

**COURSE TITLE:** VNSG 2662 Clinical-Practical Nursing (LPN Training)  
**COURSE LEVEL:** Advanced—Level III  
**SEMESTER/YEAR:** Fall 2018  
**INSTRUCTORS:** All nursing faculty under the direction of Korbi Berryhill, MSN, RN  
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**OFFICE HOURS:** By appointment only

**SOUTH PLAINS COLLEGE IMPROVES EACH STUDENT’S LIFE**

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**I. GENERAL COURSE INFORMATION**

**Course Description:** A method of instruction providing detailed education, training and work-based experience and direct patient/client care, generally at a clinical site. On-site clinical instruction, supervision, evaluation and placement is the responsibility of the college faculty. Clinical experiences are unpaid external learning experiences.

**Course Learning Outcomes:** The student will apply the theory, concepts and skills involving specialized materials, equipment, procedures, regulations, laws and interactions within and among political, economic, environmental, social, legal systems associated with vocational nursing and health care; demonstrate legal and ethical behavior, safety practices, interpersonal teamwork skills, communicating in the applicable language of the health care.

**A. Course Goals.** This course continues to discuss the nursing concepts needed to develop the vocational nurse who

- Becomes a Member of the Profession
- Provider of Patient-Centered Care
- Is a Patient Safety Advocate
- Becomes a Member of the Health Care Team

This course meets the Secretaries Commission on Achieving Necessary Skills (SCANS) by developing the vocational nurse who

1. is prepared to practice within the legal, ethical and professional standards of

vocational nursing as a health care team member in a variety of roles, utilizing the nursing process; (C-1, C-4, C-5, C-6, C-7, C-8, C-9, C-10, C-11, C-14, C-15, C-18, C-19, F-1, F-2, F-3, F-4, F-5, F-6, F-7, F-8, F-9, F-10, F-11, F-12)

2. exhibits an awareness of the changing roles of the nurse; and, (C-2, C-4, C-5, C-6, C-7, C-8, C-9, C-10, C-11, C-12, C-13, C-14, F-1, F-2, F-3, F-4, F-5, F-6, F-7, F-8, F-9, F-10, F-11, F-12)
3. accepts responsibility for personal and professional growth. (F-13, F-14, F-15, F-16, F-17)

- B. Course Competencies.** The student will successfully complete all 2662 course competencies with a minimum “C” (75) in the course and follow safe nursing practices. See Course Objectives for all specific competencies required to exit this course successfully.
- C. Academic Integrity.** It is the aim of the faculty of South Plains College to foster a spirit of complete honesty and a high standard of integrity. The attempt of any student to present as his or her own work which he or she has not honestly performed is regarded by the faculty and administration as a most serious offense and renders the offender liable to serious consequences, possibly suspension.
- D. Verification of Workplace Competencies.** Successful completion of this course and all required theory courses entitles the student to receive a Certificate of Proficiency and to apply to write the examination for licensure (NCLEX-PN) to practice as a Licensed Vocational Nurse in the State of Texas.
- E. Course Objectives:** To exit this course and graduate from the VNP, the student must:
- **have a 75 or better average on the weekly clinical evaluations AND**
  - **must complete and turn in all required clinical paperwork (even if you are late and get a “0” for the work, it must be turned in complete by the end of the course) AND**
  - **maintain CPR and immunizations AND**
  - **complete a minimum of 5 hours of lab practice each month outside of scheduled (class) practice and submit the documents on time AND**
  - **complete BOTH sterile procedures (sterile dressing change or foley insertion) this semester AND**
  - **complete 90% or more on the skills checklist**
  - **Pass the summative evaluation at the end of the semester AND**
  - **have no more than three absences AND**
  - **practice within the student Scope of Practice, demonstrating movement to the graduate level of practice.**

## II. SPECIFIC COURSE/INSTRUCTOR REQUIREMENTS.

### A. CPR

All students must be CPR certified for BLS Provider to take this course.

**Should CPR expire during the middle of the course, the student is not allowed to attend clinicals until CPR is renewed, accruing absences.** It is the student's responsibility to maintain CPR, not the program's.

### B. Immunizations

A student must have all immunizations up-to-date prior to beginning this course. A student must have at least the first two Hepatitis B immunizations before beginning clinicals. Students must have current flu immunizations each fall or spring admission.

**Students who are not current with immunizations may not attend clinicals until up-to-date, accruing absences.** It is the student's responsibility to maintain immunizations.

