

Associate of Science in Nursing (NURS) Course Descriptions

NURS 100 - *Pharmacology in Nursing*

This course focuses on basic principles of pharmacology, drug regulations, major drug classifications, and the registered nurse's role in medication administration. Emphasis is placed on nursing implications of drug therapy, including legal/ethical, psychosocial, developmental, psychosocial, religious, and cultural considerations. Students utilize math skills to calculate drug dosages.

Credit Hours: 3 (45 contact hours). Prerequisites: ACSM 100, ENGL 101, MATH 112, BIOL 210, PSYC 100, and CHEM 100 or CHEM 101. Corequisites: BIOL 211, BIOL 235, NURS 120

NURS 112 - *LPN - RN Role Transition*

This course is designed to assist the LPN to transition into the ASN curriculum. The course focuses on validating skills and reinforcing knowledge for which advanced placement has been granted. The concepts of nursing process, physical assessment, role transition, professional values, and legal-ethical issues are addressed. The course incorporates a review of mental health concepts and medical-surgical problems presented in the first year of the ASN curriculum nursing courses. Clinical experiences in acute care settings enable the student to apply theory to practice.

Credit Hours: 7. Lecture Hours: 5 (75 contact hours). Lab Hours: 2 (90 contact hours)

Prerequisites: ENGL 101, MATH 112, BIOL 210, BIOL 211, BIOL 235, BIOL 280, CHEM 100, PSYC 100, PSYC 230, NURS 100

NURS 120 - *Foundations of Nursing Practice*

This course provides the student with foundational knowledge and skills essential to the practice of nursing. Concepts related to nursing as a profession, standards of care, professional ethics, nursing roles, communication, cultural awareness, holistic care, nursing process, critical thinking, teaching-learning process, collaboration, and community are presented. Developmental concepts are discussed with a focus on the elderly and the normal process of aging. Students perform basic psychomotor skills in a laboratory setting.

The concepts and techniques of interviewing, history taking, review of systems, and physical assessment are introduced. Emphasis is placed on the assessment skills necessary to determine the holistic health care needs of the adult client. The course also provides the student with fundamental knowledge of pathophysiological stressors commonly encountered by adults. Clinical experiences enable the beginning student to apply assessment skills, communication skills, cultural awareness, nursing process, critical thinking skills, and psychomotor skills consistent with the care provider role in acute care and community-based settings.

Credit Hours: 7 Lecture Hours: 4 (60 contact hours) Lab Hours: 3 (135 contact hours).

Prerequisites: ACSM 100, ENGL 101, MATH 112, BIOL 210, PSYC 100, and CHEM 100 or CHEM 101. Corequisites: BIOL 211, BIOL 235, NURS 100

NURS 130 - *Adult Health Nursing I*

This course focuses on the role of the nurse in promoting, maintaining, and restoring health for adults with commonly occurring health problems. Students use the nursing process to formulate care plans/maps for individuals experiencing metabolic, respiratory, and cardiovascular problems. Clinical experiences provide the student with the opportunity to develop assessment skills, communication skills, cultural awareness, nursing process, critical thinking skills, teaching skills, and psychomotor skills in acute and community-based settings. Students develop beginning collaborative skills with individuals, families, peers, and health care providers in the delivery of nursing care.

Credit Hours: 5. Lecture Hours: 3 (45 contact hours). Lab Hours: 2 (90 contact hours). Prerequisites: NURS 100, 120. Corequisites: PSYC 230, BIOL 280

NURS 140 - *Mental Health Nursing*

This course focuses on concepts basic to psychiatric-mental health nursing including neurobiology, therapeutic communication, cultural diversity, spirituality, family dynamics, loss and grieving, stress and

coping, crisis intervention, violence, abuse, psychiatric disorders, and community resources. Mental health issues across the life span are explored. The course introduces specialized assessment and communication skills necessary for the care of the individual experiencing situational and maturational stressors as well as mental illness. Clinical experiences provide the student with the opportunity to develop communication skills, cultural awareness, critical thinking skills, teaching skills, and collaborative skills in acute in-patient, chemical dependency, outpatient, and adolescent units.

Credit Hours: 4. Lecture Hours: 3 (45 contact hours). Lab Hours: 1 (45 contact hours). Prerequisites: NURS 100, 120. Corequisites: PSYC 230, BIOL 280

NURS 210 - *Adult Health Nursing II*

This course focuses on the role of the nurse in promoting, maintaining, and restoring health for adults with commonly occurring health problems. Students use the nursing process to formulate care plan/maps for individuals experiencing surgical, musculoskeletal, sensory, elimination, oncological, and hematological problems. Clinical learning experiences in acute and community-based settings enable the student to refine communication skills, cultural awareness, nursing process, critical thinking skills, teaching skills, psychomotor skills, and collaborative skills.

Credit Hours: 5. Lecture Hours: 3 (45 contact hours). Lab Hours: 2 (90 contact hours). Prerequisites: NURS 100, 120, 130, 140. Corequisites: SOCI 100, ANTH/PHIL/RELS elective

NURS 220 - *Care of Children and Families*

This course focuses on the physiological, developmental, psychosocial, cultural, and spiritual health care of the child within the family unit. The nursing process, concepts of family dynamics, legal-ethical principles, and community resources are used by the students to promote, maintain, and restore optimum functioning of the family unit. Emphasis is placed on age-related health risks and common childhood health problems. Clinical experiences provide the student with opportunities to refine communication skills, cultural awareness, nursing process, critical thinking skills, teaching skills, psychomotor skills, and collaborative skills in acute and community-based settings.

