

Course Syllabus

COURSE: VNSG 1330 501 Maternal-Neonatal Nursing
SEMESTER: Spring 2026
CLASS TIMES: Fridays 0900-1200
LAB TIMES: Included in class times
INSTRUCTOR: Brenda Knight BSN, RN
OFFICE: Allied Health Building, Levelland Campus, AH 103 E
OFFICE HOURS: By appointment
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GENERAL COURSE INFORMATION

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course addresses the utilization of the nursing process in the assessment and management of the childbearing family. This course places emphasis on the bio-psycho-socio-cultural needs of the family during the phases of pregnancy, childbirth, and the neonatal period. This course also includes the study of abnormal conditions that may be found in each phase.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the completion of the semester students will:
1. Discuss the principles of maternity care
2. Discuss the principles of newborn care
3. Discuss the implementation of nursing care of the maternal patient

COURSE OBJECTIVES - Outline form (C-5, C-6, C-7, C-8, C-15, C-16, C-17, C-18, C-19, C-20) (F-1, F-2, F-7, F-8, F-9, F-10, F-11, F-12)

At the completion of this course the student will:
1. Have a basic understanding of how/which anatomy is involved with pregnancy
2. Have a basic understanding of how the body adapts to pregnancy
3. Have a better understanding of what happens in the body during pregnancy
4. Have knowledge of nursing care of the maternal patient
5. Have knowledge of nursing care of the newborn patient
6. Be able to evaluate the effect of treatment modalities of the maternal patient
7. Be able to evaluate the effect of treatment modalities of the newborn patient
8. Identify the fundamental stages of the laboring patient, post-partum care and newborn care
9. Identify pertinent medical and surgical conditions of the maternal patient
10. Recognize the uniqueness of the maternal patient because of the physical and emotional developmental process
11. Demonstrate the importance of effective teaching of antepartum and postpartum health care
12. Demonstrate the importance of effective teaching of newborn care and safety
13. Be able to locate and state basic functions of the various parts of the reproductive system.
14. Become familiar with and understand terminology used in the text.
15. Be present and punctual for all classes with no more than 2 (two) absences.

EVALUATION METHODS

Computer-based and written exams, computer based and written assignments, written and computer based scheduled and pop quizzes, skills check-offs, and other projects as assigned.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

It is the aim of the faculty of South Plains College to foster a spirit of complete honesty and a high standard of integrity. The attempt of any student to present as his or her own any work which he or she has not honestly performed is regarded by the faculty and administration as a most serious offense and renders the offender liable to profound consequences, and possibly suspension.

Cheating - Dishonesty of any kind on examinations or on written assignments, illegal possession of examinations, the use of unauthorized notes during an examination, obtaining information during an examination from the textbook or from the examination paper of another student, assisting others to cheat, alteration of grade records, illegal entry or unauthorized presence in the office are examples of cheating. Complete honesty is required of the student in presenting all coursework phases. This applies to quizzes, final examinations, daily reports, and term papers.

Plagiarism - Offering the work of another as one's own, without proper acknowledgment, is plagiarism; therefore, any student who fails to give credit for quotations or identical expression of material taken from books, encyclopedias, magazines, and other reference works, or from themes, reports, or other writings of a fellow student, is guilty of plagiarism.

BLACKBOARD

Blackboard is an e-Education platform designed to enable educational innovations everywhere by connecting people and technology. This educational tool will be used in this course throughout the semester.

FACEBOOK

The Vocational Nursing Program has a Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/SouthPlainsCollegeVocationalNursingProgram> in addition to the South Plains College website. "Liking" the South Plains College Vocational Nursing Program Facebook page is not mandatory, nor are personal Facebook accounts, to access this page.

SCANS and FOUNDATION SKILLS

Refer also to Course Objectives. Scans and Foundation Skills are attached

SPECIFIC COURSE INFORMATION

TEXT AND MATERIALS

1. Linnard-Palmer. L., & Coats, G. (2021). Safe Maternity and Pediatric Nursing Care. (3rd ed.). F.A. Davis. ISBN 9781719648844
2. Linnard-Palmer. L., & Coats, G. (2021). Study Guide for Safe Maternity and Pediatric Nursing Care. (3rd ed.). F.A. Davis. ISBN 9781719648851
3. ATI student access and Blackboard

ADDITIONAL CLASSROOM ITEMS

Students should come to class prepared for taking notes and completing quizzes or assignments in class.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Students are expected to attend all classes to be successful in a course. Learning is fostered in the classroom environment. Missing even one lecture/class activity can negatively impact student performance; therefore, classroom attendance is mandatory, and students are accountable to attend and be on time for class. Students must be in their seats, ready for class at the scheduled time.

