

ADN(RN)-to-BSN Completion Program Course Descriptions

BIOL 305 Pathophysiology – (4 credit hours)

Prerequisites: Biol 105, 106, Anatomy & Physiology I & II

Recommended: Bio 182, Microbiology for Non-Majors; and Chem 111, Introductory Chemistry

This course provides an overview of pathophysiological processes across the major organ systems. It is divided into two content areas: general concepts and specific disease processes. General concepts include the topics of cellular environment, genetics, stress and disease, immunity, inflammation, and cellular proliferation. Common disease processes from the major organs systems are presented.

NURS 310 Nursing Theory (2 credit hours)

This course is an overview of nursing theorists and the application of their theories to current clinical practice. Students will do an in-depth analysis of a selected nursing theory.

NURS 320 Health Care Ethics (2 credit hours, lecture)

This course will focus on the moral and ethical dimensions of nursing practice and in health care today. Topics to be explored include biomedical technological advances, quality of life, the nurse's role in ethical situations, client advocacy, skill competency, informed consents, advanced directives and nursing accountability. The students will also discuss how values, emotions, faith, religious beliefs, the law, culture, gender, generational issues, and male and female roles influence a person's decision making in the setting of an ethical dilemma. A systematic approach to resolving ethical issues and the role of an Ethics Committee as a resource are presented. Discussion will also take place regarding the Nursing Code of Ethics and its effect on nursing practice.

NURS 330 Nursing Management I (3 credit hours, lecture)

The focus of this course is on the theories of nursing management and leadership and their application to everyday work practices. Content will include the basic functions of management; planning, organizing, and directing. Topics such as decision-making, change, budgeting, conflict resolution and personnel issues will be explored. The students will concentrate on critical decision making and formulating independent nursing judgments in complex nursing situations. Content will also focus on supervisory skills and collaboration with other members of the health care team in the structured (hospital or nursing home) or unstructured (community assessments) health care settings.

NURS 340 Nursing Management II (3 credit hours, field experience)

Prerequisite: Nurs 330, Nursing Management I

This course will provide the student an opportunity to apply nursing management skills and critical decision-making learned from "Nursing Management I". The student will choose an area of interest in the arena of health care and participate in management, policymaking, and/or project completion for the agency. In most cases the course work will be completed at the site of the health care agency or employer under the direction of an on-site preceptor. Projects, policy work, etc., will be pre-approved with the Adams State Nursing Faculty. Students must satisfactorily complete Nursing Management I to enroll in this course.

NURS 350 Rural Health Care (3 credit hours, lecture)

Rural areas have many similarities as well as differences. This forum-based course focuses on the characteristics of nursing in rural areas using the San Luis Valley as an example. The student will be able to assess and identify commonalities and variances of health care needs in rural populations. Subject matter will include rural and ethnic cultural considerations, understanding benefits and limitations on new technology, attitudes of health, nursing roles in rural settings, rural health systems, access issues, integration of rural and urban health systems, and considerations for traumatic and non-traumatic illnesses.

NURS 360 Health Issues: Family, Culture, and Development (3 credit hours, lecture)

Health and illness are examined through the study of family, culture, and human development. The impact of family roles, socio-cultural influences, and developmental needs and characteristics of families are explored through a family health assessment.

NURS 410 Nursing Research (3 credit hours)

Prerequisite: Psyc 211, Introduction to Statistics with Lab 1

This course provides an introduction to the research process including design and methodology. Interpretation and critique of research findings for use in nursing practice are emphasized. Research questions relevant to clinical practice are identified. This course emphasizes critical analysis of existing research to support data-driven decisions and implementation of evidence-based practice.

NURS 420 Pharmacology (3 credit hours, lecture)

Recommended: Chem 111, Introductory Chemistry; Biol 305, Pathophysiology

This course will focus on the nature of drug addictions. The course will provide an in-depth perspective of the pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics (absorption, distribution, metabolism and excretion) of medications. The students will learn to consider body weight, age, body composition, and circulatory dynamics when analyzing the drug's effect. Other topics to be included in this course include therapeutic effects, side effects, toxic effects, idiosyncratic reactions, drug tolerance, drug interactions and drug dose response. Discussion will focus on the physiological action and effect of selected drug groups, and factors that will influence the drug actions such as physiological variables, environmental conditions, psychological factors and diet.

NURS 430 Rural Assessment (4 credit hours, lecture)

The course will focus on the theoretical and practical aspects of acquiring data through a client health history and physical examination. A laboratory portion will consist of demonstration and actual wellness assessment with identification of needs. Students will be responsible for one independent clinical health assessment.

NURS 440 Professional Practice I (3 credit hours, lecture)

The course will explore in depth the development of healthcare policy in the United States as it relates to the evolution of public and private healthcare insurance and the societal implications of these policies, including finance, insurance and types of delivery.

NURS 450 Professional Practice II (3 credit hours, field)

Pre-requisite: NURS 440 Professional Practice I

Students will analyze the U.S. healthcare delivery system to determine how social, political, legal, economic policy, and regulatory factors affect health disparities and access to healthcare for the American population. Necessary critical thinking skills will be developed to understand future trends and changes affecting healthcare delivery policy and nursing practice.

NURS 460; NURS 470 Public Health I & II (3 credit hours, lecture; 3 credit hours field experience)

Prerequisite: Biol 305, Pathophysiology; Nurs 430, Rural Assessment; Nurs 460, Public Health I, prior to Nurs 470, Public Health II

Examines the role of nurses in promoting the health of aggregates, families, and individuals. The concept of community as client is emphasized. The core public health functions of assessment, policy development, and assurance are explored through student involvement in the legislative process, community assessment, case management, health teaching, and the investigation of communicable diseases. Student projects derive from an extensive clinical practicum within a public health setting.