

Foundations of Nursing, 2E



By Lois White

Lois White's *Foundations Of Nursing*, now in its second edition, serves as a comprehensive summary of the nursing process and an excellent over-all resource with multiple focal points. Here, White (former faculty and chairperson, Department of Vocational Nurse Education, Del Mar College) has built *Foundations Of Nursing* into a practical nursing text which can also easily double as an on the job reference book for use by the practicing nurse.

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Over the past twenty years, the nurse's responsibilities have increased tremendously, with myriad expectations awaiting both the novice and experienced nursing professional. Consequently, success in the field requires any student-nurse to command a thorough understanding of both medical diagnoses and treatment.

Accordingly, White's texts provides an in depth review of disease processes (with focus on medical, surgical and pharmacologic treatments) – topics that are often overlooked in that annals of nursing literature which has, in the past, concentrated deeply on nursing diagnoses and intervention.

The *Foundations of Nursing* (in its second edition) is divided into three primary sections: Basic Nursing; Adult Health Nursing; and Maternal/Pediatric Nursing. White has gone to great lengths to insure that this text be well organized and careful to cover a multitude of information crucial to the day-to-day nursing practice.

In addition, the text includes analysis on holistic care; the history of the nursing profession; legal and ethical responsibilities pertinent to nursing care; a guide to infection control; a review of fundamental nursing procedures; guidelines on how to care for the patient with various physiologic disorders; and tips on meeting the needs of the childbearing patient. The highlighted boxes which frame each chapter further serve to stimulate critical thinking, providing useful professional tips (such as making sure to take a patient's cultural background into consideration in the course of treatment) – hints that should make the nurse's day-to-day experience in the hospital a little bit easier.

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To the experienced nurse, a lot of this might seem “old hat” however, White’s treatise is meant to give the novice nurse basic instruction on disease processes, in addition to guidance on the medical, surgical and pharmacologic management of various pathophysiologic conditions.

In essence, *Foundations of Nursing* teaches both experienced and novice nurses to piece together the whole picture of the patient instead of merely focusing on the nursing process and intervention. And for the present-day student of nursing, success in the field will mean mastery of these concepts.

White’s *Foundations of Nursing* would serve as an excellent choice for use in courses that teach the basics of nursing, noted for its comprehensive tone and the author’s unique ability to speak on myriad intellectual levels. Further, the text is full of well-placed diagrams that are both pleasing to the eye as well as vital to the information being presented. Basically, Lois White has created a user-friendly textbook that provides the novice nurse with an excellent review of disease processes and medical, surgical and pharmacologic treatment options necessary to maximize patient care, covering all the important aspects of nursing assessment, planning and intervention.

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