Credit Hours: 4. Lecture Hours: 3 (45 contact hours). Lab Hours: 1 (45 contact hours). Prerequisites: NURS 100, 120, 130, 140. Corequisites: SOCI 100, ANTH/PHIL/RELS elective.

NURS 230 - *Care of Women and Neonates*

This course explores the concepts and skills necessary for the nursing care of childbearing families and newborn infants. The childbirth process from conception to postpartum is discussed. The course focuses on the role of the nurse in promoting, maintaining, and restoring health for the childbearing family and newborns including both normal and high risk pregnancy. The course also includes topics related to women's health such as fertility and infertility, menopause, sexually transmitted diseases, and female reproductive disorders. Clinical experiences provide the opportunity to refine communication skills, cultural awareness, critical thinking skills, teaching skills, psychomotor skills, and collaborative skills.

Credit Hours: 4. Lecture Hours: 3 (45 contact hours). Lab Hours: 1 (45 contact hours). Prerequisites: NURS 100, 120, 130, 140, 210, 220.

NURS 240 - *Adult Health Nursing III*

This course focuses on the role of the nurse in promoting, maintaining, and restoring health for adults experiencing life threatening problems. Emphasis is placed on the decision-making process required for complex clinical situations and collaboration between disciplines. Clinical learning experiences allow the student to integrate the theory content with actual clinical experiences in acute care settings. This course emphasizes transition to practice focusing on role development and socialization into nursing. The role of management principles, ethical decision making, the use of research, patient advocacy, and cultural competence as integral components of nursing practice for the associate degree nurse in caring for individuals, families, and groups are examined.

Credit Hours: 6. Lecture Hours: 3 (45 contact hours). Lab Hours: 3 (135 contact hours). Prerequisites: NURS 100, 120, 130, 140, 210, 220.

Bachelor of Science in Nursing (NURS) Course Descriptions

NURS 300 - *Research in Nursing Practice*

This course explores a broad range of methods of disciplined inquiry within nursing and establishes a basis for research in nursing practice. Emphasis is placed on analyzing the research process and critiquing published research. Appropriate methods of analysis used in research are presented and data analysis techniques are applied to published research articles.

Credit Hours: 3. Prerequisite: MATH 252.

NURS 320 - *Pathophysiology: A Basis for Nursing Care*

Emphasis is on the physiological manifestations which are the result of pathophysiological processes. Clinical situations are utilized to incorporate critical thinking, interpretation of data, indicated nursing care, and expected patient outcomes. The course builds upon and expands previous nursing knowledge and knowledge gained in anatomy, physiology, microbiology, and nutrition.

Credit Hours: 3.

NURS 330 - *Health Assessment*

This course prepares the student to use assessment tools and techniques in determining the health status of clients across the lifespan. Students will apply knowledge from health and social sciences and will utilize the critical thinking process as a method to identify appropriate nursing interventions. The course is designed to provide opportunities for enhancing competency in assessment skills, interpretation of diagnostic data, and determination of nursing interventions.

Credit Hours: 3.

NURS 340 - *Leadership / Management*

This course provides the student with knowledge and skills to function as a nursing leader and/or manager within a dynamic practice environment. Concepts of leadership, group dynamics, power, problem-solving, change, conflict, and ethical decision-making are addressed. Managerial functions such as staffing, performance appraisal, delegation, communication, team building, planning, and budget preparation are introduced. Issues such as regulatory constraints, professional liability, and quality of care are also explored. NOTE: This course cross registers with HSER 350.

Credit Hours: 3.

NURS 400 - *Community Nursing*

This course provides an introduction to the field of community health nursing which includes the conceptual foundations and skills for community nursing practice. The student develops an awareness of the diversity of the roles of nursing in a variety of community settings and has an opportunity to enhance his or her clinical skills.

Credit Hours: 5 (3 theory, 2 clinical). Pre-requisites: 300 level nursing courses, or with approval of the Program Director.

NURS 410 - *Gerontology*

This course focuses upon the concept of successful aging and is designed to enhance the nurse's awareness of the needs and potentials of the older adult. The course analyzes the sociological, psychological, and physiological aspects of aging. Students will explore theories of aging, chronic and acute problems of the aging client, available community resources, and issues impacting health promotion of the older adult.

Credit Hours: 3. Pre-requisites: 300 level nursing courses, or with approval of the Program Director.

NURS 430 - *Nursing in the 21st Century*

This course explores the changing health care system, its impact upon patient care and relevance to nursing practice. Factors contributing to health care changes in the 21st century will be examined and the nurse's role as patient advocate will be analyzed.

Credit Hours: 3. Pre-requisites: 300 level nursing courses, or with approval of the Program Director.

NURS 440 - *Independent Study*

This course offers the student an opportunity for an individualized concentrated nursing practicum in an area related to the student's special interest. The student, in collaboration with the faculty and selected area agencies, will develop a project designed to enhance professional nursing practice.

Credit Hours: 3. Pre-requisites: 300 level nursing courses, or with approval of the Program Director.