

## COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

- NURS 300JJ Directed Studies in Nursing Leadership 1 to 4 CREDITS**  
This course will provide students the opportunity to pursue and in-depth independent study of an area in nursing leadership. Students must, in consultation and with the guidance of a faculty member, develop a project proposal indicating the objectives, scope and dissemination of the project prior to beginning the project. The completed project must display the student's abilities as an effective writer as well as the thorough familiarity with the selected topic area. For the RNBS program
- NURS 101 Aging Matters: Social Gerontology 4 CREDITS**  
The goal of this course is to prepare students to describe the complexity and diversity of older adults, explore ways to work effectively with older adults and promote healthy aging. Students will examine aspects of aging within historical, cultural, physical, mental, emotional, social, spiritual, economic and interpersonal contexts. The impact of an increased aging population on society and how society cares for the aging population will be a central theme of the course. (WCore: WCSBS)
- NURS 108 Healthy, Sustainable Nutrition 4 CREDITS**  
The course includes the foundations of human dietary requirements, the basics of macronutrients and micronutrients, and nutritional needs across the lifespan needed for a pre-health occupation prerequisite. The primary prevention of the chronic diseases of first world populations, versus the needs of those of the third world will be compared and contrasted for the purpose of exploring complex issues of nutrition, food, health and environmental sustainability. Grounded in concepts of nutrition science and human ecology, the course will explore the impact of food production and consumption on human health and the environment. Deep learning is achieved through involvement in hands-on activities and assignments. Prerequisites: none. (WCore: WCSAM)
- NURS 109 Sociology, Wellness, and Healthcare 4 CREDITS**  
Students are challenged to think critically about the sociology of health and healthcare. Questions students will analyze are: 1) how social forces affect health, illness, and healthcare; 2) how society views the meaning and experience of illness with an emphasis on mental illness; 3) the social distribution of healthcare in the United States; 4) the social meaning of health care systems and technologies; 5) the sociology of differing healthcare practitioners and practices. Additionally, students will explore how sociology can affect healthcare around the world. Finally, through case studies students will examine ethical dilemmas in healthcare and the politics underpinning those dilemmas. (WCore: WCSBS)
- NURS 210 Nutrition 3 CREDITS**  
An introductory study of nutritional principles applicable to people throughout the life span, in both health and illness. Students learn nutritional assessment and the impact of personal and sociocultural factors on nutritional status. Dietary implications during critical developmental periods and pathologic conditions are discussed. Students analyze their own diets, discuss and experience therapeutic diets, and explore the process of making lifestyle changes related to nutrition.
- NURS 280 Pathophysiology 3 CREDITS**  
Provides students with knowledge of pathophysiologic processes and environmental factors that influence or alter an individual's health. Prerequisites: BIOL 103, 104; CHEM 103, 201; concurrent enrollment in BIOL 111.
- NURS 300 Special Topics in Nursing 2 to 4 CREDITS**  
Special topics in healthcare offers students the opportunity to explore further an identified area of interest that will enhance their healthcare practice. There are a variety of options a student may pursue to complete this requirement. (Generally, courses from Westminster with a NURS or PUBH designation are appropriate.) The course description will vary depending on what the student chooses for this requirement. Multiple courses are offered during May term. Additional courses, identified by the student and approved by the faculty, may fulfill this requirement.
- NURS 310 Vulnerable Populations 3 CREDITS**  
This course will look at the vulnerable populations from two approaches. One approach will be to study the vulnerable individual and the other will be to examine vulnerable populations through an aggregate lens. Some, but not all, populations that will be discussed include: homelessness, immigrants and refugees, and incarcerated individuals. Additionally, the student will explore a vulnerable population of his/her own choosing and applying the concepts learned in the course to that population. (WCore: DE)
- NURS 312 Foundations of Nursing Practice I 4 CREDITS**  
This course focuses on an introduction to nursing practice including the nursing process, clinical skills, and the roles and responsibilities of the professional nurse. Students apply theoretical principles, collect and analyze data, develop health assessment skills, provide nursing interventions, and document findings. Focus is on health and promoting the health of individuals and communities at large. Prerequisite: NURS 280.
- NURS 313 Foundations Nursing I Practice Practicum 5 CREDITS**  
Clinical component for Foundations of Nursing Practice I.
- NURS 314 Community Mental Health Nursing 4 CREDITS**  
This course focuses on community and mental health nursing concepts. There are two areas of focus for this course. The first is the development of and understanding of mental health alterations in clients with mental illness. Emphasis is placed on common psychiatric disorders and treatments with related nursing diagnoses, nursing interventions, and the overall conceptual models of psychiatric nursing care. The second area of focus is on community health nursing concepts with an emphasis on community and family assessment, health promotion, and planning for the health of communities, families, and individuals across the lifespan. (WCore: EWRLD)
- NURS 315 Communication Skills for Nurses 2 CREDITS**  
The course focuses on therapeutic communication skills and the techniques used to produce positive nurse-client relationships with diverse populations across the lifespan. In addition, the students will develop skills as they relate to inter- and intra- professional communication and collaboration to produce positive working relationships in the practice setting.
- NURS 325 Environmental Health Nursing Perspective 4 CREDITS**  
In this course the RN student will focus on an understanding of environmental health as it relates to nursing practice. Principles of national and global environmental health concepts will be addressed through the major topics in the environmental health field. This course is two-fold: One part of the course will cover key areas of environmental health to instill awareness about the topic. Additionally, the student will earn a certificate from FEMA by completing the Community Emergency Response Training (CERT). In the second part of this course, nursing students will apply environmental health principles to their current area of employment, and utilize the concepts to enhance their practice. This will be accomplished through an understanding of how to protect self in nursing practice, the ANA's position on environmental health, and how to complete an exposure history on a patient or client. All of the concepts learned in this course will culminate in a learning project that will involve an in-depth understanding of a current environmental issue.
- NURS 330 Foundations of Nursing Practice II 4 CREDITS**  
This course focuses on the comprehension, application, and analysis of concepts of health, illness and nursing care across the lifespan in acute care and community settings. Emphasis is placed on the etiology, clinical evaluation and use of evidence-based nursing interventions to manage specific health problems related to cardiovascular, hematologic, gastrointestinal, pulmonary, endocrine, renal, musculoskeletal, and neurologic systems. Skills and techniques required to care for clients across the lifespan with commonly occurring disease are included.
- NURS 331 Foundations Nurs Practice II Practicum 6 CREDITS**  
Clinical component for Foundations of Nursing Practice II.
- NURS 370 Nursing Scholarly Inquiry & Informatics 3 CREDITS**  
This course provides students with the conceptual basis for understanding nursing theory and the research process. Students experience broad exposure to nursing theorists and the application of theory to practice. Students analyze nursing research and evaluate findings for application in evidence-based nursing practice. Students will be introduced to an overview of informatics topics that relate to the delivery of safe and quality patient nursing care for a variety of healthcare settings.

