

## **Course Description**

### **NSG0087 | Professional Nursing | 3.03 credits**

The student will function in the professional role of the nurse including team leadership and leadership roles in the specialty clinical areas including clinical care in specialty areas such as emergency rooms, intensive care units, and step-down areas. The student begins preparation for licensure and continuing education requirements by completing standardized assessments in fundamentals, medical nursing, surgical nursing, psychiatric nursing, pharmacological, pediatric nursing, obstetrical nursing, population specific care (geriatric, special populations, risk populations), and leadership.

### **Course Competencies:**

**Competency 1:** The student will develop the essential competencies and skills required for professional nursing practice by:

1. Demonstrating proficiency in fundamental nursing skills, such as patient assessment, medication administration, and wound care, through hands-on clinical experiences and simulations
2. Engaging in mentorship programs, peer-to-peer learning, and supervised practice to refine clinical judgment, prioritization, and decision-making skills essential for professional nursing practice
3. Participating in reflective practice, self-assessment, and feedback mechanisms to identify personal strengths, areas for improvement, and develop a continuous learning mindset to enhance nursing competencies

**Competency 2:** The student will explore the ethical, legal, and cultural aspects of nursing, emphasizing the importance of professionalism and patient-centered care by:

1. Analyzing and critiquing ethical dilemmas and legal considerations in nursing practice through case studies, debates, and discussions to develop a deep understanding of ethical and legal responsibilities
2. Engaging in cultural competency training, sensitivity workshops, and experiential learning activities to promote respectful and patient-centered care for individuals from diverse cultural backgrounds
3. Demonstrating professional conduct, compassion, and empathy in patient interactions, ethical decision-making, and advocacy for patient rights through experiential learning and real-world scenarios

**Competency 3:** The student will gain critical thinking, communication, and leadership skills necessary for success in the nursing profession by:

1. Enhancing critical thinking skills through case analyses, evidence-based practice projects, and problem-solving exercises that simulate real-world nursing challenges and decision-making scenarios
2. Developing effective communication skills by participating in role-playing exercises, active listening workshops, and interdisciplinary communication simulations to foster clear and empathetic patient interactions and collaboration with healthcare teams
3. Cultivating leadership qualities through mentorship opportunities, team-based projects, and leadership development activities that promote effective teamwork, conflict resolution, and decision-making in healthcare settings

**Competency 4:** The student will examine topics such as nursing ethics, healthcare policy, evidence-based practice, and interprofessional collaboration by:

1. Analyzing and evaluating case studies and real-world scenarios to apply nursing ethics principles, healthcare policy regulations, and evidence-based practice guidelines in decision-making and care delivery
2. Engaging in collaborative projects and discussions with professionals from diverse healthcare disciplines to understand the importance of interprofessional collaboration and its impact on patient care outcomes

3. Researching and presenting current healthcare policies, evidence-based interventions, and ethical considerations to demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of the interconnected topics and their relevance to nursing practice

**Competency 5:** The student will integrate theoretical knowledge with practical application in various healthcare settings by:

1. Participating in clinical rotations, simulations, and experiential learning opportunities to apply theoretical concepts in real patient care scenarios, enhancing clinical reasoning and proficiency in healthcare delivery
2. Engaging in reflective practice and debriefing sessions to identify and address the gap between theoretical knowledge and practical application, fostering a continuous learning approach to bridge the academic-practice divide
3. Collaborating with preceptors, mentors, and interdisciplinary teams to integrate theoretical learning into evidence-based interventions and patient-centered care plans, ensuring a seamless transition from classroom learning to clinical practice

**Learning Outcomes:**

- Communicate effectively using listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills
- Solve problems using critical and creative thinking and scientific reasoning
- Formulate strategies to locate, evaluate, and apply information
- Create strategies that can be used to fulfill personal, civic, and social responsibilities
- Demonstrate knowledge of ethical thinking and its application to issues in society