

SEMINOLE STATE COLLEGE - NURSING DIVISION**PHILOSOPHY****MANKIND**

We embrace a holistic view of mankind, i.e., that mankind has certain innate needs by virtue of his humanity and that these needs can be categorized as physiological, safety and security, love and belonging, esteem and self-actualization (Maslow, 1970). This holistic orientation views the nature of mankind from the multifaceted perspectives of human dimensions: physical, social, emotional, cognitive and spiritual. We believe man is a dynamic individual who interacts within a rapidly changing and mobile society, an individual with needs which are uniquely affected by normal growth and development throughout his life.

HEALTH CONTINUUM

The nursing faculty of Seminole State College believe that mankind adapts in order to maintain or obtain fulfillment of human needs. Adaptation is achieved through preventing loss and maintaining or restoring man's ability to meet his needs. When mankind is successful in meeting his needs, wellness results, if unsuccessful, illness results. Since this is a dynamic process, health occurs on a continuum from wellness to illness.

NURSING

The faculty believe nursing to be a science and an art with its own unique spirit. Nursing's goal is to assist mankind to achieve optimal health.

The science of nursing applies research-based disciplined reasoning to systematically problem solve. Critical thinking principles are used to evaluate thinking throughout this process. Providing creative, realistic and flexible individualized care at a changing bedside is the art of nursing. The spirit of nursing embodies respect, caring, compassion, empathy, and advocacy for all mankind.

ROLE OF THE ASSOCIATE DEGREE NURSE

We believe that Associate Degree nursing encompasses three roles which are dynamic and responsive to the changing face of health care. The three roles are provider of care, manager of care, and professional member within the discipline.

We believe the Associate Degree nurse is prepared to provide safe, direct care to patients utilizing communication skills and clinical interventions which include technical skills and patient teaching. The Associate Degree nurse functions as a team member who provides this direct care in various settings where policies and procedures are established and where the resource of a more experienced nurse is available.

The Associate Degree nurse is accountable for ensuring the provision of organized patient care delivery. The role of manager of care is characterized by prioritization, coordination, delegation, and supervision of tasks to be completed by other members of the team. In order for the nurse to be effective, time management skills are essential. Additionally, as manager of care it is often the responsibility of the Associate Degree nurse to provide education to other team members so that safe care may be delivered.

As a professional member, the Associate Degree nurse functions as an interactive member of the multidisciplinary team. The Associate Degree nurse is committed to life-long learning including continuing education and knowledge of health care changes and new technology. The Associate Degree nurse is responsible and accountable for all actions which requires a strong ethical and legal base. In order for professional growth to continue it is necessary for the Associate Degree nurse to be self-evaluative. We believe that the application of the principles of critical thinking are essential to this self-evaluative process.

NURSING EDUCATION

We believe the academic setting is most appropriate for nursing education. Associate degree nursing education in the community college setting is enhanced by integration into the total educational program providing the same rights, privileges, and responsibilities for all students in collegiate education. We are committed to the cultural, racial, and ethnic diversity of the SSC community at large and seek to recruit and foster success of nursing students who reflect this diversity.

Seminole State College has a primary responsibility to provide access to education for rural adult learners in the communities of the greater Seminole area. The faculty of nursing concurs with this philosophy. Nursing education in the community college setting fosters an alliance with the community, facilitating the retention of graduates in the area as well as promoting community understanding and support of the nurse's role in the system of health care.

We recognize adult learners have previous educational, life and work experiences which can be used as a foundation for continued learning. This foundation allows adult learners to receive individualized learning experiences based upon their own particular needs. The career mobility pathway for licensed practical nurses exemplifies this belief.

Nursing education involves cognitive, psychomotor and affective competencies. We believe these competencies are best learned experientially. As adult learners, students maintain responsibility for their learning; nursing faculty mentor and guide this learning process.

While nursing education has a responsibility to the student to provide an environment where learning can occur, there is an ultimate responsibility to the public to ensure that students and graduates of the nursing program are safe and competent practitioners.