

# NUR 4221

## Adult Health Nursing II Practicum

### Spring 2022

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## Course Information

### Course Description

Students provide research-based, safe, and appropriate care to culturally diverse adult patients with chronic complex medical and psychiatric conditions. Students use standards of care, advanced informatics/technology, interdisciplinary communication, and error prevention techniques in a variety of settings. Grading will be either pass or fail.

## Course Credits

Two Semester Credit Hours (0-0-6)

## Prerequisite and Co-requisite Courses

Nursing 3220 Adult Health Nursing I Practicum and Nursing 4411 Adult Health Nursing II

## 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 Undergraduate 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.

## BSN Program Outcomes

Upon completion of the program of study for the Generic BSN, 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

1. Gaining a basic understanding of the subject (e.g., factual knowledge, methods, principles, generalizations, theories)

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2. Developing knowledge and understanding of diverse perspectives, global awareness, or other cultures
3. Learning to apply course material (to improve thinking, problem solving, and decisions)
4. Developing specific skills, competencies, and points of view needed by professionals in the field most closely related to this course
5. Acquiring skills in working with others as a member of a team
6. Developing skill in expressing oneself orally or in writing
7. Learning how to find, evaluate, and use resources to explore a topic in depth
8. Developing ethical reasoning and/or ethical decision making
9. Learning to analyze and critically evaluate ideas, arguments, and points of view
10. Learning to apply knowledge and skills to benefit others or serve the public good

<b>Student Learning Outcome</b> By completing all course requirements, students will be able to:	<b>Assignment(s) or activity(ies) validating outcome achievement:</b>	<b>Mapping to BSN Program Outcomes</b>	<b>Mapping to BSN Essentials</b>	<b>Mapping to QSEN</b>
1. Perform, synthesize, prioritize, and document nursing assessments and patient care using a variety of appropriate resources for up to two patients with complex health deviations.	Clinical Competency Performance Clinical Evaluation Weekly Clinical Experience Forms Discharge Planning/Coordination of Care Mental Health Assignment	1,2,3,4, 6,7,8,9	III, IV, VI, VII, IX	PCC, EBP, I, S, TC, QI
2. Integrate principles of safety and quality into research-based interventions for adult patients with chronic complex medical and mental health conditions.	Clinical Competency Performance Clinical Evaluation Weekly Clinical Experience Forms Clinical Assignment for ER Discharge Planning/Coordination of Care Mental Health Assignment	1,2,3,4, 6,7,8,9	II, III, IV, VI, VII, IX	PCC, EBP, I, TC, S, QI
3. Deliver and coordinate appropriate patient-centered care based on evidence, guidelines, standards, and legal statutes/regulations.	Clinical Competency Performance Clinical Evaluation Weekly Clinical Experience Forms Clinical Assignment for ER Discharge Planning/Coordination of	1,2,3,4, 6,7,8,9	I, II, III, IV, VI, VII, VIII, IX	PCC, EBP, I, TC, S, QI

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	Care Mental Health Assignment			
4. Provide and document effective health teaching for multiple adult patients addressing risk reduction, health promotion, preventive care and discharge planning.	Clinical Competency Performance Clinical Evaluation Weekly Clinical Experience Forms Discharge Planning/Coordination of Care Mental Health Assignment	1,2,3,4, 67,8,9	II, III, IV, VI, VII, IX	PCC, EBP, I, TC, S, QI
5. Demonstrate collaboration and communication skills in advocacy actions including improvements in quality, safety and error prevention.	Clinical Competency Performance Clinical Evaluation Weekly Clinical Experience Forms Clinical Assignment for ER Discharge Planning/Coordination of Care	1,2,3,4, 67,8,9	II, III, IV, VI, VII, VIII, IX	PCC, EBP, I, TC, S, QI
6. Interact with peers, colleagues and interprofessional team members to facilitate positive patient outcomes and a professional clinical environment.	Clinical Competency Performance Clinical Evaluation Clinical Assignment for ER Discharge Planning/Coordination of Care Mental Health Assignment	1,2,3,4, 67,8,9	II, III, IV, VI, VII, VIII, IX	PCC, EBP, I, TC, S, QI
7. Demonstrate and facilitate moral, ethical, and professional conduct in the clinical setting.	Clinical Competency Performance Clinical Evaluation Mental Health Assignment	1,2,3,4,6 7,8,9	I, III, IV, VI, VIII, IX	PCC, EBP, I, TC, S, QI

## Course Delivery

This is a clinical practicum nursing course that involves direct delivery of patient care services.

