

## **RETENTION AND PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS**

### **Grading Scale and Exams**

Nursing courses utilize the following grading scale:

A = 90 - 100

B = 80 - 89

C = 74 - 79

D = 65 – 73

F = 64 and Below

Exam analysis is performed on all theory-based exams. Exam scores are determined by the results of the analysis. No exam can be retaken to improve a score.

Nursing courses may include a comprehensive final exam of all essential nursing theory and clinical content appropriate to determine student achievement of course competencies. Final exams are not available for review.

Students must earn a 74% exam average on theory course unit exams in order to be permitted to take the final exam. Students who fail to achieve a 74% exam average prior to the final exam will be withdrawn from nursing courses and will be considered out-of-sequence in the nursing program.

### **Retention Requirements**

Students must:

1. Achieve an average score of 74% or above in theory and practicum courses as listed in the syllabus.
2. Complete all course requirements as described in the course syllabus, which may include remediation for failed exams or skills lab deficiencies.
3. Earn a grade of "C" or above in each nursing and core course (Biology or Chemistry; Human Anatomy & Physiology; Microbiology; Psychology; Sociology or Social Problems). **Core courses may be repeated only one time.**
4. A student may be dismissed from the program and receive a failing grade in the course based on the inability to place the student in a clinical facility.

### **Dosage Calculation Competency**

Student competency in administering medications safely is assessed regularly. Dosage calculation exams are must be passed at the level specified in the course policies. Students who are unsuccessful in passing the dosage calculation exam will be required to complete remediation and reattempt prior to clinical practice. Students will receive no more than three dosage calculation attempts.

Failure to demonstrate competency will result in inability to participate in clinical experiences, inability to demonstrate achievement of learning outcomes, and failure of the course. Therefore, students who fail to demonstrate competency within the allotted attempts and timeframe will be administratively withdrawn from all nursing courses, unable to progress in the nursing program, and considered out-of-sequence.

## **Progression Requirements**

Following admission, failure to earn a C or better in each nursing or core course and to maintain both a cumulative and a semester GPA of 2.0 in all other courses will be cause for a review of the student's status in the program. Nursing courses must be taken in sequence according to the degree sheet.

A student must earn a C in theory, practicum, and seminar courses before progressing in the established sequence. If a student fails either nursing theory or practicum courses, both courses must be repeated. These courses are designed to be taken concurrently.

Students who fail to meet progression requirements will be considered out-of-sequence and must submit a request to continue to the Nursing Chair. The request to continue should include a detailed explanation of the circumstances contributing to the student's failure to progress and a plan for success with specific strategies to address areas for improvement.

Requests to continue will be reviewed by the faculty and a decision made to approve or deny considering the student's ability to achieve at the level of re-entry and the capacity of the program to accommodate additional students at that level. All requests to continue are on a space available basis. Students may be required to demonstrate competency through examination or skills demonstration. College retention GPA may be used to determine eligibility if needed.

**All students must complete the nursing program within 200% of the total program length, depending on point of entry (8 semesters from Fundamentals of Nursing).** If this requirement is not met, the student has the option of reapplying for admission and repeating the program in its entirety. Students must meet admission requirements in effect at the time of reapplication/readmission.

## **Continuation**

Students who fail to meet progression requirements will be considered out-of-sequence and must submit a request to continue to the Nursing Chair. The request to continue should include a detailed explanation of the circumstances contributing to the student's failure to progress and a plan for success with specific strategies to address areas for improvement.

Requests to continue will be reviewed by the faculty and a decision made to approve or deny considering the student's ability to achieve at the level of re-entry and the capacity of the program to accommodate additional students at that level. All requests to continue are on a space available basis. Students must meet admission requirements in effect at the time of reapplication/ readmission. Students may be required to demonstrate competency through examination or skills demonstration. College retention GPA may be used to determine eligibility if needed.

**All students must complete the nursing program within 200% of the total program length, depending on point of entry (8 semesters from entry into Fundamentals of Nursing).** If this requirement is not met, the student has the option of reapplying for admission and repeating the program in its entirety

