Basic Course Information

Semester:	Winter 2026	Instructor Name:	Rebekka Lerma, DNP, FNP-BC, CHSE
Course Title & #:	NURS 204-Transition to AS Degree Nursing	Email:	rebekka.lerma@imperial.edu
CRN #:	15340	Webpage (optional):	Canvas
Classroom:	2139	Office #:	2155
Class Dates:	01/20/26-02/06/26	Office Hours:	Tuesday-Friday 1500-1600
Class Days:	Tuesday-Friday	Office Phone #:	(760) 355-6347
Class Times:	0900-1440	Emergency Contact:	Nursing Office (760) 355-6348
Units:	3 units	Class Format/Modality:	In-Person

Course Description

This course facilitates the transition of advanced placement of Licensed Vocational Nurses into the associate degree registered nursing (RN) program. It provides an introduction to the various roles and expectations of a RN. The course reviews the nursing process and provides opportunities to combine critical thinking with the nursing process via human simulations, role-play, and/or case studies. Concepts related to program philosophy, conceptual framework, cultural sensitivity, growth and development, nursing skills, and role expectations are emphasized. Student's knowledge, skills, assessments, and practice opportunities in the classroom, via standardized testing, and/or simulations will be assessed to determine placement options for student success. Additional materials fee applies.

Course Prerequisite(s) and/or Corequisite(s)

1. Completion of Associate Degree RN program prerequisites
2. Possess an active California Licensed Vocational Nurse (LVN) license
3. At least six (6) months of work experience as an active California LVN
4. Possess an IV therapy certificate from an approved program in California

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon course completion, the successful student will have acquired new skills, knowledge, and or attitudes as demonstrated by being able to:

1. Successfully apply each step of the nursing process perform nursing skills to simulated client scenario and pass standardized exams (ATI) for Fundamentals Nursing, Maternal-Newborn Nursing and Pharmacology with a minimum passing score of a Level 1 (one).
2. Successfully pass a medication administration/dosage calculation exam with a 92% or higher on first attempt.

Course Objectives

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate successful strategies for test-taking at the RN level.
2. Cite the role and legal ramifications or limitations of the RN specific to delegation, planning care, inter-disciplinary professional communication, mandated reports, etc.
3. Discuss the scope of practice specific to the RN as a leader, a care provider, an evaluator of situation/patients, and an educator.

4. Demonstrate application of the nursing process and critical thinking via human simulations, case-studies, and/or role play for medical-surgical, perinatal, post-natal, and neonate patients.
5. Utilize the nursing process to assess, develop nursing diagnoses, plan, implement and evaluate care
6. Exhibit proficiency in all skills required to enter as an advanced placement student via human simulation and/or role-play.
7. Demonstrate the concepts of time-management in the implementation of patient care.
8. Describe the principles of nursing care for medical-surgical clients with complications of normal physiology.
9. Review the physiology of pregnancy, perinatal, post-natal, and transitioning neonate patients and the RN's role in providing care.
10. Recognize the complications within the normal pregnancy, peri-natal, post-natal, and neonatal period and implement appropriate nursing actions

Textbooks & Other Resources or Links

Required

- Lora Claywell 2022. *Required - LPN to RN Transitions* 5th. Elsevier Health Sciences ISBN: 9780323698016.
- ATI 2021. *Required: ATI - Transition Bundle Fundamentals, MS, Maternal Child, Pharmacology* current edition. Assessment Testing Inc. ATI

Recommended

- Pamela Lynn 2019. *Recommended - Taylor's Clinical Nursing Skills: A Nursing Process Approach* 5th. Lippincott Williams & Wilkins ISBN: 978-1-975134-88-4 .

Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

During online learning, students must have computer audio and visual capabilities. Audio Visual aids are required for viewing nursing skills to succeed in the course; available on textbook supplemental, ATI and Nursing Learning Center resources

- Computer Assisted Instruction: Internet research, case study, including textbooks supplemental resources and ATI
- Skills demonstration: skills competencies are required for successful course completion
- Reading Assignments and Discussion: Related topics on Nursing Fundamentals and skills
- Group Activity: Presentations, research, case studies, Post Conference and simulation debriefing, Canvas discussions,
- Lab Activity: Assessment Skills; Nursing Fundamental Skills; Check-off demonstrations, simulation exercises.
- Lecture done on CANVAS PowerPoint, facilitation & discussion, student presentations.
- Simulation/Case Study: Nursing skills validation, Assessment skills, Communication skills, Skills proficiency exam

You must have all reading materials, learning aids, and lab supplies in order to achieve successful learning.

Out of Class Assignments: The Department of Education policy states that one (1) credit hour is the amount of student work that reasonably approximates not less than one hour of class time and two
(2) hours of out-of-class time per week over the span of a semester.

