



Nursing Department Mission & Philosophy

Mission

To provide excellent education that prepares the learner to become a member of the nursing profession and community, meeting the needs of diverse populations.

Nursing Program Philosophy

The faculty believe that nursing is the protection, promotion, and optimization of health; prevention of illness and injury; alleviation of suffering through the treatment of human response; and advocacy in the care of individuals, families, communities and populations. The nurse must use nursing judgment and integrate evidence into practice. Critical thinking and clinical reasoning is evidenced through the use of the nursing process and when interfacing with the clinical microsystem and the larger healthcare environment to deliver quality, safe, patient-centered care.

Nursing Program Educational Philosophy

The educational process is seen as a cooperative effort requiring extensive interaction between students and faculty. Educational experiences are selected and developed by the faculty and are located in both the academic and the practice setting, appropriately enhanced by technology where useful. Learning activities include instruction and practice in the application of knowledge and effective performance of nursing skills and patient care. Curriculum content is designed to proceed from the simple to the complex and progresses from the known to new material. In addition to acquisition of factual knowledge, course content is designed to promote critical thinking, clinical reasoning and nursing judgment along with the incorporation of a caring attitude and an ethical value system.

Incorporation of professional standards, guidelines, and competencies is the basis for the nursing curriculum. Nursing program curricula must reflect current nursing practice and be based on current nursing and healthcare initiatives. A curriculum built in this manner provides an evidence-based foundation to meet today's healthcare needs. This is a requirement evidenced in both the Colorado Nurse Practice Act and the expectations of the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing, Inc. (ACEN).

(Complete Philosophy Contained in the Student Handbook)



Nursing Program Student Learning Outcomes

Program student learning outcomes along with their related competencies reflect the expected knowledge, skills, and attitudes of the graduates of Pueblo Community College's Associate Degree Nursing programs preparing graduates as registered nurses. The associate degree nurse acknowledges the uniqueness of each individual and practices in accordance with a personal value system and the standards of the Nurse Practice Act. The practical nursing (PN) exit option allows students to take additional coursework which qualifies them to take the licensing exam as a practical nurse with certification in basic intravenous therapy.

The program student learning outcomes are used to organize the course student learning outcomes. These student learning outcomes will be the basis for all activities related to the teaching/learning process, including delivery of instruction and evaluation of student progress.

Upon satisfactory completion of the 1st year coursework and Practical Nursing certificate, the graduate will:

1. Provide safe, quality, patient-centered nursing care in a variety of healthcare settings considering basic research, evidence, and patient preferences as the basis for care. (nursing process, safety and patient-centered care)
2. Engage in critical thinking and clinical judgment to make patient-centered care decisions. (critical thinking, clinical decision making and nursing judgment)
3. Participate in performance improvement/quality improvement activities to improve patient care. (quality improvement and safety)
4. Collaborate with healthcare team members, the patient, and the patient's support persons to facilitate effective patient care. (teamwork and collaboration)
5. Use information technology to support and communicate the planning and provision of patient care. (informatics)
6. Manage care in a variety of healthcare settings for diverse patient populations through the process of planning, organizing, and directing. (leadership, advocacy)
7. Function within the scope of practice of the Practical Nurse incorporating professional, legal, and ethical guidelines. (professionalism, ethical behavior, legal principles, standards of practice)
8. Promote a culture of caring to provide support, compassion and culturally-competent, holistic care. (caring, holistic care, cultural competency)

Upon successful completion of the Associate of Applied Science in Nursing degree, the graduate will:

1. Provide safe, quality, evidence-based, patient-centered nursing care in a variety of healthcare settings to diverse patient populations across the lifespan. (nursing process, safety and patient-centered care)
2. Engage in critical thinking and clinical reasoning to make patient-centered care decisions. (critical thinking, clinical decision making and nursing judgment)
3. Implement quality measures to improve patient care. (quality improvement and safety)
4. Participate in collaborative relationships with members of the interdisciplinary team, the patient, and the patient's support persons. (teamwork and collaboration)
5. Use information management principles, techniques, and systems, and patient care technology to communicate, manage knowledge, mitigate error, and support decision-making. (informatics)
6. Provide leadership in a variety of healthcare settings for diverse patient populations. (leadership, management of care, delegation, advocacy)
7. Assimilate professional, legal, and ethical guidelines in practice as a professional nurse. (professionalism, ethical behavior, legal principles, standards of practice)
8. Promote a culture of caring to provide holistic, compassionate, culturally-competent care. (caring, holistic care, cultural competency)