



**CRITICAL THINKING IN NURSING**

**COURSE SYLLABUS**

**HYBRID**

**NUR 1024HY**

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

**GENERAL CLASS AND COURSE INFORMATION..... 1**

**PROFESSOR’S CONTACT INFORMATION ..... 2**

**CLASS REQUIREMENTS ..... 3**

**DISTANCE LEARNING CLASS INFORMATION ..... 4**

**CLASS POLICIES & METHODOLOGY ..... 5**

**COLLEGE POLICIES AND WEB INFORMATION ..... 6**

**DEPARTMENT CONTACT INFORMATION: ..... 7**

**GETTING STARTED WITH A DISTANCE LEARNING CLASS:..... 8**

**COURSE WORKSHEETS ..... 9**

**COURSE CONTENT BY CONCEPT ..... 19**

## Course Syllabus – Hybrid

### GENERAL CLASS AND COURSE INFORMATION

**Course Number:** NUR1024HY **Class Reference Number:** Multiple

**Term:** 2012-1

**Course Title:** Critical Thinking for Nursing

**Credit/Contact Hours:** 3 Credit Hours

**Course Description:** This course is designed to assist the pre- or first year nursing student to develop learning strategies necessary to attain success in the nursing program. Learning strategies will be presented in-context (assignments will be based on current nursing content) for easy transferability and application of nursing knowledge. Focus is given to developing caring attitudes of nursing students applying critical thinking strategies specific to problem solving related to human response patterns. Lake Worth campus; Belle Glade campus and Distance Learning.

**Course Learning Outcomes:** As a result of taking this course, the student will be able to

1	Utilize the basic elements of word construction in developing and interpreting both traditional and medical vocabulary related to health care.
2	Explain the role of the health care professionals in relation to the interpretation of written and oral communication using medical terminology.
3	Employ critical thinking skills during test-taking to successfully identify and solve 5 types of multiple choice questions.
4	Identify the effects of nutrition on personal well-being and test-taking abilities.
5	Interpret specific terminology that relates to lifespan considerations from antepartal through geriatric populations.
6	Define the medical terminology of drug classifications as it relates to body systems and human response patterns.
7	Identify the effects of time management, empowerment, and environment on success.
8	Cite the legal and ethical implications of confidentiality in medical documentation and in the use of test-taking strategies for student Nurses.
9	Interpret vocabulary during test-taking utilizing word roots from past experience and linguistic knowledge base.
10	Explain the importance of vocabulary, both medical and traditional in teaching and learning, especially as it relates to test-taking.
11	Demonstrate relaxation principles to aid in stress reduction and the maintenance of a positive mental attitude.
12	Explain the importance of medical terminology in both verbal and written communication related to health care issues, including the reading of nursing textbooks.
13	Describe the steps of the nursing process as a method of inquiry when making assumptions to aid in decision-making.
14	Utilize technology to enhance study skills.

[Course Outline for NUR1024HY - CRITICAL THINKING RN](#)

## Course Syllabus – Hybrid

### Textbooks information:

#### Required:

Nugent, P. M. & Vitale, B. A. (2008) Test Success: Test Taking Techniques for Beginning Nursing Students (5<sup>th</sup> Ed). Philadelphia: F. A. Davis. ISBN-13: 978-0-8036-1894-7

Turley, Susan, Medical Language, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Pearson. ISBN: 978-0-13-505578-6 or ISBN: 0-13-505578-4.

Alfaro-Lefevre, R., (2004). Critical Thinking and Clinical Judgment: a practical approach. (3<sup>rd</sup> Ed.) Saunders. ISBN-13: 978-0-7216-9729-1

#### Recommended:

Olrech, Nancy, Student Success for Health Professionals Made Incredibly Easy, Lippincott Williams & Wilkins; 1 Pap/Psc edition (October 1, 2007) ISBN-10: 0781780616 or ISBN-13: 978-0781780612

Agnes, M., (2001). Webster's New World Dictionary, (4 Ed). Springfield, MA: Simon & Schuster. ISBN-0: 02-863118-8

Taber's (2008) (2010)Cyclopedic Medical Dictionary. (21<sup>st</sup> Ed) Philadelphia: F.A. Davis. ISBN-13: 978-0-8036-1559-5 ISBN-10: 0-8036-1559-0

You may purchase your textbook(s) at any one of Palm Beach State College's campus bookstores or [online](#).

The Electronic [Essential Nursing Resources](#) can be found online. A Video list is recommended & available in [MTIS](#) (Media Technology and Instructional Services) located on the first floor of the LLRC.

