

## **Personal Support Worker Course Descriptions**

### **CS 050 – College Writing**

This course students will be introduced to various writing styles with a thematic focus on current issues. This course will help students to express themselves clearly and correctly in written form. Students will engage in reflective writing through critical analysis of assigned readings. Students will express their thoughts and how and why they think that way through the concepts of Reflection, Respect, Realization and Responsibility. The course will also focus on the development of academic writing skills to effectively compile and present research in essay form according to the APA style of documentation.

### **PW 100- Fundamental Skills for PSW Practice**

The course is a combination of theory, laboratory skills, and simulations to support the role of the Personal Support Worker in a variety of health care settings. The foundation of this course focuses on the Personal Support Worker role in the care planning process and implementation. Through knowledge and skill acquisition, the Personal Support Worker student learns to execute basic and advance skills to support the personal support worker role and collaborate with clients, families and the interprofessional team. Skills learned in this course encompass infection prevention and control, safety, activities of daily living, urinary and bowel elimination, medications, nutrition, and vital signs. As these skills are developed, the Personal Support Worker will learn documentation and reporting of information to supervisors, regulated health care professionals, and the interprofessional team.

### **PW 102 – Professional Growth**

This course will examine the concepts of the Canadian Health Care system, legislation, consumer rights, including ethical and safe practice in relation to the role and scope of the Personal Support Worker. The course will also introduce the learner to the various opportunities for Personal Support Workers, different types of health care agencies and job preparedness. Students will also explore concepts of teaching and learning related to time and stress management to enhance their success in both the classroom and the workplace.

### **PN 128 – Therapeutic Nurse Client Relationships**

This course introduces the learner to the development of the therapeutic nurse-client relationship. The learner will study the concepts of caring and collaboration; client and family centred care; and the maintenance of professional boundaries and therapeutic communication, as constructs to the helping relationship. Exploring the College of Nurses of Ontario's (CNO), 2019) "Therapeutic Nurse-Client Relationship, learners will engage in an in-depth discussion of the components of trust, respect, professional intimacy, empathy, and power. This course will examine the six principles from the CNO's "Code of Conduct", which guides a nurse's and other health care professionals' (HCP) obligations, and as a way in which to understand the public's expectation of nursing. Culminating this course will be a study of how all nurses and other HCPs must protect clients from abuse of any form, through proper identification, prevention, protection, reporting mechanisms, and by the application of the CNO's practice guideline "Ethics". This course will support the knowledge that is required during clinical scenarios, as they occur throughout the Practical Nursing program.

### **PW 130 – Anatomy & Physiology**

This course will provide the learner with basic understanding of the human body. Understanding structure of the human body and how it relates to our functions lays a foundation for the learner to identify common diseases and conditions that will help them to provide care that each client needs. This course will support the knowledge that is required during clinical placements.

### **PW 200 – PSW Clinical Practice I**

This course will provide the learner with opportunities to examine the role of the personal support worker when caring for individuals across the life span. The learner will utilize and implement knowledge and fundamental skills for the personal support worker including gentle persuasive approach and behaviour management in the community and long-term care settings. This course is evenly distributed between the community and long-term setting to prepare a competent holistic personal support worker for all clinical settings. The learner is expected to safely integrate the care planning process through applying the role of the personal support working in all past and present courses including skills acquired in the laboratory and simulation setting.

### **PW 201 – Supportive Care Theory II**

This course is designed to provide the learner with information that will enable them to provide support to the consumer/client in their role as Personal Support Worker. The learner will be introduced to more in-depth concepts of care and assessment that guide their role as a member of an interprofessional team. The learner will enhance their knowledge of mental health conditions, dementia, medication assistance, various alterations in physical functioning, as well as palliative and end of life care.

### **PW 208**

This clinical experience will provide the learner with the opportunity to consolidate skills and knowledge obtained throughout the Personal Support Worker Program. The learner is expected to safely integrate the care planning process through applying the knowledge and skills in the role of the Personal Support Worker. In collaboration with a Personal Support Worker preceptor in the clinical setting, the learner will gradually increase their practice to the graduate level and prepare to enter practice as a Personal Support Worker. This clinical experience will take place in a community or long-term care setting of the learners choosing in consultation with the Program Coordinator.

### **PW 230 – Growth & Development**

In this course, the learner will continue to explore the concepts of assisting clients across the lifespan through the understanding of growth and development. Understanding the physical, cognitive, social and personality domains of development lay a foundation for the learner to understand self and others and provide care to meet the needs of people of all ages. This course will support the knowledge that is required during clinical placements.