College of Nursing

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Dean:
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Mission

Educate and inspire individuals to become nurse leaders who act with integrity, discover through scientific methods, promote wellness, and advocate for the best health care experiences of people and communities in a complex and evolving health care environment. In collaboration with our university colleagues and community partners, we are committed to excellence through our teaching, scholarship, practice, and service.

Vision

To have a global reputation for promoting wellness and transforming health care through innovative nursing practice, education, and research.

Core Values

• Integrity - Resolutely adhering to moral, ethical, and professional standards.
• Inspiration - Encouraging, role-modeling, and mentoring others to pursue their professional dreams.
• Caring - Acting with compassion and respecting all persons by embracing cultural humility, diversity, and person-centered care.
• Excellence - Pursuing and achieving goals of the highest caliber.
• Wellness - Maximizing well-being in different states of health.

Degrees and Certificates Offered

The College of Nursing offers the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN), Master of Science in Nursing (MSN), Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP), and Joint Nursing Science Ph.D. (UAH and UA) degrees. The College of Nursing also offers a Post-Master's Family Nurse Practitioner Certificate Program, and a Graduate Certificate in Nursing Education. The bachelor's program includes a program for students who are completing their initial nursing education (pre-licensure BSN), a track for students currently licensed as registered nurses (RN-BSN), and a dual associates/bachelors track for students pursuing an Associates Degree in Nursing (ADN) while simultaneously pursuing a Bachelors of Science in Nursing degree.

Accreditation

The Baccalaureate Degree Program in Nursing at the University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH) College of Nursing is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (http://ccneaccreditation.org/). The undergraduate program is also approved by the Alabama Board of Nursing.

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

The College of Nursing offers the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree. The BSN degree includes a program for students who are completing their initial nursing education (pre-licensure BSN), a track for students currently licensed as registered nurses (RN-BSN) and a dual associates/bachelors track. Dual students are individuals pursuing an Associates Degree in Nursing (ADN) at the community college level while simultaneously completing online courses for the Bachelors of Science in Nursing degree at UAH.

The undergraduate pre-licensure program prepares graduates to assume entry-level positions in a variety of health care settings. The program is divided into two components: the lower and upper divisions. Lower division general studies (prerequisite) courses provide a broad background in general education and form the foundation for the professional nursing component of the program. Upper division courses provide the theoretical and practical basis for nursing practice in the complex U.S. health care system. In addition to focusing on essentials of nursing in the hospital including the critical care area, the curriculum also emphasizes community and primary care. Opportunities to provide care to diverse clients are provided. Use of technology, including simulation and telehealth, is integrated throughout the program. The program prepares graduates for professional positions immediately after graduation and provides a firm foundation for graduate study. Students who earn the BSN degree are eligible to sit for the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN). The guiding framework for the BSN Program is the The Essentials: Core Competencies for Professional Nursing Education (AACN, 2021).

The RN-BSN track is specifically designed for Registered Nurses with a diploma or associate degree and is offered online. Students who enroll in the full-time option may complete the nursing component of the program in one year. Part-time options are available as well.
The dual associates/bachelors nursing track is specifically designed for students who are simultaneously enrolled in an ADN program at a partnering community college and our online BSN program.

Program Outcomes

1. Practice nursing as a generalist using scientific, ethical, legal, and professional standards as a basis for clinical judgment.
2. Translate research and utilize evidence-based practice to promote quality healthcare across diverse, vulnerable populations and cultures.
3. Examine healthcare policy, care delivery models, and organizational systems for current and future healthcare needs within the clinical setting.
4. Demonstrate characteristics of leadership and accountability to promote effective intra- and inter-professional communication and collaboration in healthcare systems.
5. Display proficiency in the use of patient care technologies, healthcare information systems, and communication devices to support safe and competent nursing practice.
6. Engage in lifelong learning and participate in professional activities that enhance the nursing profession.
7. Appraise health determinants to include personal, social, economic, and environmental factors that influence the health of individuals, families, groups, communities, and populations.

