This course supports the clinical learning labs of Critical Care Nursing Clinical Learning.

**Introduction**

The clinical simulation portion of Critical Care Nursing is integrated with the didactic course (C488). All learning resources, and the Soomo learning environment for this portion of the course, are also utilized in the C488 course.

After approximately seven weeks, you will complete the clinical learning lab assessment that takes place in the clinical learning lab. This is an assessment of your ability to respond appropriately to a simulation scenario of a critically ill patient. If you are not successful in this "first attempt," you will participate in a debriefing to identify your challenges to help you prepare for your final attempt (see C488 course for further information). The simulation assessment (first or final attempt) must be passed in order for you to attend clinical intensive. Please review the "Course Progression" policy in the Student Handbook for further information.

**Competencies**

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

- **Competency 726.9.1: The Critical Care Environment**
  The graduate collaborates with the critical care interdisciplinary team and communicates in a manner that supports a positive work environment.

- **Competency 726.9.2: Assessment of the Critically Ill Patient**
  The graduate performs both a general and focused physical assessment appropriate to the needs of the critically ill patient.

- **Competency 726.9.3: Education of the Critically Ill Patient & Family**
  The graduate integrates principles of patient education in assessing and responding to the learning needs of critically ill patients and their families.

- **Competency 726.9.4: Caring for the Physiological Needs of the Critically Ill Patient**
  The graduate uses cognitive knowledge and clinical reasoning to plan and provide safe, quality, patient-centered care to the critically ill patient.

- **Competency 726.9.5: Caring for the Psychosocial Needs of the Critically Ill Patient**
  The graduate provides compassionate, patient-centered care to patients and families to support their psychosocial needs.

- **Competency 726.9.6: Legal and Ethical Issues in Critical Care**
  The graduate plans and provides care to critically ill patients and their families incorporating knowledge of legal standards and ethical principles.

**Nursing Dispositions Statement**

Please review the [Statement of Nursing Dispositions](#).

**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, mentors 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!

Preparation 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

The clinical simulation (CYA1) and the clinical intensive (CGA1) portions of Critical Care Nursing are taken together with and completed in progressive fashion with the didactic assessment (C488). You will be automatically enrolled in all of the learning resources for these assessments. They are found within the following Soomo environment.

Soomo Learning Environment

The following learning environment will be utilized as the primary learning resource for completion of this course:

- Critical Care Nursing

For a complete listing of the resources utilized in the Soomo environment, please see the C488 course.

Clinical Skills

Clinical Skills learning resources are listed on "Evolve" provided by Elsevier. Follow the instructions within the Soomo learning environment to access the appropriate skills for your course.

Clinical Preparations

Preparing for Clinical Learning Labs

In the clinical learning labs, you will learn specific nursing skills. You will also learn to apply them in simulated patient care scenarios. Please refer to the C488 course for further information.
Attend Clinical Learning Labs
In the clinical learning labs, you will learn specific nursing skills that you will then apply in simulated patient care scenarios. After approximately five weeks, you will complete the "first attempt" simulation assessment, which takes place in the clinical learning lab. This is an assessment of your ability to respond appropriately in patient care scenarios, and demonstrate clinical skills and your ability to think critically. If you are not successful in this "first attempt" you will participate in a debriefing to identify your challenges to help you prepare for your final attempt (see C488 course for further information). The simulation assessment (first or final attempt) must be passed in order for you to attend clinical intensive (CGA1). Please review the "Course Progression" policy in the Student Handbook for further information.

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

Critical Care Nursing Learning Environment
All reading activities, discussion questions, quizzes, and learning resources for this course of study are found by accessing the Critical Care Nursing learning environment.

Learning Environment
The material for this course is housed in a separate learning environment. In this learning resource, you will be able to

- complete the activities and reading assignments to prepare for the assessment for this course;
- answer the quizzes to gauge your learning; and
- communicate with your mentor and other students as you study.

Once you have completed the material within the learning environment, you should return to this course for the information for your exam.

This topic addresses the following competencies:

- Competency 726.9.1: The Critical Care Environment
  The graduate collaborates with the critical care interdisciplinary team and communicates in a manner that supports a positive work environment.

- Competency 726.9.2: Assessment of the Critically Ill Patient
  The graduate performs both a general and focused physical assessment appropriate to the needs of the critically ill patient.

- Competency 726.9.3: Education of the Critically Ill Patient & Family
  The graduate integrates principles of patient education in assessing and responding to the learning needs of critically ill patients and their families.

- Competency 726.9.4: Caring for the Physiological Needs of the Critically Ill Patient
  The graduate uses cognitive knowledge and clinical reasoning to plan and provide safe,
quality, patient-centered care to the critically ill patient.

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- Competency 726.9.6: Legal and Ethical Issues in Critical Care
  The graduate plans and provides care to critically ill patients and their families incorporating knowledge of legal standards and ethical principles.

Learning Materials

Access the learning environment for this course at the link below and complete the readings, activities, and quizzes for the following section:

- Critical Care Nursing

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 your assessments now.