

**University of Nevada  
Las Vegas  
School of Nursing**



**Pre-Nursing  
Information Booklet  
2009 - 2010**

# UNLV SCHOOL OF NURSING

## **Accreditation Status**

The School of Nursing is accredited by the Nevada State Board of Nursing, the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, and the National League for Nursing Accreditation Commission.

## **Purpose of Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing**

The Bachelor of Science degree provides students the opportunity to acquire the knowledge, competencies and attitudes of the professional nurse by developing skills in assessment, planning, implementation and evaluation of health care with individuals, families and groups in a variety of settings.

## **Terminal Objectives of the Baccalaureate Program**

At the conclusion of the program of study, graduates will be able to:

1. Utilize a framework for nursing practice that incorporates sound critical thinking skills.
2. Provide clinically competent, culturally appropriate patient centered care that encompasses principles of holism, caring, advocacy, spirituality and global awareness.
3. Demonstrate effective verbal, non-verbal, and written communication skills in the practice of nursing.
4. Use emerging information technology in the process of planning, implementing and evaluating patient care.
5. Integrate appropriate standards of care, protocols, research findings, and continuing quality improvement in providing evidence based nursing care.
6. Incorporate health promotion and disease prevention and illness management strategies in working with patients, families, groups and communities.
7. Effectively manage human, fiscal and material resources to achieve quality health care outcomes.
8. Integrate professional values, attitudes, knowledge and behaviors into nursing practice.

## **Description of Program**

The Nursing program requires completion of the core requirements of the University and pre-requisite course work prior to enrolling in the upper-division Nursing courses. Nursing course work builds on the pre-requisites and integrates theoretical and clinical knowledge.

## **Admission to the University**

Students interested in the baccalaureate program apply through the Office of Admissions and signify on the University application form "Pre-Nursing Major." Once the student is admitted as a Pre-Nursing Major, the Office of Admissions will send the student's record to the Health Sciences Advisement Center and an advisor will serve as the student's advisor.

## **ADMISSION INTO THE NURSING PROGRAM**

### **Pre-Nursing Advisement**

Pre-nursing students, both full- time and part-time, are **required** to meet with an adviser located in the Health Science Advisement Center to develop a schedule of pre-requisite classes. This schedule, known as the "**Pre-Nursing Schedule**", details courses which the student must complete to be eligible for admission into the nursing program.

Students are admitted into the four-year baccalaureate nursing program three times a year (fall, spring and summer semesters). Once admitted to the nursing program, students are expected to maintain continuous full-time enrollment, thus allowing completion of the nursing course work in 16 months. For example, if the student is admitted in spring semester, he/she would attend, spring, summer, fall & spring semesters.

Though students complete the program three times a year, commencement is held twice a year, in the fall and spring. Students who finish the program in August, have a choice of walking at commencement in May or December. To walk in May, the graduate application must be filed by the spring semester deadline.

### **Admission Policies to School of Nursing**

The number of students admitted each semester is determined by the availability of clinical placements and the number of nursing faculty. Students utilize the admission criteria published within the UNLV Undergraduate catalog in effect at the time of admission.

Students admitted to UNLV in *Fall 2006, or following semesters*, must complete a formal application to the School of Nursing. Admission will be offered to students achieving the highest rank scores until all class positions are filled. The worksheet used in ranking is available online at

the School of Nursing website or at the School of Nursing office. Data utilized in the completion of the worksheet by the Admissions Committee includes:

1. GPA: weighted by core course requirement grades;
2. number of times courses requiring a B or better in either the first or second attempt were attempted; and
3. the results of a nursing entrance exam.

Students not accepted must reapply for admission in subsequent semesters. A waiting list is not maintained.

### **Grade Requirements**

1. Overall GPA: Students may be considered for admission to the nursing major (NURS) when a minimum GPA of 3.00 is established (see below for information related to transfer students).
2. A grade of B (3.00) or above must have been earned in either the first or second enrollment (an audit counts as an enrollment) in the following prerequisites courses: Fundamentals of College Mathematics (MATH 120) or College Algebra (MATH 124); Anatomy and Physiology (BIOL 223/224-within last five years); Microbiology (BIOL 251); and Nutrition and Development Across the Lifespan (NURS 299).
3. A grade of C (2.00) or above in all other general education and prerequisite courses.

