

# MARION PECKHAM EGAN SCHOOL OF NURSING AND HEALTH STUDIES

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## A Message from the Dean

On behalf of the entire faculty and staff, it is my great pleasure to welcome you to the Marion Peckham Egan School of Nursing and Health Studies. We understand that you had many choices in selecting an educational program, and are thrilled that you have chosen Fairfield. In selecting Fairfield for your undergraduate education, you have chosen to join a community where excellent healthcare is valued, and kindness is embraced. In the Jesuit tradition, the Marion Peckham Egan School of Nursing strives for *Cura Personalis* or education of the whole person. The result of such an education is the development of healthcare professionals, who are morally reflective, working to deliver care to patients and families with consistent sensitivity to cultural differences and issues of social justice.

Healthcare continues to undergo change. Advances in technology and access to healthcare have afforded society an unprecedented opportunity for extended quality and quantity of life. Nurses work together with other members of the interprofessional team to ensure the highest level of healthcare for our patients and families. Our undergraduate programs are prepared to meet the challenges of the future healthcare system. Our faculty are recognized around the world for their expertise in addressing the broad issues that impact global health. These faculty provide every student with the necessary tools and resources to become successful healthcare providers.

You have selected Fairfield because of the excellence of our program and faculty. As you grow in the development of new knowledge and skills, you will witness first hand, the dedication our faculty have to your development. The relationships you build with your fellow classmates and faculty members will substantially impact your life and career. Moreover, you will find that the effects of your education at Fairfield will extend long past your days as a student here.

At Fairfield we strive to provide students with an educational experience rich in the Jesuit tradition of academic rigor and reflective practice. With a strong core steeped in ethics, communication, spirituality, care of vulnerable populations and service learning, students receive all the education necessary to become healthcare leaders. Our program also provides analysis of global health issues, with a strong focus on issues of social justice and equality to prepare our students as members of society capable of generating change from within.

Our ability to provide this exceptional educational opportunity is accomplished through our strong partnerships with over 100 healthcare agencies, including acute care hospitals, community agencies, clinics and long-term care facilities. Throughout these environments of care, students are provided the instruction to increase knowledge, skills and understanding of the health issues that impact society. Clinical experiences begin early in the program and our individual attention to your education is unwavering throughout your years at Fairfield. Our school also offers a number of study abroad experiences to provide students with expertise and insight to healthcare beyond our national borders. The end result is the graduation of competent and

compassionate nursing and health professionals who provide care to populations across the world.

Thank you for choosing Fairfield for your undergraduate education. Throughout your years here, we are confident that you will receive the educational foundation necessary to support your personal objectives. We are pleased to join you on your lifelong journey toward professional development and encourage you to take advantage of all that Fairfield has to offer!

**Meredith Wallace Kazer**, PhD, CNL, APRN, AGPCNP-BC, FAAN  
*Dean and Professor, Marion Peckham Egan School of Nursing*

## Overview

The goal of the undergraduate program is to prepare students for professional nursing practice. One of the unique features of all undergraduate programs at Fairfield is the strong liberal arts core that is integral to the curriculum. Through these courses, nursing students develop the social awareness, historical consciousness, thinking skills, aesthetic sensibility, values orientation, and foundations in art, literature, and science that are hallmarks of undergraduate education. The program of study contributes to the development of a well-rounded person who is able to live effectively and productively in the world of today and tomorrow. Students grow personally and professionally to become committed and compassionate nurses, capable of providing professional care to people in whatever setting they encounter.

The curriculum of the Marion Peckham Egan School of Nursing provides students with educational experiences from which they gain a strong base in the humanities, mathematics, social sciences, and natural sciences as well as in nursing theory and practice. Students are fully integrated into the University community and enroll in core courses with students of all majors.

Faculty members in the Marion Peckham Egan School of Nursing are exceptionally well qualified by academic and clinical preparation. The student-to-faculty relationship is an inherent component of the program, particularly as it relates to clinical practice. Each student is assigned to a nursing faculty advisor who works closely with students to monitor progression through the program. Academic counseling, individualized attention, and career mentoring are integral to the advisement process.

In the program, students participate in nursing practice in a variety of clinical settings. The Marion Peckham Egan School of Nursing has affiliations with more than 100 agencies, including small and large hospitals, community health centers, in-patient and out-patient psychiatric institutions, and schools. Opportunities are available in urban and suburban settings, for students to work with people of different cultures, backgrounds, and needs.

