

2015-2016 Nursing Course Descriptions

NUR 120 Introduction to Professional Nursing. The course introduces students to nursing as a profession and a discipline. An exploration of the historical development of nursing, evolution of nursing role, and health care system delivery is presented. The role of the professional nurse and scope of practice is examined. Introduction to core health care professional competencies and concepts related to nursing practice concepts are introduced. The philosophy, conceptual framework, and program outcomes of the nursing program are introduced. An emphasis on the acquisition of basic knowledge of social justice, ethical values, holistic care, and respect for diversity, human dignity, and altruism is included. Prerequisite: None. *2 Semester Hours.*

NUR 180 Theoretical Foundations of Professional Nursing. The course introduces students to the theoretical foundations of professional nursing practice. Selected theories and models from nursing and non-nursing disciplines are discussed. The role of theory in the advancement of nursing science, practice, promotion of health and wellness is examined. The conceptual framework for the nursing program is re-introduced. Emphasis is placed on the acquisition of knowledge and skills to promote health and enhance nurse-client communication and client education. The significance of client interaction with the environment and diversity in health care is examined. Prerequisite: None. *2 Semester Hours.*

NUR 220 Introduction to Concepts in Nursing Practice. This course introduces basic concepts of nursing practice. The nursing process is introduced as the fundamental organizing framework of nursing care planning and delivery. Components of the nursing process and relationship to critical thinking are discussed. Formulating a comprehensive care plan using the nursing process and concept/mind mapping to plan, implement, and promote the health of the client and community is examined. Practical concepts, including problem solving, decision making, communication, documentation, community health, and ethical/legal principles, are discussed. The scope of nursing practice with emphases on ethical, legal and organizational factors that regulate the practice of the professional nurse and health care is explored. A focus on nursing care of older adults is discussed. Prerequisites: NUR 120, NUR 180, BIO 210, BIO 211, CHE 110 and CHE 115. *2 Semester Hours.*

NUR 240 Health Assessment & Physical Examination Across the Lifespan. This course provides the student with basic knowledge and skills to conduct a complete health history and systematic physical examination for clients across the lifespan with emphasis on adult clients as they adapt to stressors in the internal and external environment. A holistic and systematic approach to assessment of the physical, psychosocial, developmental, spiritual, and emotional aspects is utilized, taking into consideration the client's sociocultural and environmental context. Normal physical findings and variations in health & wellness, as well as common relevant laboratory and diagnostic tests, are examined and recognized. Application of the appropriate medical terminologies, therapeutic communication, and accurate documentation is emphasized. Knowledge and skills in information management and patient-care technology in assessment, communication, and documentation are introduced. Emphasis is given to the role of the nurse as collaborator, communicator, and teacher. Students practice assessment skills in the laboratory setting and long-term facility as part of the course component. Prerequisites: NUR 120, NUR 180, BIO 210, BIO 211, CHE 110, CHE 115 and PSY 225. *4 Semester Hours.*

NUR 260 Basic Clinical Pharmacology for Nursing Practice. This course has theoretical and laboratory components. The course examines mechanisms of drug action, indications and contraindications of drug therapy, nursing interventions related to dosage, and therapeutic effects as well as toxic and expected side effects of various medications. Effects of drug therapy on health promotion, health maintenance, and restoration will be explored. Current nursing and related scientific research in medication administration will be discussed in relation to current practice. Emphasis will focus on the care of clients receiving medication across the lifespan and in culturally and socioeconomically diverse settings. Techniques involved in the calculation of drug dosages, regulation and maintenance of controlled substances, I.V. therapy, and administration of medications in parenteral and non-parenteral forms are presented and practiced. Professional issues related to the role of the professional nurse in medication administration are explored. Prerequisites: NUR 120, NUR 180, BIO 210, BIO 211, CHE 110 and CHE 115. *4 Semester Hours.*

