DEPARTMENT OF NURSING

College of Health Sciences
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Department of Nursing (http://www.wcupa.edu/nursing)
Cheryl Monturo (cmonturo@wcupa.edu), Chairperson
Julie Nair (jnair@wcupa.edu), Assistant Chairperson

The Department of Nursing is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (One Dupont Circle, NW, Suite 530, Washington, D.C. 20036) and approved by the State Board of Nursing of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Mission
The mission of the West Chester University Department of Nursing is to provide the highest quality of undergraduate and graduate nursing education to students who come from diverse populations. All graduates are prepared to provide evidence-based quality nursing care, and to become nursing leaders within the nursing profession. The baccalaureate program provides the art and scientific foundations of entry into nursing practice. The graduate programs provide preparation into advanced nursing practice and education roles; thereby, giving students the ability to synthesize knowledge; strengthen communication; and empowerment to promote health care. The Doctor of Nursing Practice program further prepares advanced practice nurses at the highest level to fully evaluate and contribute to increasingly complex health care systems. These contributions are based on contemporary nursing science as well as organizational, political, cultural, and economic principles. Graduates of these nursing programs will be professionals capable of assuming leadership in present and emerging health care roles, citizens who contribute to society and who are committed to life-long learning and personal development.

Philosophy
The Department of Nursing affirms the WCU Vision, Mission and Values Statements and the College of Health Sciences Mission Statement. It shares the University’s commitment to teaching, research, and service to individuals, families, communities, and populations. The following statement reflects the Department of Nursing’s philosophical beliefs:

The Department of Nursing recognizes that individuals, families, communities, and populations are entitled to optimum health and quality health care. Nurses play an integral role in health promotion, disease prevention, and enhancing the quality of life throughout the lifespan. According to the ANA, “nursing is the protection, promotion and optimization of health and abilities, prevention of illness and injury, alleviation of suffering through the diagnosis and treatment of human response, and advocacy in the care of individuals, families, communities, and populations.” Advanced practice nursing roles include expert clinician, educator, researcher, consultant, and leader. The nursing programs at West Chester University recognize the responsibility to provide innovative educational programs that reflect the growing needs and current trends of diverse populations.

The faculty of the Department of Nursing provide a caring and supportive environment while respecting the diversity of the student body and communities which it serves. The University community cultivates and supports faculty/student collaboration and mentoring. The students are treated as individuals with unique qualities and learning needs. Through professional actions, the faculty reflects the department’s philosophy of excellence in nursing practice, creation of evidence-based research, establishing strong interdisciplinary associations, and fostering supportive relationships with colleagues, students, and the community.

The 2008 AACC Essentials document (The Essentials of Baccalaureate Education), the 2011 AACC Essentials document (The Essentials of Master’s Education), and the 2006 AACC Essentials document (The Essentials of Doctoral Education for Advanced Nursing Practice) provide structure for the curriculum content of all programs. The faculty designed all programs to facilitate the students' abilities to creatively respond to a continuously changing health system. Innovative educational experiences are cooperatively planned to meet the needs of both the students and clients, empowering them in the nursing-client partnership. The interpretation, development, and implementation of ethical evidence-based research are stressed throughout the educational process.

Ethical decision making, accountability, critical thinking, and effective communication skills are emphasized. This is achieved by the application of nursing theory and empirical evidence to professional practice. All programs promote lifelong learning and leadership, and prepare the student for advance professional degrees or post-doctoral studies. (1/2016)

Bachelor of Science in Nursing
The Bachelor of Science in Nursing program is offered by the Department of Nursing, which is an integral part of the College of Health Sciences. The family-centered program is based on the concept that the person is a biopsychosocial being with basic health needs. The Department of Nursing believes that high-quality health care is a basic right of all people and that health care needs can be met through the practice of the professional nurse who has completed a systematic program of courses in the social and natural sciences, humanities, and the nursing major.

Characteristics of the graduate include the following:
1. Evidences a concerned awareness and a sense of responsibility for contemporary health and social issues as these affect diverse populations
2. Provides leadership through professional and civic activities to advocate for the improvement of health care within society
3. Demonstrates accountability and competency in using the nursing process to assist clients at various levels of health in a variety of settings
4. Uses nursing theory and research to support nursing practice
5. Collaborates, coordinates, and consults as a colleague within the interdisciplinary health team in managing client care
6. Characterizes learning as a life-long process

Philadelphia Campus
The RN-to-BSN program is also offered at the Philadelphia campus. Curriculums for programs offered at the alternative PASSHE Center City (http://wcupa.edu/philly) satellite campus in Philadelphia are equivalent to those found on WCU’s main campus. With state-of-the-art classrooms, the Center City location serves the needs of degree completers and/or adult learners who are balancing work and family obligations.

