This course supports the assessments for Professional Roles and Values. The course covers 6 competencies and represents 3 competency units.

Introduction

Overview
The Professional Roles and Values course explores the unique role nurses play in healthcare, beginning with the history and evolution of the nursing profession. Responsibilities and accountability in professional nursing are covered, including cultural competency, advocacy for patient rights, and the legal and ethical issues related to supervision and delegation. Professional conduct, leadership, the public image of nursing, the work environment, and issues of social justice and healthcare costs are also addressed.

Getting Started
Welcome to Professional Roles and Values! This course will introduce and examine many of the diverse roles nurses play in their professional lives. A number of key issues related to this are also explored. Each is considered essential in the profession and none of the topics covered in the course should be overlooked. There are three primary learning resources provided that you will need to successfully complete this course. These are the VitalSource E-Text Cherry, B., & Jacob, S. (2016), Contemporary nursing: Issues, trends, and management (7th ed.), the Elsevier Evolve Online resources, and the CE Direct modules.

The Topics and Pacing outline organizes the learning materials into convenient blocks of learning to help you begin, move through, and complete the course. The final Performance Assessment for the course will measure your competencies with regards to foundational skills and knowledge across all of the content areas. You will need to be conversant in all these areas in order to communicate and collaborate effectively with your colleagues, and in order to succeed in both your licensure exams and in the nursing profession.

Competencies
This course provides guidance to help you demonstrate the following 6 competencies:

- **Competency 740.1.4: Professional Accountability**
  The graduate analyzes the responsibilities and accountability of the professional nurse.
- **Competency 740.1.5: Self-Advocacy of the Nurse**
  The graduate integrates strategies of self-awareness and self-care into professional practice to ensure personal health and well-being.
- **Competency 740.1.7: Roles of the Nurse (WGU)**
  The graduate analyzes the roles of the nurse as a scientist, a detective, and a manager of the healing environment.
- **Competency 740.1.10: The Nursing Profession**
  The graduate applies historical and contemporary nursing theories and models to define their professional nursing practice.
- **Competency 740.1.13: The Professional Nurse**
  The graduate integrates knowledge, skills, and attitudes of the nursing profession into

personal and professional interactions and ethical decision making.
- **Competency 740.1.15: Healthcare Work Environment**
  The graduate evaluates how the vision, values, mission, and philosophy of an organization align with an individual's professional values, beliefs, and approaches to interprofessional collegiality.
- **Competency 982.1: Program Portfolio**
  The graduate exhibits artifacts that both demonstrate the graduate's competency across all program areas as well as provide evidence of professional growth.

Nursing Dispositions Statement
Please review the following:

- [Statement of Nursing Dispositions](#)

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 Resources

VitalSource E-Text
You will be automatically enrolled at the activity level for the following learning resources. Simply click on the links provided in the activities to access the learning materials.

- Cherry, B., & Jacob, S. (2016). *[Contemporary nursing: Issues, trends, and management](#)* [(7th ed.)](#). St. Louis: Mosby Elsevier. ISBN: 0323390226

Note: This e-text is available to you as part of your program tuition and fees, but you may purchase a hard copy 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.

Elsevier Evolve Online
This resource will directly link you to specific activities within Evolve.

- Cherry and Jacob: Contemporary Nursing: Issues, Trends and Management (7th ed.)

For assistance locating the Evolve materials assigned in the activities of this course, see the following help document:

- [Elsevier Evolve Navigation Instructions](#)

CE Direct

You will be directly linked to specific CE Direct modules at the activity level within 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:

- Nursing Standards E-Reserves

Topics and Pacing

This course overview suggests a balanced topic and pacing structure for completion of the required learning activities and assessments for Professional Roles and Values. Professional Roles and Values contains working knowledge of nursing theories, ethics, and professional accountability. Students will be required to think about real-life scenarios and how those relate to nursing codes in their own professional practice.

