



BRITISH COLUMBIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Operating Unit: Health Sciences

Program: Bachelor of Technology in Nursing

Option:

MAY - 2 2002

Course Outline

NURS 8000 **Systematic Inquiry**

Start Date: August 2001

End Date:

Course Credits: 3

Term/Level: 6

Total Hours: 48

Total Weeks: 16

Hours/Week: 3	Lecture:	Lab:	Shop:	Seminar:	Other: 6
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Prerequisites

Course No.	Course Name
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LIBS 7001	Critical Reading and Writing
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NURS 8000 is a Prerequisite for:

Course No.	Course Name
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NURS 8330	Nursing Practicum 8 – Leadership
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Course Calendar Description

NURS 8000 is a nursing theory course that focuses on developing the process of systematic inquiry. Knowledge from rehabilitation, illness and injury prevention, acute specialty nursing, client self-care and research is analyzed and integrated into decision-making for chosen clinical case studies. Development of a decision making model assists the learner to apply, integrate and evaluate knowledge while using the systematic inquiry process.

Course Goals

The purpose of this course is to assist the learner to engage in a process of systematic inquiry to enhance the learner's ability to create and use knowledge from a variety of sources. Case studies and related decision-making exercises give learners opportunities to apply their critical thinking skills in the systematic evaluation of various sources of knowledge for nursing practice including acute care nursing, rehabilitation, illness and injury prevention, client self-care and formal research. A project provides the opportunity for the learner to reflect on their thinking skills in the systematic inquiry process. The purpose of the project is to develop a decision-making model that may be used in practice. This course uses the case study teaching-learning strategy in a seminar format. (This course is modified from NSSC 8000 developed by Specialty Nursing Faculty at BCIT.)

Evaluation

Seminar Participation	25%
Research Critiques	30%
Decision Making Project	45%
Total	100%

All assignments must be completed to achieve a satisfactory standing in the course.

Course Learning Outcomes/Competencies:

At the end of this course the student will be able to:

1. develop skill in systematic inquiry by:
 - critically analyzing various types and sources of knowledge related to rehabilitation, illness and injury prevention, acute care nursing, client self-care and research.
 - critically evaluating knowledge from a variety of sources related to rehabilitation, illness and injury prevention, acute care nursing, client self-care and research.
 - integrating knowledge from rehabilitation, illness and injury prevention, client self-care and research into a decision-making process.
 - considering and analyzing multiple perspectives as part of a decision-making process.
 - using systematic inquiry to explore alternative ways of thinking about practice.
2. evaluate knowledge generated from the use of various research methods.
3. critically read research articles.
4. recognize gaps in nursing knowledge.
5. make reasoned decisions regarding the way in which research could influence nursing practice.
6. critically listen to formal and/or informal presentations of knowledge.
7. develop reflective skepticism.
8. challenge assumptions arising from self, peers, research and the literature as sources of knowledge.
9. collaborate with peers, instructors and practice professionals to develop own systematic approach to inquiry.

Process Threads Relevant to this Course

- **Professionalism** — students build on their existing nursing knowledge base and begin to acquire specialized acute care nursing knowledge. This includes identifying related rehabilitation issues, actual or potential health problems and risk factors, developing risk prevention strategies, and incorporating research findings about health risks, risk reduction and rehabilitation into a plan of care based on selected case studies. Students are accountable and responsible for the work they have agreed to do.
- **Communication** — students interact effectively as a group member. They independently establish working relationships with group members, give and receive constructive feedback, monitor group function, and share

their ideas, thinking and learning materials. They promote self-esteem, comfort, growth and partnership with clients and families.

