

Sample Study Plan for Emergency Health							
January Semester	Credits	Summer Semester I	Credits	Summer II	Credits	Summer III	Credits
Biology	3	EHP2	2	Chemistry	3	Islamic Culture	3
Biology Lab	1	BHS2	2	Chemistry Lab	1	Biostatistics	3
BHS1	2	Human Biology	3	Physics	3		
Psychology	3	Human Biology Lab	1	Physics Lab	1		
EHP1	2						
Mathematics	3						
Total Credits	14		8		8		6

NURSING PROGRAM

Nursing Program - Preregistration

This is a full time 4 year program (Common Year + 3 years of study) that leads to the award of Bachelor of Science in Nursing. The program comprises theoretical and clinical courses in addition to clinical placements within a variety of health care settings. A total of 124 credit hours are required to complete this degree including the Common Year (GRU) credits.

In general the nursing degree has main areas of study including:

- Medical and Surgical Nursing (adult)
- Maternity and Child Nursing
- Mental Health Nursing
- Community Nursing (adult)
- Aged Care Nursing

In addition, during the second, third and fourth years of the program, students undertake clinical practicum where they spend specified time in hospitals where they practice their theoretical knowledge about diseases and their nursing management of these diseases.

Nursing Bridging (Top-up) Program - UAE

This program is available for nurses who hold a Diploma in Nursing. This “Bridging” program is offered in full-time (2 years) or part-time (4 years). Students have to obtain the equivalency for their diploma degrees from Ministry of Higher Education in UAE prior to getting acceptance into this program. Total number of credit hours for the Bridging program is 62.

FCHS—Morocco BSN Bridging (Top-up) Program

This program is available for nurses who hold a Diploma in Nursing, have Morocco citizenship and experience working in the field. This “Bridging” program is offered in full-time (2 years). Total number of credit hours for the Bridging program is 62. It is the same coursework and study plan as the FCHS-UAE Nursing Bridging Program (Post Registration).

Learning Outcomes and Alignment with UAE Qualifications Framework

The Nursing program prepares students to practice as a nurse in accordance with the Qualifications Framework Emirates (QFE) (2012) and HAAD Professional Qualification Requirements. The goals and outcomes are consistent with a Level 7 Bachelor qualification awarded as defined in the Qualifications Framework Emirates (QFE) (2012). The Bachelor of Nursing outcomes are also aligned with level 7 of the Australian Qualifications Framework which is equivalent to level 7 of the QF Emirates Framework (NQA).

NURSING PROGRAM COURSE DESCRIPTION

All of the courses have been organized to include a focus on cognitive and metacognitive knowledge, skills and attributes to be developed and learned either explicitly in lectures, tutorials or clinical work, or implicitly through role modelling, discussion, readings and clinical experiences.

Second Year of BSc Nursing (after Common Year—GRU Program) Foundations for safe and effective nursing

In the first year, students will learn the language and experience of nursing. The clinical focus is on health assessment, effective communication, patient safety and teamwork. In this way, students are introduced to the complexity that is nursing and focus on the whole partnership of the nurse-client relationship rather than aspects, or techniques.

Second Year - First Semester

NRS1131 Foundations of Psychosocial Care

Pre-requisites: Nil

Co-requisites: Nil

This course introduces students to psychosocial concepts and principles that underpin human behavior facilitating understanding about ways in which people engage in health and illness. Students require general knowledge of lifespan development and a more specific understanding of risk and resiliency factors influencing psychosocial wellbeing and impacting upon health and human development. This course will provide students with knowledge and skills necessary to respond to these factors by examining frameworks through which resilience may be promoted with vulnerable individuals and groups. How individuals and communities experience and adapt to health transitions in order to facilitate health and wellbeing is explored.

NRS1101 Anatomy and Physiology 1

Pre-requisites: Nil

Co-requisites: Nil

This course focuses on the anatomy and physiology of the human body. Students explore both the structure and function of the normal human body. Emphasis is on the development of both knowledge and understanding of a broad range of core concepts such as anatomical organization along with chemical and physical processes and homeostatic maintenance.

The course will emphasize the relevance of such knowledge to the maintenance of health of the human body. The ways the body changes across the lifespan will also be explored. Students will be assisted to develop competence in the application of this knowledge within the scope of nursing practice.

This can be gained by taking an integrated and exploratory approach to the teaching of core concepts. This strategy seeks to facilitate the ability of students to transfer, assimilate and utilize knowledge gained in this course to other courses within their program. *Students will be expected to utilize their reading* to extend their depth of understanding, participate in laboratory activities and demonstrate ability to utilize resources in the exploration of course content.