### PROFESSOR'S CONTACT INFORMATION

<p><a href="#">Carol Alexander, MSN, RN</a> Professor I BA 121, 561/868-3425 Lake Worth campus <a href="#">email</a></p>	<p><a href="#">Rebecca Pleasant, MSN, MBA, CLNC, RN</a> Professor I AH 210, 561/868-3429 Lake Worth campus <a href="#">email</a></p>
<p>Faculty Office Hours Posted on Faculty Home Page &amp; Outside Office</p>	

## Course Syllabus – Hybrid

### CLASS REQUIREMENTS

**Assignments:** Assignments include the completion of a learning style inventory, a Math diagnostic test and a review of the syllabus; completion of journaling and worksheets; and an Annotated Bibliography.

Assignments will be submitted hard copy on class days or as attachments in .doc or .rtf format via the Assignment Drop Box within the web component for the course. This includes a Learning Style Inventory; Math Diagnostic Test; Journals and other written papers.

**Late Assignment Policy:** All late assignments will lose 5% for each day beyond the scheduled due date unless prior arrangements have been approved by the instructor.

**Nursing Department Grading Scale & Policy:** Grading scale is as follows:

90 - 100	=	A
83 - 89	=	B
75 - 82	=	C
Below 75	=	F

The minimum score to pass the course is 75%.

All students must achieve an average grade of 75% on all tests before grades for assignments, journal critique, and class participation will be added for a final grade. An end of course grade of 75% is required to pass this course.

**Tests, Quizzes and Final Examination:** Your course grade will be determined by the following:

Test 1	=	10%
Test 2	=	10%
Test 3	=	10%
Test 4	=	10%
Test 5	=	10%
Test 6	=	10%
Final Exam	=	20%
Journals/Outside Assignments	=	5%
Annotated Bibliography	=	10%
Class participation	=	5%

**Make-up Exam Policy:**

Please see Nursing Handbook for standard Nursing policy related to Essay Make-up Exams.

## Course Syllabus – Hybrid

### HYBRID CLASS INFORMATION

This course is taken 50% via the Internet and 50% attending a classroom on campus. Before you decide to take the course under these conditions, it is recommended that you:

- take the following assessments to determine if hybrid learning is best for you:
  1. [Should I take a distance learning class?](#)
  2. [Do I have enough time to take a distance learning class?](#)
  3. [Do I have the technical skills and knowledge to learn online?](#)
- read the [Distance Learning Frequently Answered Questions](#) page which include instructions for logging onto Blackboard, computer requirements, and basic computer skills students must have prior to enrolling a distance learning class.
- read the syllabus description below carefully.
- contact the professor by e-mail or by phone if you have any questions.

#### **Computer Requirements**

If you choose to take this course, you must have access to a computer that meets the [basic computer requirements](#)

**Computer Competency Component:** Each student will, to the satisfaction of the instructor, demonstrate a fundamental understanding of basic computer operations through various instructor-determined exercises and/or assignments. All assignments must be submitted as attachments via the Assignment Tool in .doc or .rtf format.

**Specific Testing Requirements:** All Unit tests and the comprehensive final exam will be administered on campus in the Nursing Testing Lab at the scheduled date and time posted on the class calendar.

#### **SLC Computer Lab**

If students do not have access to a computer at home, the [SLC Computer Lab](#) at a Palm Beach State College campus can be used to complete course assignments. Visit the SLC Computer Lab web page for location and hours.

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE STUDENT TAKING THIS COURSE AS A *PURE INTERNET COURSE* NOT BE A NOVICE COMPUTER USER. THE STUDENT SHOULD KNOW HOW TO USE A MOUSE, NAVIGATE THE INTERNET, AND SEND/RECEIVE E-MAIL WITH ATTACHMENTS. VISIT THE FOLLOWING WEB PAGE FOR MORE INFORMATION REGARDING MINIMUM [SLC COMPUTER LAB](#) STUDENTS MUST HAVE PRIOR TO ENROLLING IN AN ONLINE COURSE. ALL TESTING FOR THIS COURSE IS DONE ON CAMPUS.**

This course has an Internet component located at: [Online Learning - Blackboard Campus](#)  
The course web site will be available at the start of the semester. Your password will not work until that time.

**It is the student's responsibility to have accessed this site no later than the first scheduled day of class.** The web site has a security system which requires a *Sign on* and a *Password*. Only registered students will be able to access the course.

