RES 120T.01: Perspectives in Health Care Communications

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COURSE NUMBER AND TITLE: RES 120T Perspectives in Health Care Communications

DATE REVISED: Fall, 2006

SEMESTER CREDITS: 2

CONTACT HOURS PER SEMESTER: 30
  Lecture hours per week: 2
  Lab hours per week: 0

PREREQUISITE: Completion of Respiratory Care core, acceptance into the Respiratory Care program or consent of the instructor

FACULTY:
Bob Wafstet
Robert.Wafstet@umontana.edu
243-7821 (office)
Office: Bldg. HB
Office Hours: TBA

RELATIONSHIP TO PROGRAM:
This course offers the students the opportunity to develop fundamental knowledge of health care communications. This will lay the ground work for their careers as health care professionals.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
An introduction to ethical issues in health care, as well as a brief overview of communication techniques. Both written and oral communication in such areas as charting procedures and interpersonal relations will be emphasized.

STUDENT PERFORMANCE OUTCOMES:
Upon completion of the course, the student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate correct charting procedures.
2. Describe and discuss the nature and aspects of health care communication.
3. Identify techniques and blocks to therapeutic communications.
4. Discuss ethical dilemmas discussed in class and legal implications in health care.
5. Discuss legal issues in respiratory care.
6. Demonstrate and describe communication techniques in special situations i.e., death and dying, grief, the stroke patient, and the elderly patient.
METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:
Lecture, reference reading, and group discussion.

STUDENT ASSESSMENT METHODS AND GRADING PROCEDURES:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXAMS</th>
<th>GRADING SCALE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unit Exams</td>
<td>A = 4.00 95-100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assignments</td>
<td>A- = 3.67 90-94%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pop Quizzes</td>
<td>B+ = 3.33 87-89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>B = 3.00 84-86%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students in the Respiratory Care Program must have a “B-” final grade in order to progress within the program.

ATTENDANCE:
The test schedule is included in this syllabus. Class attendance is an integral part of this course. The test dates are included in this syllabus. Pop quizzes will be given randomly through the semester. Failure for the quizzes will result in a zero being recorded and used in computing your average.

OTHER POLICIES:

Academic Misconduct: All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or a disciplinary sanction by the University.

All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at http://www.umt.edu/SA/VPSA/index.cfm/page/1321.

Disabilities: Eligible students with disabilities will receive appropriate accommodations in this course when requested in a timely way. Please speak with me after class or in my office. Please be prepared to provide a letter from your DSS Coordinator.

CELL PHONES/PAGERS:

Due to an increasing number of students who own and use cell phones and pagers, it has become necessary to institute a policy regarding these tools during class times. As you are aware, these tools are distracting to an entire class. However, some students require them for business which allows them to further their education. Please follow these guidelines:
1. If the cell phone/pager is not business or emergency related, please turn it off.
2. Use the vibrating option on your pager.
3. Do not listen to the messages in class. Leave class quietly.
4. **CELL PHONES AND PAGERS MUST BE TURNED OFF DURING EXAM AND CLASS PRESENTATIONS.**
SEATING:

Many classrooms have chairs to accommodate persons with disabilities. These chairs will display the international disability symbol and are assigned to a particular student. Please refrain from using these chairs or making adjustments to them unless the chair is assigned to you. If you think you may have the need for a specific chair, please contact Disability Student Services. Thank you for your cooperation.

TEST/QUIZ MAKEUP:

Make-up exams and lab experiences will only be given under extreme circumstances and then only if:

a) permission is granted in advance by the course instructor, or
b) a written excuse is provided by a medical doctor. The burden of proof is on the student, so you must document and prove a justifiable absence. Not following this procedure prior to the exam will automatically result in a zero score being recorded. Missed tests need to be made up within one week of the original date given. You are responsible for contacting the Academic Support Center to schedule the make-up. Failure to do so will result in a ZERO grade for the missed test.

The faculty senate guidelines concerning the issuance of incomplete grades will be followed. Also attention to critical dates such as P/NP, drop, etc. is the responsibility of the student. Students wishing to drop the class after the drop deadline will need a documented justifiable reason for doing so. Dropping the class for fear of bad grade or to protect a GPA are not justifiable reasons. The principles and policies embodied in the Student Handbook Code will be adhered to in this course.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

TITLE: Egan’s Fundamentals of Respiratory Care, 8th ed.
AUTHOR: Wilkins, et al
PUBLISHER: Mosby

TITLE: Workbook to accompany Egan’s Fundamentals of Respiratory Care, 8th ed.
AUTHOR: Wehrman
PUBLISHER: Mosby

TITLE: Clinical Assessment in Respiratory Care, 5th Edition*
AUTHOR: Wilkins, et al
PUBLISHER: Mosby

THEORY
Monday and Wednesday (11:10 – 12:00) HB19
COURSE OUTLINE:

I. CHARTING PROCEDURES
   A. Rules
   B. Hospital Time
   C. POMR

II. HEALTH COMMUNICATIONS
   A. Nature of Communications in Health Care
   B. Determinants of Effective Communication
   C. Professional-Patient Interaction
   D. Techniques of Therapeutic Communication
   E. Blocks to Therapeutic Communication

III. ETHICAL AND LEGAL IMPLICATIONS OF RESPIRATORY CARE
   A. Ethical Dilemmas
   B. Legal Issues in Respiratory Care
   C. Legal Implications

IV. DEATH, DYING, GRIEF
   A. Care of the Patient Who is Dying
   B. Interacting With the Dying Patient
   C. Grief
   D. Concerning Death-Ethical Issues

V. AGE SPECIFIC CARE

VI. ELDERLY PATIENT
   A. Perspectives on Aging

VII. THE STROKE PATIENT
   A. Causes
   B. Effects
   C. Deficits

WEEKLY PLAN: Units revolve around test schedule.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DAY</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>UNIT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>9/11/06</td>
<td>Charting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>10/2/06</td>
<td>Communications</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>10/25/06</td>
<td>Ethics (Case study also due)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>11/27/06</td>
<td>Death and Grief</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>12/11/06</td>
<td>(10:00-12:00) Age specific care, aging and stroke</td>
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</tbody>
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• Exam schedule is subject to change as necessary