

NURS 102

The Professional Nurse: Roles and Concepts

1 Credit Hour

This course provides an introduction to nursing practice and its four major concepts: professional identity, clinical practice, patient, and health systems. Basic skills such as listening, observation and measuring vital signs are practiced in select settings. The mission, philosophy, and core values of SXU and SONHS are emphasized.

NURS 199

Introduction to Aging

3 Credit Hours

This course introduces the student to the field of gerontology through a variety of interdisciplinary venues including literature, gerontology, psychology, sociology and nursing. The student will be introduced to techniques of self-reflection and journaling to increase awareness of one's own perceptions of aging. Included are opportunities for elder client encounters that demonstrate successful aging and the complexity and diversity of the older client.

NURS 205

Narrative Gerontology

3 Credit Hours

The purpose of this course is to introduce the student to narrative/story [Narrative Gerontology] as a way of knowing, a way of coming to connect with and communicate with the older adult in a variety of settings through interdisciplinary venues that include literature, gerontology, psychology, sociology, anthropology, and nursing. The student will be introduced to interpretive phenomenology as a way of thinking and interpretive journaling to better understanding the diversity and complexity of the older adult. Student interdisciplinary teams will discuss a variety of readings and studies and participate in developing a community teaching/learning plan for older adults, leading to a multi-perspectival understanding of aging and how to come to understand what is meaningful to older adults both in the U.S. and globally and across settings. Offered fall.

NURS 208

Aging and Culture

3 Credit Hours

This course examines aging in cross-cultural perspective. Emphasized are the diverse and worldwide cultural contexts that mediate the experience of aging. Evaluated is the human response to aging as influenced through historical time periods. Theoretical perspectives and myth surrounding aging are explored. Challenges of growing old are considered in diverse life contexts and cultures. Explored are case studies of aging from Asia, Europe, Africa, and the Americas and the contextual knowledge that illuminates life transition, health, well-being, and cultural adaptation for the aged. This course applies to academic disciplines including nursing and health sciences.

NURS 215

Pathophysiology

3 Credit Hours

Pre/Corequisite: E (RQ) NURS-218 NURS-220 NURSP-221

This course explores the etiology, pathogenesis, clinical manifestations and developmental considerations of specific

disease processes. Students will acquire an understanding of the mechanisms of disordered physiology that underlie illnesses commonly encountered in practice settings.

Understanding of pathophysiological processes will be linked to the clinical manifestations of illness and exploration of nursing implications.

NURS 218

Concepts in Professional Nursing I

3 Credit Hours

Pre/Corequisite: E (RQ) NURS-215 NURS-220 NURSP-221

Expands student understanding of the foundational concepts of nursing. Within the context of professional nursing practice health care systems, environmental factors, social policies, access to and delivery of care will be explored. There is emphasis on examination and analysis of global health. Consideration is given to developing an understanding of accountability, self-reflection, life-long learning, service, creativity, and spirit of inquiry in nursing practice.

NURS 220

Holistic Assessment

3 Credit Hours

Pre/Corequisite: E (RQ) NURS-215 NURS-218 NURSP-221

This course provides the foundation and skills for holistic assessment of patients across the lifespan. With a focus on physical assessment, bio-psycho-social-spiritual-cultural dimensions, therapeutic communication, collaboration, health promotion, clinical reasoning, and safe use of technology are integrated.

NURS 303

PLUS Seminar

1 Credit Hour

Pre/Corequisite: C (RM) NURS-316, NURS-342, NURSP-317, NURSP-343

The purpose of this seminar is to increase the understanding of concepts and skills studied in NURS 316, 342 and NURSP 317, 343. This course assists students to continue to apply PLUS strategies, such as text-reading strategies applied to course textbook, note-taking strategies applied to lecture notes, decision-making strategies in nursing practice, confidence building strategies applied to self as a responsible learner and socialization strategies into professional nursing. Promotes self-responsibility for learning. Emphasizes collaboration between faculty and students. This course emphasizes collaborative learning and partnerships between faculty and students.

NURS 304

PLUS Seminar

1 Credit Hour

Pre/Corequisite: C (RQ) NURS-366, NURSP-367

The purpose of this seminar is to increase the understanding of concepts and skills studied in NURS 366 and NURSP 367. Students are assisted to continue to apply PLUS strategies, such as text-reading strategies applied to course textbook, decision-making in nursing practice, developing individual responsibility for learning and self-confidence in self as a responsible learner and integration of strategies leading toward increasing socialization to the profession of nursing. This

course continues to promote self-responsibility for learning and emphasizes collaboration between faculty and students.

NURS 311

Mental Health Nursing

2 Credit Hours

Pre/Corequisite: P (RQ) NURS-212, NURS-336, NURS-347, PSYCH-204, C: NURSP-312 (RQ)

This course provides the opportunity to reflect on the continuum of mental health and mental illness, the profound impact of stigma, myths, biases, the dynamic influences of the political, social, economic climate and the ever-evolving health care system in the lives of clients, significant persons in the lives of our clients and the community. This course uses theories from a variety of disciplines, including psychology, biology, neurology, sociology, cultural anthropology and nursing to understand the life stories of clients. The essence of this course is the construction and maintenance of the therapeutic relationship in which the nurse, as an integral part of the interdisciplinary team, supports the client in the journey toward health and full participation in meaningful life.

NURS 316

Nursing Care of the Childbearing Family

2 Credit Hours

Pre/Corequisite: P (RQ) NURS-311, NURS-344, NURS-346, NURSP-312, NURSP-345, C: NURSP-317 (RQ)

This course applies theories from nursing, the sciences and the humanities in caring for the childbearing woman and her family. The focus is placed on holistic family-oriented care with pregnancy, childbirth and developmental changes in a woman's reproductive life considered as natural processes. This course promotes discussion of methods to provide the woman with necessary knowledge to be proactive in maintaining health throughout her lifespan in the current health care system. An additional focus is the discussion of the role of the nurse as caregiver, teacher, advocate and colleague.

NURS 318

Concepts in Professional Nursing II

3 Credit Hours

Pre/Corequisite: P (RQ) NURS-215 NURS-218 NURS-220 NURSP-221, E: NURS-333 NURS-349 NURSP-334 (RQ)

This course provides an in depth understanding of the research process and the application of evidence based practice to nursing care. Ethical/legal dimensions are identified in both research and practice settings. An introduction to the principles of information science and information systems provides the foundation for students to explore the practical applications of various information technologies in health care.

NURS 319

Concepts in Professional Nursing III

2 Credit Hours

Pre/Corequisite: P (RQ) NURS-318 NURS-333 NURS-349 NURSP-334, E: NURS-376 NURSP-377 (RQ)

Formerly Nursing Concepts: Quality and Safety. This course explores the practice of professional nurses as they interact with the various elements of health systems, environmental factors, social policies and delivery of care. These concepts will be examined from a national and global perspective.

The impact of technology and health care informatics on the delivery of care and performance improvement will be explored.

NURS 329

Mentoring in Professional Nursing II

0.5 Credit Hours

Pre/Corequisite: P (RM) NURS-328

This small group experience is designed to be an ongoing seminar throughout the student's program of studies in nursing. The focus of the seminar this semester is to continue socialization into the role of nursing student and reflect on evidence-based practice and how it applies to caring for the adult client experiencing health issues. Discussion, exploration and synthesis of additional nursing issues, concepts and practices will be the major focus of this seminar. Peer exchange as well as professional role modeling and contact with practitioners from a variety of areas will assist the students to assimilate nursing values as they progress toward entering the profession. NOTE: This course is taken concurrently with the Junior I nursing courses.

NURS 333

Holistic Care in Nursing Practice I

3 Credit Hours

Pre/Corequisite: P (RQ) NURS-215 NURS-218 NURS-220 NURSP-221, C: NURSP-334 (RQ)

This course focuses on concepts fundamental to the practice of nursing from a theoretical, evidence base. A conceptual approach is used to explore knowledge and skills as they apply to patients with basic health alterations across the lifespan. Emphasis is placed on therapeutic communication, health promotion, safety, clinical judgment, and nursing interventions.

NURS 338

Mentoring in Professional Nursing III

0.5 Credit Hours

Pre/Corequisite: P (RQ) NURS-329

This small group experience is designed to be an ongoing seminar throughout the student's program of studies in nursing. The focus of the seminar this semester is to continue socialization into the role of nursing student and reflect on evidence-based practice and its application to childbearing and childrearing families, as well as a focus on community health. Discussion, exploration and synthesis of additional nursing issues, concepts and practices will be the major focus of this seminar. Peer exchange as well as professional role modeling and contact with practitioners from a variety of areas will assist the students to assimilate nursing values as they progress toward entering their profession. NOTE: This course is taken concurrently with the Junior II nursing courses.

NURS 339

Mentoring in Professional Nursing IV

0.5 Credit Hours

Pre/Corequisite: P (RQ) NURS-338; BSN/LPN students exempt

This small group experience is designed to be an ongoing seminar throughout the student's program of studies in nursing. The focus of the seminar this semester is to prepare the student for the transition from nursing student to working

professional registered nurse. Discussion, exploration and synthesis of additional nursing issues, concepts and practices will be the major focus of this seminar. Specifically, the focus will be on leadership in nursing, the multiple roles of the professional nurse, preparation for licensure and NCLEX and job interviews and selection. Peer exchange as well as professional role modeling and contact with practitioners from a variety of areas will assist the students to assimilate nursing values as they progress toward the final stages of undergraduate preparation. NOTE: This course is taken concurrently with the Senior I nursing courses.

NURS 342

Nursing Care of Children Promotion and Illness Management

2 Credit Hours

Pre/Corequisite: P (RQ) NURS-311, NURS-329, NURS-344, NURS-346, NURSP-312, NURSP-345

This course applies nursing theory, family theory, evidence-based research and critical thinking skills to caring for families with children. It emphasizes family-centered care and embracing developmental aspects of the dimensions of holistic health with a focus on health promotion, health maintenance and illness management. Discussion will focus on the role of the pediatric nurse in today's health system as caregiver, teacher, advocate and colleague. The outcome of therapeutic interventions and establishment of therapeutic relationships with the child and family will be explored as a foundation for providing quality of care in the community or hospital setting.

NURS 343

Concepts of Professional Nursing Practice, Policy, Legal and Regulatory Issues in Nursing

3 Credit Hours

This course is designed to support the learning needs of students enrolled in the RN to BSN Online Program. This course expands students' understanding of the concepts of nursing practice. The course explores the development of the profession of nursing, nursing as its own scientific discipline and nurses' evolving roles. Within the context of professional nursing practice, health care delivery systems, environmental factors, social policies, access to and delivery of care will be explored. Concepts of health promotion, continuity of care, quality, safety and use of community resources are discussed. The concepts of regulatory issues and policies governing the nursing profession are examined.

NURS 344

Nursing Care of Adults

3 Credit Hours

Pre/Corequisite: P (RQ) NURS-212, NURS-282, NURS-326, NURS-336, NURS-347, NURSL-326, NURSP-337, C: NURSP-345 (RQ)

This course uses research, nursing theory and critical thinking skills in the provision of holistic care to adults experiencing acute or chronic illness. A focus is placed on assessment, communication and patient teaching as well as to therapeutic nursing interventions. An emphasis is placed on risk reduction and illness management in adults. In addition, clients are assisted to reach optimal levels of functioning or managing end of life issues.

NURS 345

Theoretical, Ethical, Cultural, Spiritual Dimensions of Nursing Care

3 Credit Hours

Pre/Corequisite: P (RQ) NURS-343

This course provides the opportunity to examine the theoretical, ethical, cultural, legal and spiritual challenges presented by the contemporary world to the humanistic practice of professional nursing. The emphasis in this course is on internalizing a collegial model of interdisciplinary ethical dialogue, which integrates mutual caring, respect, and valuing of all health care professionals and the patients in their care. The search for meaning in the human experiences of life, illness, suffering, moral choices, and end of life issues are major components. Students will have an opportunity to use self-reflection on their own beliefs and values as they relate to professional practice.

NURS 346

Ethical, Legal, Spiritual Dimensions of Nursing Practice

1 Credit Hour

Pre/Corequisite: P (RQ) NURS-212, NURS-282, NURS-326, NURS-347, NURSL-326

This course is an introduction to the ethical decision-making process in nursing practice guided by the Illinois Nurse Practice Act, the American Nurse Association (ANA) Code of Ethics for Nurses, and the ANA Scope and Standards of Practice. Ethical theories, frameworks and principles will be emphasized to support accountability in nursing practice. The basic function of laws, policies and systems are discussed to ensure holistic and safe patient care. Social justice and values, which enliven all of nursing, are at the center of this course.

NURS 347

Nursing Care of Older Adult

3 Credit Hours

Pre/Corequisite: P (RM) NURS-282, NURS-326, NURSL-326, E: NURS-212, NURS-328, NURS-336, NURSP-337 (RM)

This course utilizes nursing theory, family theory, research and critical thinking skills in the provision of holistic care to older adults and their families experiencing acute or chronic illness. Issues of health promotion, risk reduction and disease prevention and end of life issues as they impact older adults and their families are explored.

NURS 348

Geriatric Syndromes

2 Credit Hours

Pre/Corequisite: P (RQ) NURS-199

This hybrid course addresses Geriatric Syndromes and their effect on the physical, psychological, and social health and well-being of older adults. The foci is the role of nursing in the assessment, health promotion, risk reduction, evidence-based interventions, and client teaching related to Geriatric Syndromes. Face-to-face classes are held every other week along with on-line case studies and reflective thinking projects on alternative weeks.

NURS 349

Nursing Pharmacology I

2 Credit Hours

Pre/Corequisite: P (RQ) NURS-215 NURS-218 NURS-220 NURSP-221, E: NURS-318 NURS-333 NURSP-334 (RQ)

This course provides an introduction to concepts necessary for safe medication administration. Basics of pharmacokinetics, administration techniques, drug classifications, and dosage calculation are covered. The role of the nurse in patient education and use of current resources are emphasized.

NURS 356

Nursing Research: Connecting Research and Practice

3 Credit Hours

Pre/Corequisite: P (RQ) NURS-212, NURS-282, NURS-326

This course discusses the need for nursing research in the development of a knowledge base for clinical practice. Additionally, the elements of the research process and the ethical dimensions of a research study are considered. It promotes an appreciation of the role of the nurse researcher in the development and testing of clinical questions and examining ethical aspects of studies. Students are encouraged to integrate relevant research findings with their clinical nursing practice.

NURS 357

Community and Population Focused Nursing Care

2 Credit Hours

Pre/Corequisite: P (RQ) NURS-282, NURS-326, NURSP-337, NURS-344, NURS-345, NURSL-326, C: NURSP-358 (RQ)

This course focuses on the application of community/public health nursing concepts with individuals, families and groups based on the underlying premise that the core of nursing lies in promoting the health of people and their communities. The role of the community/public health nurse is extensive. In addition to providing nursing care, this role incorporates that of an advocate, educator, and activist, especially with regard to social justice issues that impact the health of communities. Emphasis is placed on community-focused nursing care, addressing population-based nursing interaction with communities, special populations and those with developmental and situational crises. Contemporary health issues, ethics and decision-making are discussed and analyzed.

NURS 365

Independent Study Nursing

1 to 3 Credit Hours

This course involves the individualized study of an area of personal interest in nursing. In consultation with faculty, the student develops learning objectives, plans strategies and activities, implements the plan and evaluates the outcomes.

NURS 366

Advanced Nursing Therapeutics

3 Credit Hours

Pre/Corequisite: P (RQ) NURS-316, NURS-356, NURS-357, NURS-390, NURSP-317, NURSP-358, must be taken second semester senior year

This course synthesizes concepts, issues and theories from nursing and other disciplines in applying the nursing

process to patients with complex medical problems. Evidence-based nursing practice and a holistic approach are utilized in developing nursing interventions using a case study methodology. Collaboration with patients, families and other disciplines is integrated into the plan of care with a focus on disease prevention and illness management in complex health care situations.

NURSL 368

Advanced Nursing Therapeutics Lab

0.5 Credit Hours

Pre/Corequisite: P (RQ) NURS-316, NURS-342, NURS-357, C: NURS-366, NURSP-367 (RQ)

This course applies concepts discussed in Advanced Nursing Therapeutics. In a laboratory setting, students plan, implement and evaluate nursing care for individuals and families experiencing complex health care issues. Utilizing a holistic approach and functioning on an interdisciplinary team, students simulate care of clients in complex health care settings. Includes 18 clock hours of field work.

NURS 376

Holistic Care in Nursing Practice II

4 Credit Hours

Pre/Corequisite: P (RQ) NURS-318 NURS-333 NURS-349 NURSP-334, C: NURSP-377 (RQ)

This course focuses on improving health outcomes with individuals, families, and communities across settings. With an emphasis on risk reduction and health promotion, students explore the nursing care of patients with psycho-biologic and bio-physical alterations. The influence of culture, environment, and current health care.

NURS 383

Special Topics in Nursing

1 to 3 Credit Hours

This course presents varying subject matter related to current trends and issues in professional nursing, dependent upon student interest and faculty resources. Junior or senior status.

NURS 384

Information Management and Technology for Patient Care

3 Credit Hours

Pre/Corequisite: P (RQ) NURS-345

This course will explore informatics and examine nursing's role in the use of health care technology. Emphasis includes protecting patient data. The student will identify, gather, process, evaluate and manage information/data to support the ongoing quality and further improvement of patient care.

NURS 386

Scholarly Inquiry and Principle of Evidence Based Practice

3 Credit Hours

Pre/Corequisite: P (RQ) NURS-384

This course focuses on the use of evidence-based nursing practice processes as a foundation for professional nursing. The elements of and ethical dimensions of a research study are examined. This course promotes an appreciation of the role of the nurse researcher in the development and testing of clinical questions and interpreting evidence. Students will integrate relevant research findings with their clinical nursing

practice to support making clinical judgments that enhance patient outcomes.

NURS 389

Concepts in Professional Nursing IV

2 Credit Hours

Pre/Corequisite: P (RQ) NURS-319 NURS-376 NURSP-377, E: NURS-433 NURS-449 NURSP-434 (RQ)

This course provides an in-depth examination of nursing concepts integral to the role of a successful professional nurse. The concepts of leadership and communication will be examined as they impact patient care and interdisciplinary collaboration. Caring and the art of nursing practice will be explored as related to situations involving end of life care and the nurse's role as teacher, advocate, and manager/provider/coordinator of care. Through dialog, reflection, and collaboration students will develop a better understanding and appreciation for approaching health care issues from multiple perspectives.

NURS 390

Health Policy and Politics

2 Credit Hours

Pre/Corequisite: P (RQ) NURS-356; senior I standing

This course examines and addresses issues in health policy and health care systems from a global and integrative perspective. It fosters an understanding of United States health care policy as it affects economic, political, legal and ethical aspects of the health care delivery system and professional nursing practice. Contemporary health issues, ethics and decision-making and their impact on clients are further discussed and analyzed.

NURS 392

Nursing Management in Professional Nursing Practice

3 Credit Hours

Pre/Corequisite: C (RQ) NURSP-393, NURS-366

This course examines and analyzes the nurse manager role in a variety of health care settings within the framework of leadership and management theories. Emphasis is on managing resources (information systems, quality assurance and budgetary allocations), people, personal resources and managing client care in health care delivery systems.

NURS 433

Holistic Care in Nursing Practice III

4 Credit Hours

Pre/Corequisite: P (RQ) NURS-319 NURS-376 NURSP-377, C: NURSP-434 (RQ)

This course expands on select concepts as applied across the lifespan. A conceptual approach is used to explore knowledge and skills as they apply to patients with acute and chronic illnesses across the lifespan. Emphasis is placed on therapeutic communication, health promotion, leadership, safety, clinical judgment, and nursing interventions. The role of the nurse in the care and management of patients with acute and chronic illness is the focus of this course.

NURS 443

Holistic Health Assessment

4 Credit Hours

Pre/Corequisite: P (RQ) NURS-345

This course provides the student with the knowledge and skills necessary for holistic assessment of patients across the lifespan. This course will examine the principles and techniques of nursing assessment focusing on patient interviewing for history taking, review of systems, physical examination techniques, and documentation of the findings. Utilization of assessment findings in clinical decision making is discussed throughout the course.

NURS 445

Global Health and Population Based Nursing Care

4 Credit Hours

Pre/Corequisite: P (RQ) NURS-443

This course provides the student opportunities to apply concepts of community, population and global health to patient care. Social determinants and unique perceptions of health and health care needs across settings are explored. Students will focus on primary, secondary, and tertiary levels of prevention, through collaboration with the community/public health nurse. Students will complete 70 hours of community health field experience.

NURS 449

Nursing Pharmacology II

2 Credit Hours

Pre/Corequisite: P (RQ) NURS-319 NURS-376 NURSP-377, E: NURS-433 NURSP-434 (RQ)

This course provides an in-depth examination of drug classifications and their application in the care of patients with complex medical conditions. Concepts necessary for safe medication administration and dosage calculation are reinforced. Accountability and the regulations concerning medication administration, reconciliation, and drug interactions are discussed. The role of the nurse in patient education and use of current resources are demonstrated.

NURS 476

Issues in Women's Health

1 to 3 Credit Hours

This course explores the holistic development of women and current issues impacting women's health. Focus is placed on the complex inter-relationship between women's health and their social, political, cultural and economic situation. The student will investigate methods to empower women to take a more active role in their health care and explore strategies for health care advocacy.

NURS 477

Senior Seminar

1 Credit Hour

Pre/Corequisite: E (RQ) NURS-478 NURSP-479

The focus of the seminar is to prepare the student for the transition from nursing student to professional registered nurse. Peer exchange, role modeling, exploration, and synthesis of nursing issues, concepts and practices will take place in this seminar. Students will more fully integrate nursing values into their professional identity.

NURS 478

Advanced Concepts in Nursing Practice

4 Credit Hours

Pre/Corequisite: C (RQ) NURSP-479, E: NURS-477 (RQ)

This synthesis course provides a culminating experience with a variety of learning activities that integrate clinical reasoning, nursing management and evaluation skills. Utilizing critical inquiry and evidence based practice the nurse's role in optimizing health outcomes is more fully appreciated. The students' development of professional identity as a member of an interdisciplinary team is also fostered.

NURS 484

Nursing Collaboration and Leadership for Quality Care and Patient Safety

4 Credit Hours

Pre/Corequisite: P (RQ) NURS-445

This interdisciplinary course examines and analyzes the nurse leader/manager role in a variety of health care settings within the disciplines of nursing, business leadership and management. Emphasis is on managing resources, including personnel, information systems, quality management/ improvement processes and budgetary allocations.

NURS 486

Capstone in Nursing Practice

4 Credit Hours

Pre/Corequisite: P (RQ) NURS-484

This final course in the RN to BSN option allows students to apply knowledge and skills learned throughout the educational experience. Students will demonstrate competencies consistent with program outcomes. The planning and organizing of an independent learning experience will culminate with a capstone project reflecting academic, professional and personal growth.