Lassen Community College Course Outline

VN-59 Intravenous Therapy and Blood Withdrawal 2.0 Units

I. Catalog Description

This course is designed to equip Licensed Vocational Nurses with the knowledge and skills necessary to achieve Intravenous Therapy and Blood Withdrawal Certification through the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians (BVNPT). Students will gain a comprehensive understanding of blood withdrawal techniques, intravenous therapy principles, and safety protocols. Through a combination of theoretical instruction and hands-on experience, students will develop the competency required to perform safe and accurate venipunctures and skin punctures, demonstrate proficiency in IV therapy and adhere to BVNPT standards. The student must perform a minimum of 3 individually supervised successful venipunctures and 3 individually supervised skin punctures on live human subjects. Upon successful completion of the course, students will be well-prepared to withdraw blood and start and superimpose intravenous fluids in an organized healthcare system.
This is a web-enhanced course, access to a computer with internet access is required.
A non-refundable lab fee of $100 is required at the time of registration and must be paid in full prior to the start of the course.
This course is approved by the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians for delivery to 15 students per BVNPT approved IV therapy and blood withdrawal instructor.

Diversity Statement

Diversity and inclusion are fundamental pillars of the Lassen Community College Health Science & Medical Technology programs. We are dedicated to cultivating an environment where all individuals feel respected, valued, and empowered. By embracing diverse perspectives and promoting an inclusive culture, we aim to foster the development of healthcare professionals who are culturally aware and equipped to provide compassionate, equitable care to diverse populations and communities.

Prerequisites(s): Successful completion of all vocational nursing courses or current LVN license in the state of California.

Additional Course Information

Transfer Status:

- NT

Total Number of Hours by Instructional Method:

- 31 hours lecture, 9 hours lab, 62 outside of class hours, 102 total student learning hours

Scheduled:

- Every Spring

II. Coding Information

Repeatability: Not Repeatable
Grading Option: Graded only
Credit Type: Credit - Degree Applicable
TOP Code: 120510

III. Course Objectives

A. Course Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Perform venipunctures, initiate and maintain IV therapy in accordance with the LVN scope of practice.
2. Document venipuncture and the start of IV therapy in accordance with current legal requirements, the current nursing practice act, and the standard of care within the LVN scope of practice.
3. Perform blood withdrawal within LVN scope of practice.

B. Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate proficiency in withdrawing blood and starting and superimposing intravenous fluids, meeting the standards set by the BVNPT.
2. Explain the process of blood transfusion and its importance for patient care within an organized healthcare system.

IV. Course Content

A. Outline of Topics

1. Discuss blood withdrawal
2. Physical and psychological preparation of patient
3. Universal precautions for infection control
4. Methods of blood withdrawal
5. Method for withdrawal
6. Preparation of withdrawal site
7. Safety measures
8. Equipment and supplies
9. Venipuncture
10. Complications of phlebotomy
11. Skin puncture
12. Complications
13. Peripheral intravenous therapy
    a. Physical and psychological preparation of patient
    b. Universal precautions for infection control
    c. Indications for intravenous therapy
    d. Infusion of intravenous medications and the Licensed Vocational Nurses scope of practice
    e. Intravenous solutions
    f. Types of intravenous delivery systems
    g. Intravenous equipment

h. Asepsis and intravenous therapy
i. Infusion rates and regulate fluid flow
j. Peripheral venipuncture initiation
k. Complication of peripheral IV therapy
l. Blood and blood products administration

V. Assignments

A. Appropriate Readings

1. Representative texts as assigned by instructor.
2. California regulations governing intravenous therapy.

B. Writing Assignments

1. Documentation

C. Expected Outside Assignments

1. Daily reading assignments in the texts and journals

D. Specific Assignments that Demonstrate Critical Thinking

1. Performance of direct and indirect venipunctures.
2. Assess fluids and electrolyte balance.
3. Demonstrate complete procedure of blood or blood product administration.
4. Analyze lab reports.
5. Interpret physician's orders.
6. Simulation

VI. Methods of Evaluation

Traditional Evaluation

Term paper (topic choice, thesis statement, outline, bibliography, rough draft, final draft), homework, classroom discussion, essay, journals, lab demonstrations and activities, multiple choice quizzes, and participation.

VII. Methods of Delivery

☒ Traditional Classroom Delivery
☐ Correspondence Delivery
☐ Hybrid Delivery
☐ Online Delivery

Traditional Classroom Delivery

Lecture, discussion, audio/visual aids, demonstration, group exercises, guest speakers, lab, individualized programs and other as needed.

VIII. Representative Texts and Supplies

Provided by instructor.

IX. Course Status

1. Current Status: Active
2. Original Approval Date: 11/20/1990

3. Course Originator:
4. Board Approval Date: 04/08/2025
5. Chancellor's Office Approval Date: 04/21/2025
6. Revised By: Christi Myers
7. Curriculum/Academic Standards Committee Revision Date: 03/18/2025