- Block of Learning 1:
- Introduction
- Preparing for Success
- Learning Resources
- Topics and Pacing
- The Nursing Profession
- The Evolution of Nursing
- Role of the Nurse

- Block of Learning 2:
- Professional Accountability
- Legal Foundations of Nursing
- Professional Responsibility
- Patient Rights and Responsibilities

- Block of Learning 3:
- Self-Advocacy of the Nurse
- Self-Awareness
- Self-Care

- Block of Learning 4:
- The Professional Nurse
- Professionalism
- Ethical Comportment and Integrity

- Block of Learning 5:
- The Roles of the Nurse (WGU)
- Nurse as Detective
- Nurse as Scientist
- Manager of the Healing Environment

• Block of Learning 6:
• Healthcare Work Environment
• Work Environment
• Interprofessional Team Practice

The Nursing Profession

The nursing profession is complex, with a long history that constantly evolves. Historical context frames future endeavors. Professional nurses must look to the future but never forget the past. There are significant milestones that shape how practice is defined today. Early nurse leaders paved the path for practices nursing takes for granted today. These contributions motivate the nursing profession to keep moving forward. Nurses today have a number of emerging and specialized roles to play in collaborative healthcare. In this section, these roles will be explored in some depth.

The Evolution of Nursing

From Florence Nightingale to Patricia Benner, nursing is constantly changing and evolving. Nurse leaders have pushed the envelope and made changes to better the healthcare system. As one explores the history of nursing, it is amazing to see the vast contributions nurse leaders have made to everyday patient care.

This topic addresses the following competency:

- **Competency 740.1.10: The Nursing Profession**
  The graduate applies historical and contemporary nursing theories and models to define their professional nursing practice.

This topic highlights the following objectives:

- Analyze how the contributions of nursing theorists, pioneers, and leaders influence the development of your personal nursing philosophy and practice.
- Analyze how economic, political, legislative, and sociocultural factors influence the evolution of healthcare and nursing practice.
- Identify differences between a nursing theory and a nursing model.
- Analyze how clinical decision-making evolves as the nurse progresses from novice to expert.
- Determine the necessary criteria of a theory.

The Evolution of Professional Nursing

Read the following chapter in *Contemporary Nursing* prior to completing the Evolve activities:

- [Chapter 1 The Evolution of Professional Nursing](#)

Access the Evolve Contemporary Nursing online course and complete the following.

- [Chapter 1 The Evolution of Professional Nursing Student Case Studies](#)

- [Chapter 1 The Evolution of Professional Nursing Student Review Questions](#)

Read the following chapter in *Contemporary Nursing* prior to completing the Evolve activities:

- [Chapter 5 Theories of Nursing Practice](#)

Access the Evolve Contemporary Nursing online course and complete the following.

- [Chapter 5 Theories of Nursing Practice Student Review Questions](#)
- From Novice to Expert on Page 121 of [Chapter 24 Making the Transition From Student to Professional Nurse](#)

Nursing Theory at the Heart of Practice

Complete the following CE Direct course:

- [Nursing Theory: At the Heart of Practice (CE632)](#)

Be able to complete the following items based on your reading and the CE Direct module:

- Explain how you see theory in your current nursing practice.
- Do you identify with any particular theorist or model?

Role of the Nurse

This topic explores the images and roles of nurses from the time of Florence Nightingale into the 21st Century. Today, forty percent of all health care professionals in the United States are registered nurses. Over 60% of all nurses practice in hospitals with nurse practitioners (NPs) accounting for the majority of working nurses followed by clinical nurse specialists (CNSs), CRNAs, NP-CNSs, and nurse-midwives.

This topic addresses the following competency:

- **Competency 740.1.10: The Nursing Profession**
  The graduate applies historical and contemporary nursing theories and models to define their professional nursing practice.

This topic highlights the following objectives:

- Compare traditional nursing roles with emerging and specialized nursing roles.
- Describe the contributions of diverse nursing roles on collaborative practice.
- Explain how the social obligation of the nursing practice contributes to public trust in the nursing profession.

