

**DAYTONA STATE COLLEGE
SCHOOL OF NURSING
CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK/CONCEPTUAL MODEL**

The Daytona State College associate degree nursing program \ curriculum framework was developed by faculty and guided by the Daytona State College and School of Nursing mission, values and philosophy. The framework provides the foundation upon which the associate degree nursing curriculum and student outcomes are based.

The Daytona State College associate degree nursing program commits to advancing the nursing profession through best practices and an innovative curriculum model. The faculty believes that a sound nursing curriculum is based on educational theory and a philosophy that focuses on the nature of the person, health and illness, environment and nursing. The nursing process is utilized to provide patient-centered nursing care to clients of various ages. Nursing care is provided along the health-illness continuum to individuals, families, groups and communities in a variety of settings. Nursing curriculum is designed to provide learning opportunities that increase in complexity and skill level as it progresses.

Nursing process, cultural competence, communication, and human needs are the four threads that evolve from the curriculum framework. These threads have been used to develop course and program outcomes and as they unfold demonstrate content progression. Professional behavior, nutritional influences, pharmacological influences, nursing informatics, critical thinking, and caring interventions are embedded threads. These threads are used to guide the delivery of content and facilitate attainment of program outcomes. Adult learning theory, Dr. Benner's novice to expert theory and Blooms Taxonomy of Learning Domains are educational theories used to develop the curriculum and student learning outcomes.

This conceptual model is a visualization of the interrelationship of the philosophy and organizing threads. The form of the palm tree was chosen to illustrate the growth of the nurse within the healthcare system and as a symbol of Daytona State College. The blue background and rays of the sun depicts the environment and conditions where nursing care is provided and student learning evolves. The environment is supportive with a variety of student learning opportunities where clients needs are met. In this environment, nursing care is provided to individuals, families, groups and communities across the lifespan within the health-illness continuum. The trunk of the tree is symbolic for the nursing student. The trunk grows if its needs are met similar to the growth of a student in a healthy learning environment. The unfolding threads are depicted by the foundation or root system of the tree. This represents the foundation to base the nursing curriculum and program outcomes. The embedded threads are important for growth and depicted as the fronds of the tree. These threads structure the delivery of content and facilitate attainment of program outcomes.

**DAYTONA STATE COLLEGE
SCHOOL OF NURSING
UNFOLDING THREADS**

Nursing Process -Nursing process is a systematic and purposeful framework for problem solving that guides nursing actions when assisting clients to adapt to potential or actual health needs. The nursing faculty accepts the American Nurses Association definition of nursing process as “the common thread uniting different types of nurses who work in varied areas...the essential core of practice for the registered nurse to deliver holistic, patient-focused care.”

Nursing process consists of five inter-related steps: assessment, nursing diagnosis, planning, implementation and evaluation. The nurse uses critical thinking skills to assess and analyze client problems and make judgments regarding client needs as identified within Maslow’s Human Needs theory. Analysis of the data results in the identification of a nursing diagnosis according to the North American Nursing Diagnosis Association (NANDA). The plan of care includes client-centered goals and the nursing interventions required for goal achievement. Evaluation is an ongoing process that measures the effectiveness of the nursing care in achieving client goals.

Nursing process enables the nurse to make clinical decisions, find solutions to client-centered problems, individualize care and move the client toward desired outcomes. Nursing process can be used with all clients and their families of diverse backgrounds, throughout the lifespan in any nursing care setting.

Cultural Competence - The professional nurse must serve clients in a diverse environment. Each individual and family is unique and adheres to cultural beliefs and norms. The professional nurse applies the nursing process in an ethical and culturally sensitive manner and is aware of personal biases while being sensitive to the needs of the individual and family. Nursing care will be culturally sensitive when the nurse knows the client, the client's patterns, expressions and values. Working within the client's belief system, the professional nurse strives to promote a state of optimal wellness and demonstrate cultural competence.

Communication - Communication is the process of transmitting and exchanging information such as ideas, attitudes, emotions, or objective behavior through a common system of signs, symbols, or behavior. In nursing, communication takes the form of verbal and nonverbal, interpersonal and intrapersonal communication, and documentation among the interdisciplinary healthcare team.

The use of technology and nursing informatics, integral components in innovative communication techniques, are incorporated in didactic and clinical components of nursing education and advancements in nursing.

Human Needs - Human needs are identified throughout the life continuum for each person from birth to end of life. As a person moves through life, the individual is impacted and influenced by the internal conditions and external surroundings, family processes, and community systems. The person evolves throughout the lifespan to reach optimal wellness. Maslow's human needs theory provides the nurse with a framework for viewing persons as holistic beings and for establishing priorities for client care. Human needs are addressed by nursing practice when nurses promote normal growth and development, identify health needs at all ages, support autonomous health-related decision making, and recognize the uniqueness of every person and group.

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EMBEDDED THREADS**

Professional Behaviors-Nursing is a profession that requires a mastery of a large body of knowledge, including the use of evidenced base practice, in the acquisition of clinical skills and high standards of behaviors. Professional behaviors within nursing practice characterize a commitment to the profession of nursing.

Associate degree nurses adhere to standards of professional practice, are accountable for their behaviors, and practice nursing within legal, ethical and regulatory frameworks. Professional behaviors are a set of expected behaviors which describe the various functions of the nurse in relation to clients and others. Professional behaviors include caring for others, accountability as a professional, valuing the profession of nursing and participating in ongoing professional development. Professional behaviors are the foundation of nursing practice, guiding the interaction with clients, colleagues, other professionals, and the community. Professional behaviors are essential in the provision of safe, holistic nursing care.

Nutritional Influences-The processes involved in the taking in of food and utilization of food by which growth, repair and maintenance of activities in the body are accomplished. Good nutrition is essential for a competent immune system and for healing after physical damage from illness, injury and therapeutic measures. Nutrition is influenced by age, ethnicity, socioeconomics, wellness, illness, religion and culture. Nutrition also meets psychosocial needs.

Pharmacological Influences-Pharmacological influences are the responses of persons to drug and herbal remedies. Pharmacology is the study or science of drugs. Knowledge of the pharmaceuticals, pharmacokinetic, and pharmacodynamic phases of drug action enable the nurse to adequately assess, plan, intervene, and evaluate drug effects as they affect persons. A sound understanding of basic principles of pharmacology will enable the nurse to appreciate the therapeutic benefits and potential toxicity of drugs.

Nursing Informatics-Nursing informatics is the application of technology and information systems in the profession of nursing. Nursing Informatics promotes the generation, management, clinical processing of data and communication of acquired data in the profession of nursing. Technology involves rapidly developing methods for collecting and communicating information and for testing and treatment of disease. Constant change in technology assures that continuous learning is an integral part of nursing.

Critical Thinking-The nurse uses the nursing process to apply critical thinking to clinical decision making. The associate degree student will use critical thinking in the application of the nursing process as the student progresses through each course. Critical Thinking is a pattern of thinking based on knowledge, experience, and the abilities to conceptualize and analyze relationships. Critical thinking involves organizing information, picking out relevant information, relating, conceptualizing, and making judgments. Critical thinking enables nurses to make appropriate nursing decisions.

Caring Interventions-Caring is a function of the whole person in which concern for the growth and well-being of another is expressed in an integrated application of body, mind, and spirit toward maximizing positive outcomes in the one who is cared for. Interventions, or expressions of professional caring add the additional defining characteristic of applying the knowledge of the discipline, including its art, science, theory, and practice, to the situation of concern. Caring interventions are the integrative force that organizes and binds all the resources of the nurse.