Email: **WebCT is the preferred method of communication for this class and will be used for faculty updates and announcements.**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** This course is an introduction to major concepts of concern in the discipline of nursing: person, environment, nursing, and health. Nursing theories and ethical – legal principles related to professional nursing practice are studied. Also addressed are the concepts of critical thinking, communication, and cultural awareness in the context of the nursing process. This course will not be teaching any clinical skills.

**CREDIT HOURS:** Three (3) credit hours

**PREREQUISITE:** Declared Nursing Major: Sophomore standing

**LEARNING EXPERIENCES:** Include the following: Reading, writing, in class and online (WebCT) communication, interactive learning activities, interview assignment, lecture, guest presentations, and media.

**Differentiated Entry Level Competencies (DELCs):** These competencies outline the different expectations for entry levels of nurses. For further information regarding the competencies identified for each Course Objective, refer to the BSN Handbook.

**Course Objectives:**
Upon completion of the course the student should be able to:
1. Describe key "benchmarks" in the historical development of the discipline of nursing.
2. Describe the ethical-legal and professional parameters for nursing practice.
3. Explain the philosophy and major concepts of the organizing framework for the BSN Program at Midwestern State University.
4. Compare selected nursing theories with the Midwestern State University BSN Program philosophy and organizing framework.
5. Discuss major theoretical concepts as they relate to the practice of professional nursing.
6. Explain the interrelationships among nursing theory, nursing process, and nursing practice.
REQUIRED TEXT:

Suggested:
American Psychological Association Manual or APA Style Helper 6.0 CD or StyleEase.com (APA information is available online or an APA manual can be purchased in the bookstore).

COURSE EVALUATION:
Course requirements and percentages for computation of the final grade are weighted as follows:

*Unit Exams  5 @ 15 %
(The 5th exam is a final exam)
*Interview paper 10 %
*Medical Terminology quizzes 5%
*Ethical Assignment 5%
*Written Philosophy and Coat of Arms 2%
*Media Image Hunt Show and Tell 2%
*Professional Organizations 1%

Total 100 %

An overall course grade of at least 74 percent must be achieved based upon the above computation, and all assignment/evaluation components must be completed to receive a passing grade. **There will be no rounding of grades in this or any nursing course.**

MSU Department of Nursing Grading Scale:

90- 100 ................................................. A
80- 89 .................................................. B
74- 79 .................................................. C
65- 73 .................................................. D
64 and below ........................................ F

UNIT EXAMS (75%)
There will be five unit exams for this course. Exam content will include class content and reading assignments. Students need to purchase Scantrons. Students must have an **MSU ID** on the desk during all Exams. **Students are expected to bring 4 Scantrons to class**
the first exam and come prepared with a pencil. No cell phones, purses, hats, drinks or food are allowed at your desk during exams.

**Missing Exams:** If you have to miss an exam for any reason you must notify the course coordinator by phone or email 2 hours before missing an exam, to avoid a zero. Make up exams may be scheduled as noted on the calendar but students are responsible to email and make arrangements for a makeup on an individual basis as soon after missing the exam as possible. Make up exams may be essay and short answer instead of multiple choices.

*INTERVIEW PAPER: (15%) Refer to course schedule and grading rubric posted online on WEBCT.*

**Part I Conduct your Interview:**
- Each student will interview a **registered nurse** (Diploma, Assoc., Bachelor’s, Master’s Degree all acceptable) currently practicing in a **patient care setting**. You may interview someone you know. This needs to be a face to face interview or over the phone interview. No movie or TV show actors portraying a nurse will be accepted.
- Students should seek information during the interview that address questions on the grading rubric form.
- Remember to maintain confidentiality, so no reference is to be made, either verbally or in writing, to a specific nurse. Please make up a name. *No paper using an individual’s real name will be accepted.*

**Part II Write the Paper:**
- After you conduct your interview, write your paper using the grading rubric to guide you. Take a look at the current nursing literature and **compare and contrast** what you read with what you learned from the nurse you interviewed addressing the topic on the grading rubric posted on WEBCT. Be careful as the topic **changes each semester**. Be sure to cite 2 nursing articles from a professional peer-reviewed **nursing journal in your discussion. You should also use** your textbook as a third reference somewhere in your paper for a **total of 3 references.**
- The paper is to be typewritten according to APA guidelines, double-spaced, and the body of the paper is to be about four to five pages in length.
- You will also have a title page and a reference page. You do not need an abstract.
- Total of **3 references** (2 articles and your textbook). Be sure to cite your sources correctly using APA format.
- Papers will be submitted in class (stapled; **no folders**) on the scheduled due date at the start of class at 1 pm. If you have an emergency that precludes you meeting this deadline; please negotiate with the faculty for an extension PRIOR to the due date.