### **HESI A2 Entrance Exam**

Students must achieve a 75% average or higher on their first or second completion of the A2 exam to be eligible for admission. The UNLV HESI A2 exam includes four sub-exams: Math, Grammar, Reading Comprehension and Anatomy & Physiology. A 75% average or higher must be obtained on the Math, Grammar and Reading Comprehension sub-exams.

### **University Core and Nursing Pre-requisite Requirements**

Every student must complete a three-credit multi-cultural course and a three-credit international course. Courses satisfying other requirements may simultaneously satisfy the multi-cultural and international requirements, but one course cannot satisfy both the multi-cultural and the international requirements.

## Pre-requisite Requirements

Students enrolling in the basic four year program are required to complete the University's General Education Core Requirements. While a variety of classes will meet university requirements, it should be noted that many courses identified below are chosen because they are pre-requisites to other courses in that discipline or are pre-requisite to Nursing courses. There are 61-62 credits of general education pre-requisite course work and 4 credits of pre-requisite Nursing course work (NURS 299).

### **HUMANITIES** **CREDITS (22)**

ENG 101	3
ENG 102	3
ENG 231 or 232	3
HUM/FINE ARTS	9
(One Spanish class preferred, see catalog for courses which will meet requirement. Opportunity to meet International Requirement)	
PSC 101 or HIST 100	4

### **SCIENCE/MATH** **CREDITS (27)**

MAT 120 or 124 (requires B)	3
BIO 189	4
BIO 223 (requires B)	4
BIO 224 (requires B)	4
BIO 251 (requires B)	4
CHE 110	4
CHE 111	4

### **SOCIAL SCIENCE** **CREDITS (12 - 13)**

PSY 101	3
SOC 101	3
Social Science Course ( in discipline other than psychology or sociology. See catalog for courses which will meet the requirement.	
STAT (HSC 300 or SOC 404 or SWK 404 or PSY 210)	3 or 4

### **PRE-NURSING CORE REQUIREMENT** **CREDITS (4)**

NURS 299 (requires B)	4
-----------------------	---

UNIVERSITY CORE AND NURSING PRE-REQUISITE  
REQUIREMENTS **TOTAL CREDITS 65-66**

## Suggested Course of Study by Semester if Beginning in Fall

1 <sup>ST</sup> Semester (Fall)		15 credits
ENG 101		3
MAT 120 (or higher (requires B))		3
PSY 101		3
*Humanities		3
SOC 101		3
2 <sup>nd</sup> Semester (Spring)		13 or 14 credits
ENG 102		3
BIO 189		4
SOC 404 or SWK 404 or PSY 210 or HSC 300		3 or 4
PSC 101 or HIST 100		4
3 <sup>rd</sup> (Summer)		8 credits
CHE 110		4
CHE 111		4
4 <sup>th</sup> Semester (Fall)		14 credits
BIO 223 (requires B)		4
NURS 299 (requires B)		4
ENG 231 or 232		3
*Fine Arts		3
5 <sup>th</sup> Semester (Spring)		14credits
BIO 224 (requires B)		4
BIO 251 (requires B)		4
*Humanities		3
*SOC SCI		3
Total Credits		65-66

**\*One of these classes must meet the International Core Requirement.**

## **Pre-requisite Course Descriptions**

### **ENG 101**

#### ***Composition and Rhetoric***

A course designed to develop fluency and confidence in writing by extensive practice in the narrative, descriptive and expository modes of discourse. Pre-requisite: Satisfactory scores on the placement exam, most commonly the ACT or SAT. (See catalog section titled Graduation Requirements.) 3 credits.

### **ENG 102**

#### ***Composition and Rhetoric***

A continuation of ENG 101 with emphasis on critical thinking and practice in persuasive discourse. Pre-requisite: ENG 101 or equivalent. ENG 101 and 102 (or their equivalents) are pre-requisites for all upper-division English courses. (See catalog section titled Graduation Requirements.) 3 credits.

