



A POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION

School of Health Sciences

Program: Bachelor of Technology in Nursing

Option:

**NURS 7030
Nursing Practicum 5**

Start Date: Group A: January 9, 2006
Group B: March 6, 2006

End Date: Group A: March 10, 2006
Group B: May 5, 2006

Note: The above time period allows accommodation of individual preceptors' schedules.

Total Hours: 320 **Total Weeks:** ~ 8 **Term/Level:** 5 **Course Credits:** 13

Hours/Week: ~ 40 **Lecture:** orientation classes, meetings and written assignments = 20 hours total
Seminar: (Clinical Agency Practicum) 37.5 hours/week
300 hours scheduled

Prerequisites

Course No.	Course Name
NURS 2040	Professional Practice 2
NURS 4000	Nursing and Health Issues
NURS 4032	Nursing Practicum 4
NURS 3020	Clinical Techniques 3
	Current CPR (two person)
	Current CRNBC Student Membership
NURS 7050	Communication for Effective Leadership and Management

NURS 7030 is a Prerequisite for:

Course No.	Course Name
NURS 7134	Nursing Practicum 6: Community Continuing Care
NURS 8800	Community Health

■ Course Description

This practicum course will occur in a variety of institutions throughout the Lower Mainland and in a variety of units within those institutions. Placements may also be provided at the East Kootenay Regional Hospital and Fernie District Hospital for students from the College of the Rockies. Context of Practice: Acute medical/surgical units, sub-acute units and rehabilitation services that serve adults which includes the elderly age group.

■ Detailed Course Description

NURS 7030 is a practicum course focusing on providing nursing care for a group of patients within the RN preceptor's assigned workload. Students are required to organize, coordinate and provide nursing care for the assigned patient load and are expected to collaborate with other Health Care Workers in managing care. Students are also expected to further develop and articulate their clinical decision-making abilities.

■ Evaluation

- Satisfactory/unsatisfactory standing based on Student, Preceptor and Instructor evaluation of course outcomes.
- Satisfactory completion of self-evaluation notes.

■ Course Learning Outcomes

In this context, the student will:

1. implement professional caring based on integrated knowledge and skill.
2. pursue shared meaning by facilitating communication with people.
3. integrate systematic inquiry into practice by:
 - analyzing client issues for unique aspects and responding with appropriate clinical judgements.
 - thinking critically and reflecting while practicing.
4. monitor and evaluate own clinical nursing practice and act to modify it.
5. assume responsibility for own learning needs and value learning as a way of anticipating future work requirements.
6. work collaboratively with members of the health care team in providing appropriate care for a group of patients.
7. demonstrate leadership by being assertive and demonstrating organizational skills.
8. implement technical skills with dexterity.

The Level 5 practicum evaluation form uses clinical practice indicator statements that are organized under the CRNBC Professional Standards. The indicators clarify the level and scope of nursing practice that is expected at this level in order to meet the course outcomes. The relationship between the professional standards and the course outcomes are also noted on the practicum evaluation form.

■ Process Learning Threads: NURS 7030

Professionalism

Students are increasingly independent with analysis of assessments, care planning, care implementation and evaluation. They encourage client decision making and integrate this into the plan of care. At this level, students generally take **at least 75%** of the preceptor's workload and the majority of students can manage the full workload with assignment of same tasks back to the RN or LPN. Full workload for a group of patients provides opportunity for students to be organized and that includes "forecasting and front loading." Full scope of practice experience at this level may mean that students take a lesser patient load so that students can focus on holistic care which indicates collaboration with clients, families, doctors and other health care workers, and decision making in relation to patient care and discharge planning. Students will need assistance when there is a rapid change in patient status.

Communication

Students use positive, pro-client caring attitudes and skills to establish partnerships with clients. The shared meaning they achieve is used to solidify their partnership and individualize the plan of care. Students record and report pertinent patient assessments and nursing care in a timely manner. Students use effective communication strategies to build partnerships with health care consumers and co-workers. Students dialogue with instructor, preceptor and other health care workers in the process of learning. They use principles of teaching and learning. Students discuss issues thoughtfully, verbally and in writing.

