

NURSING

Mission Statement

The Mission Statement for the University of North Florida School of Nursing is *“To educate nursing students at beginning and advanced levels through excellence and innovation in teaching, scholarship and service.”* The School of Nursing views its major purpose as the preparation of professional nurses at beginning and advanced levels to meet the changing health care needs of society. Baccalaureate graduates are prepared to function as professional nurses, advocating for health, and caring for individuals, families, and communities throughout the life cycle in a variety of settings. Master’s graduates are prepared as advanced practice nurses. They possess the knowledge to design and implement comprehensive programs to meet identified needs of individuals, families, and communities.

Nurses with a liberal education have the foundation on which to make informed, responsible, ethical choices that can influence the future of society and the nursing profession. The School of Nursing is committed to serve diverse populations of the community regardless of age, class, gender or culture.

The nursing programs provide a sound educational foundation for further study in nursing. Graduates of both the baccalaureate and master’s programs are encouraged to pursue advanced levels of study.

Student Learning Outcomes:

The expected learning outcomes for the baccalaureate nursing program (regular and accelerated prelicensure and RN-BSN tracks) are listed in the terminal objectives, which are derived from the SON philosophy and conceptual framework. A graduate of the BSN program will be able to:

Content/Discipline Knowledge & Skills

- Apply knowledge from nursing science, natural and social sciences, mathematics and the humanities when making clinical judgments in providing and designing care for individuals, families and communities.
- Use the UNF Adaptation Framework as a basis for professional nursing practice.

Critical Thinking Skills

- Use critical thinking skills through the nursing process to promote, maintain and/or restore an optimal level of health for individuals, families and communities throughout the lifespan in a variety of environments.
- Participate in research, evaluate nursing interventions and outcomes, and integrate scientific findings into evidence-based professional nursing practice.
- Establish goals for future personal and professional growth through commitment to lifelong learning.

Communication Skills

- Demonstrate beginning leadership and interdisciplinary collaboration skills in the provision, delegation, supervision, and coordination of care.
- Demonstrate ethical professional behavior with patients, colleagues and others in fostering patient advocacy and professional accountability.
- Incorporate in practice the professional nursing standards, effective written and verbal communication skills, and the use of media resources and information technology.

Assessment Approaches

Students take the NCLEX examination for licensure as a registered nurse at the completion of the program. Pass rates on this national examination affirm mastery of content knowledge and skills

Students also prepare a portfolio during their capstone course that demonstrates achievement of the terminal objectives for the program. This portfolio is accompanied by examples of their work throughout the course of the program. Poster presentations and oral presentations in numerous courses are also used to verify the acquisition of requisite communication skills. These direct measures of achievement are complemented by indirect assessment measures including alumni surveys, student perception surveys, employment rates and admissions to professional schools or advanced degree programs.

Career Opportunities

For information on the many career options available to Nursing majors, go to *What Can You Do with a Nursing Major* at <http://www.unf.edu/dept/cdc/majors/nursing.html>

For More Information

To learn more about the UNF Nursing Department and majoring in Nursing, go to <http://www.unf.edu/coh/cohnursi.htm>

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