

Dakota Nursing Program

Offered in collaboration between five colleges – Lake Region State College, Williston State College, Bismarck State College, Dakota State College at Bottineau and Fort Berthold Community College. The Dakota Nursing Program is approved by the North Dakota State Board of Nursing. Applicants for the Dakota Nursing Program are carefully screened to provide healthcare facilities with the best candidates possible for employment.

Practical Nursing (PN)

The Practical Nursing Program is designed to provide the knowledge and skills necessary for students to enter a challenging career in nursing. This high-quality education meets the requirements for a Certificate in Practical Nursing.

Students in the Practical Nursing Program will receive classroom study and supervised experience in caring for patients in a variety of health care settings including hospital, long-term care, home care agencies, and clinics. Students are taught to practice within the scope of a practical nurse while under the supervision of a Registered Nurse. They are taught to use the nursing process at the practical-nursing level. North Dakota requires all Practical Nurses to pass a licensing exam after completing a state approved practical nursing program. Graduates are eligible to apply to take the National Council Licensure Examination™(NCLEX-PN), which is required for practice as a Licensed Practical Nurse. Employment opportunities include clinics, acute practice, long-term care practice, and community based practice. Graduates may continue in the Associate Degree Nursing Program if they meet continuation criteria. Graduates may also transfer many of the credits earned to another higher education institution.

Certificate

Fall

BIOL 220 4
PSYC 111 3
NURS 120 3
NURS 121 3
NURS 122 3

Spring

BIOL 221 4
PHRM 215 3
PSYC 250 3
NURS 124 3
NURS 127 2
NURS 145 2

Summer

NURS 126 3
NURS 129 4

Upon successful completion, students graduate with a Certificate in Practical Nursing. Students then become eligible to apply to take the NCLEX-PN™.

Associate Degree Nursing (ADN)

The program is designed to be a 1 + 1 nursing program in which completion of the first year of the program meets the requirements for a practical nursing certificate and completion of the second year of this program meets the requirements for an Associate Degree Nursing (ADN).

First year students in the Practical Nursing Program may continue to the ADN program if they meet continuation criteria. Applicants outside the program must be licensed as a Practical Nurse in the United States of America.

The ADN curriculum prepares individuals with the knowledge, abilities, and skills to practice nursing independently and interdependently through application of the nursing process to provide safe nursing care to individuals and families across the lifespan in a variety of settings. Students in the AND program will receive classroom instruction and clinical practice in adult health, maternal child, community health, and psychosocial nursing. North Dakota requires all Registered Nurses to pass a licensing exam after completing a state approved nursing program. Graduates of the Associate Degree Nursing Program are eligible to apply to take the National Council Licensure Examination™ (NCLEXRN), which is required for practice as a Registered Nurse. Employment opportunities include acute care centers, long-term care facilities, clinics, outpatient offices, industry, and community agencies. Graduates may transfer many of the credits earned in the Associate Degree program to a Baccalaureate Nursing Program.

The ADN program is offered in collaboration between five colleges: Lake Region State College, Williston State College, Bismarck State College, Fort Berthold Community College and Dakota State College at Bottineau. The Dakota Nursing Program is approved by the North Dakota State Board of Nursing.

Associate in Applied Science

Fall

NURS 224 2
NURS 225 3
NURS 226 3
NURS 227 4
BIOL 202 4

Spring

NURS 228 4
NURS 229 2
NURS 237 5
NURS 259 1
COMM 110, ENGL 120, or ENGL 125 3

NURS 122 fulfills the HPER requirement for the AAS-ADN. *The ratio of credit hours to clinical hours is 1:3. Upon successful completion, students graduate with an AAS-ADN become eligible to apply to take the NCLEX-RN™

Course Descriptions

NURS 100 Nurse Assistant

This course is designed to prepare the student for certification as a nurse assistant. Units of study are introduction to long-term care, communication, infection control, safety, anatomy, physiology of aging, nutrition, skin care, and basic skills (personal care, transferring, positioning, vital signs, elimination, bed making).

