

Introduction to Health Care

Introduction to Health Care is the foundation technical course for students in the Health Academy. This Health careers course introduces industry-wide standards that are necessary for anyone employed in health care and Medical Terminology. Relevant workplace explorations, guest speakers, First-Aid/CPR training and certification, community service opportunities and volunteer experiences complement the rigorous health care based interdisciplinary curriculum.

PREREQUISITE

Admission to Health Academy

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of the course, students should be able to:

1. Describe the spectrum of careers in the healthcare industry and identify required educational preparation for selected careers.
2. Explain how educational preparation for entry-level health occupations can be used as a first step on a career ladder in a specific healthcare careers.
3. Develop competency in basic skills required for success in healthcare careers
4. Identify ethical and legal standards that guide medical practice
5. Describe the impact of social, developmental and cultural factors on healthcare services
6. Develop competency in basic skills required for success in healthcare careers

COURSE CONTENT

- Requirements for Community Service
 - HIPAA
 - Professionalism overview
 - Benefits of service
- Overview of the industry
 - Historical perspective
 - Types of Healthcare Providers
 - Hospitals, clinics, assisted living, nursing homes, home health care, patient-centered homes, etc.
 - Types of Payment Systems
 - Insurance- copays, deductibles, limits, etc.
 - Affordable Care Act
- Career Ladders in Health Care
 - Career categories- Patient care, Mental and Behavioral Health, Public and Community Health, Administrative Services, Operational Support Services
 - Career Research Project
 - Career Planning
 - Certification and Licensure
 - Form Individual Education Plan (12 year plan)
- Student strength and weaknesses in foundation skills
 - Plan to build upon strengths and improve weaknesses
- Personal Workplace Safety
- First Aid/CPR
 - Poisoning, wound care, burn care etc.
 - Infection control
 - Body Mechanics

- Environmental Safety
- CPR/ First Aid Certification- BLS
 - ACLS and PALS overview
- Vitals
 - Heart rate
 - Blood pressure
 - Respirations
 - Pain levels
 - Body Mass Index (BMI)
- Ethical and Legal Foundations of Health Care
 - Ethics (We Can't Kill Your Mother) Introduction
 - Advance Directives
 - Medical Errors
- Medical Terminology
 - Basic Word Content
 - Suffixes
 - Prefixes
 - Roots
- Basic Competencies
 - Professionalism
 - Communication skills
 - Computational skills
 - Technological skills

***Students have a total of 180 hours of class
Amount of Community Service may vary by school site (between 20-40
hours)***

METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

1. Class lectures on assigned topics to provide a theoretical basis for related discussions that would give students opportunities to clarify content and/or validate their understanding of content presented
2. PowerPoint presentations with accompanying student handouts to serve as a guide for note-taking
3. Discussion
4. Videos/films/slides to illustrate examples of topics presented in the class, in the text, or from other sources
5. Independent reading and writing assignments- Student reports, papers, and/or presentations that enable students to apply concepts and principles in particular areas of students' interests
6. Guest lecturers, especially in areas of specialization, to provide current updates on policies and procedures
7. Student presentations

METHODS OF EVALUATION

Students will be evaluated for progress in and/or mastery of learning outcomes by methods of evaluation which may include, but are not limited to:

1. Formative evaluation measures such as quizzes and tests that enable students to recognize what they have learned from the previous class session and periodic tests that cover sections of course content.
2. Summative evaluation as reflected by performance on comprehensive Semester final examinations

3. Individual student presentations (written, oral, poster, PowerPoint, and/or multimedia) that enable students to explore topics of interest in greater depth
4. Group presentations that demonstrate students' abilities to collaborate as members of a team to organize selected course content and directly apply learned concepts and practices

COURSE MATERIALS

Simmers, L. (2004). *Diversified Health Occupations*. (6th ed.). New York: Delmar.

Martin, L. (2001). *We Can't Kill Your Mother! and Other Stories of Intensive Care*. Indiana: Author: House.

Ehrlich, A. & Schroeder, C. L. (2001). *Medical Terminology for Health Professions*. (5th ed.). New York: Delmar.