NRSG 491: Critical Care and Emergency Nursing
Credits: 3 (3 lecture)
Semesters Offered: F, Sp
Prerequisites: NRSG 437, NRSG 444, and NRSG 454

Course Description:
The focus of this course is application of theoretical and empirical knowledge to nursing care for complex clients across the adult lifespan requiring emergency and critical care in a variety of settings. Advanced skills, critical thinking and decision making, safe practice and interdisciplinary collaboration are emphasized. This course builds upon and integrates knowledge gained from nursing, sciences, and the humanities.

Course Objectives: The student will:
1. Integrate knowledge from nursing and related disciplines to provide, coordinate and manage care for clients requiring emergency and critical care.
2. Identify the commonalities/differences between various types of pathophysiology in clients with emergency and critical care needs.
3. Identify collaborative strategies with colleagues from nursing, medicine, and other disciplines to plan, implement, and evaluate the care of clients with emergency and critical care needs.
4. Determine treatment priorities based on evidence and guidelines.
5. Describe the pharmacotherapeutic interventions in relation to the nurse’s role and responsibility.
6. Use evidenced based practice principles to inform care and identify problems for nursing research.
7. Integrate ethical, legal and interpersonal dimensions of care when performing the nursing role of advocate for critically ill or injured clients and families.

Recommended Content and Concepts:
- Nursing care of adults with problems related to alterations in airway, breathing, circulation, neurologic function, traumatic injury, and critical illness requiring care in emergency and critical care areas.
- Modules include: Introduction including pain, sleep and family concerns, Diversity, Pharmacology, Cardiac and Hemodynamic Regulation, Complicated Cardiovascular Alterations, Clinical Decision Making and Communications, Complicated Respiratory Alterations, Neurological Alterations, Gastrointestinal Alterations, Complicated Endocrine and Renal Alterations, Multisystem Alterations, Alcohol Withdrawal and Drug Abuse, Traumatic Injury, Advocacy and Morality, Multiple Casualty Incidents and Disasters

Suggested Student Learning Activities:
Active participation in online discussions, small group work on case studies with dissemination to the large group, view video lecture content, listen to podcasts, and assigned readings

Approved by UAAC: March 25, 2013
Approved by Faculty: May 3, 2013