■ **Process Learning Threads: NURS 7030 (cont'd.)**

Systematic Inquiry

Students increase their awareness and support of evidence-based practice. They start to critically think and reflect while nursing rather than only after the fact. Students analyze client issues for unique aspects and respond with appropriate clinical judgments. Students raise questions about nursing practices to analyze alternatives. Students reflect on and analyze their values, beliefs and assumptions regarding health and partnership.

Professional Growth

Students value learning as a way of promoting professional growth. They assume responsibility for continued knowledge development. They constantly evaluate their care using professional nursing standards and modify their practice to accommodate new learning. Students are responsible for attaining and maintaining a safe level of skill performance. Students continue to develop reflective skepticism. They are responsible and accountable for their actions and write self-evaluation notes that demonstrate progress and achievement of course outcomes and professional requirements.

Creative Leadership

Students maintain ongoing communication with colleagues and work to encourage partnerships with them. Students perform effectively in teams including negotiation and assignment of duties and tasks to other RNs or LPNs. They demonstrate assertiveness. Students are learning to manage a group of clients by becoming more organized, efficient and quicker in giving care. They are beginning to anticipate the work that will be required throughout the day and set priorities to achieve this. They anticipate the continuum of care required for specific patients. In collaboration with nurses, students take an active role in assessment of discharge needs and discharge planning. They further develop their nursing leadership skills.

Technical Skills

Students are developing precision in the implementation of clinical technical skills. They implement a logical sequence of actions, they are coordinated and they give safe care. They need supervision with skills they have not previously mastered. As the course progresses, the time and speed are within reasonable limits so the beginning level of articulation is developing. Students review and work within agency and BCIT policies regarding skills.

■ Learning Resources

Required:

- Previously required textbooks will be useful resources during this practicum experience.
- BCIT Student Guidelines, Policies and Procedures in the Nursing Program. On-line access available: <http://www.bcit.ca/health/nursing/>. Some policies are included in the student preceptor manual.

Recommended:

- a uniform that complies with program policies
- shoes that comply with program policies
- a stethoscope
- a black ink pen
- a pen light
- bandage scissors
- a watch with a second hand
- a lock may be required if you use a hospital locker to store coats, etc. while at the hospital

■ Information for Students

Assignments: Late assignments will **not** be accepted for marking unless the late due date has been negotiated with the instructor.

Ethics: BCIT assumes that all students attending the Institute will follow a high standard of ethics. Incidents of cheating or plagiarism may, therefore, result in a grade of zero for the assignment, quiz, test, exam or project for all parties involved and/or expulsion from the course.

Student request for placement outside what is normally offered: One visit by a BCIT instructor may be made, and the student is financially responsible for the cost of that visit. These costs include transportation, meals and accommodation.

Attendance: The attendance policy as outlined in the current BCIT Calendar will be enforced. Attendance is required in this course as this practical experience is essential to meet program outcomes. BCIT Attendance Policy applies. If students take time off for personal reasons other than illness, they are expected to make up that time. A doctor's note is required for any extended illness. What is considered in the end is: "Did the student achieve the course outcomes?"

Illness: Prolonged illness of three or more consecutive days must have a BCIT medical certificate sent to the department, substantiating the absence.

Course Outline Changes: The material or schedule specified in this course outline may be changed by the instructor. If changes are required, they will be announced in class.

