School of Nursing

Degrees Offered

- Bachelor of Science in Nursing
- Master of Science in Nursing
- Doctor of Nursing Practice
- Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing

Introduction

The mission of the WVU School of Nursing is to lead in improving health in West Virginia and broader society through excellence in student-centered educational programs, research and scholarship, the compassionate practice of nursing, and service to the public and the profession. This mission is responsive to changing healthcare needs and emerging national and state changes in technology and healthcare delivery and is enhanced by a supportive and open environment. The faculty’s educational effort is directed at providing high quality, student-centered programs of instruction at all levels which prepare superb professional nurses to meet basic healthcare needs; advance practiced nurses to address complex health needs; and enable doctorally educated nurses to advance nursing knowledge through research, to assist in the formulation of policies to improve health care, and to serve as faculty in higher degree programs. Unique characteristics of the state mandate that the healthcare needs of rural populations and vulnerable groups be a major focus of education, research, and service, including faculty practice.

The School of Nursing offers undergraduate, graduate, and post-master’s programs of study. The baccalaureate program (BSN) is available for high school graduates who aspire to a career in nursing (basic students) and to registered nurses (RN) who are licensed graduates of associate degree or diploma nursing programs seeking to continue their career development. In addition, a BS/BA to BSN program is available for the college graduate seeking a BSN.

The master of science in nursing (MSN) prepares graduates for advanced practice roles in rural primary health care. These roles include family nurse practitioner, pediatric nurse practitioner, neonatal nurse practitioner, geriatric nurse practitioner, women's health nurse practitioner, and nursing leadership.

Post-graduate nurse practitioner certification programs in these role specialties are available for those who already have an MSN. The RN to MSN program also has these role specialties available.

The doctor of nursing practice (DNP) prepares advanced practice nurses who will practice at the highest level of professional nursing and will advance the application of nursing knowledge for the purpose of improving healthcare for diverse populations.

The doctor of philosophy in nursing (PhD) prepares nurse scholars/scientists for roles in research, teaching and service. The program prepares graduates who will contribute to the body of nursing knowledge, educate the next generation, and lead, ultimately impacting health policy, improving health, and reducing disparity.

Accreditation

Initial accreditation was received with graduation of the first class in 1964. The baccalaureate program in nursing is fully accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, a national accrediting agency.

Fees, Expenses, Housing, Transportation, and Immunization

Students enrolling at the Morgantown campus pay fees which are detailed at http://adm.wvu.edu/home/cost_of_attendance. Special fees and deposits are also required. Students enrolling at other sites pay the fees shown in the catalog for that site. Fees are subject to change without notice. Students’ expenses vary according to the course of study and individual needs. Information concerning financial assistance, application forms, and the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form may be obtained from the financial aid website at http://www.hsc.wvu.edu/fin/ or by contacting the HSC Financial Aid Office, PO Box 9810, Morgantown, WV 26506-9810; telephone (304) 293-3706 (toll free) or 1-800-344-WVU1.

The University Housing and Residence Life Office, telephone (304) 293-4491, provides information concerning university-owned housing. The Student Life Office in E. Moore Hall, telephone (304) 293-5611, provides information concerning privately owned, off-campus housing.

Students are expected to provide their own transportation, equipment, and instruments for the clinical courses. Some clinical experiences require travel in a multi-county area.

Proof of specific immunizations is required for all health sciences students. Students in the master of science in nursing program must undergo a criminal background check prior to clinical courses. Felony convictions and serious misdemeanors may preclude participation in the clinical courses. This could, in turn, prevent the completion of course requirements and completion of the nursing program.
Scholarships
The School of Nursing offers several scholarships. These scholarships are administered by the Health Science Center Financial Aid Office and require completion of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form in order to be considered for financial aid. Most School of Nursing scholarships are available only to students already admitted to the School of Nursing and are awarded each April for the following academic year. However, there are a limited number of scholarships for which students may apply before admission. Further information is provided on the School of Nursing website: http://nursing.hsc.wvu.edu/Employment/Home/Scholarship-Opportunities.

