

GRAYSON COLLEGE  
RN TO BSN  
NURSING PROGRAM



GERONTOLOGICAL NURSING

NURS 4232

Spring 2021

**GRAYSON COLLEGE**  
**Course Syllabus**

---

**Course Information: NURS 4232 Gerontological Nursing, Spring 2021**

---

**Professor Contact Information**

Name: Dr. Pamela Ratliffe-Warner, DNP, RN  
Location: Mary Moses Health Sciences Center, Office 112  
Office hours: Online and by appointment - see Canvas  
Cell: 479-409-2946  
Email: warnerp@grayson.edu

---

**Course Pre-requisites, Co-requisites, and/or Other Restrictions**

Must have a current, unencumbered RN nursing license in your state of residence.

**Course Placement:** Any time during the RN to BSN Program. Acceptance into the RN to BSN Program required.

---

**Course Description:**

(2-0-2) This course examines the physiological, psychological, sociocultural and spiritual aspects of aging within the context of family and society. Emphasis is on trends, theories, evidence-based findings and multidimensional changes of aging and the use of the nursing process for addressing issues related to health promotion, risk reduction and disease prevention in well and frail and vulnerable older adults.

---

**End of Program Student Learning Outcomes**

**1.0 Member of the Profession:**

- 1.1 Demonstrate responsibility and accountability in the quality of care for patients, families, populations and communities.
- 1.2 Promote the profession of nursing through advocacy and leadership activities.

**2.0 Provider of Patient-Centered Care**

- 2.1 Incorporate theoretical knowledge and evidence-based research findings in the coordination of care for patients, families, populations, and communities.

- 2.2 Synthesize knowledge from comprehensive health assessment data and evidence-based research to provide care for culturally, ethnically, and socially diverse patients, families, populations, and communities
- 2.3 Develop, implement, and evaluate teaching plans for patients, families, populations, and communities to address health maintenance, health promotion, and risk reduction
- 2.4 Utilize clinical reasoning, knowledge, evidence-based practice, theoretical foundations, and research findings as basis for decision-making and comprehensive patient care

### **3.0 Patient Safety Advocate**

- 3.1 Develop goals and outcomes utilizing theoretical knowledge and analysis, research, and evidence-based data to reduce patient and community risks
- 3.2 Develop and implement measure to promote a quality and safe environment for patients, self, families, communities, and populations

### **4.0 Member of the Healthcare Team**

- 4.1 Utilize leadership and management principles to assign and/or delegate nursing care to other members of the healthcare team in relationship to patient and organizational need
- 4.2 Integrate referral needs, cost considerations, confidentiality, efficiency of care, and continuum of care as it relates to patients, families, communities, populations, and the healthcare organization

### **Course Outcomes**

Upon successful completion of the course, students will have demonstrated the ability to:

1. Exemplify attitudes, values, ethical issues, and expectations about aging and their impact on care of older adults and their families. (SLO 1.1)
2. Synthesize theoretical approaches and relevant nursing research to support the delivery of evidence-based practice to the older adult population. (SLO 2.2)
3. Combine interpersonal caring, critical thinking, and evidence-based practice to reduce risk, maintain and restore health of older adults and caregivers across cultures and locations in the healthcare continuum. (SLO 3.1)
4. Translate cultural and ethical issues into considerations for providing nursing care for older adults. (SLO 2.2)
5. Evaluate the impact of health policy related to access, equity, regulation and affordability of care for older people. (SLO 4.2)
6. Explain beliefs and attitudes about death and dying and methods nurses can employ to ease patient and family's transition. (SLO 2.4)

NURS 4232, Gerontological Nursing  
Spring 2021 Required Textbooks and Materials  
Books can be purchased in print or electronic form

<b>ISBN</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Title</b>
978-0803622456	Lange, J.	The Nurse's Role in Promoting Optimal Health of Older Adults: Thriving in the Wisdom Years

### **Course & Instructor Policies**

#### Attendance

The RN to BSN program adheres to the Grayson College Student Handbook attendance policy. Should absences occur which do not allow for full evaluation of student performance (quality and consistency) faculty will be unable to assign a passing grade. In addition, the following policies are specific to the theory course.

1. Regular attendance is expected for all classes.
2. Attendance is verified within Canvas for all courses.
3. Students **must** notify the faculty in case of an absence during test times at least one hour prior to the scheduled test time.