- **Systematic Inquiry** — students are increasingly independent with critical thinking. They critically analyze and evaluate various types and sources of knowledge related to rehabilitation, illness and injury prevention, acute care nursing, client self-care and research. They use research findings as a source of discussions with colleagues. They analyze multiple perspectives as part of a decision-making process. They use systematic inquiry to synthesize alternative ways of thinking about practice. They are reflectively skeptical.
- **Professional Growth** — students take responsibility for their learning by acquiring knowledge that facilitates critical thinking and problem solving related to selected case studies. They facilitate learning of group members by effectively sharing their knowledge and articulating their thinking processes. Students demonstrate increasing independence in thinking about and reflecting on their thinking. They are committed to professional growth. They invest time and effort in their learning. They accept responsibility for their learning needs by independently talking with colleagues and instructors about their practice, articulating their perspective and accepting and using feedback to develop expertise.
- **Creative Leadership** — students establish collaborative partnerships with group members and work to foster collaborative decision-making. They use team building, negotiation and conflict resolution skills to collaborate with group members. They interact assertively and demonstrate initiative within the group.

Course Content Verification

I verify that the content of this course outline is current, accurate, and complies with BCIT Policy.

Program Head/Chief Instructor

Date

Note: Should changes be required to the content of this course outline, students will be given reasonable notice.



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NURS 8000
Systematic Inquiry

Instructor(s)

	Phone	E-mail
Selma Whiteside	451-6953	Swhitesi@bcit.ca

Learning Resources

Required Textbooks:

- ◆ Anderson, E.T., & McFarlane, J.M. (2000). Community as partner: Theory and practice in Nursing (3rd ed.). Philadelphia: Lippincott.
- ◆ Burns, N., Grove, S.K. (1999). Understanding Nursing Research (2nd ed.). Philadelphia: W.B. Saunders.
- ◆ Canadian Nurses Association. (1997). Code of ethics for registered nurses. Ottawa: Author.
- ◆ Health Canada. (1997) Supporting self-care: The contribution of nurses and physicians. Ottawa: Author.
Available free at www.hc-sc.gc.ca/hppb/healthcare/pubs/selfcare
- ◆ Registered Nurses Association of British Columbia. (1997). Standards of nursing practice in British Columbia. Vancouver: Author.
- ◆ Prochaska, J.O., Norcross, J.C., & DiClemente, C.C. (1994). Changing for Good. New York: Avon Books.
- ◆ A medical-surgical nursing text
- ◆ A pediatric nursing text

On Reserve in the library:

- ◆ Hoeman, S.P. (1996). Rehabilitation nursing: Process and application (2nd ed.). St. Louis: Mosby.
- ◆ Pender, N.J. (1996). Empowerment for self-care. In Pender (Ed.), Health Promotion in Nursing Practice (3rd ed.). Stamford, CT: Appleton & Lange.

See course schedule for additional required readings that are on reserve in the library.

Course Format and Content

Students will work in learning partnerships to explore the following situations:

- Traumatic Brain Injury (Adolescent)
- Cystic Fibrosis (School age child)
- Congestive Heart Failure/Venous Stasis Ulcer (Older elder)

All of the health situations take place in the context of the community. When exploring the above situations, students will consider the following concepts:

- Health Promotion
- Illness and Injury Prevention
- Epidemiology
- Self-Care
- Rehabilitation
- Research
- Decision-making

Students will meet for three hours a week with a tutor to explore the situation for the purpose of learning content, developing thinking and decision making skills, and identifying learning needs. Students will do research independently then work to apply the knowledge to the situation when the group reconvenes. It is an expectation that students have previously acquired skills that will promote effective group functioning therefore emphasis will be on developing skill in the systematic inquiry process for the purpose of decision making.

Course Policy Information for Students

1. Students are expected to identify individual learning needs that may be met in this course. Please talk with the tutor to see how this might be accomplished.
2. Assignments are due by the beginning of class on the dates specified. If an assignment is late, the mark for the assignment will drop 15% for each school day it is late.

Attendance

We believe that dialogue contributes to both thinking and learning. Therefore:

1. Attendance is required in this course. The different perspectives, thinking and experiences shared during the sessions will expand the thinking of all participants. Also, students will be doing independent work to share with the group. This work is required for the group to accomplish its task and move on to other tasks. Therefore, if students are absent for more than 10% of the planned activities without a medical reason, they may be prohibited from completing the course (see BCIT Policy re: attendance).

Course Evaluation

Students have the right and the responsibility to evaluate the course. Ongoing feedback will be obtained from students who are currently in the course so students' needs and course outcomes can be facilitated. At the end of the term, a review will be written that is aimed at modifying the course for subsequent students.

