This course introduces students to the quality improvement process and analyzes sources of evidence to determine best practices. Students gain the knowledge of collaborative environments in order to apply teamwork, delegation, and supervision skills in a variety of health care settings. Concept-based curriculum provides the structure of the curriculum and is threaded throughout the course.
1. Describe collaborative environments and the role of the professional nurse.
2. Participate in quality improvement processes for healthcare improvement.
3. Compare different sources of evidence to determine best practices.
4. Apply teamwork, delegation, and supervision skills in a variety of health care settings.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:
1. Identify National Patient Safety Goals and performance measures.
2. Develop evidence-based plans of care using principles of quality and safety.
3. Integrate nurse-sensitive quality indicators pertinent to clinical practice.
4. Analyze discrepancies between evidence based standards of care and common practices that may impact the client.
5. Identify the Joint Commission’s role in healthcare delivery.
6. Compare and contrast the roles, functions, and perspectives of the professional nurse with other healthcare professionals.
7. Discuss concepts of effective interprofessional and intraprofessional communication.
8. Justify the utilization of teamwork, delegation, and supervisory skills by the professional nurse.

COURSE CONTENT:

LECTURE CONTENT:

I. Overarching standards that will be addressed in each concept:

   A. Patient-centered Care: Utilizing the nursing process to provide compassionate, culturally sensitive care that is based on the physiological, psychological, sociological, spiritual, and cultural needs, preferences, and values of the patient.

   B. Safety and Quality Improvement (QI): The minimization of risk factors that could cause harm while promoting quality care and maintaining a secure environment for patients, self, and others in order to improve health care services and better meet the needs of patients.

   C. Nursing Judgment/Evidence Based Practice (EBP): The use of current knowledge from research and other credible sources in consideration of the nurse’s clinical expertise and patient preferences to make nursing clinical judgments, and provide patient, family, and community centered care.

   D. Teamwork and Collaboration: The delivery of patient care in partnership with nursing and interdisciplinary teams to achieve continuity of care and promote patient outcomes.

   E. Informatics and Technology: The use of information and technology as a communication and data gathering tool that supports clinical decision making and safe, scientifically based nursing practice.

   F. Professional Identity: The adherence to legal, ethical, and professional standards of practice to provide nursing care for patients across the lifespan.

II. Concepts and Exemplars

   A. Advocacy: Doing for the patient what they would do for themselves if they were able. Ensures that the patient’s rights are honored within the health care system.

      1. Protecting vulnerable populations
      2. Emergency preparedness

   B. Caring: The essence of nursing. An altruistic philosophy of moral and ethical commitment aimed at the protection, promotion, and preservation of human dignity and diversity.
1. Family dynamics during crisis

C. Collaboration/Communication: Ability to apply the concepts of communication and therapeutic interaction in building and maintaining relationships with patients, families, groups, and other members of the health care team.

   1. Care coordination
   2. Interdisciplinary communication

D. Evidence-Based Practice: The application of the best evidence from well-designed studies combined with patient preferences, ethical principles, individual values and nursing expertise.

   1. Best practice

E. Educator/Adherence: The role of the nurse to provide information to promote the patient's ability to maintain self-care.

   1. Patients and family education

F. Informatics/Technology: Using technology to communicate, find information, store information, and support quality improvement activities.

   1. Computer in health care organizations
   2. Documentation

G. Leadership: Personal traits necessary to plan, organize, motivate, and manage a group of people and resources.

   1. Chain of command
   2. Delegation
   3. Leadership principles
   4. Leadership vs. management

H. Legal Issues: Rights, responsibilities and scope of nursing practice as defined by the California Nurse Practice Act, regulations and laws.

   1. Obligations to report
   2. Standards of care

I. Professionalism: Commitment to the profession of nursing which involves adherence to standards of nursing practice, accountability for actions and behaviors and nursing practice within the legal, ethical, and regulatory frameworks.

   1. Commitment to the profession
2. Novice to expert

3. Professional Development

4. Professional Organizations

5. Professionalism: accountability and autonomy

J. Quality Improvement: A systematic approach to the development of system changes to improve patient outcomes, prevent errors, and improve performance.

1. Benchmarking

2. National Patient Safety Goals

METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

A. Lecture:
B. Tutoring – noncredit:
C. Video One Way – Audio Two Way:
D. WWW – Simultaneous Interaction:
E. Independent Study:

INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNIQUES:

Seminar style instruction.

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS:

Reading Assignments

Reading Assignments.

Out-of-class Assignments

Interactive nursing material.

Writing Assignments

Review of relevant legal articles and scenarios

METHODS OF STUDENT EVALUATION:

Short Quizzes
Written Assignments
Report
Projects (ind/group)
Problem Solving Exercises
Oral Presentations

Demonstration of Critical Thinking:

At the end of the course the student will be able to participate in quality improvement processes for healthcare improvement, compare different sources of evidence to determine best practices, describe collaborative environments and apply teamwork, delegation and supervision skill in a variety of health care settings.

Required Writing, Problem Solving, Skills Demonstration:

Review of legal articles.

TEXTS, READINGS, AND RESOURCES:
Software:

Other:

LIBRARY:

Adequate library resources include: Print Materials
Non-Print Materials
Online Materials
Services

Comments:

Attachments:

Attached Files