BSN Class of 2010 Honors Graduates

MAY GRADUATES

NATALIE NEIL ADAMSON
Advisor: Beth Perry Black, PhD, RN, Assistant Professor

Exploring the Nursing Role During End-of-Life Care in Pediatric Oncology: the Family Perspective

With a little real-world experience, I also spent a year just volunteering and doing service work with a non-profit. It was really that experience that propelled me. I realized that all the things I loved about my life at that time were brought about every day in this profession – and I knew I was going to be a nurse.

LIANNE BIEMER COLE
Advisor: Maria Van Riper, PhD, RN, Associate Professor

Bridging the Gap: Addressing the Needs of Parents Who Receive a Prenatal Diagnosis of Down Syndrome

During my birthing experience with my son, I had amazing nurses who cared for me in the maternity unit. From this experience, I realized that the aspects I enjoyed about patient care correlated more with the nursing profession than the medical profession. From that point forward, I decided to pursue a career in nursing, and I have never regretted it.

KRISTINA ELISABETH KARL
Advisor: Janna Dieckmann, PhD, RN, Assistant Professor

Head-to-Toe Assessment: Would You Recognize a Zoonotic Disease

I chose to go into nursing because of the diversity of the field and the opportunities for growth and development. In this field I will be able to provide care and support to families during a time of need.

DESIREE LAGRAPPE
Advisor: Beth Perry Black, PhD, RN, Assistant Professor

A Comparison of Women’s Responses to Pregnancy Loss and Neonatal Death: A Cross-Cultural Analysis of the United States, India, and Tanzania

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JESSICA SHAN PERZ
Advisor: Carolyn McKonzie, RN, PhD, Clinical Assistant Professor

Availability of Culturally Appropriate Health Care Services for Latinos Children: A Pilot Study

Throughout my life, I have witnessed how people’s lives are affected by their career choices. I have been so moved by the ability of nursing to consistently go beyond being only a career for people, but also a passion. I have seen how people’s lives have been enriched at times when they are feeling most vulnerable as patients by the work of nurses. It is this unique interplay, combined with my love of science, fascination with the human body, and the appearance of strong, meaningful relationships that drew me to the field.

ALLISON JOY SILSBEE
Advisor: Kathryn A. Adler, EdD, MSN, RN, IBCLC, Clinical Associate Professor

Early Identification and Nursing Management of Infants with Neurotizing Enterocolitis: A Service Learning Project

With a childhood love for medicine driving my ambitions, I desired a profession that allowed me to have a significant impact upon the health and well-being of those who are attempting to piece their illness-shattered lives back together. When I started volunteering at Rex Hospital at the age of 15, I quickly realized that nurses fulfilled not only this, but a multitude of vital roles. Nursing rapidly became something so much more than simply providing the care ordered by the physicians. In fact, I discovered that the care that nurses provide is multidimensional, multifaceted and, all around, a world apart. From that point forward, I developed a passion to be a part of such a profound impact, as well as the unforgettable connections made between a nurse, a patient and a patient’s family. Nursing became, and still is, my destiny and purpose.

AMY ELIZABETH SOBER
Advisor: Beth Perry Black, PhD, RN, Assistant Professor

Premie Pearls: An Educational Intervention for Adolescent Parents of Premature Infants

I wanted a career where I could make a difference. Nursing provides you with tools to potentially change the world one patient at a time. It is also a field that allows me to use my natural caring attitude.

CATHERINE LEA SUIT
Advisor: Christine Harlan, BSN, MA, Clinical Associate Professor

Get Heart Smart! The Development of Educational Classes for Patients Diagnosed with Hypertension

I chose to go into nursing in high school after working with a geriatric population in a nursing home setting for a class project. I loved the human contact and connection that is available with nursing and having the potential to truly impact someone else’s life. To me, nursing is not only about healing the physical body, but focusing on the whole person. By baring my nursing practice on this philosophy, not only do I have the potential to help others, but I can gain personal fulfillment also, making this career a rewarding and exciting journey for me as well.

JEANNE ELIZABETH VODICKA
Advisor: Diane Yorks, MSN, MA, RN, PhD, CPNP
Clinical Assistant Professor

Exploring Pediatric Oncology Patients’ Memories of their Diagnosis

Nursing allows me to express and implement my willingness to work hard, love others, learn and take care of the body in a holistic way. I have been known to have a big heart because no matter what I will drop anything I am doing to help others. I truly have a passion for helping those in need because I feel that everyone deserves a chance to live life to the fullest, and that begins with physiological and emotional health and stability. The perfectionist in me will not forget the science involved and I will not let a patient be diagnosed without all things considered. Therefore nursing is the profession that matches my life’s desires and I chose it as it has chosen me.

CHRISTINA ZAPKO
Advisor: Julie Wadley, MSN, PNP, FNP, Clinical Associate Professor

Peer-to-Peer Education as a Nutrition and Weight Loss Intervention for Overweight Adolescent Latinos: A Literature Review and Program Recommendation

Nursing is a rewarding profession with many opportunities where I can truly make a difference in patients’ lives. I look forward to a career in which I use knowledge, critical thinking, and compassion each day while interacting with patients and families.