectation and required for successful and satisfactory completion of all course objectives. Online classroom attendance is evidenced by timely participation in the discussion board assignments and other activities assigned in the Modules on BlackBoard. Scholarly contribution is an expectation. For planning purposes, this class will probably require a minimum of 6-9 study hours per week, on average. Failure to participate in a timely manner to any weekly discussion or assigned activity is an absence. Absences diminish the student’s ability to meet course objectives and contribute to a failure of the course. Students are expected to check their ASU e-mails daily to ensure that they do not miss important announcements addressed to the student individually and/or to the class.

Course Instructors strive to grade all assignments and papers within one week after the due date. If there is a delay the instructor will post an Announcement on Blackboard. Quizzes will have an automatic score after testing but the instructor will review the test within a week and grades will be modified if any changes need to be made. Students may contact the instructor and discuss concepts missed on the quizzes. For test security reasons, the quizzes or the final will not be available to students after testing is completed. Contact your instructor for any questions you may have regarding exams.

This course site can be accessed at ASU’s Blackboard Learning Management System

**Required Texts and Materials**


**Recommended Texts and Materials**
None

**Technology Requirements**
To successfully complete this course, it is the student’s responsibility to ensure that the browser used to access course material on his/her computer is compatible with ASU’s Blackboard Learning System. The faculty reserve the right to deny additional access to course assignments lost due to compatibility issues. Students are responsible for reviewing the guidelines posted in this course regarding accessing Blackboard assignments. Problems in this area need to be discussed with faculty at the time of occurrence, either via a phone call (preferred) during posted acceptable hours for calling, or via email notification during times outside those posted for calls.
Be sure to perform a browser test. Select the “Technology Support” tab from the Blackboard homepage (http://www.blackboard.angelo.edu). Then select “Test your Browser” option located under the Browser Test header.

Please see computer requirements for BSN classes at this link:
http://www.angelo.edu/dept/nursing/student_resources/computer_requirements.php

You will need this technology:

- A computer capable of running Windows 7 or later, or Mac OSX 10.8 or later
- The latest version of one of these web browsers: internet Explorer, Firefox, or Safari
- Microsoft Office Suite or a compatible Open Office Suite
- Adobe Acrobat Reader
- High Speed Internet Access
- Ethernet adapter cable required (wireless connections can drop during tests and Collaborate sessions)
- Webcam

Refer to Angelo State University’s Distance Education website for further technology requirements: Angelo State University's Distance Education Website

Topic Outline

Week 1: Introduction to Policy and Politics, Part 1
Week 2: Introduction to Policy and Politics, Part 2
Week 3: Health Care Delivery & Financing, Part 1
Week 4: Health Care Delivery & Financing, Part 2
Week 5: Quality of Care
Week 6: Nurses Taking Action
Week 7: Evolution of Health Services in the US
Week 8: Midterm Exams
Week 9: Professional Boundaries and Social Media
Week 10: Policy & Politics in the Community, Part 1 (Hospitals/Long Term Care)
Week 11: Policy & Politics in the Community, Part 2 (Special Populations)
Week 12: Policy & Politics in the Community, Part 3 (Outpatient Care)
Week 13: End-of-Life-Issues
Week 14: Ethical Decision Making
Week 15: Putting it all Together
Week 16: Final Exams
Communication

- Please use the email address/phone numbers provided under faculty information in the syllabus or information in blackboard to contact your faculty.
- Although most of the time, email is answered within a few hours, please allow 24 hours minimum for a response (Monday-Friday).
- Use email first, unless there is an emergency.
- Should an emergency arise please call instructor directly using her cell or office number.

Faculty will respond to email and/or telephone messages within 24 hours during working hours Monday through Friday. Weekend messages may not be returned until Monday. If you text message, please identify yourself in the body of the message.

Written communication via Blackboard: It is an expectation of this class that you use formal writing skills giving appropriate credit to the source for your ideas. Follow APA (2010) 6th edition (2nd Printing or higher only) guidelines for referencing.

Written communication via email: All private communication will be done exclusively through your ASU email address. Students are expected to check email a minimum of twice a week. Check frequently for announcements and policy changes. In your emails to faculty, include the course name and section number in your subject line.

