NURS 4210/4211: Role of the Nurse Leader in Population Health

Program Overview
In the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (RN-BSN) Completion Program, current registered nurses (RNs) who have a diploma or associate degree in nursing are provided with the opportunity to earn a BSN degree. The program is specifically designed to provide students with the evidence-based practices that can be applied on the job immediately. At the same time, students will develop the skills of reflection, independent learning, and enhanced critical thinking that will enable them to stay current in their field throughout their career.

Course Description
Students in this course focus on application of theories and concepts from nursing and public health sciences in assessing health status, preventing and controlling disease, and promoting a healthier population by working with families, aggregates, communities, and healthcare systems. Students apply system thinking by using epidemiological and community assessment techniques to examine at-risk populations, health promotion, and levels of prevention with special emphasis on ethnically diverse and vulnerable populations. Major local, state, and national health issues are considered, including communicable disease, chronic illness, environmental and occupational health, bioterrorism, emergency and disaster preparedness and response. Practice experiences provide learning experiences in population-based health promotion by collaborating with interdisciplinary public health partners in a local community.

Credit & Practicum Hours
Quarter Credit Hours: 5 credits
- Didactic – 4 credits
- Practicum – 1 credit (72 practicum hours)

Practicum Hours: This course requires a minimum of 72 practicum hours.
Note: Direct patient care is not involved in this practicum course.

Course Learning Outcomes
1. Develop a potential intervention plan in collaboration with other professionals that takes into account determinants of health, available resources, and activities that contribute to health and the prevention of illness or injury.
2. Provide culturally competent care, i.e., health promotion, disease and injury prevention interventions in collaboration with other health care professionals in a community health care setting.
3. Analyze data pertaining to a specific community health issue.
4. Evaluate how cultural competence improves nursing practice and health outcomes.
5. Evaluate current evidence-based practices for your selected population.
6. Analyze evidence-based practices.
7. Evaluate programs aimed at solving health problems.
8. Analyze effectiveness of practice experience proposal through practice presentations.
9. Present practice experience presentation to professional colleagues in the community.

BSN Learning Outcomes
At the end of this program, students will be able to:
1. Apply leadership and informatics concepts in decision making to promote patient safety and quality care.
2. Use evidence based on the sciences, humanities, and research to guide nursing practice across the health-illness continuum in a variety of healthcare settings.
3. Evaluate the implications of policy on issues of access, equity, affordability, and social justice in healthcare delivery including the health of vulnerable populations and healthcare disparities.
4. Demonstrate effective communication and collaboration skills to improve patient outcomes.
5. Implement individual and population-focused interventions to promote health and to prevent and manage disease and injuries.
6. Exhibit accountability for personal and professional behaviors in accordance with standards of moral, ethical, and legal conduct with a commitment to continuous professional development.
7. Provide patient-centered nursing care based on a comprehensive and focused health assessment across the lifespan using sound clinical judgment as well as developmentally and culturally appropriate approaches.