Critical Issues in Professional Nursing
NRS 410 - 3 Credit Hours
Doane College – Grand Island Campus

Course Description
This course will explore critical issues impacting the practice of nursing. Students will expand their knowledge of current and emerging issues that affect nursing practice. Students will develop an awareness of the need for flexibility and preparation to adapt to a changing society, technological and scientific innovations. This class will provide a forum for discussion related to important issues that nurses face across the health care continuum.

Class Meeting Times
Thursdays: 6:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Adjunct Professor
Kay Kiechel-White BA, MAA, RN
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Resources: journal articles, newspaper, video’s, interviews, books, professional organizations

Course Objectives
Identify critical issues that may impact the practice of nursing.
Critically evaluate the issues related to nursing and health care.
Develop strategies for personal application to your nursing practice.
Evaluate your professional responsibilities in relationship to the issues.

Course Format
This course will be conducted in interactive group discussion and activities relevant to the topic. Class preparation, attendance and participation are essential.

Assessment and Class Policies
Students will be able to obtain 200 points as follows:
- 80 points Class participation, each class 10 points.
- 80 points Class preparation, each class 10 points.
- 40 points Application papers using APA format.

Grading scale
97-100 % = A+
93-96 % = A
89-92 % = B+
85-88 % = B
81–84 % = C+
76–80 % = C
70-76 % = D
Below 70% = F

Course Schedule
WEEK 1, August 23rd: Orientation, Hand-out and resource for application papers and course topics for student choice to be determined.
TOPIC for Week 1: Medical Technology: Impact on health care/nursing
ASSIGNMENT: Bring two articles to class related to the topic. These will be handed in to the instructor at the end of class.

Week 2, August 30th
Student Choice: #1
#2

Faculty Choice:

Week 3, September 6th
Student Choice: #1
#2

Faculty Choice:

Week 4, September 13th
Student Choice: #1
#2

Faculty Choice:

Week 5, September 27th
Student Choice: #1
#2

Faculty Choice:

Week 6, October 4th
Student Choice: #1
#2

Faculty Choice:

Week 7, October 11th
Student Choice: #1
#2

Faculty Choice:

Week 8, October 18th Student Choice: #1
#2

Faculty Choice: