



This course supports the assessments for Essentials of Advanced Nursing Practice Field Experience. The course covers 2 competencies and represents 2 competency units.

Introduction

Overview

The Essentials of Advanced Nursing Practice Field Experience course gives you an opportunity to apply leadership knowledge to evaluate a healthcare facility and then recommend an organizational change to improve population health.

In this course you will integrate and apply your learning in a clinical experience while working with a nurse leader. You will demonstrate and document the following skills:

- lead change to improve quality health in populations
- advance a culture of excellence through lifelong learning
- build and lead collaborative interprofessional care teams
- navigate and integrate care services across the healthcare system
- design innovative nursing practices
- translate evidence into practice

Getting Started

Welcome to Essentials of Advanced Nursing Practice Field Experience! As a field experience course you should anticipate contacting your course instructor soon to discuss the requirements of your field work. This course also includes a performance assessment piece, a pre-assessment and an objective assessment that will provide an opportunity to apply your knowledge to scenarios relevant to advanced nursing roles in quality improvement activities. Take those assessments as indicated within the course. All learning resources needed to gain the necessary knowledge and skills are readily available within the course.

It is recommended that you contact your course instructors to coordinate your field work, and review the pacing guide to organize your learning. When you have completed the learning activities, complete the assessments as instructed.

Competencies

This course provides guidance to help you demonstrate the following 2 competencies:

- **Competency 7004.1.1: Nursing and Interprofessional Standards**
The graduate adapts an organizational change or innovation to improve quality care outcomes while meeting the master's level nursing and interprofessional standards.
- **Competency 7004.1.2: Evaluating and Documenting Innovations**
The graduate evaluates an organizational change or innovation as measured against the master's level nursing and interprofessional standards.

Course Instructor Assistance

As you prepare to demonstrate competency in this subject, remember that course instructors



stand ready to help you reach your educational goals. As subject matter experts, instructors enjoy and take pride in helping students become reflective learners, problem solvers, and critical thinkers. Course instructors are excited to hear from you and eager to work with you.

Successful students report that working with a course instructor is the key to their success. Course instructors are able to share tips on approaches, tools, and skills that can help you apply the content you're studying. They also provide guidance in assessment preparation strategies and troubleshoot areas of deficiency. Even if things don't work out on your first try, course instructors act as a support system to guide you through the revision process. You should expect to work with course instructors for the duration of your coursework, and you are encouraged to contact them as soon as you begin. Course instructors are fully committed to your success!

Preparing for Success

The information in this section is provided to detail the resources available for you to use as you complete this course.

Learning Resources

The learning resources listed in this section are required to complete the activities in this course. For many resources, WGU has provided automatic access through the course. However, you may need to manually enroll in or independently acquire other resources. Read the full instructions provided to ensure that you have access to all of your resources in a timely manner.

Automatically Enrolled Learning Resources

You will be automatically enrolled for the following learning resources. Simply click on the links provided in the activities to access the learning materials.

VitalSource E-Texts

The following textbook is available to you as an e-text within this course. You will be directly linked to the specific readings required within the activities that follow.

- Denisco, S. M. & Barker, A. M. (2016). *Advanced practice nursing: Essential knowledge for the profession*. (3rd ed.). Burlington, MA: Jones & Bartlett. ISBN-13: 9781284072570

Note: This e-text is available to you as part of your program tuition and fees, but you may purchase hard copies at your own expense through a retailer of your choice. If you choose to do so, please use the ISBN listed to ensure that you receive the correct edition.

The following report will be used in this course:

[Nursing Standards](#)

You will be able to access Nursing Professional Standards as they apply to your program through the WGU Library. Please access these documents at the following website:

- [WGU Library Nursing E-Reserves](#)



Pacing Guide

Please note that this pacing guide is to help you schedule the course sections over a period of three blocks of learning, with each block equating to roughly two weeks per block. Make time variations as required for your situation to complete each block along with your coordinated field work. It does not contain everything that you need; refer to the course of study (COS) for links to the readings and activities to help you successfully meet competency for this course.

