

NURS494 Community Health Nursing for the Public's Health (RN to MSN Nursing Program)

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course builds on Registered Nurse students' professional experiences to prepare them for population-focused clinical practice in community/public health nursing by meeting selected, collective health needs of the community and society. Theories from nursing, public health, and social and behavioral sciences are utilized to provide culturally competent nursing care to total populations or to individuals, families and groups within the context of that population. Primary prevention strategies for populations at risk are emphasized to promote and protect health, and prevent disease across the life span. Local, state and national health policies, political and economic influences will be part of the analysis of community issues and activities. An interdisciplinary, collaborative approach is taken in community assessment, decision-making, planning, implementation and evaluation throughout community health nursing practice.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Apply theories of nursing, public health, social and behavioral sciences to the management and delivery of population-focused nursing care.
2. Analyze the impact of environment and lifestyle on the health of populations.
3. Educate individuals, families, groups and communities from a variety of cultural backgrounds about health promotion, health protection and disease prevention.
4. Apply culturally competent health strategies and empathetic caring to the care of individuals, families, groups, and communities.
5. Utilize Healthy People 2010 Health Objectives to assess, plan, implement and evaluate community-based programs.
6. Analyze policies and political and economic influences at the national, state, organizational and/or local levels as they impact health care delivery for population-focused nursing care.
7. Build relationships and negotiate effectively with community members and leaders of community groups and organizations to achieve mutually set health goals.
8. Utilize an interdisciplinary approach in performing community assessment, decision-making, planning, implementation and evaluation of population-focused care.