

## **COURSE OUTLINE**

### **Home Health Aide**

#### **Course Description**

AH 117 Home Health Aide. 2 hours credit. Prerequisite: AH 122 with a C or better, Certified Nurse Aide for Kansas Nursing Homes. This course will enable the student to gain in the necessary knowledge, skills, and abilities to give basic nursing care in the home, under the supervision of a registered nurse. After completion, the student is eligible to take the Kansas Home Health Aide State exam.

#### **Course Relevance**

Home Health Care workers are one of the fastest growing occupations because of these factors: 1. Patients spend less time in hospitals after surgery or illness. 2. Home care is less expensive than hospital care. 3. Medicare laws allow funds for home health care for older adults. 4. We live in an aging society. 5. Most people prefer to recuperate in familiar surroundings. 6. The risk of hospital-acquired infection is reduced because patients' exposure to others who carry infection is reduced.

#### **Required Materials**

Birchenall, J and Streight, E. (2003). *Mosby's textbook for the home care aide* (2nd ed.). St. Louis, MO: Elsevier Mosby.

#### **Learning Outcomes**

The intention is for the student to be able to

1. Contribute to the appropriate implementation of home health care programs
2. Interact with the client, family, and interdisciplinary team
3. Document care provided
4. Participate in implementation and review of client care plans
5. Perform accountably in the reporting process

#### **Primary Learning PACT Skills that will be DEVELOPED and/or documented in this course**

Through the student's involvement in this course, he/she will develop his/her ability in the following primary PACT skill areas:

1. Field Related Technologies
  - Through the utilization of skills and knowledge learned, the student will demonstrate safe and effective means of giving care for clients of a community home care agency.
2. Ethical Conduct
  - Demonstrate an understanding of his/her legal limitations and responsibilities when working in the home alone.
3. Problem Solving

- Identify and define situations in the home that require reporting to the supervisor.

Secondary skills (developed but not documented):

- Time Management
- Team Work
- Listening
- Nonverbal Communication
- Effective Relationships
- Valuing Diversity

### **Major Summative Assessment Task(s)**

These learning outcomes and the primary Learning PACT skills will be demonstrated by

1. Describing adaptation of basic nursing care to the home care situation

### **Course Content**

- I. Themes – Key recurring concepts that run throughout this course:
  - A. Safety
  - B. Sensitivity to the client as a person and part of a family unit
  - C. Work ethics
  - D. Ethical aspects
  - E. Confidentiality
  - F. Legal aspects
- II. Issues – Key areas of conflict that must be understood in order to achieve the intended outcome:
  - A. The responsibilities and limitations of home health aides are critical for safe and effective functioning when alone in the home
  - B. The home health aide is dependable and has a positive work ethic
  - C. The home health aide follows the care plan established by the home care team to meet the client's individual needs
- III. Concepts – Key concepts that must be understood to address the issues:
  - A. Awareness of the home health aide's responsibility to observe, record, and report
  - B. Respect for the client as a physical, social, psychological, and spiritual being with basic needs and protected rights
  - C. Understanding of body structure and function for a safe and competent performance of skills
  - D. Recognition of the role of cultural heritage in health and illness
  - E. Following the resident's care plan when delivering nursing care
  - F. Observation of infection control measures
- IV. Skills/Competencies – Actions that are essential to achieve the course outcomes:
  - A. Communication with client, family, staff
  - B. Adapting personal care activities in the home for mothers, babies, adults, aged
  - C. Observing, reporting, recording
  - D. Emergency procedures

### **Learning Units**

- I. Orientation to home care

- II. Working with people
- III. Home management
- IV. Nutrition and meal preparation
- V. Adapting personal care activities in the client's home
- VI. Mother and baby care
- VII. Observing client's medications
- VIII. Special procedures and emergency care

### **Learning Activities**

Independent and collaborative learning activities will assist the student to achieve the intended learning outcomes. The following teaching/learning activities will assist the student to achieve course outcomes: lecture, audio-visual aids, class discussion, study guides, unit tests, demonstration and return demonstration.

### **Grade Determination**

The student must achieve an average score of 70% or above on unit exams and a comprehensive final to achieve a grade of C or above. The student must hand in assignments as directed by instructor, and be able to demonstrate competency of skills as illustrated on the Kansas Occupational Profile for Home Health Aide.