

**University of Arkansas – Fort Smith**  
**5210 Grand Avenue**  
**PO Box 3649**  
**Fort Smith, AR 72913**  
**479-788-7000**

**General Syllabus**

**HLTH 2103 Introduction to Professional Nursing**

Credit Hours: 3                      Lecture Hours: 3                      Laboratory or other types of Hours: 0

Effective Catalog: 2023-2024

**I. Course Information**

- A. Catalog Description:** The course examines the foundation of professional nursing practice, focusing on nursing history and trends, nursing process, and nursing roles.
- B. Additional Course Description:** This course will be presented utilizing multiple teaching/ learning strategies.

**II. Student Learning Outcomes**

**A. Subject Matter:**

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

1. Use critical thinking skills to interpret the impact professional nursing has had on society.
2. Integrate the relationship between nursing research, process, and nursing's scientific knowledge base.
3. Identify communication as an effective tool for the professional nurse.
4. Examine leadership and management styles professional nurses uses in the provision of quality health care.
5. Plan health promotion strategies that support wellness using Healthy People 2020 goals.
6. Incorporate nursing behaviors consistent with professional standards in the role of the professional nurse.

**B. University Learning Outcomes:**

This course enhances student abilities in the following areas:

**Analytical Skills**

**Critical Thinking**

Students will identify problems/issues and develop solutions/analysis.

**Communication Skills (written and oral)**

Students will communicate proficiently with oral and written communication as reflected in the Formal paper and Poster presentation, and e-Portfolio assignments.

**Ethical Decision Making**

Students will model ethical decision-making processes in nursing and health care related settings and apply the ANA Code of Ethical Decision Making to professional roles.

**Global and Cultural Perspectives**

Students will reflect upon cultural differences and their implications for interacting with people from cultures other than their own.

**III. Major Course Topics**

- A. History and Evolution of Professional Nursing
- B. Trends and Licensure of Professional Nursing
- C. Theories and Theorists of Nursing Practice
- D. Legal and Ethical Concepts of Nursing
- E. Cultural Competency and Social Issues
- F. Workforce Advocacy, Nursing Shortage, Collective Bargaining
- G. Information Technology, Emergency Preparedness
- H. Leadership, Management, Delegation
- I. Effective Communication
- J. Quality and Safety Issues in Nursing Education
- K. Ethical Platform Papers or Research Project