

College of Nursing Revision 2021

Mission

The mission of the College of Nursing (CON) is to provide a high-quality undergraduate education in nursing. The CON aims to empower students to achieve success through pursuit of knowledge, dedication to patient advocacy, community engagement, and commitment to lifelong learning.

The mission of the College of Nursing mirrors that of its parent institution. St. Petersburg College is committed to academic excellence through the provision of an innovative and engaging learning environment, cultivating a community of care, and building strong partnerships within the local community with the goal of facilitating positive change and the promotion of economic mobility to enable students to prosper via education.

Philosophy

The faculty of the College of Nursing believes that every individual is entitled to pursue a fulfilling professional career regardless of race, gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation or socioeconomic status. The College of Nursing embraces the culturally diverse backgrounds of students because it considers that diversity enhances the educational experience for all and provides a richer understanding of our world.

Caring is a fundamental tenet of the nursing profession and encompasses the characteristics of compassion, empathy, and the ability to connect with patients across the lifespan and throughout the continuum of care. The College of Nursing is committed to preparing nurses to deliver the highest standard of culturally-competent, patient-centered care within an ethically and culturally diverse population.

The faculty considers learning a life-long endeavor that fosters intellectual and personal growth through critical thinking, active inquiry, and evidence-based practice. Faculty actively promote development of leadership skills and professional nursing values such as accountability, safe and ethical practice, and interprofessional collaboration.

The college faculty is committed to evidence-based, high impact teaching that enhances student learning across all academic programs with continuous improvement in teaching and the academic programs. The faculty is dedicated to designing and implementing a concept-based curriculum in which students develop high levels of critical thinking and clinical judgment through an innovative and engaging learning environment. Faculty is considerate of the needs of adult learners and the

multigenerational student body found within the college in the pre- and post-licensure programs. Knowles' Four Principles of Andragogy (1984) serve as a foundation for the development of curricula. Incorporating these adult learning principles within a concept-based curriculum provides a framework to integrate new and previous learning by encouraging problem solving and knowledge application across a variety of situations and settings.

Adult learners in the ASN and BSN programs bring a richness of life experience that augments the learning experience for the individual and those around them.

Associate of Science (ASN) program

The pre-licensure associate of science in nursing degree integrates the liberal arts and sciences with the knowledge, skills, and attitudes essential for students to enter the health profession as a Registered Nurse (RN). Professional nursing practice requires the acquisition of knowledge, competencies, and values. This level of education prepares the RN to use clinical judgment, critical thinking, and interprofessional collaboration to make safe practice decisions regarding health care based upon competencies and standards for patients across the lifespan.

RN-BSN program

The post-licensure RN-BSN degree builds upon the ASN program to enhance the acquisition of knowledge, competencies, and values in professional nursing practice. The RN-BSN program prepares graduates to function in leadership roles and to address issues affecting the design and delivery of health care within increasing complex and constantly changing systems across the United States and the world. This level of education is further guided by a spirit of inquiry focused on improving the quality of nursing services through ethical and evidence-based practice for diverse populations. Consideration is given to health promotion and provisions of culturally-competent care in a safe and nurturing environment, while demonstrating professional nursing values, interprofessional collaboration, and effective use of technology.

Reference

Knowles, M. (1984). *The Adult Learner: A Neglected Species* (3rd Ed.) Gulf Publishing