Programs
Major in Nursing
- B.S. in Nursing (http://catalog.wcupa.edu/undergraduate/health-sciences/nursing/nursing-bs)
- B.S. in Nursing: Advance-2-BSN (http://catalog.wcupa.edu/undergraduate/health-sciences/nursing/nursing-bs)
- B.S. in Nursing: RN-to-BSN (http://catalog.wcupa.edu/undergraduate/health-sciences/nursing/nursing-bs)

Graduate Opportunities
See the graduate catalog for more information on the Nursing program. (http://catalog.wcupa.edu/graduate/health-sciences/nursing)
Policies

- See undergraduate admissions information. (http://catalog.wcupa.edu/general-information/admissions-enrollment/undergraduate-admissions)
- See academic policies. (http://catalog.wcupa.edu/undergraduate/academic-policies-procedures)

All undergraduate students are held to the academic policies and procedures outlined in the undergraduate catalog. Students are encouraged to review departmental handbooks for program tips, suggested course sequences, and explanations of procedures. When applicable, additional policies for specific department programs may be listed below.

Degree Program for Registered Nurses

The department offers an innovative and flexible program for registered nurses who wish to earn a baccalaureate degree in nursing. The program, which varies in length depending on the number of credits a student transfers in, features one night per week of nursing courses and individualized clinical arrangements, as well as distance education classes. Students receive credit for nursing and other courses as well as an option of a portfolio assessment for clinical experience.

Detailed information about this program may be obtained from the department website, www.wcupa.edu/nursing.

Advance-2-BSN

The department offers an accelerated second degree program. This 17-month intensive program builds upon a student’s previous education and enables an individual already with a baccalaureate degree to earn a baccalaureate degree in nursing. Upon successful completion of this program, the student will be eligible to take the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX). Detailed information about this program may be obtained from the department website.

Licensing Eligibility in Pennsylvania

In order to be employed in professional nursing in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, students must apply for a temporary practice permit through the State Board of Nursing.

Students must meet all program requirements to be eligible for the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) upon graduation. Passing this examination designates Registered Nurse (RN) status. In accordance with the Professional Nurse Law, felonious acts prohibit licensure in Pennsylvania as indicated by the following:

“The Board shall not issue a license or certificate to an applicant who has been convicted of a felonious act prohibited in Pennsylvania as indicated by the following:

1. At least ten (10) years have elapsed from the date of the conviction
2. The applicant satisfactorily demonstrates to the board that he has made significant progress in personal rehabilitation since the conviction such that licensure of the applicant should not be expected to create a substantial risk of harm to the health and safety of patients or the public or a substantial risk of further criminal violations
3. The applicant otherwise satisfies the qualifications contained in or authorized by this act

As used in the subsection, the term ‘convicted’ shall include a judgment, an admission of guilt or a plea of nolo contendere. An applicant’s statement on the application declaring the absence of a conviction shall be deemed satisfactory evidence of the absence of a conviction, unless the Board has some evidence to the contrary.” (Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing, Professional Nurse Law, printed, September 2009)

Admission Criteria for the B.S. in Nursing

Applicants for nursing must have completed work equal to a standard high school course, including a minimum of 16 units: four units of English, three units of social studies, two units of mathematics (one of which must be algebra), and two units of science with a related laboratory course or the equivalent. A combined score of 1000 is expected on the SAT.

Admission Requirements for the RN-to-BSN Program

The RN-to-BSN program is a post-licensure, degree completion program for Registered Nurses seeking a baccalaureate degree. The successful applicant must:

1. Have an active Registered Nurse license in at least one state,
2. Be a graduate of an NLN or ACEN-accredited associate degree or diploma-granting professional nursing program, and
3. Have a cumulative GPA of 2.75 in all college-level coursework.

