

DAYTONA STATE COLLEGE
SCHOOL OF NURSING
ADN Program
PHILOSOPHY STATEMENT

The school of nursing is integral to the mission and purpose of the college. The faculty regards the College's mission statement as a unifying element of the institution and has developed the mission, philosophy and conceptual model congruent with the mission. Faculty believe that nursing education must be dynamic and responsive in preparing students to meet the nursing needs of the health care delivery system. Faculty recognize that students enter the nursing program from diverse cultures with a variety of learned experiences. Students are responsible for their own learning and partners in the teaching and learning process. Faculty are committed to excellence and ensuring students meet their full potential through the use of best practices and quality, innovative learning experiences. The community is integral to the success of the nursing program and vital to the evaluation process. Faculty strive for excellence through continued evaluation and program improvement. The nursing philosophy focuses on the nature of the person, health and illness, environment, and nursing. Nursing education is a science and built on a solid base of general education courses from humanities, sciences and related fields.

Person

The person is an individual who is part of the communal family. Each person is unique, deserving to be treated with dignity and respect. Diversity among individuals is fostered by understanding the larger concept of cultural competency. Each individual has basic needs in life and Maslow's hierarchy is used as the framework to identify these needs. Stages of development affect the nature and intensity of specific needs as well as the ability to independently meet and communicate them. Each person is comprised of several dimensions reflected through the biological, psychological, sociological, cultural, and spiritual components. Persons are linked to other systems such as family, groups and the global community.

Health and Illness

Each person exists on a health-illness continuum throughout the life cycle. Individuals, as they endeavor to adapt, are in a constant state of change in response to internal and external environmental stressors. A person's health is influenced by interactions with the healthcare system as they exercise their right concerning autonomy of health care choices. Successful adaptation to internal and external stressors promotes a state of optimal wellness.

Environment

The environment may be defined as the elements that make up the internal conditions and external surroundings of the individual. The internal and external factors have a direct influence on the development of the individual. The environment may be conceptualized as human, social, political, economic, geographic, and physical factors which are independent components contributing to the whole. Society may be viewed as the catalyst for dynamic relationships linking individuals to other systems such as persons, family, groups, and the global community. The individual and society are linked to and part of the environment for the realization of constant human development.

Nursing

Nursing is an evidence-based science that promotes, maintains, and strives to enrich the holistic well-being of the individual. The goal of nursing is to assist each person to maintain optimal states of well-being on the health/illness continuum. The nursing process is used to promote and maintain wellness in acute and chronic states of illness, prevent illness, impart dignity to the individual in life or at death. The nursing process, a systematic and purposeful framework for problem solving, guides the nurse in managing potential and actual health problems for the person.

Nursing education is an on-going process involving the educator and the learner with diverse learning styles in pursuing and sharing knowledge. The students are viewed as self-directed learners where active student engagement in their learning fosters critical thinking. The goal is to develop safe, caring, and competent nurses who recognize the responsibility for lifelong learning. Problem-solving abilities, critical thinking, and communication skills are paramount assets for the successful nursing candidate. The role of the associate degree nursing graduate is considered to be one of collaboration with the health care team, a provider of direct patient care, manager of care, and member of the profession for life-long learning in a variety of health care settings.