### C. Checklist

The student is responsible for maintaining the clinical skills checklist. Both sterile skills must be completed by the end of this level. The checklist is due four (4) weeks prior to graduation and MUST be 90% complete. **Students with incomplete checklists are ineligible for graduation, fail the clinical course regardless of other grades, and must repeat this course and any other concurrent courses for this semester.**

It is the student's responsibility to maintain and complete the checklist. This checklist demonstrates the student's commitment to safe nursing practice.

### D. Clinical Preparation:

Preparing for clinical practice is a DUTY of the student vocational nurse and leads to **SAFE NURSING PRACTICE**. The student is required to prepare for clinical in such a way as to understand the medical diagnoses and medications, the implications of labs and diagnostics, the potential complications and the required nursing care.

Adequate preparation is a must. Students should plan for a minimum of 2 hours of prep time per day for each clinical experience.

**Students who arrive at clinical units, simulation, or other assigned clinical experiences unprepared will be sent home as "absent" no matter when the unpreparedness is discovered!** If the student knows he or she is unprepared, a better decision would be to call in rather than "bluff" the way through (this bluffing attitude is UNSAFE NURSING PRACTICE)!

To Prepare for the Outpatient Clinics: *please refer to those specific objectives.* Each

clinic has drugs, procedure and diagnoses that are required. *(For more information on the Out Patient Clinics refer to Blackboard)*

To Prepare for Hospital experiences: *please refer to specific unit objectives as well as Clinical Research.*

**E. Case Study** develops the student's critical thinking skills and prepares students for clinical practice. The student will complete at least two (2) specified case studies this semester. *For more information on Case Studies, please refer to that section on Blackboard.*

**F. Personal, Physical and Technical Attributes**

The student is expected to meet the personal and physical attributes of the nursing program as stated in the student handbook. If at any time the student is unable to meet the personal, physical or technical attributes, the student must withdraw from the clinical course.

*For more information on these attributes, refer to the SVN Handbook*

**G. Handbook**

Students are required to have the SVN handbook with them at all times during clinical rotations. Students are expected to follow the policies as stated in the handbook.

**H. Clinical Objectives**

Students are required to have the clinical objectives with them at all times during clinical rotations. The specific unit objectives must be reviewed prior to that clinical experience. *Students who have failed to review the objectives prior to the clinical experience or who do not have the unit or clinic objectives will be sent home as unprepared, accruing an absence. **If you do not know the expected care of the unit, how can you be a safe effective nurse?***

**I. Drug Guide**

Students are required to have the Davis Drug Guide with them at all times during clinical rotations.

**J. Scheduling**

Scheduling of clinical experiences is done by the program coordinator and is designed to assist the student in meeting clinical objectives.

**K. Dress Code**

Students are expected to follow the dress code as stated in the student handbook. Students have complete control over the decision to follow or not follow the dress code. **Students who are noncompliant with dress code are sent home with an absence for the day no matter what time the violation is**

**discovered for any violation that cannot be immediately corrected (full daily points deducted)! Points are deducted from the weekly clinical grade for dress code violations that are immediately correctable.**

Students whose clinical uniforms have become too tight and no longer cover the posterior portion of the body will be required to purchase additional larger uniforms and cannot participate in clinicals until appropriately attired (accruing absences).

**L. NCLEX: NCLEX ASSESSMENT, NCLEX Prep**—*for the specific information on NCLEX prep, please see blackboard.*

**M. Skills Competencies**

1. Students are expected to maintain clinical skills from Levels 1 and 2 and progress to more advanced skills. Students found to be incompetent in a skill or skills will be required to remediate. Students who do not complete the remediation or who do not become proficient in the skill(s) will fail the clinical course.

**N. Monthly Lab Practice:**

Students are expected to practice skills for a minimum of 5 hours per month and turn in documentation of the practice on the last Friday of each month at 1445 (summer) or 1545 (fall, spring). A grade will be earned for monthly lab practice and counted in the average for the weekly clinical grade.

The lab grading scale is

- “0” for any time less than 5 hours
- 75 for 5 hours of documented practice.
- 85 for 6 hour of documented practice
- 95 for 7 hours of documented practice.

Grade for forms not turned in will be “0.” Students who do not meet the minimum earn a “0.” Hours that are erroneously recorded/added result in a “0.” There will be 10 point deduction for incomplete forms (minutes not added, documentation pages missing, no signature, no date, etc)

**Lab practice is defined as actually performing the skill**—not just reading the steps. Students in the lab for practice may NOT sit at the table in groups and count that time as “practice.” Students MAY NOT sit on the beds. If an instructor visits the lab and sees students sitting around the table, the time will be negated for each student sitting at the table.