In addition to the above criteria, applicants must meet the following requirements:

- Be a graduate of an NLN or ACEN-accredited associate degree or diploma
- Be a registered nurse for at least two years
- Have a total of 24 credits in the liberal arts
- Have an active Registered Nurse license in at least one state
- Have a current CPR certification

Prerequisite Courses for Admission to the RN-to-BSN Program

Applicants are encouraged to utilize tools provided by the Office of the Registrar at WCU to evaluate their current credits’ eligibility for transfer to West Chester University. These tools can be found on the Registrar’s Office page of the WCU website.

Students must complete the four prerequisite courses prior to enrolling in the first RN-to-BSN course. Students who have not completed the four prerequisite courses may be admitted to the “Pre-BSN” major and will be assigned an academic support counselor to assist the student in selecting courses to meet the prerequisite requirements.

All prerequisites are 3-credit courses.

Prerequisite Requirements

- WRT 120
- WRT 200, WRT 204, WRT 205, WRT 206, WRT 208, or WRT 220
- MAT 121
- SPK 208 or SPK 230 or applicable transfer equivalency

After the successful completion of the prerequisites, the student may complete a change of major request through myWCU and will be converted to the RN-to-BSN major and assigned a Nursing Faculty Advisor.

Nursing credits will be evaluated and awarded transfer credit by the WCU Nursing Department Chair on an individual basis or based on any existing articulation agreement between WCU and the pre-licensure nursing program (if applicable).

Academic Promotion Policy

Failures, D Grades, or NG (No Grade)

All nursing students who have a grade of D, F, or NG (no grade) in required courses during the freshman and sophomore years must repeat/complete these courses and achieve a satisfactory grade (C or above) before entering the junior-level nursing major courses with the exception of BIO 100 (or 110), BIO 259, BIO 269, and CHE 107/CRL 107, which require the cumulative 2.75 GPA.

A student must achieve a grade of C or better in the nursing major in the junior year for promotion to the senior year and achieve at least a C
in the senior year for graduation. Students also must achieve at least a C- in BIO 307 and MAT 121.

If a student must repeat a nursing course, a grade of C or better in both the theory and laboratory (clinical practicum) components must be achieved. The theory and clinical portions of a nursing course must be taken concurrently.

Other policies are explained in detail in the current issue of the department handbook.

**Criminal and Pennsylvania Child Abuse History Clearance**

In accordance with Pennsylvania Nursing Law and Child Protective Services Law as an effort to protect client safety and property, students will be required to complete a criminal background check beginning their first-year classes in the fall and again before progressing to NSG 212/NSL 312, NSG 311/NSL 312/NSG 312, and NSG 411/NSL 411/NSG 411/NSL 412. In addition, students will be required to complete Delaware Child and Elder Abuse History Clearance prior to NSG 311/NSL 311/NSG 312/NSL 312.

**Transfer Policy**

Transfer students may be accepted into the nursing major each semester. The number accepted each semester is based on the number that the department can accommodate in a sound educational experience.

Students currently enrolled at West Chester University who wish to transfer into the Department of Nursing must attend a transfer information session to begin the process and subsequently submit an application packet to the department. All application procedures must be completed in order for the candidate to be considered for entrance into the nursing major.

All students who wish to transfer into the Department of Nursing must:

1. Show evidence of satisfactory completion (70 percent or better) in BIO 100, BIO 110, or BIO 259, CHE 103 and CRL 103, or CHE 107 and CRL 107, PSY 100 or SOC 200, and WRT 120;
2. Complete the application form (available from the Department of Nursing);
3. Complete the required essay;
4. Submit one letter of reference from a West Chester University faculty member; and
5. Complete an interview with the assistant department chairperson.
6. Students must have a minimum composite 2.75 GPA in the following courses: BIO 100 or BIO 110, BIO 259, BIO 269; CHE 107; CRL 107 or CHE 103; CRL 103.

**Department Standards**

**Special Requirements**

1. Traditional nursing candidates are admitted once a year, in September.
2. Internal transfer students are admitted once a year, in November.
3. Nursing students are required to supply their own transportation to clinical facilities, as well as to class and lab located in the Exton location.

**Insurance**

Students are required to carry liability insurance coverage in the amount of $1,000,000/$3,000,000 during the junior and senior year at a yearly cost of approximately $30. Students also are required to carry health insurance.

**Uniforms**

Students are required to wear eggplant uniforms to some of the clinical experiences during the junior and senior years. For community clinical settings, students will be required to purchase a nursing polo shirt to be worn with black or khaki slacks. Uniform policies are presented in detail in the current issue of the department handbook.

**CPR Certification**

Students enrolled in nursing courses with a clinical component are required to be currently certified by the American Red Cross, American Heart Association, or other acceptable resource in Life Support (two-person) Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation. The CPR course must include resuscitation of children and infants.

**Calculations exam**

Competency in calculation of dosages is a prerequisite to NSG/NSL 311/312. The student is required to have attained 100 percent proficiency in calculating dosages as measured by a paper and pencil test. The nursing laboratory coordinator administers the calculations exam in the spring semester immediately prior to enrolling in the clinical courses.

**RN Exit Exam**

All senior students must complete the RN Exit Exam prior to graduation. Cost is assumed by the student. The student who does not score 70 on the exit exam and provide documentation of successful completion of a review course will not be approved by the department chair to take the NCLEX/RN exam.

**Health Requirements**

Nursing candidates must meet the general health requirements of all students at West Chester University for the freshman and sophomore years. Candidates must meet the following health requirements during the summer prior to the junior year: inoculations against diphtheria, tetanus, measles, mumps, Rubella and Rubeola, poliomyelitis (a series of four), Hepatitis B, varicella, and flu; a complete physical examination, two-step tuberculin skin test (TST) and meningococcal, eye examination, and any other diagnostic tests deemed necessary. Prior to the senior year, students must repeat the TST.

**Substance Testing**

Students must have urine drug screening performed at a designated laboratory during the stated testing period before progressing to each of the following courses: NSG/NSL 311/312 and NSG/NSL 411/412 (a total of two tests). Students are responsible for the costs associated with these tests. Students with a positive result will be dismissed from the nursing major. Refusal to be tested will result in dismissal from the nursing major.

**Nursing Laboratory**

The Nursing Laboratory in the Sturzebecker Health Sciences Center is available as a resource to help the nursing student in the learning process. There are three sections of the laboratory: One area contains hospital beds, examination tables, and other equipment found in clinical care settings. This area is used for the teaching and learning of nursing skills. The second area is a separate computer laboratory for students to study and review nursing theoretical and clinical skills, and to complete required computer software programs. The third section is the area designated for clinical simulation.

Every student is required to use the learning laboratory at specified times. In addition, students are expected to spend time using this resource for independent learning based on their individual needs. The laboratory is staffed by a full-time nursing laboratory coordinator who is a registered nurse.

**Faculty**

**Associate Professors**

Barbara E. Harrison (bharrison@wcupa.edu) (2014)
B.S.N., Stockton State College; M.S.N., University of Texas at Arlington; Ph.D., University of Michigan
NSG 109. Health Issues of Women. 3 Credits.
This course encompasses the needs and concerns of women as consumers in our present health care system. It examines various biological, psychological, and social topics related to women's health care, including medical abuses, sexuality, sex roles, and women's health in the workplace. This course is an enrichment to liberal education, encouraging inquiry into previously neglected areas of women and health. It is offered in the Women's Studies Program and is open to all University students, regardless of major, as an elective.
Gen Ed Attribute: Diversity Requirement.
Distance education offering may be available.

NSG 217. Loss and Grieving. 3 Credits.
Loss, grief, and/or depression are universal experiences. Concrete measures to help oneself and peers better cope with these experiences are presented. Barriers that make providing comfort and support to others difficult or uncomfortable are identified and discussed. Effective measures for talking with and helping those who are grieving, depressed, or suicidal are presented, and each student is assisted to develop his or her own style in comfortably using selected approaches. Classes will be participatory with minimal lecture.
Pre / Co requisites: NSG 217 prerequisite - Nursing majors only.

NSG 218. Concepts in Caring. 3 Credits.
The emphasis of this course is that caring is a universal concept that can be viewed from many disciplines. Nurses, professionals in the caring business, serve as the guides in a creative journey connecting human caring and the various disciplines.
Pre / Co requisites: NSG 218 prerequisite - Nursing majors only.

NSG 221. Skills for Professional Success. 1 Credit.
This one-credit elective for Level III and IV nursing majors is designed to help students foster clinical judgment skills by focusing on study skills, critical thinking, and test-taking. Emphasis is placed on preparing students with skills that are essential for success on the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN).
Pre / Co requisites: Nursing Majors - Undergraduate. Repeatable for Credit.

