



NURS-221 – Professional Practice 3

Health and Human Services

Effective Term & Year: Fall 2026

Course Outline Review Date: 2031-03-01

Program Area: Health

Description:

Professional Practice 3: Nursing Ethics

In this course, students focus on the growing body of knowledge related to nursing ethics. Beginning with an understanding of bio-medical ethics that have dominated nursing ethics in the past and moving to an understanding of developing ethical theory related to nursing and nursing issues. Students explore nursing ethics in the context of their nursing practice.

Program Information:

This course is required for the second year (semester three) of the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) Program. The materials in this course represent a component of a four-year integrated BSN program.

Delivery Methods: On-campus (Face-to-Face)

Credit Type: College of the Rockies Credits

Credits: 3

Instructional Activity and Hours:

Activity	Hours
Classroom, Directed Studies or Online Instruction	42
Seminar/Tutorials	

Laboratory/Studio	
Practicum/Field Experience	
Co-op/Work Experience	
Other	
Total	42

Course Requisites:

- Complete all of the following
 - Prerequisites: Satisfactory completion of the first year of the BSN program.
 - Completed or concurrently enrolled in:
 - [NURS210](#) – Health & Healing 3 (6)
 - [NURS215](#) – Nursing Practice 2 (8)

Prior Learning and Recognition: No

Course Transfer Credit:

For information about receiving transfer credit for courses taken at either British Columbia or Alberta institutions, please see <https://www.bctransferguide.ca/> or <https://transferalberta.alberta.ca> . For more transfer credit information, please visit <https://www.cotr.bc.ca/Transfer>

All requests for course transfer credit from institutions in British Columbia or elsewhere should go to the College of the Rockies Enrolment Services office.

Textbook Resources:

Textbook selection varies by instructor and may change from year to year. At the Course Outline Effective Date, the following textbooks were in use:

No textbook. See COTROnline for reading schedule.

Learning Outcomes:

Upon the successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- examine and evaluate traditional and emergent ethical theories in relation to ethics in healthcare;

- examine nursing and other professional and cultural codes of ethics for their application in professional practice;
- recognize the influence of moral foundations and concepts on personal and professional ethical decisions and actions;
- examine contemporary ethical issues within the moral climate of nursing;
- discuss ethical dilemmas encountered in nursing practice;
- integrate an ethical decision-making framework to inform ethical reasoning and judgement to professional practice in healthcare contexts; and
- enact ethically responsible decisions in the role of a nurse in a variety of health care contexts.

Course Topics:

Process

Praxis is the underlying process that is used in the course. Students critically examine how nurses act as moral agents and wrestle with such questions as “What is good?”, “How shall I do good?”, “What is good nursing practice?” Through discussion and critical reflection, students engage as active participants in exploring ethical nursing practice and how ethical decision making is enacted in nursing practice. Critical reflection, values, experiences, and theory are integrated. Students engage in interactive learning processes.

Featured Concepts

- Equity
- Ethics
- Leadership
- Reconciliation

See instructor’s syllabus for the detailed outline of weekly readings, activities and assignments.

Evaluation and Assessments

Assessment Type: On-Campus (face-to-face)

Assessment Type	% of Total Grade
Quiz #1	20%
Quiz #2	30%
Participation	20%
Assignment	30%
Total	100%

Grade Scheme

A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D	F
>=95	94-90	89-85	84-80	79-75	74-70	69-65	64-60			<60

Pass requirements:

An overall average of C (60%) or higher is required to pass this course.

Additional related information/policies:

Nursing Program Evaluation Information

Please see the course syllabus for specific classroom policies related to this course, such as details of evaluation, penalties for late assignments, resubmission of assignments, and use of electronic aids.

ATTENDANCE AND ASSIGNMENT REQUIREMENTS:

- [Policy 2.1.6 Progression and Re-admission – Bachelor of Science in Nursing](#)

Exam Attendance:

Students must attend all scheduled exams at the appointed time and place. Instructors may approve an alternate exam to accommodate an illness or personal crisis. Department heads will consider other written requests. Any student who misses a scheduled exam without prior approval will receive a “0” on the exam.

Academic Policies:

College of the Rockies policies related to courses can be found at <https://cotr.bc.ca/about-us/college-policies/> and include the following:

- Policy 2.1.4 Course Audit
- Policy 2.4.1 Credential Framework
- Policy 2.4.3 Students with Documented Disabilities
- Policy 2.4.4 Student Rights, Responsibilities and Conduct
- Policy 2.4.8 Academic Performance
- Policy 2.4.9 Student Feedback and Concerns
- Policy 2.4.11 Storage of Academic Works
- Policy 2.5.3 Student Appeal
- Policy 2.5.5 Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR)

Course Changes:

The College of the Rockies updates course outlines regularly to meet changing educational, employment and marketing needs. The instructor will notify students in writing of any updates to this outline during the semester. The instructor reserves the right to revise, add or delete material while meeting the learning outcomes of this course outline.