### **ENG 231**

#### ***World Literature I***

Introduces students to world masterworks from the beginning through the Renaissance. 3 credits.

### **ENG 232**

#### ***World Literature II***

Introduces students to world masterworks from the Renaissance through modern periods. 3 credits.

### **MAT 120**

#### ***Fundamentals of College Math***

Real numbers; consumer mathematics; variation; functions, relations and graphs; geometry of measurement; probability and statistics; sets and logic. Pre-requisites: 3 years of high school mathematics at the level of algebra and above. Satisfactory score on Math Placement test (ACT or SAT scores).

**OR**

### **MAT 124**

#### ***College Algebra***

Equations and inequalities; relations and functions; linear, quadratic, polynomial, and logarithmic functions; systems of linear equations and inequalities; matrices; sequences and series; binomial theorem. Pre-requisites: three years of high school mathematics at the level of algebra

and above, and a satisfactory score on the Math placement test (ACT or SAT scores) or MAT 096 or equivalent. 3 credits.

### **SOC 101**

#### ***Introduction to Sociology***

Introduction to understanding human behavior, social life, and social change through the perspective of sociology. 3 credits.

### **HSC 300**

#### ***Statistics For the Health Sciences***

Introduction to quantitative methods in the analysis and interpretation of data from research in the health and human movement sciences. Emphasis will be placed on conceptual understanding, appropriate application of tests and interpretation of results. 3 credits.

**OR**

### **SOC 404**

#### ***Statistical Methods in the Social Sciences***

(Same as SWK 404.) Study and practice with statistical methods especially useful in the presentation and interpretation of psychological, sociological and educational data. 4 credits.

**OR**

### **PSY 210**

#### ***Statistical Methods in Psychology***

Study and practice with statistical methods especially useful in the presentation and interpretation of psychological data. Pre-requisite: PSY 101 and MAT 096, 124 or 126 or satisfactory placement on the mathematics pretest or consent of instructor. 4 credits.

**OR**

### **SWK 404**

#### ***Statistical Methods in the Social Sciences***

(Same as SOC 404.) Study and practice with statistical methods especially useful in the presentation and interpretation of social work, psychological, sociological and educational data. 4 credits.

### **PSC 101**

#### ***Introduction to American Politics***

(Satisfies the United States and Nevada Constitutions requirement.) A survey of United States national, state, and local governments with attention to unique aspects of Nevada government. 4 credits.

## OR

### **HIST 100**

#### ***Historical Issues and Contemporary Man***

(Satisfies the United States and Nevada Constitutions requirement.)

Designed to create, particularly for the non-major, an awareness of the ideas, individuals, and social forces that have shaped history. Sources include art, biography, drama, fiction, and film. 4 credits.

### **PSY 101**

#### ***General Psychology***

An introduction to psychology including introductory treatment of sensation-perception-cognition, physiological psychology, learning, personality, development, social psychology, assessment and history. 3 credits.

### **BIO 189**

#### ***Fundamentals of Life Science***

Survey of contemporary biology: includes structure, function, interactions and evolutionary origins of living systems. For Biological Sciences majors and others who require biology as part of their professional career preparation. 4 credits. (NOTE: Course may be waived if student meets criteria. Check with Biology Department).

### **BIO 251**

#### ***General Microbiology***

An introduction to general microbiology. Aspects of microbiology including soil, aquatic, ecological and pathogenic bacteriology, virology and molecular genetics will be discussed. The laboratory will present basic principles of bacterial physiology and identification. Three hours lecture and three hours laboratory. Pre-requisites: BIO 189 and one college -level chemistry course, or consent of instructor. 4 credits.

### **BIO 223**

#### ***Human Anatomy and Physiology I***

The structure and function of the skeletal, articular, muscular, nervous and sensory systems. Two hours lecture and three hours laboratory. Pre-requisite: BIO 189. 4 credits.

## **BIO 224**

### ***Human Anatomy and Physiology II***

The structure and function of the digestive, respiratory, circulatory, excretory, genital, and endocrine systems. Two hours lecture and three hours laboratory. Pre-requisite: BIO 223. 4 credits.