Block 1 – Nursing and Interprofessional Standards

- Roles, Responsibilities and Expectations
- Interview
- Approaches to Improvement
- Reflection
- The Science of Improvement
- Healthcare Quality
- Quality Improvement

Block 2 – Evaluating and Documenting Innovations

- Using Information in Advanced Practice Nursing
- Process of Healthcare Improvement
- Leadership and Role Transition for the Advanced Practice Nurse

Block 3 – Quality Improvement and Change Management

- Review Change and Quality Improvement
- Complete Performance Task
- Objective Assessment (first take pre-assessment, proceed as course instructor directs)

Note: Not all activities required for this course are listed here. Please refer to the course of study for complete instructions.

Nursing and Interprofessional Standards

Being a leader in nursing means that you are able to improve healthcare outcomes, effect positive change, and work with interprofessional teams. This is your opportunity to apply much of the information you have been studying to real-world situations.

Nursing and Interprofessional Standards

As a nurse, you are responsible for various activities that contribute to providing patient-centered care, including working in teams and applying evidence-based practices to improve the quality of healthcare available to patients in a variety of settings. In this section, you will focus on improving quality care outcomes through organizational change and innovation. Work with a nurse leader in healthcare as directed in the activities in this section.

This topic addresses following competency:



- **Competency 7004.1.1: Nursing and Interprofessional Standards**

The graduate adapts an organizational change or innovation to improve quality care outcomes while meeting the master's level nursing and interprofessional standards.

This topic highlights the following learning objectives:

- Determine the roles, responsibilities, and expectations of the master's prepared nurse as a member of an inter-professional healthcare team.
- Identify gaps in healthcare processes in a healthcare setting.
- Examine strategies for helping advanced practice nurses to integrate legislative skills into their practices in order to change health policy.
- Assess how the concept of evidence-based practice to quality improvement in general is related to the role of the advanced nurse practitioner
- Adapt the process for selecting and applying appropriate nursing, family, and other disciplines' models and theories to advanced nursing practice.
- Analyze future challenges for healthcare research and the impact they will have on advanced practice nursing.

Read: Roles, Responsibilities, and Expectations

Read the following chapters in *Advanced Practice Nursing*:

- [chapter 2 The Nurse Practitioner: Historical Perspectives on the Art and Science of Nurse Practitioning](#), pages 21-24, 35-36
- [chapter 26 Introduction to Ethics](#), pages 654, 658, 663-694
- [chapter 11 Government Regulation: Parallel and Powerful](#), pages 259–263

After you have finished reading the chapters, complete following discussion questions in your notes:

- questions 3 and 5 on page 40
- questions 8, 10, and 11 on page 708
- questions 1 and 4, page 278

Complete: Interview

Identify a master's-prepared nurse who is a leader in a healthcare setting. Interview that nurse about nursing and interprofessional standards frequently encountered in quality and patient safety issues in the workplace and in advanced nursing practice in general. Note that this is not the same interview you are asked to complete as part of your performance assessment.

Read: Approaches to Improvement

[Read about the IHI PDSA model - "How to Improve"](#)

Read the following chapters in *Advanced Practice Nursing*:

- [chapter 19 Theory-Based Advanced Nursing Practice](#)
- [chapter 18 The Evolution of Nursing Science](#)



- [chapter 21 Evidence-Based Practice](#)

After you have finished reading the chapters, complete the following discussion questions in your notes:

- questions 4–5 on page 441
- question 4 on page 424
- question 2 on page 491

Complete: Reflection

In your notes, reflect on different nursing theories and how these theories exist within some of the healthcare settings that you have experienced. Identify at least three specific applications of theory. Compare these with the IHI model for improvement.

Watch: The Science of Improvement

Watch the videos on the following web page:

- [The Science of Improvement ... On a Whiteboard!](#)

[Review the IHI PDSA model - "How to Improve"](#)

Read: Healthcare Quality

Read the following chapter in *Advanced Practice Nursing*:

- [chapter 12 Factors Influencing the Application and Diffusion of CQI in Health Care](#)

After you have finished reading the chapter, complete the following discussion questions in your notes:

- questions 1 and 2 on page 298

Complete: Quality Improvement

Go to Taskstream and review the requirements for the task in the Essentials of Advanced Nursing Practice Field Experience course.

Identify a change leader in your healthcare setting. Interview that leader about a recent quality improvement initiative. Discuss how the problem was identified, including any data that helped substantiate the need for change. Determine what measurement was performed, how the change was implemented, how the data was collected and analyzed, and determine the role and responsibilities of the stakeholders involved in these activities.

