

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILLAND  
FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES  
FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER  
SEMESTER 1 DECEMBER 2011**

**COURSE TITLE: NURSING ETHICS AND PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE  
COURSE CODE: NUR 205  
TIME ALLOWED: 2 HOURS  
TOTAL MARKS: 75**

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

- 1. ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS.**
- 2. READ QUESTIONS CAREFULLY.**
- 3. SECTION A HAS MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS.**
- 4. SECTION B HAS ESSAY QUESTIONS.**
- 5. WRITE CLEARLY.**

***DO NOT OPEN THE PAPER UNTIL PERMISSION IS GRANTED BY THE  
INVIGILATOR!***

**SECTION A:**

**Question 1 to 15: CHOOSE THE BEST ANSWER**

1. The following definition of nursing is by Virginia Henderson:
  - A. Nursing is a human clinical science that constitutes the body of knowledge for the practice of persons registered under the nursing act
  - B. Nursing is a caring profession which supports and assists the patient, ill or well, at all stages of life, to achieve and maintain his potential for health optimally. Where this is not possible, the patient is cared for so that he lives in dignity until death.
  - C. Nursing is assisting the individual(sick or well) in performing activities contributing to health or its recovery (or peaceful death) that he would perform unaided if he had the necessary strength, will or knowledge
  - D. Nursing is that service to mankind, which enables people to attain and maintain good health and prevent illness, or when illness occurs, helps and supports them, so that they may overcome their illness and regain full health.
  
2. The following ethical principle refers to the equitable distribution of resources across the society
  - A. Beneficence
  - B. Justice
  - C. Fidelity
  - D. Veracity
  
3. A nurse demonstrates professional maturity if she/he exhibits which of the following?
  - a. Knowledge and acceptance of all responsibilities inherent in nursing education and practice.
  - b. Mutual trust and respect in relationships between clients and different practitioners.
  - c. Maintenance of competence and ongoing learning.
  - d. Risk taking without responsibility for outcomes.
  - e. Reasoned decision making in all domains.
  - A. a, b, c and e.
  - B. a, c and d
  - C. b and d only
  - D. b, c, d and e

4. In order for nurses to demonstrate professionalism, they should be:
- A. People who abuse power to get work done
  - B. People with a special responsibility to be sensitive to the way in which power conferred on them by their professional standing is used.
  - C. Very protective of clients only
  - D. Controllers of nursing services as well as clients and care givers.
5. A code of ethics is:
- A. A set of guiding principles that all members of a profession accept
  - B. A pledge that is made by nurses when joining the profession
  - C. An important document that needs to be signed by nurses when they start working
  - D. A set of ethical principles.
6. The employer's obligation to the nurse is to:
- a. enable the nurse to practice legally and ethically
  - b. Ensure that a job description and orientation has been done
  - c. Ensure that the workload is manageable
  - d. Ensure personal and professional recognition of the nurse
  - e. Enforce discipline to the nurse
- A. c and e
  - B. a,b,c,d and e
  - C. a,b,c and d
  - D. b and c
7. According to ICN Code of Ethics for Nurses, the responsibility of the nurse is to:
- A. Treat illness, prevent disease, alleviate suffering and restore health
  - B. Prevent illness, promote suffering, restore health and promote health
  - C. Promote health, prevent illness, restore health and alleviate suffering
  - D. Promote health, to restore health, give drugs and to alleviate suffering
8. The nurse and the doctor must be able to rely on each other because the nurse has a duty to the patient to:
- A. Keep the doctor informed about the condition of the patient
  - B. Carry out treatment or investigations prescribed with due care, skill and honesty
  - C. Care for the patient with knowledge and skill.
  - D. All of the above.

9. Bioethics is:
- A. Prescribed requirement of biological ethics
  - B. Applied ethics inquiry in the biomedical sciences that attempts to provide moral responses to questions about health care, technology use and health related public policy
  - C. Applied ethics inquiry in the biological sciences to provide moral responses to difficulty questions in nursing care
  - D. Standards of behavior derived from biomedical ethical practices
10. The regulatory activities of the nursing council are:
- A. Setting standards of Nursing Education by accreditation of all centers who need to train nurses.
  - B. Maintaining registers and rolls of basic and post basic qualifications
  - C. Regulation of scope of practice for registered nurses and enrolled nurses.
  - D. All of the above
11. According to Buddhism, disease is :
- A. Suffering which needed to be alleviated
  - B. Punishment for wrong doing which has to be endured
  - C. Caused by the spirit of Buddha
  - D. Punishment which needed one to seek forgiveness
12. The purpose of collective bargaining is to:
- A. Arrange relations between employees and employers
  - B. Prevent the employee from speaking with the union over salaries
  - C. Prevent and settle disputes by negotiation between employers and employees over matters such as salaries and working conditions.
  - D. Enforcing discipline to the employees
13. A right to health is:
- A. A claim that a person has and that ought to be protected
  - B. A morally just claim or entitlement to freedom from illness, debilitating disease or risk of illness or disease
  - C. An obligation to carry out duties associated with a particular role assumed by the individual.
  - D. Standards of behavior that derive from a particular cultural group.

14. The nurse must at all times do everything in a her/ his power EXCEPT

- A. Maintain the health status of the patient.
- B. Prevent deterioration of the patient.
- C. Prevent deformity but allow pain and suffering.
- D. Prevent deformity and alleviate pain and suffering .

15. Demonstrating respect for persons depends on the following EXCEPT

- A. Autonomy
- B. Truth telling
- C. Beneficence
- D. Confidentiality

**Questions 16 to 25 : Indicate whether these questions are True or False. (T /F )**

- 16. The main purpose of professional regulation is to protect the public against unsafe practice and to set standards in order to ensure quality service to the community
- 17. People who practiced nursing had their activities encapsulated in taboos and rigid societal sanctioned behavior
- 18. The nurse takes appropriate action to harass individuals when their care is endangered by a co-worker or any other person.
- 19. Coercion is the use of some form of pressure to persuade or compel an individual to agree to a belief or action
- 20. Associations can should not interfere with nursing research institutes nor obtain funds for nursing research
- 21. Religious beliefs also determine acceptance of suffering and response to deviations from health.
- 22. Confidentiality is an integral component of the nurse-patient or indeed any health professional –client relationship
- 23. Nurses are entitled to their constitutional rights and may exercise rights entrenched in labour legislation- even if exercising these rights puts the patient at risk
- 24. The ethnocentric nurse should try by all means impose her values on the patients in order to correct their beliefs.
- 25. Nurses are entitled to dignity and security; to proper education for their role; to a fair wage for work done; to favourable working conditions and conditions of service; to rest and leisure time and family time.

**25 MARKS**

**SECTION B**

**Question 1:**

a) Professional nurses assume different roles as they provide comprehensive care.

Describe the role of a professional nurse as:

- i) Client advocate (5 marks)
- ii) Care giver (5 marks)
- iii) Educator (5 marks)

b) Describe the following ethical principles entrenched in the philosophy of nursing:

- i) Beneficence (5 marks)
- ii) Confidentiality (5 marks)

**25 MARKS**

**Question 2:**

a) A profession is characterized by a large body of specialized theory with well-developed technical skills based on this theory. Discuss how the nursing profession meets this criterion. (5 marks)

b) Describe ten other characteristics of a profession and how the nursing profession meets these requirements. (20 marks)

**25 MARKS**