

Program: **Certificate in Occupational Health Nursing**

Course: **COHN 5130 – Health Surveillance in Injury and Disease Prevention**

Instructor: **Juanita House**

### **Course Description:**

This course will highlight the roles and responsibilities of the Occupational Health Nurse (OHN) in the prevention occupational injury and disease within an integrated health surveillance strategy. The OHN student will learn appropriate clinical decision-making regarding a health surveillance program and the activities necessary to implement this program in the workplace. Students will also understand the processes to identify and address workplace hazards and subsequent prevention strategies to implement in the workplace.

### **Course Objectives:**

Upon completion of this course students will:

1. Define Occupational Health Surveillance; its purpose and the OHN role in the surveillance program.
2. Understand the concept of injury and disease prevention in the workplace.
3. Identify the categories of workplace hazards and develop strategies to prevent adverse impact on worker health.
4. Develop pre-placement and periodic health assessment programs based on specific job descriptions.
5. Interpret surveillance information related to worker and environments through the collection of health history and physical assessment.
6. Understand the OHN role in primary, secondary and tertiary care
7. Understand the OHN role in emergency response

### **Course Outline:**

This course provides essential knowledge to work independently within a workplace or as a valuable team member in an integrated health and safety team. The scope of the

OHN is far reaching and includes knowledge of occupational, biological, environmental, safety, Industrial Hygiene and Ergonomic issues.

Topics include:

- The OHN's role in Surveillance
- Developing an OH surveillance Program
- Injury & Disease Prevention
- Hazards and Risks
- Occupational Health Assessment
- Pre-Placement Assessments
- Physical Exam
- Laboratory and Clinical Measurements
- Interpreting Surveillance and Health Assessment Results
- Different Types of Exposures (Chemical, Ergonomic, Physical, Psychosocial, Safety)
- Biological Monitoring and Toxicological Monitoring
- OHN Role in Primary, Secondary, and Tertiary Care
- OHN Role in Emergency Response, Testing for Substance Abuse
- Worker Privacy and Confidentiality

### Course Textbooks:

These two textbooks are required:

- Tee Guidotti, M. Suzanne Arnold, David G. Lukcso, Judith Green-McKenzie, Joel Bender, Mark A. Rothstein, Frank H. Leone, Karen O'Hara, and Marion Stecklow (2012).. Occupational Health Services: A Practical Approach, *Second Edition*. <http://www.oempress.com/product/occupational-health-services-a-practical-approach/practice-of-occupational-medicine>
- Rogers, Bonnie; Randolphe, Susan; Mastroianni, Karen. (2009). Occupational Health Nursing Guidelines for Primary Clinical Conditions, *Fourth Edition*. [http://www.oempress.com/product/Occupational\\_Health\\_Nursing\\_Guidelines\\_for\\_Primary\\_Clinical\\_Conditions/occupational-health-nursing](http://www.oempress.com/product/Occupational_Health_Nursing_Guidelines_for_Primary_Clinical_Conditions/occupational-health-nursing)

### Academic Requirements:

2 written assignments (35% each)

1 exam (30%)