Faculty of Health, Science and Technology
Nursing Science

Syllabus

Nursing in relation to symptoms and signs of illness

Course Code: OMG003
Course Title: Nursing in relation to symptoms and signs of illness
Credits: 37.5
Degree Level: Undergraduate level
Progressive: First cycle, has less than 60 credits in first-cycle course/s as entry requirements (G1F)

Major Field of Study:
OMA (Nursing Science)

Course Approval
The syllabus was approved by the Faculty of Health, Science and Technology 2017-02-09, and is valid from the Autumn semester 2017 at Karlstad University.

Prerequisites
Completed course Fundamentals of Nursing and the Nursing Profession 30 ECTS cr and completed clinical placement in semester 2 (OMG002), or equivalent.

Learning Outcomes
Upon completion of the course, students should be able to:

Knowledge and understanding
1. Explain common and/or serious orthopedic, gastrointestinal, nephrologic, peripheral vascular and cardiovascular conditions and their specific treatment,
2. Explain mental health problems and common and/or serious psychiatric conditions and their specific treatment,
3. Explain pain in terms of physiology, evaluation, analysis and treatment,
4. Explain how individual background factors and situations can affect the patient's experiences of ill health,
5. Assess the quality of quantitative and qualitative nursing studies and relate to evidence,
6. Explain and give an account of theories/models of nursing in relation to symptoms and signs of illness in relation to drawing up the care plan.

Competence and skills
7. Implement the nursing process in relation to basic and specific nursing and assess the degree of evidence in nursing interventions,
8. Perform dependent nursing interventions such as preparing, informing, implementing and evaluating examinations and treatments,
9. Keep record of the care giving and apply information and communication technology,
10. Perform pharmaceutical calculation, assess the plausibility of calculations and prescriptions and handle pharmaceuticals safely.
11. Perform medical technical methods independently,
12. Plan and organise the nursing, and show initiative and ability to act adequately in expected and unexpected situations,
13. Apply regulations and guidelines pertaining to nursing in case of symptoms and signs of illness and in the drawing up of the care plan or in relation to specific nursing,

Judgement and approach
15. Carry out basic and specific nursing with judgement, accuracy and respect,
16. Identify ethical problems in the nursing of patients with symptoms and signs of illness and in the drawing up of the care plan,
17. Demonstrate self-knowledge, empathy and professional conduct in dealing with patients, next of kin and staff.

Content
The course includes clinical placement totalling 22 ECTS credits, integrated with medical science (15.5 ECTS cr) distributed as follows: surgery 7.5 ECTS cr, medicine 7.5 ECTS cr and psychiatry 6 ECTS cr. Instruction is in the form of introductory lectures, specialised lectures, seminars, methods training, simulation, portfolio assignments and reflection discussions.

Content:
Patophysiology, symptoms, signs, diagnosis, treatment (including specific pharmaceuticals), prevention and specific treatment in relation to:
- orthopedic illnesses
- gastrointestinal illnesses
- nephrologic illnesses
- peripheral vascular and cardiovascular illnesses
- psychiatric illnesses

- acute and chronic pain
- pre and post operative nursing, including transfusion, epidural, and drainage

Mental health problems
- treating people in crisis
- violence in close relationships

Theory of science
- reviewing and evaluating individual studies and compilations of studies in nursing regarding evidence and applicability

Central concepts and theories relevant to nursing
- symptom theory
- nursing ethics related to the nurse's ethical competence

Care plan
- identify needs, assess and diagnose nursing problems, risks and resources, set goals, prescribe and apply evidence-based nursing interventions
- nursing documentation, e-health and IT support
- patient safety, quality indicators, quality register and deviation reporting

Pharmaceutical calculation II
Skills training
- S-CPR
- peripheral and central entrances
- infusion and dilution
- feeding tube
- pharmaceutical handling

Reading List
See separate document.

Examination
Assessment is individual and continuous with various examination formats such as written exam, oral exam, take-home exam, portfolio assignment, seminar and self and peer evaluation. In addition, assessment includes practical skills/simulation, reflection and clinical placement (32 hrs mandatory attendance per week).

A student who has failed to obtain a Pass grade for regular examination is offered at least two re-take opportunities within a year. A student who has failed the clinical training component will be offered two re-take opportunities as soon as circumstances permit.

Grades
One of the grades Fail (U), Pass (G) and Distinction (VG) is awarded in the examination of the course. A Pass grade for the course requires at least a Pass grade for all examinations.

Quality Assurance
Follow-up relating to learning conditions and goal-fulfilment takes place both during and upon completion of the course in order to ensure continuous improvement. Course evaluation is partly based on student views and experiences obtained in accordance with current regulations and partly on other data and documentation. Students will be informed of the result of the evaluation and of any measures to be taken.

Course Certificate
A course certificate will be provided upon request.

Additional information
The course cannot be included in the same degree programme as the course OMG203 and OMG204.

The local regulations for studies at the Bachelor and Master levels at Karlstad University stipulate the obligations and rights of students and staff. Required course for the nursing programme. Students shall complete their studies in accordance with the requirements of the curriculum in effect on their admission.

A student who, in the examiner's judgement, will fail to obtain a Pass grade for the practical training component on the grounds of grave and unprofessional conduct may be required to immediately discontinue the placement.

As stipulated in the Higher Education Act Chapter 2, sect. 6, SFS 1992: 1434, and Regulations of Student Expulsion from Higher Education SFS 1987: 915, a student who suffers from mental disorder, abuses alcohol or drugs, or has been guilty of a serious offence endangering others or valuable property can be expelled until further notice. In such a case, the Rector files a complaint to the Expulsion Board of Higher Education, which investigates the matter and makes a decision. A decision of expulsion shall always entail that the student must discontinue the education until further notice. The Expulsion Board of Higher Education is responsible for all Swedish higher education institutions.