NURS 120 Foundations of Nursing

This course introduces concepts related to the practical nurse's roles and responsibilities in today's society. Emphasis is placed on effective communication, microbiology concepts, basic human needs, critical thinking, research, and ethical-legal and professional issues. Health promotion and disease prevention concepts are

introduced. Upon completion the student will be able to understand the nursing process as it relates to the socially and culturally diverse clients along the health-illness continuum. (3 cr)

NURS 121 Practical Nursing I

This course introduces students to core concepts of mental health nursing, nutrition, and health assessment as they are related to the nursing profession. Students will learn concepts of mental health and mental illness, health promotion and disease prevention related to nutrition; and the data collection processes of health assessment. (3 cr)

NURS 122 Clinical Practice I

This course takes place in the nursing laboratory and in health care facilities. The student will apply social, biological, behavioral and nursing science principles as they are acquired in the Foundations of Nursing and Practical Nursing I courses. Basic nursing skills and procedures are demonstrated and applied in a supervised laboratory/clinical setting. Practical Nursing Students will begin to participate with the nursing process for clients across the lifespan. (3 cr)

NURS 124 Clinical Practice II

This course takes place in the nursing laboratory and in health care facilities. Additional nursing skills are introduced in the laboratory and applied in the clinical setting utilizing current technology. Clinical experiences will include nursing interventions, pain management, nutrition and drug therapy for disease and infectious processes of culturally diverse clients across the lifespan. Health promotion activities and disease prevention techniques will be incorporated into nursing care of the culturally diverse client. Mental health and therapeutic communication concepts are applied in caring for clients along the health illness continuum. Evidence based practice is applied in the holistic care of clients across the lifespan. Upon completion the student will assist in the nursing process as a member of the interdisciplinary health care team.(3 cr)

NURS 126 Clinical Practice III

This clinical practice takes place in a variety of clinical settings. The student will apply evidence based nursing knowledge and skills in caring for clients across the lifespan with stable or predictable health problems and assisting with those whose conditions are critical or unpredictable. Critical thinking, effective and therapeutic communication, nursing process, management of nursing care, and delegation of unlicensed assistive persons are incorporated into the clinical experience. The student will provide safe and effective nursing care in a legal and ethical manner for clients along the health-illness continuum as an interdisciplinary member of the healthcare team. Upon completion of this clinical course, the student will have the knowledge and experience to practice in the role of a practical nurse. (3 cr)

NURS 127 Practical Nursing II: Introduction to Medical Surgical Nursing

This didactic course expands on prior learning to increase evidenced based knowledge of nursing process related to the care of the bio psychosocial individual along the health illness continuum experiencing pain, surgery, emergent health needs, infectious processes, respiratory illness, atherosclerosis, cardiovascular occlusive disease, hypertension, heart failure, and problems of the upper and lower GI. This course will integrate teaching and learning activities that enhance critical thinking skills, involvement of clients in decision-making, self-care, health promotion, disease prevention and intervention to responses to illness. Upon completion the student will describe the application of the nursing process in caring for culturally unique clients across the lifespan in an ethical and legal manner. (2 cr)

NURS 129 Practical Nursing III

This course will continue the learning of evidenced based nursing interventions, nursing process, nutrition and drug therapy for disease processes of the culturally diverse client across the lifespan along the health illness continuum. Addition information presented will include accountability, roles, responsibilities and ethical, legal and professional issues of the entry level Practical Nurse. The principles of therapeutic communication are expanded and the impact of technology on nursing care is addressed. (4 cr)

NURS 145 Practical Nursing II: Introduction to Maternal Child Nursing

This didactic course focuses on nursing care of the culturally diverse woman, infant, and child. Emphasis is placed on health maintenance and selected study of diseases and disorders affecting women, infants, children, and families. Growth and development of the infant and child, and common childhood illnesses are presented. The importance of family centered care and therapeutic communication is addressed. This course will integrate teaching and learning activities that enhance involvement of clients in decision-making, self-care, health promotion and disease prevention. (2 cr)

