

## *CURRICULUM DOCUMENTS*

The curriculum provides the structure for the Nursing Program. It defines learning activities that will achieve the educational goals of the Program, developing you as the nurse. The curriculum determines the behaviors desired of the Sinclair Nursing graduate, develops experiences that will produce and nurture those behaviors, and discovers whether you have achieved the desired behaviors (assessment and evaluation). The curriculum is explained through the philosophy, conceptual framework, program objectives, and program overview (what is in each course). You will be aware of the concepts and beliefs of the curriculum in the design of the Learning Resource Packets, in every lecture/discussion, as you develop each nursing process tool, when providing care for your patients, in the way you think and talk.

The major concepts that create the Nursing Program's curriculum are the theories of human response and caring. These are directed by the use of nursing process, critical thinking, health promotion/disease prevention, and roles of the ADN.

### *Philosophy*

A philosophy is a statement of beliefs. A philosophy for a nursing program states the beliefs of the Nursing Faculty about nursing and nursing education. It is a guide that gives the curriculum direction. To be part of the Nursing Program at Sinclair, faculty and you, as the student, must accept this philosophy. **Read** our philosophy statement. Find eleven beliefs/concepts that produce our view of nursing: human beings, health, nursing, caring, nursing process, Associate Degree Nursing, roles of the ADN, nursing education, nurse educator, learning, assessment.

### *Conceptual Framework*

The conceptual framework provides the map for implementing or operationalizing the philosophy. It furnishes specifications, guidelines, values, and consistency for each learning experience. **Read** Sinclair's Nursing Program's conceptual framework to see how the philosophy is implemented. Look for the following and identify how they are all interrelated.

Human beings – human responses organized into nine response patterns, Maslow's hierarchy of human needs, Erikson's stages of development.

Health – balance, stressors.

Nursing – ANA definition, health promotion and disease prevention (HPDP) through levels of preventive care, health care continuum.

Nurse – critical thinking, nursing process, diagnostic reasoning, collaboration, roles of the ADN.

Caring – universal human values.

The **Model** of the Conceptual Framework is a visual representation of these concepts throughout the Program. Human Response and Caring on the vertical lines are used to build content while Human Response Patterns, Critical Thinking, Nursing Process, Health Promotion & Disease Prevention, on the horizontal lines, focus the use of the content. Examine the Model for a quick overview of the theories/concepts you will use throughout the Nursing Program.

The **implementation** of the conceptual framework is a **flow chart** that takes the individual through a stressor and into the health care system for care by the nurse. Use the chart and follow the individual through the health care system.

### *Program Outcomes*

The Program Outcomes identify what you should be able to do as an entry level graduate from the Nursing Program. These outcomes are reached by meeting the objectives of each of the three levels in the curriculum, the objectives of each course, and of each unit in the courses. You will be reminded of course and level outcomes in the Learning Resource Packet (syllabus) of each of your nursing courses.

### *Program Overview*

The content map is an overview of each nursing course in the Program at Sinclair. The Program of Study lists the courses required to complete the Nursing Program. The courses must be taken in sequence so, for example, every course in quarters 1, 2, and 3 must be successfully completed (or credit transferred) before entering quarter 4.

The course content and skills document identifies what is taught in each nursing course. **Find** the course you are entering on the Program of Study sheet. **Review** the content and skills in all of the courses prior to yours. You will be expected to know and be able to apply this material. Did you learn the content in your original program? If not, discuss your needs with the Chairperson of Nursing. Did you learn the skills for the courses before yours? If not, use the NSG 123 Skills CD and LRP (discussed in the Core Courses Section of this orientation) to identify the steps of the procedure and to watch a demonstration of the skill. Make an appointment with the Skills Lab Supervisor to practice the skills.