## Course Syllabus – Hybrid

To login to the course web site:

**Unique Requirements of the Class:** This course has an Internet web component located at: [Online Learning - Blackboard Campus](#)

**User Name:** Use your Palm Beach State College Student ID Number (no hyphens). Your Palm Beach State College Student ID Number can be found on the back of your student ID card. If you do not have a student ID card, you can obtain one in the bookstore at Lake Worth campus. For obtaining a student ID card on other campuses, check with the campus directly. **Password:** The student's Blackboard password will be the student's Palm Beach State College Pin Number.

**What do I do if I forget my password or need assistance with Blackboard?**

[E-mail the Blackboard administrator](#). You can also email the Palm Beach State College [Student Help Desk](#) or contact them by phone at (561)868-4000. Be sure you have the following information available:

- your full name
- your Palm Beach State College Student ID number
- course with the reference number
- details of the assistance needed and any error messages
- The [Student Help Desk Hours of Operation](#) are posted on the web page. On hours and days that the Help Desk is closed, the student may leave a voice message or an e-mail and the issue will be addressed the next business day.

### CLASS POLICIES & METHODOLOGY

**Attendance:** Professors are required to take attendance. Students enrolled in a hybrid course should check the course web site and email on at least twice weekly. Students who are actively involved in their learning are more successful. Students are expected to complete all class work and homework and participate in structured class discussions.

**Faculty response time:** The instructor will check the Blackboard e-mail and discussion board at least once daily Monday-Friday between the hours of 5:00 AM and 10:00 PM. The instructor may be available but is not scheduled to check the course website on weekends and holidays.

**Electronic Device Use:** Hand-held devices that are iPod capable are encouraged to facilitate downloadable information to be used as learning strategies and study tools. Cell phones are prohibited in the campus Testing Centers. Students, who are found to have cell phones in their possession while testing, will earn a grade of 0 for that test.

**Email Policy:** All students have access to a college email account. It is the responsibility of the student to activate this account in order to be kept current with college, program and course information. College email must be checked weekly, at least. This course has a web component that has email within the course. Course email should be checked daily and used for all course-related communications with faculty. Faculty will contact students via college and course email for any updates or changes to coursework.

**Equipment & Supplies:** Required text books; access to a computer with active Internet service; word processing and printing capabilities are essential to be successful in this class.

## Course Syllabus – Hybrid

**Professor’s expectations:** Students are required to access the course component at least twice weekly to check the discussion board and course e-mail. Students will participate in all discussions; will observe “Netiquette”; will read the assigned chapters; and will make a mentoring appointment for remediation with the faculty member at the first indication of a test grade below 75%.

Students are expected to read the textbooks as assigned; complete the correlating exercises on the disks accompanying the text book; review the material posted on line that corresponds to the assigned readings and Unit Exam content; utilize the Practice Tests and Jeopardy Tools as posted on the course web site.

### Methods of instruction

<u>1</u>	Selected reading	<u>8</u>	Student group work
<u>2</u>	Lectures	<u>9</u>	Journal Articles
<u>3</u>	Demonstrations	<u>10</u>	Study Guides
<u>4</u>	Discussions	<u>11</u>	Interactive Educational Activities
<u>5</u>	Audiovisuals	<u>12</u>	Internet – Blackboard Learning System
<u>6</u>	Interactive video software programs	<u>13</u>	Student Lead Presentation
<u>7</u>	Computer-Assisted Instruction	<u>14</u>	Critical Thinking Exercises

### Classroom Strategies:

1. Class Discussion
2. Audiovisuals
3. Case Scenarios

### Evaluation Methods:

- A. Group/Individual Activities
- B. Critical Thinking Assignments
- C. Class Attendance/Participation
- D. Periodic Tests/ Final Examination
- E. Annotated Bibliography

## COLLEGE POLICIES AND WEB INFORMATION

### Academic Dishonesty

Academic dishonesty includes the following actions, as well as other similar conduct aimed at making false representation with respect to the student's academic performance:

(1) Cheating on an exam, (2) Collaborating with others on work to be presented, if contrary to the stated rules of the course, (3) Submitting, if contrary to the rules of the course, work previously submitted in another course, (4) Knowingly and intentionally assisting another student in any of the above actions, including assistance in an arrangement whereby work, classroom performance, examination, or other activity is submitted or performed by a person other than the student under whose name the work is submitted or performed, (5) Plagiarism.