Advising and Assistance

The focus of advising in the College of Nursing (CON) is to assist students to successfully progress toward their educational outcomes. All students taking classes at UAH in the lower division (100 and 200 level classes), those seeking admission to the upper division nursing courses (UAH or transfer students), Registered Nurses (RNs) and students admitted to the dual nursing track are advised in the CON Office of Undergraduate Programs. Advisors in the CON Office of Undergraduate Programs assist students to define and develop realistic educational and career plans. In addition, they monitor progress toward educational and career goals, approve all designated educational transactions such as schedules, drop/adds, withdrawals, and maintain advising records for each student. Advisors also refer students to other campus resources when needed.

All students use DegreeWorks in Banner Self Service to track their progress toward meeting the requirements of the program of study (POS).

Professional Licensure

If you are interested in obtaining professional licensure, please check with the appropriate licensing body in the state where you intend to practice. Additional information can be found at https://www.uah.edu/academic-affairs/offices/oirea/state-authorizations/professional-licensures.

Majors in Nursing

- Nursing, BSN (http://catalog.uah.edu/undergrad/colleges-departments/nursing/nursing-bsn/)
- Nursing, Accelerated BSN (http://catalog.uah.edu/undergrad/colleges-departments/nursing/nursing-bsn/accelerated-bsn/)
- Nursing, RN-BSN (http://catalog.uah.edu/undergrad/colleges-departments/nursing/rn/)
- Nursing, Dual ADN/BSN (http://catalog.uah.edu/undergrad/colleges-departments/nursing/nursing-asn-bsn/)

NUR 000 - NURSING-CREDIT BY VALIDATION
Semester Hours: 3-45

All RN-BSN students are granted up to 45 credits toward graduation after completion of NUR 410. All Dual ADN/BSN students are granted up to 45 credits toward graduation after completion of their fourth semester in BSN courses. This course validates lower level division nursing courses taken in the ADN or diploma program of nursing. Up to 45 semester hours are entered on the student's official university transcript.

NUR 001 - NURSING TESTING BLOCK
Semester Hours: 0

Nursing Testing Block is a common block of time for students in different cohorts to take their examinations.

NUR 220 - HEALTH PROMOTION NUR MAJORS
Semester Hours: 3

The focus of this class is on health and high-level wellness across the lifespan, with an emphasis on promoting healthy living and preventing illness. Diverse perceptions and beliefs related to health and wellness are explored, and ways to put healthy ideas into practice are applied. Medical terminology to improve healthcare communication is incorporated into the course.
NUR 301 - Professional Concepts in Nursing  
Semester Hours: 3

This course focuses on professional development using concepts and theories basic to the art and science of nursing. Students are introduced to the concepts of communication, teaching/learning, clinical decision making, ethical/legal issues, nursing history, and philosophy for knowledge development of the discipline. Clinical informatics and healthcare technologies are also introduced as tools to deliver safe, ethical, evidence-based nursing care. Prerequisites with concurrency: NUR 303, 304, and 311.

NUR 303 - HEALTH ASSESSMENT  
Semester Hours: 5

Focus on holistic assessment of culturally diverse clients across the life span. Communication & psychomotor skills are developed in clinical laboratory settings with an emphasis on normal findings and health promotion.

NUR 303L - CLINICAL  
Semester Hours: 0

NUR 304 - APP PATHOPHYSIOLOGY LIFESPAN  
Semester Hours: 3

The course is designed to help the student build on previous knowledge of anatomy and physiology and microbiology. Adaptations and alterations in health status throughout the lifespan are emphasized. Students explore the implications of lifestyle to pathology within a nursing framework, and learn to relate normal body functioning to the pathophysiological changes that occur in, and as a result of disease.

NUR 305 - NUR PROC MENTAL HLTH/ILLNESS  
Semester Hours: 4

Nursing process in the promotion of psychosocial integrity. Emphasis is on the therapeutic use of self through providing interventions for individuals and groups in a variety of settings. Prerequisites: NUR 310 and NUR 312 and NUR 321.