On Blackboard- Use Good "Netiquette":
- Check the discussion frequently and respond appropriately and on subject.
- Focus on one subject per message and use pertinent subject titles.
- Capitalize words only to highlight a point or for titles. Otherwise, capitalizing is generally viewed as SHOUTING!
- Be professional and careful with your online interaction. Proper address for faculty is by formal title such as Dr. or Ms./Mr. Jones unless invited by faculty to use a less formal approach.
- Cite all quotes, references, and sources.
- When posting a long message, it is generally considered courteous to warn readers at the beginning of the message that it is a lengthy post.
- It is extremely rude to forward someone else's messages without their permission.
- It is fine to use humor, but use it carefully. The absence of face-to-face cues can cause humor to be misinterpreted as criticism or flaming (angry, antagonistic criticism). Feel free to use emoticons such as J or :) to let others know you are being humorous.

(The "netiquette" guidelines were adapted from Arlene H. Rinald's article, The Net User Guidelines and Netiquette, Florida Atlantic University, 1994, available from Netcom.)

Evaluation and Grades
Course grades will be determined as indicated in the table below.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Percent/Points of Total Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Group Discussion Board Activities (3 at 10 pts. ea.)</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes (5 at 4 pts. ea.)</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current Health Care Topic Written Assignment (in lieu of midterm)</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam (1)</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Grading System**

Course grades will be dependent upon completing course requirements and meeting the student learning outcomes.

The following grading scale is in use for this course:

- A = 90.00-100 points
- B = 80.00-89.99 points
- C = 70.00-79.99 points
- D = 60.00-69.99 points
- F = 0-59.99 points (Grades are not rounded up)

**Teaching Strategies and Methods**

Students are expected to be “active learners.” It is a basic assumption of the instructor that students will be involved (beyond the materials and lectures presented in the course) discovering, processing, and applying the course information using peer-review journal articles, researching additional information and examples on the Internet, and discussing course material and clinical experiences with their peers.

**Assignment and Activity Descriptions**

*Please note: Rubrics for all assignments and activities are located at the end of this syllabus.*

**Discussion Boards:**

There will be assigned discussion board activities for the course that are group work in which students will share experiences and knowledge related to the content. Students will be expected to contribute on multiple days within the week. Specific information on discussion boards and grading rubrics will be available in the Blackboard online course. Discussion Boards provide an avenue for synthesis of material / information. A Discussion Board is provided in this course as a way to help students’ process course materials, express thoughts, and engage
others opinions and ideas in a healthy and productive learning environment. Students are expected to respond to all discussion board assessments using the “Online Discussion Rubric” to support individual answers to the assigned questions throughout this course.

**Current Health Care Topic Written Assignment:**
Students will be given a list of health care/ethics topics and be asked to sign up for the topic of their choice, via Wiki. Students will then locate a scholarly article (dated within the past 6 months) based on their chosen topics. They will read the article and then use APA format to write a 2-3 page paper that includes answers to the questions below. This paper must include the following:

- Title page (does not count towards page limit)
- Reference page (does not count towards page limit)
- Why do you feel this is an important topic related to health policy and ethics?
- Summarize your article
- Do you feel that the article you found gives a good explanation about the topic and how it affects current health care policy?
- What barriers to treatment did you discover? If no barriers, what solutions to the problem were offered in the article?
- Include a paragraph explaining how this topic could affect your future nursing practice.

**Quizzes:**
There will be (5) quizzes spread throughout the course. Content will be clearly marked within the Weekly Modules in which the quizzes are deployed and on the Course Calendar. Students must adhere to academic honesty rules and guidelines when taking quizzes and exams. Students must use Respondus Lockdown Monitor in order to take all quizzes.

**Midterm & Final Exam:**
In lieu of a mid-term exam, students will have a writing assignment (see Current Health Care Topic Written Assignment). There will be final exam that is based on material from mid-term through the end of the semester. Students must adhere to academic honesty rules and guidelines when taking the exam.

**Assignment Submission**
All assignments MUST be submitted through the Assignments link in the Blackboard site. This is for grading, documenting, and archiving purposes. Issues with technology use arise from time to time. If a technology issue does occur regarding an assignment submission, email me at lcortez5@angelo.edu and attach a copy of what you are trying to submit. **Please contact the IT Service Center at (325) 942-2911 or go to your Technology Support tab to report the issue.** This lets your faculty know you completed the assignment on time and are just having problems
with the online submission feature in Blackboard. Once the problem is resolved, submit your assignment through the appropriate link. This process will document the problem and establish a timeline. Be sure to keep a backup of all work.