The Egan School is housed in the Center for Nursing and Health Studies, which consists of the current Egan School building (renovated) and a new, 54,000 square foot, four-story, state-of-the-art building. The building includes academic collaboration, state-of-the-art simulation, integrated learning classrooms, clinical learning environments, a task training laboratory space and additional classrooms to support the Integrated Health Studies program. The Center for Nursing and Health Studies reflects the interdisciplinary collaboration on campus of both faculty and students, and provides opportunities for enhanced collaboration through think-tanks, research initiatives, and shared teaching spaces.

Upon successful completion of the program, students receive a BS in Nursing and qualify to take the NCLEX examination for licensure as a

registered nurse. The Marion Peckham Egan School of Nursing programs are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education and approved by the Connecticut Department of Higher Education and the Connecticut State Board of Examiners for Nursing.

## Mission Statement

Consistent with the mission of Fairfield University to develop men and women for others, the Marion Peckham Egan School of Nursing and Health Studies inspires students to become leaders in healthcare. These students are actively engaged with faculty in practice, research, scholarship and service. As a Jesuit institution, a central focus of our care is to improve health outcomes with particular attention given to the needs of the underserved or vulnerable populations.

## Vision Statement

Our vision is to create providers who demonstrate clinical excellence. Building on a tradition of caring, our commitment is to provide evidence-based, culturally sensitive interprofessional healthcare education.

## CCNE Accreditation

The baccalaureate degree in nursing at Fairfield University is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education  
One Dupont Circle, NW, Suite 530  
Washington, DC 20036  
Phone: 202-887-6791

## Baccalaureate Program Outcomes

1. Demonstrate effectiveness in planning and providing holistic evidence-based nursing care for diverse individuals and populations.
2. Create an environment for the provision of care within clinical microsystems with attention to quality, safety, information systems and health care ethics.
3. Use clinical reasoning, critical thinking, and ethical decision-making based on nursing science, related theory, and current evidence, to inform the delivery of care across the lifespan.
4. Participate in inter- and intra-professional communication and collaboration in partnership with individuals and populations to deliver evidence-based, patient-centered care.
5. Translate knowledge from research, benchmarking, quality improvement and other relevant sources into practice to address health related problems.
6. Synthesize knowledge from the humanities and sciences in planning and providing care that is guided by the values of altruism, autonomy, human dignity, integrity, global citizenship, and social justice.
7. Demonstrate professional growth, through the cultivation of self-awareness, responsibility, accountability, creativity, leadership and commitment to lifelong learning.
8. Advocate for patients, consumers, and the nursing profession through involvement in the political process, and health/patient care policies and practices.

- Program Options for Adult Learners (<https://catalog.fairfield.edu/undergraduate/nursing-health-studies/program-options-adult-learners>)
  - RN to BSN Program (<https://catalog.fairfield.edu/undergraduate/nursing-health-studies/program-options-adult-learners/rn-bs-program>)
  - Second Degree BSN Program (<https://catalog.fairfield.edu/undergraduate/nursing-health-studies/program-options-adult-learners/bs-second-degree-program>)

The four components of the Marion Peckham Egan School of Nursing and Health Studies undergraduate program are:

## Core Curriculum

Nursing students must complete the core curriculum (<https://catalog.fairfield.edu/undergraduate/curricula>) that is required of all Fairfield undergraduates, except that nursing students may meet either the visual and performing arts or the language requirement. Students meet the U.S. diversity requirement through enrollment in NS 0112 Healthcare Delivery Systems, and students meet the World diversity requirement through NS 0330 Community, Public, and Global Health Nursing. Statistics is required for all nursing students; the minimum requirement is MA 0017 Introduction to Probability and Statistics.

## Natural and Social Sciences

Students take one semester of chemistry and three semesters of biology that include anatomy and physiology, and microbiology. Because the social sciences form an important part of the foundation for nursing practice, students also take developmental psychology and a social science elective.