**NURS 380 Dimensions of Nursing 3 CREDITS**

This course is designed for RN students as a bridge to the organizing framework of the curriculum and to professional nursing. The philosophy of nursing, historical evolution of nursing, and implications for the future along with professional nursing competencies are emphasized. Processes and values guiding professional practice are discussed, as well as the expanded ethical role of the professional nurse within the health care delivery system. Finally, the concepts of communication, teaching, learning, and diversity will be examined. All concepts learned in this class will be examined and applied through the lens of the student's current nursing practice.

**NURS 385 Teaching, Mentoring, Health Promotion, Promotion in Nursing 4 CREDITS**

This course will prepare the RN student with teaching and presentation skills appropriate to the nurse's teaching-coaching role. Principles of adult teaching/learning, characteristics of learners, barriers to teaching/learning, learning theory, assessment and evaluation of teaching/learning, instructional methods, and instructional materials will be addressed. Students will evaluate the most current evidence based teaching-learning practices as well as demonstrate sources of health information. The aforementioned concepts will be demonstrated through a service-learning project that will be disseminated to a community agency as well as to academic peers followed by peer evaluation.

**NURS 391 Nursing Theory and Research 4 CREDITS**

This course will prepare the RN student to explore nursing theory and the research process. This course is two-fold: One part of the course will focus on research ethics and students will earn a certificate on Protecting Human Research Participants through the National Institute of health. In the second part of this course students will identify a practice problem in their current area of employment and utilize course concepts to offer evidence-based solutions to that problem. As learned in NURS 385, students will present their research findings at their place of employment. (WCORE: RE)

**NURS 401 Directed Studies 1 to 4 CREDITS**

A tutorial-based course used only for student- initiated proposals for intensive individual study of topics not otherwise offered in the Nursing Program. This course is repeatable for credit.

**NURS 406 Nursing Pharmacology 4 CREDITS**

This course will explore the study of pharmacology and how it relates to the nursing process and the role of the bachelorette prepared registered nurse generalist. Principles of pharmacology will be discussed including drugs and the body, dosage calculations, chemotherapeutic and anti-infective agents, drugs acting on the immune, nervous, endocrine, reproductive, cardiovascular, renal, respiratory, and gastrointestinal systems. Students will gain greater understanding of potential drug complications and interactions to administer medications safely and properly across the lifespan.

**NURS 410 Nursing Leadership Capstone RN-BS 6 CREDITS**

In this course the RN student will have an opportunity to demonstrate competency skills, and knowledge gained through previous course work and service learning. An important aspect of this course, and a central concept throughout this program, is nursing leadership. The student will have three opportunities to demonstrate their new knowledge of expanded nursing leadership. First, using discussion format students will provide peers with content on assigned topics such as problem solving, change, conflict, organizational assessment, and legal and ethical aspects of practice. Overall the quality of health care practices will be examined. Secondly, students will continue with a service learning activity that they developed in NURS 385 (Teaching, Mentoring, and Health Promotion). Finally, the student will complete a capstone and management experience at an agency or organization that is different from where they currently practice in order to diversify their nursing background. (WCORE: SC)

**NURS 414 Foundations of Nursing Practice III 4 CREDITS**

This course focuses on the application, analysis and synthesis of concepts of health, illness and nursing care across the lifespan in community and acute care settings, including hospital intensive care units. Emphasis is placed on assessment, nursing diagnosis, and implementation of evidence-based nursing interventions in the holistic management of clients with specific health problems. Students will learn to collaborate with medical, surgical, and allied health practitioners to maximize the wellness of clients with complex, acute and chronic illness. Prerequisites: NURS 315, NURS 330, NURS 331, and NURS 420.

