This course supports the assessment for HGT1. The course covers 8 competencies and represents 2 competency units.

Introduction

Overview
A unique characteristic of community/public health nursing is approaching a health issue from a community perspective rather than from the perspective of an individual or family. The community health field project offers you an opportunity to focus on a particular health problem affecting a given population, thoroughly research the current state of the problem, and interact with the community entities that influence and respond to the issue. You will analyze the contributing factors and design a comprehensive action plan to address the problem.

Watch the following video for an introduction to this course:

*Note: View the video in full screen at 720p for best results.*

Competencies
This course provides guidance to help you demonstrate the following 8 competencies:

- **Competency 725.8.1: Community Health Epidemiology**
  The graduate assesses and analyzes the health status of populations using data, community resources identification, input from the population, and professional judgment and determines meaning of the data to identify opportunities and needs.

- **Competency 725.8.2: Community Collaboration**
  The graduate participates with other community partners to identify expected outcomes of health status in various populations and to recommend health interventions appropriate to the target audience.

- **Competency 725.8.3: Programs, Policies, Resources, and Services**
  The graduate determines availability and accessibility of community health programs, policies, resources, and services to serve the population.

- **Competency 725.8.4: Health Promotion, Risk Reduction, and Disease Prevention**
  The graduate recognizes the healthcare needs across the life span of diverse populations and determines nursing actions that promote health, reduce risks, and prevent disease to achieve and maintain optimal levels of wellness for individuals, families, and communities.

- **Competency 725.8.5: Quality of Life and Functioning**
  The graduate selects nursing actions during illness and end-of-life stages to maximize quality of life and functioning for individuals, families, and communities; promotes wellness principles and programs for individuals, families, and communities; and reflects on how personal beliefs or perceptions about quality of life and health promotion impact approaches or decisions in nursing care.

- **Competency 725.8.6: Violence in Families and Communities**
  The graduate recognizes violence as a major social and health problem; demonstrates
the ability to assess and choose prevention and care activities and resources for victims of violence; and determines community violence prevention resources and activities.

- **Competency 725.8.7: Environmental and Global Health Issues**
  The graduate analyzes how communities are affected by environmental and global health issues, and modifies plans to meet the needs of individuals, families, and communities.

- **Competency 725.8.8: Emergency Response**
  The graduate recognizes the nurse's role in emergency response including the proper chain of command, communication protocols, and appropriate actions in an emergency response situation, national disaster, or terror attack; and recognizes common biological materials used in terror attacks and how they are spread.

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

**Course Mentor Assistance**
As you prepare to successfully demonstrate competency in this subject, remember that course mentors 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 mentors are excited to hear from you and eager to work with you.

Successful students report that working with a course mentor is the key to their success. Course mentors 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 mentors act as a support system to guide you through the revision process. You should expect to work with course mentors for the duration of your coursework, so you are welcome to contact them as soon as you begin. Course mentors 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 at the activity level for the following learning resources. Simply click on the links provided in the activities to access the learning materials.

**Soomo Learning Environment**
The following learning environment will be utilized as the primary learning resource for completion of this course:
• **Community Health Nursing Practicum**

This learning environment will contain links at the activity level to the following additional learning resources:

**VitalSource E-Texts**
The following textbook is available to you as an e-text within the Soomo learning environment. You will be directly linked to the specific readings required within the learning environment activities.


*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.*

**Other Learning Resources**

You will use the following learning resources for this course.

**Community Health Nursing Community**

You will find a link to the Community Health Nursing Community on the "Learning Resources" tab. This community contains announcements, student postings, and mentor tips for successfully completing this course. All students are expected to access the community on a regular basis.

**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**

**Pacing Guide**
The pacing guide suggests a weekly structure to pace your completion of learning activities. It is provided as a suggestion and does not represent a mandatory schedule. Follow the pacing guide carefully to complete the course in the suggested timeframe.

• **Pacing Guide: Community Health Nursing Practicum**

*Note: This pacing guide does not replace the course. Please continue to refer to the course for a comprehensive list of the resources and activities.*

**Community Health Nursing Practicum Learning**
Environment

All reading activities, discussion questions, quizzes, and learning resources for this course are found by accessing the Community Health Nursing (HGT1) 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 do the following:

- complete the activities and reading assignments to prepare for the assessment for this course
- answer the quizzes to gauge your learning
- 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 your exam information.

This topic addresses the following competencies:

- **Competency 725.8.1: Community Health Epidemiology**
  The graduate assesses and analyzes the health status of populations using data, community resources identification, input from the population, and professional judgment and determines meaning of the data to identify opportunities and needs.

- **Competency 725.8.2: Community Collaboration**
  The graduate participates with other community partners to identify expected outcomes of health status in various populations and to recommend health interventions appropriate to the target audience.

- **Competency 725.8.3: Programs, Policies, Resources, and Services**
  The graduate determines availability and accessibility of community health programs, policies, resources, and services to serve the population.

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**Learning Materials**

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

- **Soomo Learning Environment Community Health Nursing Field Project**

**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.

**The WGU Library**

**The WGU Library**
The WGU Library is available online to WGU students 24 hours a day.

For more information about using the WGU Library, view the following videos on The WGU Channel:

Introducing the WGU library

*Note: To download this video, right-click the following link and choose "Save as...":* [download video](#).

Searching the WGU library

*Note: To download this video, right-click the following link and choose "Save as...":* [download video](#).

**Center for Writing Excellence: The WGU Writing Center**

If you need help with any part of the writing or revision process, contact the Center for Writing Excellence (CWE). Whatever your needs—writing anxiety, grammar, general college writing concerns, or even ESL language-related writing issues—the CWE is available to help you. The
CWE offers personalized individual sessions and weekly group webinars. For an appointment, please e-mail writingcenter@wgu.edu.

Feedback

WGU values your input! If you have comments, concerns, or suggestions for improvement of this course, please submit your feedback using the following form:

- Course Feedback

Accessibility Policy

Western Governors University recognizes and fulfills its obligations under the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and similar state laws. Western Governors University is committed to provide reasonable accommodation(s) to qualified disabled learners in University programs and activities as is required by applicable law(s). The Office of Student Accessibility Services serves as the principal point of contact for students seeking accommodations and can be contacted at ADASupport@wgu.edu. Further information on WGU’s Accessibility Policy policy and process can be viewed in the student handbook at the following link:

- Policies and Procedures for Students with Disabilities