■ Information Regarding this Practicum

1. Students are responsible for identifying their own learning needs and consulting with the preceptor and instructor to discuss how to meet these needs.
2. A learning partnership is essential for successful completion of this course. Student, preceptor and instructor will communicate openly, will demonstrate respect in the relationship and will work to establish and maintain collaborative relationships. This can be achieved by:
 - writing an introductory letter to the preceptor. Guidelines and examples are provided.
 - discussing the course outcomes to achieve shared understanding of them. The discussion should include what experiences are needed to support achievement of the outcomes.
 - identifying the evidence required to demonstrate achievement of the outcomes. The practice indicators give direction in this regard.
 - initiating regular dialogue throughout the practicum experience and promoting trust in the student/preceptor relationship, so the preceptor is satisfied and safe nursing care is provided by the student. Regular dialogue between instructor and student serves to promote learning.
 - using a learning plan to meet knowledge/practice gaps. Students are expected to prepare an initial learning plan that will ensure a focused and effective start in this clinical experience. It may be useful to include “areas for improvement from Level 4.” It is expected that the learning plan is specific and measurable. It is up to the student to update learning plans as needed.
3. **In the event of an unusual incident by a preceptorship student, the student must notify the appropriate BCIT instructor within 24 hours. The student may need to fill out a hospital incident report at the time of the incident. A Nursing Program Incident Report is also completed by the student, given to the preceptor for comment and then mailed or faxed to the BCIT instructor.**

■ Student Evaluation

Students must show evidence that the clinical practice indicators are being met. Students are expected to complete self-evaluation notes as directed. The notes must show sufficient thoroughness and thought in order to be accepted. Students are expected to share their self-evaluation with the preceptor. The self-evaluation notes must be completed to achieve a satisfactory standing in this course. The instructor may ask individual students to complete extra self-evaluation notes, to respond to instructor questions or to engage in a dialogue about the self-evaluation notes (e-mail or phone).

The student completes the practicum evaluation form as provided. The preceptor may add information to the evaluation form. The instructor may add comments to the evaluation form and ultimately has the responsibility to recommend a Satisfactory or Unsatisfactory standing in this course.

■ Course Evaluation

Students are expected to initiate discussion with the instructor about any aspects of this course.

■ Participation

1. A Level 5 preceptorship student is expected to take responsibility for increasing his/her knowledge base. Students will work with a RN within the RN's assigned workload. Students will assume responsibility to research patient diagnosis, treatment and ordered medications. Students are also expected to use theory from other sources such as communication and family nursing. Students will use information available on the ward in order to function appropriately. This information includes policy and procedure manuals.
2. Safe nursing care is required. The preceptor will assist the student to gradually accept responsibility for the RN role. As students move along in this experience it is expected that they will work more independently but collaboratively. It is expected that students will dialogue regularly with the preceptor to share information, to seek clarification and to account for nursing care provided. Students are expected to take responsibility for errors and to document them according to agency and BCIT policies.
3. A student who cannot make progress, is unable to work collaboratively with the preceptor and others, and whose care is viewed as inappropriate and/or unsafe will be removed from this course.
4. A Student Preceptorship Manual provides useful information related to this practicum experience and students are expected to use the manual. Preceptorship students are expected to refer to the **BCIT Student Guidelines, Policies and Procedures** document. Current edition of BCIT Student Guidelines, Policies and Procedures is available on-line at <http://www.health.bcit.ca/nursing/>

■ Written Requirements

A. Self-Evaluation Notes

Students will complete self-evaluation notes as directed. The self-evaluation is shared with the preceptor. Preceptors read and often add comments to the self-evaluation. The instructor reads the notes and will call the student to clarify, suggest, encourage and support the student in achieving the course outcomes.

B. Guidelines for Self-Evaluation Notes

1. You will receive a template that will give directions related to completing these notes.
2. Mail, e-mail, fax or deliver your self-evaluation notes to your instructor immediately following the last shift of the set.

If mailing, the address is: Name of Instructor
 Instructor, Level 5
 Nursing Program
 British Columbia Institute of Technology
 3700 Willingdon Avenue
 Burnaby, BC V5G 3H2

■ **Written Requirements (cont'd.)**

If faxing, the number is 604-436-9590. Please include a cover sheet **including the name of sender and receiver.**

3. Share your self-evaluation with your preceptor so that she/he has the opportunity to add comments and to sign the notes. This might be an excellent time to discuss new learning needs and to formulate a plan to meet these needs. **Then forward the page with your preceptor's comments to your instructor.**