## **CHE 110**

### ***Introduction to Chemical Principles I***

Survey of elementary principles of general chemistry and their application to living systems. For students in programs such as nursing and allied health. Three hours lecture and three hours laboratory. Credit will not be allowed in both CHE 102 and 110. Pre-requisite: MAT 096 or placement in MAT 124 or higher. 4 credits.

## **CHE 111**

### ***Introduction to Chemical Principles II***

Survey of elementary principles of organic chemistry and biochemistry. For students majoring in nursing and allied health. Three hours lecture and three hours laboratory. Credit will not be allowed in both CHE 111 and 170. Pre-requisite: CHE 110. 4 credits.

## **NURS 299**

### ***Nutrition and Development Across the Lifespan***

Focuses on application of growth and development principles and the science of nutrition in health and illness across the lifespan emphasizing social, cultural, environmental, and economic factors. This course meets the Multi-cultural requirement. Pre-requisite: BIO 189. 4 credits.

## **Transfer Students**

Student will be considered eligible to apply for admission into the basic baccalaureate pathway under the following conditions:

1. If the transfer GPA is 3.00 or above, the prerequisite course work has been completed with the required grades, and the HESI A2 exam score is 75% or higher, the student will be eligible to apply for admission.
2. If the transfer GPA is 2.50-2.99, 9 credits of UNLV core requirements or prerequisite course work at UNLV must be completed with a GPA of 3.00 to establish eligibility to apply. In addition, students must achieve a 75% average or higher on their first or second completion of the A2 exam and a 75% average or

higher must be obtained on the Math, Grammar and Reading Comprehension sub-exams.

3. If the transfer GPA is 2.00-2.49, students must complete a probationary contract in which 15 UNLV core requirements or prerequisite course work must be completed with a 3:00 GPA to remove the probationary status to establish eligibility to apply. In addition, students must achieve a 75% average or higher on their first or second completion of the A2 exam and a 75% average or higher must be obtained on the Math, Grammar and Reading Comprehension sub-exams.

### **Notification of Admission**

Prior to the beginning of each regular semester, a rank ordered listing of students who have met the admission criteria is formulated.

Students selected for admission in the upcoming semester will be contacted via letter from the School of Nursing to negotiate a Nursing Program Contract. Within the letter, a deadline date for response is identified. If students do not respond to the letter within the designated time period, the class space reserved for the student will be awarded to the next eligible candidate.

Students who are qualified for admission, but do not gain admission due to lack of space must reapply the following semester. Eligible students have the option of not being enrolled at UNLV for one semester during their re-application process.

Students who are contracted to begin the nursing classes, but do not honor the contract by attending nursing classes will be dropped from the program, and would have to reapply for admission.

### **Nursing Program Contracts**

All nursing majors are required to negotiate a program contract. The letter notifying the student of acceptance into the program will identify mandatory dates on which the contract must be signed. Students are informed of the following requirements to begin the Nursing Program:

1. Physical examination
2. Immunizations and tests

- |                     |                                  |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| 3. Health insurance | 4. CPR certification             |
| 5. Background check | 6. Drug screening                |
| 7. School uniforms  | 8. Texts/Technology requirements |

### **New Student Orientation**

Incoming students are required to attend a student orientation the week prior to classes starting. At the orientation session, information concerning the program will be provided and biographical data collected.

### **Essential Tasks**

The School of Nursing faculty, have formulated a list of essential tasks in which students within the nursing program should be able to engage in a reasonably independent manner, with or without reasonable accommodations. A student in the nursing program should be able to fully perform the essential functions in each of the following five categories.

