Department of Nursing
ABSN Course Descriptions

**NUSA 201 FOUNDATIONS IN NURSING**
This course is designed to familiarize the student with the Foundation of Nursing Care. Nursing concepts such as the nursing process, scientific base for nursing practice, patient-centered care, health care environment, caring throughout the lifespan, critical thinking, clinical reasoning, basic human needs and understanding the psychosocial concepts for nursing practice. This Foundation course will also provide a contemporary approach to nursing practice, and discuss the scope of primary, acute and restorative care. It will introduce the student to evidence-based practice and will address key current practice issues including patient/family centered care with an emphasis on the care of the adult and older adult. Each student will have the opportunity to integrate this didactic information into the practice of nursing care in NUSA 294 Fundamentals Patient Care Skills Lab in the next semester.
3 Units -- 45 hours

**NUSA 203 ADULT MEDICAL/SURGICAL NURSING THEORY**
Nurse focuses on the medical and surgical nursing theory related to health and health disruption, nursing options, and medical management of young and older adults. This course will offer a physiologic systems approach to the exploration of medical and surgical conditions requiring medical and nursing-care. Content will include the three levels of prevention and intervention (primary, secondary and tertiary).
3 Units -- 45 hours

**NUSA 205 PATHOPHYSIOLOGY THEORY**
This course is designed to provide an understanding of common physical disruptions that contribute to an imbalance in homeostasis. Common disruptions that interfere with physical systems, their manifestations, and both their medical as well as nursing management will be discussed. An exploration of the role of nurses in optimizing patients’ health status will also be presented. The student will be exposed to the elements that relate to pain, its management and the nursing role in this management.
2 Units -- 30 hours

**NUSA 207 PHARMACOTHERAPEUTICS**
This course is designed to prepare the student to become knowledgeable about medications, medication administration, appropriate use of medications that are illness and disease specific, side effects and contraindications as well as nursing responsibilities. Administration techniques will be discussed including intravenous therapy. Medication administration skills will be further discussed and developed in the NUSA 296 Pharmacology Lab. As well as in NUSA 294 Fundamental Patient Care Skills course.
2 Units -- 30 hours
**NUSA 292 Adult Medical/Surgical Nursing Clinical**
This course offers students opportunities to apply theoretical knowledge to the actual care of patients in clinical settings. The focus is on building skills necessary to care for patients experiencing medical and surgical health problems. The target populations will include adults and older adults. Students will have opportunities to assess the patients, arrive at nursing diagnoses, plan nursing care measures, implement physicians’ orders and evaluate patient progress. Settings: acute care, skills nursing facilities.
4 Units -- 180 hours

**NUSA 294 Nursing Skills Lab**
This course is designed to provide both the theoretical as well as the practice dimensions of patient care. Students will have the opportunity to develop and refine selected nursing skills before applying them in the patient care agencies.
2 Units -- 90 hours

**NUSA 296 Pharmacology Lab**
This course will provide opportunities for students to learn and practice the skill of medication administration. Students will utilize these lab hours to learn and demonstrate their ability to administer: inhaled, oral, ophthalmic, topical, vaginal, enteral, rectal medication. In addition, students will have opportunities to demonstrate intravenous infusion skills.
1 Unit -- 45 hours

**NUSA 301 Advanced Medical/Surgical Nursing Theory**
This course is designed to provide didactic information about the care of adult and older adult patients who are experiencing medical and surgical health problems. Medical and surgical issues, the medical and surgical management, and the nursing care of these patients will be presented in order to prepare the students to apply the information in the acute care settings.
3 Units -- 45 hours

**NUSA 303 Maternal/Newborn Nursing Theory**
This course is designed to prepare the students to care for the childbearing families. This course will include the care of women, newborns and family during the laboring process, post-partum periods as well as health promotion and disease prevention in the home and community. Students will also learn about prenatal health problems and their management as well as the care of the neonate.
3 Units -- 45 hours

**NUSA 305 Psychiatric/Mental Health Nursing Theory**
This course is designed to provide information and facts about psychiatric and mental health nursing. The course will present facts that emphasize mental health, personality development, prevention of mental illnesses as well as on dysfunctional behaviors, nursing and medical management of clients. This course is presented concurrently with NUSA 396.
2 Units -- 30 hours
**NUSA 307 Pediatric Nursing Theory**

This course is designed to provide information and facts about the pediatric nursing specialty. The course will present pathophysiologic data, information about the health and illness problems related to the nursing care of children, from infancy through adolescence. Attention will also be provided about incorporating consideration for the families in the care of these children. This course is presented concurrently with the NUSA 398 Pediatric Nursing Clinical.

2 Units -- 30 hours

**NUSA 392 Advanced Medical/Surgical Nursing Clinical**

This course provides students with opportunities to apply the theoretical knowledge in NUSA 301 Advanced Medical/Surgical Nursing Theory into the practice setting. The focus is building necessary skills to care for adult and older adult patients experiencing complex medical and surgical disruptions. Students will have opportunities to assess the patients, arrive at nursing diagnoses, plan nursing care interventions, implement physicians’ orders, and evaluate patient progress and recovery in acute care settings, rehabilitative settings, skills nursing facilities. This course is taken concurrently with NUSA 301 or follows the successful completion of this course.

