

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

Program Description

Ponce Health Sciences University (PHSU) has developed a Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing (BSN) Program offering Direct Entry and Upper Division Entry Options. The 121-credit hour BSN Program is sequentially structured and can be completed in approximately three to four calendar years. The Program, based in the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) Essentials of Baccalaureate Education for Professional Nursing Practice (October 20, 2008), prepares nurse generalists to be providers, designers, leaders, managers, and coordinators of care as well as accountable members of the nursing profession and to pursue graduate level education.

The Essentials of Baccalaureate Education of Nursing Practice include:

- Liberal Education for Baccalaureate Generalist Nursing Practice
- Basic Organizational and Systems Leadership for Quality Care and Patient Safety
- Scholarship for Evidence-Based Practice
- Information Management and Application of Patient Care Technology
- Healthcare Policy, Finance, and Regulatory Environments
- Interprofessional Communication and Collaboration for Improving Patient Health Outcomes
- Clinical Prevention and Population Health
- Professionalism and Professional Values
- Baccalaureate Generalist Nursing Practice

The BSN program also provides individuals with the ability to implement evidenced-based practice in the delivery of professional nursing care based on higher-level competencies throughout a variety of clinical settings. Evidence-based practice incorporates scientific findings in the delivery of nursing care that includes both theory and practical clinical skills required by the field of nursing to provide leadership and render safe, culturally appropriate patient care.

Mission

The Nursing Program supports the Mission of PHSU by seeking to improve the health of diverse populations by providing academically rigorous, evidence-based nurse education in an intraprofessional environment to prepare graduates who demonstrate excellence in nursing practice embracing equity and culturally effective care to patients, families, and communities, utilize informatics to support decision making, transform health care, and serve others through health promotion; and to have positive impacts through service to communities at local, national and global levels.

Vision

The Nursing Program vision statement is future-oriented and supports the Vision of PHSU by aspiring to be recognized for excellence and innovation in education, leadership, advocacy, research and culturally competent nursing practice.

Philosophy

The Nursing Faculty and Administration support the Guiding Principles of PHSU and are committed to supporting the core values of the Nursing Program as recommended by the American Association of

Colleges of Nursing (AACN) for Baccalaureate Generalist Nursing Practice and the American Nurses Association (ANA) Code of Ethics. The core values for nursing education are firmly based in science and the arts that support the provision of caring and compassionate patient-centered care. The baccalaureate graduate nurse is prepared to practice with patients, including individuals, families, groups, communities, and populations across the lifespan and across the continuum of healthcare environments. The baccalaureate graduate understands and respects the variations of care, the increased complexity, and the increased use of healthcare resources inherent in caring for patients.

The core values of the Nursing Program serve as the foundation of nursing practice at the BSN entry-level and applicable for advanced practice nursing as well. The “carative values” that guided in the development of the curriculum for the Nursing Program are based on the nursing theorist, Jean Watson (2001). The following are the core values shared by the faculty:

- Caring
- Diversity
- Trust
- Ethics
- Excellence
- Holism
- Spirituality
- Evidenced-Based Decision-making
- Patient-Centeredness
- Transformative Power of Technology
- Willingness to Embrace Change

Nursing Program Graduate Outcomes

At the time of graduation from the Nursing Program, nursing students are expected to:

1. Demonstrate a commitment to excellence in professional accountability, leadership, professional behaviors and responsibility for nursing judgments and actions within a moral, ethical and legal framework, utilizing the most current information resources with a commitment to continuous professional development.
2. Utilize the most current informatics and technology resources to communicate, manage knowledge, educate, mitigate error and support decision making to promote patient safety, quality care services.
3. Function effectively within nursing and interprofessional teams, fostering open communication, mutual respect, and shared decision making to achieve quality patient care and improved patient outcomes.
4. Facilitate safe, holistic and effective patient/family centered care outcomes through use of evidence-based research and other science-based, humanities and research frameworks.
5. Promote a culture of caring to provide holistic, compassionate, culturally competent patient-centered nursing care based on a comprehensive and focused health assessment across the lifespan using sound clinical judgment.
6. Facilitate safe, holistic and effective patient/family centered care outcomes through use of evidence-based research and other science-based, humanities and research frameworks.

7. Function effectively within nursing and interprofessional teams, fostering open communication, mutual respect, and shared decision making to achieve quality patient care and improved patient outcomes.
8. Utilize the most current informatics and technology resources to communicate, manage knowledge, educate, mitigate error and support decision making to promote patient safety, quality care services.
9. Implement individual and population-focused interventions to promote health and to prevent and manage disease and injuries by identifying threats to safety and develop strategies to minimize risk of harm to individuals and populations.
10. Demonstrate a commitment to excellence in professional accountability, leadership, professional behaviors and responsibility for nursing judgments and actions within a moral, ethical and legal framework, utilizing the most current information resources with a commitment to continuous professional development.
11. Evaluate the implications of policy on issues of access, equity, affordability, a social justice in healthcare delivery including the health of vulnerable populations and healthcare disparities.
12. Advocate for patients, families, communities, and the nursing profession, applying values and utilizing an ethical framework, clinical reasoning, and cultural competence.
13. Implement individual and population-focused interventions to promote health and to prevent and manage disease and injuries by identifying threats to safety and develop strategies to minimize risk of harm to individuals and populations.

Admission Requirements

1. Applicants to the BSN Program must have a recognized high school diploma or General Equivalency Examination (GED), or the equivalent. They also must have successfully completed high school Biology, Algebra and preferably Chemistry.
2. Send official transcript (s) from high school and post-secondary, if applicable, including a previous degree directly to the Admissions Office.
3. As an Upper Division Program or for Direct Entry, PHSU requires applicants to complete the following general education and science courses with a cumulative GPA of 2.5 from accredited schools. Only grades of C or higher transfer. Nursing courses from other institutions are not accepted for transfer.

Upper Division Pre-Requisites:

Course	Credits
Chemistry for Health Sciences with Lab	4
Anatomy and Physiology I with Lab	4
English Composition I	3
Introduction to Psychology	3
Microbiology for Health Sciences with Lab	4
Anatomy and Physiology II with Lab	4
Developmental Psychology	3

Course	Credits
English Composition II	3
College Algebra	3
Public Speaking	3
Introduction to Statistics	3

(Students who have not completed the pre-requisites for admission to the Upper Division Program may be eligible for the Direct Entry BSN Program).

4. Written essay indicating interest in nursing
5. Submit two letters of recommendation from persons not related to you who can speak to your potential to become a registered professional nurse.
6. Complete an interview with the admission committee.
7. Demonstrate English proficiency in speaking and reading by TOEFL scores or evidence of successful completion of a year of college English.
8. Must have taken the College Entrance Examination Board (CEEB) or equivalent admission test
9. Evidence of attendance at a nursing pre-admission conference given during orientation period.
10. Students are required to have a current Basic Life Support (BLS) certification through the American Heart Association when they enter the program. It can be taken on-line at the American Heart Association website or at a center in your area. Centers are listed on the website or you can contact the American Heart Association directly at 1-800-242-8721.
11. Criminal Background Screening and Drug Testing are required prior to admission.
12. Take the HESI A2 Exam (Health Education System, Inc.).
13. Read and sign the document of Essential Performance Standards in Nursing*
14. A non-refundable US \$25 Application Processing Fee. (Check or Money Order payable to Ponce Health Sciences University).

Accepted Students

Upon acceptance, a deposit of US \$100 to secure the seat is required. Once accepted to PHSU, a student will be sent a Letter of Acceptance, Health Form, Welcome Packet, Visa Form (if required), and Program Plan by email and U.S Mail. The Program Plan provide information on the academic pathway designed specifically for the individual student-from their first to their last trimester. Assistance is provided to students throughout the enrollment process.

Once students are admitted to the program they must submit immunization records and medical tests. The immunization requirements are for DPT (Diphtheria, Pertussis, Tetanus), MMR (Measles, Mumps, Rubella), Polio, Hepatitis B (Start of the series) and proof of having Chicken Pox disease or having had the Varicella or Viravax vaccine. Medical tests which must be completed are a TB test, PPD/Mantoux, together with radiologist's report of a Chest X-Ray which is required (not the actual films) only for those applicants who have tested positive for TB.

Graduation Requirements

To receive a Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing, every student must fulfill the following requirements:

1. Have attended eight regular trimesters (or received transfer credit equivalent to the first two trimesters, have satisfactorily met all the approved clinical requirements, and have satisfactorily completed all course work and examinations as required by the faculty.
2. Have met all the requirements for satisfactory academic progression.
3. Received a passing grade on all required examinations.
4. Have shown a behavior considered acceptable to academic instructors and supervisors.
5. Have received the recommendation of the Nursing Faculty as presented to the Promotions Committee. The Committee reviews both cognitive and attitudinal aspects of performance. The recommendations are then submitted to the Dean for approval.
6. Have settled all financial and library obligations with PHSU.
7. Attend the commencement exercise.

Students who have successfully completed the BSN program and wish to practice in the US are eligible to apply to sit for the NCLEX-RN examination. Each state Board of Nursing has different licensure requirements. The requirements for eligibility to take the NCLEX and to get a license/registration are determined by the board of nursing/regulatory body (BON/RB). If you are interested in information about eligibility and licensure/registration requirements, you should contact the BON/RB where you wish to practice. PHSU SON will assist you in understanding the requirements.

Grading System

Nursing program defines grades of nursing and support courses based on the following system:

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Percentage</u>	<u>GPA</u>
A	91-100%	4.0
B	83-90%	3.0
C	75-82%	2.5
F	Below 75%	0

All students are required to obtain a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.50. An “I” (Incomplete) grade will only be allowed under very special circumstances as determined by the faculty. The student must complete the “I” (Incomplete) by the following trimester or an - “F” will be recorded for that course. The “I” (Incomplete) grades are part of the academic record as are the final grades.

Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy

Satisfactory academic progress is a cumulative measure of a student’s performance and includes all periods of the student’s enrollment. Both quantitative and qualitative standards are used to evaluate satisfactory academic progress in the BSN Program. Quantitative and qualitative standards are measured every term.

Quantitative standards include grades on quizzes, exams, care plans and other measurement tools.

Qualitative standards for practice, as a registered nurse requires many competencies, such as the functional abilities listed below:

- Ability to see, hear, touch, smell, and distinguish colors
- Ability to speak and write with accuracy, clarity, and efficiency
- Manual dexterity, gross, and fine motor movements
- Ability to learn, think critically analyze, assess, solve problems, and reach sound judgments
- Emotional stability and ability to accept responsibility and accountability

All students must satisfactorily demonstrate these competencies in the didactic, laboratory, and clinical courses throughout their program of studies.

General Requirement

A nursing student will be allowed a maximum time frame of two years of enrollment beyond the standard of four years required for the completion of the program. Summer enrollment is considered part of the academic year for the purpose of this measure.

To ensure that a student is making sufficient academic progress in order to meet the maximum timeframe requirement, the student must complete 67% of all credits attempted. Development and skill courses are included in the timeframe calculation but not in the rate of progress calculation.

This policy also ensures that the Student Financial Aid requirements set forth by federal regulations have been met. The SAP applies to all nursing students enrolled in Ponce Health Sciences University School of Nursing. Student's academic progress is evaluated each trimester of the academic year.

For transfer students, the total years for completion of a degree include those years accredited on admission to the BSN Program.

Course Requirement

Students must complete all courses within the established time frame.

Performance Requirement

A student must pass each course. Any student failing to meet this standard of performance will be referred to the Students Promotion Committee to determine the action to be taken.

Professional Behavior Requirement

The students must conduct themselves in accordance with the norms for professional conduct set forth by the Ponce Health Sciences University and the corresponding accreditation agencies.

Grade Requirements

Students will not attain Satisfactory Academic Progress and will be referred to the School of Nursing Students Promotion Committee to be considered for dismissal if any of the following occur:

- Earning an "F" or "WF" in two or more courses in one trimester
- Earning an "F" or "WF" in a nursing course after having had two "F's" or "WF's" in previous trimesters
- Earning an "F" or "WF" in the same nursing course taken twice
- Earning less than a 2.50 semester GPA in two consecutive trimesters

Students receiving one “F” in one trimester, but has a trimester GPA of 2.5 or greater will be given an academic warning and will be placed on “Probation”. Students on probation must meet with the Dean of Nursing at the beginning and throughout the trimester.

Appeal Process

Students who are notified by the Dean of Nursing a decision of the Students Promotion Committee that he/she must repeat failed courses during the next academic year or to be dismissed from the nursing program, have the right to appeal the decision within seven working days after receiving the notification.

The appeal or due process presented below must be followed.

The student will appeal in writing to the School of Nursing Students Promotion Committee (SPC) and include all relevant documentation to support the request. The Committee will evaluate the reasons and evidence submitted to determine if they change their initial decision. The SPC has 48 hours to submit its decision to the Dean of Nursing, who will notify the decision to the student.

If the SPC sustains the adverse decision, the student has the right to appeal to the Dean of Nursing. The appeal must be submitted in writing within seven working days after receiving the notification. The Dean of Nursing will evaluate the appeal and the student’s academic record. The Dean can appoint a three-member Ad-Hoc Committee to re-evaluate all evidence. Rejection of the appeal by the Dean is final.

If an Ad-Hoc Committee is appointed, they will notify the student in writing of the date and the time when the appeal will be evaluated. The Ad-Hoc Committee has forty-eight (48) hours to submit a recommendation to the Dean of Nursing. The Dean of Nursing will consider the Ad-Hoc Committee recommendation and make the final decision within forty-eight (48) hours.

Any decision will be reported to the student in writing. The decision made by the Dean of Nursing is final.

The same process described above will be followed in the case that the adverse decision made by the Committee is for non-academic reasons, such as unacceptable professional behavior. The Department Chairperson, the Dean of Nursing or the VP for Student Affairs will refer the case to the SPC. If the recommendation of the SPC is to dismiss the student, the appeal process described above may be activated.

In the event that an adverse decision is made due to non-academic reasons and the Dean of Nursing sustains the decision after the appeal process, the student may appeal to the Provost/Vice-President for Academic Affairs and then to the President.

Financial Aid Eligibility

Financial Aid eligibility is contingent upon satisfactory academic progress. Please refer to the institutional policy on Satisfactory Academic Progress published by the Office of Financial Aid.

Enforcement

The Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs shall have primary responsibility for overseeing this policy and will provide all nursing students a copy of this document upon admission to Ponce Health Sciences University School of Nursing.

The President, the Provost/Vice President of Academic Affairs and the Vice President for Student Affairs, as well as the Dean of Nursing, Registrar and Financial Aid Manager will receive all pertinent data to ensure proper enforcement of the policy here set forth.

Curriculum

Direct Entry

First Year – Trimester 1

<u>CODE</u>	<u>COURSE TITLE</u>	<u>CREDITS</u>
CHE 1110	Chemistry for Health Sciences/Lab	4
ENG 1010	English Composition I	3
BIO 1010	Anatomy and Physiology I/Lab	4
BIO 2030	Microbiology for Health Sciences/Lab	4
PSY 1010	Introduction to Psychology	3
SUBTOTAL		18

First Year – Trimester 2

<u>CODE</u>	<u>COURSE TITLE</u>	<u>CREDITS</u>
BIO 1020	Anatomy and Physiology II/Lab	4
PSY 1020	Developmental Psychology	3
ENG 1020	English Composition II	3
MTH 1050	College Algebra	3
SPC 1030	Public Speaking	3
MTH 1130	Introduction to Statistics	3
SUBTOTAL		19

First Year – Trimester 3

<u>CODE</u>	<u>COURSE TITLE</u>	<u>CREDITS</u>
EPI 3100	Principles of Epidemiology	3
NUR 2330	Nutrition	3
NUR 3030	Pathophysiology	3
NUR 3150	Nursing Research	3

<u>CODE</u>	<u>COURSE TITLE</u>	<u>CREDITS</u>
NUR 3580	Evidenced-Based Nursing Practice	3
SUBTOTAL		15

Second Year – Trimester 4

<u>CODE</u>	<u>COURSE TITLE</u>	<u>CREDITS</u>
NUR 2120	Foundations of Professional Nursing Practice	5
NUR 2310	Health Assessment and Health Promotion	3
NUR 2320	Pharmacology	3
NUR 3110	Family Dynamics	3
SUBTOTAL		14

Second Year – Trimester 5

<u>CODE</u>	<u>COURSE TITLE</u>	<u>CREDITS</u>
NUR 3120	Care of the Adult in the Acute Care Setting I	6
NUR 3130	Mental Health Nursing	5
HCS 3520	Health Care Informatics	3
SUBTOTAL		14

Second Year – Trimester 6

<u>CODE</u>	<u>COURSE TITLE</u>	<u>CREDITS</u>
NUR 3140	Community Health and Disaster Preparedness	5
NUR 3170	Nursing Care of the Childbearing Family	5
HCS 4510	Global Health Care Issues	3
SUBTOTAL		13

Third Year – Trimester 7

<u>CODE</u>	<u>COURSE TITLE</u>	<u>CREDITS</u>
NUR 4120	Care of the Adult in the Acute Care Setting II	7
NUR 4030	Pediatric Nursing	5
NUR 4040	Leadership and Management	4
SUBTOTAL		16

Third Year – Trimester 8

<u>CODE</u>	<u>COURSE TITLE</u>	<u>CREDITS</u>
NUR 4580	Nursing Specialty Practice	8
NUR 4590	Senior Seminar Capstone	4
SUBTOTAL		12

15. Upper Division

Courses Required for Admission to Upper Division 2.5 GPA

<u>CODE</u>	<u>COURSE TITLE</u>	<u>CREDITS</u>
CHE 1110	Chemistry for Health Sciences/Lab	4
ENG 1010	English Composition I	3
BIO 1010	Anatomy and Physiology I/Lab	4
BIO 2030	Microbiology for Health Sciences/Lab	4
PSY 1010	Introduction to Psychology	3
BIO 1020	Anatomy and Physiology II/Lab	4
PSY 1020	Developmental Psychology	3
ENG 1020	English Composition II	3
MTH 1050	College Algebra	3
SPC 1030	Public Speaking	3
MTH 1130	Introduction to Statistics	3
SUBTOTAL		37

First Year – Trimester 1

<u>CODE</u>	<u>COURSE TITLE</u>	<u>CREDITS</u>
EPI 3100	Principles of Epidemiology	3
NUR 2330	Nutrition	3
NUR 3030	Pathophysiology	3
NUR 3150	Nursing Research	3
NUR 3580	Evidenced-Based Nursing Practice	3
SUBTOTAL		15

First Year – Trimester 2

<u>CODE</u>	<u>COURSE TITLE</u>	<u>CREDITS</u>
NUR 2120	Foundations of Professional Nursing Practice	5
NUR 2310	Health Assessment and Health Promotion	3

<u>CODE</u>	<u>COURSE TITLE</u>	<u>CREDITS</u>
NUR 2320	Pharmacology	3
NUR 3110	Family Dynamics	3
SUBTOTAL		14

First Year – Trimester 3

<u>CODE</u>	<u>COURSE TITLE</u>	<u>CREDITS</u>
NUR 3120	Care of the Adult in the Acute Care Setting I	6
NUR 3130	Mental Health Nursing	5
HCS 3520	Health Care Informatics	3
SUBTOTAL		14

Second Year – Trimester 4

<u>CODE</u>	<u>COURSE TITLE</u>	<u>CREDITS</u>
NUR 3140	Community Health and Disaster Preparedness	5
NUR 3170	Nursing Care of the Childbearing Family	5
HCS 4510	Global Health Care Issues	3
SUBTOTAL		13

Second Year – Trimester 5

<u>CODE</u>	<u>COURSE TITLE</u>	<u>CREDITS</u>
NUR 4120	Care of the Adult in the Acute Care Setting II	7
NUR 4030	Pediatric Nursing	5
NUR 4040	Leadership and Management	4
SUBTOTAL		16

Second Year – Trimester 6

<u>CODE</u>	<u>COURSE TITLE</u>	<u>CREDITS</u>
NUR 4580	Nursing Specialty Practice	8
NUR 4590	Senior Seminar Capstone	4
SUBTOTAL		12

Essential Performance Standards in Nursing

Students must be able to perform the functions that are necessary for the safe practice of nursing and essential to the licensing requirements for nursing with or without reasonable accommodation, in order

to be admitted the PHSU Nursing Program. The following are the essential performance standards in nursing:

ISSUE	STANDARD	EXAMPLE
Critical Thinking	Critical thinking ability sufficient for clinical judgment.	Identify cause/effect relationships in clinical situations, develop a nursing care.
Interpersonal	Interpersonal abilities sufficient for interaction with individuals, families, and groups from various social, emotional, cultural and intellectual backgrounds.	Establish rapport with patients/clients and colleagues.
Communication	Communication abilities sufficient for verbal and written interaction with other.	Explain treatment procedures, initiate health teaching, and document and interpret nursing actions and patient/client responses.
Mobility	Physical abilities sufficient for movement from room to room and in small spaces.	Move around in patient's room, work spaces and treatment areas; administer cardiopulmonary procedures.
Motor Skills	Gross and fine motor abilities sufficient for providing safe, effective nursing care.	Calibrate and use equipment; position patients/clients.
Hearing	Auditory ability sufficient for monitoring and assessing health needs	Hear monitor alarm, emergency signals, auscultator sounds and cries for help.
Visual	Visual ability sufficient for observation and assessment necessary I nursing care.	Observe patient/client responses.

ISSUE	STANDARD	EXAMPLE
Tactile	Tactile ability sufficient for physical assessment.	Perform palpation, functions of physical examination and/or those related to therapeutic intervention (such as insertion of a catheter).

Tuition and Fees

For more details of PHSU tuition and fees please refer to: <http://psm.edu>

ALL TUITION AND FEES ARE PAYABLE ON OR BEFORE REGISTRATION.

Ponce Health Sciences University reserve the right to increase the tuition or other fees as deemed necessary.

Course Descriptions

CHE 1110 Chemistry for Health Sciences (4 credits)

This course is a study of selected topics in general, organic, and biological chemistry oriented toward health sciences. Forty-five (45) hours lecture and 30 laboratory hours. Pre-requisite: None.

ENG 1010 English Composition I (3 credits)

This course focuses on the development of the student's skill in writing expository prose, using various essay modes and effective essay-writing techniques, emphasizing the conventions of standard written English in academic writing. Forty-five (45) lecture hours. Pre-requisite: Satisfactory score on the English Placement Examination.

BIO 1010 Anatomy and Physiology I (4 credits)

This course focuses on the study of the organ systems from the perspective of their structure, process, and regulation. This course specifically deals with the language of anatomy and physiology, medical terminology, cells, tissues, integumentary, skeletal system, muscular system, nervous system, and special senses. Forty-five (45) hours lecture, 30 laboratory hours. Pre-requisite: none.

BIO 2030 Microbiology for Health Sciences (4 credits)

This course addresses the study of microbial life on earth, including microbial cell biology, growth and metabolism, genetics, diversity and evolution, effects on the environment and the interactions between microorganism and high forms of life. Emphasis will be placed on the relationship between microorganism and humans and current efforts to track and control infectious diseases. Forty-five (45) hours lecture, 30 laboratory hours. Pre-requisite: none.

PSY 1010 Introduction to Psychology

This course introduces the student to the scientific study of behavior, principles of motivation, emotions, perception, learning, memory, thinking, personality, and biological basis of behavior. The course

introduces basic concepts of developmental psychology. Forty-five (45) hours lecture. Pre-requisite: none.

BIO 1020 Anatomy and Physiology II (4 credits)

This course focuses on the detailed study of the anatomy and physiology of body systems using an integrated approach. Systems include the circulatory, lymphatic, respiratory, digestive, endocrine, reproductive and urinary systems, and embryo/fetal development and pregnancy. The course will culminate in the understanding of the pathophysiology of multiple systems failure as commonly seen in aging. Forty-five (45) hours lecture, 30 laboratory hours. Pre-requisite: BIO 1010.

PSY 1020 Developmental Psychology (3 credits)

This course provides the student with a comprehensive overview of human development. Topics highlight the major milestones at each developmental stage from conception to death. The course explores the mechanisms of adjustment and adaptation to the problems of everyday life and looks at effective coping strategies that are functional at every stage of the life cycle. Forty-five (45) lecture hours. Pre-requisite: PSY 1010.

ENG 1020 Composition II (3 credits)

This course focuses on the development of the student's reading skills, emphasizing research and critical evaluation of scientific reading. This course also reinforces the student's writing skills by emphasizing expository prose using persuasive argument, cause and effect, problem solving and a fully documented critical research paper. Forty-five (45) lecture hours. Pre-requisite: ENG 1010.

MTH 1050 College Algebra (3 credits)

This course is an introduction to the fundamental concepts of algebra. Concepts covered includes: linear and quadratic equations and inequalities; Cartesian plane and graphing; polynomial and rational functions; exponential and logarithmic functions; systems of equations and inequalities; matrices; Arithmetic and Geometric Sequences and Series. Forty-five (45) lecture hours. Pre-requisite: COMPASS Algebra score >30.

SPC 1030 Public Speaking (3 credits)

This course introduces students to the basic skills necessary to succeed in public speaking situations: preparing and practicing, using verbal and nonverbal communication cues effectively, and giving and receiving constructive criticism. Forty-five (45) lecture hours. Pre-requisite: none.

MTH 1130 Introduction to Statistics (3 credits)

This course is an introduction to concepts and application of data collection, presentation of data, extraction of useful information from data and the analysis and interpretation of such information. The focus of this course is on the commonly used statistical techniques applicable to specific health care problems and research in the medical field within the context of nursing. Forty-five (45) lecture hours. Pre-requisite: none.

EPI 3100 Principles of Epidemiology (3 credits)

This course provides students with and understanding of the core principles of epidemiology of human disease prevention and treatment, with emphasis on emerging infectious and blood borne diseases. Students will develop detailed case studies that demonstrate their application of appropriate scientific principles to community and global health issues. Forty-five (45) hours lecture. Pre-requisite: none.

NUR 2330 Nutrition (3 credits)

This course builds upon the psychology of human behavior, physiology and biochemistry to provide the student with a foundation of knowledge in nutrition science. Students will apply these principles to individuals in designing plans for healthy growth and development across the lifespan and to population issues such as obesity and chronic diseases. Forty-five (45) lecture hours. Pre-requisite: CHE 1110 Chemistry for Health Sciences.

NUR 3030 Pathophysiology (3 credits)

This course focuses on the physical and chemical processes within the human body that can lead to disease, injury or death of an individual. Emphasis is on the adolescent through elderly lifespan. The student will focus on the human response to altered levels of function related to diseases, formulation of nursing diagnosis, and therapeutic intervention. Forty-five (45) lecture hours. Pre-requisite: NUR 2120, NUR 2310. Co-requisite: NUR 3120.

NUR 3150 Nursing Research (3 credits)

This course will provide students with the principles of research, including the structure, methods, ethics and procedures. Students will explore both theory-testing and theory-generating research and the appropriate methodologies for them. Certification in Protection of human subjects' web-based education from the N.I.H. will be completed by students. Forty-five (45) lecture hours. Pre-requisite: none.

NUR 3580 Evidenced-Based Nursing Practice (3 credits)

This course is an introduction to knowledge-based care, critical thinking and reasoning based on nursing theory. Grounded in the experience of nursing as a caring, practice profession creating the art and science of nursing, students will be introduced to a variety of nursing frameworks, models, theorists and best practices. The concepts of person, health, nursing, environment, caring and transitions will be explored. Students will be guided into examining a nurse theorist and how it compares and contrasts to their personal philosophy of nursing. Forty-five (45) lecture hours. Pre-requisite: MTH 1130.

NUR 2120 Foundations of Professional Nursing Practice (5 credits)

This course is a foundations class which introduces the nursing student to basic principles of nursing science at the baccalaureate level and the professional roles of direct care provider, manager of care, member of the multidisciplinary health care team, as well as an accountable member of the nursing profession are introduced. Student accountability and commitment as an active participant in the teaching, learning, and evaluation processes are necessary for successful completion of the course and progression to the next level nursing course. Forty-five (45) hours lecture and 90 clinical/skills laboratory experience hours are requirements of the course. Pre-requisite: ENG 1010, ENG 1020, BIO 1010, BIO 1020, BIO 2030, CHE 1110, PSY 1010, PSY 1020, MTH 1050, MTH 1130, SPC 1030.

NUR 2310 Health Assessment and Health Promotion (3 credits)

This course presents the basic principles and concepts involved in the assessment of clients across the lifespan, moving from wellness to illness. Students will apply concepts from anatomy and physiology and the foundations of practice and health promotion issues and planning. Fifteen (15) lecture hours, 45 hours of simulation lab, 45 clinical experience hours. Pre-requisite or co-requisite: NUR 2120.

NUR 2320 Pharmacology (3 credits)

This course provides students with the basic principles of pharmacology and pharmacotherapeutic so that they are prepared to assume the role of the nurse in drug therapy. Specific emphasis will be placed on drug classifications and the most common medications used to treat diseases across the lifespan. Students will learn to utilize internet-based resources for researching pharmaco-therapeutic and herbal/over the counter medications. Forty-five (45) lecture hours. Prerequisite or Co-requisite: NUR 2120.

NUR 3110 Family Dynamics (3 credits)

This course explores the dynamics of family function during times of crisis, stress, or when behavioral health conditions affect one or more family members. Students will explore assessment models for use with diverse family populations and review communication techniques that facilitate relationship building. The course also focuses on the relational and therapeutic aspects of viewing the family as a unit of care. Special family situations such as substance abuse, emotional or physical handicaps, chronic illness, and terminal illness will be discussed. Forty-five (45) lecture hours. Pre-requisite: PSY 1020, Co-requisite: NUR 2120.

NUR 3120 Care of the Adult in the Acute Care Setting I (6 credits)

This course prepares the nursing student for the care of clients in various health care settings across the lifespan. The course is comprised of didactic and clinical components. The didactic portion provides the student with the theoretical foundation of nursing practice, and the clinical component affords the student the opportunity to practice the art and science of nursing in acute settings such as hospitals, settings such as hospitals, clinical care centers, as well as community settings such as long-term care and primary care clinics. Students must demonstrate the ability to think critically utilizing knowledge from the life and social sciences and humanities, as demonstrated in case reports. Forty-five (45) lecture hours and 135 clinical experience hours. Pre-requisite: NUR 2120.