***Students must sign up 24 hours in advance of wanting extended hour lab in order for there to be a scheduled instructor. The lab will not be open late if no one has signed up.***

#### **N. FRIDAY LABS:**

In order to give students more lab opportunity to grow to proficiency in labs, lab experiences are available on Friday. This is a CLINICAL DAY and all clinical rules apply. *For specific information on the FRIDAY LAB, please refer to that section on BlackBoard.*

#### **O. Simulation**

Simulated experiences at the Center for Clinical Excellence are part of the clinical experience and students should treat the experience as **a true clinical experience**. Research shows that students perform in the simulated experience ***exactly*** as they would in actual practice. The difference in simulation and actual clinical practice is that in actual practice, instructors or nurses intervene before students make mistakes. In Simulation, the student is allowed to follow through on decision-making with resulting consequences to the patient. Simulation is considered a “safe” experience because errors do not cause patient harm. Simulation does not mean “safe from consequences or responsibilities.”

Students must come prepared for Simulation just as they come for clinicals. Students are expected to have required textbooks, diagnosis and drug cards, pens, pencils, highlighters, and paper. The students will document their nursing actions for their scenario. If students cannot complete a previously learned skill during the simulated experience, remediation will be required. If the student is not successful in remediation, the student fails the clinical course and withdraws from the VNP.

The student is evaluated during the simulated clinical experience.

**Students who are unprepared for Simulation are sent home “absent” as with any other clinical unpreparedness.** The preparation assignments are posted on BlackBoard for each simulation experience.

**P. Patient Care**—students are expected to provide patient care following all SPC guidelines and instructions. Keeping patients safe is of utmost importance, as well as providing effective nursing care.

Students must keep the instructor and the Total Patient Care Nurse (TPCN) and/or Charge Nurse (CN) informed of a patient’s status at all times.

Additionally, students are required to complete a Head-to-Toe Assessment *daily* on all patients utilizing the student Chart Pack for documentation of assessment and patient care.

*For more information on the Student Chart Pack, please see Appendix C.*

### III. GRADE DETERMINATION

Clinical Competency is verified by the Clinical Evaluation Tool. The final course grade is the transcript grade which is a LETTER grade.

The COURSE grade is determined by:

Weekly evaluations (70%)

NCLEX exams, NCLEX work, NCLEX Assessment, Case Studies (30%)

WEEKLY Evaluations: Students will receive a weekly clinical rating based on the student's individual performance and preparedness to practice nursing. The weekly ratings are averaged together for the length of the semester. The student MUST have a 75 average to pass this course.

At the end of the semester, students receive summative evaluations--an overview of the entire semester. Students must receive a passing grade on the summative evaluation in order to graduate. Any "unsatisfactory" area on the summative evaluation at this level will mean that the student has not met the clinical expectations of the course and is ineligible for graduation. The clinical grade is an "F."

#### GRADING SCALE:

90-100 = A

80-89.9 = B

75-79.9 = C

<75 = F (There is no "D" in clinicals)

Please also note that clinical grades are reported as whole numbers; decimals are dropped and are not rounded up.

### IV. PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

Students are expected to follow the ethics and rules of professional conduct as outlined in the student handbook. Unprofessional conduct on the part of a student as outlined in the student handbook results in dismissal from the vocational nursing program.

**A. Attendance:** Clinical experiences offer the student the opportunity to apply theory to actual nursing practice. Students MAY NOT attend clinical when running fever, experiencing vomiting or diarrhea, having pink eye or any other infectious process. **The student should anticipate that such illnesses or other emergencies may occur and should judiciously take an absence!**

Recognizing that sometimes students are ill or have ill children or have some other real reason to be absent, students may have three (3) absences this semester—

this includes any day the student is sent home for clinicals for a rules violation or Friday absences.

Even though a “0” is recorded for the day of absence, the grade of a student who is otherwise meeting clinical objectives should not be adversely affected.

**Students who do not meet the attendance objective fail the clinical course regardless of other grades.**

For absences during the Pedi rotations, make up days may be required to meet the minimum days for this specialty if the student does not have an adequate clinical experience because of the absence. Because there is limited space in the Pedi areas, there may not be enough time/room to make up absences. Students who cannot make up Pedi absences will fail the course.