2 Units -- 90 hours

**NUSA 394 Maternal/Newborn Nursing Clinical**

This course is designed to provide the students with clinical experiences in maternal/child nursing practice. These experiences will prepare them to deliver nursing care to patients and their families in the prenatal, labor and delivery, post-partum and newborn nursery areas. This course is taken concurrently with NUSA 303 Maternal/Child Nursing Theory. This clinical will be completed in acute care settings.

2 Units -- 90 hours

**NUSA 396 Psychiatric/Mental Health Nursing Clinical**

This course is designed to provide the nursing students with clinical experiences in caring for clients and patients who are suffering with mental illnesses and disorders. Students will have the opportunities to implement their theoretical knowledge and practice skills in both acute care and outpatient settings.

2 Units -- 90 hours

**NUSA 398 Pediatric Nursing Clinical**

This course is designed to provide the nursing students with clinical experiences in caring for infants, children and adolescents patients. Incorporated in the nursing care will be considerations toward the families and their needs. This course must be taken concurrently with NUSA 307 or following the successful completion of NUSA 307.

2 Units -- 90 hours
**NUSA 400 ADVANCED SENIOR PRECEPTORSHIP CLINICAL**

This course is designed to provide the senior student with additional opportunities to refine clinical skills within a particular specialty of the student’s choosing. The student will also have the opportunity to choose a specific agency in which to complete the clinical hours if available. In addition, the students will develop such skills as clinical assessments of patients, leadership, and application of evidence based practice, and patient teaching. Each student will choose what area of specialty he/she will utilize to complete this clinical course (acute care, community health, skilled nursing facility).

3 Units -- 135 hours

**NUSA 401 HEALTH ASSESSMENT**

This course is designed to provide enhanced theory and clinical skills for building a patient history and completing a physical assessment for a patient utilizing a holistic approach. Student will study the necessary assessment skills which include: a general survey, history taking, interviewing, physical examination, designing a pedigree, assessing pain, and adapting assessments to special populations across the life-span. Furthermore, cultural assessments, environmental assessments, patient abuse assessments and the homeless person assessment will be discussed. Documentation includes, but is not limited to the relationship between early detection and prevention of diseases as well as health promotion for patients.

3 Units -- 45 hours

**NUSA 403 COMMUNITY/PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING THEORY**

Students will be prepared to assess the health needs of individuals, families, aggregates, and communities. Application of the nursing process will be discussed related to the present and potential diseases and illnesses that present themselves in communities. The goal of this course is to prepare students to understand themselves and communities. Also, the goal of this course is to prepare students to understand the theories of communicable disease and be able to promote a community’s health status. The analysis of relevant data will prepare the students to practice evidence-based nursing care. Healthy People 2011 Objectives, across the life continuum, will be threaded throughout the course.

2 Units -- 30 hours

**NUSA 405 RESEARCH IN NURSING**

This course introduces the basic processes of conducting research with an emphasis on nursing research needs. Students will apply a conceptual framework to a group research proposal. The course will also allow for the comparison between the research and nursing processes. Application of relevant data to health problems and disease entities will also be presented. Methods of research utilization in practice will also be discussed.

2 Units -- 30 hours

**NUSA 409 ADVANCED SENIOR PRECEPTORSHIP SEMINAR**

This seminar is designed to provide students with opportunities to discuss and analyze issues that present themselves during the Advanced Preceptorship Clinical (NUSA 400). During the seminar time, the faculty will present various nursing care and health issues so that students can critically think through problems and potential solutions through the use of the nursing process.

1 Unit -- 15 hours
NUSA 413 LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT THEORY
This course introduces the ethical dimensions as well as the principles of effective leadership and management in nursing. The students will build on their existing skills to supervise various categories of healthcare workers, such as, unlicensed assistive care partners, medical assistants, and other staff members. Methods used to analyze and implement various leadership styles will also be discussed and analyzed.
2 Units -- 30 hours

NUSA 494 COMMUNITY/PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING CLINICAL
Students will utilize knowledge of community/public health concepts in the community. This course will provide the students with opportunities to apply community health theory to community/public health settings. The length of this clinical experience will be sufficient so that the student will be eligible to apply for a public health certificate in the state of California. Clinical experiences will be completed in public health departments, senior centers, community agencies, day care for children and older adults, and in schools. The experiences will be relevant aggregates across the life span.
2 Units -- 90 hours

Phi 467 BIOETHICS AND HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONS
This course will offer the opportunity for students to become familiar with philosophical perspectives and some biblical perspectives relevant to the doing of ethics. Students will study relationships between western philosophical ethics and approaches to ethics found in other cultures, both past and contemporary. Also, students will study the relationship between Ethics and relevant Christian teachings. Students will learn how to use a deepened understanding of ethics to nourish and inspire their vocational self-understanding.
3 Unit -- 45 hours