

N4330/4331 SELF-DIRECTED LEARNING COURSE GUIDELINES

Course Description:

Students may carry out independent studies or projects related to the theory or practice of nursing, under the direction of a faculty facilitator. Students are encouraged to systematically identify, plan, execute and evaluate a learning project that is relevant to nursing practice. The course description is not to exceed 50 words.

Objective:

To independently identify, plan, execute and evaluate a learning project within the discipline of nursing. Students are to develop overall course objectives, in collaboration with their faculty supervisor, for their intended area of study.

Definition:

Self-directed learning is a systematic process by which a learner identifies a project, designs a plan, carries it out and evaluates the outcomes in collaboration with a faculty member of the School of Nursing.

Format: This is a 3-credit course.

Guidelines for Individual Learners:

The student is to complete a learning contract and course overview using the following guidelines: both of which are to be submitted to the Associate Director, Academics for approval. This is not a clinical course.

A. Guidelines

1. The student must follow the steps as outlined: Select an area of interest and from that, formulate a topic for study.
2. Investigate the area, scan the literature.
3. Students meet with the Associate Director, Academics, to discuss the merits of individual study for this particular student and review potential faculty mentors for content area.
4. Select a faculty member to be a course mentor, preferably someone who is a content specialist in the student's chosen area of study.
5. With the completion of a learning plan with a faculty mentor, the student will complete the course outline template to develop learning outcomes, required readings, weekly topics and assessment requirements, complete with grading rubrics. o
6. The student will contact the Associate Director, Academics for registration approval, and register for N4330 or N4331, as per the university guidelines.
7. Submit the completed Learning Contract and Course Overview Template at week #4 of the course to the Associate Director, Academics.
8. Submit a self-directed course evaluation to the course mentor at the end of the term.

OBJECTIVES & PROCESS

The Student will:

- Design a learning plan and complete the Course Overview Template

- Follow the established objectives and complete tasks as outlined.
- Negotiate evaluation methods and grade distribution with the faculty mentor.

The Faculty Course mentor will:

- Review the learning plan and course overview template completion.
- Critique and revise learning contracts as necessary
- Advise the student re: all aspects of the project.
- Assign the final grade.
- Submit grades to the Associate Director, Academics, in accordance with

university and school policy.

Consultation

Students are invited to meet individually with the faculty course mentor as needed, at mutually agreed upon times. Setting up time for every 2nd week is often helpful and suggested in order to accommodate schedules and avoid conflicts.

STEPS TO CONTRACTING

1. Devise a contract – use the form on the next page as a guide and obtain signatures from yourself and faculty course mentor, submitting a copy to the faculty mentor.
2. Complete the directed self-learning evaluation form at the end of the course.
3. Discuss a contingency plan with your course mentor in the event that areas of the contract are unable to be fulfilled due to unforeseen circumstances.
4. Proceed with fulfilling the contract for learning. Seek guidance from course mentor and other resource personnel as needed.

NURS4330 Self- Directed Independent Study Learning Contract

Student: **B00**

Program: Nursing

Course Mentor:

Additional Resource Persons:

Area of Interest:

Rationale for Choice:

Learning objectives:

Tasks/Assignments

Contingency as per University regulations

Agreement

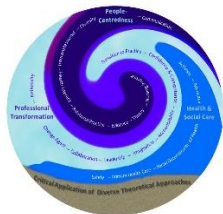
I hereby agree to fulfill all the course requisites and this contract, including the above stated contingency should the need for it arise.

Student: _____

Date: _____

Faculty/Course Mentor: _____

Date: _____



SCHOOL OF NURSING

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Nursing 4330.03 Self-Directed Learning Course

Topic:

Section: 01

Term:

Year:

Course Professor: [Insert Associate Director, Academics name]

Faculty Supervisor [Course mentor]:

Contact Information:

Office Location:

Office Hours: By appointment

Class times and locations: Self-directed learning contract

Student:

Course Description:

Student Learning Objectives:

Required Readings:

Week 1:

Week 2:

Week 3

Week 4:

Week 5:

Week 6:

Assessment Components (to include grading rubrics as well)

N4330 - SELF-DIRECTED LEARNING COURSE EVALUATION

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. Was the contract completed as written?

D Yes D No

Comments:

2. Was it necessary to add or delete from the contract?

D Yes D No

Comments:

3. Did meaningful learning take place as a result of this project?

D Yes D No

In what way?/Why

not?

4. Did you enjoy this learning experience?

D Yes D No

Comments:

5. What were some of the key motivators that you discovered while participating in self-directed learning?**6. What were some of the stressors that you noted while doing this self-directed project?****7. Did the time you spent participating in this project differ from the time needed for other courses?**

D More D Less D Same

Comments:

8. Do you feel that the time you spent on this project was worthwhile?

D Yes D No

Comments:

9. From your Time Flow Sheet, give approximate number of hours doing the following:

Self-Study:

Contract Development:

Consultation: Planning:

Clinical:

10. Based on your experiences, what support systems should be available to the independent learner?

11. What personal characteristics do you see as desirable for independent learners?

12. Were your expectations of your course mentor fulfilled?

13. Suggestions for how this course could be improved: