

Bainbridge College ADN Program Mission

Bainbridge College's Associate Degree in Nursing (ADN) program is dedicated to providing excellence in nursing education that will result in positive student outcomes. The nursing program will prepare a competent entry level nurse to provide care for diverse populations within the community.

Bainbridge College ADN Philosophy

The faculty believes essential competencies for the practice of associate degree nursing are: a) professional behaviors, b) communication, c) assessment, d) clinical decision making, e) caring interventions, f) teaching/ learning, g) collaboration and h) provider and manager of care.

We believe that man (client) is a distinct individual, with inherent value and dignity. The client gradually changes and develops in regular, predictable patterns as he interacts within the environment to meet physiological and psychosocial needs.

The faculty believes that health is dynamic. Health is affected by internal and external phenomena. Homeostasis of these phenomena indicates wellness. Nursing strives to assist clients in maintaining homeostasis.

The faculty believe that associate degree nursing education facilitates evolution of the student's intellectual, physical, moral/spiritual capabilities and ideologies as they actively participate, cooperate, collaborate and interact with professors, peers and other disciplines as they become providers and managers of care and members within the discipline of nursing. Previous life experiences and knowledge affects acquisition of new learning. Associate Degree Nursing education and practice, enhances growth as a professional nurse by providing a caring faculty/student environment, encouraging an interactive exchange of ideas while using a variety of teaching strategies, providing diverse clinical experiences, and fostering self learning, self reflection and continuing education.

The faculty believes that diversity enriches the student body and is committed to working with each student to enhance learning and success regardless of color, race, or ethnicity. Diversity not only encompasses race, ethnicity, and culture, but may also include age, gender, religion, socioeconomic status, family composition and lifestyle choices. The life experience each student brings to the classroom

enhances cultural knowledge and development among the student body. In addition, the Bainbridge College, ADN program desires to produce graduate nurses who reflect the diversity of the local community and are able to function in a global society.

The ADN faculty is committed to excellence and responsiveness to the healthcare needs of those locally and globally. We believe the ADN faculty are accountable for the educational process and are charged to prepare the novice professional nurse to competently and confidently function within a dynamic healthcare environment. We also believe that learning is a lifelong process and therefore, desire to foster a commitment to both institutional and self improvement.

Philosophical Definitions

Man (Client)

The faculty believes that individuals are a sum of intricate parts that consist of physical, emotional, cognitive, ethnic, cultural, spiritual, and creative elements that continually interact with the environment to meet physiological and psychosocial needs. Individuals are holistic in nature, having an inseparable body, mind and spirit possessing intrinsic worth and human dignity. Individuals are autonomous and therefore, capable of and responsible for making decisions. A client may be an individual, family or group.

Environment

An individual's environment consists of internal and external phenomena which affects their response to various degrees of health and wellness. The internal environment, consisting of physical, emotional, cognitive, ethnic, cultural and spiritual elements influence the individual's perception of health and the context of the experience. The external environment, including other individuals, families, groups, communities, circumstances and physical conditions surrounding the client can have a positive or negative effect regarding health and wellness, as a whole.

Health

Health is a dynamic state of functioning involving the integration of internal and external phenomena where wellness involves homeostasis of these phenomena and illness indicates an alteration.

Associate Degree Nursing Education

ADN education prepares the graduate to function in the roles of a registered nurse as outlined by the NLN (2000): provider of care, manager of care and member within the discipline of nursing. ADN education at BC prepares the graduate to provide evidence-based, holistic, client-centered nursing care to a diverse population in a variety of settings. Students develop competency and confidence in client assessment, clinical decision making skills and use of advanced technology. Knowledge of teaching and learning principles are acquired and integrated into all aspects of care. Caring behaviors are developed and role-modeled throughout the ADN program.

Associate degree nursing education at BC prepares students/graduates with the ability to organize care, delegate appropriate aspects of care, as well as communicate, collaborate, and coordinate client care with other healthcare providers. Associate degree nursing education at BC facilitates the students' personal sense of accountability and conscience by preparing the nurse to function in a legal and ethical framework within the profession. Recognizing political, economical and societal forces which influence the practice of nursing, graduates are equipped to assume responsibility for continuous quality improvement in the workplace, participate in public service through local, state and national organizations and develop their own personal and professional growth, including a commitment to lifelong learning.

Nursing Practice

Nursing practice today encompasses the following critical elements in client-centered care: (a) evidence-based interventions, (b) client safety (c) infection control (d) competent and quality care, (e) holistic practice and (f) cultural sensitivity. These elements are essential components of nursing practice in the ever changing health care environment.

Critical thinking skills, the ability to communicate and collaborate effectively in an interdisciplinary manner, and knowledge of informatics and fiscal accountability are essential characteristics of today's registered nurse. In addition, the qualities of confidence and conscience are desirable and valued nursing traits.