Student Evaluation

The reflective journals, research critiques and the decision making project **must be completed to achieve a satisfactory** standing in the course.

Participation – Group skills and evaluation of a reflective journal – 25% of final mark.

1. Group Skills – 10%

It is an expectation that students will actively participate in the group so the group functions effectively and the group's learning goals are met. Student's will demonstrate effective group skills and bring independent work to class for critique and discussion as assigned and determined by the group. Satisfactory ability to contribute to group functioning will result in the full 10% of marks for this component. Unsatisfactory ability to contribute to group functioning will result in no marks being awarded and will be determined by the instructor. The instructor will consider feedback from the group and student self-evaluation in determining an unsatisfactory mark. In the event that a student is not facilitating group process and working toward the group's goals, then the student in consultation with the instructor will develop a learning plan to address the student's learning needs. Both the student and instructor will then document progress toward the student's learning goals. It is an expectation that all students will seek out and give constructive feedback to group members related to independent research and group skill performance.

2. Reflective Journal – 15%

Please see assignment details below for details about this component of the participation mark.

Students must achieve a satisfactory mark (50%) in participation (group skills and the reflective journal) to achieve credit for the course.

Assignment Details

1. Reflective Journal

The purpose of the reflective journal is to help students reflect on their thinking and decision making in relation to the case studies. Reflective journals must be submitted in weeks 9 and 12 by the beginning of class. While journals are submitted only twice during the term, it is an expectation that students will make ongoing entries that document their thinking and decision-making skills. Entries should not be limited to thinking and decision making that occurs only in class. Rather reflection, thinking about thinking and decision making that occurs between classes should also be noted and as much as possible written down. Much of what is written in the reflective journal should be useful in the development of the decision making model for the term project (see #3 Written Assignment – Decision Making Project). The reflective journal should be the work in progress for the final project.

The following are guidelines for your reflective journal:

- a. Begin to write down your thoughts about how you make decisions.
 - What sorts of things do you consider?
 - What resources do you use?
 - What self-talk do you engage in?
 - Do you consider other perspectives?
 - Do you look for opposing theories, information or ideas?
 - How do others influence your thinking and decision-making. Consider peers, experts, patients etc.

- b. Read articles (6-8) on decision making and critical thinking and determine what theory and key elements match your own thinking. Do you already use some of the processes and key elements described in the articles? How do you use them? When? Does using them work? Why? What processes, theories, and key elements are you not using? Would you consider using them? Why or why not? When you deliberately use processes and key elements you have not tried before how did the decision-making process go? What worked and what didn't work? What patterns can you identify in your thinking? How would you like to change the way you think about and inquire about problems, information and ideas? Document the key elements and processes you intend to use and how you intend to use them. This may change over time as the development of your model is a work in progress.
- c. Use examples from class and your thinking on the case studies to demonstrate your thoughts on thinking and decision making.

2. Research Critiques – 30% of final mark

Due September 10, October 15, November 5.

Three separate research critiques will be completed and handed in on the dates indicated above. For each case study in the course one research critique will be completed. Each critique is worth 10% of the final mark.

The purpose of the research critiques is to provide the opportunity to learn about, read and critically analyze research reports for the purpose of determining the usefulness of the research for practice. Your critique of the research will result in a decision about the applicability of the research to the relevant case study. This decision will be shared with the group.

Research Critique #1 (10% of final mark). Due Monday September 10 at 0930 hrs.

The following article will be critiqued for the Olga Padrowski case study. It can be found on reserve in the library.

Fleetwood, J. & Packa, D.R. (1991). Determinants of health-promoting behaviors in adults. Journal of Cardiovascular Nursing 5(2), 67-79.

- a. Read chapter 12 of your research text Burns & Grove (1999).
- b. Using the Comprehension Research Critique Guidelines found on p. 383 of Burns & Grove (1999) write a critique of the research article listed above. Be sure to follow the instructions given in your text for the critique.
- c. Read any relevant chapters in the text that may assist you in understanding the research article and therefore in writing a useful critique. For example, You may want to review chapter 5, Understanding Theory and Research Frameworks, prior to critiquing the framework used in the research.
- d. Make a decision regarding the usefulness of the research for practice and for guiding decision making related to the Olga Padrowski case study.

