Mennonite College of Nursing
Illinois State University
2010 - 2011
College Success Plan

Purpose: To provide:

- an assessment of each student's ability to understand and apply theoretical and clinical knowledge related to clinical courses as they progress through the curriculum

- an assessment of each students’ preparedness to be successful on the NCLEX-RN

- intervention guidelines and strategies that address any deficiencies a student may demonstrate in understanding and applying theoretical and clinical knowledge related to clinical courses

Assumptions:

Faculty members believe in a unified approach in preparing students to take the NCLEX-RN and function as safe, effective registered nurses. Mastery exams given prior to the completion of each semester are to be used as a guide in determining acquisition of knowledge and application of content area. Exams given during a students’ final academic semester will be used to determine a students’ readiness to take the NCLEX-RN and function as a registered nurse.

- It is imperative that faculty create an academic culture that is both challenging and caring.

- All students at the College will participate in success plan testing during all four semesters of the Nursing Major.

- Faculty members believe that Mastery testing throughout the curriculum is a valid way to assist students in preparing to take the NCLEX-RN and function as registered nurses.

- Faculty members support use of standardized tests within their courses as a teaching tool. This includes the administration and review of such tests

- Students will understand the seriousness to which they should approach mastery and readiness testing.

- Students will actively participate in any proposed interventions for noted deficiencies in knowledge and skill acquisition essential for passing the NCLEX-RN.
Evaluation Criteria:

The Success Plan is to be evaluated by the UPC/CC at the end of each semester. A report should be completed by the committee and available to all faculty members. Items to consider in the evaluation process will include:

- NCLEX-RN pass/fail rates
- Appropriateness of Mastery exams/Nurse Predictor
- Alternative approaches to conducting exams
- Faculty utilization of suggested classroom/clinical interventions
- Date analysis by faculty at the end of each semester

SUCCESS PLAN GUIDELINES

1. All prelicensure students will participate in the Success Plan.

2. Students are required to take each mastery exam as scheduled for the academic year. Exams are administered during scheduled computer lab hours. These hours will vary depending on the level of the student.

3. Mastery exams are secured exams and only administered in the computer lab under the supervision of an exam proctor. Success plan testing proctors are Cathi Kaesberg, Jeff Grab, and the Computer Lab GA. Unsecured exams are non-proctored and can be taken from any computer with the appropriate specifications. Non-proctored exams can be taken an unlimited number of times.

4. If you have scheduled an exam and can't attend the session because of an emergency or illness. Please contact the computer lab at 3094382701.

5. All students that fail to pass their designated success plan test are required to research each of the “topics to study” that can be found in the “test results” section of the ATI website. Each student must present evidence that the self-remediation process has been completed prior to attending a review session with Cathi Kaesberg prior to retesting. This “topics to study” documentation should be submitted to Cathi Kaesberg prior to the review session.

6. The Graduate Nurse Predictor exam is administered only once. There is no opportunity for remediation and retesting. Students taking the Graduate Nurse Predictor exam are required to achieve a 70% on the exam as designated in the syllabus for Management and Leadership Dimensions (327). A G.N.P. score less than 74% mandates that the student take the I.S.U. sponsored N.C.L.E.X. review course. Verification of registration and payment for the course is required before the Management and Leadership Dimensions course grade will be submitted. Students with a G.N.P. score under 70% will receive an “incomplete” for Management and Leadership Dimensions (327). These students are required to take the I.S.U. sponsored N.C.L.E.X. review course and achieve a 65% on the post-course readiness test. Paperwork pertaining to N.C.L.E.X. testing will not be signed and mailed from the College until the student successfully completes the review course. Should the student not assess NCLEX-RN ready following the review course (post-review course readiness test less than 65%), an individualized remediation program will be initiated until the student can demonstrate NCLEX readiness.

7. Students are required to comply with all success plan guidelines in order to progress from semester to semester at the College. All students are required to maintain academic integrity for all success plan testing.
Fundamentals - review module

Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS) – 3 hours total – may be taken in sections

Explanation: The TEAS consists of four content areas: Math, Reading, English, and Science. All subtests contain multiple-choice items with one correct answer. The reporting system for the TEAS includes a composite score for each of the four general areas. Sixteen sub-scores are generated within these categories to assess specific content mastery. The TEAS is scored as a percent correct score which creates a profile of the student's academic performance. The TEAS score is beneficial in predicting the likelihood of academic success and provides opportunity for early intervention. All TEAS testing is on-line and must be completed by February 9th – 2010.

Math - This subtest covers whole numbers, metric conversion, fractions and decimals, algebraic equations, percentages and ratio/proportion.

