

NURSING

The nursing curriculum of NMSU Carlsbad prepares students for beginning nursing practice in a variety of health care settings. The program is approved by the State Board of Nursing, and the Applied Associate Degree in Nursing is accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN). Questions regarding accreditation should be directed to ACEN to

Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN)
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Upon completion of the **Certificate for Practical Nursing**, graduates are eligible to write the National Council Licensure Exam (NCLEX-PN) which leads to licensure as a Practical Nurse. Upon completion of the **Applied Associate Degree in Nursing**, graduates are eligible to write the National Council Licensure Exam (NCLEX-RN) that leads to licensure as a Registered Nurse.

Please note that certain felonious convictions may prohibit graduates from writing the NCLEX-RN in New Mexico. Students considering application to the nursing program who have any prior felony convictions should contact the appropriate Board of Nursing through which they intend to seek licensure prior to making application to this program. Graduates licensed as registered nurses in New Mexico do not meet licensure requirements in North Dakota.

Graduation Requirements

ENGL 1110G Composition I with a C or higher; placement into college-level math and reading courses or completion of developmental courses with a C or higher; cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher. A minimum of 15 of the 60 credits for the associate's degree must be completed at NMSU or one of its community colleges. Individual academic programs may have additional requirements.

Program Entrance Requirements

- BIOL 2210 Human Anatomy and Physiology I for the Health Sciences
- CHEM 1120G Introduction to Chemistry Lecture and Laboratory (non majors).
- NA 101 Nursing Assistant Theory and Lab
- Completion of developmental studies English, math and reading as indicated by the student's placement test results if needed
- Cumulative GPA of 2.75 or higher in courses applicable to the nursing curriculum
- HESI A2 composite score of 75% and 60% in each subject area: Math, Reading Comprehension, Vocabulary and General Knowledge, Grammar, and Anatomy & Physiology
- Submission of a program application packet by **May 15**. Packets are available in the Nursing Administration Office in the Allied Health Building and online at carlsbad.nmsu.edu.
- Science courses repeated more than twice will not be considered for admission requirements.

Courses from other nursing programs are evaluated by the Nursing Program Director; call (575) 234-9300 to inquire. Evaluation of non-nursing credits are processed by the registrar's office at NMSU Las Cruces.

Curriculum Notes

- All courses that are part of the nursing curriculum must be completed with a C or higher.
- Students must be formally accepted into the nursing program to enroll in courses listed under "Nursing Program Requirements."
- CHEM 1120G Introduction to Chemistry Lecture and Laboratory (non majors) may not be used to fulfill elective credit. Note that CHEM 1120G Introduction to Chemistry Lecture and Laboratory (non majors) is required for the BSN degree at NMSU Las Cruces.
- NURS 210 Pharmacological Requisites of the Childbearing Family is not required for the LPN option. However, if this course is not taken and the student decides not to exit at the LPN level and wants to continue in the associate degree, the student must take NURS 210 Pharmacological Requisites of the Childbearing Family (offered only in the spring) before progressing to the second year of nursing.
- Some out of state travel is required for certain clinical experiences.

Essential Eligibility Requirements

The following essential requirements and examples of necessary activities (not all inclusive) should be used to assist each applicant in determining whether accommodations or modifications are necessary.

Essential Function	Example of Necessary Activities
Critical thinking abilities sufficient for clinical judgment.	Identify cause/effect relationships in clinical situation; develop nursing care plans.
Interpersonal abilities sufficient to interact with individuals, families, and groups from a variety of social, emotional, cultural, and intellectual backgrounds.	Establish rapport with patients/families and colleagues.
Communication abilities sufficient for interactions with others in verbal and written form.	Explain treatment procedures, initiate health teaching, document and interpret nursing actions and patient/client responses.
Abilities sufficient to move from room to room and to maneuver in small places.	Move around in patients' rooms, work spaces, and treatment areas, and administer cardio-pulmonary procedures.
Abilities sufficient to provide safe and effective nursing care.	Calibrate and use equipment; position patients/clients.
Abilities sufficient to monitor and assess health needs.	Hear monitor alarms, emergency signals, auscultatory sounds and cries for help.
Abilities sufficient for observation and assessment necessary in nursing care.	Observe patient/client responses.
Abilities sufficient for physical assessment.	Perform palpation, functions of physical examination and/or those related to therapeutic intervention, e.g. insertion of a catheter.

Ability to operate under stressful situations. Perform within a crisis situation providing care to meet physical, emotional, or psychosocial needs of the patient/client.

