**NURS 455: The Childbearing Family**

**Course Description:** The focus of this course is the application of theory, practice and research by advanced practice nurses in the promotion of health and wellness of childbearing women using a family-centered approach. Emphasis is on normal aspects of pregnancy, focusing on prevention of problems and promotion of health behaviors, as well as identification and management of deviations from normal. . Supervised clinical experience includes understanding normal pregnancy, anticipating and identifying complications, participating in consultations, referrals and collaborative management.

**Course Objectives**: Upon completion of the course the student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate safe provision of family-centered care for pregnant women, including assessment and anticipatory guidance for the promotion of maternal and fetal well-being at the beginning level.
2. Utilize the components of the midwifery management process to recognize and implement a plan of care for specific complications, emergencies and deviations from normal.
3. Apply an evidence-based approach to practice which recognizes pregnancy as a normal physiologic and developmental process taking into account factors needed to provide care to vulnerable populations.
4. Serve as an advocate for informed choice, participatory decision-making, the right to self-determination for non-intervention in the absence of complications.
5. Utilize teaching/learning theory during the antepartum period to educate individuals, families and groups about healthy pregnancy, birth, lactation and parenthood.



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