Additional Information
Visit the School of Nursing website at http://www.hsc.wvu.edu/son. Call the WVU school of Nursing Office of Student Services at 1-866-WVUNURS or (304) 293-1386. Write to WVU School of Nursing at PO Box 9600, Morgantown, WV 26506-9600

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- Fredona Stenger - MSN (Boston University)

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- Ann Cleveland - Ed.D. (West Virginia University)
- Suzanne Gross - Ph.D. (University of Texas)
COURSES

NSG 001. Nursing Experiential Learning. 50-75 Hours.
Students will not register for this course but it will show on their official transcript. Grade will be listed as CR.

NSG 100. Introduction to Nursing. 2 Hours.
Introduction to the role of the nurse in modern health care: critical thinking, nursing interventions, professionalism, caring and communication in nursing practice with emphasis on safety, quality, health, culture, ethics, leadership, and health policy.

NSG 211. Health Assessment/Communicatn. 6 Hours.
PR: NSG 100. Examination of concepts, principles, and models that guide nursing practice related to physical, psychosocial, spiritual, developmental, cultural, intellectual assessment and communication across the lifespan in the classroom, simulation, and various clinical settings.

NSG 212. Foundations-Nursing Practice. 6 Hours.
PR: NSG 211. Theories, concepts, principles, and processes that lay the foundation for critical thinking, nursing interventions, communication, professional role and caring in the practice of nursing. Application of the nursing process in classroom, simulation, and clinical experiences.

NSG 276. Intro-Evidence Basd Prac/Rsrch. 3 Hours.
PR: NSG 211 and (STAT 201 or STAT 211). Theory, concepts, and methods of the research process intended to provide a basic understanding that is necessary for the translation of current evidence into nursing practice.

NSG 293A-Z. Special Topics. 1-6 Hours.
PR: Consent. Investigation of topics not covered in regularly scheduled courses.

NSG 310. Women's Health Across Lifespan. 4 Hours.
PR: NSG 212 and PR or CONC: NSG 311 and NSG 376. Human response to normal and abnormal changes in health status across the female lifespan and adaptations of the childbearing family. Provision of the holistic nursing care to women and childbearing families in the clinical area.

NSG 311. Alterations in Adult Health 1. 6 Hours.
PR: NSG 212 and PR or CONC: NSG 376. Pathophysiology and holistic nursing care of adults experiencing acute and chronic problems. Use of the nursing process to plan and provide interventions appropriate to health care needs in the clinical setting.

NSG 312. Alterations in Adult Health 2. 6 Hours.
PR: NSG 311. Builds on NSG 311 using critical thinking and nursing process in a team based learning format, paired with clinical application, to explore holistic nursing care of adults with acute and chronic health problems.

NSG 320. Child and Adolescent Health. 4 Hours.
PR: NSG 311 and NSG 376. Didactic and clinical experiences focused on human response to alterations in health, developmental needs, and family-centered care specific to pediatric population with emphasis on the professional nursing role, evidence-based reasoning, therapeutic communications, and caring.

NSG 333. Ethics in Nursing. 3 Hours.
PR: ENGL 102; RN licensure. Ethical issues and decision making in nursing and health care situations across the lifespan. Emphasizes professional writing skills.

NSG 340. Professional Role Transition. 3 Hours.
PR: RN licensure. The course focuses on concepts and principles of professional nursing inherent in the curriculum of the School of Nursing. Emphasis is placed on how these concepts and principles affect nursing role.

NSG 360. Ethics and Health Policy. 3 Hours.
PR: NSG 311 and ENGL 102. Ethical decision-making in health care situations across the lifespan, including palliative and end of life care. Health care policy, legal and regulatory issues are discussed.

NSG 361. Health Assessment. 3 Hours.
PR: NSG 225 or consent. Comprehensive, in-depth assessment of the client's health status, health patterns, physical examination and health history. Interviewing techniques including taped interactions and accurate recording of data for clients across the life span.