## Nursing Courses

Classroom instruction in nursing theory begins in the freshman year and continues throughout the undergraduate program. Instruction in nursing skills begins in the sophomore year. Nursing courses include theoretical and clinical components. With each semester, clinical hours increase. To insure that students obtain the breadth and depth of clinical experience needed, the school has associations with many clinical facilities, including private hospitals, veterans' hospitals, clinics, outpatient departments, rehabilitation centers, public health departments, long-term care facilities, home care agencies, community health centers, schools, and its own Health Promotion Center in Bridgeport. Students provide their own transportation to clinical agencies, and all costs associated with clinical placements including travel, parking, background checks, and health and professional requirements, are the responsibility of the student.

## Electives

Two free electives in the curriculum provide students with an opportunity to explore topics of interest including the liberal arts, nursing and minor options.

## Transfer to Nursing

Fairfield University students who are currently enrolled in any major have the opportunity to transfer to their major to nursing. Students with a GPA of 3.0 or above who have successfully completed Fairfield University core requirements and prerequisite courses with grades of B or better, may be eligible to transfer into the Marion Peckham Egan School of Nursing and Health Studies. Nursing classes will begin in the summer between junior and senior year. Student will join the accelerated nursing program students, maintaining their full-time undergraduate status, and graduate

## Degrees

### Bachelor of Science Curriculum

- Bachelor of Science in Nursing (<https://catalog.fairfield.edu/undergraduate/nursing-health-studies/bs-nursing>)

with a Bachelor of Science of Nursing in August following their senior year.

## University Honors Program

The Marion Peckham Egan School of Nursing participates in the University Honors Program (<https://catalog.fairfield.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/honors-program>), an interdisciplinary course of study (23 credits) open to invited freshmen and sophomores and devoted to intellectual history, interdisciplinary studies, and advanced work in the student's major field.

## Disability Statement

Consistent with its mission and philosophy, Fairfield University Marion Peckham Egan School of Nursing and Health Studies is committed to providing qualified students with disabilities an equal opportunity to access the benefits, rights, and privileges of its services, programs, and activities in an accessible setting. Furthermore, in compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act, and Connecticut laws, the University provides reasonable accommodations to qualified students to reduce the impact of disabilities on academic functioning or upon other major life activities. It is important to note that the University will not alter the essential elements of its courses or programs.

If a student with a disability would like to be considered for accommodations, he or she must make this request in writing and send the supporting documentation to the Director of Accessibility. This should be done prior to the start of the academic semester and is strictly voluntary. However, if a student with a disability chooses not to self-identify and provide the necessary documentation, accommodations need not be provided. All information concerning disabilities is confidential and will be shared only with a student's permission. For more information regarding this process, please email [acdc@fairfield.edu](mailto:acdc@fairfield.edu), or call 203-254-4000, x2615. Also, please see our website (<https://www.fairfield.edu/undergraduate/academics/resources/academic-and-career-development-center/accessibility>). Documentation can be sent directly to:

Academic and Career Development Center  
Accessibility Services  
Fairfield University  
1073 North Benson Road  
Fairfield, CT 06824

## Eligibility Requirements

The curricula leading to degrees in nursing from Fairfield University requires students to possess essential non-academic skills and functions required to engage in clinical practice. It is within the sole determination of Fairfield University and the Marion Peckham Egan School of Nursing and Health Studies to assess and determine whether a student meets these skills and functions. Eligibility requirements for participation and completion in the nursing program shall include, but are not limited to, the following six capabilities:

### Critical Thinking

Critical thinking ability sufficient for clinical judgment; student must be able to examine, interpret, analyze, and synthesize material for problem solving and evaluation of patient situations and own performance.

- Ability to assess, plan, establish priorities, implement and evaluate patient outcomes.

- Ability to calculate appropriate dosages for specific medications.
- Ability to use good judgment in establishing priorities and making appropriate decisions in client care.

### Interpersonal and Communication

Relationship & communication abilities appropriate for interacting sensitively with individuals, families, and groups from a variety of social, cultural, and intellectual backgrounds. Ability to accurately and clearly communicate appropriate information regarding patient status and response to care, both orally and in writing.

- Interpersonal skills to communicate effectively with patients/families and members of the healthcare team.
- Ability to gather and record patient data concerning history, health status and response to care.
- Ability to give and follow verbal and written reports and directions to patients, families, and members of the health care team.

