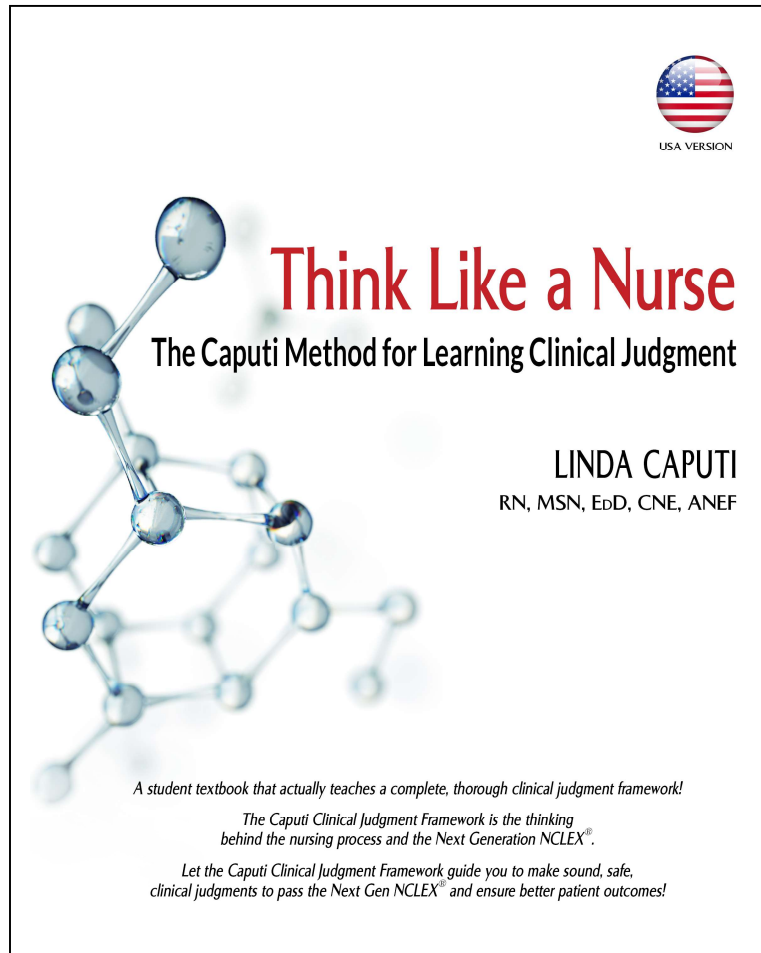


**Preview of the Caputi Online Clinical Judgment Course
to Accompany
*Think Like a Nurse: The Caputi Method for Learning Clinical
Judgment (2022 edition)***



**Taught by
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Exactly Why Use and What Is the Caputi Online Clinical Judgment Course?

The Caputi Online Clinical Judgment Course provides a way to ensure consistent teaching of clinical judgment so all students thoroughly learn the very important concept of clinical judgment.

The Caputi Online Clinical Judgment Course covers all 10 chapters in the textbook *Think Like a Nurse: The Caputi Method for Learning Clinical Judgment* (2022). The clinical judgment framework taught in the course should then be applied throughout the entire nursing program to ensure students are self-directed thinkers by the end of the nursing program, ready for the Next Gen NCLEX and ready to provide safe nursing care! At the National Council of State Boards of Nursing's (NCSBN) September 30, 2021 Virtual NCLEX Conferences, the guest speakers recommended faculty use a framework to teach clinical judgment. The Caputi Clinical Judgment Framework was listed on their presentation slide. The Caputi textbook and Caputi Online Clinical Judgment Course provide a very specific, detailed framework for learning clinical judgment.

The Caputi Online Clinical Judgment Course is available to students enrolled in nursing programs that have adopted *Think Like a Nurse: The Caputi Method for Learning Clinical Judgment* (2022 edition) as a required textbook. Students must purchase the textbook for use in this course. Students use the textbook to learn clinical judgment throughout the online course, then use the clinical judgment framework as they apply the clinical judgment process to more complex patient care across the nursing program. The online course directs students how to use the textbook in those later nursing courses.