Assignment Criteria (20 marks)

Content

Comprehension

- a) Each answer to a question in the guidelines on p. 383 of your text, demonstrates comprehension of the study being critiqued. (7 marks)

- b) Each answer to a question in the guidelines includes a clear, logical rationale or examples or content from the research study to support the answer. (7 marks)

Evaluation

- a) Summarize your critique and conclude by making a decision regarding the usefulness of the research for practice and for guiding decision making related to the Olga Padrowski case study. (3 marks)

Format (marks)

- a) APA style is used. Sources of information are identified. References, citations and quotations are noted appropriately. Neutral language is used and repetition avoided. (1 marks) You are advised to review the APA style guidelines.
- b) Organization, clarity, logic, and flow are appropriate for an academic paper. (1 marks)
- c) Grammar, spelling, and punctuation are appropriate. (1 mark)

Research Critique #2 (10% of final mark). Due Monday, October 15 at 0930 hrs.

The following article will be critiqued for the John Cahill case study. It can be found on reserve in the library.

Gill, D.J. & Wells, D.L. (2000). Forever different: experiences of living with a sibling who has a traumatic brain injury. Rehabilitation Nursing 25(2), 48-53.

- a) Read the following (on reserve in the library):

Polit, D.F., & Hungler, B.P. (1993). Qualitative research and analysis. In Essentials of Nursing Research: Methods, Appraisal, and Utilization (3rd ed. pp. 323-348). Philadelphia: J.B. Lippincott.

As well, review relevant sections of chapter 12 from your text Burns & Grove (1999).

- b) Using the five standards to evaluate qualitative studies described by Burns & Grove (1999) and the guidelines outlined by Polit & Hungler (1993) on p. 340, write a critique of the research article listed above. Be sure to include examples from the research article to support your statements.
- c) Read any relevant chapters in your text that may assist you in understanding the research article and therefore in writing a useful critique.
- d) Make a decision regarding the usefulness of the research for practice and for guiding decision making related to the John Cahill case study.

Assignment Criteria (20 marks)

Content

Comprehension and Analysis:

- a) The five standards for evaluating qualitative studies as described by Burns & Grove (1999) and the guidelines outlined by Polit & Hungler (1993, p. 340) are addressed in a clear, logical manner. (7 marks)
- b) Statements and conclusions are supported with examples or content from the research study. (7 marks)

Evaluation:

- a) The strengths and weaknesses of the study are summarized succinctly and a conclusion is made regarding the usefulness of the research study for practice and for decision making related to the John Cahill study. (3 marks)

Format (marks)

- a) APA style is used. Sources of information are identified. References, citations and quotations are noted appropriately. Neutral language is used and repetition avoided. (1 marks) You are advised to review the APA style guidelines.
- b) Organization, clarity, logic, and flow are appropriate for an academic paper. (1 marks)
- c) Grammar, spelling, and punctuation are appropriate. (1 mark)

Research Critique #3 (10% of final grade). Due Monday, November 5 at 0930 hrs.

The following article will be critiqued for the Matthew Moore case study. It can be found on reserve in the library.

Eddy, M.E., Carter, B.D., Kronenberger, W.G., Conradsen, S., Eid, N.S., Bourland, S.L. & Adams, G. (1998). Parent relationships and compliance in cystic fibrosis. Journal of Pediatric Health Care. 12(4), 196-202.

- a. Review chapter 12 of your research text Burns & Grove (1999).
- b. Using the Comparison and Analysis Research Critique Guidelines found on p. 386-389 and the Evaluation Critique Guidelines found on page 390 of Burns & Grove (1999) write a critique of the research article listed above. Be sure to follow the instructions on p. 386 of Burns & Grove (1999) under the heading 'Guidelines for Comparison and Analysis of a Research Report'.
- c. Make a decision regarding the usefulness of the research for practice and for guiding decision making related to the Matthew Moore case study.