## Required Texts and Materials

- LaCharity, L., A., Kumagai, C., K., & Bartz, B. {2014}. Prioritization, delegation, and assignment: Practice exercises for the NCLEX examination (4th ed.). St. Louis, MO: Elsevier Mosby.
- Electronic Health Record (EHR) Tutor.
- Materials – Bandage scissors, watch with a second hand, stethoscope, penlight, ASU uniform, name tags, appropriate reference books, and appropriate clinical forms.

## Recommended Texts and Materials

- Refer to NUR 4411 syllabus under recommended texts.

## Technology Requirements

To successfully complete this course, students need 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.

## Topic Outline

N/A

## Communication

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.

Written communication via email: All private communication will be done exclusively through your ASU email address. Check frequently for announcements and policy changes.

In the event of extenuating circumstances preventing a student from attending a clinical experience, the student will:

Notify the agency before scheduled time to report for duty.

Notify the clinical instructor a minimum of one hour before scheduled time to report for duty.

Failure to call in will result in an UNSATISFACTORY for that clinical day. Students missing more than one week of clinical will result in reevaluation of a student's ability to meet course objectives and may result in an unsatisfactory clinical grade. The instructor may assign the student work to supplement the experience.

### Netiquette Guidelines:

- 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 emotions such as J or :) to let others know you are being humorous.

## Grading

### Evaluation and Grades

Course grades will be determined as indicated in the table below.

Assessment	Course Objective
Clinical Competency Performance and Clinical Evaluations	CO# 1,2, 3,4,5,6
Weekly Clinical Experience Forms	CO# 1,2, 3,5
Clinical Assignment for ER	CO# 2, 3,5,6
Discharge Planning/Coordination of Care Assignment	CO# 1,2, 3,4,5,6
Mental Health Assignments	CO# 1,2, 3,4,6,7

### 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:

P (Pass), F (Fail), NC\* (No Credit), W (Withdrawn)

***Students must successfully complete NUR 4411 & NUR 2321 simultaneously to receive credit in either course. NUR 4411 must be successfully completed to progress. All grades to include final course grade, assignments, and exams are not rounded up to the nearest whole number.***

## **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**

Clinical Competency Performance and Clinical Evaluations

Students will randomly be assigned one or more skills to perform from the list below. The student should be prepared to perform all skills.

1. IV Insertion
2. Trach Care
3. Foley Catheter Insertion
4. NG Tube Insertion
5. Suctioning (Trach, ET tube, Nasotracheal)
6. Intramuscular Injections/oral medications/subcutaneous injections
7. Care of Central Lines
8. Wound Care/Dressing Changes

Appointments will be scheduled during the first week of the semester for students to do competencies. During Week Four, Week Eight, and Week Fifteen, the student is responsible for completing the AH II Clinical Evaluations.

### **Weekly Clinical Experience Forms (Flow sheet, NCP, Meds)**

The purpose of this clinical nursing course is to involve students in the direct delivery of patient care services to adult clients and their families. During the clinical preparation period, the student goes to a health care facility on the day or night before the actual clinical rotation, and gathers information from the client’s chart to complete the assigned sheets (per instructor’s instruction). See Appendix B. The student prepares to apply the theory, concepts, and skills involving specialized materials, equipment, procedures, regulations, laws, and interactions within and among political, economic, environmental, social, and legal systems associated with

the particular occupation and the business/industry. Students will be prepared for all clinical activities. The faculty has an obligation to remove a student from the clinical setting if the student is not prepared. Repeated behavior reflects failure to meet clinical objectives.