**In case of inclement weather, emergency closings, or other unforeseen disruptions to scheduled classes, student must log onto their Canvas accounts for directions on where or how to continue their coursework.**

#### **Methods of Instruction (face-to-face and online)**

- Shadow Health Digital Clinical Experience
- Assigned textbooks and/or article readings
- Papers
- Students are expected to be “active learners.” It is a basic assumption of the instructor that students will be involved (**beyond the materials and lectures presented in the course**) in discovering, processing, and applying the course information using peer-reviewed journal articles, researching additional information and examples on the Internet, and discussing course material and clinical experiences with their peers.

## EVALUATION AND GRADES

Graded activities and percent of the overall course grade:

Graded Activity	Percent of Course Grade
Discussions (6 @ 10%)	60%
Client Interview Paper 1	20%
Client Interview Paper 2	20%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

### Course Grading Policy

The grading policy for the RN to BSN program follows that of the college for the letter grading system and grade point determination. This policy is found in the Grayson College Catalog. RN to BSN course grades are assigned as follows:

Letter Grade	Interpretation	Numerical Grade	Grade Points/Semester Hour
A	Excellent	89.50-100	4
B	Good	79.50-89.49	3
C	Satisfactory	74.50-79.49	2
D	Failing	64.50-74.49	1
F	Failing	64.49 and below	0

According to college policy a letter grade of “D” is considered unsatisfactory in a student’s major field of study and generally does not transfer. Therefore, a grade of “C” or better is necessary in all RN to BSN courses for satisfactory completion of each level and progression to the next nursing course.

### ASSIGNMENT DESCRIPTIONS

**\*Please note: Rubrics for all assessments are located in the assignment on Canvas.**

#### **Client Interview Papers #1 & #2**

The purpose of this assignment is to conduct a holistic assessment of an older adult who lives alone, and/or with significant others, and who is basically independent in their activities of daily living; and to identify interventions to assist diverse older adults and their support network to achieve personal goals, including functional, physical and mental wellness based on the availability of community resources/programs. This assignment will also provide the students the opportunity to develop skills in the interview and assessment process using a variety of

techniques including observation and use of standardized tools. A signed consent for this assignment is due with the first paper. To receive credit in the course, you must submit the consent. You must visit your client at least twice and should visit three times. The papers must include the dates of your visits and the time you spent with the client on each visit. The life reminiscence questions and all the tools are available in Canvas. Each paper is a maximum of eight (8) pages each, not counting the assessment tools, the title page, or reference page.

---

## **STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY & ATTENDANCE**

Attendance online is strongly encouraged. You will miss a deeper understanding of the materials if you are not participating. There are readings that you will have to complete to be able to adequately participate in individual and group assignments. In order to complete this course successfully, you do have to participate in all course activities i.e. homework, discussion board, course projects, self-reflections, etc. Students are expected to engage in course activities and submit work by due dates and times. The hope is that students will make substantive contributions that reflect integration of assigned materials as well as any outside readings as appropriate. Scholarly contribution is an expectation. For planning purposes, this class will probably require a minimum of 6-9 study hours per week on average.

---

## **COMMUNICATION**

Faculty will respond to email and/or telephone messages within 24 hours during working hours Monday through Friday. Weekend messages will not be returned until Monday.

*Written communication via Canvas:* It is an expectation of this class that you use formal writing skills giving appropriate credit to the source for your ideas. Follow APA (2020) 7<sup>th</sup> edition guidelines for referencing.

*Written communication via email:* All private communication will be done exclusively through your Viking email address. Check frequently for announcements and policy changes.

*Virtual communication:* Office hours and/or advising may be done with the assistance of the telephone, online platform, etc.

### **Use Good "Netiquette":**

- Check the discussion frequently and respond appropriately and on subject.
- Focus on one subject per message and use pertinent subject titles.
- Capitalize words only to highlight a point or for titles. Otherwise, capitalizing is generally viewed as SHOUTING!
- Be professional and careful with your interaction. Proper address for faculty is by formal title such as Dr. or Ms. /Mr. Jones unless invited by faculty to use a less formal approach.
- Cite all quotes, references, and sources.
- When posting a long message, it is generally considered courteous to warn readers at the beginning of the message that it is a lengthy post.
- It is extremely rude to forward someone else's messages without their permission.

- It is fine to use humor, but use it carefully. The absence of face-to-face cues can cause humor to be misinterpreted as criticism or flaming (angry, antagonistic criticism). Feel free to use emoticons such as J or :) to let others know you are being humorous.

