

Nursing

Denise Neill (Associate Professor & Department Head)

Location: Nursing Health Sciences Building, Room 216, 903-886-5315, Fax 903-886-5729

Nursing Web Site (<http://www.tamuc.edu/academics/colleges/educationHumanServices/departments/nursing/default.aspx>)

The Nursing Department offers a generic Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN), and an RN to BSN program. The generic program is designed to prepare students for licensure and professional practice. The RN to BSN program is for students who are already licensed to practice as a Registered Nurse. General education courses comprise a liberal education foundation upon which professional education builds to prepare students as broadly educated citizens capable of critical thinking and clinical judgment. Nursing is an integrative profession, which is built upon supporting arts and sciences and uses concepts, models, and theories from the humanities, natural sciences, and social sciences as foundation for specialized nursing knowledge and the practice of nursing science.

Nursing courses provide knowledge in physical and emotional assessment, theoretical foundations of human behavior, health promotion, illness prevention, and health restoration. Skill in utilizing this knowledge is taught through high fidelity simulation laboratory experiences as well as faculty-planned learning experiences in clinical facilities. BSN graduates are eligible to apply for graduate nursing education programs. Generic BSN graduates are eligible to apply to the Texas Board of Nursing to take the National Council Licensure Examination-Registered Nurse. After successfully completing this examination, the graduate is issued a license to practice as a Registered Nurse in the state of Texas.

The baccalaureate degree in nursing program is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, 655 K Street NW, Suite 750, Washington, DC 20001, 202-887-6791.

Nursing Department Mission

The Nursing Department subscribes to the mission of Texas A&M University-Commerce to "discover and disseminate knowledge for leadership and service." The mission and philosophy for the Nursing Department serve as a foundation for the development, administration, and implementation of the nursing program, integrating the concepts of caring, critical thinking, life-long learning, and professionalism throughout the curriculum. The Nursing Department facilitates the development of competent practitioners with critical thinking skills to meet the diverse and evolving health care needs of individuals, families, groups, and communities. The leadership and services provided by baccalaureate-prepared Registered Nurses is an essential component of health care for vulnerable, underserved, and culturally diverse groups in rural Northeast Texas. The BSN program provides a foundation for graduate study.

Nursing Department Vision

Texas A&M University-Commerce Nursing Department will be recognized as a center of excellence in nursing education that prepares professionals to practice in a dynamic healthcare environment and serve a diverse community.

BSN Nursing (<https://coursecatalog.tamuc.edu/undergrad/colleges-and-departments/education-human-services/school-of-nursing/nursing/bsn-nursing/>)

RN to BSN (<https://coursecatalog.tamuc.edu/undergrad/colleges-and-departments/education-human-services/school-of-nursing/nursing/rn-to-bsn/>)

Nursing Second Bachelor (<https://coursecatalog.tamuc.edu/undergrad/colleges-and-departments/education-human-services/school-of-nursing/nursing/programtextsecondbachelorsdegree/>)

NURS 3211 - Clinical Skills Foundation

Hours: 2

Focuses on developing foundational clinical skills essential for nursing practice; Emphasizes mastery of fundamental nursing procedures, documentation, and patient care practices in various healthcare settings; Engages students in hands-on learning experiences, and simulations to integrate theoretical knowledge with practical skills; Introduces dosage calculations methods; Emphasizes nursing practice standards that promote quality and safety. Prerequisites: Admission to Nursing Program. Nursing (BSN) Major.

NURS 3213 - Therapeutic Communication

Hours: 2

Emphasizes caring communication as an essential dimension of professional healthcare; presents theories to explain the dynamic relationship between human behavior, health, illness, and culture; develops interpersonal relationship skills; introduces appropriate communication for effective patient education. By the end of the course, students will be able to demonstrate a thorough understanding of therapeutic communication and apply this knowledge to nursing practice, ensuring professional communication supporting safe and effective patient care. Prerequisites: Admission to Nursing Program. Nursing (BSN) Major.

NURS 3232 - Professional Nursing Issues

Hours: 3

Concentrates on legal, ethical, economic and political issues affecting the nurse as an individual and a professional, and health care delivery to clients, groups and aggregates. Consideration is given to self-discovery, personal assertiveness, role conflict, negotiation and collective bargaining. Students are encouraged to apply critical thinking strategies during classroom discussions and presentations. Prerequisites: NURS 4650, NURS 4540, NURS 4342.

NURS 3310 - Professional Role Development and Practice Issues

Hours: 3

Focuses on transitioning from associate and diploma degrees to baccalaureate practice and exploration of the baccalaureate essentials as a foundation for professional practice. Roles of the nurse, historical and theoretical foundations, and nursing philosophy and standards that define professional nursing are explored.