The Contemporary Image of Professional Nursing

Read the following chapter in *Contemporary Nursing* prior to completing the Evolve activities:

- [Chapter 2 The Contemporary Image of Professional Nursing](#)

Access the Evolve Contemporary Nursing online course and complete the following.

- [Chapter 2 The Contemporary Image of Professional Nursing Student Case Studies](#)

- [Chapter 2 The Contemporary Image of Professional Nursing Student Review Questions](#)

Trend and Issues in Nursing Education

Read the following chapter in *Contemporary Nursing* prior to completing the Evolve activities:

- [Chapter 3 The Influence of Contemporary Trends and Issues on Nursing Education](#)

Access the Evolve Contemporary Nursing online course and complete the following.

- [Chapter 3 The Influence of Contemporary Trends and Issues on Nursing Education Student Review Questions](#)

The Future of Nursing Report

Complete the following CE Direct course: [The Future of Nursing Report (60194)](#)

Be able to complete the following items based on the information in the report:

- Identify one recommendation that relates to your current practice.
- Do you agree or disagree with the recommendation?
- Explain how this will change your practice in the future.

Professional Accountability

Nurses have more than just accountability to their patients – they are also accountable to the profession. Nursing theory, accountabilities, and responsibilities will be explored. The legal foundations of nursing will be addressed along with a number of considerations related to professional regulations and responsibility. Ethical principles in delegation and supervision are examined in this context. Patient rights and responsibilities are explored using various scenarios as are the nurse's role in protecting privacy and confidentiality.

Legal Foundations of Nursing

Nurses must function within their scope of practice. The nurse should understand and work within their Nurse Practice Act. This includes knowing the principles of licensure, scope of practice, and delegation.

This topic addresses the following competency:

- **Competency 740.1.4: Professional Accountability**
  The graduate analyzes the responsibilities and accountability of the professional nurse.

This topic highlights the following objectives:

- Compare the American Nurses Association (ANA) Guidelines for Professional Nursing Practice with individual states' Nurse Practice Acts (NPA).
- Apply appropriate procedures for addressing Nurse Practice Act (NPA) violations from the perspective of the nurse who identified the violation and the perspective of the regulatory agency.

Nursing Licensure and Certification

Read the following chapter in *Contemporary Nursing* prior to completing the Evolve activities:

- Chapter 4 Nursing Licensure and Certification

Watch the following video: New Nurses: Your License to Practice
Nurses new to practice or preparing for their first nursing jobs will learn the ways the profession is regulated – through nursing licensure, boards of nursing and state laws called Nurse Practice Acts. Also covered are key issues of professional responsibility, including maintaining professional boundaries, and nursing ethics. (8:06)

Watch the following video: The Josie King Story clip for QSEN
A mother who lost her daughter at one of our leading US hospitals speaks about her experience. (4:25)

Access the Evolve Contemporary Nursing online course and complete the following.

- Chapter 4 Nursing Licensure and Certification Student Case Studies

- Chapter 4 Nursing Licensure and Certification Student Review Questions

Know Your Nurse Practice Act

Complete the following CE Direct course: Protect Yourself: Know Your Nurse Practice Act (CE548)
How Medical Error Affects Patient Safety

Watch the following videos:

[Nursing medical errors are underreported and therefore safety measures are not being developed](#)
Learn the impact of giving the wrong medication to a patient. (3:58)

[Medication Safety: A Patient's Story](#)
Helen Haskell, the founder and president of Mothers Against Medical Error, shared the story of her son, Lewis Blackman, at the conference "Improving Medication Safety Through Effective Communication and Teamwork. (9:23)

Legal Issues in Nursing and Healthcare

Read the following chapter in *Contemporary Nursing* prior to completing the Evolve activities:

- [Chapter 8 Legal Issues in Nursing and Health Care](#)

Access the Evolve Contemporary Nursing online course and complete the following.