Professional Behavior

Professional nursing behavior and practice of the individual nurse are crucial to the provision of client-centered care and the advancement of nursing as a profession. A registered nurse must be competent in critical thinking and decision making abilities, possessing leadership and management skills and effectively delegating and supervising other health care providers. Through an interdisciplinary approach, the registered nurse partners with other healthcare workers to communicate and collaborate as a client advocate. The associate degree nursing student/ graduate employs legal and ethical nursing behaviors in the provision of client care protecting client's autonomy, dignity, privacy and confidentiality. Caring and culturally sensitive behaviors are also essential. The professional nurse demonstrates accountability for safe, quality nursing care by following standards of practice and by participating in life long learning and professional development.

Competence

Competence is the capability of providing safe and effective care utilizing learned knowledge, skills and abilities progressing from simple to complex.

Caring

Caring is an essential component of nursing that involves competent, nurturing and compassionate behaviors. Caring promotes an environment of trust and acceptance, where the client's beliefs, cultural values and life choices are respected. A caring nurse/client relationship fosters personal, social, moral and spiritual engagement for both the nurse and client alike.

Conscience

Conscience is concerned with a person's inner sense of right and wrong, moral goodness, justice and fairness. The ANA'S Code of Ethics for Nurses (2001) asserts those characteristics expected of professional nurses as follows: a) respect for human dignity, b) a primary commitment to the client c) promotion and advocacy for the client's rights concerning privacy, confidentiality and safety d) accountability and responsibility for nursing judgment and action, e) preservation of personal and

professional growth involving self-respect, maintenance of competence, character, and integrity and f) the ability to determine and implement acceptable standards of clinical nursing practice including developing evidence-based knowledge.

Commitment

The faculty believes commitment is fivefold: a) to the client, b) to the partnering or employing facility or organization, c) to nursing, d) to the public or society as a whole, and e) to self. Commitment involves pledging client advocacy, respect and caring as well as the provision of evidence-based, safe, quality, holistic, competent and accountable care. Communicating effectively and efficiently with others through oral, written, or electronic methods and maintaining policies and procedures according to the organization indicates commitment to the facilities utilized by the BC ADN program. The profession of nursing is enhanced when professional behaviors are demonstrated, including using evidence-based practice to uphold and improve the standards of care for clients. Public service, in the form of health screenings, participation in local health fairs, immunization clinics, activity days for children, booths for the American Cancer Society, Great American Smoke out and general participation in local, statewide and nationwide nursing organizations increases the scope of influence for the college, BC ADN program, nursing students and improves the knowledge and quality of life for those served. Commitment to self involves caring for oneself physically, emotionally and mentally; and striving to maintain academic knowledge and scholarship for lifelong learning.

Communication

Communication is a process where the nursing student/graduate professionally and effectively engages in verbal, nonverbal, written, and electronic exchange of information with clients, peers, faculty, and members of the interdisciplinary health care team.

Collaboration

Collaboration involves assuming an advocate role in coordinating client care with members of a multidisciplinary healthcare team in a variety of health care settings. The emphasis is on promoting positive client outcomes through a joint interdisciplinary partnership.

Assessment

Assessment is utilized as the initial step in the nursing process. The nursing process consists of five interlinking parts as follows: a) assessment, b) diagnosis, c) planning, d) implementation, and e) evaluation. Proficient assessment skills involve accurate appraisal of the client condition that encompasses all the domains of individual need to provide safe, competent, holistic care.

Clinical Decision Making

Clinical decision making requires utilization of the nursing process and synthesis of knowledge, allowing true analysis to take place. This crucial process also incorporates a solid base of critical thinking skills, prioritization proficiency, and utilization of evidence-based practice guidelines which result in safe, effective clinical decision making.

Teaching/ Learning

Teaching/learning involve assessing a client's perception of health and readiness to learn and the utilization of a variety of instructional strategies to promote learning. The nursing student/graduate performs assessment and selects appropriate teaching strategies for a client, group of clients, or assistive personnel, as learning needs are identified.

Provider and Manager of Care

The nursing student/graduate provides safe, quality, holistic, culturally sensitive and competent care while utilizing the nursing process to assess, prioritize, evaluate and delegate care in a wide variety of settings. As manager of care, the graduate will have the beginning knowledge and ability to manage resources efficiently, be flexible and adaptable to technological changes, collaborate with other healthcare providers, apply quality improvement measures, demonstrate advocacy and respect for clients and members of the healthcare team, and possess conscience and wisdom to seek assistance when and if needed.

TERMINAL LEARNING OUTCOMES

The graduates of the BC ADN program should be able to:

1. Provide and manage the care of clients utilizing the nursing process and supported by evidence-based practice resulting in safe and competent client care.
2. Incorporate caring interventions into all aspects of client care.
3. Demonstrate critical thinking and problem solving skills in the management and delegation of client care.
4. Integrate ethical and legal concepts in providing client care.
5. Display initiative for personal growth and commitment as a professional within the discipline of nursing.
6. Employ therapeutic communication skills with clients and other healthcare team members while effectively utilizing various forms of advanced technology in the healthcare setting.
7. Provide culturally sensitive care to a diverse population.
8. Collaborate with peers and other members of a multidisciplinary health care team to coordinate quality client care.
9. Apply principles of teaching/ learning to identify learning needs and promote appropriate teaching strategies among diverse populations.
10. Utilize proficient assessment skills to accurately appraise client condition to provide safe, competent, holistic care.