

School of Nursing – Rural Nursing Certificate Program (RNCP)

NURS 451 – 3 credit course

Health Assessment and RN First Call

Course Description

This course provides students with the knowledge and skills needed to extend their ability to conduct a thorough health assessment for diverse client populations throughout the lifespan. It prepares students to safely utilize the CRNBC Decision Support Tools for RN First Call practice. Students conduct age-appropriate comprehensive health histories and physical examinations, identify health concerns and risks, taking into account culture, ethnicity and health beliefs, and make informed clinical judgements. This course features one or more mandatory extended skills-building laboratory/workshop sessions that include evaluation of history and physical assessment skills as well as utilization of the RN First Call Decision Support Tools. Upon successful completion students may apply for CRNBC RN First Call Practice Certification.

Who should take this course?

This course is for Registered Nurses seeking RN First Call Certification through CRNBC. It is ideal for nurses in rural communities, hospitals, or diagnostic and treatment centers.

Course Objectives¹

This course prepares students to:

- Undertake a thorough health assessment through history taking and interview techniques that respect the person, developmental stage, culture and environment
- Complete a comprehensive physical examination of the adult, child, elderly person
- Safely and appropriately utilize the CRNBC's RN First Call Decision Support Tools
- Apply clinical judgment using evidence-based clinical knowledge from multiple sources
- Undertake client consultation and appropriate, timely referral to other health care professionals
- Document and communicate nursing assessments and clinical judgment for patient records, legal purposes, and other health care providers.

How much study time is required?

This is not a self-paced course. Students are required to follow a prescribed course schedule and should budget approximately 10-12 hours per week for study time, reading, and assignments.

Course Delivery

This course includes 13 weeks of online theory and a face-to-face workshop*. It can be taken as an individual course, as part of the Rural Nursing Certificate Program (RNCP), or applied towards a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BScN).

* dates, length and location vary based on course enrollment

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School of Nursing – Rural Nursing Certificate Program (RNCP)

NURS 452 – 6 credit course

Chronic Disease Management, Palliative Care & Wound Care

Course Description

This course has three components: The Chronic Disease Management utilizes current, evidence-based knowledge, skills and management tools to inform effective client-centered care for those with chronic health challenges in rural communities. The Palliative Care section enables the learners to extend their knowledge surrounding palliative care guidelines and discusses grief and bereavement issues. The Wound Care component examines evidence-based and cost-effective wound care for people residing in rural settings.

Who should take this course?

This course is for Registered Nurses seeking to gain knowledge of chronic health challenges, end of life issues and wound management. It is ideal for nurses in rural communities, hospitals, or treatment centers.

Course Objectives¹

This course prepares students to:

- demonstrate an improved understanding of the complexity of chronic care necessitating a long term, person-oriented, team approach to health care services
- identify the specific competencies that will be required of nurses working with patients and families experiencing chronic and life-threatening conditions
- apply current, evidence-based, knowledge, skills and management tools to care for people with chronic health challenges
- utilize a palliative care philosophy and practices to engage in effective and appropriate end-of-life care
- apply the necessary knowledge and skills in the management of wound care

How much study time is required?

This is not a self-paced course. Students are required to follow a prescribed course schedule and should budget approximately 20-25 hours per week for study time, reading, and assignments.

Course Delivery

This course includes 13 weeks of online theory. It can be taken as an individual course, as part of the Rural Nursing Certificate Program (RNCP), or applied towards a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BScN).

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School of Nursing – Rural Nursing Certificate Program (RNCP)

NURS 453 – 3 credit course

Nursing Practice with Older Persons

Course Description

This course focuses on health-promoting, person-centered practice for nurses working with older persons in rural communities. Assessment focuses on the physical and mental health of older persons within the context of their everyday experience and their families and/or cultures. Particular attention is paid to the strengths of the individual as well as the presenting health challenges. Nurses explore strategies to prevent and/or address common health issues experienced by older persons.

Course Objectives¹

This course prepares students to:

- Differentiate healthy aging from the health challenges associated with the aging process
- Conduct a “person-centered” health assessment incorporating the psychological, emotional and social determinants of health
- Identify mental health challenges (dementia, delirium, depression)
- Intervene with seniors to promote their health and well-being using evidence based guidelines and best practices
- Promote and facilitate the use of community resources for older persons living at home
- Adhere to current provincial standards of practice within the elderly residential care setting
- Promote a safe environment for clients and their families

Who should take this course?