Attendance is taken for each class by signature page or via a verbal roll call by the instructor; it may be taken several times during a class period. A student who is not present at any point when attendance is taken will be marked "absent." A student is not allowed to disrupt the class due to tardiness. A student who is late and arrives after the door is closed may come into the classroom quietly to hear the lecture, BUT the student will still be marked as "absent". Students who are late for an exam will not be allowed to take the exam and are counted as "absent". Students who do not return to class after an exam are counted as "absent." If the student is asked to leave the classroom for any reason (sleeping, talking or other inappropriate behavior), the student is given an absence. Students who "forget" to sign in are counted as absent.

A student who exceeds 2 absences in this course does not meet the course objectives and will be withdrawn from the Vocational Nursing Program*

*If the student has a documented emergency that leads to exceeding 2 absences, the student will be responsible for notifying the instructor. The student must present evidence to Mrs. Steffey and Ms. Knight regarding the reasons for all absences. Mrs. Steffey and Ms. Knight will review and determine if a true emergency existed for each of the absences. Failure to plan (childcare, transportation, traffic, tardiness,) are not eligible emergencies. There are absences available for each course in case one of these needs arises. However, exceeding absences is grounds for dismissal. Should you use an absence, please be aware that if you encounter a true emergency later in the semester and you have already used your absence for a non-emergency, the attendance policy will be upheld, and you may be dismissed from the VNP.

As a matter of courtesy and professional behavior, a student who is going to be absent must email the course instructor and inform the instructor of the pending absence.

Breaks are given during lecture time. Because we must closely monitor student movement in the building, you may only have a break when one is given. Coming in and out of the classroom during class/lab causes a distraction. If you leave the classroom or lab for any reason outside of the assigned break time, you may be counted absent, per instructor discretion. Students should use break times wisely by going to the bathroom, getting refreshments, etc. rather than spending time on cell phones and then wanting to go to the bathroom when class starts. If you are not back at the designated time after a break, you are counted absent.

COVID Policy: See VN Student Handbook

If you are experiencing any of the following symptoms, please do not attend class and either seek medical attention or test for COVID-19.

- Cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing
- Fever or chills
- Muscles or body aches
- Vomiting or diarrhea
- New loss of taste and smell

Please also notify DeEtte Edens, BSN, RN, Associate Director of Health & Wellness, at dedens@southplainscollege.edu or 806-716-2376. SPC will follow the recommended 3-day isolation period for individuals that test positive. Please note that day 0 is the date of a positive test. Day 1 begins the first full day after the date of positive result. Proof of a positive test is required. A home test is sufficient, but students must submit a photo of the positive result. The date of the test must be written on the test result and an ID included in the photo. If tested elsewhere (clinic, pharmacy, etc.), please submit a copy of the doctor's note or email notification. Results may be emailed to DeEtte Edens, BSN, RN at dedens@southplainscollege.edu.

A student is clear to return to class without further assessment from DeEtte Edens, BSN, RN if he/she has completed the 3-day isolation period, symptoms have improved, and he/she is without fever for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication.

Students must communicate with DeEtte Edens, BSN, RN prior to the return date if still symptomatic at the end of the 3-day isolation.

Exposed individuals will not be required to quarantine. If exposed, SPC does request individuals closely monitor themselves. If an individual does become symptomatic, please do not attend class and get tested.

Should a student become ill (example of illness: fever; nausea/vomiting that is *not* due to pregnancy; diarrhea or any other communicable disease), a physician's release must be submitted when the student is treated by a physician. (per Handbook policy)

4.1-B Tardy: Tardiness is not accepted in the Vocational Nursing Program. Students are either present and on time or they are absent. Once the door to the classroom/lab is shut, that signals class has started and the student will be counted absent. The student may still join the class to receive content but will still receive the absence.

ASSIGNMENT POLICY

All assignments must be completed by the assigned due date. Late and/or incomplete work will not be accepted and a grade of zero will be recorded. In class quizzes, exams, and skills that are missed due to an absence may not be made up.

The student is responsible for being informed of class progress and assignments and coming to class prepared to participate in discussion, turning in assignments due, and/or taking the quiz or test scheduled for that day. Reading any assigned material assists the student to listen to the lecture with a higher degree of acuity and to participate in class discussion more effectively. A student cannot expect to understand what is being said in class when he/she has had no previous contact with the ideas or terms related to a given topic.