NUR 305L - CLINICAL  
Semester Hours: 0

NUR 307 - INQRY TO EVIDNC BASED NURS PRC  
Semester Hours: 3

This course identifies various modes of inquiry and critical analysis used in the development of nursing science. Explore evidence based models to examine the evidence from a variety of research designs used to formulate nursing decisions. Emphasis is on identifying and synthesizing the best evidence to solve complex health problems in order to deliver safe, competent nursing care to diverse populations. Prerequisites: NUR 310 and NUR 312 and NUR 321.

NUR 308 - NURS CARE ADULTS HLTH ALTERTNS  
Semester Hours: 8

This course focuses on the application of the nursing process in the collaborative nursing management of adult clients experiencing simple to complex physiological health alterations. Clinical experiences provide opportunities for beginning to intermediate clinical reasoning in the acute care environment. The embodiment of professionalism and professional values are emphasized. Prerequisites: NUR 310 and NUR 312 and NUR 321.

NUR 308L - CLINICAL  
Semester Hours: 0

NUR 310 - PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE NURS I  
Semester Hours: 6

This course will begin the process of learning foundational nursing skills to be used in nursing practice. Psychomotor nursing skills needed to assist individuals meet basic human needs will be taught with expectation the student will demonstrate competency in performing skills. Laboratory and clinical experiences are included. Prerequisites: NUR 301, NUR 303, NUR 304, NUR 311.

NUR 310L - CLINICAL  
Semester Hours: 0

NUR 311 - CLINICAL CALCULATIONS  
Semester Hour: 1

In this course, students will learn to accurately calculate medication dosages. Testing in this course will establish minimal medication calculation proficiency required to progress to the second semester of the nursing program. Prerequisites with concurrency: NUR 301, NUR 304, NUR 303.
NUR 312 - GERO NURSING CARE  
Semester Hours: 3  
This course is designed to focus on current health care issues affecting the older adult. Physical, psychological, sociocultural, and spiritual aspects of aging are examined within the context of the family and society. The course applies the nursing process with emphasis on optimal health for the older adult. Prerequisites: NUR 301, 303, 304, and 311. Prerequisite with concurrency: NUR 310 and 321.

NUR 312L - CLINICAL  
Semester Hours: 0  
This is the clinical component of the Gerontological Nursing Care course. The course will focus on current health care issues affecting the older adult. Physical, psychological, sociocultural, and spiritual aspects of aging are examined within the context of the family and society. The course applies the nursing process with emphasis on optimal health for the older adult.

NUR 321 - PHARMACOLOGY IN NURSING  
Semester Hours: 3  
This course comprises pharmacological concepts incorporating an overview of historical and current issues in drug therapy. Pharmacotherapeutics, pharmacodynamics, pharmacokinetics, contraindications and precautions for prototype drugs for multiple body systems are presented. Major emphasis is placed on nursing management practices using nursing process as well as the nurses’ role in optimizing reliable medication administration. Prerequisites: NUR 301, NUR 303, NUR 304, NUR 311.

NUR 339 - INFO MGMT IN HEALTHCARE  
Semester Hours: 3  
This course is designed to introduce information management, including decision support systems. The use of information management nomenclature is integrated into the learning activities. The role of the nurse as an advocate in improving patient outcomes using data management is explored. Safety, ethical, and legal concerns are addressed. Prerequisite: NUR 410.

NUR 390 - INDEPENDENT STUDY  
Semester Hours: 1-4  
Individualized independent study of specific nursing problem under sponsorship of a nursing faculty member with special preparation in the field. Elective.

NUR 391 - GLOBAL HEALTH  
Semester Hour: 1

NUR 400 - SPECIAL TOPICS  
Semester Hours: 3

NUR 401 - NURS CARE CRITICALLY ILL ADULT  
Semester Hours: 5  
This course explores the evidence-based collaborative nursing management of clients experiencing complex physiological health alterations. Clinical experiences will provide opportunities for advanced clinical reasoning in the acute and critical care environments. Prerequisites: NUR 305 and NUR 307 and NUR 308.

