

RNRS 200: ROLE TRANSITIONS: LVN TO RN

Citrus College Course Outline of Record

Heading	Value
Effective Term:	Fall 2025
Credits:	3
Total Contact Hours:	90
Lecture Hours :	36
Lab Hours:	54
Hours Arranged:	0
Outside of Class Hours:	72
Total Student Learning Hours:	162
Prerequisite:	Current licensure in California as a Licensed Vocational Nurse; BIOL 200, BIOL 201 and BIOL 220.
Transferable to CSU:	No
Transferable to UC:	No
Grading Method:	Standard Letter

Catalog Course Description

This course is designed to assist the Licensed Vocational Nurse (LVN) in transitioning from the LVN role to the expected role of the ADN student. Course content includes nursing process, critical thinking, clinical judgment, therapeutic communication, delegation skills, physical assessment and legal/ethical concerns. The on-campus lab provides opportunity for students to validate nursing skill and practice new skills like physical assessment. 36 lecture hours, 54 lab hours.

Course Objectives

- Examine and distinguish between the various educational routes and duties of the nursing assistant, the LVN, and the RN through classroom discussion, written assignments, and exams in order to have an understanding of the responsibilities and competencies of each nursing level.
- Compare and contrast the competencies expected by the state's legal standards, as reflected in clinical judgment assignments, nursing care plans, concept maps, class discussions, and exams so that the student is able to delineate the unique responsibilities of the RN professional role.
- Demonstrate through written assignments, simulation, clinical judgment assignments, nursing care plans, and exams, the processes employed in critical thinking to improve critical thinking and analytical thinking while using clinical judgment and the nursing process to care for clients.
- Describe major communication techniques which both facilitate and block communication, including cultural factors, through role play, exams, and nursing care plans, so that the student can effectively revise care plans to be individualized according to clients' needs.

Major Course Content

1. Transitioning to the Registered Nurse (RN) Role
 - a. Elements of Transition
 - b. Role transition - Role socialization and role elements

- c. Difference between LVN and RN roles
 - d. Professional socialization
 - e. Educational pathways and expanded roles of an RN
2. Competencies and roles of Registered Nurse
 - a. Competencies of a Registered Nurse
 - b. Role elements of a Registered Nurse
 3. Therapeutic Communication
 - a. Elements of communication
 - b. Types of communication
 - c. Therapeutic communication facilitator and barriers
 - d. Therapeutic communication techniques
 - e. Nursing process and therapeutic communication
 4. Nursing Theories and Models
 - a. Nursing theories
 - b. Nursing model
 - c. Conceptual framework
 - d. Citrus College ADN philosophy and conceptual framework
 5. The Nursing Process and the Clinical Judgment Model
 - a. Assessment / Recognize and Analyze Cues
 - b. Nursing Diagnosis / Prioritize Hypothesis
 - c. Outcomes and planning / Generate Solutions
 - d. Implementation / Take Actions
 - e. Evaluation / Evaluate Outcomes
 6. Critical Thinking
 - a. Critical thinking and reasoning
 - b. Elements of reasoning
 - c. Attributes of the critical thinker
 - d. Critical thinking and evidenced based practice

Health History and Physical Assessment

1. Interview and health history
 - a. Components of health history
 - b. Techniques of collecting health history
2. Physical Assessment
 - a. Components of physical assessment
 - b. Principles of physical assessment
 - c. Techniques of performing physical assessment
 - d. Physical assessment sequence- head to toe / system bases
3. Pharmacology review and drug dosage calculation
 - a. Systems of measurement
 - b. Dosage calculation
 - c. Pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics of drugs
 - d. Nursing interventions related to different drug classification
 - e. Nursing process and drug administration
 - f. Patient teaching and drug administration
4. Legal/Ethical Concerns
 - a. Ethics
 - b. Universal principles of ethics
 - c. Ethical dilemma
 - d. Legal issues: Assault, battery, malpractice, negligence
 - e. Mandatory reporting

Lab Content

Under the supervision of the clinical instructor, the student will demonstrate the following skills safely and competently :

1. Perform a complete head to toe physical assessment
2. Collect complete health history utilizing the principles of therapeutic communication
3. Demonstrate basic nursing skills
4. Perform the following skills
 - a. Insertion and discontinuing (D/C) of nasogastric tube (NGT)
 - b. Insertion and D/C of Foley Catheter
 - c. Tracheostomy care
 - d. Suctioning techniques for nasal, oral and tracheostomy routes)
5. Demonstrate preparation, administration, and documentation of medications for all routes.

Suggested Reading Other Than Required Textbook

Harding, M.M., Kwong, J., Hagler, D. & Reinisch, C. Lewis's medical surgical nursing: Management of clinical problems. 12th Ed. Elsevier. 2022.

Examples of Required Writing Assignments

1. Nursing care plans
2. Concept maps
3. Clinical judgment assignments

Examples of Outside Assignments

Complete study guide and review questions after each unit. Proctored and practice tests. Clinical judgment assignments, nursing care plans, and concept maps.

Instruction Type(s)

Lab, Lecture