- [Chapter 8 Legal Issues in Nursing and Health Care Student Case Studies](#)

- [Chapter 8 Legal Issues in Nursing and Health Care Student Review Questions](#)

Professional Responsibility
Nurses must keep up-to-date in their knowledge and skills related to clinical care nursing. The obligations and responsibilities for continuing education will be examined. Delegation and supervision are important principles that assure quality and effective patient care.

This topic addresses the following competency:

- **Competency 740.1.4: Professional Accountability**
  The graduate analyzes the responsibilities and accountability of the professional nurse.

This topic highlights the following objectives:

- Describe the nurse's responsibilities related to continued competence in practice.
- Describe how the essential principles of delegation and supervision ensure safe and legal patient care.

Professional Responsibilities and Accountability

Read the following chapter in *Contemporary Nursing* prior to completing the Evolve activities:

- [Chapter 20 Effective Delegation and Supervision](#)

Access the Evolve Contemporary Nursing online course and complete the following.

- [Chapter 20 Effective Delegation and Supervision Appendix](#)

- [Chapter 20 Effective Delegation and Supervision Student Case Studies](#)

- [Chapter 20 Effective Delegation and Supervision Student Review Questions](#)

Complete the following CE Direct course: [Learning to Lead: From Staff Nurse to Change Nurse (CE60108)](#)

Read the following article from NCSBN on delegating effectively as a nurse: [Delegating Effectively](#)

Patient Rights and Responsibilities

The principles of altruism, autonomy, human dignity, and integrity entail certain nursing responsibilities and the protection of patient rights. Privacy and confidentiality are other key elements of importance to both nurses and their patients.

This topic addresses the following competency:

- **Competency 740.1.4: Professional Accountability**
  The graduate analyzes the responsibilities and accountability of the professional nurse.

This topic highlights the following objectives:

- Analyze how the principles of altruism, autonomy, human dignity, and integrity impact patient rights.
- Argue the nurse's role in protecting patient privacy and confidentiality.

Nursing Research, Evidence-Based Practice, and Ethical Issues

Read the following chapter in *Contemporary Nursing* and be prepared to:

Analyze and, given a scenario, be able to describe how the principles of altruism, autonomy, human dignity, and integrity impact patient rights.

- [Chapter 6 Nursing Research and Evidence-Based Practice](#)

Access the Evolve Contemporary Nursing online course and complete the following.

- [Chapter 6 Nursing Research and Evidence-Based Practice Student Review Questions](#)

Read the following chapter in *Contemporary Nursing* prior to completing the Evolve activities:

- [Chapter 9 Ethical and Bioethical Issues in Nursing and Health Care](#)

Access the Evolve Contemporary Nursing online course and complete the following.

- [Chapter 9 Ethical and Bioethical Issues in Nursing and Health Care Student Review Questions](#)

Self-Advocacy of the Nurse

To be effective, nurses must understand and identify their uniqueness, their sense of self, and how this interacts with the care they give to clients. Once nurses can identify their sense of self, they are then able to move forward and become advocates for themselves as well as for the client. Nurses must learn to care for themselves first. Having a high level of self-awareness leads to better advocacy not only for their clients but also for their individual practice.

Self-Awareness

Self-awareness is driven by one's sense of self. The sense of self is built from self-actualization, a consciousness of self and others, self-esteem, spirituality, and a need to belong. All of these tenets help to raise self-awareness and increase an individual's ability to interact with others in a comfortable confident manner.

This topic addresses the following competency:

- **Competency 740.1.5: Self-Advocacy of the Nurse**
  The graduate integrates strategies of self-awareness and self-care into professional practice to ensure personal health and well-being.

This topic highlights the following objectives:

- Analyze how personal beliefs and values both positively and negatively impact professional practice.
- Apply strategies that promote personal health and well-being.

