



COLLEGE OF NURSING

Student Learning Outcomes Assessment

Student Learning Outcomes delineate the critical behaviors that undergraduate students in the Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing develop throughout the undergraduate program. Students are continuously observed and evaluated by faculty on each of these Critical Behaviors. Consistent demonstration of these behaviors is essential to successful completion of any nursing clinical practice course. Undergraduate nursing students are evaluated in all clinical practice courses by faculty via the Collaborative Nursing Practice Evaluation Instrument

(<http://nursing.fau.edu/newnursingsite/handbook/forms/practiceevaluation.html>). This evaluation tool describes in detail the competencies of caring that are the foundation for the nursing program. Ultimately students must successfully demonstrate all of these critical behaviors at the time of graduation. The caring foundational to the Collaborative Nursing Practice Evaluation Instrument are summarized below:

CARING COMPETENCIES

Compassion: The quality that fosters trusting relationships.

Competence: The state of having knowledge, judgment, skills, energy, experience and motivation required to respond adequately to the demands of one's professional responsibilities.

Confidence: A way of living born out of an awareness of one's relationship to all living creatures.

Conscience: The morally sensitive self attuned to values and is integral to personhood.

Commitment: A complex affective response characterized by a convergence between one's desires and one's obligations and by a deliberate choice to act in accordance with them.

Comportment: Manner of being with others or demeanor expressed through the dress, language and behavior of nurses while caring for patients.

CRITICAL THINKING (Analytical Skills, Practical Skills)

1. Use multiple patterns of knowing to respond critically and reflectively to calls for nursing.
2. Use systematic inquiry to inform decision-making, create nursing responses, improve quality and safety, and evaluate outcomes within complex environments.
3. Engage in activities that contribute to development of the profession and self as professional.
4. Affect change through caring leadership to improve quality health outcomes

Program outcomes for critical thinking are assessed using the following methods:

1. Evaluating the change in ATI Critical Thinking Test Scores: Entry versus Exit Exam scores.
2. Monitoring NCLEX pass rate for first exam attempt
3. Evaluate a representative sample of Cerner data (used throughout the program)

COMMUNICATION (Oral Communication, Team/Collaborative Communication)

1. Use effective, professional, caring communication in written, verbal and digital formats.
2. Demonstrate skill in using patient care technologies and information systems to promote well-being, facilitate decision-making and enhance collaboration.
3. Use caring leadership to effect change and to improve quality health outcomes for all.
4. Advocate for public policy that honors human dignity, health equity, and improves healthcare for all.
5. Collaborate with nurses and other healthcare professionals in providing care within complex healthcare systems.

Program outcomes for communication are assessed using the following methods.

1. Evaluate a representative sample of student care maps documented in the Cerner data
2. Evaluate a sample of student papers from NUR 4165 Nursing Research and NUR 4827 Introduction to Professional Nursing Practice or NUR 4836 Nursing Practice Leadership papers
3. Review clinical logs throughout the program for a sample of students.

CONTENT KNOWLEDGE (Declarative Knowledge)

Students will demonstrate the following competencies necessary to perform safely and effectively as a registered nurse: A critical understanding of pathophysiology and disease processes, technical skills and procedures, medications, diagnostic tests, the nursing process (assessment, analysis, planning, implementation, evaluation), awareness of client needs (safety/effectiveness, physiological and psychosocial integrity, health promotion), knowledge of specialty areas in nursing (medical-surgical, pediatric, maternity, mental health, community, gerontology), and professional nursing leadership skills.

1. Use theories and research to promote well-being and nurture wholeness of persons and populations across the lifespan in a variety of settings.
2. Synthesize knowledge from the sciences, arts and humanities as a foundation for generalist practice in nursing.
3. Provide safe, ethical care for and with others with awareness of and respect for differences.
4. Improve quality and safety within complex environments for healthcare delivery.

Program outcomes for content knowledge are assessed using the following methods:

1. Annual student assessment of progress toward Program Outcomes.
2. Monitor ATI course-level test scores comparing group mean with national course mean.
3. Monitor NCLEX pass rate for first exam attempt
4. Evaluate percent of graduates hired within the first 3 months following graduation
5. Examine EBI employer evaluation of FAU Nursing graduates.

Approximately two months prior to graduation, all seniors will take the ATI exit exam.

This test is a valid predictor of performance on the National Licensing Examination (NCLEX). Students must achieve the standard passing score defined by the College of Nursing. Students who do not receive a passing ATI Exit Exam score are advised individually and are required to complete remediation studies. They are scheduled to repeat the exam up to two additional times. Students who do not achieve the passing score will not graduate until they meet the passing criterion.

COMPLETE DEGREE REQUIREMENTS APPEAR IN FAU'S UNIVERSITY CATALOG