NSG 222. Issues Transcultural Health Care Del. 3 Credits.
This is a systems approach to health care delivery. Surveys health needs of diverse U.S. populations using a multidisciplinary approach. Introduces the origin and evolution of sociological health beliefs as origin and evolution of sociocultural health beliefs as they impact health behaviors and outcomes of culturally and ethnically diverse individual populations. All concepts will be approached from a business/economics, health and political science perspectives. Promote collaboration among disciplines, to improve health care services for diverse populations.
Gen Ed Attribute: Interdisciplinary Requirement.

NSG 223. Crime Victim Advocacy. 3 Credits.
This course provides introductory training for anyone wishing to work with victims and survivors of sexual assault and other forms of victimization. The course is an excellent basis for those seeking to volunteer or intern with community based agencies specializing in this field.

NSG 224. Domestic Violence Advocacy. 3 Credits.
This course provides introductory training for anyone wishing to work with victims and survivors of family violence. The course is an excellent basis for those seeking to volunteer or intern with community based agencies specializing in this field.

NSG 225. Health and Heredity in Human Caring. 3 Credits.
This course will examine the foundations of Genetics that makes a person unique, why one resembles or differ from their family members, and why some diseases run in families. The Human Genome Project decoded the genetic information in 2003. This genetic "instruction manual" is currently used to understand and treat diseases. The course will examine patterns of inheritance, genetic differences, and disease risks. The course also will focus on application of genetic information in different situations as individuals and families, employment and insurance settings, legal and ethical aspects, genetic counseling and long term care.
Pre / Co requisites: NSG 225 requires a prerequisite of BIO 100.
Distance education offering may be available. Typically offered in Fall & Summer.

NSG 234. Current Trends in LGBTQIA Health. 3 Credits.
This course will expose students to historical, current, and emerging health issues experienced by the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer/questioning, and sexual (LGBTQIA) communities. This course is rooted in the minority stress approach to health promotion problems amongst the sexual minorities. Introduction to health promotion activities, advocacy, prevention, and community health resources are emphasized. This course is open to all majors.
Gen Ed Attribute: Diversity Requirement.
Typically offered in Spring.

NSG 310. Human Response to Disease. 3 Credits.
Examination of core concepts of alterations of human responses to disease processes at the cellular and systemic level. This course focuses on illness as it affects major body systems. Students will identify and analyze prototypical clinical situations, which will provide a foundation for their nursing practice. This course will link clinical situations to their underlying mechanism of disorder and provide a sound knowledge for the practice of professional nursing.
Pre / Co requisites: Nursing Majors - Undergraduate.
NSG 311. Care of Childbearing Family & Community Based Care. 4 Credits.
The emphasis of this course is the childbearing family and individuals in various community settings. Content will focus on prevention of illness and promotion of health by assessment of the health status, appropriate intervention, and evaluation of the health promotion plan. Chronic states as well as acute health conditions will be addressed as well. Content is organized around the concepts of wellness, chronicity and acuity. The nursing process provides the framework for the care to be given in a variety of settings with clients. Pre / Co requisites: NSG 311 requires prerequisites of BIO 367 and co-requisite of NSL 311. Nursing majors only.
Gen Ed Attribute: Writing Emphasis. Distance education offering may be available.

NSG 312. Care of Older Adult & Care of Child. 5 Credits.
The emphasis of this course is on the assessment and promotion of health of the older adult and child. Clients with chronic health problems in both these populations are addressed. Content is organized around the concepts of wellness, chronicity and acuity. The nursing process is used to assist these clients to grow and or adapt through supportive, therapeutic, palliative, and preventive measures. Pre / Co requisites: NSG 312 requires prerequisites of NSG 212 and NSL 212 and a corequisite of NSL 312. Nursing majors only.

NSG 313. Applied Nursing Research. 3 Credits.
This course is designed to provide students with a thorough understanding of the mechanism by which evidence is developed including the research process, clinical judgment, interpersonal perspectives and patient preference as applied to practice. This course is also a foundation for more complex research applications at the graduate level. Opportunities include development of a literature review, critique of a qualitative and quantitative nursing research study and participating in the conduct of nursing research with a faculty member. Pre / Co requisites: NSG 313 requires prerequisites of NSG 212, NSL 212, and MAT 121. Distance education offering may be available. Typically offered in Fall & Spring.

NSG 316. Coping With Cancer. 3 Credits.
The emphasis of this course is on coping with clients who have cancer. Various physiological and psychosocial effects this disease has on clients and their families will be examined. The course will allow students to explore their own feelings related to cancer and assist them in their contacts with cancer clients. Topics that will be discussed include dealing with loss, pain, pain management, hospice care, and communication with the cancer client. This course is open to all students.