Out of class assignments include reading assignments from required textbooks; Writing assignments reflecting course objectives, care plans, concept maps, drug cards, essays or professional papers, and research. Video assignments reflect skills practice. Other possible outside assignments may include lectures or in services offered by the local health facilities or healthcare providers

Simulations: Simulation exercises are provided in a safe learning environment where all students have the opportunity to interact within a structured scenario to prepare for real-life situations.
Simulation labs require independent study and practice of skills required for the advanced placement student

Reading and Writing: Write nursing care plans and concept maps that demonstrate, analysis of the medical condition, appropriate nursing actions, rationale and evaluation of the plan.

Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

All of the following must be attained to successfully pass this course:

- Successfully pass standardized exams (ATI) with a minimum passing score of a Level 1 (one) for the following concepts:
  - o Fundamentals Nursing
  - o Maternal-Newborn Nursing
  - o Pharmacology

- Successfully pass a medication administration/dosage calculation exam with a 92% or higher
  - o Students must pass a 25-question medication dosage calculation test with a 92%. or greater on the first attempt. A second chance is given to retake the calculation exam if a student does not pass it the first time. **Students must pass the second calculation exam with 96%.** Students will be excused from the transition course if failure to pass the calculation exam on both attempts.

Students who do not pass the three (3) ATI standardized exams **and** who do not pass the dosage calculation exam will not continue with the transition course. If ATI is not available, exams will be administered through Canvas. Students must pass with a 78% or higher. It is the student's responsibility to withdraw from the course. Course failures must reapply into the transition program; students will not be placed into the traditional registered nursing (RN) track.

Class assignments must be completed by due date; no late work is accepted and no exceptions

Academic Honesty (Artificial Intelligence -AI)

IVC values critical thinking and communication skills and considers academic integrity essential to learning. Using AI tools as a replacement for your own thinking, writing, or quantitative reasoning goes against both our mission and academic honesty policy and will be considered academic dishonesty, or plagiarism unless you have been instructed to do so by your instructor. In case of any uncertainty regarding the ethical use of AI tools, students are encouraged to reach out to their instructors for clarification.

Accessibility Statement

Imperial Valley College is committed to providing an accessible learning experience for all students, regardless of course modality. Every effort has been made to ensure that this course complies with all state and federal accessibility regulations, including Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations. However, if you encounter any content that is not accessible, please contact your

instructor or the area dean for assistance. If you have specific accommodations through **DSPS**, contact them for additional assistance.

We are here to support you and ensure that you have equal access to all course materials.

Course Policies

Attendance:

- A student who fails to attend the first meeting of a class or does not complete the first mandatory activity of an online class will be dropped by the instructor as of the first official meeting of that class. Should readmission be desired, the student's status will be the same as that of any other student who desires to add a class. It is the student's responsibility to drop or officially withdraw from the class. See General Catalog for details.
- Regular attendance in all classes is expected of all students. A student whose continuous, unexcused absences exceed the number of hours the class is scheduled to meet per week may be dropped.
- Absences attributed to the representation of the college at officially approved events (conferences, contests, and field trips) will be counted as 'excused' absences.

Academic Honesty:

Academic honesty in the advancement of knowledge requires that all students and instructors respect the integrity of one another's work and recognize the important of acknowledging and safeguarding intellectual property.

There are many different forms of academic dishonesty. The following kinds of honesty violations and their definitions are not meant to be exhaustive. Rather, they are intended to serve as examples of unacceptable academic conduct.

- Plagiarism is taking and presenting as one's own the writings or ideas of others, without citing the source. You should understand the concept of plagiarism and keep it in mind when taking exams and preparing written materials. If you do not understand how to "cite a source" correctly, you must ask for help.
- Cheating is defined as fraud, deceit, or dishonesty in an academic assignment, or using or attempting to use materials, or assisting others in using materials that are prohibited or inappropriate in the context of the academic assignment in question.

Anyone caught cheating or plagiarizing will receive a zero (0) on the exam or assignment, and the instructor may report the incident to the Campus Disciplinary Officer, who may place related documentation in a file.   Repeated acts of cheating may result in an F in the course and/or disciplinary action. Please refer to the General Catalog for more information on academic dishonesty or other misconduct. Acts of cheating include, but are not limited to, the following: (a) plagiarism; (b) copying or attempting to copy from others during an examination or on an assignment; (c) communicating test information with another person during an examination; (d) allowing others to do an assignment or portion of an assignment; (e) using a commercial term paper service.

Classroom Etiquette:

- Electronic Devices: Cell phones and electronic devices must be turned off and put away during class, unless otherwise directed by the instructor.
- Food and Drink are prohibited in all classrooms.   Water bottles with lids/caps are the only exception. Additional restrictions will apply in labs. Please comply as directed by the instructor.
- Disruptive Students: Students who disrupt or interfere with a class may be sent out of the room and told to

meet with the Campus Disciplinary Officer before returning to continue with coursework. Disciplinary procedures will be followed as outlined in the General Catalog.

- Children in the classroom: Due to college rules and state laws, only students enrolled in the class may attend; children are not allowed.