### **Clinical Assignment for ER**

Prior to the ER rotation, students will do a library database assignment looking at research recommendations and standards for safety, and patient-centered care (this also includes cultural diversity). Students create a 1-2 page single sheet document (front and back) summarizing recommendations in the articles. On a separate sheet, students create a table comparing the standards or literature recommendations with actual practice on the units. Under the table students describe personal reflections on the safety and patient-centered care issues on that unit.

### **Discharge Planning/Coordination of Care Assignment**

At or shortly after admission of the patient (during the assessment phase), it is the nurse's responsibility to begin a discharge plan. These plans are based upon information obtained on admission and can be revised as necessary as the patient's condition changes. The student creates an appropriate plan for the patient diagnosis and condition.

### **Mental Health Assignment**

The purpose of this assignment is to provide the student experience with mental health concepts and application. The questions will promote clinical reasoning as it relates to the mental health client with comorbidities. The assignment is completed during 9 hours of Mental Health clinical. The student will utilize all available resources including informatics, library data bases, mental health textbooks, nursing journals, clinical staff, instructors, etc. APA formatting of sources cited and reference page required.

### **Assignment Submission**

In this class, some assignments may need to be submitted through the Assignments link in the Blackboard site. This is for grading, documenting, and archiving purposes. Other assignments will be submitted to your instructor in the clinical setting. Please review the individual assignment rubrics for submission guidelines. Issues with technology arise from time to time. If a technology issue does occur regarding an assignment submission, email your instructor 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**

Due dates and times for assignments are posted. Failure to submit an assignment by the deadline will result in a fifteen point deduction per day past the posted deadline. Assignments submitted more than one week past the deadline will result in a documented counseling, unsatisfactory, and a revised deadline. If revisions to the late assignment are deemed necessary, a new submission deadline will be assigned and an automatic 15 point deduction will be taken (i.e. all revised assignments will start at an 85% as the maximum grade). Failure to submit the revised assignment by the deadline will result in another documented counseling and unsatisfactory. Further revisions are at the discretion of the instructor.

**Revisions of Assignments:** Failure to score a 70 on an assignment is unsatisfactory performance which requires counseling and revisions. A new submission deadline will be assigned and an automatic 15 point deduction will be taken (i.e. all revised assignments will start at an 85% as the maximum grade). Failure to score a 70 on the revised assignment by the deadline will result in another documented counseling and unsatisfactory. Further revisions are at the discretion of the instructor.

## **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](#)<sup>1</sup>
- [Angelo State University Catalog](#)<sup>2</sup>
- [Undergraduate Nursing Student Handbook](#)<sup>3</sup>

### **Important University Dates**

January 18th	Fall classes officially begin
April 28th	Last day to drop classes
May 9th- 13th	Final Exams Week
May 14 <sup>th</sup>	Spring Graduation

### **Student Responsibility and Attendance**

Come to clinical prepared to apply the theory, concepts, and skills involving specialized materials, equipment, procedures, regulations, laws, and interactions within and among political, economic, environmental, social, and legal systems associated with the particular occupation and the business/industry.

Demonstrate legal and ethical behavior, safety practices, communication, interpersonal and teamwork skills

Participate in clinical opportunities, simulation, pre & post conference discussions and Blackboard discussions (if assigned).

Ask questions as needed.

*The teaching team reserves the right to make additional or alternative assignments in order to meet the needs of an individual student or a particular class.*

Attendance: A week's worth of cumulative absences in any one course will result in faculty evaluation of the student's ability to meet clinical objectives and may result in failure of the course. This means that if you have one clinical day a week, missing ONE clinical practicum places you in jeopardy of course failure.

## **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<sup>4</sup>](#) for more information.

## **Clinical Day Inclement Weather Policy**

In the event of adverse weather conditions, the policies and procedures of the University are the main guide for the Department of Nursing. Information about the University's operating status may be obtained by:

Campus alert email notification (angelo.edu email)

ASU Website

Ramport

ASU Facebook

ASU Twitter

Local news media

If the University is open, class, lab and clinical schedules will be followed to the greatest extent possible. Individual faculty and students are in the best position to determine whether they can travel safely to campus or a clinical site. Individual judgments about personal circumstances must be made so that no one jeopardizes their safety and health.