1. **Observation:** The applicant must be able to observe demonstrations and experiments in basic and applied sciences, as well as in didactic courses in nursing theory and practice. The applicant must be able to accurately observe a patient for the purpose of assessment, intervention, and evaluation. Observation requires the use of judgment as well as the functional use of the senses of vision and hearing, as well as other sensory modalities such as smell and touch.
2. **Communication:** An applicant must be able to read, write, speak and understand English at a level consistent with successful course completion. The applicant must be able to communicate effectively and sensitively with patients and all members of the health care team.
3. **Motor:** Applicants must have sufficient motor function to elicit information from patients by palpation, auscultation, percussion and other evaluative procedures. An applicant must possess all skills necessary to carry out diagnostic or therapeutic procedures and be able to interpret appropriate examination and procedures. Applicants should also be able to execute reasonable motor movements required to provide general or emergency treatment of patients.
4. **Intellectual:** The applicant must be able to measure, calculate, reason, analyze, evaluate and synthesize complex information. Problem solving is a critical skill demanded of nurses and requires all of the aforementioned

intellectual abilities. Students must be fully alert and attentive at all times in the clinical setting.

5. Behavioral and Social Attributes: Applicants must possess the emotional health required for full use of their intellectual abilities, the exercise of good judgment, the prompt completion of all responsibilities attendant to the assessment, intervention and evaluation of patients and the development of mature sensitive and effective relationships with patients and co-workers. Applicants must be able to tolerate physically-taxing workloads and to function effectively under stress adapt to changing environments, display flexibility and learn to function in the face of uncertainties inherent in the clinical care of many patients. Compassion, integrity, concern for others, interpersonal skills interest and motivation are all qualities which each applicant should possess.

### **Cognitive/Physiological Tasks Required for Nursing Program:**

Students typically attend classes 30 or more hours per week during each academic semester. Classes consist of a combination of lecture, discussion, laboratory and clinical activities.

1. In the practice setting students typically sit from 1-2 hours daily, stand from two to four hours daily, and walk two to four hours daily.
2. Students frequently lift less than 10 pounds and occasionally lift weights between 10 and 100 pounds.
3. Students occasionally carry up to 25 pounds while walking up to 50 feet.
4. Students frequently exert 75 pounds of push/pull forces to objects up to 50 feet and occasionally exert 150 pounds of push/pull forces for this distance.
5. Students frequently twist, bend and stoop. Students occasionally squat, crawl, climb stools, reach above shoulder level and kneel.
6. Students frequently move from place to place and position to position and must do so at a speed that permits safe handling of patients.

7. Students frequently stand and walk while providing support to an infirmed patient. Students occasionally climb stairs or negotiate uneven terrain.
8. Students continuously use their hands repetitively with a simple grasp and frequently use a firm grasp and manual dexterity skills.
9. Students frequently coordinate verbal and manual activities with gross motor activities. Students use auditory, tactile and visual senses to receive instruction and to assess, intervene and evaluate patients.

## **SCHOOL OF NURSING**

### **Advisement**

After admission to the nursing program, all students will be assigned a nursing advisor from the undergraduate nursing faculty. Students are to meet with their advisor once a semester.

### **School of Nursing Policies**

Students enrolling within nursing classes must attain a copy of the Student Handbook located on the School of Nursing's website. This publication details the School of Nursing Policies. Students are accountable for knowing and observing these policies. Changes in the Student Handbook are made each semester and are posted on the School of Nursing website.

### **Documentation of Vaccinations, Insurance and Health Care Provider Cardiac Life Support Course**

Prior to enrollment in the initial semester of nursing classes students will be asked to (1) sign a waiver releasing the School of Nursing, and the University of Nevada, Las Vegas from responsibility for injury or illness resulting from exposure to disease, medicines, or treatments while in the clinical setting, (2) present evidence of tuberculosis testing within the past year, (3) provide documentation of measles, mumps, rubella, varicella and diphtheria, and tetanus immunizations within the past 10 years, (4) provide evidence of HBV vaccination series, (5) provide evidence of a physical exam demonstrating the student's ability to perform the essential functions of the job (with or without reasonable accommodations) and (6) completion of a student funded drug screen - details for completion of the drug screen will be provided at the time the student signs the Nursing Program Contract.

Students are also asked to complete a background check, at the student's expense, which is required for being accepted into the hospital clinical setting.

Prior to the first clinical experience each semester, the student must provide evidence of current health insurance. The confirmation is shared with the clinical agency in which the clinical is being conducted. If a student does not have proof of health insurance, he/she will not be allowed to remain in clinical. The student is responsible to determine that their health insurance coverage includes provisions for emergency room visits in the event of a needle stick or other high risk exposure in the clinical setting, as well as the costs of anti-HIV drugs if the physician determines the medications are warranted.