Evaluating and Documenting Innovations

One of the primary functions of a nurse leader is to examine, evaluate, document, and design processes for innovation in healthcare, whether it is on a small scale (such as working with one patient) or a large one (such as a national healthcare initiative).



Evaluating and Documenting Innovations

This topic addresses following competency:

- **Competency 7004.1.2: Evaluating and Documenting Innovations**

The graduate evaluates an organizational change or innovation as measured against the master's level nursing and interprofessional standards.

This topic highlights the following learning objectives:

- Determine how instances where organizational change or innovation can be applied to address a contemporary healthcare problem for a patient or population.
- Apply processes used in the development and implementation of a healthcare project or innovation.
- Determine how data can be used to measure quality and improve healthcare.
- Evaluate the relevance of data and evidence used to initiate or support a patient advocacy project, a system change, an educational program, or address the individual needs of a patient.
- Identify the team membership and function in the development of an innovation.
- Analyze the need for patient advocacy during the development of a healthcare innovation or change.
- Review communication processes used in the implementation of an innovation.

Read: Using Information in Advanced Practice Nursing

Read the following chapters in *Advanced Practice Nursing*:

- [chapter 15 Health Information Technology](#)
- [chapter 16 The Electronic Health Record and Clinical Informatics](#)
- [chapter 22 Clinical Scholarship and Evidence-Based Practice](#)
- [chapter 17 IOM Core Competency: Utilize Informatics](#)
- [chapter 20 Research: How Health Care Advances](#)
- [chapter 5 Influencing and Leading Change in the Complex Healthcare Environment: The Role of the Advanced Practice Nurse](#)

After you have finished reading the chapters, complete following discussion questions in your notes:

- questions 1–3 on page 365
- question 1–3 on page 542
- questions 2 and 4–7 on page 393
- question 1 on page 122

Read: Process for Healthcare Improvement

The [National Committee for Quality Assurance](#) (NCQA) provides guidance for the improvement of quality in healthcare.

Read: Leadership and Role Transition for the Advanced Practice Nurse



Read the following chapters in *Advanced Practice Nursing*:

- [chapter 28 Developing Leadership Skills for the Advance Practice Nurse Through Mentorship](#)
- [chapter 29 Managing Personal Resources: Time and Stress Management](#)
- [chapter 30 Role Transition: Strategies for Success in the Marketplace](#)
- [chapter 6 Interprofessional Collaboration for Improving Patient and Population Health](#)

After you have finished reading the chapters, complete the following discussion questions in your notes:

- question 1 and 2 on page 747
- questions 1 and 3 on page 760
- questions 1–3 on page 782
- question 2–4 on page 146

Complete: Objective Assessment

After thorough review, take the pre-assessment to gauge your understanding of the two competencies covered in this course. Review the coaching report and discuss the results with your course instructor. When ready, schedule your objective assessment.

For details about the objective assessment, see the "Assessment" tab in this course.

Quality Improvement and Change Management

One of the important roles of an advanced practice nurse is to find ways to continuously improve the quality of healthcare and related processes.

Continuous Quality Improvement

In this section, you will be evaluating a healthcare facility and then recommend a change to improve population health.

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- Determine how data can be used to measure quality and improve healthcare.
- Evaluate the relevance of data and evidence used to initiate or support a patient advocacy project, a system change, an educational program, or address the individual needs of a patient.
- Identify the team membership and function in the development of an innovation.
- Analyze the need for patient advocacy during the development of a healthcare innovation or change.
- Review communication processes used in the implementation of an innovation.

Review: Change Investigation and Quality Improvement

Go to Taskstream and review the requirements and rubric the task in the Essentials of Advanced Nursing Practice Field Experience course.

Review the other courses in your program if you need more information to help you complete this task.

Complete: Performance Task

Complete the following task in Taskstream:

- Essentials of Advanced Nursing Practice: Field Experience

For details about this performance assessment, see the "Assessment" tab in this course.

Final Steps

Congratulations on completing the activities in this course! This course has prepared you to complete the assessments associated with this course. If you have not already been directed to complete the assessments, schedule and complete them now.