ADA Guidelines apply to all qualified disabled persons. A qualified disabled person is a person with a disability who, with or without reasonable modification to rules, policies, or practices, and with the removal of architectural, communication, or transportation barriers, or the provision of auxiliary aids and services, meets the essential eligibility requirements for the receipt of services, or the participation in the programs or activities provided by a public entity **and** who can perform the "essential functions" of the position. Any student who, because of a disabling condition, may require some special arrangements in order to meet course requirements should contact the appropriate program chair as soon as possible to make necessary accommodations. Students should be prepared to present a disability verification form from their physician.

Practical Nursing - Certificate

Gainful Employment Disclosure: Important information about the educational debt, earnings, and completion rates of students who attend this program can be found on the following [Gainful Employment Disclosure](#)

Nursing - Associate Degree

NURS 110. Independent Study

1 Credit (1)

This Freshman seminar provides an introduction to the university and its resources, an orientation to the pre-nursing curriculum, and overview of concepts for professional nursing practice. Emphasis is placed on exploring the nurse's role as an integral member of the healthcare team across multiple contexts and settings, and developing a professional identity. Consent of Instructor required.

NURS 120. Introduction to Pharmacology

3 Credits (3)

General principles of pharmacology including methods of administration, effect on the body, interactions with other drugs, and classification of drugs. Focus on the health care provider's role in safe pharmacologic intervention. May be repeated up to 3 credits. Crosslisted with: HIT 120. Restricted to Community Colleges campuses only.

NURS 130. Foundations of Pharmacology

3 Credits (3)

This course provides the nursing student with an introduction to the foundations of pharmacology including: science of drug action, principles of medication administration, accurate calculation of drug doses, medication therapy across the lifespan, application of medications to treat health alterations, normal and adverse responses by the client to medication therapy, medication safety, medication regulation, national patient safety goals, and appropriate nursing interventions to achieve the desired goals of medication therapy. Only students who have been admitted to the nursing program may enroll in this course. Students must be admitted into the Nursing Program to enroll in this course. Restricted to: Community Colleges only.

Corequisite(s): NURS 147 & NURS 149. Restricted to: NUR majors.

NURS 134. Foundation of Nursing Skills and Assessment **3 Credits (1+6P)**

This course provides nursing students with introductory nursing knowledge related to performance of nursing skills and assessment including: techniques of fundamental nursing care, basic and intermediate nursing skills, and foundational physical assessment techniques associated with care across the lifespan. Open to students who have been accepted into the nursing program. Students must be admitted into the Nursing Program to enroll in this course. Restricted to: NUR majors. Restricted to: Community Colleges only.

Corequisite(s): NURS 136 & NURS 137 or permission of the Program Director.

NURS 136. Foundations of Nursing Practice

6 Credits (4+6P)

This course will introduce the nursing student to foundational theoretical concepts of professional nursing practice, the nursing process, and foundational nursing skills. It includes developmental concepts related to clients across the lifespan. Clinical experiences in the simulation lab, long-term care, the community, and rehabilitation settings will provide the student with the opportunity to apply learned skills to provide total care to meet needs of one adult client and to develop care planning skills related to actual problems. Students must be concurrently enrolled in both the lecture and lab sections of the course. Only students who have been admitted to the nursing program may enroll in this course. Students must be admitted into the Nursing Program to enroll in this course. Restricted to: NUR majors. Restricted to: Community Colleges only.

Corequisite(s): NURS 134, NURS 137.

NURS 137. Care of Geriatric Patient

3 Credits (3)

This course will introduce the nursing student to foundational concepts of age-appropriate/specific care of the older adult who represents the largest population of individuals placing demands on the healthcare system. It includes basic and complex concepts and issues related to care of the older client across the care continuum, provision of cost-effective care in a resource sparse environment. Only students who have been admitted to the nursing program may enroll in this course. Students must be admitted into the nursing program to enroll in this course. Restricted to: NURS majors. Restricted to Community Colleges campuses only.

Corequisite(s): NURS 134 & NURS 136.

NURS 140. Pathophysiology for Allied Health Professionals

3 Credits (3)

Introduction to the nature of disease and its effect on body systems. Deals with the disease processes affecting the human body via an integrated approach to specific disease entities. Includes a review of normal functions of the appropriate body systems. Diseases are studied in relationship to their etiology, pathology, physical signs and symptoms, diagnostic procedures, complication, treatment modalities, and prognosis. Restricted to Allied Health and Health Information Technology majors. Restricted to: Community Colleges only.

NURS 146. Common Health Deviations**6 Credits (4+6P)**

Common health deviations and the manner by which they alter various body functions are explored. The role of the licensed practical nurse in assisting clients with common health deviations is presented. Ethical and legal implications and the role of the practical nurse are also considered.

The licensed practical nursing student will utilize the application of knowledge to client care situation both in the subacute and acute care settings. The nursing process is presented as guide for coordinating client care. Grade of C or better. May be repeated up to 6 credits.

Restricted to: NURSING majors. Restricted to Carlsbad campus only.

Prerequisite(s): NURS 153, NURS 156, NURS 154, NURS 157, and NURS 210 or consent of program director.

NURS 147. Adult Health I**6 Credits (4+6P)**

This course focuses on application of the nursing process and theoretical concepts of care for adults with commonly occurring health problems.

Selected clinical learning experiences in the simulation lab, acute care, and community settings will allow the student to continue development of: prioritization skills, proficiency in performance of nursing skills, collaborative skills with clients, families, peers and health care team members, care planning skills related to patient actual, psychosocial, and potential problems in the delivery of total nursing care to meet needs of one adult client. Students must be concurrently enrolled in both the lecture and lab sections of the course. Only students who have been admitted to the nursing program may enroll in this course. Students must be admitted into the Nursing Program to enroll in this course. Restricted to: NUR majors. Restricted to Community Colleges campuses only.

Corequisite(s): NURS 130, NURS 147 lab, & NURS 149.

NURS 149. Mental Health Nursing**3 Credits (2+3P)**

This course will allow the nursing student to develop skills necessary to provide nursing care for clients with mental health problems in various health care settings including: common mental health disorders, psychosocial dysfunction, psychosocial safety/substance abuse issues, violence, suicide, restraints, developmental age related pathophysiology, psychopharmacology, cultural/religious considerations, grief/loss, promotion of mental health, and therapeutic communication. Selected clinical learning experiences in the simulation lab, acute care, and community settings will allow the student to develop ability to develop: proficiency in performance of nursing skills, collaborative skills with clients, families, peers and health care team members, care planning skills related to patient actual, psychosocial, and potential problems in the delivery of total nursing care to meet needs of one client across the life span with acute/chronic mental health needs. Students must be concurrently enrolled in both the lecture and lab sections of this course. Only students who have been admitted to the nursing program may enroll in this course. Students must be admitted into the Nursing Program in order to enroll in the course. Restricted to: NUR majors. Restricted to: Community Colleges only.

Corequisite(s): NURS 130, NURS 147, & NURS 149L.

NURS 150. Medical Terminology**3 Credits (3)**

Understanding of the basic elements of medical words. Use of medical abbreviations. Same as OEHO 120 and BOT 150. May be repeated up to 3 credits. Crosslisted with: BOT 150, AHS 120 and HIT 150.

NURS 153. Medication and Dosage Calculation**1 Credit (1)**

Techniques of dosage calculation for medication and fluid administration. RR applicable. Students must meet NMSU basic skills requirement in mathematics to enroll in this course.

Corequisite(s): NURS 156 and NURS 154.

NURS 154. Physical Assessment**2 Credits (2)**

Beginning techniques of physical assessment by systems will be presented using the nursing process as a guide for providing safe client centered care throughout the life span. Grade of C or better is required.

May be repeated up to 2 credits. Restricted to: NURSING majors.

Restricted to Carlsbad campus only.

Prerequisite(s): BIOL 1130 or BIOL 2210.

Corequisite(s): NURS 153, NURS 156.

NURS 155. Special Topics**1-4 Credits**

Specific subjects to be announced in the Schedule of Classes.

NURS 156. Basic Nursing Theory and Practice**6 Credits (4+6P)**

Introduction to the nursing profession and the beginning skills of nursing practice as it relates to normalcy. The nursing process is presented as a means of guiding the student in providing safe client centered care.

Ethical and legal aspects of nursing practice are also included. Basic clinical nursing skills will be presented and practiced in the nursing lab.

The student will perform these skills with clients in an actual health care setting. May be repeated up to 6 credits. Consent of Program Director requires. Restricted to: NURSING majors. Restricted to Carlsbad campus only.

Corequisite(s): NURS 153, NURS 154.

NURS 157. Maternal/Child Health Deviations**8 Credits (6+6P)**

The concepts and principles of nursing care of the family from conception to adolescence. Utilizing the nursing process, the student provides safe client centered care to diverse clients and families.