### Sensory Abilities

Ability to observe, identify, and obtain information in order to assess, plan, provide and evaluate nursing interventions; student must possess adequate sensory abilities or be able to demonstrate appropriate and safe compensation for deficits.

- Visual acuity necessary to observe physical changes in health status, prepare and administer medications, and gather reference material and patient data from written and digital sources.
- Auditory ability to differentiate normal and abnormal heart, lung, & bowel sounds.
- Tactile ability to differentiate temperature and anomalies of the skin, as well as unsafe patient care devices.
- Cognitive ability sufficient to read and understand directions, assignments, and patient documents.

### Motor Skills and Mobility

Sufficient mobility, including the gross and fine motors skills needed to provide safe and competent nursing care, both routine and emergency.

- Sufficient motor skills necessary to perform physical care such as ambulating, positioning, and assisting with activities of daily living as needed.
- Fine motor skills needed for basic assessment such as palpation, auscultation, and percussion.
- Mobility sufficient to carry out patient care procedures such as suctioning, positioning, and drawing up medication into a syringe.

### Emotional Stability

Emotional stability for providing care safely to patients and their families within a rapidly changing and often stressful healthcare environment; the ability to monitor and identify one's own and others' emotions, and use the information to guide thinking and actions.

- Integrity needed to make ethical decisions and honor the professional code of nursing.
- Emotional ability to maintain calm in a crisis and emergency situation.
- Ability to develop mature relationships with the health care team and modify behavior in response to constructive feedback.

## Physical Health and Abilities

Physical health and stamina sufficient to provide care to diverse patient populations.

- Sufficient energy and ability to manage a typical patient assignment in a variety of settings for a full seven hour clinical day.
- Physical health necessary to care for those who are immuno-compromised, incapacitated, and/or otherwise vulnerable.

## Standards for Admission and Progression in the Nursing Curriculum

Students are required to successfully complete clinical practica involving direct patient care. By accepting admission in the Marion Peckham Egan School of Nursing, the student understands the program eligibility and progression requirements. Nursing students must follow all University educational policies and general regulations including those regarding academic progress.

### Prerequisites

The science and psychology courses are sequential and are prerequisites to designated nursing courses. Strong foundational knowledge in the science and psychology courses is critical to success in the nursing program. Thus, students may not progress to the next semester with an incomplete in a prerequisite course. BI 0107 Human Anatomy and Physiology I, BI 0108 Human Anatomy and Physiology II, BI 0151 Elements of Microbiology, CH 0084 General Chemistry for Health Science, and PY 0111 Developmental Psychology for Non-Majors must be completed successfully with a minimum grade of C (73) for students to progress to the next semester in the course sequence for the nursing major. The final grade for CH 0084 is calculated based on grades for both the lab and theory portion.

Students unable to complete these courses successfully are expected to repeat coursework in the next semester or the summer session immediately following or they will be dismissed from the Marion Peckham Egan School of Nursing. Students consistently achieving minimum passing grades in prerequisite courses will be placed on Academic Warning. Students who do not obtain a grade of C or better in a prerequisite course (including a repeated course) may repeat the course once. A grade of less than C in three or more prerequisite courses will result in dismissal from the Marion Peckham Egan School of Nursing.

### Nursing Courses

Nursing courses are sequential, beginning with foundational courses and progressing to increasing levels of complexity and challenge throughout the program. As students move through the curriculum, new content is integrated and builds upon previously learned material. Thus, all students must earn the minimum grade of C+ (77) in all nursing courses to progress to the next semester and continue in the program. Further, students may not progress to the next semester with an incomplete in any nursing course. Students who do not obtain a grade of C+ or better in a nursing course may repeat the course once. A grade of less than C+ in two nursing courses (including a repeated course) will result in dismissal from the Marion Peckham Egan School of Nursing. The clinical component of all clinical nursing courses is graded on a pass/fail basis. Students must pass the theory and clinical component of a course to pass the entire course, regardless of their grade in the theory component. Students who fail to earn the minimum grade in either component of a clinical course must repeat the entire course.

## Health and Professional Requirements

All clinical agencies require documentation of various professional and health information. Nursing students must be certified in cardiopulmonary resuscitation by Jan. 1 of the sophomore year and remain certified throughout the nursing program. Students must receive their certification through either the Health Care Provider course offered through the American Heart Association or the Professional Rescuer or CPR/AED for Lifeguard Certification course offered through the American Red Cross. All health requirements and OSHA training requirements must be met each year prior to clinical practica.

