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Faculty of Health Disciplines, Centre for Nursing and Health Studies

The Nursing courses and one Health Studies course offered by Athabasca University (AU), Faculty of Health Disciplines, Centre for Nursing and Health Studies (CNHS) are mapped to the most current entry to practice competencies, as determined by the College and Association of Registered Nurses of Alberta (CARNA). The CARNA Entry-to-Practice Competencies (Sept, 2013) by Course Chart is an effective tool for being able to review all the entry-to-practice competencies that are met in both the Post RN-BN and Post LPN-BN programs.

The CNHS is unable to review individual competency gaps outlined by your respective regulatory bodies or guarantee that the theory courses you take will fulfill your outstanding requirements. It is **solely your responsibility**, as an applicant to determine which theory courses offered at AU will meet your individual regulatory bodies' requirements.

Courses	NURS 316	NURS 317	HLST 320	NURS 250	NURS 322	NURS 324	NURS 326 (OPTION)	NURS 327 (OPTION)	NURS 328	NURS 400	NURS 401	NURS 432	NURS 434	NURS 435	NURS 436	NURS 437	NURS 438	NURS 440 (OPTION)	NURS 441	NURS 442 (OPTION)
PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY & ACCOUNTABILITY																				
1. Represents self by first and last name and professional designation (protected title) to clients and healthcare team.										X			X		X				X	
2. Is accountable and accepts responsibility for own actions.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
3. Recognizes individual competence within legislated scope of practice and seeks support and assistance as necessary.				X						X	X		X		X				X	
4. Articulates the roles and responsibilities of a registered nurse as a member of the nursing and healthcare team.				X			X	X		X	X	X	X		X				X	
5. Demonstrates a professional presence and models professional behaviour.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
6. Demonstrates leadership in client care by promoting healthy and culturally safe practice environments.				X						X	X	X		X		X			X	
7. Displays initiative, a beginning confidence, self-awareness and encourages collaborative interactions within the health care team.										X	X	X		X	X	X			X	
8. Demonstrates critical inquiry in relation to new Knowledge and technologies, that change, enhance or support nursing practice.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
9. Exercises professional judgment when using agency policies and procedures, or when practicing in the absence of age policies and procedures.										X	X	X		X		X			X	
10. Organizes own workload and develops time management skills for meeting responsibilities.					X				X	X	X			X		X			X	
11. Demonstrates responsibility in completing assigned work and communicates about work completed and not completed.			X		X	X			X	X	X			X		X			X	
12. Uses conflict resolution strategies to achieve healthier interpersonal interactions.			X		X			X		X		X		X		X			X	
13. Questions unclear orders, decisions, or actions inconsistent with client outcomes, best practices, and health safety standards.										X	X			X	X	X			X	

14. Protects clients through recognizing and reporting near misses and errors (the RN's and others) and takes action to stop and minimize harm arising from adverse events.											X	X			X		X			X	
15. Takes action on recognized unsafe health care practices and workplace safety risks to clients and staff.											X	X			X		X			X	
16. Seeks out and critiques nursing and health-related research reports.			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
17. Integrates quality improvement principles and activities into nursing practice.					X			X	X	X	X	X		X		X				X	
KNOWLEDGE---BASED PRACTICE: Specialized Body of Knowledge																					
18. Has a knowledge base about the contribution of registered nurse practice to the achievement of positive client health outcomes.						X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X				X	X
19. Has a knowledge base from nursing and other disciplines concerning current and emerging health care issues and trends (eg. the healthcare needs of older adults, vulnerable and/or marginalized populations, health promotion, obesity, pain prevention and pain management, end-of-life care, problematic substance abuse, and mental health).	X	X		X						X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X
20. Has a knowledge base about human growth and development, and population health, including the determinants of health.	X	X		X						X	X			X	X	X	X			X	X
21. Has a knowledge base in the health sciences, including anatomy, physiology, pathophysiology, psychopathology, pharmacology, microbiology, epidemiology, genetics, immunology, and nutrition.	X	X					X			X	X			X		X				X	X
22. Has a knowledge base in nursing science, social sciences, humanities, and health-related research (eg. culture, power relations, spirituality, philosophical and ethical reasoning.).				X						X	X	X	X	X	X	X				X	X
23. Has a knowledge base about workplace health and safety, including ergonomics, safe work practices, prevention and management of disruptive behaviour, including horizontal violence, aggressive, or violent behaviour.						X					X	X	X		X		X			X	X

24. Has theoretical and practical knowledge of relational practice and understands that relational practice is the foundation of all nursing practice.				X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X		X	X	X			X	
25. Has knowledge about emerging community and global health issues, population health issues and research (pandemics, mass immunizations, emergency/ disaster planning, and food and water safety.)				X						X			X	X		X	X		X	
26. Knows how to find evidence to support the provision of safe, competent, compassionate and ethical nursing care, and ensure the personal safety and safety of other health care workers.				X				X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X			X	X
27. Understands the role of primary healthcare and the determinants of health in health delivery systems and its significance for population health.				X	X			X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	
28. Understands nursing informatics and other information and communication technologies used in health care.			X		X			X		X	X	X		X		X			X	X
KNOWLEDGE---BASED PRACTICE: Ongoing Comprehensive Assessment																				
29. Uses appropriate assessment tools and techniques in consultation with clients and the health care team.	X	X	X				X			X	X		X	X		X				X
30. Engages clients in an assessment of the following: physical, emotional, spiritual, cultural, cognitive, developmental, environmental and social needs.				X			X				X		X	X		X				X
31. Collects information on client status using assessment skills inspection, palpation, auscultation, and percussion.							X				X			X		X				X
32. Uses information and communication technologies to support information synthesis.	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X			X	
33. Uses anticipatory planning to guide an ongoing assessment of client health status and health care needs (eg. Prenatal/ postnatal, adolescents, older adults, and reaction to change in health status and /or diagnosis).							X			X	X		X	X		X			X	X
34. Analyzes and interprets data obtained in client assessments to draw conclusions about client health status.	X	X					X			X	X		X	X		X			X	X
35. Incorporates knowledge of the origins of health disparities and inequities of Aboriginal Peoples and the contribution of nursing practice to achieve positive health outcomes for Aboriginal Peoples.				X						X	X					X			X	