(The "netiquette" guidelines were adapted from Arlene H. Rinald's article, The Net User Guidelines and Netiquette, Florida Atlantic University, 1994, available from Netcom)

---

### **ASSIGNMENT SUBMISSION AND FEEDBACK**

In this class, all assignments need to be submitted through the Assignments link in the Canvas course site. This is for grading purposes. Issues with technology use arise from time to time. If a technology issue does occur regarding an assignment submission, email me at warnerp@grayson.edu and attach a copy of what you are trying to submit. This lets your faculty know you completed the assignment on time and are just having problems with the online submission feature in Canvas. Once the problem is resolved, submit your assignment through the appropriate link. This process will document the problem and establish a timeline. Be sure to keep a backup of all work and save your work frequently!

I will make every effort to provide feedback and grade submissions within one week of the due date. If your assignment is submitted late, the feedback timeframe does not apply. I will get to it as soon as possible, but it may take longer than one week.

### **LATE WORK OR MISSED ASSESSMENTS POLICY**

The course is set up on weekly modules. Assignment due dates are shown on the calendar/schedule or posted within Canvas. **Five percentage points per day will be deducted for assignments submitted late. Late assignments will not be accepted after five days.**

---

### **Student Conduct & Discipline**

Refer to the RN to BSN Student Handbook for policies

---

### **Academic Integrity**

The faculty expects from its students a high level of responsibility and academic honesty. Because the value of an academic degree depends upon the absolute integrity of the work done by the student for that degree, it is imperative that a student demonstrate a high standard of individual honor in his or her scholastic work.

Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, and the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts. Plagiarism, especially from the web, from portions of papers for other classes, and from any other source is unacceptable and will be dealt with under the college's policy on plagiarism (see GC Student Handbook for details). Grayson

College subscribes to turnitin.com, which allows faculty to search the web and identify plagiarized material.

Plagiarism is a form of scholastic dishonesty involving the theft of or fraudulent representation of someone else's ideas or words as the student's original work. Plagiarism can be intentional/deliberate or unintentional/accidental. Unintentional/Accidental plagiarism may include minor instances where an attempt to acknowledge the source exists but is incorrect or insufficient. Deliberate/Intentional plagiarism violates a student's academic integrity and exists in the following forms:

- Turning in someone else's work as the student's own (such as buying a paper and submitting it, exchanging papers or collaborating on a paper with someone else without permission, or paying someone else to write or translate a paper)
- Recycling in whole or in part previously submitted or published work or concurrently submitting the same written work where the expectation for current original work exists, including agreeing to write or sell one's own work to someone else
- Quoting or copy/pasting phrases of three words or more from someone else without citation, • Paraphrasing ideas without citation or paraphrasing incompletely, with or without correct citation, where the material too closely matches the wording or structure of the original
- Submitting an assignment with a majority of quoted or paraphrased material from other sources
- Copying images or media and inserting them into a presentation or video without citation,
- Using copyrighted soundtracks or video and inserting them into a presentation or video without citation
- Giving incorrect or nonexistent source information or inventing source information
- Performing a copyrighted piece of music in a public setting without permission
- Composing music based heavily on someone else's musical composition.

**1<sup>st</sup> offense: Disciplinary action by the Professor (may result in course failure). A counseling record will be completed and placed in student's file.**

**2<sup>nd</sup> offense: Disciplinary action by the RN-BSN Faculty Committee (may result in dismissal from the program).**

---

## **TITLE IX**

GC policy prohibits discrimination on the basis of age, ancestry, color, disability, gender identity, genetic information, national origin, race, religion, retaliation, serious medical condition, sex, sexual orientation, spousal affiliation and protected veterans status.

Furthermore, Title IX prohibits sex discrimination to include sexual misconduct: sexual violence (sexual assault, rape), sexual harassment and retaliation.

For more information on Title IX, please contact:



- Dr. Molly M. Harris, Title IX Coordinator (903)463-8714
  - Ms. Logan Maxwell, Title IX Deputy Coordinator - South Campus (903) 415-2646
  - Mr. Mike McBrayer, Title IX Deputy Coordinator - Main Campus (903) 463-8753
  - Website: <http://www.grayson.edu/campus-life/campus-police/title-ix-policies.html>
  - GC Police Department: (903) 463-8777- Main Campus) (903-415-2501 - South Campus)
  - GC Counseling Center: (903) 463-8730
  - For Any On-campus Emergencies: 911
- 

**\*\*Grayson College is not responsible for illness/injury that occurs during the normal course of classroom/lab/clinical experiences.**

**\*\*These descriptions and timelines are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.**

**\*\* Grayson College campus-wide student policies may be found at the following URL on the College website:**

<https://www.grayson.edu/currentstudents/Academic%20Resources/index.html>