
**Schuylkill Technology Center
North Campus**

**Practical Nursing Program
Program of Learning
2017-2018**



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**SCHUYLKILL TECHNOLOGY CENTER
PRACTICAL NURSING PROGRAM
PROGRAM OF LEARNING**

Total Hours - 1545

Theory - 10 hours = 1 Credit (720 Hrs. – 72 Credits)

Clinical - 20 hours = 1 Credit (825 Hrs. – 41.25 Credits)

Course Name	Classroom		Lab/Clinical		Total Hours	
	Clock	Credit	Clock	Credit	Clock	Credit
Term I						
Personal & Vocational I	12	1.2			12	1.2
Anatomy & Physiology	97	9.7			97	9.7
Nursing I	86	8.6	24	1.2	110	9.8
Geriatrics	32	3.2			32	3.2
Nursing II	18	1.8	18	0.9	36	2.7
Clinical I			119	5.95	119	5.95
Term II						
Medical/Surgical	92	9.2			92	9.2
Pharmacology	55	5.5	6	0.3	61	5.8
Clinical II			221	11.05	221	11.05
Term III						
Medical/Surgical	114	11.4			114	11.4
Pharmacology	59	5.9	6	0.3	65	6.2
Clinical III			212.5	10.625	212.5	10.625
Term IV						
FCHC	60	6.0			60	6.0
Personal & Vocational II (WOW & NCLEX Review)	28	2.8			28	2.8
Nursing IV (Community Nursing, Leadership, Immunology/ Cancer & NCLEX Info)	43	4.3			43	4.3
Mental Health	24	2.4			24	2.4
Clinical IV			218.5	10.925	218.5	10.925
TOTAL	720	72	825	41.25	1545	113.25

Note: Total credits for Combined Term Courses

Course	Term I	Term II	Term III	Term IV	Total Hours Theory & Lab	Total Credits
Medical/Surgical		92	114		206	20.6
Personal & Vocational	12			28	40	4
Pharmacology		55 Theory 6 Lab	59 Theory 6 Lab		126	12

Refined 10/13 Reviewed 4/14; Revised 12/8/14; 4/15; 4/16

CIP Code - 51.3901

Theory

Anatomy and Physiology

A brief introduction to the principles of chemistry, microbiology, and physics as they relate to enrich the understanding of the physiology of the body. An overview of the body as a whole is included. A study of basic anatomy and physiology of all systems of the body are presented by lecture, study of models, and audiovisual reinforcement. Computer Assisted Instruction programs are available for additional reinforcement.

Family Centered Health Care

This course deals with the normal physical, psychological, and social patterns of development. Included are theory and related clinical experience in the care of mothers and newborn infants; physiology and mechanics of reproduction, pregnancy, antepartum, parturition, and post-partum. Psycho-social aspects of patient care and the concept of the family unit is emphasized. Applied Diet Therapy and Drug Therapy are included.

Geriatrics

A study of the concepts, theories, and characteristic of aging. The student is introduced to the programs available to help the elderly maintain quality of life. Death and dying are presented with an emphasis on the role of the care provider as he/she relates to the client and significant others.

Mental Health Nursing

An introduction of basic mental health nursing as it relates to the total health of the patients. Theories of crisis intervention, mental defense mechanisms, and basic communication techniques are presented. The student is introduced to the more common mental health disorders and their treatment modalities, including medications.

Nursing I

A study of theory and clinical practice of basic bedside nursing care. Course emphasizes the principles underlying procedures; development of skills in patient observation, effective communication, and utilization of principles of teaching to help achieve patient, family and community health. The role of the Practical Nurse as a member of the health team and the importance of personal good health in relation to self and caring for patients is stressed. Normal Nutrition is incorporated as it relates to basic needs of the adult patient. Basic communication techniques are presented. Related clinical experience is scheduled to correlate theory and practice. Note: Includes 17 hours of Lab/Clinical hours.

Nursing II

A study of theory and clinical practice of advanced nursing care. This course emphasizes the principles underlying procedures, development of skills in therapeutic measures, and preparation of the patient for diagnostic tests. Note: Includes 9 hours of Lab/Clinical hours.

Nursing III

A study of specific diseases and disorders affecting the various body systems of adults and children that includes common symptoms, diagnostic studies, treatment regimes (including diet therapy and related pharmacology), and nursing care as it relates to that specific disorder. The nursing process is emphasized as the foundation upon which all nursing care is based. Note: Includes 16 hours of Lab/Clinical hours & 18 hours of NCLEX Review.

Nursing IV

A study of basic leadership skills in geriatric settings is discussed. Observations of roles of the Treatment Nurse, Clinical Manager and/or Charge Nurse are scheduled for the students. Various cultural aspects will be studied, as well as community services available to the public. Immunological disorders and cancer are discussed, including the pathology, etiology and treatment options. Also, includes the process of applying for licensure and the NCLEX.

Personal and Vocational Relations

A presentation of the program of studies, rules and regulations with a review of the Student Handbook provides the new student with insight into his/her role and responsibilities. Student is oriented to the health delivery system and preliminary preparation for Nursing Assistant certification. A brief history of nursing is also presented as part of this course.