**NURS 415 Found Nursing Practice III Practicum 4 CREDITS**

Clinical component for Foundations of Nursing Practice III.

**NURS 417 Transitional Care Nursing Practicum 2 CREDITS**

Clinical component for Transitional Care Nursing.

**NURS 418 Transitional Care Nursing 3 CREDITS**

This course focuses on transitional periods across the lifespan. It emphasizes the application of nursing care during periods of birth, death, and transitions of health. Emphasis will be placed on safety, the coordination and continuity of patient care, prevention and avoidance of complications, appropriate nursing interventions, and treatment. The application of patient care will be accomplished with the active engagement of patients, their families and interprofessional collaboration.

**NURS 419 Leadership in Nursing 2 CREDITS**

This course integrates the nursing process with the concepts of leadership, management, and organizational theory. The role of nursing in monitoring and ensuring the quality of health care practices is examined. Emphasis is placed on issues of leadership, management, power, change, motivation, conflict, group dynamics and interfacing of autonomous, dependent and interdependent nursing functions in current and future health care delivery systems. This course emphasizes that all nurses are leaders to clients, families, team members and the public. Prerequisites: Requires all third semester nursing courses including NURS 370, NURS 414, NURS 415, and NURS 418.

**NURS 420 Nursing Pharmacology II 2 CREDITS**

This class will build on the knowledge gained in Nursing Pharmacology 1 and focus on specific pharmaceutical agents used in patient care across the lifespan. Health prevention and promotion as it relates to pharmacology will be addressed, exploring topics such as immunizations, vitamins, complementary therapies, and herbal preparations. Pharmacotherapeutics will be addressed using a body systems approach to assist the student in understanding treatment for specific disease processes including medication classification, administration, side effects, and avoidance of potential complications. Prerequisites: NURS 320, NURS 330, NURS 331, and NURS 370 Scholarly Inquiry & Informatics.

**NURS 425 Ethics in Professional Nursing 2 CREDITS**

This course is designed to give an overview of the evolution of nursing ethics and the impact that nursing ethics has on the professional baccalaureate prepared nurse. Focus will be placed on the moral principles and ethical perspectives (justice vs. care) that are important to nursing. The implications of traditional and contemporary ethical theories for nursing will also be explored. Students will explore accountability and responsibility for nursing judgment and action and develop and respect for human dignity and preservation of integrity.

**NURS 430 Capstone Practicum 6 CREDITS**

This course is a clinical synthesis experience designed to refine and integrate previously learned knowledge and skills into professional practice through a cooperative learning experience. Students plan, deliver and manage care under the supervision of a licensed preceptor. The student will further develop clinical reasoning and proficiency in patient management and evaluation through assignments in a variety of patient care settings. Working closely with staff and faculty, the student will gain the confidence and the skills needed to function as a novice nurse who is a designer, manager and coordinator of care.

**NURS 431 Capstone Synthesis 2 CREDITS**

Weekly seminar provides an opportunity for the analysis, synthesis, refinement and integration of nursing knowledge. This course provides activities and discussion that facilitate the student's transition to professional nursing practice. The student will build clinical reasoning and develop beginning proficiency in patient management and evaluation through assignments in a variety of patient care settings. Working closely with staff and faculty, the student will gain the confidence and the skills needed to function as a novice nurse who is a designer, manager and coordinator of care. (WCORE: SC)

**NURS 450 Older Adults in the Community 4 CREDITS**

In this course the RN student will focus on the physical, mental, emotional, social, and spiritual aspects of aging. Through the evidence based practice concepts learned in NURS 390 and the teaching mentoring concepts learned through NURS 385, students will assess the health patterns of an older adult in the community to identify the environmental factors impacting the

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community-dwelling older adult. The student will acquire knowledge about diverse community resources available for older adults in the community. To coincide with NURS 385, students will continue with a focus on health promotion relevant to their older adult in the community. (WCore: QE)

**NURS 470      Culture, Health, and Illness      5 CREDITS**

This course explores cultural diversity and its influence on healthcare and disparate health outcomes. Students will be exposed to topics such as: the nursing population's impact on health care disparities, health disparities and inequities in minorities, HIV and AIDS, ethnicities, religion, and the gay, lesbian, and transgender community. While students explore those topics they will seek out best practices along with integrative modalities in treating underprivileged and minority populations. Other topics that will be addressed will be global health, and principles of genetics and genetic influence on health. Finally, students will be exposed a culture of their choice in an in depth level and use evidence-based practice to shared best practices related to caring for and treating their culture of choice. (WCore: EWRLD)