NUR 401L - CLINICAL  
Semester Hours: 0

NUR 403 - MATERNAL INFANT NURSING  
Semester Hours: 4  
This course explores internal and external factors, which impact the health of the family during the antepartal, intrapartal, postpartal and neonatal periods of childbearing. Emphasis is placed on nursing care of these clients, normal physiology, pathophysiology, psychological and sociocultural needs, and risk identification and reduction. Prerequisites: NUR 305 and NUR 307 and NUR 308 and NUR 321.

NUR 403L - CLINICAL  
Semester Hours: 0

NUR 404 - FAMILY-CENTER NURS CARE CHILDREN  
Semester Hours: 4  
This course is designed to introduce the concept of family centered pediatric care that is developmentally appropriate for a culturally diverse population. Clinical experiences in selected agencies. Prerequisites: NUR 301 and NUR 307 and NUR 308 and NUR 321.

NUR 404L - CLINICAL  
Semester Hours: 0
NUR 405 - COMMUNITY HEALTH NURS
Semester Hours: 4

The course explores the community as client and teaches concepts and knowledge necessary to promote the health of the public and communities. Emphasis is on community health theory, individual, family, and community assessment, aspects of epidemiology, program planning and evaluation, trends and issues, legislation, ethics, research, health care economics and disaster management. Prerequisites: NUR 401 and NUR 403 and NUR 404.

NUR 405L - CLINICAL EXPERIENCE
Semester Hours: 0

NUR 407 - PROF PRACTICE IN NURSING II
Semester Hours: 8

The focus of this course is the leadership and management functions of professional nursing. Essential skills are communication, interprofessional collaboration, delegation, coordination, and the application of evidence-based practice models. Clinical experiences will focus on performance of the professional nurse role in a concentrated practicum. Prerequisites: NUR 401 and NUR 403 and NUR 404.

NUR 407L - CLINICAL EXPERIENCE
Semester Hours: 0

NUR 408 - PROF PRAC IN NURS III SEMINAR
Semester Hours: 2

The purpose of this class is to facilitate the synthesis of knowledge, the application of critical thinking to decisions about patient care, and to ensure safe and competent nursing practice. Test-taking skills and time management concepts will be applied in preparation of the NCLEX-RN licensure exam. Prerequisites: NUR 407.

NUR 410 - TRANSITION INTO PROFESS ROLES
Semester Hours: 3

The course examines the multi-dimensional role of the professional nurse in health systems. Through the analysis of a paradigm case and development of a personal philosophy of nursing, the student evaluates professional practice and develops goals designed to guide learning and professional development. Philosophical, social, political, legal, and ethical issues inherent in the practice of professional nursing in health systems are discussed.

NUR 411 - THEORETICAL APPL IN PROF NURS
Semester Hours: 3

Designed for registered nurse students to synthesize knowledge gained from previous nursing experience when analyzing theories, issues and concepts that influence professional nursing practice. Theoretical concepts, which influence critical thinking, are applied to the nursing process. Analysis of normal processes and professional nursing responses to alterations in life processes across the lifespan are examined. Caring for diverse clients is emphasized. Ethical and legal issues which impact the care for client systems are examined when synthesizing theoretical and nursing practice issues.

NUR 413 - LEADERSHIP PROF NURS PRACT
Semester Hours: 5

4 course / 1 clinical. Designed to improve leadership in professional nursing practice, this course provides the basis for advancing health through leading and managing the care giver and care coordinator roles in a variety of culturally diverse healthcare systems. The exploration of the health care environmental takes place within the context of organizational climate and culture, leading change and innovation and promoting excellence in professionalism. Students apply leadership principles through case study and the development of a clinical change project within indirect practice experiences. Prerequisite with concurrency: NUR 410.