**Late Work or Missed Assignments Policy**
The course is set up on weekly modules. The week begins on Monday and ends on Sunday. Assignment due dates are shown on the calendar/schedule or posted within Blackboard. Late assignments are not accepted without prior approval of faculty. Faculty reserve the right to deduct points for late assignments that are accepted past the original due date.

Requests for extensions will be considered only for emergency situations (e.g., death in family, health emergency of self/family member). Family vacations and work schedules are NOT emergencies. Because “life happens,” it is advisable to not wait until the last minute to complete your assignment. The student must notify their instructor prior to the absence, unless there is an emergency, and must make arrangements with the instructor, within 48 hours after the absence. Faculty has the right to offer an alternative form of an exam or assignment and/or to deduct up to 10 points from the grade. *Instructor reserves the right to require documentation for emergencies that delay submission of assignment.*

***Unless informed otherwise, all assignments must be submitted through Blackboard!*** Issues with technology use arise from time to time. If a technology issue does occur regarding an assignment submission, contact IT Department first to establish a ticket, then email lcortez5@angelo.edu and attach a copy of what you are trying to submit. This lets your faculty know you completed the assignment on time and are just having problems with the online submission feature in Blackboard. Once the problem is resolved, submit your assignment through the appropriate link. This process will document the problem and establish a timeline. Be sure to keep a backup of all work.

If you miss an exam or quiz, you will receive a zero for the missed exam or quiz. There are no make-up exams/quizzes. If you are late to an exam/quiz, then you will only be allowed the remaining dedicated time for that exam.

**General Policies Related to This Course**
All students are required to follow the policies and procedures presented in these documents:

- Angelo State University Student Handbook
- Angelo State University Catalog
- Undergraduate Nursing Student Handbook
Important University Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 13</td>
<td>First day of spring semester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 20</td>
<td>Martin Luther King Day – No classes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 29</td>
<td>Census Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 14</td>
<td>Last day to drop a class or withdraw from the University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 9 – 13</td>
<td>Spring Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 10</td>
<td>Spring holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 4- 8</td>
<td>Final Exams Week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 9</td>
<td>Commencement</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Student Responsibility and Attendance

**Online Course:** This class is asynchronous, meaning you do not have to be on-line at a certain time for certain online assignments. There are readings which you will have to complete to be able to adequately participate in individual and group assignments. In order to complete this course successfully, you do have to participate in all course activities i.e. discussion boards, course projects, etc. Students are expected to engage in course activities and submit work by due dates and times. The hope is that students will make substantive contributions which reflect integration of assigned materials as well as any outside readings as appropriate. Scholarly contribution is an expectation. For planning purposes, this class will probably require a minimum of 6-9 study hours per week on average.

**Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Days**

A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence. See ASU Operating Policy 10.19 Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Day for more information.

**Academic Integrity**

Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in all work. Any student found guilty of any form of dishonesty in academic work is subject of disciplinary action and possible expulsion from ASU.

The College of Health and Human Services adheres to the university’s Statement of Academic Integrity.

**Plagiarism**

Plagiarism is a serious topic covered in ASU’s Academic Integrity policy in the Student Handbook. Plagiarism is the action or practice of taking someone else’s work, idea, etc., and passing it off as one’s own. Plagiarism is literary theft.
In your discussions and/or your papers, it is unacceptable to copy word-for-word without quotation marks and the source of the quotation. It is expected that you will summarize or paraphrase ideas giving appropriate credit to the source both in the body of your paper and the reference list.

Papers are subject to be evaluated for originality. Resources to help you understand this policy better are available at the ASU Writing Center.?

**Social Media Policy**

The Angelo State University Department of Nursing supports the use of social media in personal/non-academic or non-professional contexts. Students may encounter confidential information within the academic or patient care environment during clinical practicum and must demonstrate professional behaviors and communication. Consistent with Code of Ethics for Nurses with Interpretive Statements [ANA, 2001], Nursing: Scope and Standards of Practice [ANA, 2nd ed., 2010], Nursing’s Social Policy Statement [ANA, 2010] and the ASU Confidentiality Statement all students sign at the beginning of their program, it is the student’s responsibility to refrain from the following:

- Uploading images/videos of yourself in a clinical environment or uniform*
- Discussing patients, visitors, vendors, or organizational partners
- Talking about physicians, hospital/facility/clinical staff
- Discussing clinical events or news stories involving clinical partners
- Giving medical advice online
- ‘Friending’ or requesting to friend patients (even when they are no longer patients), Department/College faculty, or staff.
- The only exceptions are individual or group photos of the clinical group and faculty.

