MASTERS ENTRY PROGRAM IN NURSING (MEPN)

Courses

MEPN 500 | NUTRITION FOR NURSING
Units: 1
Provides an introduction to principles of nutrition science as a foundation for nursing to manage nutrition-related problems in individuals across the lifespan. Through an online format, the course includes knowledge about basic food components, nutritional requirements throughout the lifespan, age-appropriate nutritional strategies, food labeling, dietary supplements, special diets, and weight management.

MEPN 521 | HEALTH ASSESSMENT
Units: 3
Focuses on holistic and focused assessments of the health state of the adult patient within the community and hospital setting. Emphasizes development of culturally appropriate physical assessment skills and the ability to recognize deviations from normal. Includes both lecture and skills laboratory components.

MEPN 521L | HEALTH ASSESSMENT LAB
Units: 3

MEPN 533 | CONCEPTUAL BASIS OF PROFESSIONAL NURSING PRACTICE
Units: 2
Provides an overview of the nature of the professional nursing role and its conceptual bases. Examines the historical development of the profession; nursing leaders; and the various professional roles of the nurse. Emphasizes theory-based and evidence-based nursing practice; the theoretical foundations in nursing and those imbedded in the graduate curriculum at USD; introduces APA format for scholarly papers.

MEPN 534 | FUNDAMENTALS OF NURSING
Units: 3
Introduces basic nursing care concepts and skills necessary to work with the adult and older adult hospitalized patient with acute and chronic health problems. Introduces students to the normal and aberrant variations in physiological and pathophysiological health states of adults and older adults with or at risk for altered status in hygiene, mobility, nutrition, skin integrity and bowel and bladder elimination. Successful completion of both the theory and clinical components of the course with a letter grade of B- or higher is necessary to pass the course.

MEPN 534L | FUNDAMENTALS IN NURSING LAB
Units: 0

MEPN 534P | FUNDAMENTALS OF NURSING PRACTICUM
Units: 0

MEPN 535 | INTRODUCTION TO PHARMACOLOGY IN NURSING PRACTICE
Units: 2
Provides an overview of the pharmacological concepts of pharmacotherapeutics, pharmacodynamics, pharmacokinetics, contraindications and precautions, adverse effects and drug interactions. The pharmacological concepts of each prototype drug from the following classifications will be included: neurological; cardiovascular; respiratory; gastrointestinal; genitourinary; endocrine and immune; anti-microbial; and antineoplastic. Emphasis will be placed on nursing management that minimizes risks and adverse effects and maximizes the therapeutic effects for patients receiving these medications.

MEPN 547 | CARE OF POPULATIONS
Units: 4
Focuses on the health of the community and subgroups within the community. Applies nursing and public health concepts to promoting and restoring the health of population groups. Addresses nursing involvement in the legislative and regulatory processes as they affect health status and health care delivery. Examines selected community health problems and their implications for community health nursing practice.

MEPN 547P | CARE OF POPULATIONS PRACTICUM
Units: 3

MEPN 555 | NURSING PRACTICE WITH ADULT AND OLDER ADULT PATIENTS WITH ACUTE AND CHRONIC HEALTH PROBLEMS I
Units: 5
Expands basic nursing care concepts and skills necessary for students to work with the acute and chronic health problems of adult and older adult patients specific to alterations in oxygenation, fluid/electrolyte status, cardiovascular and endocrine systems. Emphasis is on understanding and assessing the pathophysiologic alterations, risks for complications and sequelae and the interventions necessary to stabilize, restore and promote health. Students will identify essential teaching and health restorative measures in the context of planning, implementing and evaluating nursing care for the patient and family. Successful completion of both the theory and clinical components of the course with a letter grade of B- or higher is required to pass the course.

MEPN 555L | NURSE PRACT W/ADULT LAB
Units: 0

MEPN 555P | NURSING INTERVENTIONS I PRACTICUM
Units: 0

MEPN 556 | NURSING PRACTICE WITH ADULT AND OLDER ADULT PATIENTS WITH ACUTE AND CHRONIC HEALTH PROBLEMS II
Units: 6
Requires students to apply the nursing process for selected acute and chronic health conditions in adults and older clients. It further develops the generalist nurse’s role in the care of adult and older adult patients with pathophysiologic disruptions across systems. Emphasis is placed on new content such as pathophysiologic alterations in the neurological, musculoskeletal and respiratory systems; and long-term care elements specific to cancer, hospice and rehabilitation. Assists students to refine their knowledge and skills to assess, diagnose, plan, implement and evaluate care related to patient needs, to restore health and prevent complications. Successful completion of both the theory and clinical components of the course with a letter grade of B- or higher is necessary to pass the course.