NSG 317. Women's Sex and Sexuality. 3 Credits.
Women, Sex and Sexuality is a writing intensive course examining women’s experience with sex and sexuality from a biopsychosocial perspective. The approach is inclusive of multiple foci including age, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, (dis)ability and other aspects of human difference. Special attention is paid to women’s sexuality within the context of gender analysis. Gen Ed Attribute: Writing Emphasis. Typically offered in Fall & Spring.

NSG 318. Selected Topics in Nursing. 1-3 Credits.
An in-depth study of selected, current topics relevant to nursing and health care. This course will emphasize the critical analysis of current topics on health care. Each student will develop a commitment to reading and critiquing nursing literature in professional journals as part of the teaching-learning process. Repeatable for Credit.

NSG 320. Care of the Inner Self. 3 Credits.
This course focuses on care of the inner self or spirit. The purpose of the course is to prepare one to understand the inner self and to know how to utilize the power within the self to maintain wellness and prevent illness.

NSG 323. Suggestive Therapeutics for the healthcare Professional. 3 Credits.
This course will provide a practical framework for the healthcare professional to structure suggestions and pattern communication with patients. The most recent innovations and research in the field will be presented and a variety of approaches will be synthesized into a comprehensive approach to the practice of suggestive therapeutics.

NSG 324. Health Teaching & Promotion for the RN. 1 Credit.
This course designed for the RN-BSN student will assist the student to develop educational objectives; apply learning theories for healthcare teaching; identify developmental theories/stages of the learner; explore the use of technology to meet learning objectives; identify methods to determine healthcare literacy; and evaluate teaching methodology/strategy utilized. Pre / Co requisites: NSG 325 requires COREQ: NSG/NSL 311. Distance education offering may be available.

NSG 350. Basic Arrhythmia Interpretation. 1 Credit.
This course presents methods for identification of normal and abnormal cardiac rhythms and rationale for basic treatment of cardiac arrhythmias.

NSG 352. Interpretation of Laboratory Values. 1 Credit.
This course will provide an in-depth study of frequently encountered laboratory findings with an emphasis on the critical analysis of these laboratory results and appropriate follow-up. The course will help students to identify and prioritize nursing interventions for the client undergoing laboratory testing to assure quality specimen collection.

NSG 367. Nursing Implications of Drug Interaction. 3 Credits.
The student will be introduced to essential pharmaceutical principles and concepts. The nursing process will provide the framework by which students will apply theoretical knowledge in BIO 367 to situations in a variety of health care settings. Pre / Co requisites: NSG 367 requires prerequisite of BIO 269.

NSG 380. Clinical Simulation in Nursing. 3 Credits.
Students will role play a variety of roles during patient care scenarios using SIM-MAN technology. During scenarios students will assess patient condition, critically think through patient care problems, implement nursing interventions, and evaluate patient outcomes. Student will evaluate performance of self and peers during debriefing sessions for continued improvement in problem solving and patient outcomes.

NSG 382. Global Topics in Health Care Delivery: Women, Infants, and Children in South Africa. 3 Credits.
Students will explore core concepts of global health that affect accessing health care in resource-limited settings. The course will evaluate health concerns of South Africa’s women and children throughout maternity, delivery and newborn care systems. The course will include seminar and service-learning components. Seminars will focus on the global health concerns of South African women and children such as expansion of maternity care through Central and State government, the nursing professional role as care attendants and midwives, HIV/AIDS detection and prevention as well as the availability of anti-retrovirus medications to prevent HIV in infants and children. Students will assess the health care needs of a high risk population, develop a plan of action that is concurrent with the strategic plan of the South African government and World Health Organization (WHO), and provide care or an educational program that will address that need. Through this course the students will gain the knowledge, skills and understanding of South African culture that are necessary to make significant contributions to improve the global health of women and their families through nursing. Pre / Co requisites: NSG 382 requires prerequisites of NSG 212 and NSL 212. Typically offered in Spring.

NSG 401. Issues in Nursing Science. 3 Credits.
This course will explore a variety of approaches to nursing science including grand and middle range theories and their application to nursing practice. Current issues that affect nursing practice will be addressed. Pre / Co requisites: Nursing Majors - Undergraduate.