To attend clinical, students must have a physical examination and non-reactive Mantoux test yearly. Proof of immunization or immunity must be provided for the following: hepatitis, varicella, measles, mumps, rubella, flu, and diphtheria-tetanus. History of disease is not acceptable as proof of immunity; laboratory results of blood titers must be provided. CastleBranch.com is the immunization tracking system used by Fairfield University nursing students to house their health information. Students are responsible for uploading information and keeping all required information updated throughout their clinical experience. Students unable to comply with agency requirements will be dismissed from the program. All costs associated with agency requirements are the responsibility of the student.

### Student Background Checks and Drug Testing

The undergraduate nursing program at Fairfield University requires the successful completion of the clinical component of the curriculum. Most clinical sites require students to complete a criminal background check and drug screening before participating in clinical placements. In addition, national certification agencies may determine that persons with criminal convictions are not eligible to sit for national certification examinations and state laws may restrict/prohibit those with criminal convictions from acquiring a professional license to practice following graduation. Therefore, it is the policy of the Egan School of Nursing and Health Studies that all admitted students must satisfactorily complete a criminal background check and drug screens prior to participating in the clinical component of the curriculum. These will be completed at the student's expense at a location designated by the University, and may be required more than once depending on the agency. Fairfield University and the Egan School of Nursing and Health Studies have no obligation to refund tuition or otherwise accommodate students in the event that a criminal background check or drug screening renders the student ineligible to complete required courses or clinical placement(s).

### Continuous Assessment

All nursing students participate in a comprehensive nationally standardized assessment program. This total testing program allows close monitoring of student progress and serves as the basis for individualized advisement. A testing fee will be included for all nursing students in appropriate semesters.

### Licensure

All nursing students graduate with a bachelor of science degree in nursing. To obtain initial licensure as a Registered Nurse, students apply to the State Board of Nursing in the state in which they plan to practice. In addition, students register to take the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) at a conveniently located testing center.

All students are expected to pass the licensure exam on the first try. Application procedures vary by state. Information may be obtained

on the National Council of State Boards of Nursing website: <http://www.ncsbn.org>.

Graduation from the nursing major does not insure eligibility for state licensure. A candidate who has been convicted of a felony or another crime in any state may be required to submit documentation about this conviction to the State Board of Nursing in which licensure is sought. Each State Board of Nursing reserves the right to make a decision on whether to grant licensure to practice as a registered nurse.

## Scholastic Honors

### Sigma Theta Tau, International Honor Society

The Mu Chi Chapter of the Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing was established at Fairfield University in 1992. Since then, the Chapter has grown to nearly 1000 members. The Society is committed to fostering nursing leadership, research and creativity. Standards for membership include demonstrated excellence in scholarship and/or exceptional achievement in nursing.

## Courses

### NS 0110 Introduction to Professional Nursing 3 Credits

This course serves as a foundation to the development of the nurse as a professional person. Central to this is the awareness and acceptance of self. The process of clinical reasoning as an approach to the planning and delivery of nursing care to individuals, families, groups and communities is introduced. Discussion of nursing's history and accomplishments serves as the cornerstone for professional behaviors, including: scholarship, communication, collaboration, personal responsibility, accountability, integration of evidence based practice and peer- and self-evaluation. 42 theory hours.

### NS 0112 Healthcare Delivery Systems 3 Credits

**Attributes:** EDCG Educational Studies Cognate, EDDV Educational Studies Diversity, HSTE Health Studies: Traditions, Delivery, and Ethics  
The health care delivery system is explored from a historical, economic, political, and health information technology perspective. Emphasis is given to social, ethical, and legal aspects of the current system that remain unresolved, such as access to care, health disparities, and equity. The history and progression of healthcare reform and its influence on our current healthcare system performance will be analyzed. Global health issues and their impact on the delivery of health care services are discussed, along with consumer use of complementary and alternative therapies. This course is designed to give an inter-professional perspective to students interested in health care from any field of study. 42 theory hours.