Promoting Self-Awareness

Read the following article: [Promoting Self-Awareness in Nurses to Improve Nursing Practice](#)

Read [Chapter 24 Making the Transition from Student to Professional Nurse](#) in *Contemporary Nursing* and be prepared to:

- Analyze how personal beliefs and values both positively and negatively impact professional practice.
- Identify one's personal beliefs and values about health and wellness.
- Consider how these beliefs and values may positively or negatively impact your professional practice.

Access the Evolve Contemporary Nursing online course and complete the following.

- [Chapter 24 Making the Transition from Student to Professional Nurse Student Case Studies](#)

- [Chapter 24 Making the Transition from Student to Professional Nurse Student, Student Review Questions](#)

Self-Care

Nurses are excellent care providers. It is important that nurses understand their first priority of care – themselves. Often this is neglected and nurses put their own well-being to the side. Nurses who can put their self-care first provide quality care to their clients and have a lower burnout rate.

This topic addresses the following competency:

- **Competency 740.1.5: Self-Advocacy of the Nurse**
  The graduate integrates strategies of self-awareness and self-care into professional practice to ensure personal health and well-being.

This topic highlights the following objectives:

- Analyze how personal beliefs and values both positively and negatively impact professional practice.
- Identify how common internal and external stressors contribute to compassion fatigue and burnout.
- Identify strategies that promote personal health and well-being.

Self-Care in the Nursing Profession

Read the following: [Nurses and Health -Promoting Behaviors: Knowledge May Not Translate into Self-Care](#)

Complete the following CE Direct course: [Fizzling Out? Recognizing Compassion Fatigue and Burnout](#)

Keep a log for 24 hours. In this log record every activity that you would consider to be a "self-care" activity. These activities include exercise, eating a meal on time, appropriate bathroom breaks, etc. Then review that log, and respond to the following:

- Were you surprised at what you found?
- Reflect on the reasons you did not care for yourself in a 24-hour period.
- What were two self-care activities you could implement into your daily life?

- Set two realistic goals for implementing self-care into your current daily routine.

The Professional Nurse

"Professional nurse" is more than just a title. It becomes the way nurses interact with their environment. The way nurses carry themselves affects their practices and the decisions they make.

Professionalism

The nurse must understand the tenets of professionalism. In order to function in a multidisciplinary setting with different personalities, nurses need professionalism to help them improve patient care and nursing practice.

This topic addresses the following competency:

- **Competency 740.1.13: The Professional Nurse**
  The graduate integrates knowledge, skills, and attitudes of the nursing profession into personal and professional interactions and ethical decision making.

This topic highlights the following objectives:

- Examine the role of civility as a core component of professionalism.
- Describe how professional nurses promote the image of nursing.
- Analyze the influence of traditional media, social media, and popular culture on the image of the nursing profession.

Professionalism in Nursing

Read the following chapter in *Contemporary Nursing* prior to completing the Evolve activities:

- [Chapter 19 Effective Communication and Conflict Resolution](#)

Access the Evolve Contemporary Nursing online course and complete the following.

- [Chapter 19 Effective Communication and Conflict Resolution Student Case Studies](#)

- [Chapter 19 Effective Communication and Conflict Resolution Student Review Questions](#)

Image of Nursing

Complete the following CE Direct course: [Do You Reflect a Positive Image of Nursing? (CE492)](#)

Ethical Comportment and Integrity

Nurses make ethical decisions every day in their practice setting. A strong understanding of ethical comportment and integrity helps the nurse to guide these decisions. In order to lead the healthcare team in a variety of settings, nurses must develop a theoretical knowledge of ethics

in order to influence right decision-making.

This topic addresses the following competency:

- **Competency 740.1.13: The Professional Nurse**
  The graduate integrates knowledge, skills, and attitudes of the nursing profession into personal and professional interactions and ethical decision making.

This topic highlights the following objectives:

- Describe foundational concepts of human values and moral integrity that are essential for ethical decision-making in the nursing profession.
- Explain how the principles in the American Nurses Association (ANA) Code of Ethics for Nurses guide clinical practice.
- Describe how the nurse advocates for the patient.
- Apply strategies for accommodating the personal health practices and beliefs of a patient that differ from those of the nurse.
- Identify possible barriers to safe, quality patient care in multicultural settings.