Neither virtual nor hardcopy assignments are accepted late. You must submit the assignment in the appropriate location (Blackboard, ATI, etc.) depending upon the assignment and it is your responsibility to make sure you do not upload blank documents and your document can be opened on a PC, because not all Mac files are able to convert. If you submit a blank document or a file that cannot be opened, it will not be accepted, unless informing the instructor a minimum of two hours prior to the deadline. If within this timeframe, the instructor can clear the previous attempt and allow the student to resubmit before the deadline.

Workbook: The workbook is designed to give learners of all styles the opportunity to enhance learning this material. The workbook may be used in class, so be prepared to have it with you. This workbook may also be assigned as homework or activities assigned in class.

COMPUTER USAGE

As computer technology in the field of health occupations continues to become more popular, computers will be used in this course for several assignments and exams. All students have access to computers and printers on the South Plains College campus. Students will be expected to utilize computers to access assignments, exams, and classroom resources. All registered students are supplied with a working email account from South Plains College.

COMPUTER LAB USAGE

The computer lab(s) on any campus may be used by students during scheduled opening hours or as assigned by an instructor. Printer paper will not be provided for students to print materials, but students may seek assistance from faculty or staff to request lab paper from the college if needed. Lack of computer lab paper is not an excuse for not having homework assignments, skills lab sheets, or any other required documents.

EXAMS

There are seven exams over course material throughout the course, and one final comprehensive exam at the end of the semester, as well as an ATI Content Mastery Exam at the end of the semester.

- Presentation of material includes class lectures, textbooks, ATI resources, discussion, handouts, videos, and power point. Exams may be on paper with pencil or via computer by ATI.
- Exams are administered in a campus computer lab or on the college-provided I-pads using ATI. The lab must be reserved by the instructor in advance. Students are expected to arrive on time for exams and complete the exams within the time frame allowed as other classes may be booked behind our scheduled time and you will not be permitted to take your exam past the scheduled time unless arrangements are made in advance for extenuating circumstances. It is your responsibility to make sure you have a working computer with a web cam and a microphone and reliable internet.
- Grades will be recorded on Blackboard for the student to view.
- Medical Terminology: Abbreviations & Definitions may be included in the unit exams.
- Students must earn 76% or better in this class and meet all criteria for progression.

REMEDIATION-If a student scores below 76% on an exam, remediation will be required. See VN Handbook for more information regarding remediation.

In addition, if/when a student fails his/her first exam in this class, he/she must make an appointment to meet with Mrs. Berryhill for a one-on-one tutoring session. Failing subsequent exams will not require a meeting with Mrs. Berryhill unless the student requests one.

In addition to the course unit exams, students must take an ATI maternal newborn content mastery exam. Each student should score at least Level 2. Prior to taking the mastery exam, a practice exam score of 90% or above must be turned into the instructor on either the A practice exam or the B practice exam. The proctored content mastery exam grade will be included in the gradebook for the course. The practice exams will be taken during out of class times, and the proctored exam will be given during class time.

At the completion of the course a comprehensive final examination will be given. Exams will be in the form of, but not limited to, multiple choice, matching, select all that apply, completion, and true/false.

NO HATS, CAPS OR HOODIES ARE TO BE WORN DURING QUIZZES AND EXAMS. BOOKS, FOOD AND BACKPACKS ARE NOT TO BE IN THE ROOM DURING EXAMINATIONS.

1. Students must earn 76% or better in this class for progression.
2. Students will have the opportunity to review all grades as they are recorded. Should the student have any questions about a specific grade or specific test question, the student must discuss this with the instructor within 48 hours (about 2 days) of notification of grade assignment. Once the 48 hours have passed without the student questioning the grade or question, the grade will stand and may not be challenged at the end of the class.
3. Once grades are posted, a unit exam is ready for review. When possible, unit exams will be made available for all students to review at the end of a lecture (time permitting) but if that is not possible, a student may email me for an appointment to come by the office and review the unit exam.

*On exam days, the test will start at the designated time. There are no tardies. If you are late the door will be locked and you will not be allowed to come into the testing area. You will receive a zero for the exam. You may enter after the exam is complete to participate in class but will still be considered absent.

MISSED EXAMS/MAKEUP WORK:

There will be no make-up exams for a missed unit exam. Since the final exam is comprehensive, the final exam grade will be substituted for the first missed unit exam grade only. Should any additional unit exam be missed, a grade of "0" will be recorded. No exams will be given prior to the originally scheduled exam. There is no make-up exam for the final exam.