NURS 224 Professional Role Development

This course is designed to assist the licensed practical nurse in transition to the role of the associate degree nurse. Emphasis is placed on the role of the registered nurse, evidence based practice, nursing process, and therapeutic communication. Historical trends of nursing will be discussed and management concepts will be introduced. Upon completion, students will be able to articulate professional aspects of the practice of nursing. (2 cr)

NURS 225 Alterations in Health I

This course introduces concepts related to the nursing care of individuals experiencing acute and chronic alterations in health that build on knowledge and skills introduced in practical nursing programs and the supporting sciences. Emphasis is placed on utilizing scientific principles and the nursing process as a framework for providing and managing nursing care to individuals along the health-illness continuum. Upon completion, students will incorporate basic decision making skills and therapeutic communication to meet basic human needs for individuals experiencing acute and chronic alterations in health across the lifespan including end-of life issues. (3 cr)

NURS 226 Maternal Child Nursing

This course integrates prior learning to provide expanded knowledge of the neonate, developing child, women's health, and childbearing family. Maintenance and study of diseases and disorders affecting diverse neonates, children, women, and families along the health-illness continuum, including end of life issues, are examined. Emphasis is placed on therapeutic communication, the role of the registered nurse, ethical/legal issues and health promotion and maintenance during life stages of growth and development for the neonates, children, and women. As a member of the interdisciplinary health care team, the student will explore the human needs of diverse neonates, children and women utilizing the nursing process as a framework. (3 cr)

NURS 227 Clinical Applications I

Utilizing the nursing process the associate degree nursing student will administer care to meet the needs of individuals across the lifespan. The student will demonstrate assessment skills and apply scientific principles and aseptic technique in caring for individuals across the lifespan along the health-illness continuum. The student will apply therapeutic communication in the management of patient care and as a member of the interdisciplinary health care team. (4 cr)

NURS 228 Alterations in Health II

This course continues the study of acute and chronic alterations in health. Nursing care of individuals experiencing complex alterations in health is discussed. Emphasis is placed on the nurse's role as a member of an interdisciplinary team and as a manager of care for individuals across the lifespan. The student will analyze personal and professional values, leadership and management, and quality improvement processes. Upon completion, students will be able to provide comprehensive nursing care for individuals with acute, chronic, and complex alterations in health. (4 cr)

NURS 229 Health Promotion and Psychosocial Nursing

This course includes concepts related to the nursing care of individuals experiencing alterations in social and psychological functioning. Utilizing the nursing process the students will explore human needs of individuals with mental health alterations. Utilization of therapeutic communication techniques, use of self and cultural awareness is stressed. Emphasis is also placed on health promotion, health maintenance, and accident/illness prevention for diverse individuals across the lifespan. (2 cr)

NURS 237 Clinical Applications II

Utilizing the nursing process the associate degree nursing student will meet the needs of individuals experiencing complex alterations in health as well as psychiatric/mental health issues across the life span along the health illness continuum. Critical thinking, nursing process, group dynamics and management of nursing care are incorporated into the clinical experience. Students will apply evidence based nursing knowledge and skills in the implementation of health promotion activities. The student will utilize therapeutic communication and effective management skills in providing nursing care according to legal/ethical and professional standards. (5 cr)

NURS 259 Role Transition

This course assists the AD nursing students to prepare for the NCLEX RN examination and to become a member of the RN workforce. The theoretical component of this course will reinforce and complement prior knowledge gained in the nursing curriculum. Students will utilize the nursing process and critical thinking skills to review previously learned nursing concepts. The course will also provide the student with opportunities to apply basic interview techniques and resume preparation and develop skills for successful employment as a health care professional. It assists the student in making decisions concerning job choices and educational growth. The course stresses the requirement of ongoing education for the RN as a member of the health care team and benefits of professional organizations. Completion of the course will assist students to further prepare for the NCLEX RN. (1 cr)

NURS 299 Special Topics

Instruction in various Nursing topics based on the needs and/or interest of students. (1-5 cr)