

**HINDS COMMUNITY COLLEGE
DIVISION OF ASSOCIATE DEGREE NURSING
PHILOSOPHY**

INDIVIDUALS are unique, possess intellect and free will, are capable of self-direction, and are accountable for individual behaviors. Individuals continuously interact with others in the environment and have the right and responsibility to be active partners in all plans and decisions that will affect them. Individuals share needs, adaptive mechanisms, and certain commonalities in growth and development. Individuals are members of groups which includes families, social, self-help, support, religious, or cultural groups.

A **COMMUNITY** is a social group with common interests and values that establishes trends and a vision for the future. The community provides an environment in which the needs of the individual, family, and/or groups can be met through involvement and interaction of the members.

CLIENT is the recipient of health care. A client can be an individual, a group, or a community.

HEALTH is a dynamic state on the wellness-illness continuum. Age, genetics, culture, education, gender, socioeconomic status and environment affect the health of clients. Clients achieve optimum functioning through health promotion, disease prevention, and health protection activities that meet physical, emotional, spiritual and psychological needs.

EDUCATION is a life long, interactive, outcome-directed process that results in a change in behaviors, beliefs, and/or awareness. Learning is dynamic and dependent on the individual's abilities, needs, and motivations.

The **LEARNER** is an individual who actively participates in the educational process and assumes responsibility for learning. The learner possesses knowledge and a readiness to learn that are enhanced by life experiences.

The **NURSE EDUCATOR** is a facilitator who guides the learner and directs activities designed to meet desired outcomes. In partnership, the nurse educator and learner facilitate the transfer of knowledge from theory to practice. The nurse educator is a resource person who empowers the learner to develop critical thinking and problem solving skills.

NURSING EDUCATION is a systematic process of study, utilizing principles of learning and problem-solving. Nursing education integrates concepts from general education courses with nursing science courses to form a basis for nursing practice. The nursing curriculum is client focused, and promotes the application of theory and skill components to implement the nursing process. The major concepts of critical thinking, relationships, care management, primary care, and community are the framework for each nursing science course. As a professional role model, the nursing educator inspires the learner to incorporate caring and accountable behaviors into nursing practice. The

nursing educator provides feedback to the learner and exercises professional judgment in evaluating competency of both nursing theory and clinical practice.

NURSING PRACTICE is client-centered and directed toward health promotion, disease prevention, and health protection, across the lifespan. It involves the use of the nursing process in the care of individuals at all points along the wellness-illness continuum. Nursing practice embraces a respect for the values and diversity of others. Incorporating professional standards and practice guidelines, nurses practice in collaboration with others from varied health care disciplines. The goal of nursing practice is to provide safe, quality care that encompasses the following core components: professional behaviors, communication, assessment, clinical decision making, caring interventions, teaching and learning, collaboration, and managing care.

The Hinds Community College **GRADUATE** is prepared to be an accountable, adaptable generalist, functioning as a provider of care, a manager of care, and a member of the profession of nursing. The graduate can perform a range of complex interventions, incorporating professional behavior, communication, assessment, clinical decision making, caring interventions, teaching and learning, collaboration, and managing care into their nursing practice. Personal attributes and experiential backgrounds account for the differences in the performance of the graduates. The graduate is prepared at entry level for professional nursing practice and is qualified to take the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN)®.

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