Please refer to the **Palm Beach State** [College Student Handbook](#)

## Course Syllabus – Hybrid

### Classroom Etiquette and Student Behavior Guidelines

Students will demonstrate respect for professors and fellow students. Behavior that is disruptive to a positive learning environment reported by the professor will result in a warning on the first instance; the second instance might result in expulsion from the course or campus.

### Computer Competency Component

Each student will, to the satisfaction of the professor, demonstrate a fundamental understanding of basic computer operations through various professor-determined exercises and/or assignments.

### Disability Support Services

Students with disabilities are advised, in compliance with federal and state laws, that accommodations and services are available through the office of [Disability Support Services](#) (DSS). It is the student's responsibility to contact [Disabled Student Services Advisors](#) and to submit appropriate documentation prior to receiving services.

### Eating, Drinking and Smoking

Eating and drinking are confined to areas designated on the campus. Smoking is not permitted in any College building and only in areas designated at each campus.

### Student Responsibility Policy

When a student attends the College, s/he becomes subject to its jurisdiction. Students are expected to conduct themselves in a responsible manner, in all areas of campus life. By enrolling, they pledge to obey the rules and regulations of the College and are responsible for observing all College policies and procedures as published in the student handbook, the College catalog and other College publications. The student will be responsible for preparing for class, participating in class, and completing assignments on time.

### Palm Beach State College [Websites of Interest](#)

### Withdrawal Policy for Individual Courses

The last day to withdraw from a College course with a "W" grade in this course is posted on the college academic calendar. It is the responsibility of the student to use the PantherWeb system or visit a campus Registrar's office to withdraw. An official withdrawal entitles the student to a grade of "W" in the class.

## DEPARTMENT CONTACT INFORMATION:

Kellie Bassell, MSN, EdS, RN  
Nursing Program Director  
AH 110 (561) 868-3412  
Fax (561) 868-3452  
[Email](#)

## Course Syllabus – Hybrid

### GETTING STARTED WITH A DISTANCE LEARNING CLASS:

1. Make sure you have all the computer system requirements as listed in the Computer Requirements section of this syllabus.
2. Update your profile on PantherWeb. The professor will communicate with you through Blackboard or your Palm Beach State College-issued email address.
3. Obtain course materials. The textbook(s) can be purchased at the Palm Beach State College campus bookstore or [online](#).
4. Log onto the course web component [Online Learning - Blackboard Campus](#). Use your PantherWeb logon information.
5. Explore the different parts of the web component. Be sure you print the syllabus, course calendar, and assignment sheet so that you know what is expected of you during the semester.
6. Print the course worksheets and content outlines that follow this section of the syllabus.
7. Begin completing your assignments as listed on the course calendar and/or class schedule.

**Have fun!**

## Course Syllabus – Hybrid

## COURSE WORKSHEETS

**Course Syllabus – Hybrid**

**JOURNAL ENTRY 1**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**BEGINNING REFLECTIVE EXERCISE**

What is your personal philosophy of nursing? Include your beliefs about the profession of nursing. . .





## Course Syllabus – Hybrid

### JOURNAL ENTRY 2

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Explain what technique learned in this class has been the most useful to you this week, and why. .

.

## Course Syllabus – Hybrid

### JOURNAL ENTRY 3

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Describe what empowerment means to you personally. . .

## Course Syllabus – Hybrid

### JOURNAL ENTRY 4

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Describe your “learning type” and explain what tools you are using to assist you to learn. . .

**Course Syllabus – Hybrid**

**JOURNAL ENTRY 5**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Analyze how the use of a planning calendar has affected your time management skills. . .

**Course Syllabus – Hybrid**

**JOURNAL ENTRY 6**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

What does it mean to “critically” think?

## Course Syllabus – Hybrid

### JOURNAL ENTRY 7

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Share what aspect, topic, or tool you found to be the most useful from this course, and what was the least useful for you . . . explain. . .

