

*Adult Health Exploration: Critical Care Case Studies*

**An Honors Thesis (NUR 430)**

**By**

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*April 2020*

**Expected Date of Graduation**

*May 2020*

## **Abstract**

Critical care nursing is the most comprehensive type of nursing that there can be. It considers every body system, every assessment, every intervention, and it requires the nurse to be meticulous in order to analyze every finding that may indicate a complication or an improvement in the patient's status. This means that critical care case studies require the highest level of comprehension and nursing knowledge in order to consider the plan of care, the patient teaching, and critical thinking skills that I have been taught throughout my three years of nursing school. My countless hours studying pathophysiology in addition to my numerous hours spent in clinical have all allowed me to think outside the box and consider the different case studies the nursing students were provided with this semester. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we were provided with five different case studies to analyze and research more fully. The project objective was to explain the use of critical thinking in nursing as well as analyze and synthesize assessment data and other diagnostic evidence to form clinical judgments. From here we can use these objectives to determine how to make clinical decisions, reflect on the nursing care of multisystem critically ill patients, and explain what happened and what it means for my future nursing practice.

## **Acknowledgements**

I would like to thank Mahnaz Mahmoodi for not only advising me through this thesis project but also helping me through a totally online critical care class. I have greatly developed my critical thinking skills and my clinical knowledge with her amazing guidance.

I would also like to thank my previous nursing instructors who have taught me more than I could have imagined at my time here at Ball State.