GRADING POLICY

Students must earn an overall grade of 76% or better in this course to pass the course and progress to the next level.

Grades will be calculated using the following formula:

7 Unit Exams	50%
ATI content mastery exam	10%
Skills	20%
Final Exam	20%
TOTAL	100%

Grading Scale: 90-100	A
80-89	B
76-79	C
70-75	D
69 or Below	F

The final course grade will not be rounded up. Example: Your average is 79.8. Your grade will be 79 which is a C.

The skills that are graded and the grades recorded in the gradebook are: Postpartum Assessment, Bathing the Newborn, Massaging the Uterine Fundus, Measuring the Infant's Head and Chest, and Newborn Head to Toe Assessment. All other skills will be on a pass/fail basis.

COMMUNICATION POLICY

- Electronic communication between the instructor and students in this course will utilize the South Plains College Blackboard and email systems. The instructor will not initiate communication using private email accounts. Students are encouraged to check SPC email regularly. Students will also have access to other materials which will be delivered via Blackboard. Students having difficulty accessing Blackboard or their email should immediately contact the help desk.

Email Policy:

- Students are expected to read and, if needed, respond in a timely manner to college e-mails. It is suggested that students check college e-mail daily to avoid missing time-sensitive or important college messages. Students may forward college e-mails to alternate e-mail addresses; however, SPC will not be held responsible for e-mails forwarded to alternate addresses.
- A student's failure to receive or read official communications sent to his/her assigned e-mail address in a timely manner does not absolve him/her from knowing and complying with the official communication's content.
- The official college e-mail address assigned to students can be revoked if it is determined students are utilizing it inappropriately. College e-mail must not be used to send offensive or disruptive messages nor to display messages that violate state or federal law
- Instructors try to respond to student emails during regular college business hours when faculty are on campus. Instructors are not required to answer emails after hours or on weekends/holidays.
- Students who use email inappropriately to faculty, students, staff, or others will be placed on probation for the first offense then dismissed from the program for a second offense.

Texting Faculty: Students should not text faculty via the faculty cell phone. Written communication should be by email, office phone, or personal notes. The faculty cell phone is for contact during clinical hours only and should not be used outside the clinical experience.

Students should notify their family in case of an emergency during normal class times, class will not be interrupted unless it is an emergency, so callers must identify themselves and say it is an emergency to get immediate action.

Students should notify their family in case of an emergency during clinical rotations, they should call and leave a message or text (who they are and who they need to get in touch with for an emergency) to the number or numbers provided to them in the clinical course syllabus and/or on the clinical course schedule.

STUDENT CONDUCT

Rules and regulations relating to the students at South Plains College are developed with the view of protecting the best interests of the individual, the general welfare of the entire student body and the educational objectives of the college. As in any segment of society, a college community must be guided by standards that are stringent enough to prevent disorder, yet moderate enough to provide an atmosphere conducive to intellectual and personal development.

A high standard of conduct is expected of all students. When a student enrolls at South Plains College, it is assumed that the student accepts the obligations of performance and behavior imposed by the college relevant to its lawful missions, processes, and functions. Obedience to the law, respect for properly constituted authority, personal honor, integrity, and common sense guide the actions of each member of the college community both in and out of the classroom. Students are subject to federal, state, and local laws, and South Plains College rules and regulations. A student is not entitled to greater immunities or privileges before the law than those enjoyed by other citizens. Students are subject to reasonable disciplinary action as the college administration may consider appropriate, including suspension and expulsion in appropriate cases for breach of federal, state or local laws, or college rules and regulations. This principle extends to conduct off-campus which is likely to have adverse effects on the college or on the educational process which identifies the offender as an unfit associate for fellow students.

Any student who fails to perform according to expected standards may be asked to withdraw.

Rules and regulations regarding student conduct appear in the current Student Guide.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

Cell phones are not allowed in either the classroom or the labs. Cell phones must be placed in the assigned area during all classes, labs, and exams. Furthermore, they must be turned to silent so as not to disrupt classes, labs, or exams.

ACCOMMODATIONS

For college policy statements related to Intellectual Exchange Statements, Disabilities Statements, Non-Discrimination Statements, Title IX Pregnancy Accommodations Statements, CARE, Campus Concealed Carry Statements, COVID-19

visit: [https://www.southplainscollege.edu/syllabusstatements/.](https://www.southplainscollege.edu/syllabusstatements/)

Be aware you must still hold a LTC to carry on our campus. Also, there is a NO Carry Policy at all within ANY clinical facility.