This course is for Registered Nurses seeking to obtain skills and competencies for work with older persons. It is ideal for nurses in rural communities, hospitals, or diagnostic and treatment centers.

How much study time is required?

This is not a self-paced course. Students are required to follow a prescribed course schedule and should budget approximately 10-12 hours per week for study time, reading, and assignments.

Course Delivery

This course includes 13 weeks of online theory.
It can be taken as an individual course, as part of the Rural Nursing Certificate Program (RNCP), or applied towards a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BScN).

School of Nursing – Rural Nursing Certificate Program (RNCP)

NURS 454 – 6 credit course

Perinatal Care

Course Description

This course spans the antenatal, intrapartum and post-partum continuum focusing on the perinatal skills and competencies required for nurses to support women and their families through low-risk, normal pregnancies. Students learn to recognize and take action in abnormal situations and make sound, informed clinical judgments in emergency situations in rural settings. This course involves a workshop and practicum, which are both mandatory. Prior to the practicum RNCP students and Post-Diploma students must provide proof of certification in the Neonatal Resuscitation Program (NRP) and the Fetal Health Surveillance course (FHS).

Course Objectives¹

This course prepares students to:

- Provide care and support for women experiencing a normal, low risk pregnancy, labour and birth and post-partum period
- Assess newborns
- Prepare women and their newborns for discharge
- Recognize common complications and emergency situations that require intervention or transfer to other settings for the provisions of a higher level of care

Who should take this course?

This course is for Registered Nurses seeking to obtain skills and competencies in perinatal care. It is ideal for nurses in rural communities, hospitals, or diagnostic and treatment centers.

How much study time is required?

This is not a self-paced course. Students are required to follow a prescribed course schedule and should budget approximately 20-25 hours per week for study time, reading, and assignments.

Course Delivery

This course includes 13 weeks of online theory, a face-to-face workshop* and a 144 hour clinical practicum**. It can be taken as an individual course, as part of the Rural Nursing Certificate Program (RNCP), or applied towards a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BScN).

* dates, length and location vary based on course enrollment

** students will have a ten week period following the theory portion of the course to complete their practicum

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NURS 455 – 6 credit course

Foundations in Emergency and Trauma Nursing

Course Description

This course provides students with the practical evidence-based information, skills and tools necessary to identify clients with critical conditions and to intervene appropriately and effectively within the context and confines of rural nursing practice. The most salient aspects of adult, geriatric and pediatric emergency and critical care encountered in rural practice are examined. The course includes a focused lab experience and a practicum, which are both mandatory.

Course Objectives¹

This course prepares students to:

- Provide appropriate and effective nursing care to the client presenting to the rural emergency department.
- Undertake a comprehensive assessment of the client presenting with an emergent health condition
- Complete the Canadian Triage and Acuity Scale (CTAS) training and apply these principles to nursing practice in the emergency room
- Recognize conditions that require additional support and/or transfer for a higher level of care.

Who should take this course?

This course is for Registered Nurses seeking to obtain skills and competencies in emergency nursing. It is ideal for nurses in rural communities, hospitals, or diagnostic and treatment centers.

How much study time is required?

This is not a self-paced course. Students are required to follow a prescribed course schedule and should budget approximately 20-25 hours per week for study time, reading, and assignments.

Course Delivery

This course includes 13 weeks of online theory, a face-to-face workshop* and a 144 hour clinical practicum**. It can be taken as an individual course, as part of the Rural Nursing Certificate Program (RNCP), or applied towards a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BScN).

* dates, length and location vary based on course enrollment

** students will have a ten week period following the theory portion of the course to complete their practicum

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NURS 456 – 3 credit course

Mental Health and Addictions

Course Description

This course provides knowledge and skills required to care for people living with common mental health and addiction issues encountered in rural nursing practice. A holistic relational nursing focus allows students to apply concepts to a variety of health challenges and to intervene appropriately. Nursing approaches to clinical decision-making with clients who have specific mental health problems such as psychotic, mood, anxiety and personality disorders are highlighted. Nursing practice approaches to addictions substance use, and crisis intervention, including aggression and suicide attempts are addressed.

