Description: This module focuses on the concept of Accountability. This module will be at level NUR 212 and will focus on Professional Development.

Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion this module the student will be able to:

1. Compare and contrast the differences between a job and a profession.
2. Identify ways in which a nurse can demonstrate professional behaviors.
3. List the benefits of professional certification
4. Describe how a nurse can demonstrate and maintain professional skills.
5. Analyze the role of professional nursing organizations in the advancement of the nursing profession

Learning Resources:


Learning Activities:
1. Describe a situation you observed where a nurse appeared professional and a situation you observed where a nurse did not appear professional. Using a model that determines what constitutes a profession, such as that described by Pavalko or Levenstein, discuss why you believe each situation to be professional or unprofessional.

2. Read the following case study and answer the following questions. You are a staff nurse on the Postpartum unit of your hospital. You graduated 4 years ago, and have been working on this unit since your graduation. The other staff members of this unit have between 6 months to 27 years of nursing experience. The nurse manager has just announced that this Postpartum unit will be renovated, and the new unit will include the Newborn Nursery patients and staff, as well as Postpartum. All staff must be cross trained to care for newborns and postpartum women. Your manager has appointed you to head the task force that will be responsible for this transition.

As the chairperson of the task force, you will be responsible for making this transition from two units to one go as smoothly as possible. You will have five other members on this team.

1. How will you select which staff members would be important to be on the task force?
2. What do you foresee that might be problematic for this task force, and why?
3. How might you overcome the potential problems?
4. What elements need to be part of the plan for this transition?
5. What might be some of the responses from the staff?
6. What steps could be taken to decrease the negative responses from the staff?

3. You are a staff nurse and your unit manager is encouraging all staff nurses to obtain national certification. Research (in your practice area of choice) how you would obtain this certification. Please include costs, criteria and maintenance requirements.

4. Group Project: Presentations of various Professional Organizations. Include reasons for joining, resources offered by the organization, benefits of membership and role in advancement of the profession. These could be given as classroom presentations, poster presentations, or a “Professional Organization Fair.”

Evaluation:
Unit examinations
Evaluation of written activities and case study.