*Please note this is a sample course outline, you will be provided with a confirmed course outline with scheduling details on your first day of class.

**Lead Instructor:** Dr. Sherry Espin  
**Lead Instructor Phone:** 416-979-5000 x 7993  
**Lead Instructor e-mail:** sespin@ryerson.ca  
**Office and Hours:** POD468F

Every effort will be made to manage the course as stated. However, adjustments may be necessary at the discretion of the instructor. If so, students will be advised and alterations discussed in the class prior to implementation.

It is the responsibility of students to ensure that they understand the University’s policies and procedures, in particular those relating to course management and academic integrity. A list of relevant policies is included at the end of this outline.

**Course hours:** 3 hours/week  
**Pre-requisites:** None

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**
This course will examine current political, economic, and social complexities of current health care delivery systems. Current issues and future perspectives in health care will be critically analyzed in relation to their implication for and their influence on the organized profession, individual nurses, and nursing practice. Students will be expected to take personal and professional action in addressing some of these issues through their use of the political process and in the application of research findings. At a beginning level, students will participate in the development of health and social policy.
COURSE OBJECTIVE/LEARNING OUTCOMES:

By the end of this course the student will be able to develop an:

1. Understanding of the organizational structures, formal and informal processes of the federal, provincial, and local health care systems
2. Skills in critical analysis of the effect of society's legislative, political, economic, and social factors on nursing and health care
3. Critical analytic abilities related to the purposes and relationships among the major nursing organizations
4. Ability to articulate and debate selected current issues in nursing in terms of their origins, ethical considerations, effects, and implications for the future
5. Ability to articulate personal values and behaviours as related to one's own professional nursing practice
6. Realistic and creative strategies for identifying trends and addressing issues in nursing and health care, focusing on individual action as well as political and policy initiatives
7. Ability to apply political action and other strategies related to nursing and health care issues in own clinical practice
8. Ability to analyze and synthesize information related to nursing and health care issues verbally, in writing, and under time constraints

TEXTBOOK & READING LISTS:


OTHER MATERIALS:

Students are required to register with the Point using the access code from the McIntyre and McDonald textbook to access all weekly required reading as indicated in the weekly schedule.

METHOD OF INSTRUCTION:

Discussion, Facilitation, Debate, Exam
Methodologies stimulating classroom participation, active discussion, and debate may include guest experts, teamwork, personal reflection, and debate presentation by students.

METHOD AND SCHEDULE OF STUDENT EVALUATION:

Methods of Evaluation:

Evaluation: Online participation, assignments, tests, examinations, and papers.
**Scheduled Hours:**

1) **Hybrid Version:** (2 hours class/1 hour online)

2) **Distance Education Version:**
   All components of the course contain a hybrid of conventional in-class and online course delivery modes. The online component is delivered via Blackboard course management system while scheduled in-class time may consist of a combination of lectures, tutorials, small group work, tests, and exams as determined by each instructor.

**Post Diploma Distance Education Course: Online** (3 hours online)
   All components of the course consist of a fully online course delivery modality, via Blackboard.

**Assignments:**

Mid-term Exam 20%
Team Debate Presentation 50%
   - 30% Individual
   - 20% Team
Final Exam 30%

**Online:**
1. Mid-term Exam 20%
2. Team Debate Presentation 20%
3. Participation 30%
4. Final Exam 30%

**MISSED TERM WORK OR EXAMINATIONS:**

Students are expected to complete all tests, and exams within the identified time frames and by the dates indicated in this outline and these dates/times and the course syllabus that will be provided day 1 of class. Consideration for a deferral of a term test, or final examination is only permitted for a medical or personal emergency or due to religious observance (request must be received within the first two weeks of the course). The instructor must be notified by e-mail prior to the test/exam date, and the appropriate documentation must be submitted. For absence on medical or religious observance grounds, official forms may be downloaded from the Ryerson website at [www.ryerson.ca/undergraduate/currentstudents/forms](http://www.ryerson.ca/undergraduate/currentstudents/forms)
Expectations of Students

Ryerson School of Nursing Handbook, Post Diploma Degree students, Bachelor of Science in Nursing.

Course Policies:

1. **Student Code of Conduct:** Students must be familiar with and abide by all University and School of Nursing policies including the “Student Code of Academic Conduct”, the “Student Code of Non-Academic Conduct” and “Professional Conduct”. A student may be WITHDRAWN from the nursing program for reasons of unprofessional behaviour or professional misconduct.

2. All students are **required to activate and maintain a Ryerson Matrix email account and access Ryerson mail on a regular basis.**

3. Students need to inform faculty of any situation that arises during the semester which may have an adverse effect upon their academic performance and that they **must** request any necessary considerations (e.g. medical or compassionate), or accommodations [e.g. religious observance, disability (should be registered with the Access Centre), etc.] according to policies and well in advance. **Failure to do so will jeopardize any academic appeals.**

4. **Turnitin,** an electronic plagiarism detection service, may be used. Students who do not want their work submitted to this plagiarism detection service must, by the end of the second week of class, consult with the instructor to make alternate arrangements. When an instructor has reason to suspect that an individual piece of work has been plagiarized, the instructor shall be permitted to submit that work to any plagiarism detection service.