Theoretical instruction is applied to client care situation. Students collaborate with clients, families and the interdisciplinary team in meeting health care needs. Experiences may occur in any of the regional health care facilities. Grade of C or better required. May be repeated up to 8 credits. Restricted to: NURSING majors. Restricted to Carlsbad campus only.

Prerequisite(s): NURS 156, NURS 153, and NURS 154.

Corequisite(s): NURS 210.

NURS 201. Special Topics**1-4 Credits**

Specific topics to be announced in the Schedule of Classes. May be repeated for a maximum of 10 credits. Restricted to: Community Colleges only.

Prerequisite: admission to the nursing program.

NURS 209. Independent Study**1-4 Credits**

Individual studies to meet identified student needs. May be repeated for a maximum of 10 credits. Restricted to: Community Colleges only.

Prerequisite: admission to the nursing program.

**NURS 210. Pharmacological Requisites of the Childbearing Family
1 Credit (1)**

Basic concepts of pharmacology including pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics, and pharmacotherapeutics, and their relationship to nursing care will be discussed focusing on medications commonly utilized with the childbearing family. Medication classes to be discussed include labor and delivery, analgesic, vitamins, respiratory, gynecological, endocrine, and anti-microbial/anti-infective drugs. Grade of C or better required. Restricted to: Carlsbad campus only.

Prerequisite(s): BIOL 2210 and BIOL 2225 and NURS 153, NURS 154 and NURS 156.

Corequisite(s): NURS 157.

**NURS 211. Pharmacological Requisites of Simple Health Deviations
1 Credit (1)**

Basic concepts of pharmacology including pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics, and pharmacotherapeutics, and their relationship to nursing care are addressed focusing on medications related to the psychiatric, gastrointestinal, musculoskeletal, gynecological, hematological, and anti-neoplastic client. Grade of C or better required. Restricted to: Carlsbad campus only.

Prerequisite(s): BIOL 2210 and BIOL 2225 and NURS 153, NURS 154, NURS 156, NURS 157 and NURS 210.

Corequisite(s): NURS 246 and NURS 258.

**NURS 212. Pharmacological Requisites of Complex Health Deviations
1 Credit (1)**

Basic concepts of pharmacology including pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics, and pharmacotherapeutics, and their relationship to nursing care is examined focusing on medications related to complex health deviations. Drug classes to be discussed include cardiovascular, renal, endocrine, and neurological. Grade of C or better required. Restricted to: Carlsbad campus only.

Prerequisite(s): BIOL 2210 and BIOL 2225, and NURS 153, NURS 154, NURS 156, NURS 157, NURS 246, NURS 258, NURS 210 and NURS 211.

Corequisite(s): NURS 256 and NURS 260.

**NURS 224. Maternal Child Nursing
5 Credits (4+3P)**

This course provides the intermediate nursing student with an in-depth review of care of the childbearing woman, family structures and roles, and nursing care of the child from birth through adolescence. Emphasis includes the care of pre-partum, intra-partum and postpartum clients, the neonate and health deviations in pediatric clients. Clinical experiences in the simulation lab, the community, and acute care settings will provide the student with the opportunity to apply learned skills to provide total care to meet needs of up to two adult, neonatal, or pediatric clients and to apply care planning skills related to actual, psychosocial and potential problems. Students must be concurrently enrolled in both the lecture and lab sections of the course. Only students who have been admitted to the nursing program may enroll in this course. Students must be admitted into the Nursing Program to enroll in this course. Restricted to: NUR majors. Restricted to: Community Colleges only.

Corequisite(s): NURS 235, & NURS 236.

**NURS 226. Adult Health II
6 Credits (4+6P)**

This course focuses on application of nursing process and theoretical concepts of care for adults with complex health alterations. Selected clinical learning experiences in the simulation lab, acute care, and community settings will allow the student to apply: prioritization skills, maintain proficiency in performance of nursing skills, collaborative skills with clients, families, peers and health care team members, and care planning skills related to patient actual, psychosocial, and potential problems in the delivery of nursing care to meet needs of three adult clients. Students must be concurrently enrolled in both the lecture and lab sections of the course. Only students who have been admitted to the nursing program may enroll in this course. Students must be admitted into the Nursing Program to enroll in this course. Restricted to: NUR majors. Restricted to: Community Colleges only.

Corequisite(s): NURS 224 & NURS 235.