NUR 262 Basic Nutrition for Nursing Practice. The course introduces the principles of basic normal nutrition and explores basics of nutrition for clients with altered health conditions. The emphasis is on the role of nutrition management in promoting and maintaining health of individuals across the lifespan. Health nutrition for healthy individuals and selected altered health conditions is addressed. Prerequisites: BIO 210 and BIO 211. *2 Semester Hours.*

NUR 290 Foundations of Nursing Practice. This is a theoretical and practical course that introduces the student to basic nursing concepts. Students are prepared to provide skilled nursing care, including basic comfort, hygienic and self-care interventions, for older adult clients. Emphasis is placed on scientific nursing practice and evidence, basic human needs, and the care of clients with diverse needs. Communication skills and sensitivity to developmental and cultural needs, and holistic care are emphasized. The nursing process is the organizing framework for the care provided to meet human needs. Students will develop competencies in therapeutic intervention skills for older adult clients with altered health states in the laboratory and clinical settings. Considerations for professional nursing practice standards are examined. Prerequisites: NUR 220, NUR 240 and NUR 260. If not previously taken, BIO 290 will be a corequisite. *6 Semester Hours.*

NUR 295 Introduction to Nursing Informatics. This course is designed to explore the application of information systems and technology in health care and nursing practice. Use of computers, electronic technologies, and selected computer applications of data management through information systems and telecommunications is examined. The impact of these technologies on nursing practice, administration, teaching, and research is explored. The role of the nurse, responsibilities, and the legal, ethical and social implications are discussed. Prerequisites: NUR 120 and NUR 180. *2 Semester Hours.*

NUR 340 Nursing Care of the Childbearing Family and Newborn. This course introduces students to theories and practical skills related to the care of the childbearing family, newborn infant, and women's health. Students examine the childbearing family and newborn infant needs, responses, and adaptations to the physical, physiological, psychological, and environmental changes and the internal and external stressors. The nursing process is utilized to manage the care of the family and newborn infant when planning and implementing therapeutic nursing interventions, promoting adaptive responses, and/or supporting death with dignity. Examination of the best evidence for practice and the application of knowledge learned from the liberal arts and sciences are emphasized when providing holistic, ethical, and culturally sensitive care for the family and their newborn infant in a diverse care setting. Utilization of effective oral, written, and electronic communication with the childbearing family and health care team is exercised. Collaboration with the health care team in utilizing resources to promote adaptation to the environment is emphasized. Concepts of responsibilities and accountability and consideration of policies and standards for safety and quality when implementing and delegating care are reinforced. A clinical rotation in various clinical care units provides practical application of the content of this course. Prerequisites: NUR 220, NUR 240, NUR 260, NUR 262, NUR 290 and BIO 200. *4 Semester Hours.*

NUR 360 Nursing Care of Adults with Psychiatric Mental Health Conditions. This course focuses on the care and management of clients with psychiatric mental health conditions. Therapeutic nursing intervention with clients of all ages at varying points on the mental health continuum who are experiencing internal and external stressors is explored. Application of mental health concepts to nursing practice is stressed as well as collaboration with an interdisciplinary team to meet client needs and foster a therapeutic environment. Communication skills and "therapeutic use of self" are emphasized as the student interacts with the client individually and in groups to promote, maintain, restore, and reorganize health or to support death with dignity. Accountability and responsibility are expected as the student grows in self-knowledge and awareness of how the nurse's behavior impacts care. Theoretical and empirical knowledge from liberal arts and sciences provides the basis for critical thinking and application of therapeutic nursing intervention with the client who has mental health needs. The delegation of nursing responsibilities in mental health settings will be examined. The use of technology and research data will be emphasized to collect data from various resources. Prerequisites: NUR 220, NUR 240, NUR 260, NUR 262, NUR 290 and BIO 200. *4 Semester Hours.*