NUR 415 - HONORS DIRECTED RESEARCH
Semester Hours: 2

This course allows for implementation of the student’s research proposal as developed in the Honors section of NUR 307. The focus is on data collection and preliminary data analysis. The seminar format will provide students access to expert researchers.

NUR 416 - HONORS RESEARCH SEMINAR
Semester Hour: 1

The focus of this seminar is completion of final research report, as begun in NUR 307 and NUR 415.

NUR 417 - NURS CARE VUL POP
Semester Hours: 4

This course examines health determinants and health disparities within the US as well as in the global community. The student will examine health disparities and the burden of disease within social, cultural, political, economic, and environmental contexts. Students will examine strategies aimed at risk reduction and improvement through outcomes. Prerequisite with concurrency: NUR 410.
NUR 421 - AC CARE FOR PROFESSIONAL NURSE
Semester Hours: 3
2 Course / 1 Clinical. The nursing process is applied to clients experiencing physiological health alterations requiring complex and collaborative nursing strategies and appropriate resource management. Direct practice experiences are focused on conducting comprehensive assessments and care planning with the interprofessional team. Prerequisite with concurrency: NUR 410.

NUR 422 - COMMUNITY HEALTH FOR PROF NURS
Semester Hours: 5
4 course/1 clinical. This course is designed to provide the application of theoretical concepts related to primary, secondary, and tertiary care of families and aggregates in professional nursing practice. Emphasis is on application of the nursing process in assessing social determinants of health and promoting community health for diverse communities. Application of direct practice experience activities are designed to meet individual learning needs of the student in delivering and managing care of selected aggregate populations. Prerequisite with concurrency: NUR 410.

NUR 423 - EVID BASED PRACTICE PROFESS NU
Semester Hours: 3
This course fosters the application of the best clinical evidence into practice in order to promote improvement in healthcare experiences and patient outcomes. Various modes of scientific inquiry used in the development of nursing science are incorporated into a survey of research techniques, methodologies, and ethical concerns. This will enable students to select and evaluate appropriate information relevant to evidence based practice. Students will develop skills in the use of electronic databases to facilitate acquisition of current information. Emphasis is placed on the critical analysis of evidence to be used in formulating nursing decisions and the design of client care guidelines. Prerequisite: NUR 410.

NUR 426 - SPACE LIFE SCIENCES
Semester Hours: 3
Theories and concepts of contemporary issues in health and nursing related to space life sciences.

NUR 427 - INTRODUCTION TO FORENSICS
Semester Hours: 3
This course provides an overview of the field of forensic nursing. Concepts of care for victims and family members of violence, abuse, traumatic accidents, and criminal activity are discussed. Current healthcare practices and medical/legal/ethical issues are reviewed. Elective, open to all university students.

NUR 439 - NURSING MEDICAL MISSIONS
Semester Hours: 2
This course will examine concepts and issues associated with humanitarian and medical missions. Commonly occurring healthcare needs relevant to specific vulnerable populations will be analyzed in preparation for delivery of healthcare. The culmination of this course is a trip abroad to deliver healthcare to a population in need within the structure of a medical mission. This course is an accepted elective in the Nursing program. Prerequisite: NUR 303.

NUA 315 - CONCEPTS IN NURSING
Semester Hours: 3
This course focuses on professional development using concepts and theories basic to the art and science of nursing. Co-Requisites: NUA 320, NUA 325, NUA 335, NUA 345k.

NUA 320 - GERONTOLOGICAL NURSING
Semester Hours: 3
This course is designed to focus on current physical and social aspects of the aging process and older adults. The nursing process is used throughout the content. The focus is on caring for older adults and how they are a unique and specialty population. Co-requisites: NUA 315, NUA 325, NUA 335, NUA 345.