NURS 3311 - Pathophysiology

Hours: 3

Through an interdisciplinary approach, examines the multifaceted, intricate mechanisms of interaction between biological, environmental, and psychosocial factors contributing to disease onset and progression; Delves into critical thinking and analytical skills vital for understanding the pathophysiological bases of illnesses commonly encountered in nursing practice; Integrates knowledge of normal physiology with aberrant physiological responses. Prerequisites: Admission to the Nursing Program, Nursing BSN Major.

NURS 3312 - Principles of Pharmacology

Hours: 3

Introduces fundamental principles of pharmacology essential for nursing practice; Emphasizes understanding drug classifications, mechanisms of action, therapeutic uses, adverse effects, and nursing implications; Integrates pharmacological knowledge with nursing assessments, interventions, and patient education to promote safe and effective medication administration. - By the end of the course, students will be able to demonstrate a thorough understanding of pharmacological principles and apply this knowledge to nursing practice, ensuring safe and effective medication administration and patient care. Prerequisites: Admission to Nursing Program, Nursing BSN Major.

NURS 3314 - Health Assessment for the RN

Hours: 3

Builds on student's prior knowledge and skills to further develop concepts and principles underlying assessment of the health status of individuals. Emphasis is placed on interviewing skills, health histories, and the physical, psychosocial and cultural assessments across the lifespan. Prerequisites: Admission to RN to BSN program.

NURS 3332 - Professional Nursing Issues

Hours: 3

Concentrates on legal, ethical, economic and political issues affecting the nurse as an individual and a professional, and health care delivery to clients, groups and aggregates. Consideration is given to self-discovery, personal assertiveness, role conflict, negotiation and collective bargaining. Students are encouraged to apply critical thinking strategies during classroom discussions and presentations.

NURS 3414 - Health Assessment

Hours: 4

Concepts and principles underlying assessment of the health status of individuals are presented. Emphasis is placed on interviewing skills, health histories, and the physical and psychosocial findings in the well person. Development of communication and assessment skills. Students implement in the nursing process by obtaining health histories, performing physical and psychosocial assessments, establishing a database, and formulating initial nursing plans. Prerequisites: Admission to Nursing Program. Nursing (BSN) Major.

NURS 3620 - Fundamentals of Nursing Care

Hours: 6

Fundamentals of nursing introduces students to the standard and scope of professional nursing practice within community based and acute health care systems with a special focus on the health care needs of older adults. An emphasis on the clinical judgement model to develop clinical decision making will teach students to recognize cues, analyze cues, hypothesize solutions, use prioritized frameworks to implement care, and begin to evaluate patient outcomes. Concepts include both physiological and psychosocial basic patient centered care techniques including safety, infection control, medicine administration, and end of life issues

NURS 3630 - Nursing Care of Adults I

Hours: 6

Introduces the student to the use of the nursing process in the care of adults with chronic or non-complex illness. Uses a systems approach to discuss the effects of illness on individual and family, and to examine the disruption of growth and development patterns across the lifespan from young adult to senior years. The course includes clinical laboratory to allow the student the opportunity to apply theoretical concepts to clinical practice in diverse adult populations.

NURS 4162 - NCLEX-RN Preparatory Course

Hours: 1

This seminar course provides the student with competencies and strategies to enhance the transition from student to baccalaureate prepared nurse. Students gain an understanding of the role of the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) in developing and administering the RN licensing examination.

NURS 4207 - Quality Care and Patient Safety in Professional Nursing Practice

Hours: 2

Prepares RN transition student to function as a leader of an interdisciplinary health care team to use quality improvement concepts, processes, and outcome measures within various health care settings. Emphasis will be on provision of a safe caring environment for healthcare delivery.

NURS 4240 - Older Adult Health Management

Hours: 2

Focuses on nursing interventions used to promote, maintain, and restore health in older adult clients. Provides opportunities to expand knowledge of the normal aging process; to identify variables that contribute to deviations in health; to discuss how formal and informal resources including evidence-based data contribute to older adults' health status; and to examine the implications of working collaboratively with individuals, families and communities to meet the health care needs of older adults.

NURS 4322 - Policy and Ethics in Professional Nursing Practice

Hours: 3

Focuses on policy, legal, ethical and advocacy issues encountered in health care and professional nursing practice. Emphasizes current nursing policy and nursing code of ethics, social justice and policy and ethical considerations affecting nursing.

