



<b>List Nursing Courses</b> <b>→</b> <hr/> <b>Delineated Geriatric Competencies and Essential Geriatric Topics</b> <b>↓</b>	<u>Course</u>	<u>Course</u>	<u>Course</u>	<u>Course</u>	<u>Course</u>	<u>Course</u>	<u>Course</u>	<u>Course</u>	<u>Course</u>
Functional Assessment/ Cognitive/Mental Assessment: Incorporate into daily practice valid and reliable tools to assess the functional, cognitive, psychological, social and spiritual status of older adults.									
Depression/ Delirium/ Dementia									
Pressure Ulcers									
Nutrition: Eating/Feeding									
Pain/Palliation									
Urinary Continence									
Falls: Prevent or reduce common risk factors that contribute to functional decline, impaired quality of life, and excess disability in older adults.									
Polypharmacy									
Physical Restraints: Individualize care and prevent morbidity and mortality associated with the use of physical and chemical restraints in older adults.									

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Ethics: Apply ethical and legal principles to the complex issues that arise in care of older adults.									
Caregiving / Elder Mistreatment: Assess family knowledge of skills necessary to deliver care to older adults.									
Assist older adults, families, and caregivers to understand and balance “everyday” autonomy and safety decisions.									
Involve, educate, and when appropriate, supervise family, friends, and assistive personnel in implementing best practices for older adults.									
Establish and follow standards of care to recognize and report elder mistreatment.									
Living Arrangements: Assess older adults’ living environment with special awareness of the functional, physical, cognitive, psychological, and social changes common in old age.									

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Contrast the opportunities and constraints of supportive living arrangements on the function and independence of older adults and on their families.									
Intergenerational issues									
Adopt the concept of individualized care as the standard of practice with older adults.									
Recognize that sensation and perception in older adults are mediated by functional, physical, cognitive, psychological, and social changes common in old age.									
Ensure quality of care commensurate with older adults' vulnerability and frequency and intensity of care needs.									
Analyze the effectiveness of community resources in assisting older adults and their families to retain personal goals, maximize function, maintain independence, and live in the least restrictive environment.									

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Adapt technical skills to meet the functional, physical, cognitive, psychological, social, and endurance capacities of older adults.									
Apply evidence-based standards to screen, immunize, and promote healthy activities in older adults.									
Facilitate older adults' active participation in all aspects of their own care.									
Recognize and manage geriatric syndromes common to older adults.									
Recognize the complex interaction of acute and chronic co-morbid conditions common to older adults.									
Evaluate the utility of complementary and integrative health care practices on health promotion and symptom management for older adults.									
Use technology to enhance older adults' function, independence, and safety.									

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Analyze the impact of an aging society on the health care system.									
Evaluate the influence of payer systems on access, availability, and affordability of health care for older adults.									
Recognize the benefits of interdisciplinary team participation in care of older adults.									
Promote the desirability of quality end-of-life care for older adults, including pain and symptom management, as essential, desirable, and integral components of nursing practice.									

*Developed by:* Dr. Kathleen Blais, Florida International University School of Nursing

*Sources:* American Association of Colleges of Nursing/ John A. Hartford Foundation Institute for Geriatric Nursing. (July 2000). Older Adults: Recommended Baccalaureate Competencies and Curricular Guidelines for Geriatric Nursing Care. Washington, DC: AACN. The John A. Hartford Foundation Institute for Geriatric Nursing. (undated). Partners for Dissemination of Best Nursing Practices in Care for Older Adults: Baccalaureate Nursing Program Implementation Manual. New York, NY: The John A. Hartford Foundation Institute for Geriatric Nursing.

March, 2002