Reading - This subtest covers paragraph comprehension, passage comprehension, and inferences/conclusions.

English - This subtest measures knowledge of punctuation, grammar, sentence structure, contextual words and spelling.

Science - This subtest covers science reasoning, science knowledge, biology, chemistry, anatomy and physiology, basic physical principles and general science.

Fundamentals of Nursing - unsecured exam (non-proctored)

Explanation: The Fundamentals of Nursing unsecured exam is designed to assist students with preparation for the secured exam. All unsecured exams can be taken an unlimited number of times. Students will not be allowed to take the secured Fundamentals of Nursing exam until they have verified completion of the unsecured exam through printout submission. A score of 85% on the unsecured exam must be achieved before secured testing is allowed.

Fundamentals of Nursing - secured exam – 1.5 hours

Explanation: This test has content areas that include foundations of practice, health care continuum, holistic healing, nursing process, growth and development, helping relationships, basic communication, teaching and learning, leadership, management and change, health assessment, basic nursing skills, preoperative nursing care, supporting sensory perceptual functioning and basic comfort care needs. Students must complete on-line testing by the 10th week of their 1st session junior year. The student must achieve a minimum score of 70% Failure of the exam mandates remediation and retesting prior to the beginning of the next semester. Contact Cathi Kaesberg @3094382522. A final course grade in Adult Nursing 1 will not be awarded until success plan requirements have be achieved.
Critical Thinking Assessment – entrance – 1 hour

Explanation: This non-nursing exam assesses the student's ability to use the critical thinking process. The test evaluates mastery of interpretation, analysis, evaluation, inference, explanation and self-regulation. Students will complete the on-line critical thinking of the 2nd week of the semester and Adult 1 clinical Lab experience.

Mental Health exam – 1 hour

Explanation: This 60 item test covers areas pertaining to various mental health disorders, therapeutic milieu, stress and crisis management, and issues related to special populations. Students must complete on-line testing by the 10th week of the second session junior status. The student must achieve a minimum score of 75%. Unsecured and secured testing is mandatory. Failure of the exam mandates remediation and retesting prior to the beginning of the next semester. Contact Cathi Kaesberg @438-2522. The unsecured exam is to be used as preparation for the secured exam. Students will not be allowed to take the secured Mental Health exam until they have verified completion of the unsecured exam through printout submission. A score of 85% on the unsecured exam must be achieved before secured testing is allowed. A course grade will not be submitted for Mental Health until all success plan requirements are achieved.

Pharmacology exam – 1 hour

Explanation: This is a 75 item exam that covers dosage and fluid calculations, drug relationships and interactions, medication administrations and general pharmacological principles. Students must complete on-line testing by the 10th week of their 2nd session junior status. The student must achieve a minimum score of 75%. Unsecured and secured testing is mandatory. The unsecured exam is to be used as preparation for the secured exam. All unsecured exams can be taken an unlimited number of times. Students will not be allowed to take the secured Patho/Pharm exam until they have verified completion of the unsecured exam through printout submission. A score of 85% on the unsecured exam must be achieved before secured testing is allowed. A course grade will not be submitted for Patho/Pharm 2 until all success plan requirements are achieved.
Community Health exam – 1 hour

Explanation: This is a 60 item test that assesses overall mastery of content related to application of community health principles in various settings. Health and wellness promotion across the lifespan is featured. Students must complete on-line testing by the 10th week of their 3rd session senior status. Unsecured and secured testing is mandatory. All unsecured exams can be taken an unlimited number of times. Students will not be allowed to take the secured Community Health exam until they have verified completion of the unsecured exam through printout submission. A score of 85% on the unsecured exam must be achieved before secured testing is allowed. The pass score for the proctored community health exam is 75%. A course grade will not be submitted for Community Health until all success plan requirements are achieved.

Maternal - Newborn Care exam – 1 hour

Explanation: This 60 item test includes items related to women's health care, normal physiological and psychological changes in pregnancy, normal and complicated antepartum, intrapartum and postpartum care. Normal and complicated newborn care, pharmacologic interventions, nutritional care and cultural considerations are also included. Students must complete on-line testing by the 9th week of their 3rd session senior status. The student must achieve a minimum score of 75%. Unsecured and secured testing is mandatory. Failure of the exam mandates remediation and retesting prior to the beginning of the next semester. Contact Cathi Kaesberg @438-2522. The unsecured exam is to be used as preparation for the secured exam. All unsecured exams can be taken an unlimited number of times. Students will not be allowed to take the secured Parent-Child exam until they have verified completion of the unsecured exam through printout submission. A score of 85% on the unsecured exam must be achieved before secured testing is allowed. A course grade will not be submitted for Parent-Child Nursing until all success plan requirements are achieved.

