**University of Alaska Anchorage**

**College of Health**

**Course Content Guide**

1. **Date of Initiation: November 2011**
2. **Curriculum Action Request**

A. School: College of Health

B. Course Subject: NS

C. Course Number: A442

D. Number of Credits: 3

E. Contact Hours: 3+0

F. Course Program: Bachelor of Science, Nursing Science

G. Course Title: Introduction to Forensic Nursing

H. Grading Basis: A-F

I. Implementation Date: Summer 2012

J. Cross-listed/Stacked: N/A

K. Course Description: Provides an overview of forensic nursing. Explores the etiology of interpersonal violence, intentional injury and trauma in relation to victim and/or perpetrator populations. Develops understanding of the collaborative and multidisciplinary role of this specialty.

L. Course Prerequisites: Grade of C or higher in (NS A313 & NS A315)

and P in (NS A313L & NS A315L)

M. Test Scores: N/A

N. Course Co-requisites: N/A

O. Other Restrictions: N/A

P. Registration Restrictions: RN licensure in the State of Alaska

Q. Course Fees: Yes

**III. Instructional Goals and Student Learning Outcomes**

A. The instructor will:

1. Provide an overview of the field of forensic nursing, incorporating the intersection of nursing and law with forensic principles

2. Expand awareness of the scope and prevalence of interpersonal violence,

injury and traumatic events in society and their impact on the health of

populations

3. Explore the roles, principles and philosophy of forensic nursing as applicable

to general, specialized and advanced practice settings

4. Guide students in developing the knowledge and skills for appropriate

prevention and intervention strategies for victims and/or perpetrators of crime and/or traumatic events

B. Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

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| **Student Learning Outcomes and Assessment Measures** | |
| **Student Learning Outcomes** | **Measures** |
| 1. Explain the role of the forensic nurse as a collaborative and multidisciplinary professional in criminal justice, public health and psychosocial services | Discussion board submissions  Written case study analysis  Reflective analysis paper  Computer-aided virtual lab |
| 1. Describe the scope, prevalence and incidence of interpersonal violence, crime, injury and trauma in society | Community mapping activities  Discussion board submissions  Computer-aided virtual lab |
| 1. Discuss the role of culture, gender, power and control in the continuum of violence and injury and its impact on the health of populations | Discussion board submissions  Written case study analysis  Reflective analysis paper |
| 1. Analyze the role of the nurse in the screening, assessment and planning for care of victims and/or perpetrators of crime and/or traumatic events | Discussion board submissions  Written case study analysis  Reflective analysis paper  Computer-aided virtual lab |
| 1. Employ the principles of prevention in the formation of appropriate interventions at the local, state and national level. | Discussion board submissions  Written case study analysis  Reflective analysis paper  Computer-aided virtual lab |

**IV. Course Level Justification**

This is an elective course in the Bachelor of Science, Nursing Science program. As an

elective course, it is designed to build upon and provide greater depth of content, expand critical thinking skills, and utilize research findings in the planning and provision of care.

**V. Topical Course Outline**

1. Introduction to forensic nursing
   1. Forensic nursing principles
   2. Criminal justice
   3. Psychosocial services
   4. Legal system overview
2. Epidemiology of interpersonal violence, trauma and intentional injury
   1. Epidemiology of injuries related to violence/trauma
      1. Scope
      2. Incidence
      3. Prevalence
   2. Etiology of victims and perpetrators
3. Dynamics of IPV, trauma and intentional injury of victims and/or perpetrators
   1. Power & control
   2. Gender
   3. Socio-cultural
4. Interventions with forensic nursing populations
   1. Screening and assessment
   2. Documentation
   3. Evidence
5. Dimensions of care related to IPV, trauma and intentional injury across the lifespan
   1. Violence
      1. Sexual assault
      2. Domestic violence
   2. Criminal activity
      1. Sex trafficking
      2. Homicide
      3. Suicide
   3. Civil wrongs
      1. Motor vehicle accidents
      2. Terrorism
   4. Mass trauma events
6. Application of forensic nursing principles
   1. General nursing practice
      1. Acute care
      2. Community health
   2. Specialized practice/advanced practice
      1. Sexual assault
      2. Child abuse
      3. Psychological services
      4. Death investigation
      5. Corrections
      6. Legal consultants
   3. Professional nursing practice
      1. Ethics
      2. Scope of practice
      3. Professional activities
7. Application of forensic nursing principles to prevention activities
   1. Prevention at the individual, community and system level
      1. Primary
      2. Secondary
      3. Tertiary
   2. Resources
      1. Local
      2. State
      3. National
8. **Suggested Text(s)**

Hammer, R. M., Moynihan, B., & Pagliaro, E. M. (2013). *Forensic nursing: A handbook for practice.* (2nd ed. ). Sudbury, MA: Jones & Bartlett.

1. **Bibliography**

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