Prior to the first clinical experience each semester, the student will be asked to show evidence of completion of the American Heart Association Health Care Provider Life Support Course within the past two years.

### **Medication Calculation Policy**

Students in the prelicensure BSN program must demonstrate continuing and growing competence in medication calculation specific to various clinical areas. The student must demonstrate on the designated exam a grade of 100% in each course that has a clinical component.

### **Standardized Competency Exams**

Standardized competency exams are administered each semester of the nursing program. A comprehensive standardized exam similar to the NCLEX is given in the last semester. This test must be passed as part of the graduation requirement.

### **Progression**

To progress in the baccalaureate degree program students must maintain a semester grade point average of 2.50 each semester enrolled, have no negative grade points and achieve a minimum of a C (2.00) in each of the required nursing courses.

If a student receives less than a C (2.00) in a nursing class, and it is the first occurrence, the student will be allowed to repeat the nursing course. The

student must renegotiate the nursing program contract and will be placed in the needed course at the next opportunity that class space is available.

If a student is non-successful in an additional course with the NURS prefix (in the same semester or later semesters), the student will be dismissed from the School of Nursing. Non-successful is defined as:

1. Dropping a class in which the student has an average below C at the date of drop from classes.
2. Completion of the course with a grade average below C (2.00).
3. An F grade resulting from failure to withdraw from the class.
4. Having an average below C (2.00) at the time of complete withdrawal from the university.

Decisions related to grading will be determined by the faculty member according to the work the student has made available to the faculty member at the time of withdrawal.

If a course in which the student was non-successful is a pre-requisite or co-requisite (requiring concurrent enrollment) to other nursing courses, as identified in the current catalog the student will not be allowed to progress. All pre-requisite or co-requisites must be successfully completed prior to progression to any course scheduled in subsequent semesters. This policy would effect students as illustrated in the following example: NURS 320 identifies the following courses as pre-requisites (NURS 305, 306, 307 and 308), if the student has not completed all of those courses with a satisfactory grade he/she could not enroll in NURS 320).

### **Reinstatement**

To be reinstated a student must receive approval by the School of Nursing Student Affairs Council. If reinstatement is recommended, the recommendation may include stipulations. Reinstatement is not automatic and is dependent upon the student's total record of performance. The privilege of reinstatement is only granted once.

### **Nursing Core Requirements**

The total program is 125-126 credits. Of that total, 60 credits are in Nursing and 65-66 credits are outside of the School (including NUR 299). Of the 60 credits in Nursing, 23 are allotted to clinical practice. For each clinical practice credit, students will be in the clinical area for a total of 45 hours per

semester. Thus for a 3 credit clinical experience the student will devote 135 hrs/semester. For a 4 credit clinical students will devote 180 hrs/semester.

## Course of Study in the Nursing Program

	Credit Distribution		
	Theory	Clinical	Total
Nurs 305: Patient Centered Care: Basic Principles	2	2	4
NURS 306: Foundations in Pharmacology and Pathophysiology	3		3
NURS 307: Health Assessment	4		4
NURS 308: Nursing in Today's World	2		2
NURS 329 – Physical Assessment Skills		1	1
NURS 342 – Fundamentals of Nursing Lab		1	1
<b>Total first semester</b>	<b>10.5</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>15</b>
NURS 319 Nursing Care of Older Populations	3	3	6
NURS 320 Pharmacology and Pathophysiology Across the Lifespan	2		2
NURS 340 Nursing Care of Childbearing and Childrearing Families	4	3	7
<b>Total second semester</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>15</b>
NURS 415 Nursing Care of Acutely III Populations	4	3	7
NURS 418 Nursing Research Methods	3		3
NURS 419 Nursing Care of Mental Health Populations	3	2	5
<b>Total third semester</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>15</b>
NURS 423 Population Focused Care in the Community	3	2	5
NURS 424 Transition to Practice Seminar	2		2
NURS 425 Managing Complex Nursing Care in Diverse Populations	3	3	6
NURS 427 Improving Clinical Care via Leadership & Management	1	1	2
<b>Total fourth semester</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Required Nursing Credits</b>	<b>38.5</b>	<b>21.5</b>	<b>60</b>

