

## PHILOSOPHY

The faculty of the practical nursing program endorses the mission, philosophy, and goals of Daytona State College. The nursing faculty believe the practical nurse is a valuable member of the health care team and a vital contributor to clients physical, mental, and social well-being. The faculty hold certain beliefs concerning the characteristics of the nurse, individual, teaching/ learning process, and practical nursing education. The faculty beliefs as defined below are used as a foundation for the development of the practical nursing curriculum.

### Nurse

The nurse assists the individual, sick or well, in those activities that contribute to the promotion, maintenance, restoration of health, or a peaceful death. Health is a state of physical, mental, and social well being and not merely the absence of disease.

### Individual

All human beings, by their very existence, are unique individuals worthy of privacy, dignity, and respect. All persons have common basic needs and functions within the context of society, which includes the family, significant other, and community. Human Needs Theory provides the basis for the belief that a state of well being exists when basic needs are satisfied. The nurse and client create a health promoting and healing environment where basic needs are satisfied.

### Teaching and Learning

Education is a continuous process of acquiring new knowledge and skills, which increasingly improve reasoning and judgmental abilities. Practical nursing education, then, must be a series of carefully planned experiences by which the student acquires knowledge, attitudes, and skills necessary to perform in the role of a practical nurse. Communication is central to client care and maintenance of professional relationships with members of the health care team.

The Practical nurse provides direct care for clients who have uncomplicated, well defined health problems and needs; utilizes an established nursing care plan to provide direct patient care; and is responsible and accountable for the care of his or her own client under the supervision of a registered nurse or physician.

### Nursing Education

Learning is a behavioral change and requires active interaction between instructor and learner. The purpose of the instructor is to serve as a role model and a learning facilitator. As a facilitator, the teacher establishes the program of learning and creates an environment to foster student inquiry and development of logical thought processes. The teacher uses a variety of learning methods and encourages students to assume primary responsibility for his/her learning by participating actively in the learning process. The practical nursing faculty is committed to providing quality instruction, guidance and opportunities for student success.

Evaluation is a systematic continuous process used to measure student achievement of objectives and instructor effectiveness. The process should reflect and emphasize a positive approach. Self-evaluation is encouraged. The process challenges students and instructors toward greater progress and personal growth. Students have a right to question, make suggestions, and voice their concerns.