**NURS 235. Nursing Leadership and Management
1 Credit (1)**

This course introduces the intermediate nursing student to professional practice principles of nursing leadership and management including: health policy and politics, fiscal management & budgeting, conflict management, decision making, interdisciplinary practice, working with teams, roles in disaster planning and management, application of standards of care to risk management, organization of care delivery, health care systems, processes, and practice environments. May be repeated up to 1 credits. Students must be admitted into the Nursing Program to enroll in this course. Restricted to: NUR majors. Restricted to Community Colleges campuses only.

Corequisite(s): NURS 224, NURS 226.

**NURS 236. Nursing Preceptorship - Adult Health III
6 Credits (2+12P)**

This course is the final course involving care of the patient with acute or chronic illness. It focuses on care of patients with complex or multi-system problems allowing the graduating nursing student to discuss and apply all the skills learned in previous nursing courses. After successfully passing the HESI exam, students have clinical practice with preceptor in various health care settings. Selected clinical learning experiences in the simulation lab, acute care, and community settings will allow the student to: organize care of a group of clients, maintain proficiency in performance of nursing skills, collaborate with clients, families, peers and health care team members, and support care planning skills related to patient actual, psychosocial, and potential problems in the delivery of nursing care to meet needs of the preceptors group of clients. Students must be concurrently enrolled in both the lecture and lab sections of the course. Only students who have been admitted to the nursing program and have successfully completed all level 1, 2 and 3 nursing courses may enroll in this course. Clinical may include inpatient or outpatient care, days, evenings, nights, or weekend experiences. Students are required to work the preceptors assigned schedule. NCLEX Review must be done concurrently. Students must be admitted into the Nursing Program to enroll in this course. Restricted to: NUR majors. Restricted to: Community Colleges only.

Corequisite(s): NURS 201.

NURS 246. Health Deviations I**7 Credits (4+9P)**

Introduction to medical/surgical clients, whose health care needs are routine and predictable. Focus is on simple health deviations, including concepts relative to health promotion and maintenance. The nursing process is utilized to provide evidenced based, safe client centered care. Students are expected to apply clinical judgment, communicate and collaborate with clients and the interdisciplinary team in providing care for a group of two to three clients. Grade of C or better required. May be repeated up to 7 credits. Restricted to: Nursing majors. Restricted to Carlsbad campus only.

Prerequisite(s): NURS 153, NURS 156, NURS 154, NURS 157 and NURS 210.

Corequisite(s): NURS 211, NURS 258.

NURS 256. Health Deviations II**8 Credits (4+12P)**

Concepts and principles applied to clients with complex health deviations. Building upon knowledge gained in NURS 246, focus will be on acutely ill clients. The nursing process continues to serve as a guide to provide safe, client centered care. The student collaborates with the interdisciplinary team in all aspects of client care. Student experiences the role of the staff nurse under the guidance and direction of the nursing instructor. Grade of C or better required. May be repeated up to 8 credits. Restricted to: Nursing majors. Restricted to Carlsbad campus only.

Prerequisite(s): NURS 153, NURS 154, NURS 156, NURS 157, NURS 210, NURS 211, NURS 246, and NURS 258.

Corequisite(s): NURS 212, NURS 260.

NURS 258. Psychosocial Requisites: A Deficit Approach**3 Credits (2+3P)**

Nursing theory and practice as it relates to the care of the client experiencing psychosocial health deviations. The role of the nurse is discussed along with the ethical and legal aspects of care for the client with psychosocial disorders. Building upon the communication skills of listening and responding, the student develops the therapeutic skills of interpersonal relationships. Grade of C or better is required. May be repeated up to 3 credits. Restricted to: Nursing majors. Restricted to Carlsbad campus only.

Prerequisite(s): NURS 153, NURS 154, NURS 156, NURS 157, NURS 210, and NURS 246.

Corequisite(s): NURS 211, NURS 246.

NURS 260. Management of Patients with Health Deviations**2 Credits (2)**

A capstone course to the nursing program in which principles in management and delegation to less prepared personnel is explored. A review of leadership roles, legal issues, quality initiatives, informatics and scope of practice is included. Preparation for the NCLEX is an integral portion of the course. Grade of C or better is required. May be repeated up to 2 credits. Restricted to: Nursing majors. Restricted to Carlsbad campus only.

Prerequisite(s): NURS 153, NURS 154, NURS 156, NURS 157, NURS 210, NURS 211, NURS 246, and NURS 258.

Corequisite(s): NURS 212, NURS 256.