## **Nursing Course Descriptions**

### **NURS 305**

#### **Patient Centered Care: Basic Principles**

An introduction to nursing practice with an emphasis on the nursing process, psychomotor nursing skills, communication, and documentation. Provides content on selected common disorders. Clinical lab provides the opportunity to apply the nursing process and nursing skills. Pre-requisite: NURS 299 and program contract. Taken in conjunction with NURS 338. 4 credits (2 credits theory, 2 credits clinical).

### **NURS 306**

#### **Foundations in Pharmacology and Pathophysiology**

Introduces the student to basic pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics, pharmacoeconomics, and the relationship between pathophysiology and pharmacologic management. Emphasis on introductory principles and nursing management of drug therapy related to NURS 305. Pre or Co-requisites: NURS 299, 305, 306, 307. 3 credits.

### **NURS 307**

#### **Health Assessment of Diverse Populations**

Acquisition of skills to perform a psychosocial, sociocultural, spiritual, family, and complete physical assessment. Normal assessment findings will be emphasized; however, health risk factors and common abnormalities will be discussed. Teaching-learning principles introduced. Clinical lab provides the opportunity to apply assessment skills. Pre or Co-requisites: NURS 299, 305, 306, 307. Taken in conjunction with NURS 329. 4 credits.

### **NURS 308**

#### **Nursing in Today's World**

Explores historical and theoretical perspectives of nursing, current and future trends. Emphasis on development of critical thinking, informatics, evidence-based practice and health promotion. Pre or Co-requisites: NURS 299, 305, 306, 307. 2 credits.

### **NURS 319**

#### **Nursing Care of Older Populations**

Knowledge and skill acquisition in planning care for older adult populations encompassing physiologic, psychological, sociocultural and financial aspects of aging while considering health and wellness, illness and end-of-life issues. Clinical experience will occur in acute and chronic settings with

older populations. Pre-requisites: NURS 305, 306, 307 & 308. 6 credits (3 credits theory, 3 credits clinical experience).

### **NURS 320**

#### **Pharmacology and Pathophysiology Across the Lifespan**

Examines the pathologies common to children, childbearing women and older adults. Pharmacological interventions related to the pathologies are studied. Builds upon and expands knowledge of NURS 306. Pre-requisites: NURS 305, 306, 307 & 308. 2 credits.

### **NURS 329**

#### **Physical Assessment Skills**

Acquisition of skills (inspection, palpation, percussion, and auscultation) needed to perform a comprehensive physical assessment. Interviewing techniques and documentation skills will be developed. Normal assessment findings emphasized; however, health risk factors and common abnormalities discussed. Taken in conjunction with NUR 306. 1 credit clinical.

### **NURS 342**

#### **Fundamentals of Nursing Lab**

Learner directed skills course where students come prepared to practice and perform designated nursing skills in a safe environment. Students apply collaboration, critical thinking, problem solving, peer and self-evaluation, and documentation as they practice the designated nursing skills. Taken in conjunction with NURS 305. 1 credit clinical.

### **NURS 340**

#### **Nursing Care of Childbearing and Childrearing Families**

The examination and application of the theories of family centered nursing during the child bearing and child rearing period, with an emphasis on health promotion. Clinical experience will occur in acute and chronic settings with children and families. Pre-requisites: NURS 305, 306, 307 & 308. 7 credits (4 credits theory, 3 credits clinical experience).

### **NURS 415**

#### **Nursing Care of Acutely Ill Populations**

Focus on development of professional, patient-centered care for acutely ill populations in diverse settings. Emphasis placed on providing evidence-based nursing care, applying critical thinking skills in the management of patient care. Clinical experience will occur in acute settings with acutely ill

populations. Pre-requisites: NURS 319, 320, & 340. 7 credits (4 credits theory, 3 credits clinical experience).