NSG 407. Critical Care Practicum. 2 Credits.
The purpose of this course is to provide students who have successfully completed NSG/ NSL 312 nursing courses, an opportunity to enhance their knowledge and skills in acute, critical care nursing. This is an off campus course which will allow the student opportunities to demonstrate critical thinking skills in nursing. The students will gain exposure to electrocardiogram interpretation and respiratory ventilator nursing care. The course will also provide an opportunity to learn medications utilized in critical care areas, and to observe the critical care nurse and their responsibilities. This is a clinical elective course and will be limited to 10 students.
NSG 408. Clinical Immersion. 3 Credits.
This course provides student immersion into the profession of nursing. It provides clinically based learning opportunities to deepen the integration of West Chester University’s Department of Nursing program objectives.
Pre / Co requisites: NSG 408 requires prerequisites of (NSG 311 and NSL 311), (NSG 312 and NSL 312), and either (NSG 411 and NSL 411) or (NSG 412 and NSL 412) with at least a B in all of these courses.

NSG 410. Independent Study. 3 Credits.
The student produces an independent, research-oriented project under close faculty advisement on a nursing topic of special interest to the student. Participation in a selected field experience is optional.
Pre / Co requisites: Nursing Majors - Undergraduate.
Consent: Permission of the Department required to add. Repeatable for Credit.

NSG 411. Care of Individual in Acute Care & Behavioral Health Setting. 5 Credits.
The emphasis of this course is on the care of persons with acute medical surgical and acute behavioral health crises. Concepts of holistic care are highlighted throughout classroom and clinical experiences. The content will focus on the use of the nursing process to assist clients in crisis. The framework for the care to be given will reflect concepts including application of research, theory, ethical, legal and educational principles to assist clients in crisis.
Pre / Co requisites: NSG 411 PREREQ: NSG 311, NSL 311 and NSG 312 and COREQ: NSL 411. Nursing majors only.

NSG 412. Care of Communities & Individuals in Acute Care from a System’s Perspective. 5 Credits.
Must be taken during senior year, spring semester. NSG 412 is a continuation of NSG 411 with the emphasis on the subconcepts of decision making and advocacy. The nursing process is utilized interdependently in approaching multihealth care problems of clients. Special attention is given to inquiry as the student correlates nursing theories and concepts with identifiable research problems in varied environments. Opportunity is provided in this semester to develop organization and management skills.
Pre / Co requisites: NSG 412 requires PREREQ: NSG 311, NSL 311, NSG 312, NSL 312 and COREQ: NSL 412. Nursing majors only.
Gen Ed Attribute: Writing Emphasis.
Distance education offering may be available.

NSG 414. Breastfeeding and Human Lactation. 3 Credits.
For students seeking in-depth knowledge about breast-feeding and human lactation. Emphasis is on understanding the physiology of human lactation and the health impact on infants and their mothers. The normal process of breast-feeding will be addressed with exploration of the barriers to breast-feeding as well as the supports available for breastfeeding.

NSG 420. Physical Health Assessment. 3 Credits.
The course combines comprehensive theoretical laboratory experience to enable the nursing student to perform a complete holistic health assessment physical examination of the adult, adolescent, pediatric client. Opportunity is provided to enhance the participant’s ability to collect relevant data via use of appropriate interpreting methods, developmental physical assessment techniques. Emphasis is placed on effective communication techniques essential assessment skills.
Typically offered in Fall & Spring.

NSG 480. Advanced Clinical Simulation in Nursing. 3 Credits.
In this class students will role play a variety of roles during advanced patient care scenarios using SIM-MAN technology. During scenarios students will assess patient condition, critically think through patient care problems, implement nursing interventions, and evaluate patient outcomes in crisis situations. Students will evaluate performance of self and peers during debriefing sessions for continued improvement in problem solving complex patient care situations and evaluate outcomes.

NSL

NSL 212. Health Assessment. 3 Credits.
This course provides the nursing student with skills in physical and psychosocial assessment of adult clients. The course also assists in the development and demonstration of selected skills in vital sign measurement, infection control, basic hygiene and comfort measures and body mechanics.
Pre / Co requisites: NSL 212 requires prerequisites of BIO 100, BIO 259, BIO 269, CHE 107 and CRL 107, and corequisite of NSG 212. Must have composite GPA of 2.75 in these prerequisite courses.
Gen Ed Attribute: Writing Emphasis.