**Plagiarism may result in failure of the class and/or barring of admittance to the nursing program at MSU. By enrolling in this course, the student expressly grants MSU a “limited right” in all intellectual property created by the student for the purpose of this course. The “limited right” shall include but shall not be limited to the right to reproduce the student’s work product in order to verify originality, and**
for educational purposes. Ideas taken from another source, whether quoted or paraphrased must be documented using APA guidelines.

MEDICAL TERMINOLOGY ONLINE QUIZZES (5%)  
There will be 5 Medical Terminology quizzes. Refer to Course Schedule.

*ETHICAL ASSIGNMENT: (5%)  Refer to the Outline and grading rubric posted on WebCT. This assignment will be presented in class. This is a group activity. There will also be online discussions amongst the group members for this assignment.

*PROJECT ASSIGNMENTS.  
There are three project assignments. They will be due at the beginning of class @ 1:00pm (refer to course schedule and posted project assignments on WebCT).

THERE ARE 5 MANDATORY HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS:  
1. Interview Paper.  
2. Ethical Assignment.  
3. Written Philosophy and Coat of Arms.  
5. Professional Organizations Advertisement.  
REFER TO THE CLASS SCHEDULE FOR DUE DATES. EXPLANATIONS FOR ALL HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS ARE POSTED ON WEBCT UNDER COURSE CONTENT.

NET (Nurse Entrance Test)  
The NET is an assessment tool that is used to predict academic failure and success of incoming nursing students. Each student applying to the MSU nursing school must submit their NET scores with their admission packet. The Testing Center schedules dates throughout the semester. Contact the Testing Center (397-4676) to make arrangements.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT  
The following is the ADA/504 statement that the faculty approved on May 9, 1995: Midwestern State University does not discriminate on the basis of an individual’s disability and complies with Section 504 and the Americans with Disabilities Act in its admission, accessibility, and employment of individuals in programs and activities. MSU provides academic accommodations and auxiliary aids to individuals with disabilities, as defined by law, who are otherwise qualified to meet academic employment requirements. For assistance call (940) 397-4618 or (940) 397-4515, TDD. Please see the instructor outside of class to make arrangements involving special accommodations.

It is the student’s responsibility to declare any disabilities. After declaration, preferably at the beginning of each semester, the student needs to contact individual instructors to determine any reasonable accommodations that may be required.
**CHEATING POLICY:**
The Wilson School of Nursing does not tolerate cheating. Cheating is considered a serious offense that could result in automatic failure of a class and/or removal from the program. The MSU Student Handbook (available at the Information desk in the Clark Student Center) defines various forms of academic dishonesty and the procedures for responding to them. Please familiarize yourself with this portion of the BSN handbook and note that the penalties for plagiarism and other forms of cheating can be quite harsh. Cheating is defined by the faculty to include dishonesty on examinations and plagiarism.

Plagiarism is further defined as “the act of using source materials of other persons (either published or unpublished) without following the accepted techniques of crediting, or the submission for credit of work not the individual’s to whom credit is given.” (MSU BSN Student Handbook, Standards of Conduct, Item 10). Offending material that may constitute plagiarism includes, but is not limited to the following: bibliography cards, formal papers, book reports, written nursing care plans, etc. Plagiarism is also defined by the MSU Nursing faculty as failure to follow the APA 5th edition guidelines for citation of quotations and paraphrased material.

**Class Etiquette**
We find that we all do much better when expectations are identified early. Everyone then knows what to expect, and it is with this in mind that these class guidelines have been written.

1. We are dedicated to providing an optimal learning experience in this nursing class and appreciate written feedback about this class at anytime.
2. Copies of written student assignments may be kept on file by faculty for accreditation purposes.
3. Don’t let yourself get behind. If you are having trouble, please contact one of your faculty members immediately. The faculty’s office hours are posted on our doors.
4. When participating in class discussion, talk to the entire class - not just to the person(s) next to you. Talking to your neighbor while either a faculty member or a classmate is speaking to the class is not considered respectful of others and is distracting to all other class members.
5. Cell phones may **not be used at anytime during the class and this includes texting during class. Students seen texting will be asked to leave.** Laptop computers may be used by individuals, but if students around you are distracted you will be asked to leave or shut off the laptop.