Assignment Criteria (20 marks)

Content

Comparison and Analysis:

- a) Each point in the guidelines for comparison, analysis and evaluation (Burns & Grove, 1999) is addressed in a clear, logical manner demonstrating . (6 marks)
- b) Each step in the study is identified as a strength or a weakness. Examples or documentation from the study are included to support conclusions. (6 marks)

Evaluation:

- a) The quality of the study is summarized and conclusions drawn about the usefulness of the research findings for practice and for guiding nursing decisions related to the Matthew Moore case study. (5 marks)

Format (marks)

- a) APA style is used. Sources of information are identified. References, citations and quotations are noted appropriately. Neutral language is used and repetition avoided. (1 marks) You are advised to review the APA style guidelines.
- b) Organization, clarity, logic, and flow are appropriate for an academic paper. (1 marks)
- c) Grammar, spelling, and punctuation are appropriate. (1 mark)

3. Written Assignment - Decision Making Project – 45% of final mark Due Monday, November 19, 2001

The purpose of this assignment is to develop a systematic approach to decision making by developing a decision making model. You will articulate and demonstrate the processes of your own decision making model through the use of an example derived from one of the course health situations.

The submission for this assignment is an academic paper with a **maximum of 15 pages of text**. Your discussion should clearly demonstrate you have engaged in critical analysis and synthesis of the literature on decision making, the course concepts and the chosen health situation for the purpose of developing and demonstrating the use of a personal decision making model.

To develop and demonstrate your personal decision making model:

1. Review the literature on decision making, identifying key elements of the decision making process based on several decision-making models.
2. Analyze and evaluate the key elements of the decision making models. Describe how the elements are related to each other. Then, summarize what the theorists say and why you do or do not accept their perspectives.
3. Based on your review and analysis of the literature, synthesize what you have learned to create your decision making model. Identify the key elements that make up your model and describe the relationships between the elements. A pictorial, mind map, chart or table may be a useful tool for both yourself and the reader.
4. Choose an example of decision making from one of the health situations being studied in class. Use this example to demonstrate how your model assists you through the decision making process. This discussion should synthesize knowledge from the course concepts as well as relevant data and multiple perspectives from the health situation into the decision making process using your model.
5. Critically analyze and evaluate your decision making model noting strengths, weaknesses, missing pieces or gaps, and any changes you might make. Draw conclusions as to the usefulness of your decision making model. Provide evidence to support your conclusions.

Assignment Criteria

Content (40 marks)

- Summarizes, critically analyzes and evaluates relevant literature on decision making. (5 marks)
- Synthesizes knowledge on decision making to create a personal decision making model. Identifies, defines and describes key elements of the personal decision making model with rationale for inclusion of the chosen elements. Identifies and describes the relationships between the elements of the decision making model. (10 marks)
- Articulates and explicates the decision making model through the use of an example from one of the course health situations by:
 - critically analyzing various types and sources of knowledge and data related to the course concepts and the chosen health situation (5 marks). Demonstrate how your model cues or assists you to analyze relevant knowledge and data.
 - critically evaluating knowledge and data related to the course concepts and one of the course health situations (5 marks). Demonstrate how your model cues or assists you to evaluate relevant knowledge and data.
 - synthesizing knowledge and data related to the course concepts and chosen health situation into a decision making process using the decision making model (5 marks). Demonstrate how your model cues or assists you to pull together relevant knowledge and data to make a decision.

- considering and analyzing multiple perspectives as part of the decision making process (5 marks).
Demonstrate how your model cues or assists you to consider and analyze different viewpoints as you go through the process of decision making.
- Evaluates the effectiveness of the decision making model. Refer to point #5 above. (5 marks)

Format (5 marks)

1. APA style is used. Sources of information are identified. References, citations and quotations are noted appropriately. Neutral language is used and repetition avoided. (2 marks) You are advised to review the APA style guidelines *accompanying to this course outline*.
2. Organization, clarity, logic, and flow are appropriate for an academic paper. (2 marks)
3. Grammar, spelling, and punctuation are appropriate. (1 mark)



BRITISH COLUMBIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
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Schedule