NUA 320L - CLINICAL IMMERSION
Semester Hours: 0

NUA 325 - PATHOPHYSIOLOGY
Semester Hours: 4
This course is the first of a two-part sequence where students analyze deviations from normal physiological functions and explore pathologies that contribute to disease processes. Students build on previous knowledge of anatomy and physiology, and microbiology. Pharmacological concepts including dosage calculation, proper prescriber order management along with foundational components including normal/abnormal organ systems and treatment modalities are examined concurrently. Emphasis is placed on the application of drug therapies, and the nurse's role in optimizing safe pharmacological treatment using the nursing process. Co-requisites: NUA 315, NUA 320, NUA 335, NUA 345.
NUA 335 - HEALTH ASSESSMENT  
Semester Hours: 5  
This course focuses on holistic assessment of culturally diverse clients across the life span. Communication & psychomotor skills are developed in clinical laboratory settings with an emphasis on normal findings and health promotion. Co-requisites: NUA 315, NUA 320, NUA 325, NUA 345.

NUA 335L - CLINICAL IMMERSION  
Semester Hours: 0

NUA 345 - FOUNDATIONS IN NURSING  
Semester Hours: 6  
This course will begin the process of learning foundational nursing skills to be used in nursing practices. Psychomotor nursing skills need to assist individuals meet basic human needs. Laboratory and clinical experiences are included. Co-requisites: NUA 315, NUA 320, NUA 325, NUA 335.

NUA 345L - CLINICAL IMMERSION  
Semester Hours: 0

NUA 351 - EVIDENCE BASED NURSING  
Semester Hours: 3  
This course explores various models of inquiry used in nursing science and fosters application of the best clinical evidence into practice in order to promote improvement in healthcare experiences and patient outcomes. Co-requisites: NUA 355, NUA 365, NUA 375.

NUA 355 - PATHOPHYSIOLOGY  
Semester Hours: 4  
This course is the second of a two-part sequence where students analyze deviations from normal physiological functions and explore pathologies that contribute to disease processes. The pharmacology portion centers on the treatment of disease and illness processes through application of drug therapies. The nurse’s role in optimizing care and promoting outcomes through safe pharmacological management and comprehensive care planning are addressed. Co-requisites: NUA 315, NUA 320, NUA 365, NUA 375.

NUA 355L - CLINICAL IMMERSION  
Semester Hours: 0

NUA 365 - COMMUNITY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH  
Semester Hours: 4  
This course introduces core concepts of social and behavioral determinates necessary to facilitate an understanding of how they influence the health of individuals, communities, and populations. Theory and practice are directed toward promotion, maintenance, and restoration of health in individuals experiencing disruptions. Co-requisites: NUA 351, NUA 355, NUA 375.

NUA 365L - CLINICAL IMMERSION  
Semester Hours: 0

NUA 375 - MEDICAL-SURGICAL NURSING  
Semester Hours: 8  
This course focuses on the application of the nursing process in the collaborative nursing management of adult clients experiencing simple to complex physiological health alterations. Co-requisites: NUA 351, NUA 355, NUA 365.

NUA 375L - CLINICAL IMMERSION  
Semester Hours: 0

NUA 460 - COMPLEX CARE NURSING  
Semester Hours: 5  
This course explores the evidence-based collaborative nursing management of clients experiencing complex physiological health alterations. Clinical experiences will provide opportunities for advanced clinical reasoning in the acute and critical care environments. Co-requisites: NUA 351, NUA 355, NUA 365, NUA 375.

NUA 460L - CLINICAL IMMERSION  
Semester Hours: 0

NUA 470 - MATERNAL/PEDIATRIC NURSING  
Semester Hours: 4  
This course uses a family centered approach to health promotion and health alterations of the family during pregnancy, childbirth, and in children from birth through adolescence. Co-requisites: NUA 475, NUA 485.

NUA 470L - CLINICAL IMMERSION  
Semester Hours: 0
NUA 485 - INTEGRATED CONCEPTS
Semester Hours: 2

The purpose of this course is to facilitate the synthesis of knowledge and application of critical thinking to decisions about patient care. Test taking skills and time management concepts will be applied in preparation for the NCLEX-RN licensure exam. Co-requisites: NUA 460, NUA 470, NUA 475.