Undergraduate Nursing Course Descriptions

NURS 3115: Clinical Applications
This course is designed for the student seeking re-admission to the nursing program after non-continuing status for 1 year or more, or for the registered nurse seeking a mechanism to update clinical skills. This course is a mechanism to evaluate retained knowledge and clinical competency to ensure patient safety. Prerequisite: Application to the BSN program. Registered Nurse status in Texas.

NURS 3116: LVN to RN: Role Transformation
This WEB based course focuses on topics to facilitate the transition of the Licensed Practical / Vocational Nurse to assume the multiple roles of the Registered Nurse. Emphasis is on professional transition and verification of essential components of nursing skills including health assessment and designated technical skills. Prerequisite: Admission to the nursing program.

NURS 3205: Concepts of Professional Nursing
This course introduces the discipline of nursing based on a liberal education in the arts and sciences. Emphasis is on the development of professional identity through exploration of the major concepts of nursing. Prerequisite: College of Nursing advisor approval.

NURS 3303: Pathophysiology of Acute Care
This course focuses on the etiology, pathophysiology, and clinical presentation of selected human diseases across the life span. Prerequisites: Anatomy & Physiology I & II; Chemistry and Microbiology; College of Nursing advisor approval.

NURS 3307: Pharmacological Basis for Nursing
Pharmacotherapeutic aspects of nursing care are introduced and supported by evidenced based findings to improve patient care. Emphasis is on principles of safe administration of medications and patient education for major drug classifications. The impact of technology, economic, and regulatory forces as well as collaboration with the health team are discussed. Ethical/legal and cultural considerations are explored across the life span. Prerequisite: Admission to the nursing program.

NURS 3310: Health Assessment
This course focuses on knowledge and skills to perform a health history and head to toe assessment of individuals across the lifespan. Students practice health assessment skills in laboratory and selected settings. Prerequisites: Admission to the nursing program and successful completion of NURS 3205 and NURS 3303. (Credit: 1:2)

NURS 3312: Health Assessment for Registered Nurses
This WEB based course for the registered nurse augments knowledge and skills in order to complete comprehensive health assessments of individuals across the lifespan in selected clinical settings. Prerequisite: Admission to the RN-BSN track. (Credit: 2:1)

NURS 3333: Nursing Research
This course introduces evidence based practice as it relates to the science of nursing. Findings of selected research studies are appraised and presented. Ethical considerations and methods of protection of human subjects are integrated throughout the course. Prerequisites: Successful completion of NURS 3205; statistics and for the RN, NURS 3415. Special permission required from College of Nursing to take out of sequence.

NURS 3415: Professional Development for the RN
This WEB based course for registered nurses broadens existing knowledge of the discipline of nursing based on a liberal education in the arts and sciences. Emphasis is on professional role expansion through exploration of contemporary nursing issues. Prerequisite: Admission to the RN-BSN or RN-MSN track.
NURS 3513: Psychiatric/Mental Health Nursing
This course utilizes theories and concepts related to human behavior and alterations in human behavior. Using a holistic nursing approach, emphasis is on communication skills, self-awareness, and therapeutic use of self in selected settings.  
Prerequisites: Successful completion of NURS 3205, NURS 3303, NURS 3307, NURS 3310, and NURS 3603. (Credit: 2:3)

NURS 3603: Nursing Competencies
This course introduces nursing process, basic nursing skills supported by evidence based standards, nursing principles and technology to provide safe care for adults. Students demonstrate assessment skills, fundamental therapeutic nursing interventions, and nursing procedures in the laboratory and selected settings.  
Prerequisites: Successful completion of NURS 3205 and NURS 3303 and admission to the nursing programs. (Credit: 3:3)

NURS 3611: Medical/Surgical Nursing I
This medical/surgical course introduces holistic nursing care of adults experiencing acute or chronic illness in selected structured settings.  
Prerequisites: Successful completion of NURS 3205, NURS 3303, NURS 3307, NURS 3310, and NURS 3603. (Credit: 3:3)

NURS 4212: Gerontological Nursing
This course introduces gerontologic principles. Emphasis is on promotion and preservation of health as well as management of care in well and vulnerable older adults.  
Prerequisites: Successful completion of NURS 3333, NURS 3513, and NURS 3611 and for the RN admission to the RN-BSN/MSN track.

NURS 4234: Issues in Professional Nursing
This course synthesizes the ethical/legal concepts related to the roles of the registered nurse. Emphasis is on professional values and value based behaviors as a member of the profession.  
Prerequisites: Successful completion of NURS 4212, NURS 4632, and NURS 4723 for the generic student. Successful completion of NURS 3303, NURS 3312, and NURS 3415 for the RN. Special permission required from the College of Nursing to take out of sequence.

NURS 4313: Emergency Nursing
This course is an introduction to the concepts, theory, and practice of Emergency Nursing.  
Prerequisite: Completion of NURS 3611 or RN licensure.

NURS 4314: Nursing Care of the Perioperative Client
This course introduces the concepts, theories, and practice of perioperative nursing.  
Prerequisite: Completion of NURS 3611 or licensure as an RN. (Credit: 2-1)

NURS 4318: Women’s Health Issues
This course covers a wide variety of issues relating to women's health and is available to all majors. A holistic approach is used to investigate issues impacting the health of women.