**B. Tardiness**

Tardies are considered unprofessional. There is a deduction from the weekly clinical evaluation for each tardy. There are NO tardies in Simulation or Friday Lab or in any rotation that begins at 0800 because students in these areas already have an hour and half delay over hospital rotations. If the student arrives late to simulation or to a clinic that starts at 0800 or Friday lab, the student is “absent” and is sent home, no matter the time of day the incidence is discovered.

**C. Clocking In/Out for other students:** Clocking in/out for other students is not allowed and all students involved will be dismissed from the VNP (refer to student handbook). THIS IS UNPROFESSIONAL CONDUCT.

Time Sheets are required at off-campus rotations. **Students who misrepresent themselves on the time sheet or forge a time sheet are considered “unprofessional” and are dismissed from the program for unprofessional conduct.**

**D. Lunch**—the lunch break in the hospital setting is 30 minutes; this begins when the student reports off care of the patient until the time the student returns and resumes care. If the student spends 10 minutes waiting on the elevator, the student has 20 minutes remaining on the lunch break.

**In some outpatient settings,** the student may be given an hour for lunch IF there are no meetings during the noon hour which would give the student additional learning opportunities (see each clinic objective). A student who takes excessive lunches or who leaves the site when there was a “meeting” during the noon hour will receive full disciplinary action and possible dismissal for unprofessional conduct.



- E. **Clinic times**—Some clinics may finish their work early and staff may tell the student that they can leave early. THIS DOES NOT MEAN YOU CAN LEAVE. Please page your instructor and request instructions for the rest of the time; many times you may be moved to another clinic for additional experience. To just “assume” it is okay to leave the clinical setting results in an absence assigned for that day. If this causes the student to fail, the student will fail the clinical course.

## V. SCOPE OF PRACTICE (SAFE/UNSAFE/UNSATISFACTORY CLINICAL PERFORMANCE)

The **Scope of Practice** describes the procedures, actions, and processes that the student vocational nurse is permitted to do under the South Plains College Vocational Nursing Guidelines. These guidelines are found in the SVN Handbook, this syllabus, and the Clinical Objectives for each level and each unit. ***It is the responsibility of each student to know, understand and practice within the Scope of Practice.***

### A. Safe Clinical Practice

Students are expected:

- To demonstrate growth in clinical practice through application of knowledge and skills from previous and concurrent courses.
- To demonstrate growth in clinical practice as they progress through courses and to meet clinical expectations outlined in the clinical objectives.
- To prepare for clinical practice in order to provide safe, competent care.

### B. Unsafe clinical practice: The debarment policy will be invoked when the student demonstrates unsafe clinical practice. (VIOLATION OF SCOPE OF PRACTICE ISSUES)

Unsafe clinical practice is behavior that places the client or staff in either physical or emotional jeopardy. Emotional jeopardy means that the student creates an environment of anxiety or distress which puts the client or family or staff at risk for emotional or psychological harm.

Physically unsafe practices include (but are not limited to):

1. Violations of previously mastered principles/learning objectives in carrying out nursing care skills and/or delegated medical functions.
2. Assuming inappropriate independence in actions or decisions.
3. Failing to recognize own limitations, incompetence and/or legal responsibilities.
4. Failing to accept moral and legal responsibility for his/her own actions.
5. Noncompliance with all aspects in the VN student Handbook and Clinical Guidelines.
6. Violating confidentiality in ANY VNP situation.
7. Being unprepared to answer instructor or staff questions regarding patient's medications, doctor's orders, progress notes, H&P and current status of patient(s).

8. Exhibiting unprofessional conduct as outlined in the student handbook.
9. Taking narcotics, controlled substances of any kind for which the student does not have a current, valid prescription on file with the VNP office or any illegal drug including marijuana; this includes sharing your prescription with others.

***ALL OF THESE ARE SERIOUS SCOPE OF PRACTICE ISSUES AND CAN RESULT IN IMMEDIATE REMOVAL FROM THE VOCATIONAL NURSING PROGRAM***

**Unsafe clinical practice is an occurrence or a pattern of behavior involving unacceptable risk.**

## **VI. DEBARMENT POLICY**

**Scope of Practice Violations:** A student may be debarred from class, laboratories, clinical practice and examinations for scope of practice violations which include (but not limited to) persistent absence, unsafe clinical practice and/or failure to produce assignments to the satisfaction of the instructor. Students disbarred will have failed the course and be withdrawn from the nursing program.

