

Curriculum in Santa Ana College's Nursing Program

The nursing program utilizes a CONCEPT-BASED CURRICULUM (CBC). The CBC focuses on the major concepts involved in nursing practice. The students are asked to think more globally and apply those concepts to different but similar situations. There is more focus on "what the nurse will do" (implementations).

Using a conceptual approach to nursing education promotes a decrease in excessive curriculum content and utilizes concepts to more efficiently distribute pertinent information, enhances student participation, and develops critical thinking skills. The curriculum allows students to learn nursing concepts in depth with greater emphasis on nursing implementations through exemplars to showcase specific diseases. It helps students link concepts that are related, discover patterns, apply new knowledge and integrate it with existing knowledge that is transferable in other contexts to prepare them for the rapid changes that occur in healthcare.

To assist in learning the new content, the teaching strategies are in a learner-focused environment. Students come to class prepared to discuss what they have learned and put into action the implementations they will do as a nurse.

To support this kind of learning, the program adopted an e-textbook system by Lippincott, including on-line searchable books, streaming videos, and virtual simulations. The same textbook system will be used throughout the program. Thus, the cost of the system (approximately \$1300) will be the only required textbook cost in the program.

The CBC curriculum is set up in a series of courses over four 16-week semesters (see chart). The course descriptions are published and the curriculum was implemented following approval of the California Community College Chancellor's Office, the California Board of Registered Nursing, and the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing.

Concept-Based Curriculum Courses and Sequencing*

Starting Fall 2019:

FIRST YEAR		SECOND YEAR	
First Semester	Second Semester	Third Semester	Fourth Semester
<i>First these courses for 16 weeks:</i>	<i>First these courses for 16 weeks:</i>	<i>First these courses for 16 weeks:</i>	<i>First these courses for 12 weeks:</i>
NRN 170 Pharmacological: Concepts of Nursing (2.0 u) NRN 171 Principles of Nursing Practice and Simple Concepts (4.5 u) NRN 171L Principles of Nursing Practice and Simple Concepts Lab (4.5 u)	NRN 172 Family Health Concepts (4.0 u) NRN 172L Family Health and Illness Concepts Lab (2.0 u)	NRN 271 Mental Health Concepts (4.5 u) NRN 271L Mental Health Concepts Lab (4.5 u)	NRN 272 Complex Concepts (3.5 u)
			<i>Then this course for 16 weeks:</i>
			NRN 272L Complex Concepts Lab (4.5 u)

*SEE NEXT PAGE FOR THE ABOVE TABLE INFORMATION PRESENTED IN A LISTED FORMAT.

Prior to Fall 2019:

FIRST YEAR		SECOND YEAR	
First Semester	Second Semester	Third Semester	Fourth Semester
<i>First these courses for 8 weeks:</i>	<i>First these courses for 7 weeks:</i>	<i>First these courses for 6 weeks:</i>	<i>First these courses for 12 weeks:</i>
NRN 160 Introduction to Pharmacology (1 u) NRN 161 Principles of Nursing Practice (2 u) NRN 161L Principles of Nursing Practice Lab (2.5 u)	NRN 164 Family Health Concepts (2 u) NRN 164L Family Health Concepts Lab (2 u)	NRN 261 Mental Health Concepts (1.5 u) NRN 261L Mental Health Concepts Lab (1.5 u)	NRN 263 Complex Concepts (3.5 u) NRN 263L Complex Concepts Lab (2.5 u)
<i>Then these courses for 8 weeks:</i>	<i>Then these courses for 9 weeks:</i>	<i>Then these courses for 10 weeks:</i>	<i>Then this course for 4 weeks:</i>
NRN 162 Pharmacology (1.5 u) NRN 163 Simple Concepts (3 u) NRN 163L Simple Concepts Lab (2.5 u)	NRN 165 Health & Illness Concepts (2.5 u) NRN 165L Health & Illness Concepts Lab (2.5 u)	NRN 262 Acute Concepts (3 u) NRN 262L Acute Concepts Lab (3 u)	NRN 264L Preceptorship (2.5 u)

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Concept-Based Curriculum Courses and Sequencing (listed format)

Starting in Fall 2019:

First Year

First Semester

First these courses for 16 weeks:

- NRN 170 Pharmacological: Concepts of Nursing (2.0 unit)
- NRN 171 Principles of Nursing Practice Simple Concepts (4.5 units)
- NRN 171L Principles of Nursing Practice and Simple Concepts Lab (4.5 units)

Second Semester

First these courses for 16 weeks:

- NRN 172 Family Health and Illness Concepts (4.0 units)
- NRN 172L Family Health Concepts and Illness Lab (4.5 units)

Second Year

Third Semester

First these courses for 16 weeks:

- NRN 271 Mental Health and Acute Concepts (4.5 units)
- NRN 271L Mental Health and Acute Concepts Lab (4.5 units)

Fouth Semester

First these courses for 12 weeks:

- NRN 272 Complex Concepts (3.5 units)

Then this course for 16 weeks:

- NRN 272L Complex Concepts Lab (2.5 units)

Concept-Based Curriculum Courses and Sequencing (listed format)

Prior to Fall 2019:

First Year

First Semester

First these courses for 8 weeks:

- NRN 160 Introduction to Pharmacology (1 unit)
- NRN 161 Principles of Nursing Practice (2 units)
- NRN 161L Principles of Nursing Practice Lab (2.5 units)

Then these courses for 8 weeks:

- NRN 162 Pharmacology (1.5 units)
- NRN 163 Simple Concepts (3 units)
- NRN 163L Simple Concepts Lab (2.5 units)

Second Semester

First these courses for 7 weeks:

- NRN 164 Family Health Concepts (2 units)
- NRN 164L Family Health Concepts Lab (2 units)

Then these courses for 9 weeks:

- NRN 165 Health & Illness Concepts (2.5 units)
- NRN 165L Health & Illness Concepts Lab (2.5 units)

Second Year

Third Semester

First these courses for 6 weeks:

- NRN 261 Mental Health Concepts (1.5 units)
- NRN 261L Mental Health Concepts Lab (1.5 units)

Then these courses for 10 weeks:

- NRN 262 Acute Concepts (3 units)
- NRN 262L Acute Concepts Lab (3 units)

Fouth Semester

First these courses for 12 weeks:

- NRN 263 Complex Concepts (3.5 units)
- NRN 263L Complex Concepts Lab (2.5 units)

Then this course for 4 weeks:

- NRN 264L Preceptorship (2.5 units)