

# WE AS EMPOWERED LEARNERS AND LEADERS (WEL)

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## **WEL 100: Empowered as Learners and Leaders (3 credits)**

Empowered as Learners and Leaders is an interdisciplinary course, designed to give all students entering Bay Path University a common experience and foundation for their education. This course is an introduction to the University, to academic study, and to various approaches to thinking about personal potential, to understand the process of becoming a learner, a leader, and composing a life, to appreciate meaning, and work actively toward establishing community and justice in the context of being a leader in the 21st century.

## **WEL 200: Present Yourself (3 credits)**

Persuasive speaking is about achieving a specific outcome. It is aimed at getting an audience to take certain action. But to succeed, you must first either change their attitudes and beliefs or reinforce attitudes and beliefs they already hold. You begin by planning and preparing and by focusing clearly on the outcome you want to achieve and the means to achieve it. This course is designed to help students build the skills necessary to achieve these results. Students will be asked to present weekly, under different circumstances and to different audiences.

## **WEL 220: Empowered as Learners and Leaders (3 credits)**

This interdisciplinary course is designed to give undergraduate students a foundation for lifelong learning. Students examine leadership within the larger context of our interdependent world and their own strengths, values, and aspirations. Students also examine learning preferences, leadership styles, and communication skills to create a personalized plan for success.

## **WEL 310: Strategies for Career and Personal Growth (1 credits)**

Strategies for Career and Personal Growth builds on the foundation created in WEL 100 to deepen students' knowledge, skills and attitudes related to career development. Through a focus on well-being and lifelong learning, students strategically delve into opportunities to build passion, purpose and potential through reflection on strengths and experiences, researching and learning about career paths related to one's major field of study and leveraging the career portfolio. This one-credit course is the mid-level requirement of our Women Empowered as Learners and Leaders Core Curriculum. This course is typically completed during the spring semester of the sophomore year or fall semester of the junior year.

## **WEL 330: Strategies for Personal and Career Growth (3 credits)**

Together, we will spend the course defining and refining our response to the question: what is a meaningful career and what resources do I need to achieve one? We will also build upon the learning we achieved in WEL220 by thinking about how career management skills can help us become more effective leaders. This course has been designed to support adult learners in all phases of their professional and life paths, from meaningful career planning through the job search and beyond. You will find that many assignments can be tailored to your own personal situation, whether you are just embarking on your career, changing course, or preparing for retirement.

## **WEL 331: Strategies for Personal and Career Growth for Nurses (3 credits)**

This required course for RN to BSN students builds on the foundation created in WEL 220 to deepen students' knowledge, skills and attitudes related to career, leadership and financial development. Students' transition from the associate's degree graduate to the new paradigm of the professional baccalaureate prepared nurse in this course. They explore the program outcomes as their next phase in a career-long process of professional development. Students examine the key factors in society that promote a nurse's return to school, and determine the level of professionalism, effective communication, holistic healthcare, ethics, and informatics and technology required of nursing professionals in the 21st century. Students review healthcare legal foundations, nursing theory, health promotion, patient education, and determine the level of evidence-based practice required to provide standard-based nursing care. Students assess the challenges and opportunities related to professional nursing practice and evaluate the meaning and implications of the Massachusetts professional competency standards which include the Quality and Safe Education for Nurses (QSEN) national standards generated by the Institute of Medicine recommendations for safe patient care. Through this course, students explore growth and development as nurses while understanding the opportunities to build on their purpose, passion and potential.

*Prerequisite: COM 111 and ENG 124*

## **WEL 350: Strategies for Career and Personal Growth (2 credits)**

Together, we will spend the course defining and refining our response to the question: what is a meaningful career and what resources do I need to achieve one? We will also build upon the learning we achieved in WEL220 by thinking about how career management skills can help us become more effective leaders. This course has been designed to support learners in all phases of their professional and life paths, from meaningful career planning through the job search and beyond. You will find that many assignments can be tailored to your own personal situation, whether you are just embarking on your career, changing course, or preparing for retirement.

*Prerequisite: WEL 100 or WEL 220*

## **WEL 400: Leadership in Practice (3 credits)**

This course focuses on the planning, design, and implementation of a project in partnership with a community agency. Students will engage in research pertaining to leadership (learn), and practice critical thinking and problem-solving skills while learning about theory, community, and leadership (connect and practice). In this course, students advance their leadership skills to move from responsiveness to responsibility with the goal of social change. Through a team-based, service learning project, students will learn about and practice creative and strategic decision-making skills as well as develop organization and systems thinking skills. Trips to local sites and/or interaction with those in the community are integral components of WEL 400.

## **WEL 440: Leadership in Practice (3 credits)**

This interdisciplinary capstone course is designed to give students nearing the end of their degree an opportunity to demonstrate their leadership, communications, and technology skills through active engagement in a self-directed change project. Building on assignments completed in previous courses, students are responsible for designing, implementing and evaluating an experiential learning project that draws on their talents, interests, strengths and skills to facilitate change in a personal, family, organizational and/or community setting.

**WEL 441: Leadership in Practice for Nurses (3 credits)**

This course combines academic study with practical application of leadership, communications and technology skills in nursing practice as a springboard for the nursing student to move forward into the future as an empowered woman. Students develop and expand their leadership abilities as they relate to their professional practice. Students examine various leadership and management theories in nursing. They analyze and evaluate nursing responsibilities related to communication, politics, conflict management, cost containment, organizational structure, staffing, evaluations, and delegation, including continuous quality improvement in healthcare systems. Students participate in simulations and scenarios to develop effective decision making strategies and to enhance teamwork, interdisciplinary collaborations, and accountability. As a culminating experience, this course also provides the platform for assessing students' progress and proficiency.

*Prerequisite: WEL 220 and WEL 331*