MEPN 556P | NURSING PRACTICE WITH ADULT AND OLDER ADULT PATIENTS WITH ACUTE AND CHRONIC HEALTH PROBLEMS II PRACT
Units: 0

MEPN 557 | NURSING PRACTICE WITH PSYCH-MENTAL HEALTH CLIENTS
Units: 4
Provides a general overview of clients with mental health problems. Focuses on conceptual models of psychiatric nursing management and treatment modalities. Concepts related to neuropathology, polypharmacy and psychopharmacology and their effect on the mental health of patients are introduced. Specific contexts of psychiatric nursing care are addressed. The goals of the therapeutic nurse-client relationship are also explored. Successful completion of both the theory and clinical components of the course with a letter grade of B- or higher is necessary to pass the course.
MEPN 557P | NURSING PRACTICE WITH PSYCH-MENTAL HEALTH
CLIENTS PRACTICUM
Units: 0

MEPN 558 | NURSING PRACTICE WITH MOTHERS AND INFANTS
Units: 4
Provides a general overview of family, prenatal, antenatal and post-natal health in
addressing the health care needs of the childbearing family with a focus on health
promotion, risk reduction and disease prevention. Emphasizes primary care as
the major dimension of health care; however, students are expected to address
secondary and tertiary prevention needs as appropriate. Focuses on family care
and education for health. Successful completion of both the theory and clinical
components of the course with a letter grade of B- or higher as necessary to pass
the course.

MEPN 558P | NURSING PRACTICE WITH MOTHERS AND INFANTS
PRACTICUM
Units: 0

MEPN 559 | NURSING PRACTICE WITH CHILDREN WITH ACUTE
AND CHRONIC HEALTH PROBLEMS
Units: 4
Provides a general overview of the health care needs of children and adolescents
with a focus on health promotion, risk reduction and disease prevention.
Pathophysiological disruptions in health across all systems, the unique
presentation of these alterations and the acute and chronic health problems
specific to this population are presented. Identifying genetic, environmental,
developmental and life-style behaviors contributing to acute and chronic health
problems are discussed. Focuses on family care and appropriate education for
health and optimizing growth and development. Successful completion of both the
theory and clinical components of the course with a letter grade of B- or higher as
necessary to pass the course.

MEPN 559P | NURSING PRACTICE WITH CHILDREN WITH ACUTE
AND CHRONIC HEALTH PROBLEMS PRACTICUM
Units: 0

MEPN 560 | ADVANCED GENERALIST NURSING INTERNSHIP
Units: 5
Focuses on integration of learning from all other courses to develop and execute
the advanced generalist nursing role when providing holistic care to patients with
complex or critical care level health problems and their families in such clinical
specialty areas as pediatrics, high risk OB, crisis psych-mental health and adult
medical-surgical units. Emphasizes care of complex patients, identifying rapid
response clinical situations by differentiating emergent, urgent and non-emergent
clinical states, developing, implementing and evaluating evidenced-based nursing
interventions to assist in a patient’s participation in their recovery, prevention
of complications and sequelae, reduction of risks and management/stabilization
of acute and chronic conditions. Successful completion of both the theory and
clinical components of the course with a letter grade of B- or higher is necessary
to pass the course.

MEPN 560P | ADVANCED GENERALIST NURSING INTERNSHIP
PRACTICUM
Units: 0

MEPN 598 | NURSING EXTERNSHIP
Units: 1 Repeatability: No
Applies nursing theory, process and clinical skills in an RN-precepted position
within a health care agency. The agency and USD have a clinical agreement
allowing students to work with geriatric, adult and/or pediatric patients and
families. The purpose of this experience is to enable students to become more
proficient in patient care activities while at the same time providing a needed
community service. Students apply previously acquired nursing theory and skills
in assigned patient care; no new nursing skills will be taught in this externship
experience. Seminars are held by the School of Nursing Faculty to assess clinical
progress of students and discuss clinical experiences, issues, and application of
theory.

MEPN 598S | NURSING EXTERNSHIP
Units: 1

MEPN 599 | INDEPENDENT STUDY
Units: 1-6