**COURSE CONTENT BY CONCEPT**

**Course Syllabus – Hybrid**

**SELF-REGULATION AND STUDY STRATEGIES**

OBJECTIVES	CONTENT	RELATED LEARNING ACTIVITIES
<p>The student will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Develop an operational semester calendar relative to theoretical and clinical nursing assignments.</li> <li>2. Form active study groups among nursing colleagues.</li> <li>3. Develop a timetable for study activities to include theoretical study and clinical nursing practice.</li> <li>4. Describe the SQ3R (Survey, develop Questions, Review, Recite, Recall) method of reading a nursing textbook.</li> <li>5. Operationalize the SQ3R method with current nursing text</li> <li>6. Create a vocabulary journal from current nursing text utilizing medical terminology</li> <li>7. Develop a vocabulary word of the day from current nursing text</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I. Introduction to self-regulation within the nursing program               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Create a semester calendar including nursing theory and practice assignments</li> <li>B. Form study groups of five or less nursing colleagues</li> <li>C. Institute time management activities relative to nursing program schedule</li> </ol> </li> <li>II. Introduction to metacognition as a basis for prioritizing nursing scenarios</li> <li>III. Reading the current nursing text book</li> <li>IV. SQ3R method utilizing current nursing textbook</li> <li>V. Textbook vocabulary including essential components of medical terminology               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Word of the day log based on assigned readings and audio-visuals</li> <li>B. Word bank file of terms related to general vocabulary building with emphasis on medical terminology</li> <li>C. Dictionary/thesaurus usage: Webster’s, Roget’s, &amp; Taber’s</li> <li>D. Understanding technical nursing text</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	<p>Readings in required Texts as assigned.</p> <p>Completion of a Learning Style Inventory.</p> <p>Completion of a Math Diagnostic Tool</p> <p>Review: Professor Nightengale video</p> <p>Introduction to the Student Learning Center (SLC)</p> <p>Completion of individualized assignments developed by Learning Specialists</p>

**Course Syllabus – Hybrid**

**LEARNING STRATEGIES & RESOURCES**

OBJECTIVES	CONTENT	RELATED LEARNING ACTIVITIES
<p>The student will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Generate an online search related to current nursing subject matter</li> <li>2. Find one nursing research article in the Library &amp; Learning Resource Center (LLRC)</li> <li>3. Find one nursing descriptive article in the LLRC</li> <li>4. Demonstrate the use of Nursing Skills Lab Learning Resources and successfully apply to assigned nursing skills</li> <li>5. List the accessibility and technology available in the Nursing Skills Lab, Quantum Testing Center and the LLRC to enhance the completion of theoretical and clinical practice assignments in nursing.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I. Computer assisted instruction (CAI) specific to nursing practice               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Introduction to the CAI in the Library &amp; Learning Resource Center (LLRC) and in the Nursing Skills Lab</li> <li>B. Internet based CAI vocabulary program</li> <li>C. Introduction to the LLRC and student availability and access to the internet</li> </ol> </li> <li>II. Introduction to the LLRC to provide necessary tools for scientific inquiry of nursing topics               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Online search activity utilizing CINAHL &amp; other nursing related databases</li> <li>B. Computer search on in-context nursing material</li> <li>C. Nursing journals</li> <li>D. Introduction to e-mail</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	<p>Readings in required Texts as assigned.</p> <p>Introduction to the LLRC</p> <p>Review: Steps for Success CAI</p> <p>Completion of individualized assignments developed by Learning Specialists</p>

Course Syllabus – Hybrid

**CRITICAL THINKING & TEST-TAKING STRATEGIES**

OBJECTIVES	CONTENT	RELATED LEARNING ACTIVITIES
<p>The student will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Demonstrate the use of Nursing Skills Lab Learning Resources and successfully apply to assigned nursing skills</li> <li>2. List the accessibility and technology available in the Nursing Skills Lab, Quantum Testing Center and the LLRC to enhance the completion of theoretical and clinical practice assignments in nursing.</li> <li>3. Appraise and develop test items based on the computerized multiple choice NCLEX (National Certification Licensing Examination) model</li> <li>4. Define Critical Thinking as it applies to Case Scenarios in Nursing</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I. Test-taking strategies specific to current NCLEX format               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Multiple choice - applying didactic nursing content to select best answer</li> <li>B. Essay – outline answers by prioritizing content</li> <li>C. Matching terms with definitions/nursing concepts</li> <li>D. True/false – read &amp; analyze entire statement to determine veracity</li> <li>E. How to read a question and extrapolate essential query</li> <li>F. How to eliminate false answers utilizing critical thinking within nursing scenarios</li> </ol> </li> <li>II. Other learning strategies               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Note-taking to include nursing journaling</li> <li>B. Underlining key nursing concepts within assigned text</li> <li>C. Highlighting important points for nursing application of content</li> <li>D. Summarizing according to nursing process: assessment, diagnosis, plan, implementation, &amp; evaluation</li> <li>E. Paraphrasing utilizing therapeutic communication techniques to restate understanding of nursing concepts</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	<p>Readings in required Texts as assigned.</p> <p>Completion of individualized assignments developed by Learning Specialists</p>