I. Catalog Description and Credit Hours of Course:
   Critical analysis of dimensions of professional nursing. Includes professional roles, association
   membership, health care policy/political activism, standards of practice/guidelines. (1)

II. Prerequisite (s)
   Standing as a second semester senior in the nursing major.

III. Objectives of the Course:
   A. Differentiate professional roles in nursing.
   B. Examine professional association membership.
   C. Identify health care policy and its influence on professional nursing
   D. Analyze standards of practice and professional guidelines
   E. Plan individual strategies for life-long learning/continued competency.
   F. Compare and contrast professional nurses philosophies.

IV. Expectations of Students:
   A. Regular class attendance and punctuality.
   B. Active and informed class participation.
   C. Satisfactory completion of all course assignments.
   D. Written report on professional nursing philosophies
   E. Group presentation of contemporary nursing work.
   F. Fulfillment of requirements identified in the BSN Student Handbook.

V. Course Content:
   A. Professional Nursing Practice (3 hours)
      1. Professional roles in nursing
      2. Flexner Criteria of Professions
      3. Standards of practice
      4. Professional guidelines
      5. Differentiated levels of practice
   B. Professional Organizations (3 hours)
      1. Issues and trends
      2. Membership responsibilities
      3. Structure and functions
4. Types of Organizations

C. Health Care Policy (3 hours)
   1. Professional nurses role in policy
   2. Political awareness in nursing
   3. Policy development process
   4. Use of power in political activism
   5. Legislation and rural health care

D. Professional Accountability (3 hours)
   1. Knowledgeable caring
   2. Code for nurses
   3. Nursing philosophies
   4. Life long learning/continued competency
   5. Workplace advocacy

Four hours allotted to group presentations.

VI. Textbooks and Other Required Materials:
   A. Professional nursing journals
   B. Additional readings as assigned
   C. Policy/health care web sites

VII. Basis for Student Evaluation

   A. Class Participation 10%
   B. Group Presentation 25
   C. Group Presentation Critique 5
   D. Philosophy Compare and Contrast Paper 25
   E. Health Policy Reaction Paper 35

   TOTAL 100%