

Topical Outline

Week 1

Introduction to End of Life Care

DATE

1. Hospice
 - a. Definition
 - b. History
2. Palliative care
 - a. Definition
 - b. History
3. Philosophy and principles of hospice and palliative care
4. Looking out for yourself

(Reading Assignment – Vadivelu Ch.1, pp.. 1-6; Ch. 9 pp. 163-175; Ch. 4 pp. 49-72; Rosser Ch. 1 pp. 28-39 and Ch. 15)

Discussion #1 – Due no later than end of day 11:59 pm (DATE)

Week 2

Interprofessional Practice of Palliative Care Nursing

Date

Need for Specialized Care at the End-Of-Life

1. Death and dying in America: Changes over the last century
2. Demographics and social trends
3. Disease / dying trajectories

(Reading Assignment in Blackboard within dated assignment and Vadivelu Ch. 1, pp. 1-6)

Discussion #2 – Due no later than end of day 11:59 pm (DATE)

Assignment #1– Due no later than end of day 11:59 pm (DATE)

Week 3

Ethical Aspects of Palliative Care

Date

Ethical issues and dilemmas in end-of-life care

1. Facilitating ethical and legal practices
2. When ethical dilemmas occur

(Reading Assignment – Vadivelu Ch.27, pp. 483-500)

Discussion #3 – Due no later than end of day 11:59 pm (DATE)

Week 4

Legal Aspects of Palliative Care

Date

End of life decision making.

1. State legislation affecting end of life care
2. Nurse's role in legal aspects of care.

(Reading Assignment – Vadivelu Ch.. 5 pp. 73-87 , Ch. 6 pp. 89-105)

Discussion #4 – Due no later than end of day 11:59 pm (DATE)

Case Study #1 – Due no later than end of day 11:59 pm (DATE)

Week 5

Culture and Spirituality in Palliative Care

1. Cultural assessment/considerations
2. Beliefs regarding death and dying, after life and bereavement
3. Stereotyping
4. Specific cultural groups and death and dying practices

(Reading Assignment – Vadivelu Ch. pp. 92,127, 210)

Discussion #5 – Due no later than end of day 11:59 pm (DATE)

Week 6

Communicating with the Seriously Ill, Dying Patients, their Families and other Health Care Providers.

1. The communication process
2. Factors influencing communication
3. Healthcare professional's communication style

(Reading Assignment – Vadivelu Ch 5 pp. 73-88,, Ch 2. pp. 7-22)

Discussion #6 – Due no later than end of day 11:59 pm (DATE)

Week 7

Physical Aspects in End of Life Care – Pain

1. Barriers to pain relief
2. Pain assessment
3. Pharmacological therapies
4. Non-pharmacological therapies

(Reading Assignment – Vadivelu Ch. 17 pp. 299-314; 290-292)

Discussion #7 – Due no later than end of day 11:59 pm (DATE)

Week 8

Holistic and Integrative Therapies in Palliative Care

1. Various holistic healing modalities
2. Consideration and evaluation of complimentary therapies

(Reading Assignment – Rosser Ch. 2 pp. 55-89)

Discussion #8 – Due no later than end of day 11:59 pm (DATE)

Assignment #2 – Due no later than end of day 11:59 pm (DATE)

Week 9

Symptom Management – Dyspnea

1. Assessment of dyspnea in end of life care
2. Management of dyspnea in end of life care

(Reading Assignment –Vadivelu Ch. 4 pp. 49-71; Ch. 23, pp. 315-415)

Discussion #9 – Due no later than end of day 11:59 pm (DATE)

Week 10

Physical Aspects in End of Life Care – Anxiety, Depression and Delirium

1. Manifestation of anxiety in the patient and family
2. Death anxiety
3. Recognition of symptoms of depression
4. Interventions for anxiety, depression, and delirium in palliative care and end of life nursing.

(Reading Assignment – Vadivelu Ch. 4 pp. 49-71; Rosser Ch. 10, pp. 334-388)

Discussion #10 – Due no later than end of day 11:59 pm (DATE)

Week 11

Physical Aspects in End of Life Care – Fatigue

1. Fatigue in specific populations
2. Quality of life as priority

(Reading Assignment – Vadivelu Ch. 2 pp. 78-89; Rosser pp. 288, 294, 307, 317-329)

Discussion #111 – Due no later than end of day 11:59 pm (DATE)

Week 12

Loss, Suffering, Bereavement and Grief

1. Experience of loss and suffering
2. Grieving theories
3. Grief assessment
4. Bereavement interventions

(Reading Assignment – Rosser Ch. 14, pgs. 483-518)

Discussion #12 – Due no later than end of day 11:59 pm (DATE)

Case Study #2 – Due no later than end of day 11:59 pm (DATE)

Week 13 The Actively Dying Client: Signs, Symptoms and Nursing Interventions

1. Death
2. Care immediately following death
3. The challenge for nurses to delivery quality end-of-life care
4. The nurse's role in improving healthcare practices in caring for the dying client and family
5. Opportunities for growth at end-of-life

(Reading Assignment – Rosser Ch. 7- Ch. 10 , pp. 233-388)

Discussion #13 – Due no later than end of day 11:59 pm (DATE)

Week 14 Experience of End of Life Care

1. Family caregivers
2. Assessment and support of family
3. The nurse, dying and death
4. Dying is a unique experience
5. Dying as a physical, psychological, social, and spiritual event

(Reading Assignment- Rosser Ch.2, pp.67-77; Ch.11 pp. 384; Ch. 13 pp. 447-482; Ch.16-17 pp. 557-618)

Discussion #14– Due no later than end of day 11:59 pm (DATE)

Week 15 PAPER DUE!