NURS 4342 - Nursing Research

Hours: 3

Examines and interprets basic research concepts; Accesses and analyzes nursing research report; Integrates best evidence with clinician expertise and patient preferences and values; Develops and answers a PICOT question using a 7-step problem-solving approach.

NURS 4343 - Nursing Research for the RN

Hours: 3

Study of theory and research as a base for nursing practice. Critically analyzes published research studies with regard to implications for clinical practice. The course is planned for collaborative peer examination of the research process through critique of nursing studies. Prerequisites: Statistics course.

NURS 4382 - Informatics

Hours: 3

Integrates nursing science and computer technology in order to identify, collect, process, and manage information. Emphasis is placed on health applications that support clinical, administrative, research, and educational decision making as well as enhance the efficacy of nursing process. Prerequisites: Admission to the RN-BSN program.

NURS 4384 - Nursing Genetics and Genomics

Hours: 3

Study of health promotion and maintenance for individuals and families within the context of human diversity and the implications for best practices associated with genomic information, including ethics and genetic counseling. Focuses on the genomic determinants of health.

NURS 4460 - Rural and Community Health Nursing for the RN Hours

Hours: 4

Explores rural community health nursing, focusing on historical development, philosophy, health care systems, epidemiology, and individuals, families, and specific aggregate groups. Applies theoretical and empirical knowledge in using the nursing process in rural community settings to promote, maintain, and restore health. Focuses on transcultural nursing concepts, rural, and home health care delivery. Diverse roles of the community and public health nurse are examined and a rural community assessment is completed using research and data processing skills.

NURS 4461 - Leadership in Professional Nursing for the RN

Hours: 4

Uses a systems framework and critical thinking strategies to study the coordinating role of the professional nurse within health care delivery. Current theories of management, leadership and change are examined and related to nursing practice. Emphasis will be placed on analyzing real work problems, assessing the work environment, and developing a proposed solution based on evidence.

NURS 4540 - Nursing Care of Mental Health Clients

Hours: 5

Illustrates the importance of psychosocial nursing concepts across all areas of professional practice. It integrates the nursing process with theories and research from psychosocial sciences and humanities to provide comprehensive care for individuals with mental disorders. Students will gain clinical experience applying these concepts and methods to promote optimal wellness for individuals, families, and groups

NURS 4560 - Rural and Community Health Nursing

Hours: 5

Explores rural community health nursing, focusing on historical development, philosophy, health care systems, epidemiology, and individuals, families, and specific aggregate groups. Applies theoretical and empirical knowledge in using the nursing process in rural community settings to promote, maintain, and restore health. Focuses on transcultural nursing concepts, rural, and home health care delivery. Diverse roles of the community and public health nurse are examined and a rural community assessment is completed using research and data processing skills.

NURS 4561 - Leadership in Professional Nursing

Hours: 5

Uses a systems framework and critical thinking strategies to study the coordinating role of the professional nurse within health care delivery. Current theories of management, leadership and change are examined and related to nursing practice. Focuses on synthesis of this knowledge to develop innovative and creative approaches to nursing practice. Applies theoretical and empirical concepts of leadership through supervised experiences gained in local health care institutions.

NURS 4650 - Nursing Care of Adults II

Hours: 6

Presents critical thinking and problem-solving strategies for care of adults with acute or complex illness and/or injury. The effects of acute illness are examined in relation to the individual's developmental stage, culture, and gender. Building on Nursing Care of Adults I, a systems approach is used to analyze and intervene in alterations to the health of the individual and family. The course includes clinical laboratory to allow the student the opportunity to integrate theoretical concepts and clinical practice in diverse populations.

NURS 4840 - Nursing for Childbearing & Childrearing Families

Hours: 8

Using a family centered approach, this course focuses on nursing care of mothers and children from conception to adulthood (or through adolescence). The course focuses on bio-physical factors, legal/ethical and cultural considerations, health promotion, acute and chronic health conditions and rehabilitative needs. Emphasis is on the application of the nursing process to meet developmental, physiological, psycho-social and spiritual needs in culturally appropriate ways. Clinical experiences will include in-patient and out-patient settings.

NURS 490 - H Honors Thesis

Hours: 3

Individualized instruction/research at an advanced level in a specialized content area under the direction of a faculty member. Prerequisite Consent of head. Note May be repeated when the topic varies.

NURS 491 - H Honors Reading

Hours: 3

Individualized instruction/research at an advanced level in a specialized content area under the direction of a faculty member. Prerequisite Consent of head. Note May be repeated when the topic varies.

NURS 497 - Special Topic

Hours: 0-4

Note May be repeated when the topic varies.