### NS 0250 Dimensions of Professional Nursing 3 Credits

**Attributes:** UDIV U.S. Diversity  
**Prerequisites:** Connecticut RN license or academic transcript and approval of advisor.  
This course is designed to facilitate career advancement of the registered nurse to the baccalaureate level. This is the first course in the RN/BSN completion program. Consideration of values, culture, philosophy and personal goals are examined as part of the student's professional development. Communication, clinical reasoning and conflict resolution techniques will be utilized to foster positive inter-professional teams. Students will demonstrate an evidence based approach to analyze current healthcare issues including social justice and diversity in professional practice. 42 theory hours.

### NS 0252 Health Assessment for Registered Nurses 3 Credits

**Prerequisite:** Connecticut RN license.  
This course enhances knowledge and skills required to perform health assessments for patients throughout the lifespan. Health assessment focuses not only on physiological components, but also on the more holistic cultural, spiritual, developmental, nutritional, genetic, and mental status assessments. Clinical reasoning, communication and documentation using electronic medical records are also essential components of this course. Students expand their skills in interviewing while learning how to perform health histories, and complete physical examinations through course lectures, discussions, simulations, and supervised and individual practice in classroom and laboratory modules. 28 theory, 28 lab hours.

### NS 0270 Health Assessment 4 Credits

**Prerequisites:** BI 0107, BI 0108, CH 0084, NS 0110.  
This course introduces students to the knowledge and skills required to perform health assessments for patients throughout the lifespan. Health assessment focuses not only on physiological components, but also on the more holistic cultural, spiritual, developmental, nutritional, genetic, and mental status assessments. Clinical reasoning, communication and documentation using electronic medical records are also essential components of this course. Students expand their skills in interviewing while learning how to perform health histories, and complete physical examinations through course lectures, discussions, simulations, and supervised and individual practice in classroom and laboratory modules. 28 theory hours, 56 lab hours.

### NS 0270L Health Assessment Lab 0 Credits

### NS 0272 Geriatric Nursing 4 Credits

**Prerequisites:** BI 0151\*, NS 0110, NS 0112, NS 0270\*, PY 0111\*.  
This course focuses on evidence-based nursing care of older adults living in long-term care settings. Normal physiological changes of aging and related assessment skills will be incorporated and evaluated using standardized assessment tools. Management of common geriatric care problems will be emphasized. Particular focus will be placed on the ethical and spiritual concerns of vulnerable older adult populations. Students will reflect upon how the nursing role merges with life goals, philosophy and meaning to develop professional behaviors consistent with these aspects of life. 42 theory hours, 42 clinical hours. (\*indicates concurrency allowed)

### NS 0272C Geriatric Nursing Clinical 0 Credits

### NS 0301 Health and Wellness 3 Credits

**Prerequisites:** NS 0270, NS 0272\*.  
This course explores factors that influence health and wellness throughout the lifespan. Epidemiology and evidence based practice provide a framework for the assessment of risk factors. How people make health-related decisions, what risks threaten their health, and reasons for adopting particular lifestyles are examined. Key elements considered essential to providing culturally competent care are reviewed, in addition to increasing awareness about health and healthcare disparities. Social determinants of health, communication, and other wellness concepts are explored. 42 theory hours. (\*indicates concurrency allowed)

### NS 0301C Health and Wellness Clinical 0 Credits

**NS 0303 Basic Pathophysiology and Pharmacology 3 Credits****Prerequisites:** BI 0107, BI 0108, CH 0084.

This course focuses on the study of physiological and biological life processes with a focus on deviations from normal, including exemplar cases. Manifestations of disease and alterations in all body systems are discussed. Pharmacologic therapies commonly used to manage disease are presented, including content on the recognition of side effects, adverse effects, allergy, and overdose. 42 theory hours.

**NS 0305 Mental Health Nursing 4 Credits****Prerequisites:** BI 0151\*, NS 0110, NS 0112, NS 0270\*, NS 0303\*, PY 0111.

The focus of this course is the nursing care of individuals with psychiatric disorders. A holistic approach based on theories of human behavior and personality as well as neurobiological, developmental, trauma-informed, and recovery-oriented models are used to plan and implement care in a variety of settings. Factors that may contribute to an individual developing a psychiatric disorder are discussed and ethical, legal and cultural issues are considered when planning care. The development of a therapeutic nurse-patient relationship and use of communication techniques to promote healing are emphasized. 42 theory hours, 42 clinical hours. (\*indicates concurrency allowed)

**NS 0305C Mental Health Nursing Clinical 0 Credits****NS 0307 Fundamentals of Nursing Care 4 Credits****Prerequisites:** MA 0016 or higher, NS 0270.