NRS1301 Clinical Health Assessment

Pre-requisites: Nil

Co-requisites: Nil

This course is designed to develop students' knowledge and clinical skills to enable them to perform a comprehensive health assessment and to develop skills in safe and effective clinical decision-making. Using a system approach will help students to develop an understanding of the core concepts that underpin a health assessment.

The student will learn to use these assessment findings to develop, implement and evaluate plans of care for individuals and families from a range of cultural backgrounds. Ultimately, this course enables students to acquire the skills, knowledge and attitude that are necessary to deliver competent, safe, quality care to individuals experiencing an altered health status. Students will undertake one week of clinical practice that will focus on an individual and family assessment.

Second Year - Second Semester

NRS1152 Medications and Safe Administration

Pre-requisites: Nil

Co-requisites: Nil

This course focuses on the safety and quality of care related to the clinical application of pharmacology and the administration of medications. Students will be provided with information regarding the principles of drug action in the body in order to provide an understanding of the rational use of drugs in prevention and treatment of disease. Emphasis will be placed on the mechanism (s) of action, physiological effects, clinical uses, pharmacokinetics and adverse effects of the most important drug (s) in each pharmacological class covered. A key component of this course is the safe administration of medications

NRS1112 Anatomy and Physiology 2

Pre-requisites: NRS 1101

Co-requisites: Nil

This course is the second in the NRS program that focuses on the anatomy and physiology of the human body. The course builds on the knowledge gained in Anatomy and Physiology 1. Students explore both the structure and function of the normal human body and the relevance of such knowledge to the maintenance of human health.

Changes to the body across the lifespan are explored. Core concepts are taught using an integrated and exploratory approach to facilitate the ability of students to transfer, assimilate and utilize knowledge gained in this course to other courses within their program, and to apply what they have learnt to nursing practice. Students will be expected to utilise their reading to extend their depth of understanding, participate in laboratory and workshop activities and demonstrate an ability to utilize resources in the exploration of course content.

This course addresses the generic skills of the Fatima College of Health Sciences - Nursing School Graduate by enhancing the student's ability to work autonomously and in teams, communicate effectively, problem solve and make critical evaluations as well as develop professional responsibility.

1312NRS Nursing Practices

Pre-requisites: NRS 1101 Anatomy and Physiology 1 NRS1301 Clinical Health Assessment.

Co-requisites: NRS1152 Medication and Safe Administration

In this course students will be introduced to key concepts that underpin the role of a nurse. Client and family focused nursing care that is organized for safety and quality is a fundamental component of this course. Students will identify the need for nursing practice to be pro-active, responsive and therapeutic. Ethical, reflexive thinking is developed as an integral skill in nursing and provides the framework for practice development.

Valuing the individual's perceptions and understandings of their health situation, and assessing and responding to the needs of vulnerable individuals and groups, is encouraged to promote optimal health and wellbeing. Three weeks of clinical practice offers the opportunity to develop and demonstrate competence in the clinical settings congruent with a second year student level.

Second Year - Third Semester
NRS1121 Effective Communication
Pre-requisites: Nil
Co-requisites: Nil

Effective Communication in Nursing is a core course within the Bachelor of Nursing. It covers the background principles of communication and assessment, provides experiential learning opportunities and forms a basis on which to build good nursing practices.

The knowledge gained from engagement with this course underpins all later courses in the undergraduate nursing program. This course focuses on the communication skills that students require in order to therapeutically engage with patients and effectively collaborate with peers and other health professionals. During this course students will explore models and styles of communication and nursing discourses. Students also engage in numerous practical exercises.

These exercises are designed to build verbal and written communication skills for nursing practice. In this course there is an emphasis on understanding and applying core concepts such as communication processes, active listening, assertion, empathy, ethics, engagement, interviewing and facilitative dialogue. More specifically, the student will be introduced to therapeutic communication skills such as reflection of content and feeling, probing, clarifying and appropriate self-disclosure.

The content and process of history taking, as a component of nursing assessment, will also be addressed.

NRS1142 Understanding Research in Practice
Pre-requisites: Nil
Co-requisites: Nil

Evidence-based practice (EBP) is fundamental to contemporary healthcare worldwide. Consequently, the practice of clinicians is informed by research. This course aims to provide students with a foundation that will enable them to locate, evaluate and understand how evidence may be applicable to practice.

The course begins by looking at what evidence is and where it can be found. From here it develops student's understanding of how evidence is evaluated; how health professionals decide on the credibility of evidence and how it can or should be used to inform practice.

Finally, the focus moves to address the linkages between research, evidence and practice in detail.

Third Year of BSc Nursing
Client focused nursing care

In the second year, students will focus on developing technical and practical knowledge, skills and attributes of nursing.

The clinical focus is on clinical decision making for clients with a range of chronic and acute conditions. In this way, students are given opportunity to develop and learn critical aspects of nursing responses so that they meet industry demand and achieve competence. Throughout all clinical courses the core concepts of pathophysiology, medical management, nursing clinical decision-making, pain/comfort management, infection control, grieving and loss, pharmacological interventions, communications and documentation will feature.

Third Year - First Semester

2321NRS Nursing Clients with Medical-Surgical Conditions

Pre-requisites: NRS1112; NRS1152 and NRS1312

Co-requisites: Nil

This course offers students the opportunity to develop knowledge regarding caring for individuals who may have a range of medical-surgical health needs. Principles of pathophysiology, pharmacology, medical/surgical treatment and evidence based nursing practice are integrated to give context to the nursing management of adult clients experiencing medical and surgical conditions. The course includes developing a further understanding of the complex interactions and reactions of the body in response to disease, injury, infection and pain.

The application of this knowledge to pain relief and comfort, wound management and communicating client care across a range of health disciplines is examined. The knowledge and skills related to fundamental nursing practices are consolidated and extended.

These concepts are client-focused, evidence based and designed to give students the skills to deliver safe, high quality care to individuals with medical-surgical health needs. This course also highlights the bio-psychosocial and spiritual impact of illness, disease or trauma on individuals, their family and society. Three weeks of clinical practice offers the opportunity to develop and demonstrate competence in clinical settings congruent with a third year student level.

2351NRS Child and Family Nursing 1

Pre-requisites: 1152, 1112 and 1312

Co-requisites: Nil

Child and Family Nursing I course is designed to enable undergraduate nursing students to gain competency relating to the concepts, principles and nursing care of child bearing women and maternity clients in the UAE. This course builds on core nursing knowledge developed in the first year of the nursing program including communication, health assessment, anatomy and physiology, human development, medication and safe administration and nursing practices.

It complements the student's learning in the development of nursing practice knowledge and skills in child bearing and maternity settings. This knowledge is applied specifically to the needs of women during her antepartum, intra and post-partum period.

The course helps students to acquire knowledge and skills and demonstrate competency in rendering nursing care to women experiencing a normal pregnancy in hospitals. Students develop competency in managing normal neonates and participate in family welfare programs of UAE. It further aids in applying the nursing process to assess, plan and implement the quality care for women during their reproductive cycle and increases their competence in clinical assessment and problem solving techniques.

The course also provides focus on the development of an effective nursing/maternal partnership to support optimal physical, emotional, social and ethical care of women and their family in the areas of reproductive health, safe child-bearing and effective nursing partnership with the childbearing women and families.

Third Year - Second Semester

NRS2332 Nursing Clients with Chronic Conditions: Prevention and Management

Pre-requisites: NRS2321

Co-requisites: Nil

This course aims to provide students with the underpinning knowledge to assess, plan and deliver safe and quality care to individuals with chronic conditions. Students will gain an understanding of the complex nature of chronic conditions including pharmacological and non-pharmacological approaches as well as orthodox and alternate/complementary therapies.

In addition, the focus of prevention is based on the wellness approach and health promotion that incorporates the individual, family and the community that acknowledges a variety of contexts and cultural groups. 2 weeks of clinical practice offers the opportunity to develop and demonstrate competence in clinical settings congruent with a second year student level.

NRS2362 Child and Family Nursing 2

Pre-requisites: NRS2321 Nursing Clients with Medical-Surgical Conditions

Co-requisites: Nil

This course builds on knowledge developed in the first year of the program including health promotion, communication, health assessment, anatomy and physiology, human development and nursing practices. It complements the students' learning in research principles and develops their nursing practice knowledge and skills.

This knowledge is applied specifically to the needs of children and their families. This course will highlight the importance of developing skills in working with infants, children, young people and families in a variety of health care settings within a multidisciplinary team environment.

Third Year - Third Semester

NRS2201 Health Law and Ethics

Pre-requisites: Nil

Co-requisites: Nil

The course focuses on the UAE and those legal processes and actions which impact on the provision of health care services by health professionals and institutions. The content is directed to the legal principles and legislative provisions which underpin day-to-day work and control safe and competent practice. Health professionals are often confronted with a multitude of ethically challenging situations and decisions that must be made within the boundaries of the law.

The course introduces students to the philosophical theories underpinning the decision making processes in an ethical context. Students are provided with the opportunity to develop knowledge and skills needed to analyze and apply legal and ethical knowledge to their practice

NRS3211 Transitions to Practice

Pre-requisites: Nil

Co-requisites: Nil

This course prepares the student to make a successful transition from student to a graduate Registered Nurse entering the workplace environment. Transition to the professional workforce is a significant theme as is the awareness of the global nature of nursing. The key concepts of how health care systems are funded, operated and evaluated will be explored. Students are encouraged to contemplate their future professional contributions in areas such as clinical practice, administration, education, research, change and management of their career.

Fourth Year of BSc Nursing

Delivering and coordinating high quality care

In this year, students will focus on developing advanced clinical decision making skills and the capacity to delegate to, supervise and educate more junior team members.

Fourth Year - First Semester

NRS3371 Aged Care Nursing

Pre-requisites: NRS2332

Co-requisites: NRS2342

This course provides the theoretical and practical application of nursing needed for working with older adults. Personal beliefs and attitudes will be explored in relation to how they potentially impact upon one's behavior as a practitioner. Both an ageing UAE population and increased client acuity requires a sound knowledge base in these core nursing areas. Healthy and normal ageing will provide an introduction to caring for older adults experiencing a variety of common illness states that span the health continuum from acute and critical illness to chronic illness and end-of-life issues.

Adaptive coping will be explored to enhance students' understanding of a range of strategies employed by older adults and their families during altered health states and situations. Individual empowerment in the full range of clinical situations will be emphasized.

Two weeks of clinical practice offers the opportunity to develop and demonstrate competence in the clinical settings congruent with a third year student level.

NRS3381 Community Nursing

Pre-requisites: NRS2332

Co-requisites: NRS2342

This course provides important insights into nursing and health in the community context. The aim of this course is to introduce students to conceptual knowledge and nursing practice skills required to work with individuals, families and populations in a community setting.

A particular focus is working with those from diverse groups, vulnerable populations and those who are at risk. Core concepts include community, the community as a client, social determinants of health, primary health care, health promotion, comparative views of public health, vulnerability and those who are at risk in the community, cultural safety, community development, empowerment and community practice.

This course includes clinical placement in a community setting

NRS2342 Mental Health Nursing

Pre-requisites: NRS2321

Co-requisites: Nil

This course provides the opportunity for students to increase their understanding of mental health and mental illness and to integrate and apply relevant theoretical and clinical knowledge. Mental health in the United Arab Emirates, cultural contexts, concepts of client, and treatment settings are examined using mental health nursing frameworks.

Utilizing both tutorial seminars and clinical practice, students apply theoretical understandings and evidence to practice, considering various clinical settings.

Fourth Year - Second Semester

NRS3222 Leadership and Management Concepts for Health Professionals

Pre-requisites: Nil

Co-requisites: Nil

The course focuses on leadership and management within the UAE healthcare systems. Students will explore the social forces within Emirati healthcare systems, management theories, leadership theories, and the impact of these forces on the roles of those who are part of the system. Emphasis is on understanding and critiquing core concepts such as organizational structure and culture, organizational change, and conflict resolution. Students will be introduced to human resource management skills such as interviewing techniques, job analysis, and performance appraisal.

The course is designed to increase students' academic and professional skills in the application of theoretical concepts to practice situations and enable a deepening of their ability to be analytical and undertake critical evaluation. It aims to broaden the student's communication skills with the aim of improving their professional effectiveness and ability to work as members of healthcare teams.

NRS3392 Advanced Clinical Decision Making in Nursing.

Pre-requisites: NRS 3211 Transitions to Practice; NRS3371 Aged Care and

NRS3362 Child and Family 2.

Co-requisites: Nil

Advanced decision making skills underpin all critical events that threaten the coping strategies of the client and may result in severe consequences unless an immediate intervention occurs to rectify this event. With the changing health care environment, it is paramount that the beginning Registered Nurse is able to apply the processes that underpin quality care.

The dimensions of quality in health care include safety, effectiveness, appropriateness, efficiency, and access. This capstone course draws together theoretical and clinical concepts related to legal and ethical responsibilities, quality and safety measures and decision-making based on knowledge and evidence, in the direct care of individuals and families.

The course enables the development of critical thinking and analysis through evidence-based practice. The student will integrate previously acquired knowledge and skills in assessment, decision-making and team communication to enable the delivery of safe and effective care to individuals and their families, in a variety of settings. This course facilitates students' overall achievement of program learning outcomes and includes eight weeks of clinical placement.