You will be expected to submit your paper through the turnitin system. Details of how to submit your paper will be provided in week 1.

5. All students enrolled in the Post Diploma Degree Completion Program in Nursing must have valid or pending registration with the College of Nurses of Ontario (CNO). Students are required to notify the School of Nursing of any change in CNO registration status. Failure to attain/maintain CNO registration will result in WITHDRAWAL from the Nursing course(s) and a REQUIRED TO WITHDRAW status from the program. The exception to the policy of CNO registration are those students from an approved bridging program.

6. Requests for accommodation of specific religious or spiritual observance must be presented to the instructor no later than two weeks prior to the conflict in question (in the case of final examinations within two weeks of the release of the examination schedule). In extenuating circumstances this deadline may be extended. If the dates are not known well in advance because they are linked to other conditions, requests should be submitted as soon as possible in advance of the required observance. Given that timely requests will prevent difficulties with arranging constructive accommodations, students are strongly encouraged to notify instructors of an observance accommodation issue within the first two weeks of classes. To facilitate timely requests and decision making, the University will take all practical steps to ensure that students and instructors are aware of the policy and related observance issues.
All policies can be found at www.ryerson.ca/acadcouncil

Students are expected to be familiar with all University and School of Nursing policies concerning academic performance (e.g. academic misconduct, submission of late assignments, etc.) and academic integrity. Please refer to the Post Diploma Degree Nursing Program Student Handbook and to the Ryerson University Calendar for detailed information regarding academic policies and integrity.

Professionalism in our Learning Community

Students and faculty within the school of nursing are colleagues in nursing. All members of our learning community are expected to act with professionalism and academic integrity. Honesty is the basic hallmark of academic integrity (http://www.ryerson.ca/~acadpol/policies.html). Community members are expected to credit others’ ideas in written work, make a fair contribution to group work, and behave with integrity during tests and exams. Trust, respect and fairness are values that underpin effective collaboration and life-long learning (The Center for Academic Integrity, 1999). The Ryerson, Centennial, George Brown Collaborative Nursing Degree program and The Ryerson Post RN Nursing Degree Program expect students to listen to one another’s viewpoints and to be respectful in communication. Students are required to attend all classes and labs, to be prepared, to be on time and to give adequate notice if circumstances prevent them from attending. Positive collegial professional relationships between students and faculty members contribute to excellence in both nursing education and nursing practice.

“The Recipient of Health Care is Considered the End Goal of Nursing Education” (Final Candidacy Report, 2004, p. 13).

Post Diploma Degree students must also maintain their College of Nurses registration.


Students with disabilities that require academic adaptations or services may discuss their needs with the course instructor and/or contact the Student Services Access Centre 285 Victoria Street, BUS-lower level and 350 Victoria Street, JOR-300 phone: (416) 979-5290 (voice), (416) 979-5274 (TDD/TTY), fax: (416) 979-5094 e-mail: accesctr@ryerson.ca Those with learning disabilities or attention deficit disorders may contact the Access Centre Annex at 55 Gould St., lower level, also at (416) 979-5290.

Note: Promotion Policies

Students must achieve a grade of ‘C’ or above in all nursing theory and practice courses (all NCL, NUC, NUR courses) in order to be eligible to enroll in nursing courses in subsequent semesters.

Students who earn a grade of ‘C-’ or below in any nursing theory or practice course will be given a PROBATIONARY Standing regardless of their overall GPA.

Students will remain on PROBATION until they receive a grade of ‘C’ or above in all nursing courses.

Students on PROBATION who earn a grade of ‘C-’ or below in a nursing theory course other than the nursing theory course(s) in which they previously obtained a grade of ‘C-’ or below, OR who receive a first time ‘C-’ or below in a nursing practice course, will be given a REQUIRED TO WITHDRAW status.
Students who receive a second grade of ‘C-’ or below in the same nursing theory course (either a repeated or subsequent practice course) will result in a PERMANENT PROGRAM WITHDRAWAL Standing. This variation will be enacted even when the student has taken less than three courses and has not acquired a cumulative grade point average.

At any point during the academic year, the School of Nursing reserves the right to terminate a student’s experience in a nursing practice setting when patterns of behaviour place self, clients or others at risk. This will result in the student receiving an 'F' grade for the course. In this circumstance, students shall have established rights of appeal; however, they cannot remain in the course while the appeal is underway. The appeal will be conducted promptly in order to protect students’ rights.

The student may be assigned PERMANENT PROGRAM WITHDRAWAL from the Nursing program for reasons of unprofessional behaviour or professional misconduct.

All nursing theory courses must be completed within five years of the prerequisite professional course. (For example, no more than five years can elapse between completion of Year 1 professional courses and enrollment in Year 2 professional courses.)