NUR 370 Introduction to Research Methods & Evidence-Based Practice in Nursing. This course introduces the application of research process and evidence-based practice in nursing. The course focuses on the interaction of the components of the research process with application to the theory and practice of nursing in efforts to improve health and wellness from conception to death. Students will learn to apply critical thinking skills to appraise, utilize, and communicate published nursing research and evidence for application to practice. Ethical issues in research and the value of nursing and health care research will be critically explored. The role of the nurse researcher in promoting evidence-based practice and making the connection between theory, research and practice is emphasized. Critical and reflective thinking as a consumer of nursing research will be stressed. Prerequisites: NUR 220, NUR 240, NUR 260, NUR 262, and NUR 290. If not previously taken, MTH200 will be a corequisite. *4 Semester Hours.*

NUR 380 Nursing Care of Adults with Acute & Chronic Health Conditions I. This course has theoretical and practical components. The course introduces students to selected knowledge and skills of acute and chronic health conditions for adults in acute and ambulatory care settings. Students examine the adult clients and their families' needs, responses, and adaptations during periods of acute and chronic illness. The nursing process is utilized to manage the care of adult clients and their families when planning and implementing therapeutic nursing interventions, promoting adaptive responses, and/or supporting death with dignity. Examination of the best evidence for practice and the application of knowledge learned from the liberal arts and sciences are emphasized when providing holistic, patient-centered, ethical, and culturally sensitive care for clients and their families in diverse acute and ambulatory care settings. Utilization of effective oral, written, and electronic communication with client, family, and health care team is exercised. Collaboration with the health care team in utilizing resources to promote adaptation to the environment is emphasized. Students examine the concepts of responsibilities and accountability and consider policies and standards for safety and quality when implementing and delegating care with acutely and chronically ill adult clients. A clinical rotation in various clinical care units provides practical application of the content of this course. Prerequisites: NUR 220, NUR 240, NUR 260, NUR 262, NUR 290 and BIO 200. *6 Semester Hours.*

NUR 390 Nursing Care of Adults with Acute & Chronic Health Conditions II. This course is a continuation of NUR 380. The course introduces students to additional selected content and skills related to the care of adult clients with acute and chronic health conditions in acute and ambulatory care settings. Students examine the adult clients and their families' needs, responses, and adaptations during periods of acute and chronic illness. The nursing process is used to manage the care of adult clients and their families when planning and implementing therapeutic nursing interventions, promoting adaptive responses, and/or supporting death with dignity. Examination of the best evidence for practice and the application of knowledge learned from the liberal arts and sciences are emphasized when providing holistic, patient-centered, ethical, and culturally sensitive care for clients and their families in diverse acute and ambulatory care settings. Utilization of effective oral, written, and electronic communication with client, family, and health care team is exercised. Collaboration with the health care team in utilizing resources to promote adaptation to the environment is emphasized. Concepts of responsibilities and accountability and consideration of policies and standards for safety and quality when implementing and delegating care with acutely and chronically ill adult clients are reinforced. A clinical rotation in various clinical care units provides practical application of the content of this course. Prerequisites: NUR 220, NUR 240, NUR 260, NUR 262, NUR 290, NUR 380 and BIO 200. *6 Semester Hours.*

NUR 420 Community Health Nursing. This course introduces students to the nursing theory and public health theory applied to promoting and preserving health of populations. The focus of practice is the community as a whole and the effect of the community's health status and resources on the health of individuals, families, and groups. Care is provided within the context of preventing disease and disability and promoting and protecting the health of the community as a whole. Students will apply therapeutic communication and nursing interventions using the nursing process to populations within the community. Integration of evidence from nursing research and knowledge from nursing and liberal arts and sciences are emphasized. Awareness of the influence of the cultural, political, socioeconomic, regulatory, demographic, environmental, and global factors on the population's health patterns and status at the local, state, national, and international levels is examined. Students explore the leadership role, accountability and responsibility of the nurse in the health care delivery systems and public policy and in maintaining, promoting, and restoring the health of population in communities. Students will apply principles of critical thinking and best evidence to assess, plan, implement, and evaluate population at risk. The use of technology and research data will be emphasized to collect population data from various resources. Prerequisites: All 300-level NUR courses. *4 Semester Hours.*