### **NURS 418**

#### **Nursing Research Methods**

Study of foundations upon which scientific investigation of health is based. Emphasis on the critique and use, of health research. Pre-requisites. Undergraduate statistics. Pre-requisites: NURS 319, 320 & 340. 3 credits.

### **NURS 419**

#### **Nursing Care of Mental Health Populations**

Identification and management of patients with acute and chronic mental health conditions in diverse settings. Examines the impact of stress and stress responses for individuals, families and groups. Clinical experience will occur in acute and chronic settings with diverse populations. Pre-requisites: NURS 319, 320 & 340. 5 credits (3 credits theory, 2 credits clinical experience).

### **NURS 423**

#### **Population Focused Care in the Community**

Population-focused, community-based care to promote/preserve health of communities. Integrate public health and nursing concepts: such as, health care systems, policy/politics, fiscal planning, epidemiology, environmental safety, patient advocacy, case management and community as partner. Clinical experience occurs in community settings with diverse populations. Pre-requisites: NURS 415, 418, & 419, 5 credits. (3 credits theory, 2 credits clinical experience).

### **NURS 424**

#### **Transition to Practice Seminar**

Assimilates major concepts from the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> semesters while reinforcing, major concepts of the 4<sup>th</sup> semester. Explores the pathway to licensure, initial job preparation, and excelling in practice settings. Pre-requisites: NURS 415, 418, & 419. 2 credits.

### **NURS 425**

#### **Managing Complex Nursing Care in Diverse Populations**

Nursing management of complex patients with multi-system conditions in diverse settings. Application of leadership and management strategies to coordinate and supervise care including interdisciplinary collaboration, system operations, and professional standards of care. Clinical experience

will occur in diverse settings with complex patients. Pre-requisites: NURS 415, 418, & 419. 7 credits (3 credits theory, 4 credits clinical experience).

## **NURS 427**

### **Improving Clinical Care via Leadership & Management**

Leadership and Management strategies to coordinate and supervise care including interdisciplinary collaboration, systems operations, and professional standards of care. Three hours a week will be with a Preceptor in the managerial role. Theory = 1 credit, Clinical = 1 credit. Corequisite: NURS 425. Prerequisites: NURS 415, 418 and 419. 2 credits.

## **Licensure**

Students who successfully complete the program are eligible to complete the national examination (N-CLEX-RN) required for licensure as a registered nurse.

## **Scholarships and Awards**

The School of Nursing has been the recipient of several scholarship funds. The criteria for each fund is determined by the donor and is available upon inquiry.

The availability of funds is variable. Students seeking financial assistance (scholarship or loans) should complete an application form at the Student Financial Services Office as well as provide required information specific to the scholarship to the School of Nursing. Award recipients are chosen by faculty utilizing donor criteria.

## **University**

All undergraduate students enrolled for seven credit hours or more, are automatically members of the Consolidated Students of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (CSUN). Part-time students are eligible to be CSUN members upon payment of CSUN fees. This self-governing body is structured to promote the needs and viewpoints of all students through a representative government. The CSUN operates under the full recognition of the faculty and the Nevada Board of Regents. Copies of the CSUN Constitution, the basic guideline for student government, are available to members of the student body in the Office of the CSUN President. CSUN officers are elected by the student body.

Fee-paying students receive an identification card entitling them to reduced prices to various cultural and social programs. The card also enables students to vote and to hold elected office.

### **Student Nurses Association**

Students in the School of Nursing formulated the Student Nurses Association in 1972. This association has established bylaws which closely follow the bylaws of the National Student Nurses Association. All Nursing students are eligible for membership within this association and are urged to join.

### **Council Membership**

The School of Nursing Bylaws provide for representatives of the student body to have both "**voice**" and "**vote**" on program councils. Interested students should contact either the Student Nurses Organization or the School of Nursing office.

### **Student Rights**

Faculty members have identified the following rights that every student has within the University and School of Nursing by virtue of citizenship in a democratic society:

1. To learn without discrimination.
2. To exercise the liberty to discuss, inquire, and express opinions.
3. To be evaluated fairly.
4. To confidentiality.
5. To have access to channels for grievance or clarification.