

**Dakota Nursing Program  
Year 1 Curriculum – Practical Nursing  
2020-2021**

<b>Fall</b>		<b>Credits</b>
	BIOL 220 Anatomy and Physiology I	4
	PSYC 111 Introduction to Psychology	3
	NURS 120 Foundations of Nursing	3
	NURS 121 Practical Nursing I	3
	NURS 122 Clinical Practice I	<u>3</u>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Spring</b>		
	BIOL 221 Anatomy and Physiology II	4
	PSYC 250 Developmental Psychology	3
	Or Composition I (3 credits)	
	NURS 127 Practical Nursing II: Introduction to Medical/Surgical Nursing	2
	NURS 145 Introduction to Maternal/Child Nursing	2
	NURS 124 Clinical Practice II	3
	PHRM 215 Introduction to Pharmacology	<u>3</u>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Summer</b>		
	NURS 129 Practical Nursing III	3
	NURS 126 Clinical Practice III	3
	ENGL 110 Composition I	<u>3</u>
	Or Developmental Psychology (3 credits)	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>
	<b><u>Total Program Credits</u></b>	<b><u>42</u></b>

**Upon successful completion of the above curriculum, the student will receive a Certificate in Practical Nursing. At this time, the student may choose to apply to continue into year 2, Associate Degree Nurse Program, and/or apply to take the NCLEX PN®.**

Note: Developmental Psychology and Composition I may be taken prior to or at any time during the PN program.

Note: Students in the WSC program are also required to complete a college strategies/transitions course (0.5 to 1 credit)

## **Practical Nursing Course Descriptions:**

**NURS 120** - Develop an understanding of the multidimensional base of nursing knowledge, including basic human needs, nursing process, nursing judgment, informatics, ethical and professional, health promotion and disease prevention concepts. Gain an understanding of the role of the practical nurse within the interdisciplinary team, the vital importance of communication while providing safe and quality client care, and how nurses use evidence based information in their practice.

**NURS 121** - Explore three core concepts of health assessment, nutrition and mental health as they relate to client care. Learn how the nurse incorporates this knowledge in caring for the diverse client from the moment they begin care for an individual to any point along the health-illness continuum.

**NURS 122** - Apply the social, biological, behavioral and nursing science principles to simulated and actual client care in the nursing lab and during clinical in health care facilities. Students will see, practice and perform demonstrations of basic nursing skills and procedures in a supervised setting. Includes the study of math and medical terminology and use of the nursing process and critical thinking skills to organize and provide safe and effective client care.

**NURS 124** - Gain additional nursing skills in the laboratory and apply those advanced skills in the clinical setting. Utilize the tools of informatics, nursing process, clinical reasoning, therapeutic communication, evidence based practice, and management concepts to provide safe and culturally sensitive client care for individuals across the lifespan in a variety of medical facilities.

**NURS 127** – Examine safe and effective client care of the bio-psychosocial individual along the health-illness continuum. Students will be involved in teaching and learning activities that enhance critical thinking skills, examine aspects of self-determination, health promotion, disease prevention and evidence based practice. Students will increase their understanding of nursing process and prioritization in the care of culturally unique clients across the lifespan in an ethical and legal manner.

**NURS 145** - Focus on the nursing care of the woman, newborn, child and families. Examine health maintenance and study the diseases and disorders affecting women, newborns, and children. Gain an understanding of pediatric growth and development and common illnesses. Use knowledge of family centered care, teaching and learning principles, and therapeutic communication while working within the interdisciplinary team to assist clients to use self-determination in decisions affecting their health.

**NURS 126** – Refine nursing knowledge, skills and ethical comportment in the role of a practical nursing student to provide safe and effective care for clients across the lifespan with stable or predictable health problems and assisting with those whose conditions are critical or unpredictable. Critical thinking, effective and therapeutic communication, nursing process, management of nursing care, and delegation of unlicensed assistive persons are incorporated into the clinical experience.

**NURS 129** - Continue to examine evidence based nursing interventions, nursing process, nutrition and drug therapy for health promotion and disease prevention in the culturally diverse client across the lifespan along the health-illness continuum. Students will have access to additional knowledge in the areas of quality improvement, informatics, and accountability, ethical, legal and professional issues of the practical nurse.