NSG 362. Clinical Health Promotion. 3 Hours.
PR or CONC: NSG 361. Theory and practice of promoting health and wellness for individuals and families across the lifespan. Emphasis will be placed on integrating knowledge and behaviors that support movement toward optimal health.

NSG 371. Basic Parish Nurse Education. 3 Hours.
Explores the nurse's role in managing care within faith communities. Focus is on dimensions of nurse's role: spiritual caregiver, health promoter, counselor, advocate, educator, care coordinator, resource agent and manager of developing practice.

NSG 372. Safety/Quality/Informatics. 2 Hours.
NSG 373. Leadership in Organizations. 3 Hours.
PR: NSG 333. Leadership and management principles related to professional nursing roles in organizations and systems including system theory, change theory, and inter-professional team building.

NSG 376. Clinical Nursing Pharmacology. 3 Hours.
PR: NSG 212 and PR or CONC NSG 311. Principles of pharmacology emphasizing scholarly inquiry and evidence-based reasoning to insure accurate knowledge of and administration of medications to individuals and families across the lifespan. Pharmacological management is analyzed in conjunction with pathophysiology.

NSG 393A-Z. Special Topics. 1-6 Hours.
PR: Consent. Investigation of topics not covered in regularly scheduled courses.

NSG 400. Spirituality and Health. 3 Hours.
In this course, students will examine the mind/body/sprit connection that occurs in the process of healing and wellness. Theories and practices of relationships between mind/body/spirit will be examined as they impact health/wellness of patients.

NSG 411. Complex Community Systems-CAP. 7 Hours.
PR: NSG 276 and NSG 310 and NSG 312 and NSG 320 and NSG 360. Comprehensive theoretical introduction to community health nursing paired with clinical experience found on promoting health and preventing disease in multiple populations. Culminates in a capstone project that addresses an identified community health need.

NSG 412. Leadership in Complex Systems. 7 Hours.
PR: NSG 312 and NSG 360 and NSG 450. Development of leadership and management skills necessary for professional nursing practice and interventions supporting multiple patients in acute-care complex systems. Classroom experiences paired with 225 hours of precepted leadership experience.

NSG 433. Sem 8:Prof Role Synthesis. 3 Hours.
PR: NSG 343. Emphasis is on implementation of the professional nursing role within a changing health care system. Focuses on analysis of societal, institutional and economic factors that affect the delivery of health care.

NSG 434. Evidence-Based Practice. 4 Hours.
PR: NSG 476 and CoReq: NSG 433. Focus is on evidence based practice in nursing, through analysis of clinical questions, appraisal of evidence for clinical decision making strategies to apply evidence, and exploring creation of a culture for evidence based practice.

NSG 441. Concepts:Community. 3 Hours.
PR: Senior standing in nursing or consent and CoReq: NSG 445. Community health nursing processes with emphasis on the professional nursing role in the assessment of community health needs and identification of health action potential.

NSG 443. Sem 6:Prof Role Development. 2 Hours.
Emphasis on professional nursing role in health promotion/ risk reduction in groups/communities of vulnerable populations. Focuses on multidisciplinary team approaches to problem solving in community health.

NSG 445. Interventions:Community. 5 Hours.
PR: Senior standing in nursing or consent and CoReq: NSG 441 and NSG 455. Emphasis on the collaborative role of the nurse in assisting communities to develop and implement plans for health promotion/ risk reduction across the life span. Focus on vulnerable populations.

NSG 450. Alterations in Mental Health. 4 Hours.

NSG 455. Interventions:Capstone. 1 Hour.
PR: Senior standing in nursing or consent and PR or Conc: NSG 441 and NSG 476 and CoReq: NSG 445. Synthesis of theoretical and practical knowledge acquired in undergraduate nursing career. Emphasis on critical thinking, ethical decision-making and civic responsibility in the design and implementation of a service-learning project addressing a community health need.

NSG 460. Care of the Critically Ill Pt.. 4 Hours.
PR: NSG 312 minimum grade C, NSG 411 minimum grade of C, NSG 450 minimum grade of C. Focuses on the professional nursing role in supporting individuals and families experiencing complex physiological alterations in health. Paired with clinical experiences supporting individuals and families in critical care settings.