*ASU nursing faculty reserves the right to order the immediate removal of inappropriate items (HIPPA violations, etc.) that are posted on a student’s Social media site.

Students preparing to enter the nursing workforce have a professional obligation to understand the nature and consequences of participating in social networking of all types [blogs, Twitter, Instagram, Facebook, etc.]. Patient privacy is a fundamental ethical and legal obligation of nurses. Although social networking venues offer opportunities for mentoring and sharing needed health related education and information among colleagues and the lay public, it also presents risk. The use of privacy settings and the separation of personal from professional information is not guaranteed from being shared or made public in less protected forums. Online content and behavior have the potential to enhance or undermine the individual student’s career and/or the academic institution they attend. Students should consider the ‘unintended consequences’ of any information they share outside the context in which it was
learned [adapted from Principles: Social Networking and the Nurse [Draft 25 April 2011], American Nurses Association].

**Accommodations for Students with Disabilities**

ASU is committed to the principle that no qualified individual with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs or activities of the university, or be subjected to discrimination by the university, as provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments of 2008 (ADAAA) and subsequent legislation.

Student Disability Services is located in the Office of Student Affairs, and is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability. It is the student’s responsibility to initiate such a request by contacting an employee of the Office of Student Affairs, in the Houston Harte University Center, Room 112, or contacting the department via email at ADA@angelo.edu. For more information about the application process and requirements, visit the Student Disability Services website. The employee charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing accommodation requests is:

Dallas Swafford  
Director of Student Disability Services  
Office of Student Affairs  
325-942-2047  
dallas.swafford@angelo.edu  
Houston Harte University Center, Room 112

**Incomplete Grade Policy**

It is policy that incomplete grades be reserved for student illness or personal misfortune. Please contact faculty if you have serious illness or a personal misfortune that would keep you from completing course work. Documentation may be required. See ASU Operating Policy 10.11 Grading Procedures for more information.

**Copyright Policy**

Students officially enrolled in this course should make only one printed copy of the given articles and/or chapters. You are expressly prohibited from distributing or reproducing any portion of course readings in printed or electronic form without written permission from the copyright holders or publishers.
Syllabus Changes
The faculty member reserves the option to make changes as necessary to this syllabus and the course content. If changes become necessary during this course, the faculty will notify students of such changes by email, course announcements and/or via a discussion board announcement. It is the student’s responsibility to look for such communications about the course on a daily basis.

Nursing Weblinks
- Board of Nursing for the State of Texas
- BSN Student Resources

Title IX at Angelo State University
Angelo State University is committed to providing and strengthening an educational, working, and living environment where students, faculty, staff, and visitors are free from sex discrimination of any kind. In accordance with Title VII, Title IX, the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE), and other federal and state laws, the University prohibits discrimination based on sex, which includes pregnancy, and other types of Sexual Misconduct. Sexual Misconduct is a broad term encompassing all forms of gender-based harassment or discrimination and unwelcome behavior of a sexual nature. The term includes sexual harassment, nonconsensual sexual contact, nonconsensual sexual intercourse, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, stalking, public indecency, interpersonal violence (domestic violence or dating violence), sexual violence, and any other misconduct based on sex.

You are encouraged to report any incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Office of Title IX Compliance and the Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator, Michelle Boone, J.D. You may submit reports in the following manner:

Online: www.angelo.edu/incident-form
Face to face: Mayer Administration Building, Room 210
Phone: 325-942-2022
Email:michelle.boone@angelo.edu

Note, as a faculty member at Angelo State, I am a mandatory reporter and must report incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Title IX Coordinator. Should you wish to speak to someone in confidence about an issue, you may contact the University Counseling Center (325-942-2371), the 24-Hour Crisis Helpline (325-486-6345), or the University Health Clinic (325-942-2171).
For more information about resources related to sexual misconduct, Title IX, or Angelo State’s policy please visit: [www.angelo.edu/title-ix](http://www.angelo.edu/title-ix).