In this course, evidence based practice is used as a guide for students to learn how to provide safe and effective patient care across the lifespan. In the laboratory setting, students perform basic to advanced psychomotor skills related to nursing care. Students also learn to effectively use an electronic health record to document clinical findings and care. 28 theory hours, 56 lab hours.

**NS 0307L Fundamentals of Nursing Care Lab 0 Credits****NS 0310 Foundations of Research for Evidence Based Practice 3 Credits****Prerequisite:** MA 0017 or MA 0217.

This course provides an introduction to the research process and its application to scholarship in clinical practice. Students learn to be consumers of research through a review of the literature, critique of research, and identification of methods appropriate to study specific practice-related problems. An emphasis is placed on clinical reasoning and writing skills. Consideration is given to ethical, economic, technological, and statistical dimensions. Application is made to clinical research and evidence-based practice. 42 theory hours.

**NS 0312 Medical Surgical Nursing I 5 Credits****Prerequisites:** NS 0272, NS 0301\*, NS 0303\*, NS 0305\*, NS 0307.

This course introduces the student to illnesses common in the adult population. The nursing process, theory, and evidence-based practice, are incorporated with clinical practice. An emphasis is placed on clinical reasoning and prioritizing patient care. Throughout the course, informatics is integrated as part of the documentation process for clinical experiences. 42 theory hours, 84 clinical hours. (\*indicates concurrency allowed)

**NS 0312C Medical Surgical Nursing I Clinical 0 Credits****NS 0314 Maternal and Newborn Nursing 4 Credits****Attributes:** WSGF Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies: Gender Focused**Prerequisites:** NS 0301, NS 0303, NS 0305, NS 0307, NS 0312\*.

This course is designed to provide students with the opportunity to assist the patient and family to cope with changes in reproductive and gynecological needs. The childbearing cycle including: pregnancy, childbirth, postpartum, lactation, care of the healthy newborn and perinatal complications, and theoretical models will be explored. Cultural, ethical and legal aspects of reproductive health across the lifespan will be examined. Emphasis is on development of clinical reasoning and evidence based practice skills related to the nursing care of women and childbearing families. 42 theory hours, 42 clinical hours. (\*indicates concurrency allowed)

**NS 0314C Maternal and Newborn Nursing Clinical 0 Credits****NS 0321 Professional Nursing Leadership 3 Credits****Prerequisites:** NS 0250\* or NS 0325\*; NS 0310\*.

This course immerses students in issues and concepts central to professional nursing. Political, social, and legal systems that affect the image of nursing and influence its role definition are examined. Organizational dynamics and theories of leadership are considered, with case studies and concurrent clinical experiences providing the foundation for theory integration. Focus is placed on patient safety and quality improvement. 42 theory hours. (\*indicates concurrency allowed)

**NS 0323 Pediatric Nursing 4 Credits****Prerequisites:** NS 0301, NS 0303, NS 0305, NS 0307, NS 0312\*.

This course utilizes a family centered care approach to provide an understanding of the unique anatomical, physiologic, and developmental differences among neonates, infants, children, adolescents, and young adults. Social and cultural influences on children and their families are discussed in addition to assessment, genetics, health promotion, injury prevention, acute and chronic illness, and palliative and end-of-life care. Students are challenged to implement effective communication techniques, clinical reasoning skills, and evidenced based practices when planning holistic and safe care for children and their families in a wide variety of clinical settings. 42 theory hours, 42 clinical hours. (\*indicates concurrency allowed)

**NS 0323C Pediatric Nursing Clinical 0 Credits****NS 0325 Medical Surgical Nursing II 5 Credits****Prerequisite:** NS 0310\*, NS 0312.