NUR 430 Professional Leadership & Management in Nursing Practice. This course provides an introduction and overview of leadership, management, and organizational behavior in health care. Students will integrate theory with practice in the development of skills necessary to provide organizational and systems leadership in health care settings. Leadership development for entry-level professional nursing practice is emphasized. Key leadership concepts of management, leadership, followership, and organizational structure as frameworks for managing delivery of nursing care to groups of clients in an acute care setting are examined. The transition from student role to professional nursing role is emphasized. Components of leadership including change processes, collaboration and conflict resolution, intra- and inter-professional communication and team work, delegation and supervision, motivation, staffing and scheduling, ethical decision-making, and accountability issues are discussed. The course addresses building cultures of quality and safety in complex health care delivery systems based on organizational strengths, health policy, and legislative factors. Prerequisite: All 300-level NUR courses. *4 Semester Hours.*

NUR 440 Nursing Care of Clients with Critical Health Conditions. This course introduces students to the management of the care of adult clients and their families who are experiencing conditions that are life threatening and/or involve multiple body systems in acute care settings. Students examine the adult clients and their families' needs, responses, and adaptations during periods of critical and complex health conditions. Critical thinking, clinical reasoning and decision-making, and problem-solving skills are emphasized when assessing, planning, implementing, and evaluating the client/family needs and responses to care. Utilization of the best evidence for practice and integration of knowledge learned from nursing and the liberal arts and sciences are emphasized when promoting and providing holistic, patient-centered, safe, quality, ethical, and culturally sensitive care for clients and their families in diverse acute care settings. Competencies in communication, documentation, application of technologies, leadership and management, delegation, time management, prioritization, coordination and evaluation of client care, and interdisciplinary collaboration are enhanced. A clinical rotation in various critical care units provides practical application of the content of this course. Prerequisites: All 300-level NUR courses. *6 Semester Hours.*

NUR 450 Nursing Care of Children & Parents. This course introduces students to theories and practical skills important to the care of children and their families as clients on the health continuum who are in varying stages of growth and development in acute and ambulatory care settings. Emphases are placed on the children and their families' needs, responses, and adaptations to the physical, physiological, psychological, developmental, and constant environmental internal and external stressors. The nursing process is utilized to manage the care of children and families when planning and implementing therapeutic nursing interventions, preventing diseases, promoting adaptive responses, and/or supporting death with dignity. Application of the best evidence for practice, knowledge learned from the liberal arts and sciences, and technologies are emphasized when providing holistic, client-centered, ethical, and culturally sensitive care for children and families in diverse health care settings. Students perform effective oral, written, and electronic communication and documentation in the interactions with children, families, and health care teams. Collaboration with health care teams, children, and families in utilizing resources to promote adaptation to the environment is emphasized. Concepts of responsibilities and accountability and consideration of policies and standards for safety and quality when implementing and delegating care are stressed. A clinical rotation in various clinical care units provides practical application of the content of this course. Prerequisites: All 300-level NUR courses. *4 Semester Hours.*

NUR 480 Professional Role Development & Transition into Nursing Practice. The course prepares senior students to make a smooth transition into the role of entry-level professional nurse. Students apply leadership and management theory and research findings to professional practice as a direct-care provider and coordinator of care to groups of clients. In their practicum, students communicate and collaborate with health care providers and clients to plan, implement and evaluate therapeutic nursing interventions for culturally and ethnically diverse individuals, families, and/or groups in acute care settings. In the classroom, students engage in seminar activities in which they integrate knowledge, values, and practical experiences from current and previous learning in nursing and the liberal arts and sciences throughout their nursing program. This course builds upon content taught in the prerequisite courses and is based on standards and

guidelines by the American Nurses' Association and the American Association of Colleges of Nursing. Taken in the senior year of the nursing program. *4 Semester Hours.*