

Practical Nursing Certificate
Course Descriptions
2012 – 2013

Nursing Courses

Practical Nursing Program consists of 930 hours and 29 credit hours of prerequisite courses. The program is organized into six courses, each with specific objectives and standards for successful completion. There are structured learning activities that include lecture, skills labs, discussion groups, supervised clinical practice, and written assignments.

University/College Courses

Prerequisite Courses must be completed *before beginning* OWATC Practical Nursing Program

<u>Zoology 2100 (Human Anatomy or HthSciLS 1110 Biomedical Core I or Equivalent)</u>	4 CR
<u>Zoology 2200 (Human Physiology or HthSciLS 1111 Biomedical Core II or Equivalent)</u>	4 CR
<u>Chem PS1050 or 1110 (Elementary Chemistry or Equivalent)</u>	5 CR
<u>Engl EN1010 - Introduction to Writing or Equivalent</u>	3 CR
<u>Math 1010 - Intermediate Algebra or Equivalent</u>	4 CR
<u>Micro LS1113 - Introduction to Microbiology or Equivalent</u>	3 CR
<u>Nutri LS 1020 - Foundations in Nutrition or Equivalent</u>	3 CR
<u>Psych SS1010 - Introduction to Psychology or Equivalent</u>	3 CR

OWATC Required Courses (930 hours)

Semester 1 (450 hours)

NRS1009 Foundations of Nursing Care Practice **330 Hours**

This didactic and clinical course provides an opportunity for the application of basic nursing principles and standards of nursing care. Basic history taking, physical assessment, and fundamental nursing skills will be practiced in a simulated lab setting and competency for these skills will be determined before applying them in a clinical setting. An introduction to the concept of holistic care and the nursing process to manage care for patients with medical and surgical conditions in acute and long term healthcare settings will be presented. The student will learn the components of a nursing care plan and begin to develop, implement and evaluate an individualized plan of care based on selected medical-surgical conditions and associated diagnostic and treatment modalities. The student will learn how to assess the patient's six human dimensions and how to prioritize the patient's needs based on Maslow's hierarchy. The student will be introduced to the concepts of critical thinking and will begin to apply them when planning and providing nursing care. Students will learn therapeutic communication skills and methods to promote and restore the health of the patient. Developmental concepts as well as the special needs of the geriatric population are reviewed. This course also introduces content regarding nursing as a professional discipline, the theoretical basis for nursing practice, current nursing issues, roles, and education. Ethical/legal issues in nursing are also discussed.

NRS1012 Pharmacological Nursing Care I **60 Hours**

This course provides a foundation for learning safe administration of medications. Basic concepts and processes of pharmacology are introduced. The mechanisms of pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics are defined and factors that influence desired drug effects, drug interactions and adverse reactions on the (general) body systems are discussed. Guidelines for using the nursing process in drug therapy are introduced. General knowledge of drug dosage calculations, routes of administration and methods of accurate drug administration is emphasized. The student begins to apply their nursing knowledge when administering medications to promote comfort, treat and prevent infections, reduce the inflammatory response, and address disorders of the respiratory, gastrointestinal, and coagulation systems.

NRSG1011 Nursing Care of the Mental Health Patient**60 Hours**

This course is a general orientation to mental health principles and provides an introduction to caring for patients with mental health conditions in a variety of healthcare settings. The student will continue to use the nursing process, Maslow's hierarchy of needs, and critical thinking when planning and providing care to mental health patients. The student will assess the patient's six human dimensions. The recognition and management of alterations in mental health functioning are addressed. The application of therapeutic communication skills is emphasized.

NRSG1016 Nursing Care of the Adult Patient**210 Hours**

This didactic and clinical course is designed to provide holistic care to patients with multiple medical/surgical conditions in acute care and outpatient healthcare settings. The student will learn to apply personal management skills by prioritizing and organizing care for a patient with multiple medical/surgical conditions. The student will further develop history taking, nursing and physical assessment skills that were introduced in the Foundations of Nursing Care Practice Course. The student will also be able to synthesize the components of a nursing care plan or concept map to develop an individualized plan for nursing care that includes teaching for patients with multiple nursing and medical diagnoses. The student will refine therapeutic communication techniques. The individualized plan for nursing care will be evaluated and modified as appropriate collaboratively with the patient and the health care team by utilizing critical thinking and the nursing process. The student will begin delegating cares to assistive, unlicensed healthcare personnel (as appropriate) to include assurance of follow-up that delegated duties were completed. This course expands content regarding nursing as a professional discipline, the theoretical basis for nursing practice, current nursing issues, roles, education and ethical and legal issues in the care of patients. The perioperative surgical phases and the nursing care provided in each of those phases will also be introduced. This course also includes content regarding the licensing and job interview process, nursing as a professional discipline, the role of the nurse as the manager of care, conflict resolution, team building and review of the delegation process. Education requirements for various nursing specialties as well as ethical and legal nursing issues are also discussed.

NRSG1017 Pharmacological Nursing Care II**54 Hours**

This is a continuation of Pharmacology I with expanded focus on the safe administration of medications to patients with multiple medical surgical conditions and advanced disease states. The mechanisms of pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics are applied and factors that influence drug effects, drug interactions and adverse reactions on complex body systems are discussed. The student will apply the nursing process when administering medications pertaining to the cardiovascular, immune, endocrine and central nervous systems. Medications related to the care and management of HIV, AIDS, cancer and ophthalmic and otic conditions are also discussed.

NRSG1018 Nursing Care of the Family**216 Hours****UNIT 1 Nursing Care of the Maternal and Newborn Patient:**

This didactic and clinical unit provides an opportunity for the application of basic nursing skills in the Labor and Delivery, Postpartum, and Nursery clinical setting. The student will utilize Maslow's Hierarchy of needs, critical thinking, and the nursing process to manage care for the new family from conception through the postpartum period, including transition of the newborn to extra uterine life. The processes of childbearing, as well as the special needs in women's health care issues, the care of the newborn, and of the new family, are stressed. The student will utilize knowledge of anatomy and physiology to understand the normal process of pregnancy, fetal growth and development, labor, birth, and the newborn transition to extra-uterine life. The complications and disease process of the maternal and newborn patient and appropriate interventions will be explored.

UNIT 2 Nursing Care of the Pediatric Patient:

This didactic and clinical unit provides an opportunity for the application of basic nursing skills in the pediatric clinical area. The student will utilize Maslow's Hierarchy of needs, critical thinking, and the nursing process to manage care for the child from birth to adolescence. Developmental concepts, as well as the unique disease processes, of the child are stressed. Nursing care plans designed to restore health, and maintain wellness for the pediatric patient and family will be developed and initiated. The safety needs of the child will also be emphasized.