This final semester course aims to prepare the Bachelor of Nursing student for successful transition from graduate to a beginner Registered Nurse, entering the workplace environment and preparation of Licensure Examination. It provides the review of concepts required of the licensure examination of the UAE (HAAD) examination and entry into the practice of professional nursing.

Transition to the professional workforce is a significant theme as is awareness of the global nature of nursing.

Fourth Year - Third Semester

NRS4232 Cultural Nursing and Health in the UAE

Pre-requisites: Nil

Co-requisites: Nil

This course offers both an overview of the history of health in the UAE and an introduction to the UAE people's health today. The course will explore concepts centered on cultural safety and competence while fostering an understanding of UAE people's culture, health traditions and determinants of health.

The course is designed to give students a deeper understanding of how health is defined in the UAE and what historical, political and socioeconomic factors currently influence health outcomes and pose a significant challenge in providing an individualized and holistic care. The course is also one of self-discovery for the students, assisting them in reflection that will increase their awareness of their own ability to provide culturally safe and competent care.

In order to provide excellence in care, this course focuses on where health has been in the UAE and where it is headed in the future. This course will increase knowledge of National health practices, scope of current services available to UAE Nationals, the influence of political and policy decisions on health outcomes and the current health challenges identified for the country.

Through the use of a nursing model focused on Arab health values and the teachings of Islam, the course aims to increase student nurse's knowledge of their role in providing culturally competent care.

Elective Courses (Fourth Year - Third Semester)

NRS3401 Critical Care

Pre-requisites: NR2321 & NRS2332

This elective course introduces nursing students to the basic concepts and practices of Critical Care Nursing. The course consists of three components, namely the core critical care nursing knowledge (theory), a laboratory component and supervised clinical practicum. During presentation of the core critical care knowledge, students will be provided with a strong knowledge base about the critically ill patient.

The knowledge base will include the hemodynamic monitoring, laboratory data interpretation, pharmacological treatments, related pathophysiology, as well as the nursing management of the critically ill. The laboratory component will include simulation activities to master the advanced skills of critical care nursing.

Simulated scenarios will prepare the students for the clinical practicum to ensure that they have the basic knowledge to practice safe critical care nursing. Students will engage in supervised clinical practicum. Hence students will be allocated to critical care settings and shadowed by a preceptor in that setting.

This will provide students the unique opportunity to deliver patient care to the critically ill patient competently under the supervision of the preceptor, and the clinical instructor.

NRS3403 Nursing Practice in an Off-Shore Setting

Pre-requisites: successful completion of level (BSN3) with a GPA of at least 2.

The principles of evidence based practice have been adopted as an underlying philosophy for healthcare on an international basis. As a consequence, it is essential for clinicians to be able to develop and implement evidence based practice effectively. In this course, students examine the relationships between research and clinical practice. Specifically, students trace the research foundations of clinical knowledge.

They scrutinize the principles and processes incorporated in evidence based practice and examine issues surrounding the utilization of research in practice. During tutorial sessions, the students will be guided in producing their assignment.

This will enable the students to apply the concepts they study in the lectures and to further develop their writing and presentation style towards professional standards.

NRS3404 Infection Control Practice with Immunocompromised Clients

Pre-requisites: Nil

This course focuses on the evidence-based infection control and prevention principles and practices for the immunocompromised clients. The course provides an overview of medically important microbes and their transmission, basic and specific infection control measures, specific effective work practices and procedures and the management of infectious diseases associated with immunosuppression.

This course helps the nursing graduates to work safely, effectively, and ethically with the immunocompromised clients.

NRS3402 Evidence Based Practice – Special Project

Pre-requisites: Nil

The principles of evidence based practice have been adopted as an underlying philosophy for healthcare on an international basis. As a consequence, it is essential for clinicians to be able to develop and implement evidence based practice effectively.

In this course, students examine the relationships between research and clinical practice. Specifically, students trace the research foundations of clinical knowledge.

They scrutinize the principles and processes incorporated in evidence based practice and examine issues surrounding the utilization of research in practice. During tutorial sessions, the students will be guided in producing their assignment. This will enable the students to apply the concepts they study in the lectures and to further develop their writing and presentation style towards professional standards.

NRS4523 Project and Presentation

Pre-requisites: Nil

Co-requisites: Nil

The course provides the opportunity to apply knowledge and skills of the research process and evidence based practice to clinical nursing practice or health service delivery.