36. Incorporates knowledge of the health disparities and inequities of vulnerable populations (eg. sexual orientation, person with disabilities, ethnic minorities, poor, homeless, racial minorities, language minorities) and the contributions of nursing practice to achieve positive health outcomes.				X				X			X	X		X	X	X	X	X		X	X
37. Collaborates with clients and the health care team to identify actual and potential client health care needs, strengths, capacities, and goals.							X			X	X		X	X		X				X	X
38. Completes assessments in a timely manner, and in accordance with evidence---informed practice , agency policies and protocols.						X			X	X		X		X		X				X	
KNOWLEDGE---BASED PRACTICE: Healthcare Planning																					
39. Uses critical inquiry to support professional judgment and reasoned decision---making to develop health care plans.	x	x	X	X			X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X
40. Uses principles of primary health care in planning health care plans.				X			X			X	X		X	X	X	X				X	
41. Facilitates the appropriate involvement of clients in identifying their preferred health outcomes.			X				X			X		X	X	X	X	X				X	X
42. Negotiated priorities of care and desired outcomes with clients, demonstrating cultural safety, and considering the influen of positional power relationships.				X			X			X	X	X	X	X		X				X	X
43. Initiates appropriate planning for clients' anticipated health problems or issues and their consequences (eg. Childbearing, childrearing, adolescent health and senior well---being).								X		X	X			X		X				X	X
44. Explores and develops a range of possible alternatives and approaches for care with clients.			X			X	X		X	X	X		X		X					X	
45. Facilitates client ownership of direction and outcomes of care developed in their health care plans.			X				X		X	X		X	X	X	X					X	
46. Collaborates with the health care team to develop health care plans that promote continuity for clients as they receive conventional health care, and complementary and alternative therapy.								X		X			X	X	X					X	X
47. Determines, with the health care team, or health---related sectors, when consultation is required to assist clients in accessing available resources.										X		X	X		X					X	X

79. Respects and preserves clients' rights based on the values in the <i>CNA Code of Ethics for Registered Nurses</i> and an ethical framework.			X	X		X	X	X		X	X			X	X	X	X		X	
80. Demonstrates an understanding of informed consent as it applies in multiple contexts (eg. consent for care, refusal of treatment, release of health information, and consent for participation in research).				X		X	X		X	X	X			X	X	X	X		X	
81. Uses an ethical reasoning and decision-making process to address ethical dilemmas and situations of ethical distress.				X	X	X		X	X	X			X	X	X	X		X		
82. Accepts and provides care for all clients, regardless of gender, age, health status, lifestyle, sexual orientation, beliefs, and health practices.				X		X				X		X	X	X	X	X		X		
83. Demonstrates support for clients in making informed decisions about their health care, and respects those decisions.	X	X	X	X		X	X			X	X		X	X	X	X	X		X	X
84. Advocates for safe, competent, compassionate, and ethical care for clients, or their representatives, especially when they are unable to advocate for themselves.				X		X				X	X		X	X	X	X	X		X	X
85. Demonstrates ethical responsibilities and legal obligations related to maintaining client privacy, confidentiality and security in all forms of communication, including social media.						X	X	X		X	X		X		X	X		X		
86. Engages in relational practice and uses ethical principles with the health care team to maximize collaborative client care.							X				X		X	X	X	X		X		
SERVICE TO THE PUBLIC																				
87. Enacts the principle that the primary purpose of the registered nurse is to practice in the best interests of the public and to protect the public from harm.	x	x				X	X				X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	
88. Demonstrates knowledge about the structure of the health care system at the: a) national level, b) provincial/territorial level, c) regional/municipal level, d) agency level, and e) practice setting or program level.					X				X			X	X	X	X	X	X		X	
89. Recognizes the impact of organizational culture on the provision of health care and acts to enhance the quality of a professional and safe practice environment.				X					X		X	X	X		X		X	X		X

98. Distinguishes between the legislated scope of practice and the registered nurse's individual competence.				X										X	X	X	X			X	
99. Understands the significance of professional activities related to the practice of registered nurses (eg. attending annual general meetings, participating in surveys related to review of practice standards, and understands significance of membership on regulatory committees, boards, or councils).										X						X	X			X	
100. Adheres to the duty to report unsafe practice in the context of professional self--regulation.							X				X			X		X	X			X	
101. Understands the significance of fitness to practice in the context of nursing practice, self---regulation, and public protection.				X		X				X	X			X		X	X			X	
102. Identifies and implements activities that maintain one's fitness to practice.										X	X	X		X		X	X			X	
103. Understands the significance of continuing competence requirements within professional self--regulation.					X						X			X		X	X			X	
104. Demonstrates continuing competence and preparedness to meet regulatory requirements by: a) assessing one's practice and individual competence to identify learning needs; b) developing a learning plan using a variety of sources (eg. Self---evaluation and pe feedback); c) seeking and using new knowledge that may enhance support, or influence competence in practice; and d) implementing and evaluating the effectiveness of one's learning plan and developing future learning plans to maintain and enhance one's competence as a registered nurse.			X	X	X				X		X			X		X	X			X	