A study of vocational, legal and ethical, and religious aspects of nursing, preparation for the world of work including job interview skills and job responsibilities are included in this unit. Current health care trends and basic leadership skills are taught in the classroom. Students are also scheduled for leadership clinical rotation to practice the application of these skills. Includes 18 hours of NCLEX Review

Pharmacology

Safe and effective drug administration is an important component in providing high quality patient care for all nurses in all settings. To perform this vital role, the practical nurse must understand the fundamental principles of drug action; develop skills to administer specific drugs in the treatment, prevention, and diagnosis of disease; develop the ability to implement appropriate nursing actions to maximize the desired outcomes of therapy; and possess the observational skills to determine patient response. Note: Includes 12 hours of Lab/Clinical hours.

Clinical Practicum

Clinical Practicum progresses from basic to complex nursing care. Each clinical practicum is planned to augment the theory component presented in a given term. Each clinical practicum is a unique entry in and of itself. Progression through these practicums requires the student to perform at a progressively more independent level.

Clinical I - Basic Geriatrics

Students are introduced to nursing care in a geriatric setting. This rotation provides an opportunity to practice communication skills, basic hygienic care procedures, socialization, and team work skills. The student will practice nursing care measures, as indicated, under close supervision. These include, but are not limited to, vital signs, hygiene, transfers, and medical asepsis.

Clinical II: Long Term Care - Intermediate

Students are assigned to a long term care facility where they will function under supervision of program faculty to give safe and efficient nursing care. The nursing process will be utilized as a basis for that care. Students begin to perform procedures using both medical and surgical aseptic techniques. Students will be introduced to administering medications in the long term care setting.

Clinical III: Medical-Surgical Nursing

Students are assigned to an acute care facility where they will function under supervision of program faculty to give safe and efficient nursing care to the stable acutely ill client. Students will have the opportunity to prepare clients for specialized diagnostic and therapeutic procedures.

This rotation is also planned to acquaint the students with various specialty units, outpatient clinics, rehabilitative services, the emergency department, and the senior behavioral unit. Observational experiences, as well as the care of patients with specialized nursing problems (e.g. oncology, respiratory, coronary) will be assigned during this rotation. The nursing process will be applied in each setting.

Clinical III: Advanced Long Term Care

This clinical rotation is designed to expose the student to the multiple roles and responsibilities of the practical nurse in a geriatric setting such as charge nurse, treatment nurse, and medication nurse.

Clinical IV: Advanced Nursing

This rotation is planned to provide an opportunity for the student to utilize the nursing process while caring for patients with complex nursing problems. Under supervision, the student is expected to consider legal and ethical boundaries while functioning as a member of the health care team.

Leadership skills learned in the classroom are also applied in the clinical setting. Students will shadow a charge nurse in LTC and function as a charge nurse under the supervision of the clinical instructor. Students will also be given another med pass along with an observation with Home Health Agency, and Mental Health Agency.

Clinical IV: Family Centered Health Care

This rotation is planned to focus on the family unit as an interdependent entity. Exposure in different settings provides the student with insight into development and related family interaction at various stages of the life cycle. Clinical experiences are scheduled at an acute care facility, child care centers, and schools.

PRACTICAL NURSING PROGRAM TECHNICAL STANDARDS

A technical standard is a non-academic admissions criteria that must be met by the student to enable the student to participate in and successfully complete the practical nursing program. All potential applicants must be able to show sufficient abilities in five categories: observation and communication, physical abilities, cognitive and intellectual capacities, ability to make sound decisions and behavioral, social and professional abilities. The following skills are required.

Observation and Communication

Students must have adequate sensory capabilities in order to properly assess and observe the patient as well as communicate with the patient, family, and medical staff. These include but are not limited to:

- vision (with correction if necessary) - Students must be able to read medication labels, physicians' orders, and syringes
- hearing - Students must be able to correctly hear blood pressures, lung sounds, cardiac sounds
- speech - students must be able to show evidence of effective written and verbal communication in the English language and be able to communicate effectively in the health care setting in order to take care of the patient's needs.
- sense of touch - Students must be able to feel pulses and make assessments

Physical Abilities

Students must have the strength, mobility, flexibility and coordination to adequately perform patient care activities. These would include, but are not limited to the ability to:

- push, pull or lift various weights utilizing proper body mechanics
- stand, walk or sit for long periods of time
- pick up objects with hands
- manipulate objects with fingers

Cognitive and Intellectual Capacities

Students must have the ability to read and understand the written word as well as to think critically.

- Students must be able to collect and analyze data
- Students must be flexible and be able to adapt to changing situations
- Students must be able to logically reason and prioritize when planning care for the patient
- Students must demonstrate interpersonal skills and have the ability to get along with classmates, faculty and staff

Ability To Make Sound Decisions

Nurses often have to make quick decisions regarding a patient's care that will have an outcome on the patient's health and life.

- Students must be able to exercise good judgment and decision making skills

Social and Professional Abilities

Along with physical health students must possess the emotional and behavioral attributes necessary to have an effective relationship with their peers, faculty, patients and other health care providers.

- Students must accept accountability and responsibility for one's actions
- Students must comply with the policies of the nursing program
- Students must comply with the ethical and legal standards of nursing practice
- Students must be able to work well with others

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