### Course Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week/Date</th>
<th>Topic/Assignments/Assessments DUE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Week 1/ January 13 - 19 | **Introduction to Policy and Politics in Nursing, Part 1**  
Reading—Chapters 1 (p. 1- top of 22) and 13 in your textbook  
Watch Video(s)  
Post Introduction to Peers in General Discussion (ungraded) |
| Week 2/January 20 - 26 | **Introduction to Policy and Politics in Nursing, Part 2**  
Reading—Chapters 2 & 4 in your textbook  
Articles:  
-Dźubak (n.d.). Healthcare today: A review of reform, and how it impacts nurses  
-Spaulding, Gamm, & Menser (2014). Physician engagement: Strategic considerations among leaders at a major health system  
Watch Video(s)  
Take Quiz #1 |
| Week 3/January 27 – February 2 | **Health Care Delivery & Financing, Part 1**  
Reading—Chapters 1 (p. 22-37) & 9 in your textbook  
Watch Video(s)  
Review Current Health Care Topic Assignment directions and Sign up for topic on Wiki |
| Week 4/February 3 – February 9 | **Health Care Delivery & Financing, Part 2**  
Reading –Chapter 6 in your textbook  
Article: Clark (2018). Beyond the bedside  
Watch Video(s)  
Group Discussion* |
| Week 5/February 10 | **Quality of Care**  
Reading—Chapter 12 in your textbook  
Articles:  
-Erickson (2008). Violence in the workplace: How to care for your own safety while providing care to your patients |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week/Date</th>
<th>Topic/Assignments/Assessments DUE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Week 6/February 17** | Watch Video(s)  
                      Take Quiz #2  
                      **Nurses Taking Action**  
                      Reading—  
                      Articles:  
                      - Fuller (2017). Lessons of a nurse advocate  
                      - Hwang (2016). Unnecessary risk  
                      - Law (2016). Making your voice heard  
                      - Liyakasa (2011). Model nurse and patient advocate  
                      - Schaeffer (2017) Nurses + policy = a win for Arizonians  
                      - Tarlman (2007). When should you blow the whistle for ethical reasons?  
                      Watch Video(s)  
                      Work on Current Health Care Topic Written Assignment |
| **Week 7/February 24** | **Evolution of Health Services in the U.S.**  
                      Reading—Chapter 3 in your textbook  
                      Article: Shannon (2016). The nurse as the patient’s advocate: A contrarian view  
                      Take Quiz #3  
                      Work on Current Health Care Topic Written Assignment |
| **Week 8/March 2**   | **Midterm Week**  
                      **Current Health Care Topic Written Assignment due Monday at 11:59 pm**  
                      Complete midterm course survey |
| **March 9 - 13**     | **SPRING BREAK** |
| **Week 9/ March 16** | **Professional Boundaries and Social Media**  
                      Reading – Chapter 5 in your textbook  
                      Articles:  
                      - Aylott (2011). Blurring the boundaries: Technology and the nurse-patient relationship  
                      - Eisenberg (2010). Electronic medical records: Life in the paperless world  
                      - Griffith & Tengmah (n.d.). Maintaining professional boundaries: Keep your distance  
                      - Westrick (2016). Nursing students’ use of electronic and social media: Law, ethics, and e-professionalism |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week/Date</th>
<th>Topic/Assignments/Assessments DUE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Week 10/ March 23** | **Policy & Politics in the Community, Part 1 (Hospitals/Long Term Care)**  
Reading—Chapters 8 & 10 in your textbook  
Watch Video(s)  
Take Quiz #4                                                                                           |
| **Week 11/ March 30 – April 5** | **Policy & Politics in the Community, Part 2 (Special Populations)**  
Reading – Chapter 11 in your textbook  
Articles: Custer (2015). Mental health parity and integration  
Galvin (2018). Saving through shelter  
Watch Video(s)                                                                                           |
| **Week 12/April 6 – 12** | **Policy & Politics in the Community, Part 3 (Outpatient Care)**  
Reading – Chapter 7  
Article: Fryholm (2014). Saving money, saving lives  
Watch Video(s)                                                                                           |
| **Week 13/April 13 - 19** | **End-of-Life-Issues**  
Reading—  
Watch Video(s)  
Take Quiz #5                                                                                           |
| **Week 14/ April 20 - 26** | **Ethical Decision Making**  
Reading—  
Articles:  
-Davis & Williams (2013). Doing the right thing: Ethics applied to nursing practice  
-Kunyk & Austin (2011). Nursing under the influence: A relational ethics perspective  
Watch Video(s)                                                                                           |
| **Week 15/April 27 – May 3** | **Putting it all Together**  
Reading— Chapter 14                                                                                           |
Week/Date | Topic/Assignments/Assessments DUE
---|---
| Article: Sprayberry (2014). Transformation of America’s health care system: Implications for professional direct-care nurses
| Watch Video(s)
| Wrap Up Group Discussion