NUR 3130 Mental Health Nursing (5 credits)

This course teaches students to apply and integrate the concepts of therapeutic communication, and therapeutic use of self within the context of the nurse-client relationship. This course focuses on the nursing care of individuals and families with mental health issues throughout the lifespan. Mental wellness is viewed in relation to client education, growth and development. Consideration of cultural, ethical, and spiritual influences in relation to mental health issues is emphasized. Nursing students will focus on integrating the biological, psychosocial, cultural, and spiritual needs of clients with moderate to severe emotional issues. Forty-five (45) lecture hours and 90 lab and clinical experience hours. Pre-requisite: NUR 2120.

HCS 3520 Healthcare Informatics (3 credits)

Students utilize the latest in healthcare technology to further their understanding of the use of electronic databases, computerized medical records, and medical decision support systems. Students will be exposed to the applications of technology systems in the monitoring and treatment of emerging and chronic disease management and palliative care. Forty-five (45) lecture hours. Pre-requisite: none.

HCS 4510 Global Healthcare Issues (3 credits)

Students will demonstrate advanced understanding of theoretical constructs of human behavior, leadership, organizational dynamics and epidemiology as applied in case studies of major global health issues and the informatics used in support various population databases. Topics include preventable and emerging new infectious diseases, HIV/AIDS, chronic diseases in minority populations, and selected orphan diseases. Forty-five (45) lecture hours. Pre-requisite: EPI 3100

NUR 3140 Community Health and Disaster Preparedness (5 credits)

Students will apply the principles of population health and epidemiology in both individual and family case studies, as well as in disaster scenarios. Students will discuss disease prevention in the context of emerging global diseases, as well as within the constraints of personal and national financial resources. Forty-five (45) lecture hours and 90 clinical/simulation experience hours. Pre-requisite NUR 2120. .

NUR 3170 Nursing Care of the Child-bearing Family (5 credits)

This course presents the principles and concepts, as well as the clinical support, to care for clients and their families during childbearing. The health processes of pregnancy, labor and delivery, and post-partum periods, as well as selected high risk or unhealthy processes, are presented. Emphasis is placed upon normal physiology and pathophysiology as the basis for clinical decision-making in the care of obstetric patients in both the ambulatory and acute care settings. Forty-five (45) lecture hour and 90 clinical experience hours. Pre-requisite: NUR 3120.

NUR 4120 Care of the Adult in the Acute Care Setting II (7 credits)

Students will gain experience in working with adults in the acute care setting, as well as the families of acutely ill individuals. Clinical experience will include palliative and end of life care. Students will be expected to plan, implement and evaluate comprehensive plans of care including principles of pharmacology, nutrition, pathophysiology, and psycho-social aspects of care. The student will also provide client and family education that is individualized to the specific client situation. Thirty (30) clinical conference hours and 225 clinical experience hours. Pre-requisite: NUR 3120.

NUR 4030 Pediatric Nursing (5 credits)

This course presents the principles and concepts as well as the clinical support to care for the well/ ill child and family. Students will use family systems theory in the development of comprehensive plans of care for the newborn through adolescence, with an emphasis on disease and injury prevention nutrition, assessment and treatment of common pathologic conditions and disorders of development. These principles will also be applied to families with special needs. Forty-five (45) lecture hours and 90 clinical experience hours. Pre-requisite: NUR 3120.

NUR 4040 Leadership and Management (4 credits)

This course prepares nursing students for clinical practice as a registered nurse at the Bachelor's degree level. The student will assume the role of nurse manager/clinical leader. The course emphasizes the leadership, management and ethical decision making process in the delivery of health care in diverse multicultural settings. Whenever possible, nursing students may spend additional hours in their chosen specialty field. Thirty (30) conference hours with faculty mentors and 90 clinical experience hours. Pre-requisite or Co-requisite: NUR 4020.

NUR 4580 Nursing Specialty Practice (8 credits)

Nursing students will have the opportunity to develop their role further within their chosen specialty practice with guidance from faculty mentors. Fifteen (15) lecture/conference hours with faculty mentors, 315 clinical experience hours. This course is a component of a Specialization Certificate in Mental Health for students selecting the practice area of Mental Health for students selecting the practice area of Mental Health. Pre-requisite: NUR 3130, NUR 3140, NUR 3170, NUR 4030 and NUR 4120.

NUR 4590 Senior Seminar Capstone (4 credits)

Nursing students are provided the opportunity to utilize theory, practicum and evidenced-based research as the foundation of an in-depth focused practicum experience at a senior level. The purpose of the capstone experience is to help students gain confidence in time management, critical thinking, diagnostic reasoning, documentation, informatics and psychomotor skills under the direct supervision of clinical preceptors. Fifteen (15) lecture hours and 135 clinical hours. Pre-requisite or Co-requisite: NUR 4580.