How You Can Use the Caputi Online Clinical Judgment Course

There are a number of ways faculty can use the Caputi Online Clinical Judgment Course. This online course can be used as:

1. A stand-alone, asynchronous online course.
2. A supplement to what faculty are teaching in the classroom.
3. The major source of learning the content of the textbook *Think Like a Nurse: The Caputi Method for Learning Clinical Judgment* with the faculty working through additional application activities in the classroom. These additional application activities are provided

when a nursing program adopts *Think Like a Nurse: The Caputi Method for Learning Clinical Judgment* as a required student textbook.

How Much Does the Caputi Online Clinical Judgment Course Cost?

The cost of the entire Caputi Online Clinical Judgment Course is only \$80.00 per student. Schools do not pay any additional costs for using the Caputi Online Clinical Judgment Course. Schools may choose to have students pay individually when they register for the course; or, schools may pay the fee for entire enrollment of a class as a one-time payment prior to the start of the course. Faculty make this choice at the time they register to use the online course as part of a nursing course requirement.

How Do Schools Enroll their Students in the Caputi Online Clinical Judgment Course?

Faculty enrollment in the course is easy. Here's how you do it:

1. Go to <https://LearnClinicalJudgment.com>.
2. Click on Faculty Sign Up.
3. Enter your information.
4. Once you enter your identifying information you will be asked additional information about your course.
5. After you finish entering the course information you will receive a Student Access Code to distribute to your students. Students will use this code to register for the course.

Student enrollment in the course is just as easy:

1. Students go to <https://LearnClinicalJudgment.com>.
2. They click on Student Sign-Up
3. At the Student Sign-Up page, they enter their information along with the Access Code you provided them when you registered your course.
4. After students finish registering for the course, they will go to the payment page if they are to pay individually for the course. If the school pays the course fee for the students in the class,

the payment information will be confirmed. Once confirmed the student will receive notice they are able to log onto the system.

When is the Course Available?

The course is available June 1, 2022. You may register your course and your students at *LearnClinicalJudgment.com* any time after April 15, 2022. The earlier you register, the sooner you will be able to get your students online for the June 1, 2022 launch!

Who Teaches the Course?

The Caputi Online Clinical Judgment Course is taught by Dr. Linda Caputi. Who is Dr. Caputi?

Dr. Caputi is Professor Emeritus, College of DuPage in Illinois. She has taught in LPN, ADN, BSN, and MSN programs. She is President of Linda Caputi, Inc., a nursing education consulting company. Spanning across 30 years, Dr. Caputi has consulted with over a thousand nursing schools on topics related to teaching clinical judgment, revising curriculum, transforming clinical education, test item writing and analysis, student retention, increasing NCLEX pass rates, nursing program accreditation, and numerous other nursing education topics. She has also presented at over 1,000 workshops and nursing education conferences.

Dr. Caputi has won six awards for teaching excellence from Sigma Theta Tau, is included in 3 years of *Who's Who Among America's Teachers*, was nominated for the Outstanding Teacher Award in 2005 from the National League for Nursing (NLN), and was presented the 2004 Educator of the Year Award from the Organization of Associate Degree Nursing.

Dr. Caputi is the editor of the 2nd edition (2020) of the NLN's *Certified Nurse Educator Review Book* and 5 other books published by the NLN. With Dr. Jean Giddens she co-authored *Mastering Concept-based Teaching* (1st and 2nd editions). The 2nd edition of her three-volume book *Teaching Nursing: The Art and Science* won the 2010 Top Teaching Tools Award in the print category from the *Journal of Nursing Education*. Throughout her career, Dr. Caputi has published numerous book chapters, journal articles, educational software programs, online learning materials, and even board games for nursing students titled *The Thinking Nurse*. These board games challenged students to think in the way tested on the NCLEX.

For ten years Dr. Caputi served as the editor of the Innovation Center, a column in the NLN's journal *Nursing Education Perspectives*. Dr. Caputi is a Certified Nurse Educator, was inducted as a fellow into NLN's Academy of Nursing Education, and has served on the NLN's Board of Governors.

Dr. Caputi's website <https://LindaCaputi.com> provides more information including a blog and an array of teaching resources for faculty.