This course continues the study of nursing care for patients with illnesses common in the adult population. The theoretical framework of the nursing process is used to demonstrate effectiveness in planning and providing holistic evidence-based nursing care for diverse individuals and populations. Professional communication and interprofessional collaboration will be utilized in the delivery of patient-centered care. 42 theory hours, 84 clinical hours. (\*indicates concurrency allowed)

**NS 0325C Medical Surgical Nursing II Clinical 0 Credits**

**NS 0330 Community, Public, and Global Health Nursing 4 Credits**

**Attributes:** HSTE Health Studies: Traditions, Delivery, and Ethics, LCEL LACS Minor: Elective, WDIV World Diversity

**Prerequisites:** NS 0250\* or NS 0325\*.

This course focuses on the care of people in their homes, in communities, and around the world. Principles of disease prevention, risk reduction, and health promotion are applied to diverse populations in the USA and worldwide. Students synthesize prior experience and learning with public health theory to provide collaborative, quality care across the lifespan. Using an ecological model, students engage in evidence based care for individuals, families, groups, communities and populations. Global issues related to the impact of social policies on healthcare and health equity, and needs of vulnerable populations are also examined. 42 theory hours, 42 clinical hours. (\*indicates concurrency allowed)

**NS 0330C Community, Public, and Global Health Nursing Clinical 0 Credits****NS 0332 Transition to Professional Nursing 4 Credits**

**Prerequisites:** NS 0314, NS 0321\*, NS 0323, NS 0325, NS 0330\*.

This capstone course addresses provision of holistic, evidence based care to patients and families in a variety of health care settings. Students have the opportunity to work as a member of the health care team with an individual agency preceptor across the course. The focus is on fostering student growth in clinical reasoning, clinical reasoning and leadership development to promote autonomous professional nursing practice within the clinical setting. Students develop a Capstone Project based on an identified learning need, for the patient, the patient's family, or for the nursing staff. 168 clinical hours. (\*indicates concurrency allowed)

**NS 0332C Transition to Professional Nursing Clinical 0 Credits****NS 0340 Introduction to Global Public Health for Non-Nurses 3 Credits**

**Attributes:** HACA Humanitarian Action Minor Context Course, HSTE Health Studies: Traditions, Delivery, and Ethics, LCEL LACS Minor: Elective This course examines the social, economic and cultural factors impacting the health of societies worldwide and identifies key global health conditions. Principles of disease prevention, risk reduction, and health promotion are applied to diverse populations in the USA and worldwide. Students will analyze current and emerging global health priorities, including emerging infectious diseases, poverty, obesity, health inequities and conflicts and crises. Global issues related to the impact of social policies on healthcare and equity, and needs of vulnerable populations are also examined.

**NS 0356 Transition Seminar for Professional Nursing 3 Credits**

**Prerequisites:** Connecticut RN license, NS 0310, NS 0321\*, NS 0330\*.

This capstone course challenges the RN student to facilitate change in a clinical setting and positively influence patient outcomes. Students engage in collaborative interprofessional work with members of the healthcare team, and reflect on their own role as a professional nurse. Through this course, students demonstrate evidence based practice, leadership, and clinical reasoning to make the transition to an autonomous professional level of practice. 42 theory hours. (\*indicates concurrency allowed)

**NS 0360 Critical Care Nursing 3 Credits**

**Prerequisite:** NS 0325.

This elective course is an introduction to critical care nursing. The focus is placed on nursing diagnoses and evidence based practice in the care of the critically ill patient. Common issues such as ethical dilemmas, psychosocial challenges, and symptom management are discussed. Relevant nursing implications for the care of critically ill patients are addressed. Students also gain skills in advanced critical care, hemodynamic monitoring, and ventilator management. 42 theory hours.

**NS 0399 Independent Study 1-6 Credits**

Through individually designed projects or activities, students work with a faculty member to study a specific area in depth. Enrollment by permission only.

## Faculty

### Professors

Kazer, *Dean*

Wheeler

### Associate Professors

Bautista

Beauvais, *Associate Dean*

Conelius

Gerard

Kris

Mager

O'Shea

Shea

### Assistant Professors

Bartos

LoGuidice

Love

Moriber

Planas

Phillips

Pomarico, *Adult Program Director*

Roney

### Assistant Professors, VA Nursing Academy

Avery

Murphy

### Professors of the Practice

Burrows

Chaplik, *Assistant Dean*

Lovanio

### Assistant Professors of the Practice

Iannino-Renz

### Instructors of the Practice

Saracino

## **Visiting Assistant Professors**

Hall  
Roberto  
Sullivan

## **Visiting Instructors**

Esposito