Online Netiquette:

- What is netiquette? Netiquette is internet manners, online etiquette, and digital etiquette all rolled into one word. Basically, netiquette is a set of rules for behaving properly online.
- Students are to comply with the following rules of netiquette: (1) identify yourself, (2) include a subject line, (3) avoid sarcasm, (4) respect others' opinions and privacy, (5) acknowledge and return messages promptly, (6) copy with caution, (7) do not spam or junk mail, (8) be concise, (9) use appropriate language, (10) use appropriate emoticons (emotional icons) to help convey meaning, and (11) use appropriate intensifiers to help convey meaning [do not use ALL CAPS or multiple exclamation marks (!!!!)].

Other Course Information

Imperial Valley College offers various services in support of student success. The following are some of the services available for students.   Please speak to your instructor about additional services, which may be available.

- Nursing Learning Center located in 2100 offers skills practice and tutoring.

Financial Aid

Your Grades Matter! In order to continue to receive financial aid, you must meet the Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) requirement. Makings SAP means that you are maintaining a 2.0 GPA, you have successfully completed 67% of your coursework, and you will graduate on time. If you do not maintain SAP, you may lose your financial aid. If you have questions, please contact financial aid at finaid@imperial.edu.

IVC Student Resources

IVC wants you to be successful in all aspects of your education. For help, resources, services, and an explanation of policies, visit http://www.imperial.edu/studentresources or click the heart icon in Canvas.

Anticipated Class Schedule/Calendar

Date or Week	Activity, Assignment, and/or Topic	Pages/ Due Dates/Tests
Tuesday 01/20/26	Syllabus & Introductions Student Equity/DSPS Guest Speaker Canvas Orientation NLC Orientation Clearance Packets/IVC Health Center ATI Login (if available) Cerner Training (if available) Skills Demo & Practice: Head-to-toe Assessment	Practice Dosage Calculation Test
	Canvas Recordings: Assessing Yourself and Designing Success Study Habits and Test Taking Skills	Read Claywell Chapters 2-6 ATI Content Review Module-Fundamentals

Date or Week	Activity, Assignment, and/or Topic	Pages/ Due Dates/Tests
	What is your learning style? (Quiz & Discussion Post) TedTalk-Staying Focused Under Pressure Video-Setting Goals and Managing Time Video-How to Use SQRR Method	
Wednesday 01/21/26	Cardiac Review Lecture Cardiac Pharmacology Review Skills Demo & Practice: Foley Catheterization	Dosage Calculation Test #1
	Canvas Recordings: Distinguishing the RN role from the LVN role Nursing Theory The Nursing Process and Patient Centered Care TedTalk-A Tribute to Nurses	Read Claywell Chapters 7-9, 12 ATI Content Review Module-Fundamentals
Thursday 01/22/26	Respiratory Review Lecture Respiratory Pharmacology Review Skill Demo & Practice: Oxygen devices & tracheostomy care Continue Skill Demo & Practice: Head-to-toe assessment and Foley Catheterization	ATI Content Review Module-Fundamentals
Friday 01/23/26	Check-off's: Head-to-toe assessment and Foley Catheterization	ATI Fundamentals Exam
	Canvas Recordings: Critical Thinking and Clinical Judgement Practicing Evidence-Based Decision Making Communicating with Patients and Co-Workers Upholding Legal and Ethical Principles	ATI Content Review Module-Pharmacology
Tuesday 01/27/26	GI Review Lecture SDSU Dual Enrollment Guest Speaker 2pm Skill Demo & Practice: NGT Insertion, Management & Removal	ATI Content Review Module-Pharmacology
Wednesday 01/28/26	Fluid and Electrolytes Lecture "Need to Know" Laboratory Values IV Skills Overview with Lecture Skill Demo & Practice: IV Insertion Primary Infusions Secondary Infusion IV Push Medications	ATI Content Review Module-Pharmacology Dosage Calculation Exam Retake ATI Fundamentals Exam Retake
Thursday 01/29/26	Maternal/Newborn Health Review Lecture: High risk OB, Labor & Delivery, Electronic Fetal Monitoring, High risk postpartum Class Activities: High-Risk OB Clinical Case Study in class (groups)	ATI Content Review Module-Pharmacology

Date or Week	Activity, Assignment, and/or Topic	Pages/ Due Dates/Tests
	EFM Clinical Case Study (individual) Continue Skills Practice: IV Insertion Primary Infusions Secondary Infusion IV Push Medications	
Friday 01/30/26	Check-off's: NGT Insertion, Management & Removal Class Activities: High-Risk Postpartum Prioritization Activity (groups) Fetal Monitoring Tutorials & Quizzes (individual) Continue Skills Practice: IV Insertion Primary Infusions Secondary Infusion IV Push Medications	ATI Pharmacology Exam ATI Content Review Module-Maternal Newborn
Tuesday 02/03/26	Simulation Orientation Check-off's: IV Insertion Primary Infusions Secondary Infusion IV Push Medications	ATI Maternal Newborn Exam
Wednesday 02/04/26	Basic Cardiac Simulation	
Thursday 02/05/26	Respiratory Simulation	ATI Pharmacology Exam Retake
Friday 02/06/26	OB Simulation	ATI Maternal Newborn Exam Retake

Subject to change without prior notice