

Resolution # 7 1991-92

TO: President John E. Van de Wetering

FROM: The Faculty Senate Meeting on 3-2-92
(Date)

RE: X I. Formal Resolution (Act of Determination)
II. Recommendation (Urging the fitness of)
III. Other (Notice, Request, Report, etc.)
For your information

SUBJECT: Changes in Prerequisite for Nursing



Signed Edward Flau Drayer Date Sent 3-10-92
(For the Senate)

TO: The Faculty Senate

FROM: President John E. Van de Wetering

RE: I. Decision and Action Taken on Formal Resolution

- a. Accepted. Effective Date 3/11/92
- b. Deferred for discussion with the Faculty Senate on _____
- c. Unacceptable for the reasons contained in the attached explanation

II, III.

- a. Received and acknowledged
- b. Comment:

DISTRIBUTION: Cover page to attached Res -
Call Faculty Senate for attachments

Distribution Date 3/11/92 Signed: [Signature]
(President of the College)

CHANGES IN PREREQUISITES FOR NURSING MAJOR

In preparation for Middle States and National League for Nursing accreditation, as well as participation in college-wide assessment, the Department of Nursing has been undergoing a process of curriculum analysis. As a part of this process, we examined our list of prerequisites which was established eight years ago. After careful consideration and in conjunction with the adaptation of the Newman Systems Model as our curriculum's theoretical framework, we have made changes in our prerequisites which will become effective September 1, 1992 with the incoming freshman class.

<u>Current Prerequisites</u>	credits	<u>Revised Prerequisites</u>	credits
Anatomy & Physiology I & II	6-8	Anatomy & Physiology I & II	6-8
Microbiology	4	Microbiology	4
Chemistry (Inorganic & Organic/Biochem)	5-8	Chemistry (Inorganic with lab)	4
Nutrition	3	Nutrition	3
Statistics	3	Statistics	3
Psychology	3	Psychology	3
Sociology	3	Sociology	3
Social Science elective	3	Research	3
		Wholistic Developmental	
		Health Assessment (PRO 204)	3
		Nursing: A Systems Approach (NUR 232)	2

Co-requisite:

A co-requisite course in ethics will be required before graduation.

Rationale for Prerequisite Change:

Nursing - Nursing: A Systems Approach, (NUR 232), and Wholistic Developmental Health Assessment, (PRO 204), previously offered in the junior year (as NUR 332 and NUR 304) have been moved to prerequisite level. Moving these courses to the prerequisite level would permit the immediate application of this knowledge by both theory and clinical courses at the beginning of the Junior year in the major. It is felt this change will also serve as a tool for recruitment and retention.

Both courses address the spiritual, developmental, physiological, cultural and psychological variables which are identified by the theoretical model and serve as a foundation for the entire nursing curriculum.

NUR 304 has been redesignated PRO 204 since the course content is applicable to several disciplines in the School of Professions.

Research - Nursing Research (NUR 312) has been a required component of the major, carrying one credit, and application of research theory was integrated in subsequent courses in the curriculum. Greater emphasis on the theoretical foundations of research is needed since research is fundamental to the improvement of nursing knowledge and practice. In addition, graduate programs have looked askance at a mere one credit research course in a baccalaureate nursing program. The Sociology Department has indicated strong support for our requiring research as a prerequisite for the nursing major.

Ethics - A course in ethics has been added as a co-requisite, required before graduation. Ethical behavior is sine qua non in graduates of our program. However, the burgeoning of ethical dilemmas facing nursing professionals (eg. abortion, invitro fertilization, genetic engineering, discontinuing life support, euthanasia) demands that our students know the underlying principles for forming ethical judgments and decision making. The Philosophy Department provides ethics courses which will satisfy this requirement and is supportive of this change.

Chemistry - A course in biochemistry will no longer be required. After considerable analysis we reaffirmed the need for our students to continue to have a course in inorganic chemistry as a foundation for subsequent application in our curriculum. The nursing faculty have

spent innumerable hours examining the educational needs of our students in preparation for professional practice. The decision to restrict the amount of chemistry in preparation for the major was not lightly arrived at. Inorganic chemistry is essential to the student's preparation as a foundation for subsequent application in the curriculum and students can take biochemistry as an elective if they have a personal interest in that discipline.

