Department:

Health Sciences

Course Description:

This course provides additional knowledge and experience intended to advance existing nursing skills and competencies. The course will focus on skills needed by the certified nurse aide in the acute care setting.

Course Competencies:

Upon completion of the course, the student should be able to:

1. Communicate effectively with professional colleagues, patients, and family members.
2. Use clear, accurate, and effective writing skills in regular duties as a nurse aide.
3. Exhibit focused listening habits and follow detailed instructions.
4. Use effective problem solving methods in dealing with challenges related to patient care and workplace issues.
5. Apply proper body mechanics to protect the safety of one’s self and patients.
6. Maintain a workplace environment that ensures patient and personal safety.
7. Assist with special procedures as directed by a supervising nurse.
8. Describe the legal and ethical responsibilities of a nurse aide.
9. Identify musculoskeletal, cardiovascular, lymphatic, digestive, endocrine, urinary, and reproductive systems.
10. Identify and describe disorders affecting the following body systems: respiratory, immune, musculoskeletal, cardiovascular, lymphatic, digestive, endocrine, urinary, and reproductive.
11. Apply specific skills used in caring for the acutely ill and those being treated in the acute care setting.

Course Content:

A. Safety as it relates to the employee, the patient, and the workplace
B. Communicating as a member of the healthcare team
C. Measuring vital signs
D. Infection prevention in the healthcare setting
E. Nutritional support and IV therapy
F. Wound care
G. Caring for the patient having surgery
H. Respiratory support and therapies
I. Cancer, immune system, and skin disorders
J. Nervous system and musculoskeletal disorders
K. Cardiovascular, respiratory, and lymphatic disorders
Learning Assessments:

Course competencies will be assessed by class participation, homework assignments, skills practice exercises and demonstrations in a lab setting, performance of skills in the clinical setting, and exams.

Instructional Materials:


Guidelines for Requesting Accommodations Based on Documented Disability or Medical Condition

It is the intention of Highland Community College to work toward full compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, to make instructional programs accessible to all people, and to provide reasonable accommodations according to the law.

Students should understand that it is their responsibility to self-identify their need(s) for accommodation and that they must provide current, comprehensive diagnosis of a specific disability or medical condition from a qualified professional in order to receive services. Documentation must include specific recommendations for accommodation(s). Documentation should be provided in a timely manner prior to or early in the semester so that the requested accommodation can be considered and, if warranted, arranged.

In order to begin the process all students must complete the “Disabilities Self-Identification Form” at this link: https://highlandcc.edu/pages/disability-services.

This form can also be accessed at the Highland Community College homepage under Students Services/Student Resources/Disability Service or by contacting the Disabilities Coordinator.