FOUNDATION SKILLS

BASIC SKILLS—Reads, Writes, Performs Arithmetic and Mathematical Operations, Listens and Speaks

F-1 Reading—locates, understands, and interprets written information in prose and in documents such as manuals, graphs, and schedules.

F-2 Writing—communicates thoughts, ideas, information, and messages in writing and creates documents such as letters, directions, manuals, reports, graphs, and flow charts.

F-3 Arithmetic—performs basic computations; uses basic numerical concepts such as whole numbers, etc.

F-4 Mathematics—approaches practical problems by choosing appropriately from a variety of mathematical techniques.

F-5 Listening—receives, attends to, interprets, and responds to verbal messages and other cues.

F-6 Speaking—organizes ideas and communicates orally.

THINKING SKILLS—Thinks Creatively, Makes Decisions, Solves Problems, Visualizes and Knows How to Learn and Reason

F-7 Creative Thinking—generates innovative ideas.

F-8 Decision-Making—specifies goals and constraints, generates alternatives, considers risks, evaluates, and chooses the best alternative.

F-9 Problem Solving—recognizes problems, devises, and implements plan of action.

F-10 Seeing Things in the Mind's Eye—organizes and processes symbols, pictures, graphs, objects, and other information.

F-11 Knowing How to Learn—uses efficient learning techniques to acquire and apply new knowledge and skills.

F-12 Reasoning—discovers a rule or principle underlying the relationship between two or more objects and applies it when solving a problem.

PERSONAL QUALITIES—Displays Responsibility, Self-Esteem, Sociability, Self-Management, Integrity, and Honesty

F-13 Responsibility—exerts a high level of effort and perseveres towards goal attainment.

F-14 Self-Esteem—believes in own self-worth and maintains a positive view of self.

F-15 Sociability—demonstrates understanding, friendliness, adaptability, empathy, and politeness in group settings.

F-16 Self-Management—assesses self accurately, sets personal goals, monitors progress, and exhibits self-control.

F-17 Integrity/Honesty—chooses ethical courses of action.

SCANS COMPETENCIES

C-1 **TIME** - Selects goal - relevant activities, ranks them, allocates time, prepares, and follows schedules.

C-2 **MONEY** - Uses or prepares budgets, makes forecasts, keeps records and adjusts to meet goals.

C-3 **MATERIALS AND FACILITIES** - Acquires, stores, allocates, and uses materials or space efficiently.

C-4 **HUMAN RESOURCES** - Assesses skills and distributes work, evaluates performance, and provides feedback.

INFORMATION - Acquires and Uses Information

C-5 Acquires and evaluates information.

C-6 Organizes and maintains information.

C-7 Interprets and communicates information.

C-8 Uses computers to process information.

INTERPERSONAL–Works with Others

C-9 Participates as a member of a team and contributes to group effort.

C-10 Teaches others new skills.

C-11 Serves Clients/Customers–works to satisfy customer’s expectations.

C-12 Exercises Leadership–communicates ideas to justify position, persuades and convinces others, responsibly challenges existing procedures and policies.

C-13 Negotiates–works toward agreements involving exchanges of resources; resolves divergent interests.

C-14 Works with Diversity–works well with men and women from diverse backgrounds.

SYSTEMS–Understands Complex Interrelationships

C-15 Understands Systems–knows how social, organizational, and technological systems work and operate effectively with them.

C-16 Monitors and Corrects Performance–distinguishes trends, predicts impacts on system operations, diagnoses systems performance and corrects malfunctions.

C-17 Improves or Designs Systems–suggests modifications to existing systems and develops new or alternative systems to improve performance.

TECHNOLOGY–Works with a Variety of Technologies

C-18 Selects Technology–chooses procedures, tools, or equipment, including computers and related technologies.

C-19 Applies Technology to Task–understands overall intent and proper procedures for setup and operation of equipment.

C-20 Maintains and Troubleshoots Equipment–prevents, identifies, or solves problems with equipment, including computers and other technologies.

Course Schedule

Located on Blackboard

<https://www.southplainscollege.edu/syllabusstatements/>

Maternal-Neonatal Nursing Syllabus Contract

Print Name: _____

I have read the Maternal-Neonatal Nursing syllabus and schedule.

I have had the opportunity to ask questions.

I understand the course requirements and expectations.

I understand and agree that, in order to successfully complete this class, I must do the following:

- Achieve an overall score of at least 76%
- Have no more than 2 absences

Signed: _____ Date: _____