Students disbarred for unsafe nursing practice are not eligible for readmission.

## **VII. CLINICAL EXPECTATIONS**

The student is expected to be “prepared” for the clinical experience on a daily basis.

The student will:

- ❖ attend report and get information on report.
- ❖ check patient, obtain VS and perform comfort measures.
- ❖ complete chart review: physician’s orders, progress notes, history and physical, lab, and diagnostic reports, MAR, nurses notes.
- ❖ pull and review diagnosis cards/maps, lab cards, drug cards; complete CCMs
- ❖ assess patient, begin a.m. care, complete chart pack (assessment should be done and charted by 0930 daily)
- ❖ meet with instructor to discuss patient care.
- ❖ complete assignment given by instructor.
- ❖ complete patient care.
- ❖ answer call lights.
- ❖ assist TPC nurses, perform procedures.
- ❖ report off to TPC nurse before shift change.
- ❖ document events as they occur.

## **VIII. CLINICAL OBJECTIVES (Scope of Practice)**

See The General Objectives for 2662 and the objectives for each assigned unit

**IX. CLINICAL EVALUATION TOOL**

The Weekly clinical evaluation tool is based on the Scope of Practice from the clinical objectives. The Summative evaluation tool for the end of the semester is based on the clinical objectives for this level.

The tool determines Safe versus UnSafe Nursing Practice. Students who are deficient in safety areas receive a deduction on the evaluation tool.

A student who continuously has problems with safety will be brought before the Vocational Education Standards Committee (VESC) for a clinical contract and/or further disciplinary measures which could include dismissal from the program.

**X. REFERENCES: STUDENT VOCATIONAL NURSE HANDBOOK**

## Vocational Nursing Program South Plains College - Reese Center

### STATEMENT OF UNDERSTANDING CAMPUS CONCEALED CARRY

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in South Plains College buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun, a qualified law enforcement officer or those who are otherwise authorized. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and South Plains College policy, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of locations, please refer to the SPC Campus Carry page at <http://www.southplainscollege.edu/campuscarry.php>.

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all South Plains College campuses. Report violations to the College Police Department at 806-716-2396 or 9-1-1.

The following Penal Code pertains to all hospital owned property such as clinics, physician's offices, ambulances, and ambulance stations.

Texas Penal Code - PENAL § 30.06. Trespass by License Holder with a Concealed Handgun states that an individual cannot carry a handgun (concealed or open carry) on the premises of a hospital licensed under Chapter 241, Health and Safety Code, or on the premises of a nursing facility licensed under Chapter 242, Health and Safety Codes, unless the license holder has written authorization of the hospital or nursing facility administration.

Texas Penal Code - PENAL § 30.07. Trespass by License Holder with an Openly Carried Handgun states that an individual cannot carry a concealed handgun on the premises of a hospital licensed under Chapter 241, Health and Safety Codes, or on the premises of a nursing facility licensed under Chapter 242, Health and Safety Codes, unless the license holder has written authorization of the hospital or nursing facility administration.

- I am aware of the Texas Senate Bill – 11, Campus Concealed Carry law
- I have read both § 30.06 and § 30.07 of the Texas Penal Code regarding hospital/clinical Campus Concealed Carry
- I understand that concealed means that it is not seen, it is not noticeable, it is not touched by another, nor is it talked about
- I understand that it is **legal** to conceal a handgun on a South Plains College campus with a proper license. I understand that it is **illegal** to conceal a handgun at the clinical sites (hospitals & clinics) regardless of license status.
- I understand that if the weapon becomes non-concealed that the SPC Campus Police will be called and the situation will be handled by the SPC Campus Police

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Student Signature

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Student PRINTED name

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Date

**COPY FOR VOCATIONAL NURSING FILE**

**Vocational Nursing Program  
South Plains College - Reese Center**

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Student Signature

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Student PRINTED name

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Date

**COPY FOR STUDENT RECORDS**

PRINT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

## VNSG 2662 Syllabus Contract

(Please print, read, sign and return this syllabus contract during the clinical orientation; students may not attend clinicals if this contract is not submitted).

*I have read the syllabus for VNSG 2662, Advanced Clinical. I understand the Scope of Practice, course requirements, attendance, and student behavior. I have reviewed all appendices found on blackboard. I understand that written assignments are part of this grade. I further understand that attendance affects my clinical grade. I understand about the campus carry law as it pertains to any clinical setting.*

*I have had the opportunity to have my questions answered about the syllabus and understand the requirements.*

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_