Week 16/ May 4 - 8 | **Final Exam**
| Wednesday 6:00A – 10:00 P
| Open for 16 hours only, plan for this as there is no make-up

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**Grading Rubrics**

**Discussion Rubric**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Unacceptable</th>
<th>Acceptable</th>
<th>Good</th>
<th>Excellent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Initial Submission</td>
<td>0 Points Did not post.</td>
<td>5 Points Posted beyond 1 day late.</td>
<td>10 Points Initial posting was no more than 1 day late. (Thursday at 11:59pm)</td>
<td>12.5 Points Met submission deadlines for initial posting. (Wednesday at 11:59pm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peer Responses Submission</td>
<td>0 Points Does not participate in peer responses OR posted to only one peer after the submission deadline.</td>
<td>7 Points Posted to only one peer by the submission deadline.</td>
<td>10 Points Posted to 2 peers after the submission deadline.</td>
<td>12.5 Points Posted a minimum of 2 peer responses by the submission deadline (Saturday at 11:59 pm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frequency</td>
<td>0 Points Does not participate</td>
<td>7 Points Participates 1-2 times and/or on same day.</td>
<td>10 Points Participates 3 times but postings not distributed throughout the week (on 2 days)</td>
<td>12.5 Points Participates 3 or more times throughout the week. (3 days or more)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Initial Assignment Posting</td>
<td>0 Points Posts no assignment.</td>
<td>7 Points Posts adequate assignment with superficial thought and preparation; does not address all aspects of the task.</td>
<td>10 Points Posts well developed assignment that addresses all aspects of the task; lacks full development of concepts/references.</td>
<td>12.5 Points Posts well developed assignment that fully addresses and develops all aspects of the task; included references.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peer Response Postings</td>
<td>0 Points Posts no follow up responses to others.</td>
<td>7 Points Posts shallow contribution to discussion (agrees/disagrees) does not enrich discussion.</td>
<td>10 Points Elaborates on an existing posting with further comment or observation.</td>
<td>12.5 Points Demonstrates analysis of others' posts; extends meaningful discussion by building on previous posts. Includes at least one cited reference.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Levels of Achievement

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Overall Content Contribution</th>
<th>5 Points</th>
<th>7 Points</th>
<th>10 Points</th>
<th>12.5 Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Posts information that is off topic; incorrect or irrelevant to discussion.</td>
<td>Repeats but does not add substantive information to the discussion.</td>
<td>Posts information that is factually correct but lacks full development of concept or thought.</td>
<td>Posts factually correct, reflective and substantive contribution; advances discussion. Adds to current discussion and literature.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>References &amp; Support</th>
<th>0 Points</th>
<th>7 Points</th>
<th>12 Points</th>
<th>15 Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Includes no references or supporting experience. &gt; 6 APA errors</td>
<td>Uses personal experience but no references to readings or research. 3-6 APA errors</td>
<td>Incorporates some references from literature and personal experience; or does not use any professional references. 1-2 APA errors</td>
<td>Uses references to literature, readings, or personal experience to support comments. All references were peer reviewed, evidence-based, or professional journal. No APA errors</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Clarity &amp; Mechanics</th>
<th>0 Points</th>
<th>5 Points</th>
<th>8 Points</th>
<th>10 Points</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Posts long, unorganized or rude content that may contain multiple grammar and/or spelling errors or may be inappropriate.</td>
<td>Communicates in a friendly, courteous and helpful manner with some grammatical or spelling errors. ≥ 5 errors</td>
<td>Contributes valuable information to discussion with minor grammatical and/or spelling errors. &lt; 5 errors</td>
<td>Contributes to discussion with clear, concise comments formatted in an easy to read style that is free of grammatical or spelling errors.</td>
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</table>

Current Health Care Topic

Written Assignment Explanation

Students will be given a list of health care/ethics topics and be asked to sign up for the topic of their choice, via Wiki. Students will then locate a scholarly article (dated within the past 6 months) based on their chosen topics. After reading the article students will use APA format to write a 2-3 page paper that includes answers to the questions below. This paper must include the following:

- Title page (does not count towards page limit)
- Reference page (does not count towards page limit)
- Introduction to your topic
- Why do you feel this is an important topic in terms of health policy and ethics?
- Summarize your article
- Do you feel that the article you found gives a good explanation about the topic and how it affects current health care policy?
- What barriers to treatment did you discover? If no barriers, what solutions to the problem were offered in the article?
- Include 1-2 paragraphs explaining how this topic could affect your future nursing practice and ways you could advocate for positive change.
Please note: all sources and facts must be cited within your letter, using APA format. References must be on a separate page. Minimal direct quotes are allowed. I want to read the information written in your own words. ASK IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS. A link for Turnitin will be provided so that students can check their letters for plagiarism writing errors prior to submission for grading.

This assignment is in lieu of a mid-term exam.
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Submission</td>
<td>0 Points</td>
<td>10 Points</td>
<td>15 Points</td>
<td>25 Points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Did not submit assignment</td>
<td>Submitted assignment more than two days late</td>
<td>Submitted assignment no more than one day late.</td>
<td>Submitted assignment by deadline.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Content</td>
<td>5 Points</td>
<td>10 Points</td>
<td>15 Points</td>
<td>25 Points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Completes task demonstrating poor content indicating lack of effort and does not address all assignment points.</td>
<td>Completes task with acceptable information answering most parts of the assignment.</td>
<td>Completes task with good information that answers all parts of the assignment but lacks full depth of content.</td>
<td>Completes assignment with substantial information that answers all parts of the assignment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grammar</td>
<td>5 Points</td>
<td>10 Points</td>
<td>15 Points</td>
<td>25 Points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Uses poor grammar and spelling throughout the assignment.</td>
<td>Uses mostly acceptable grammar and spelling throughout the assignment but has multiple errors.</td>
<td>Uses good grammar and spelling throughout the assignment with only a few errors.</td>
<td>Uses excellent grammar and spelling throughout the assignment. No errors.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing Style</td>
<td>5 Points</td>
<td>10 Points</td>
<td>15 Points</td>
<td>25 Points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Indicates no organization of thoughts. Writing style is rudimentary. &gt;6 APA errors.</td>
<td>Poor organization of thoughts that causes the reader to be confused by the writer's meaning. No in-text citations used to support ideas. 4-6 APA errors.</td>
<td>Thoughts are clearly organized but writing style is colloquial versus professional in style. Provides incorrect/incomplete citations to support ideas. 1-3 APA errors.</td>
<td>Thoughts are clearly organized in an APA formatted paper that is 4-5 pages in length, including a title page and reference page. Cites sources to support ideas. No APA errors.</td>
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# Last Discussion Rubric

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Student Evaluation of Faculty and Course

Students in all programs are given the opportunity to evaluate their courses and the faculty who teach them. Evaluations are most helpful when they are honest, fair, constructive, and pertinent to the class, clinical experience, or course. Faculty value student evaluations, and use student suggestions in making modifications in courses, labs and clinical experiences. Angelo State University uses the IDEA (Individual Development and Educational Assessment) system administered through Kansas State University for all course evaluations. The Office of Institutional Research and Assessment administers IDEA for the entire university, online and has established a policy whereby students can complete course evaluations free from coercion.

Areas of evaluation include:

- Gaining a basic understanding of the subject (e.g. factual knowledge, methods, principles, generalizations, theories).
- Developing specific skills, competencies, and points of view needed by professionals in nursing.
- Learning how to find, evaluate, and use resources to explore a topic in depth.
- Developing ethical reasoning and/or ethical decision making.
- Learning to analyze and critically evaluate ideas, arguments, and points of view.

End of Syllabus

1 https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/
2 https://www.angelo.edu/catalogs/
3 https://www.angelo.edu/dept/nursing/handbook/index.php
4 https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14206-op-1019-student-absence-for-observance-of
5 https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/community-policies/academic-integrity.php
6 https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/community-policies/academic-integrity.php
7 https://www.angelo.edu/dept/writing_center/academic_honesty.php
8 https://www.angelo.edu/services/disability-services/
9 https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14197-op-1011-grading-procedures
10 https://www.bon.texas.gov/
11 https://www.angelo.edu/dept/nursing/student_resources/undergrad_info.php