University Police will issue a weather warning via ASU Alert in the event of a tornado or other adverse weather system that threatens the safety or welfare of students and employees.

Adverse conditions such as a power outage, chemical/gas leak, bomb threat or similar situation would also result in closing the campus. If clinical is canceled, essential learning experiences still need to be met. Faculty may do this in a variety of ways such as adding small blocks of time to future classes or developing alternate student learning activities.

**What the clinical faculty will do:**

The announcement of cancellation of a clinical rotation or delay in the start time of a clinical rotation will be made by the faculty member responsible for the clinical. Any cancellation or delay will be based on a University announcement.

Faculty will communicate with students the status of the clinical by creating an Announcement posting in Blackboard (which also automatically sends an email to students).

The clinical faculty is also responsible for notifying the following individuals:

Nursing Department Clinical coordinator

GBSN Program lead

The clinical faculty will also be responsible for notifying students of alternative clinical assignments if necessary.

**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](#).<sup>5</sup>

**Plagiarism**

Plagiarism is a serious topic covered in ASU's [Academic Integrity policy](#)<sup>6</sup> 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](#).<sup>7</sup>

**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 has 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](mailto:ADA@angelo.edu). For more information about the application process and requirements, visit the [Student Disability Services website](#).<sup>8</sup> 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](mailto: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](#)<sup>9</sup> 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.

## **CLINICAL PRACTICUM REQUIREMENTS**

Please see the ASU Nursing Program Undergraduate Student Handbook for a complete list of clinical practicum requirements to include dress code, physical requirements for clinical, behavior in the clinical practicum agencies and student occurrences.

Maintain student liability insurance and current American Heart Association Health Care Professional CPR certification.

Maintain a student file, in the nursing department, with a current and complete immunization record and TB skin test. TB skin tests must be done annually while enrolled in the nursing program.

Provide safe nursing care to clients within level of knowledge and nursing skills.  
See UNSATISFACTORY & UNSAFE Clinical Practice in the ASU Nursing Program Undergraduate Student Handbook.

UNSATISFACTORY clinical performance: A student will be considered "Unsatisfactory" if clinical experiences reflect negative performances, lack of preparation or absence. Unsatisfactory incidents indicate that students may not be able to meet course requirements. A student whose clinical practice is UNSATISFACTORY will be given (a) counseling, opportunities for improvement, and/or remediation, and (b) a verbal and written warning. Faculty may remove a student from the clinical setting for lack of preparation or other unsatisfactory performance. A pattern of three (3) clinical "unsatisfactories" may result in the student failing the clinical portion of the course, and as a result, receive a failing grade for the course.

UNSAFE Clinical Performance: When direct patient care is part of the learning experience, patient safety and well-being is of paramount concern. If a faculty member evaluates that a student is unable to provide safe nursing care in accordance with Standards of Professional Nursing Practice (BON, Nursing Practice Act, 2001), and if this deficit is such that it cannot be remedied, the student will be removed from the clinical setting and will receive a grade of "F" in the course.

4. Satisfactory completion of all clinical assignments

## **COVID-19 Precautionary Measures**

- If academic classes are suspended due to COVID-19 precautionary measures, the Clinical Coordinator will notify the Nursing Department Chair and request a decision in regard to the delay or cancellation of clinical classes. Should there be an impact on students

enrolled in clinical courses, they will be informed of alternative opportunities to continue their clinical instruction.

- For clinical experiences, we will follow the recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) as well as the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN).
- Students are to practice social distancing and cough etiquette, as well as follow CDC recommendations for handwashing and the use of disinfectant on frequently touched surfaces.

### **COVID-19 Screening**

Each student is required to self-screen that they are not exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms on a daily basis before they come to their assigned clinical site and complete the Daily Wellness Screen.