Dr. Caputi's Work Related to Teaching Clinical Judgment

From Dr. Caputi:

I have worked in nursing education for over 40 years. Throughout my first 20 years teaching nursing in a pre-licensure nursing program, I was fascinated with the lack of a specific way to teach nursing students to Think Like a Nurse. This lack of a specific framework and process for teaching clinical judgment produced very inconsistent results; that is, some students “got it” and other students did not. Learning to Think Like a Nurse and use clinical judgment should not be a “hit or miss” reality. Learning clinical judgment should be a planned, focused, systematic learning experience.

Throughout those first 20 years I worked diligently to learn what teaching critical thinking (as it was called back then) is all about. In the 1990s I developed a computer software program used by nursing schools all over the country to teach students thinking in nursing. It was titled *SOS – Strategies for Problem Solving*.

At that time, I was working on a Doctor of Education degree. A large part of my graduate studies focused on designing quality learning experiences which included taking on the very elusive topic of teaching nursing students how to “Think Like a Nurse”. The work to develop a solid approach for teaching and learning clinical judgment culminated in 2001 with the rudimentary version of the current **Caputi Clinical Judgment Framework**. Since that time the **Caputi Clinical Judgment Framework** has matured to its current version which is offered in the nursing student textbook *Think Like a Nurse: The Caputi Method for Learning Clinical Judgment* and taught in the Caputi Online Clinical Judgment Course delivered on this website. Throughout the last 20 years I have worked with schools across the country to implement this planned approach to teaching clinical judgment. Many of those schools report that by using the Caputi Clinical Judgment Framework they raised their NCLEX pass rates from the mid-60s to the upper 80s within one year. Over 150 nursing schools in the US have officially adopted *Think Like a Nurse: A Handbook* (which is the original version of *Think Like a Nurse: The Caputi Method for Learning Clinical Judgment*) in just a little over two years' time. Use of *Think Like a Nurse: The Caputi Method for Learning Clinical Judgment* is being expanded into Canada with a Canadian version ready early in 2022.

What's in the Caputi Online Clinical Judgment Course?

The Caputi Online Clinical Judgment Course covers all the content in the book *Think Like a Nurse: The Caputi Method for Learning Clinical Judgment* (2022). There are 10 modules, one for each chapter. Each module includes a narrated presentation and learner activities that student complete and are then available for faculty review. Faculty can view the amount of time a student spends on each module and completing each of the learner activities.

Chapters 1 and 2

Chapters 1 and 2 provide the bigger picture of clinical judgment. These chapters lay the foundation for why to learn clinical judgment and just what clinical judgment is all about.

Chapters 3 through 7

Chapters 3 through 7 present the details of the Caputi Clinical Judgment Framework. This is the information that has been missing in nursing education – the detailed thinking used in clinical judgment. This detailed thinking is organized in the Caputi Clinical Judgment Framework with 5 steps and 23 clinical judgment competencies (thinking skills).

The 5 steps of the Caputi Clinical Judgment Framework directly relate to the 6 cognitive processes of the NCSBN's Clinical Judgment Measurement Model used on the Next Generation NCLEX. Students learn all about the 6 cognitive processes tested on the Next Generation NCLEX, AND they learn the kind of thinking needed to APPLY those cognitive processes. The below table demonstrates the alignment between the Next Generation NCLEX and the Caputi Clinical Judgment Framework.

Next Generation NCLEX Cognitive Processes	Major Steps in the Caputi Clinical Judgment Framework	The Caputi Clinical Judgment Competencies
Recognize Cues	1. Getting the Information	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Determining important information to collect 2. Scanning the environment 3. Identifying signs and symptoms 4. Assessing systematically and comprehensively 5. Ensuring accurate information
Analyze Cues	2. Making Meaning of the Information	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Clustering related information 2. Identifying assumptions 3. Recognizing inconsistencies 4. Distinguishing relevant from irrelevant information 5. Judging how much ambiguity is acceptable 6. Comparing and contrasting 7. Predicting potential complications 8. Collaborating with healthcare team members 9. Determining patient care needs/healthcare environment issues
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prioritize Hypotheses • Generate Solutions 	3. Determining Actions to Take	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Selecting interventions 2. Managing potential complications 3. Setting priorities
Take Actions	4. Taking Action	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Determining how to implement the planned interventions 2. Delegating 3. Communicating 4. Teaching others
Evaluate Outcomes	5. Evaluating Outcomes and Your Thinking	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Evaluating data 2. Evaluating and correcting thinking

Chapters 3 through 7 use two “unfolding” case studies to role model using the Caputi Clinical Judgment Framework applied to patient care. As the clinical judgment competencies (the detailed thinking in the table) are explained, they are applied to the two unfolding case studies. This provides students with examples about how to use clinical judgment and mimics the type of thinking tested on the Next Generation NCLEX.