NSG 461. Hlth Policy-Prof Nursing Pract. 3 Hours.
PR: RN Licensure. Fosters an appreciation for how policy drives the organization and financing of health care and shapes professional nursing practice. Issues of access to care, cost effectiveness, and quality of care are discussed and policy implications are considered.

NSG 465. Foundtns-Rsrch/Evdnc Bsd Pract. 3 Hours.
PR: NSG 333. Introduction to the development and application of evidence with an emphasis on the fundamental elements of the research process, appraisal of current evidence, and interpretation of evidence to improve patient outcomes.

NSG 471. Cmmnty Hlth Nsg:Thry/Intrvntns. 4 Hours.
PR: NSG 362. Concentrates on health promotion, disease and injury prevention to promote conditions and behaviors that improve the health of individuals, families, aggregates, communities, and populations through identifying determinants of health, available resources, and interventions.
NSG 475. Applied Research/EBP - CA. 4 Hours.
PR: NSG 333 and NSG 465. Advanced study of the evaluation, integration, and dissemination of reliable evidence from multiple sources including scientific evidence and patient/family preferences to inform practice and make clinical judgments to improve patient outcomes. This course is the capstone course for the RN to BSN program.

NSG 480. Core Concepts-Gerontological Nursing. 2 Hours.
PR: NSG 211 and NSG 212 and Jr or Sr standing. Examination of patient specific concepts, nursing assessments, interventions, and models of care that guide nursing practice related to holistic care of the older adult.

NSG 481. Introduction-Cardiac Nursing. 2 Hours.
PR: NSG juniors and seniors. Introduction to the interpretation and treatment of cardiac arrhythmias.

NSG 482. Palliative Care Nursing. 2 Hours.
Nursing care of the patient across the lifespan with a diagnosis that requires palliative care.

NSG 483. Holistic & Integrative Nursing. 2 Hours.
PR: NSG 241 and NSG 245. Theory and principles of holistic nursing and an introduction to alternative/complementary health therapies. Experiential learning and application of content to clinical setting will be explored.

NSG 484. Care of the Diabetic Patient. 2 Hours.
In-depth analysis of nursing care of the patient with diabetes.

NSG 485. Children/Complex Health Needs. 2 Hours.
PR: NSG 320. The nursing care of children with complex acute and chronic health problems with a focus on decision-making using a case study problem based learning approach.

NSG 486. NCLEX Review. 1 Hour.
PR: Senior status. Focuses on achievement of professional success by preparing for RN licensure. Preparation for NCLEX will be the focus of this by enhancing NCLEX testing skills.

NSG 487. Movies and Mental Health. 2 Hours.
Representations of psychopathological states in films within the context of contemporary social issues such as stigma and discrimination. Examination of personal biases towards psychiatric illnesses and how biases interfere with advocacy roles of practicing nurses.

NSG 488. Genetics/Genomics in Health. 2 Hours.
Fundamentals of genetics and genomics for clinical practice with analysis of current state of the sciences and research translation. Genetic and genomic concepts within the context of current and future clinical applications, theories and therapeutics.

NSG 489. Reproductive Issues in Women. 2 Hours.
PR: NSG 310 and Nursing major. This course reviews reproductive health issues and prepares students for careers in maternal/child care. Complications, diseases, genetics, and nursing care: pre/intra and postpartum will be addressed.

NSG 493A-Z. Special Topics. 1-6 Hours.
PR: Consent. Investigation of topics not covered in regularly scheduled courses.

NSG 495. Independent Study. 1-6 Hours.
Faculty supervised study of topics not available through regular course offerings.

NSG 496. Senior Thesis. 1-3 Hours.
PR: Consent.

NSG 497. Research. 1-6 Hours.
Independent research projects.

NSG 498A-Z. Honors. 1-3 Hours.
PR: Students in the Honors Program and consent by the honors director. Independent reading, study or research.