



Katz
Katz School
of Science and Health

B.S. in Nursing

Course Descriptions

Foundations of Nursing Practice (5 credits)

This course integrates essential knowledge that is foundational in nursing practice. Students begin to develop clinical judgement and clinical reasoning by using the nursing process as a guide to direct nursing care. In the lab, the focus is on developing and applying the skills basic to nursing care, promoting physiologic and psychosocial health, and delivering person-centered care.

Health Assessment (5 credits)

This course provides beginning skill development to perform a comprehensive health and physical assessment across the life span. Students will learn the communication and psychomotor skills needed to take a health history, conduct a focused and comprehensive health assessment, and distinguish between normal and abnormal findings. Using the nursing process students learn to recognize and analyze subjective and objective data for clinical judgement. The impact of social determinants of health on family and individual health and health equity is emphasized.

Introduction to Professional Nursing (3 credits)

This course provides students with a broad overview of issues and trends most relevant to the profession of nursing. Students are introduced to evolving disciplinary knowledge and professional nursing topics that are important to nursing practice and the professional development of the nurse. Historical and contemporary influences on the nursing profession are reviewed.

Leadership in Nursing and Transition into Practice (4 credits)

This course explores the types and concepts of leadership and management through theory and application to safe nursing practice. Students focus on their development as organizational leaders using self-reflection and skills in communication, clinical judgement, and social determinants of health to promote cost effective quality outcomes for the patient and family. Through mentorship with a nursing leader, students apply leadership and management theory and participate as members of the interprofessional healthcare team. The course emphasizes professional and personal reflection in preparation for transition to professional practice.

Nursing Research & Evidence Based Practice (3 credits)

This course presents an overview of the principles of scientific inquiry and introduces the student to the basic processes and methods of nursing research and evidence-based practice. The course prepares students at the baccalaureate level to critique, interpret, and apply knowledge of the research process and research findings to promote evidence-based nursing practice. The focus is on evaluating research reports and synthesis of evidence to improve patient outcomes. Ethical and legal implications of research are examined.

Pathophysiology-Pharmacology 1 (4 credits)

This course is the first in a two-course series that combines knowledge of pathophysiology and pharmacology essential for nursing practice. Students are introduced to the basic principles and processes of pathophysiology and altered health states in relation to normal body functioning and aspects of physical and physiologic changes occurring during disease processes. Emphasis is placed on the principles of pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics, and pharmacogenetics in the treatment of selected illnesses including therapeutic and toxic effects, dosage calculations, and challenges related to drug therapy. The focus is on safe administration and monitoring the effects of pharmacotherapeutic agents. Prototypes of major drug groups are emphasized including evidence for best practice and critical thinking. Legal and ethical principles and regulatory guidelines and standards of practice are discussed as they affect the role of the nurse generalist in delivering varied drug therapies.

Pathophysiology-Pharmacology 2 (4 credits)

This is the second course in a two-course series that combines pathophysiology and pharmacology for nursing practice. Students are introduced to basic principles and processes of pathophysiology and altered health states in relation to normal body functioning and aspects of physical and physiologic changes occurring during disease processes. Emphasis is placed on the principles of pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics, and pharmacogenetics in the treatment of selected illnesses including therapeutic and toxic effects, dosage calculations, and challenges related to drug therapy. The focus is on safe administration and monitoring the effects of pharmacotherapeutic agents. In the lab, safe medication administration skills are mastered. Prototypes of major drug groups are emphasized including evidence for best practice and critical thinking. Legal and ethical principles and regulatory guidelines and standards of practice are discussed as they affect the role of the nurse generalist in delivering varied drug therapies.

Population Health Nursing (5 credits)

This course explores the concepts of community health nursing and incorporates the principles of epidemiology on the health care needs of populations both locally and globally. Emphasis is on the community as the client to identify commonly defined health problems to better understand the social determinants of health, and disease. Leading indicators from Healthy People 2030 serve as a guide to identify at risk groups. The unique needs of vulnerable populations and cultural groups are examined related to the elimination of health disparities. The effect of health care policy and health economics on disease is discussed. The emphasis is on diversity, equity, inclusion, and ethics for the improvement of population health outcomes.

Psychiatric and Mental Health Nursing (5 credits)

This course focuses on the health promotion, maintenance, and restoration of client's mental health across the lifespan. The application of mental health theories, and the use of an integrated approach to help students develop treatment plans using both psychotherapeutic treatment modalities and psychopharmacology are explored. Throughout the course, social norms, bias, and stigmas about mental health issues are discussed. Emphasis is on professional role development, clinical judgement, therapeutic communication, and nursing interventions for clients with various mental health disorders in acute care and outpatient settings. Students will integrate evidence-based practices as they relate to achieving desired outcomes for the client with mental health disorders. The impact of social determinants of health on mental health and health equity will be explored.

Maternity Nursing (3.5 credits)

This course uses an evidence-based approach to educate students to care for the childbearing patient and newborn. Concepts in health promotion and prevention as well as complications related to ante, intra, and postpartum care are explored. Through didactic, simulation, lab, and clinical experiences, students will apply clinical judgement and critical reasoning to care for the childbearing family and provide positive patient outcomes. Social determinants of health and their impact on the health and health equity of maternal and newborn populations are examined.

Medical Surgical Nursing I (7 credits)

This course is the first in a two-course series, which builds upon concepts previously learned to care for the adult patient experiencing medical-surgical conditions along the health-illness continuum. Students apply knowledge of pathophysiology, pharmacology, focused assessment, diagnostics, and treatment regimens to plan and implement safe nursing care. Using the nursing process, students further develop their clinical judgement and clinical reasoning skills while safely caring for adult patients. The influence of social determinants of health on the health status of adults is examined.

Medical Surgical Nursing II (7 credits)

This is the second course in a two-course series which builds upon concepts previously learned to care for the adult patient experiencing medical surgical conditions along the health illness continuum. that focuses on patient centered care of the adult client. Students apply knowledge of pathophysiology, pharmacology, focused assessment, diagnostics, and treatment regimens to plan and implement safe nursing care. Using the nursing process, students further develop their clinical judgement and clinical reasoning skills while safely caring for adult patients. The influence of social determinants of health on the health status of adults, is examined.

Nursing Informatics (3 credits)

This course familiarizes students with the evolving trends in nursing informatics and computer technology used in professional nursing practice and the healthcare delivery system. The student is introduced to the various computer technologies available to communicate health care information that contribute to increased patient safety. Emphasis is on the informatics tools and competencies that support decision making, facilitate quality care, and ultimately improve patient outcomes.

Pediatric Nursing (3.5 credits)

Applying a family centered approach, this course introduces students to the nurse's role in providing care for children from infancy through adolescence who are experiencing acute or chronic illness. Normal growth and development, family dynamics, and promotion and maintenance of optimal functioning of the child-family unit are discussed. Lecture, clinical, lab, and simulation experiences provide opportunities for students to apply the nursing process and enhance clinical judgement skills when caring for infants, children, adolescents, and their families to provide positive patient outcomes.

