A. Identification:
1. Subject Area: Nursing (NUR)
2. Course Number: 116
3. Course Title: Nursing Concepts I
4. Credit Hours: 7
5. Catalog Description: This introductory nursing course focuses on the core components of nursing practice and caring as the essence of nursing. Emphasis will be placed on professional roles of the nurse, the nursing process, critical thinking, basic assessment, communication skills, medication administration and basic nursing skills. Pre-requisites: Admission to the nursing program. Pre/Co-requisites: BIO 202, ENG 102. Co-requisite: NUR 114. Five lecture. Six lab.

B. Course Goals: Prepare students to utilize the nursing process and critical thinking to provide care to clients. Assist students to develop beginning competence in the role of the professional provider of care.

C. Course Outcomes: Students will:
1. Discuss behaviors associated with the professional nurse, and identify basic clinical reasoning principles to formulate a plan of care, the concepts of caring interventions, and the components of patient care management.

D. Course Assessment:
Assignments, quizzes, examinations and verification of basic nursing skills competency.

E. Course Content:
1. Introduction to professional nursing, including Nursing program philosophy, historical evolution of nursing, nursing as a profession, nursing theories, nursing educational preparation, nursing practice settings, community-based nursing practice, roles of the nurse, professional nursing organizations, societal influences on nursing.
2. Caring throughout the life span.
3. Utilizing the nursing process to meet basic human needs, including activity and exercise, oxygenation, sleep, comfort, nutrition, elimination, fluid and electrolytes and acid-base, skin integrity and wound care, self-concept, loss, death, and grieving, stress and adaptation, spirituality.
4. Core components of nursing practice, including professional behaviors, communication, assessment, clinical decision-making, caring interventions, teaching and learning, collaboration, and managing care.