Ethical Decision-Making

Read the following chapter in *Contemporary Nursing* prior to completing the Evolve activities:

- [Chapter 9 Ethical and Bioethical Issues in Nursing and Health Care](#)

Access the Evolve Contemporary Nursing online course and complete the following.

- [Chapter 9 Ethical and Bioethical Issues in Nursing and Health Care Student Review Questions](#)

Read the following chapter in *Contemporary Nursing* prior to completing the Evolve activities:

- [Chapter 10 Cultural Competency and Social Issues in Nursing and Health Care](#)

Access the Evolve Contemporary Nursing online course and complete the following.

- [Chapter 10 Cultural Competency and Social Issues in Nursing and Health Care Student Review Questions](#)

Read the following chapter in *Contemporary Nursing* prior to completing the Evolve activities:

- [Chapter 11 Complementary and Alternative Healing](#)

Access the Evolve *Contemporary Nursing* online course and complete the following.

- [Chapter 11 Complementary and Alternative Healing Student Review Questions](#)

Everyday Ethics for Nurses

Complete the following CE Direct course:

- CE Direct – Everyday Ethics for Nurses (60097)

Roles of the Nurse (WGU)

In this section, you will explore how the roles of the nurse define professional practice, address the evolution of nursing through traditional, emerging, and specialized roles, examine the contributions nursing has made to collaborative practice and patient scenarios, and analyze both the social obligation in nursing and the ANA nursing social policy statement.

Nurse as Detective

The professional nurse must learn to function as a detective. By utilizing the role of the detective, the professional nurse can evaluate client care, policies, and initiatives that may affect patient outcomes.

This topic addresses the following competency:

- **Competency 740.1.7: Roles of the Nurse (WGU)**
  The graduate analyzes the roles of the nurse as a scientist, a detective, and a manager of the healing environment.

This topic highlights the following objectives:

- Analyze the nurse's role in investigating how changes in policies and initiatives will impact the health of individuals, families, and communities.
- Analyze sociocultural factors that influence healthcare access, allocation of healthcare resources, and financing.

Role of Detective

Read the following about the roles of the nurse:

- WGU Conceptual Model
- The Nurse Detective: What a Resident's Behavior is Telling You?

Watch: Dr. Michael R. Clark Describes Pain Assessment Nonverbal Cues:

Watch: Many Roles, One Profession
"Compassion," "caring," "efficient" and "hard-working" are all words that have been used to describe nurses. If you've spent any time in a hospital, you know just how important your nurse was in getting you back on the road to recovery. (3:50)

Nurse as Scientist

The professional nurse understands how nursing is based on sound scientific principles. These principles guide theory development, which leads to the development of new nursing knowledge. Understanding this process helps the professional nurse understand and influence practice.

This topic addresses the following competency:

- **Competency 740.1.7: Roles of the Nurse (WGU)**
  The graduate analyzes the roles of the nurse as a scientist, a detective, and a manager of the healing environment.

This topic highlights the following objectives:

- Describe how nursing science promotes quality patient outcomes.
- Explain the impact of standards of care on patient outcomes.

Role of the Scientist

Read the following chapter in *Contemporary Nursing* prior to completing the Evolve activities:

- [Chapter 26 Contemporary Nursing Roles and Career Opportunities](#)

Access the Evolve Contemporary Nursing online course and complete the following.

- [Chapter 26 Contemporary Nursing Roles and Career Opportunities Student Review Questions](#)

As you continue through this section, consider your readings in Chapter 6 from the section on Patients's Rights and Responsibilities.

Read the following article: [Translating Caring Theory into Practice](#)

Watch the following video: [Nursing Q&A: Jerome Stone on Nurse Researchers](#)

Watch the following video: [Nursing Research Improves Care](#)

Manager of the Healing Environment

The professional nurse is the leader in understanding the trends in healthcare. In order to manage the environment to improve outcomes and patient care, the nurse must understand current standards and scope of practice issues.