Once students complete Chapters 1 through 7, they have learned the detailed clinical judgment framework and are ready to apply the clinical judgment process throughout their nursing program courses.

Chapters 8 and 9

Chapters 8 and 9 provide students the opportunity to use the entire Caputi Clinical Judgment Framework to explain their thinking. They apply the Caputi Clinical Judgment Framework using a variety of cognitive guidance tools after which they explain the thinking they used when completing the activities. Students learn to apply the Caputi Clinical Judgment Framework to increasingly complex patient situations.

Chapter 10

Chapter 10 puts it all together as students become a **self-directed thinker**. Becoming a self-directed thinker is how students should be thinking by the final term of their nursing program. The chapter also provides information about how to use the Caputi Clinical Judgment Framework as students learn pathophysiology, pharmacology, and other nursing content. A major lesson in Chapter 10 is that nurses always use clinical judgment as they expand their nursing knowledge base. Learning nursing content itself is not enough – the nurse must be able to apply thinking to all that is learned.

Throughout the book and the Caputi Online Clinical Judgment Course students learn the “flow of thinking” nurses use:

The nurse is confronted with a patient situation →
The nurse recalls important nursing content →
Then uses clinical judgment to apply that content →
To an individual patient situation

This flow of thinking emphasizes that clinical judgment is equally as important as nursing content. The two must work together then applied to an individual patient situation for the nurse to make a decision about what to do and what care to provide.

How is the Caputi Online Clinical Judgment Course Taught?

Dr. Caputi covers all the chapters in the book *Think Like a Nurse: The Caputi Method for Learning Clinical Judgment* (2022). The flow of the presentation for each chapter is as follows:

1. Students are asked to "pause" the narrated discussion and are directed to read certain sections of the book.
2. After the student reads the assigned pages in the book, they return to the narrated presentation. At that point Dr. Caputi does not repeat what is in the book, but reinforces the content and adds additional support information and examples to help students learn and understand what they read in the book.
3. Dr. Caputi uses two unfolding case studies to demonstrate how the clinical judgment framework is used in practice. The unfolding case studies provide practice applying the cognitive processes tested on the Next Generation NCLEX.
4. There are learning activities at the end of each chapter that students are directed to complete. The student's completed work is available for faculty to review.
5. Once students finish the entire online course they are able to continue to access the learning modules until the end of the term in which they are enrolled.
6. Faculty are able to view how long a student spent on each chapter and how much time they spent completing the end-of-chapter learning activities.

Summary

The major complaint I hear from nursing faculty is that all students do not learn clinical judgment in the same way. The lack of a **consistent** approach to teaching and learning clinical judgment results in the following reality:

1. Students are not able to explain how they think.
2. There is no consistency among the students in how they think. Some are “good thinkers” and some are not.
3. Faculty teaching in the last term of a nursing program are unsure how students learned and use clinical judgment.
4. There is no way to measure the students’ ability to use clinical judgment.
5. It is unknown if students are prepared to pass the NCLEX including the Next Generation NCLEX.

The Caputi Online Clinical Judgment Course solves these four issues with teaching clinical judgment. Don’t make learning clinical judgment a “some get it and some don’t” situation. ALL students must learn clinical judgment not just to pass NCLEX, but to provide safe patient care.

Please let me know if you have any questions about the Caputi Online Clinical Judgment Course. I would love to hear from you. Just email me at: LindaJCaputi@gmail.com or send a message through the “Contact” form at <https://LindaCaputi.com> or <https://LearnClinicalJudgment.com>.

Thank you for previewing this information.

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