

**MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY  
COLLEGE OF NURSING  
MASTER RESOURCE OUTLINE**

**N469:** Cultural Applications in Nursing: The [*specific culture*] Experience

**Credits:** 2: (1 lecture; 1 clinical laboratory)

**Prerequisite:** Enrolled in the nursing program

**Corequisite:** None

**Course Description:** This course is designed as an intense but time limited immersion into another culture and is focused on health beliefs, healthcare, and nursing applications. The experience will be preceded by analysis of cultural principles applicable to nursing and concluded by analysis of actual clinical participation with [*specific culture*] nurses and clients.

**Course Objectives:**

1. Identify cultural concepts with application to nursing.
2. Complete a cultural assessment of a specific or composite member of the select culture, applying appropriate theoretical models.
3. Apply cultural precepts of the designated culture to the performance of nursing in the health care setting.
4. Compare and contrast clinical nursing approaches from the designated culture and mainstream Montanan culture.
5. Identify common health problems of the people of the designated culture.
6. Compare the predominant health care system with the health care system of the designated culture.
7. Demonstrate sensitivity to the values and beliefs of the culture of study.
8. Complete a defined project that provides a service to nursing, the clients, or the cultural community under study.

**Recommended Content:**

- I. Cultural concepts applied within nursing
  - A. Cultural diversity
    - Personal cultural assessment
    - Comparing cultures
    - Development of cultural barriers
    - Breaking down cultural barriers
    - Approaches to other cultural groups
  - B. Models of cultural assessment
  - C. Cultural applications of North American Nursing Diagnosis Association's (NANDA) nursing diagnoses
- II. Cultural Applications in Nursing of the [*specific culture*] Client
  - A. Health problems
    1. Nationwide
    2. Montana
    3. [*Designated culture*]
  - B. Cultural variability
    1. Communication
    2. Space
    3. Social organization
    4. Time
    5. Environmental control
    6. Biological variations
    7. Holistic view

- C. Variations in approaches to health
  - 1. Health beliefs
  - 2. Childbearing, childrearing
  - 3. Illness, death, dying
  - 4. Healing
  - 5. Diet and nutrition
  - 6. Religious practices related to health
- D. Identification of nursing approaches
  - 1. Issues in planning approaches
    - a. Credibility
    - b. Privacy
    - c. Language & Speech
      - (1) Names
      - (2) Silence
      - (3) Non\_verbal
      - (4) Touch
      - (5) Eye movement
      - (6) Posture
    - d. Space
    - e. Conveying respect
    - f. Content of the communication
  - 2. Approaching the individual for direct nursing care
    - a. In the hospital
    - b. In the clinic
    - c. In the home
    - d. In the extended care facility
  - 3. Approaches in health education
    - a. Group, community
    - b. Individual
    - c. Written materials preparation/cultural specificity

### III. Health care approaches within the designated culture

Structure and function of the system in place

Services provided

Issues within the' current system

Providing care by melding health care services and values with those of the designated culture (mediation and brokerage)

Provision of direct care to the client outside of the specific cultural health care system

### **Examples of Learning Activities:**

#### Required of all Participants

1. Personal cultural assessment, verbal or written
2. Direct participation in the delivery of health care within the culture: In the hospital, clinics, extended care facility, community. Assigned to a staff nurse and supervised by on-site faculty member.
3. Presentations by health care community leaders from the designated culture. Focus to be in a variety of areas. For example: History of the People; Health and Illness Beliefs; Traditional Healing Practices and Agents; Dietary Considerations; Family Roles; Health Teaching Approaches; Common Health Problems; Religious or Spiritual Beliefs; and so forth, as relevant to the student's learning.

#### Additional Learning Activities for Selection

4. Select one NANDA nursing diagnosis; modify the textual interventions to make them culturally specific to the [*specific culture*] client. This is a written assignment.
5. Verbally draw comparisons and contrasts between the student's culture and that of the culture under study.
6. Written or verbal analysis of the immersion experience.
7. Participation in a community health fair by preparing and presenting one defined project appropriate to the student's level.
8. Critical analysis of the most effective interactional style for nurses delivering care within this culture.
9. Prepare and present a health teaching project to individuals, groups.
10. Additional projects may be negotiated with faculty to provide for individual interests and learning needs of students.
11. Preparation of identified scholarly papers after assimilation of the experience.

Approved by UAAC: 11/9/97; reaffirmed 4/21/08

Approved by Faculty: 12/97; reaffirmed 5/8/08