This topic addresses the following competency:

- **Competency 740.1.7: Roles of the Nurse (WGU)**
  The graduate analyzes the roles of the nurse as a scientist, a detective, and a manager of the healing environment.

This topic highlights the following objectives:

- Explain how the nurse's role helps to create and maintain a healing environment.
- Describe the nurse's role in determining how trends in healthcare policies and initiatives impact the healing environment.

Optimal Healing Environments

Nurses are the managers of the healing environment. This role is much broader than just the client environment, and it extends far beyond to the worksite environment. Current trends are looking at how nurses practice in a cohesive, supportive engaging environment with one another. Nurses need to start conversations about creating an environment that does not tolerate lateral violence.

Read the following articles:

- [Creating Workplace Environment that Supports Moral Courage](#)
- [The Informal Power of Nurses for Promoting Patient Care](#)

Healthcare Work Environment

Nurses must be savvy when choosing a healthcare work environment. It is important to make sure that the mission, vision, and values align with the nurse's.

Work Environment

A nurse should explore more about their work environment than just salary or specialty of nursing—they must look at how the interprofessional practices occur on the unit, the decision-making processes, and opportunities for continuing education.

This topic addresses the following competency:

- **Competency 740.1.15: Healthcare Work Environment**
  The graduate evaluates how the vision, values, mission, and philosophy of an organization align with an individual's professional values, beliefs, and approaches to interprofessional collegiality.

This topic highlights the following objectives:

- Distinguish among the purposes of organizational mission statements, vision statements, philosophies, and values.
- Describe the importance of comparing the nurse's professional values with organizational values.
- Evaluate how organizational structure impacts nursing leadership, decision-making, and professional development.

The Nursing Work Environment

Read the following chapters in *Contemporary Nursing*:

- Chapter 13 Workforce Advocacy and the Nursing Shortage

Access the Evolve Contemporary Nursing online and complete the following.

- Chapter 13 Workforce Advocacy for a Professional Nursing Practice Environment Student Case Studies

- Chapter 13 Workforce Advocacy for a Professional Nursing Practice Environment Student Review Questions

Interprofessional Team Practice

A nurse must function in groups. Client care is provided in a multidisciplinary manner. The nurse must learn to function with diverse partners and in a collaborative practice. Analysis will focus on strategies to improve patient-centered practice in both individual and team care scenarios.

This topic addresses the following competency:

- **Competency 740.1.15: Healthcare Work Environment**
  The graduate evaluates how the vision, values, mission, and philosophy of an organization align with an individual's professional values, beliefs, and approaches to interprofessional collegiality.

This topic highlights the following objectives:

- Apply strategies to engage health professionals, care givers, and patients in patient-centered care.
- Analyzes strategies to improve individual and interprofessional team performance.

Interprofessional Strategies and Roles

Read the following chapter in *Contemporary Nursing* prior to completing the Evolve activities:

- Chapter 15 Information Technology in the Clinical Setting

Access the Evolve Contemporary Nursing online course and complete the following.

- Chapter 15 Information Technology in the Clinical Setting Student Review Questions

Watch the following video: Inter-Professional Team Work

Learn specifically the impact inter-professional team work has on patient safety and quality care. (2:16)

[Closed caption transcript for "Inter-Professional Team Work"](#)

Read the following chapters in *Contemporary Nursing* prior to completing the Evolve activities:

- [Chapter 17 Nursing Leadership and Management](#)

Access the Evolve Contemporary Nursing online course and complete the following.

- [Chapter 17 Nursing Leadership and Management Student Case Studies](#)

- [Chapter 17 Nursing Leadership and Management Student Review Questions](#)

Complete the following CE Direct course. Be sure to select the correct number to correspond with the nurse's role.

- [CE Direct – Working with an Interprofessional Team (CE90-60)](#)

Be able to describe the interprofessional team at your current practice setting.