In examining other nursing curricula, some associate degree programs require a semester of inorganic chemistry. Baccalaureate programs range from requiring no chemistry, requiring x number of credits in the natural sciences, requiring one 4-5 credit chemistry, and requiring two chemistry courses. We have decided on one course in inorganic chemistry as prerequisite to the major. Additionally, the National League for Nursing, the accrediting body of baccalaureate nursing programs, has no criterion relative to inclusion of chemistry in the curriculum.

Social Science - We have eliminated the elective of a social science course because of the addition of ethics and research to our prerequisites. Our belief that nursing science is based upon a foundation of the natural and social sciences remains unchanged, and the proposed revisions are a further refinement of the balance needed for that foundation.

CHANGES IN THE NURSING MAJOR

NUR 424 and NUR 426 have been eliminated from the curriculum and their content has been incorporated into other nursing courses. A new course, NUR 466, has been designed and responds to the increased acuity level of the in-patient pediatric and high risk maternity client. Because of the expectation that baccalaureate graduates in nursing be ready to assume leadership roles, and an accreditation criterion dealing specifically with management, the separate NUR 452 course in management has been developed.

Most clinical nursing courses, NUR 430, 432, 460, 462, 464 and 466 will carry six credits instead of five. NUR 331 has similarly undergone an increase of one credit. Currently these courses carry a ratio of three clinical hours to one credit hour. However, these courses all require substantial preparation by the students, justifying the ratio of two clinical hours to one credit hour (see Faculty Handbook, 460-5, 2).

In order to prevent confusion in future record keeping, the following courses will undergo both number and title changes:

1. NUR 334, Stress & Client Response I, will become NUR 336, The Childbearing Family and Women's Health.
2. NUR 420, Stress & Client Response II, will become NUR 430, Client System Response I.
3. NUR 422, Stress & Client Response III, will become NUR 432, Client System Response II

Resource Implications - Relative to proposed revisions in the major, no new resources will be needed to implement these revisions.

CHANGES OF THE COURSES IN THE NURSING MAJOR

<u>Current</u>			<u>Proposed</u>		
Disc	Title	Credit	Disc	Title	Credit
<u>Junior Year</u>					
NUR 312	Research	1			
NUR 321	Introduction to Pharmacology	2	NUR 321	Introduction to Pharmacology	2
NUR 328	Medication Administration & Technique	1	NUR 328	Medication Administration & Technique	1
NUR 330	Foundations for Professional Practice for Nursing	3	NUR 330	Foundations for Professional Practice for Nursing	3
NUR 331	Physical Assessment	1	NUR 331	Physical Assessment	2
NUR 332	Concepts of Health and Client Response	2			
NUR 334	Stress & Client Response I	4	NUR 336	The Childbearing Family & Women's Health	4
NUR 420	Stress & Client Response II	5	NUR 430	Client System Response I	6
NUR 422	Stress & Client Response III	5	NUR 432	Client System Response II	6
<u>Senior Year</u>					
NUR 424	Stress & Client Response IV	5	NUR 466	Maternal/Child Nursing	6
NUR 426	Stress & Client Response in Childbearing	1			
NUR 450	Issues & Trends Affecting Health Care	2	NUR 450	Issues & Trends Affecting Health Care	2
NUR 460	Complex Interpersonal Processes in Mental Health Nursing	5	NUR 460	Complex Interpersonal Processes in Mental Health Nursing	6
NUR 462	Management & Leadership in Critical Care Nursing	5	NUR 462	Critical Care Nursing	6
NUR 464	Community Health Nursing	5	NUR 464	Community Health Nursing	6
			NUR 452	Management and Leadership	2
Total Hours in major		47	Total hours		52

Appendix:**Course Descriptions**

PRO 204 (A) Wholistic Developmental Health Assessment. Investigates the physiological, psychological, sociocultural, spiritual and developmental influences on the client. Emphasizes the use of multi-disciplinary tools in assessing clients along the age continuum. Examines environmental forces that influence developmental outcome. Investigates variables which will promote the optimal stability for each of eight stages of life. Examines normal lines of defense for each stage to retain the greatest internal resistance.

