

Fundamentals and Management Students

Photos during Simulation Experience

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Sustainability: Application within the Nursing Program

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The Sunflower Project: Sustainability across the Curriculum

How sustainability is included within
the course

How students benefit

Unique contributions to JCCC's mission

JCCC Sustainability Learning Outcomes

- The JCCC faculty from the Sustainability Committee wrote levelled learning outcomes that could be used to guide the integration of sustainability concepts into each course.
- These outcomes are used to grade the student discussions and assignments.

How sustainability is integrated: Overview

- The student will:
 - Identify how the concept pertains to course subject matter and quality of life in their community, country, and world
 - Demonstrate understanding through an applied assignment, i.e., a reflection paper
 - Apply critical thinking to the use of sustainability in nursing practice

Integration continued...

- Demonstrate understanding of sustainability by applying concepts to conserve resources and improve patient care outcomes
- Reflect on personal attitudes
- Discuss how to make cross-disciplinary connections
- Discuss how to collaborate with hospital administration to improve patient care, nursing practice, and conserve resources

Integration into NURS 124: Fundamentals of Nursing in Fall 2013

- The Fundamentals of Nursing lays the foundational concepts for all future nursing courses.
- Students applied concepts in the classroom, laboratory, simulation clinical, and acute care clinical settings.
- The main setting in which application took place was the coronary care unit (CCU).

Assignment within the Clinical Setting

- Students were asked to identify areas on the coronary care unit that may be affected by utilizing sustainability practices such as....
 - Use of supplies
 - Use of time
 - Disposal of waste
 - Use of water, electricity, and gases such as oxygen

Assignment continued...

- Students were also assigned to write a reflection paper.

Application

- The students shared their views of sustainability and related personal practices with one another.
- During student clinical conferences, students discussed areas that may contribute to the waste of resources.
- They then collected data in the coronary care unit/hospital through the use of observation and interview.

Application

- They collaborated with staff about the issues and possible solutions.
- The students shared the information gathered during collaboration with staff during student clinical conference.

Application continued...

- The students then each wrote a reflection paper discussing a sustainability issue identified on the coronary care unit or within the hospital and reference professional resources.

Evaluation

- Both the professor and student independently evaluated the student's performance using the learning outcomes developed by the sustainability committee.
- The professor and student met to discuss the student's learning experience, the correlation between student and professor evaluation of learning outcomes, and the student's goal for application of learning in future courses.

Handoff of the identified issues...

- The first semester Fundamentals of Nursing students were assigned to collaborate with the fourth semester Complex Patient Care Management students who would be assigned to the same coronary care unit in the spring of 2014.

NURS 232: Complex Patient Care Management in Spring 2014

- In the Complex Patient Care Management course the students applied principles of patient advocacy, delegation, collaboration, organization and care management to care for a group of complex patients across a variety of health care settings.
- Students applied concepts in the classroom, laboratory, clinical simulation, and acute care settings.
- The main setting in which application of sustainability concepts took place was the coronary care unit (CCU).

Assignment within the Clinical Setting

- The NURS 232 students were to review the reflection papers written by the NURS 124 students the previous fall.
- They were to then select a topic of interest and write a senior project paper related to safe patient care and sustainable practices.

Application

- The NURS 232 students selected a NURS 124 student with whom to collaborate about a topic of interest.
- The NURS 232 students did a follow up interview with staff members who had been interviewed by the NURS 124 students.

Application continued...

- After discussion with staff members, the NURS 232 students wrote a paper about safe patient care and the connection to sustainability. This paper was required to meet levelled sustainability learning outcomes.
- Learning outcomes created by the Sustainability Committee and a rubric were used to evaluate the final paper.

Application continued...

- The NURS 232 students were required to share their papers with the staff nurse educator on the coronary care unit.
- The staff nurse educator then requested permission to publish an abstract of each paper in the coronary care unit newsletter as a way to improve patient care and awareness of sustainability.

Application continued...

- The staff nurse educator recommended that the professor and a student representative contact the hospital Director of Nursing to share the sustainability topics and possible impact for the hospital and patient care.
- A student and her professor met with the Director of Nursing to share sustainability topics and collaborate about suggestions for implementation.

Application continued...

- The Director of Nursing in turn met with the hospital sustainability committee to share the students' findings.

Evaluation

- Both the professor and student independently evaluated the student's performance/paper using the learning outcomes developed by the sustainability committee.
- The professor and student met to discuss the student's learning experience, the correlation between student and professor evaluation of learning outcomes, and the student's goals for application of learning in nursing practice.

Sampling of Sustainability Topics and Staff/Students who Suggested Changes

- Recycling—interviewed 3 staff nurses and 2 housekeeping personnel
- Decrease infection by cleaning work stations and use of hand hygiene---Information Associate
- Use of reusable containers in cafeteria---Dietary Manager
- Remove seldom used items stocked in admission packs—housekeeping personnel
- Use of low flow faucets and showers--students

Sampling continued...

- Staff training about sustainability---student
- Better patient assessment on admission, health team collaboration, and ongoing patient education to prevent readmission---student
- Prevention of patient falls—staff nurses/students

Summary

- The beginning students and the management students learned to identify and research topics that relate to sustainability.
- They learned to collaborate with the hospital staff, administrators, and each other to raise level of awareness about sustainability.
- They learned that teamwork and collaboration may lead to improved patient outcomes and conservation of resources.

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