- How does this team function?
- If you were the charge nurse, make two suggestions with proposed implementation strategies to help your team function more effectively.

Nursing Professional Portfolio

Related to your work throughout the program is the creation of a professional portfolio. A professional portfolio will showcase your knowledge and skills to prospective employers and will increase your marketability as a baccalaureate-prepared nurse. In this course you will be creating the shell for that portfolio that you will continue to build on throughout the program.

McCready (2007) defines a professional portfolio as: "...a visual representation of the individual, their experience, strengths, abilities and skills" (p. 144). The portfolio reflects the unique professional biography of that professional. While part of a portfolio may be a repository for certificates, transcripts, job descriptions, and resume or curriculum vitae, it should also provide evidence of the individual's personal and professional development.

Many portfolios may be traditional paper-based files or folders containing printed documents, but the use of electronic software packages for developing electronic or 'e-portfolios' is increasing. These reduce the volume of paperwork generated and allow for flexible access. Casey and Egan (2010) maintain that an important advantage of e-portfolios is the ability to capture real-time information, activities and learning, thus allowing the portfolio to become "a

dynamic vehicle to enable one's future career and development planning" (p. 547).

Professional portfolios may be required by current employers, prospective employers, certification bodies, scholarship committees, or applications to higher academic programs as evidence of your abilities as a baccalaureate-prepared nurse. The portfolio helps you, as a nurse, to focus on the concepts, strengths, and clinical reasoning abilities that define your professional nursing practice. Throughout your time at WGU, you have developed skills and knowledge that support your practice as that of a baccalaureate-prepared nurse. To understand the value of your portfolio, read **The Use of Professional Portfolios and Profiles for Career Enhancement**.

The following activities will guide you through assembling the items you will be showcasing in this electronic professional portfolio. Artifacts are coursework examples as well as abstracts, or reflective writing, about that work. You should organize your portfolio around the following themes: Quality and Safety, Evidence-Based Practice, Applied Leadership, Community and Population Health.

References:

Casey, DC and Egan, D (2010). The use of professional portfolios and profiles for career enhancement. *British Journal of Community Nursing,* 15(11). 547-552. ISSN 1462-4753.

McCready, T. (2007). Portfolios and the assessment of competence in nursing: A literature review. *International Journal of Nursing Studies,* 44(1).143-51.

Portfolio Framework

Using the Web Folio Builder in Taskstream, create a professional portfolio. Follow the "Building Your Portfolio" web link for creating and submitting your portfolio to create **four** sections labeled with the following headings:

- Quality and Safety
- Evidence Based Practice
- Applied Leadership
- Community and Population Health

Personal Definition: (One paragraph definition for the meaning of the category)

- Within each section, you will need to briefly define the areas of professional nursing practice
- Including your experiences, their meaning, importance, and how you will integrate those experiences into your practice.

Helpful Resources for completion of your Portfolio Sections

Your E-Textbook: Cherry, B., & Jacob, S. (2016). *Contemporary nursing: Issues, trends, and management* (7th ed.). St. Louis: Mosby Elsevier. ISBN: 0323390226

- [Chapter 22 Quality and Safety in Nursing Education: The QSEN Project](#)

- [Chapter 22 Quality Improvement and Patient Safety Student Case Studies](#)

- [Chapter 22 Quality Improvement and Patient Safety Student Review Questions](#)

- [Chapter 13 Workforce Advocacy and the Nursing Shortage](#)

- [Chapter 13 Workforce Advocacy for a Professional Nursing Practice Environment Student Case Studies](#)

- [Chapter 13 Workforce Advocacy for a Professional Nursing Practice Environment Student Review Questions](#)

- [Chapter 6 Nursing Research and Evidence-Based Practice Student Review Questions](#)

- [Chapter 17 Nursing Leadership and Management](#)
- [Chapter 3 The Influence of Contemporary Trends and Issues on Nursing Education, page 54](#)

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.