NUR 232 (A) Concepts of Health and Client System Response for Nursing. Explores the major components of a wholistic approach to wellness and variance from wellness. Examines the protective systems used in response to stressors. Focuses on health maintenance and illness prevention. Examines the professional role and legal issues in nursing.

NUR 321 (A) Introduction to Pharmacology. Prerequisite: Level one courses or instructor's permission. Presents drugs used therapeutically and their mechanisms of actions. Emphasizes classes of drugs, the most important representatives of the classes and how they are used to promote client stability. Considers important side effects and drug interactions relevant to the role of the nurse in client care.

NUR 328 (B) Medication Administration and Techniques. Prerequisite: Admission to the Nursing major. Open to pre-nursing sophomores with faculty permission only. A guided learning experience designed to develop the skills necessary for safe administration of medications. Laboratory component provides opportunity for practicing techniques of actual medication administration under faculty supervision.

NUR 330 (B) Foundations for Professional Practice in Nursing. Presents both the skills and theoretical basis for professional practice in nursing with an emphasis on a systems approach. Introduces the components and use of the nursing process, basic nursing techniques and principles of communication. Opportunity for implementation in the laboratory and clinical setting.

NUR 331 (B) Physical Assessment. Applies knowledge from the liberal arts and sciences in assessing the client. Includes history taking and systematic assessment of the person. Examination skills and techniques are taught and practiced in a laboratory setting.

NUR 336 (B) The Childbearing Family and Women's Health. Examines the response of clients to stressors experienced during the childbearing process as well as stressors experienced by women as a result of gynecological function and dysfunction. Utilizes the nursing process to promote optimal client stability. Opportunity for implementation in the clinical setting.

NUR 430 (B) Client System Response I. Prerequisite: Level one courses. Examines the stressors experienced by clients in the following systems: cardiovascular, oncology, hematological, musculoskeletal, and

respiratory. Utilizes the nursing process to strengthen clients' lines of defense in promoting optimal client stability. Opportunity for implementation in the clinical setting.

NUR 432 (B) Client System Response II. Prerequisite: Level one courses. Examines the stressors experienced by clients with emphasis on selected urological, gastro-enterological, endocrine and neurological dysfunction. Utilizes the nursing process to strengthen clients' lines of defense in promoting optimal client stability. Opportunity for implementation in the clinical setting.

NUR 466 (B) Maternal/Child Nursing. Examines the multiple stressors in the critically and chronically ill child and their effects on the child, family and community. Examines the multiple stressors of complications experienced during pregnancy and childbearing. Utilizes the nursing process to promote optimal stability. Provides an opportunity for implementation in the clinical setting.

NUR 450 (A) Issues and Trends Affecting Health Care. Prerequisite: Level one and two courses or instructor's permission. Explores controversial topics of concern to the delivery of health care. Examines social, historical and professional trends affecting nursing practice and education. Poses hypothetical solutions to simulated problems facing new and experienced health care professionals.

NUR 460 (B) Complex Interpersonal Processes in Mental Health Nursing. Prerequisites: Level one and two courses. Examines the use of the nursing process in situations that require complex interpersonal skills. Focuses on the use of these skills in promoting the ability of clients to respond to stressors. Includes the provision of primary, secondary and tertiary interventions with clients who are experiencing violence, sexual dysfunction, crisis, and the major mental illnesses. Opportunity is provided for clinical implementation.

NUR 462 (B) Critical Care Nursing. Implements secondary and tertiary preventions for the critically ill client. Topics include health problems seen in emergency departments and intensive care units to burn centers and trauma units. Opportunity is provided for clinical implementation.

NUR 464 (B) Community Health Nursing. Examines the provision of primary, secondary and tertiary preventions within the home health care and public health domain. Utilizes the nursing process to promote optimal client stability. Opportunity is provided for clinical implementation.

NUR 452 (A) Management and Leadership. Prerequisite: Level one and two courses or instructor's permission. Examines theories of management, organization, change and motivation. Addresses techniques for effective leadership, communication, conflict resolution, quality assurance and decision making.