NURS 8000 Systematic Inquiry

Week of/ Number	Outcome/Material Covered Assignment & Due Date	Reference/ Reading
August 20 1	Orientation to Course Critical Thinking for Decision-making Discussion of Duchscher (1999). Begin case study: Olga Padrowski	Duchscher, J.E., (1999). Catching the wave: understanding the concept of critical thinking. <i>Journal of Advanced Nursing</i> , 29(3), 577-583.
August 27 2	Case study: Olga Padrowski cont'd Discussion: critique application of Fleetwood & Packa (1991) to the case study.	Independent research and reading. Fleetwood & Packa, D.R. (1991). Determinants of health-promoting behaviors in adults. <i>Journal of Cardiovascular Nursing</i> , 5(2), 67-97. Burns & Grove (1999). Relevant chapters related to Fleetwood & Packa (1991).
September 3 3	Labour Day Holiday	
September 10 4	Case study: Olga Padrowski cont'd Research critique #1 due 0930 hrs.	Independent research and reading. Fleetwood & Packa, D.R. (1991). Determinants of health-promoting behaviors in adults. <i>Journal of Cardiovascular Nursing</i> , 5(2), 67-97. Burns & Grove (1999). Relevant chapters related to Fleetwood & Packa (1991).
September 17 5	Case study: Olga Padrowski cont'd	Independent research and reading.
September 24 6	Wrap up case study: Olga Padrowski	Independent research and reading.
October 1 7	Begin Case Study: John Cahill	Gill, D.J. & Wells, D.L. (2000). Forever different: experiences of living with a sibling who has a traumatic brain injury. <i>Rehabilitation Nursing</i> , 25(2), 48-53. Burns & Grove (1999). Relevant chapters related to Gill & Wells (2000). Polit, D. F., & Hungler, B.P. (1993). Qualitative research and analysis. Ch 11. In <i>Essentials of Nursing Research: Methods, Appraisal, and Utilization</i> (3rd ed. pp. 323-348). Philadelphia: J.B. Lippincott.
October 8 8	Thanksgiving Holiday	

Week of/ Number	Outcome/Material Covered Assignment & Due Date	Reference/ Reading
October 15 9	Case Study: John Cahill cont'd Research critique #2 due 0930 hrs. Reflective journal due 0930 hrs.	Independent research and reading Gill, D.J. & Wells, D.L. (2000). Forever different: experiences of living with a sibling who has a traumatic brain injury. <i>Rehabilitation Nursing</i> , 25(2), 48-53. Burns & Grove (1999). Relevant chapters related to Gill & Wells (2000). Polit, D. F., & Hungler, B.P. (1993). Qualitative research and analysis. Ch 11. In <i>Essentials of Nursing Research: Methods, Appraisal, and Utilization</i> (3 rd ed. pp. 323-348). Philadelphia: J.B. Lippincott.
October 22 10	Case Study: John Cahill cont'd	Independent research and reading.
October 29 11	Case Study: John Cahill cont'd	Independent research and reading.
November 5 12	Reflective journal due 0930 hrs. Wrap up case study: John Cahill	Independent research and reading.
November 12 13	Research critique #3 due 0930 hrs. Begin case study: Matthew Moore	Independent research and reading. Eddy, M.E., Carter, B.D., Kronenberger, W.G., Conradsen, S., Eid, N.S., Bourland, S.L. & Adams, G. (1998). Parent relationships and compliance in cystic fibrosis. <i>Journal of Pediatric Health Care</i> , 12(4), 196-202. Burns & Grove (1999). Relevant chapters related to Eddy et al (1998).
November 19 14	Decision making project due 0930 hrs. Case Study: Matthew Moore cont'd	Independent research and reading. Eddy, M.E., Carter, B.D., Kronenberger, W.G., Conradsen, S., Eid, N.S., Bourland, S.L. & Adams, G. (1998). Parent relationships and compliance in cystic fibrosis. <i>Journal of Pediatric Health Care</i> , 12(4), 196-202. Burns & Grove (1999). Relevant chapters related to Eddy et al (1998).
November 26 15	Case Study: Matthew Moore cont'd	Independent research and reading.
December 3 16	Wrap up case study: Matthew Moore	Independent research and reading.