#### **Self-screening prior to arriving to the clinical site**

- Students must conduct a self-screen, including temperature check, and confirm they are not exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms, which include:
  - Fever of 100 degrees or greater.
  - A new cough that is not attributable to another medical condition.
  - New muscle aches not attributable to another medical condition or another specific activity (e.g., due to physical exercise).
  - New or worsening headache.
  - New loss of taste or smell.
  - Throat pain not attributable to another medical condition.
  - Congestion or runny nose not attributable to another medical condition.
  - New shortness of breath not attributable to another condition.
  - Nausea or vomiting
  - Diarrhea

#### **If you are exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms**

- Students exhibiting symptoms and/or have a temperature of 100 degrees Fahrenheit or greater will be required to stay home and:
  - Inform their instructor, the assigned unit, and Dr. McDowell (325-212-6694 or melissa.mcdowell@angelo.edu).
  - Seek medical attention as follows:
    - Download and use the [Shannon on Demand app](#).
    - Create an account.
    - Use payment code SHANNONCOVID19 which will completely cover your cost.
    - Talk to one of the physicians available.
    - Carefully follow the physician's instructions.

A second option is to make an appointment with Shannon Clinic-Jackson by calling 325-942-2171 and following the clinic's instructions regarding your appointment.

In addition to your physical health, your mental and emotional health should be monitored and screened as well. If you are experiencing signs and symptoms related to anxiety and/or depression, please contact the ASU Counseling Services at 325-942-2371 or visiting Counseling Services.

## **Prevention of COVID-19 Through the Use of Best Infection Control Practices**

### **1. Definitions**

Cloth face covering: A cloth face covering is a covering that is usually made of tight woven cotton material that is designed to fit on the face to cover the nose and mouth. A cloth face covering is not considered personal protective equipment.

N-95 respirator: An N-95 respirator is a respiratory protective device designed to achieve a very close facial fit and very efficient filtration of airborne particles. The 'N-95' designation means that when subjected to careful testing, the respirator blocks at least 95 percent of very small (0.3 micron) test particles.

Surgical facemask: A surgical facemask is a disposable device that creates a physical barrier between the mouth and nose of the wearer and potential contaminants in the immediate environment. It is meant to help block large-particle droplets, splashes, sprays, or splatter that may contain germs (viruses and bacteria), keeping it from reaching your mouth and nose. Surgical facemasks may also help reduce exposure of your saliva and respiratory secretions to others. Surgical facemasks may also be referred to as procedure masks.

### **2. General Use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)**

- a. Nursing faculty and students should wear an N-95 respirator for all direct patient care. Hands should be washed before donning or doffing an N-95 and all face coverings, to prevent inadvertent contamination of the nose and mouth.
- b. Goggles or protective face shields should be worn when there is a likelihood of respiratory droplet spray hitting the eyes. Since these items are re-usable, they should be cleaned and disinfected between uses. Hands should be washed before donning or doffing goggles or face shields to prevent inadvertent contamination of the eyes.

### **3. N-95 Respirator Mask Reuse and Discarding**

- a. Mark the side seam of the N-95 respirator mask with first name/last initial and date.
- b. Consider use of a cleanable face shield over an N95 respirator and/or other steps to reduce surface contamination.
- c. Keep the N-95 respirator mask in a breathable container such as a paper bag between uses. To minimize potential cross-contamination, store respirators so that they do not touch each other and the person using the respirator is clearly



identified (name marked on the container). Storage containers should be disposed of or cleaned regularly.

- d. Clean hands with soap and water or an alcohol-based hand sanitizer before and after touching or adjusting the respirator (if necessary for comfort or to maintain fit).
- e. Avoid touching the inside of the respirator. If inadvertent contact is made with the inside of the respirator, discard the respirator and perform hand hygiene as described above.
- f. Use a pair of clean (non-sterile) gloves when donning a used N-95 respirator and performing a user seal check. Discard gloves after the N-95 respirator is donned and any adjustments are made to ensure the respirator is sitting comfortably on your face with a good seal.
- g. Discard N-95 respirators contaminated with blood, respiratory or nasal secretions, or other bodily fluids from patients.
- h. Discard any N-95 respirator that is obviously damaged or becomes hard to breathe through.