Course Objectives¹

This course prepares students to:

- Establish therapeutic, ethical and professional, culturally sensitive, client-centered relationships with individuals who have mental health and/or addictions disorders
- Assess and document mental status
- Utilize the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders*
- Assist individuals who present with issues related to suicide or other mental health crisis
- Develop knowledge of psychotic, mood, anxiety and personality disorders, and substance use, including physical and psychological effects
- Develop bio-psycho-social-spiritual nursing care plans that address needs and ensure client safety
- Identify and facilitate access to local and regional mental health and addictions resources

Who should take this course?

This course is for Registered Nurses seeking to obtain skills and competencies in mental health and addictions. It is ideal for nurses in rural communities, hospitals, or diagnostic and treatment centers.

How much study time is required?

This is not a self-paced course. Students are required to follow a prescribed course schedule and should budget approximately 10-12 hours per week for study time, reading, and assignments.

Course Delivery

This course includes 13 weeks of online theory. It can be taken as an individual course, as part of the Rural Nursing Certificate Program (RNCP), or applied towards a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BScN).

School of Nursing – Rural Nursing Certificate Program (RNCP)

NURS 457 – 3 credit course

Living and Working in a Rural Community

Course Description

This course enables students to gain an understanding and appreciation of the unique challenges facing nurses who live and work in rural communities. Confidentiality, anonymity, cultural safety, inter-professional relationships, population health, and maintaining competence are addressed. Students gain a greater knowledge and sensitivity in the provision of ethical and effective health care for First Nations populations.

Course Objectives¹

This course prepares students to:

- Understand key issues in rural health
- Identify community health issues and draw on resources in communities to help address them
- Understand health and healing from an Aboriginal world view
- Explore strategies for inclusion
- Examine the cultural assumptions occurring within their nursing practices
- Acknowledge and develop an approach to Aboriginal cultural practices
- Deliver nursing care that incorporates important aspects of Aboriginal health care and healing
- Examine what it means to practice in situations of few human and technical resources
- Develop ways to address issues of anonymity and confidentiality

Who should take this course?

This course is for Registered Nurses seeking to obtain skills and competencies in mental health and addictions. It is ideal for nurses in rural communities, hospitals, or diagnostic and treatment centers.

How much study time is required?

This is not a self-paced course. Students are required to follow a prescribed course schedule and should budget approximately 10-12 hours per week for study time, reading, and assignments.

Course Delivery

This course includes 13 weeks of online theory. It can be taken as an individual course, as part of the Rural Nursing Certificate Program (RNCP), or applied towards a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BScN).

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NURS 458 – 6 credit course

Remote Nursing Certified Practice

Course Description

This course focuses on Remote Nursing Certified Practice competencies. Key content areas include history and physical assessment, advanced clinical reasoning, informed judgement and pharmacotherapeutics for the management of specified common and predictable health conditions. Dispensary management and medication dispensing functions are also included. Content and course evaluation are based on a body-systems approach and incorporate the CRNBC Decision Support Tools for Remote Nursing Certified Practice. A mandatory extended workshop focusing on nursing practice in remote communities is included. Upon successful completion students may apply for Remote Nursing Certification through CRNBC.

Course Objectives¹

This course prepares students to:

- Provide safe evidence based care to populations in remote settings
- Practice client and community care through a lens of cultural competence and cultural safety
- Conduct advanced history taking and physical examination using clinical reasoning and informed judgment to make a differential diagnoses within the scope of CRNBC approved Decision Support Tools
- Conduct appropriate tests and interpret laboratory results
- Understand the management of the dispensary as well as relevant pharmacology and dispensing functions for nurses working in remote settings

Who should take this course?

This course is for Registered Nurses seeking Remote Nursing Certification through CRNBC. It is one of three courses required to be certified for work in remote communities in British Columbia.

How much study time is required?

This is not a self-paced course. Students are required to follow a prescribed course schedule and should budget approximately 20-25 hours per week for study time, reading, and assignments.

Course Delivery

This course includes 15 weeks of online theory and a face-to-face workshop and examination*.

* dates, length and locations vary based on course enrollment