NURS 4323: Holistic Health: The Art and Science of Caring and Healing
This course is designed to introduce the student to holistic philosophy, theory, and practice. Included will be seminar discussion, demonstration, and experiential sessions on holistic health assessment and alternative treatment modes to promote health and healing in practice and in daily living. Open to all majors.

NURS 4330: Contemporary Issues in Nursing Practice
This WEB based course is designed to prepare the inactive professional registered nurse (RN) in the State of Texas to re-enter the practice arena. The course is structured to expand the RN's knowledge of nursing process, pharmacologic principles, documentation in the medical record, legal and ethical foundations of nursing practice, and the role of the professional nurse.  
Prerequisite: Consent of Associate Dean for Undergraduate Nursing Programs.
NURS 4332: Art & Science of Precepting
This course will develop nurse preceptors who will assist new nurses to become competent, caring, and valued members of the health care team. The preceptor will assist in acclimating the new nurse to the work culture of professional nursing and in making the transition from student to professional.

NURS 4336: Pediatric Environmental Health
An introduction to environmental health and how chemicals and physical agents may affect children’s health. Included are the health effects of specific agents and environments with an emphasis on the special susceptibility of children.
Prerequisites: Consent of the instructor or advisor.

NURS 4340: Perinatal Clinical Practice
Expands on the concepts of perinatal coursework with development of knowledge and skills in perinatal clinical areas. Emphasis is on the use of multi-dimensional assessment and care planning focusing on high-level clinical judgment and decision-making abilities.
Prerequisite: Consent of the Associate Dean.

NURS 4341: Special Topics in Nursing
Topics are designed to provide additional theory and/or opportunity to practice nursing skills in selected clinical areas. Up to twelve hours may be applied to a degree.

NURS 4342: Maternal Infant Clinical Practice
Expands on the concepts of maternal/infant coursework with development of knowledge and skills in maternal/infant clinical areas. Emphasis is on the use of multi-dimensional assessment and care planning focusing on high-level clinical judgment and decision-making abilities.
Prerequisite: Consent of the Associate Dean.

NURS 4344: Neonatal Clinical Practice
Expands on the concepts of neonatal coursework with development of knowledge and skills in the neonatal clinical areas. Emphasis is on the comprehensive use of multidimensional assessment and care planning focusing on high-level clinical judgment and decision-making skills.
Prerequisite: Consent of the Associate Dean.

NURS 4345: The Older Adult: Dimensions of Care
This course provides an opportunity for synthesis of selected issues related to health care of the older adult in societal context. The focus is on health status and equality of life. Participants will review issues of aging and health care in both local and national society through the professional literature, recent research, and interaction with guest faculty of older adults.

NURS 4346: Medical-Surgical Clinical Practice
Expands on the concepts of medical-surgical coursework with development of knowledge and skills in medical-surgical clinical areas. Emphasis is on the comprehensive use of multi-dimensional assessment and care planning focusing on high-level clinical judgment and decision-making abilities.
Prerequisite: Consent of Associate Dean.

NURS 4348: Critical Care Clinical Practice
Expands on the concepts of critical care coursework with development of knowledge and skills in critical-care clinical areas. Emphasis is on the comprehensive use of multi-dimensional assessment and care planning focusing on high-level clinical judgment and decision-making abilities.
Prerequisite: Consent of Associate Dean.

NURS 4501: Community Nursing
This course introduces concepts of community health utilizing the population focused nursing process. Emphasis is on health promotion, risk reduction, and disease management in selected community settings.
Prerequisites: Successful completion of NURS 4212, NURS 4632, and NURS 4723 for generic students. Admission to the RN-BSN/MSN track for the RN student. (Credit: 2-3)
NURS 4631: Nursing Leadership and Management
This course presents concepts of nursing leadership, management and professional development. Emphasis is on the synthesis of skills, knowledge and attitudes to coordinate holistic, evidence based care in healthcare organizations.
Prerequisites: Successful completion of NURS 4212, NURS 4632, and NURS 4723 for generic students. Successful completion of NURS 3303, NURS 3312, and NURS 3415 for the RN-BSN/MSN student. (Credit: 3:3)

NURS 4632: Medical/Surgical Nursing II
This advanced medical/surgical course expands on previously learned knowledge and skills acquired in prior nursing courses. Emphasis is on care of complex high acuity adult patients in selected settings.
Prerequisites: Successful completion of NURS 3333, NURS 3513, and NURS 3611. (Credit: 3:3)

NURS 4723: Family Health
This course introduces holistic nursing care of childrearing families. Emphasis is on normal pregnancy and childbirth along with major health alterations during pregnancy and illness in children from birth through adolescence in selected settings.
Prerequisites: NURS 3333, NURS 3513, and NURS 3611 (Credit: 4:3)

NURS 4199 - 4699: Independent Study
Independent study in specific areas of nursing not covered by organized undergraduate courses. A maximum of six credit hours for independent study courses may be applied toward an undergraduate degree.
Prerequisite: Consent of Associate Dean.