### **Required Clinical Equipment**

Specific equipment necessary for clinical will be required as designated within individual clinical courses or per the requirements of visited clinical agencies. This equipment includes but is not limited to a solid black, blue, or white cloth face mask/covering with only the ASU logo, N-95 respirator mask, clear goggles which seal around and over the eyes with only black or blue trim or a face shield, stethoscope, penlight, watch (that measures seconds), and trauma scissors/shears. Smart watches, including Apple watches, will not be allowed during clinical.

### **Dress Code Requirements for Clinical Rotation**

Nursing students checking clinical assignments prior to the educational experience are to wear a cloth facemask, procedure mask, or N-95 respirator per facility policy and the complete uniform or a clean, pressed white laboratory coat over appropriate, professional clothes as outlined above.

1. The name badge is to be worn on the laboratory coat.
2. Chewing gum when in uniform is not permissible.
3. Excessive perfumes, aftershave lotion, tobacco products, smoke, and other strong odors can be respiratory triggers for some patients. Students may not wear excessive perfume or aftershave lotion and may not have the smell of tobacco products, smoke, or other strong odors on the body or clothing while in the clinical setting. Therefore, students are not allowed to use tobacco products or smoke during clinical hours. Nursing students representing ASU Department of Nursing at career days, college nights, etc., will be expected to wear the appropriate uniform for clinical experiences, unless otherwise informed.

## **Statement on required use of masks/facial coverings by students in class at Angelo State University**

As a member of the Texas Tech University System, Angelo State University has adopted the mandatory Facial Covering Policy to ensure a safe and healthy classroom experience. Current research on the COVID-19 virus suggests there is a significant reduction in the potential for transmission of the virus from person to person by wearing a mask/facial covering that covers the nose and mouth areas. Therefore, in compliance with the university policy students in this class are required to wear a mask/facial covering before, during, and after class. Faculty members may also ask you to display your daily screening badge as a prerequisite to enter the classroom. You are also asked to maintain safe distancing practices to the best of your ability. For the safety of everyone, any student not appropriately wearing a mask/facial covering will be asked to leave the classroom immediately. The student will be responsible to make up any missed class content or work. Continued non-compliance with the Texas Tech University System Policy may result in disciplinary action through the Office of Student Conduct.

### **Nursing Weblinks**

- [Board of Nursing for the State of Texas](#)<sup>10</sup>
- [BSN Student Resources](#)<sup>11</sup>

### **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](http://www.angelo.edu/incident-form)

Face to face: Mayer Administration Building, Room 210

Phone: 325-942-2022

Email: [michelle.boone@angelo.edu](mailto: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).

## **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.

## End of Syllabus

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- <sup>1</sup> <https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/>
- <sup>2</sup> <https://www.angelo.edu/catalogs/>
- <sup>3</sup> <https://www.angelo.edu/dept/nursing/handbook/index.php>
- <sup>4</sup> <https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14206-op-1019-student-absence-for-observance-of>
- <sup>5</sup> <https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/community-policies/academic-integrity.php>
- <sup>6</sup> <https://www.angelo.edu/student-handbook/community-policies/academic-integrity.php>
- <sup>7</sup> [https://www.angelo.edu/dept/writing\\_center/academic\\_honesty.php](https://www.angelo.edu/dept/writing_center/academic_honesty.php)
- <sup>8</sup> <https://www.angelo.edu/services/disability-services/>
- <sup>9</sup> <https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14197-op-1011-grading-procedures>
- <sup>10</sup> <https://www.bon.texas.gov/>
- <sup>11</sup> [https://www.angelo.edu/dept/nursing/student\\_resources/undergrad\\_info.php](https://www.angelo.edu/dept/nursing/student_resources/undergrad_info.php)