I. Catalog Description and Credit Hours of Course:
   Focuses on goals of baccalaureate education in preparing the nurse for professional practice.
   Emphasizes professional nursing roles and role change. [This course is required for all registered
   nurses (RNs) that are pursuing a baccalaureate nursing degree (BSN)]. (4)

II. Prerequisite(s): Registered Nurse (RN) accepted into the RN-BSN nursing program. Forty-three
   (43) hours of prerequisites.

III. Objectives of the Course:
   A. Use critical thinking skills to develop an interdisciplinary plan of care with nursing peers and
      other members of the health care team.
   B. Discuss the difference between the associate, diploma, baccalaureate and advanced practice
      degree preparation available for nursing.
   C. Discuss a variety of diverse professional nursing roles and role changes in a variety of health
      care settings.
   D. Demonstrate an understanding of the chronically ill with an emphasis on the aging
      individual and their interrelationship with the community.
   E. Recognize and facilitate clients’ access to resources that serve the health care needs in rural
      medically underserved communities.
   F. Apply teaching/learning principles to present a selected nursing topic to peers in class based
      on current literature/research.
   G. Employ knowledgeable caring in collaboration with other health team members in serving
      the health care needs of clients in rural medically underserved communities.

IV. Expectations of Students:
   A. Active participation in class discussion.
   B. Development of own definition and philosophy of nursing.
   C. Use of teaching/learning principles to do mini-group teaching project on selected nursing
      topic.
   D. Presentation of contemporary nursing work describing the changing role of the nurse today.
   E. Completion of service learning clinical experience. Will spend 14 hours in community
      observing and participating in a community based client resource activity, i.e., various support
groups, community based classes for consumer, etc… Shares learning experience with peers in a 2 hour clinical post conference.

F. Group research project: oral and written group presentation of assigned topic.

G. Development of an interdisciplinary plan of care on a selected chronically ill client in a rural medically underserved community.

H. Fulfillment of requirements identified in the BSN Student Handbook.

V. Course Content:

A. Socialization for Professional Practice (6 hours)
   1. Returning to school syndrome.
   2. Multiple roles of the professional nurse.
   4. Professional identity and image of nursing.

B. Developing return-to-school skills.
   1. Writing/presenting
   2. On/off campus resources (computer lab, writing center, etc…).

C. Nursing as a Profession
   1. Philosophy and conceptual framework for RN-BSN program.
   2. Characteristics of a Profession.
   5. Scope of Nursing Practice.
   6. Patterns of Nursing Education.

D. Collaboration in Nursing Practice.
   1. Nurse’s role as a member of the health care team.
   2. Introduction to case management concepts.
   3. Panel presentation of diverse practice roles in nursing.

E. Nursing as an Art and Science.
   1. Impact of social and scientific change.
   2. Caring theory
   3. Critical thinking in nursing.
   4. Integrating nursing knowledge into clinical practice.
   5. Applying nursing process (NANDA, NIC, NOC) to clinical practice.

F. Process of Teaching and Learning in Nursing.
   1. Assess own learning style.
   2. Adult learning theory.
   3. The teaching learning process.
   4. Writing behavioral objectives.

G. Meeting the diverse needs of clients in a variety of settings.
   2. Aging needs.
   4. Ethical concerns.
   5. Spiritual concerns.

H. Nurse’s role in Service Learning.
1. Definition of service learning.
2. Presentation of service learning community experience.
3. Presentation of the chronically ill client care plan.

Four hours allotted for group presentations; remaining hours for clinical application.

VI. Textbook(s) and/or Other Required Materials or Equipment:
A. Required:
B. Course packet in bookstore.

VII. Basis for Student Evaluation:
A. Clinical performance
   Pass/fail
B. Theory:
   1. Professional Nursing Written Assignment 15%
   2. Annotated Bibliography 12.5
   3. Contemporary Nursing Group Presentation 15
   4. Interdisciplinary Care Plan 15
   5. Service Learning Experience 15
   6. Mini-group Research Project 15
   7. In Class Participation 12.5
   TOTAL 100%