Nursing Care of Children exam – 1 hour

Explanation: This 60 item test includes content items pertaining to the body systems, growth and development, pharmacotherapeutics, fluid and electrolytes and nutritional care of the child. Students must complete on-line testing by the 9th week of their 2nd semester senior year. The student must achieve a minimum score of 75%. Unsecured and secured testing is mandatory. Failure of the exam mandates remediation and retesting prior to the beginning of the next semester. Contact Cathi Kaesberg @438-2522. The unsecured exam is to be used as preparation for the secured exam. The unsecured exam is to be used as preparation for the secured exam. Students will not be allowed to take the secured Nursing Care of Children exam until they have verified completion of the unsecured exam through printout submission. A score of 85% on the unsecured exam must be achieved before secured testing is allowed. The pass score for the Nursing Care of Children proctored exam is 75%. A course grade will not be submitted for Parent-Child Nursing until all success plan requirements are achieved.
Medical-Surgical exam – 1.5 hours

Explanation: This 90 item test covers content pertaining to bodily systems, pharmacology, fluid, electrolyte and nutritional care topics. Communication techniques and cultural considerations are integrated throughout the test. Students must complete on-line testing by the 11th week of their 4th session senior status. The student must achieve a minimum score of 75%. Unsecured and secured testing is mandatory. Failure of the exam mandates remediation and retesting prior to the beginning of the next semester. Contact Cathi Kaesberg@438-2522. The unsecured exam is to be used as preparation for the secured exam. All unsecured exams can be taken an unlimited number of times. Students will not be allowed to take the secured Medical-Surgical Nursing exam until they have verified completion of the unsecured exam through printout submission. A score of 85% on the unsecured exam must be achieved before secured testing is allowed. A course grade will not be submitted for Adult Nursing 3 until all success plan requirements are achieved.

Leadership exam - 1 hour

Explanation: This 60 item test assesses content relevant to issues of decision-making and management skills in the areas of safety, planning, supervision, counseling, delegation, collaboration and identification of client and staff needs. Students must complete on-line testing by the 10th week of their 4th session senior status. Unsecured and secured testing is mandatory. The unsecured exam is to be used as preparation for the secured exam. All unsecured exams can be taken an unlimited number of times. Students will not be allowed to take the secured Leadership exam until they have verified completion of the unsecured exam through printout submission. A score of 85% on the unsecured exam must be achieved before secured testing is allowed. A course grade will not be submitted for Leadership and Management Dimensions until all success plan requirements are achieved.

Comprehensive Predictor exam – 3 hours

Explanation: This is a secured 150 item assessment tool that is 96% accurate in predicting NCLEX-RN success. Scores are reported for content, nursing process, critical thinking and knowledge. This exam should be completed by the end of the 10th week of the students' final session. A score of 74% or above is considered a passing score. There is an unsecured version of this exam. Unsecured and secured testing is mandatory. The unsecured exam is to be used as preparation for the secured exam. All unsecured exams can be taken an unlimited number of times. Students will not be allowed to take the secured GNP exam until they have verified completion of the unsecured exam through printout submission. A score of 85% on the unsecured exam must be achieved before secured testing is allowed.

Students taking the Graduate Nurse Predictor exam are required to achieve a 70% on the exam as designated in the syllabus for Management and Leadership Dimensions (327). A G.N.P. score of less than 74% mandates that the student take the I.S.U. sponsored N.C.L.E.X. review course. Verification of registration and payment for the course is required before the Management and Leadership Dimensions course grade will be submitted. Students with a G.N.P. score under 74% will receive an “incomplete”
for Management and Leadership Dimensions (327). These students are required to take the I.S.U. sponsored N.C.L.E.X. review course and achieve a 68% on the post-course readiness test. Paperwork pertaining to N.C.L.E.X. testing will not be signed and mailed from the College until the student successfully completes the review course. Should the student not assess NCLEX-RN ready following the review course (post-review readiness less than 65%), an individualized remediation program will be initiated until the student can demonstrate NCLEX readiness.

Critical Thinking Assessment – exit – 1 hour

Explanation: This non-nursing exam assesses the student’s ability to use the critical thinking process. The test evaluates mastery of interpretation, analysis, evaluation, inference, explanation and self-regulation. There is no unsecured exam for this test. Students must complete the on-line critical thinking exam by the end of the 10th week of their 4th session senior status.