



Your competence will be assessed as you complete the performance assessment for Introduction to Nursing (ACT1), in conjunction with the clinical skills assessment (ABA1). This course of study may take up to 7 weeks to complete.

Introduction

Caring and compassion are the cornerstones of nursing. Nursing focuses not only on the person receiving care, but on the family and the community. Professional nursing practice is based on scientific knowledge skillfully applied in the provision of safe and effective care to individuals, families, and communities. Throughout this course of study, you will be introduced to concepts that are the foundations of nursing practice and have helped nurses attain high regard in the minds and hearts of patients and the public.

Clinical reasoning skills and interpersonal skills are essential to compassionate, patient-centered care. You will learn about the core values in nursing and how the nursing process is applied to nursing care.

Outcomes and Evaluation

There are 8 competencies covered by this course of study; they are listed in the "[Competencies for Introduction to Nursing ACT1](#)" page.

Nursing Dispositions Statement

Please review the [Statement of Nursing Dispositions](#).

You will complete the following assessments as you work through the course of study.

Performance Assessment

You will complete the following performance assessment in [TaskStream](#):

- ACT1

Previews of task instructions and evaluation rubrics for this assessment are available via the "Assessment Preparation" box in the online course of study.

Note: During this course of study, you will be applying to the nursing program. Your application will include a recommendation from your mentor, who will consider your ability to follow instructions, complete assignments, engage in group activities, and demonstrate a disposition appropriate to the profession of nursing. Passing this course of study does not guarantee admission into the nursing program.

Preparing for Success

The information in this section is provided to help you become ready to complete this course of study. As you proceed, you will need to be organized in your studies in order to gain



competency in the indicated areas and prepare yourself to pass the final assessments.

Your Learning Resources

The learning resources listed in this section will be required to complete the activities in this course of study. Follow the instructions provided to access these resources as early as possible in order to give yourself time to become familiar with them.

Automatically Enrolled Learning Resources

You will be automatically enrolled at the activity level for the following learning resources. Simply click on the links provided in the activities to access the learning materials.

Soomo Learning Environment

The following learning environment will be utilized as the primary learning resource for completion of this course of study:

- [Introduction to Nursing Arts and Science](#)

VitalSource E-Texts

The following textbooks are available to you as e-texts within the Soomo learning environment. You will be directly linked to the specific readings required within the learning environment activities.

- Layman, D. (2005). *Medical terminology demystified*. New York: McGraw-Hill Professional. ISBN: 978-1121246423.
- Potter, P.A., Perry, A.G., Stockert, P., and Hall, A. (2013). *Fundamentals of nursing* (8th ed.). St. Louis: Saunders/Elsevier. ISBN 978-0-323-07933-4

Note: These e-texts are available to you as part of your program tuition and fees, but you may purchase hard copies at your own expense through a retailer of your choice. If you choose to do so, please use the ISBN listed to ensure that you receive the correct edition.

Enroll in Learning Resources

You will need to enroll in or subscribe to learning resources as a part of this course of study. You may already have enrolled in these resources for other courses. Please check the "Learning Resources" tab and verify that you have access to the following learning resources. If you do not currently have access, please enroll or renew your enrollment at this time.

Note: For instructions on how to enroll in or subscribe to learning resources through the "Learning Resources" tab, please see the ["Acquiring Your Learning Resources"](#) page.

Elsevier Evolve

The following online course is separate from the e-text enrollment. Enroll for the following online courseware through the Learning Resources tab:

- Potter & Perry: Fundamentals of Nursing (8th ed.)



For assistance locating the Evolve materials assigned in the activities of this course, see the following help document:

- [Elsevier Evolve Navigation Instructions](#)

MyNursingLab Real Nursing Skills Videos

This course of study utilizes videos from Pearson's MyNursingLab. You must enroll through the Learning Resources tab to access this resource. To access the videos, follow these instructions:

1. Log into MyNursingLab with your Pearson account information.
2. Under the "Your Courses and Products" section, select "MyNursingLab Resources for WGU".
3. In the window that opens, click on "Introduction to Nursing Arts and Science NEW EDITION" on the left-hand side of the screen.
4. Select "View all content" from the "Course Content" section.
5. Click on "MyNursingLab Videos, Animations, and Skills Videos".
6. Click on "Prentice Hall's Real Nursing Skills".
7. Select the assigned video.

Note: Due to recent upgrades, some browser updates may be required in order to utilize MyNursingLab. If you have browser issues when attempting to log in, see the "Browser Tune-Up" section of the [MyNursingLab System Requirements](#) page.

Assessment Technologies Institute (ATI)

This course of study utilizes learning modules from ATI. Enroll for access through the Learning Resources tab. Follow the instructions below for specific directions.

ATI Registration

You will need to create an account in ATI.

- [First Time Registration in ATI document](#)

Joining ATI Section

You will need to enroll in the ATI Pre-Nursing Section associated with this course of study. See "[How to Join a Section in ATI](#)."

Skills Modules and Tutorials

Throughout this course you will be asked to complete skills and pharmacology tutorials available on the ATI website. Please complete the tutorial lessons and the post-tests as assigned. You must pass the post-test with a score of 75% or better. The time you spend in the tutorials is tracked by the program. Although you can repeat the post-test multiple times, only the first two attempts will be considered as an indication of your having mastered the content. The system does not permit you to repeat a post-test for 48 to 72 hours, so plan accordingly. If you do not pass on your second attempt, contact your course instructor for instructions about how you can further your understanding of the material. Be prepared to demonstrate your newly acquired skills in future learning labs and clinicals.



- [How to Use Tutorials](#)

Purchase Learning Resources

Textbooks

If you have not already done so, purchase the following textbook in hardcopy format. You are required to bring this hard copy text to all your learning and simulation labs and to clinical at the hospital.

- Smith, S. F., Duell, D.J., Martin, B. (2012). *Clinical nursing skills* (8th ed.). Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson/Prentice Hall. ISBN-13: 978-0135114735.

Note: The WGU Bookstore has these books available for immediate purchase and delivery. To purchase these from the WGU bookstore, use the "Buy Now" link on the "Learning Resources" tab. You may shop at other online bookstores, but be sure to order early and use the ISBN listed to ensure that you receive the correct edition.

Other Learning Resources

You will use the following learning resources for this course of study.

Supplemental NCLEX Study Guide

To assist you in preparing for the NCLEX exam and to review content, the following book is available to you in e-text form. This text is supplemental and will not be linked specifically in any of the activities, but you have access to this resource in e-text form by clicking the linked title provided below:

- Zerwekh, J.G. (2013). [Illustrated study guide for the NCLEX-RN® Exam](#). (8th Ed.). St. Louis, Missouri: Mosby/Elsevier. ISBN 10: 0-323-08232-7; ISBN 13: 978-0-323-08232-7.

This resource is strongly recommended to help you review content, assess your knowledge, and experience taking practice test questions. You may be asked to review sections of this resource in order to prepare for an objective assessment, or to remediate after failing to successfully pass an assessment or practice assessment.

Additional Preparation

There are many different learning tools available to you within your course of study in addition to the learning resources discussed above. Some or all of them may be very useful to you as you progress through this course of study. Take the time to familiarize yourself with them and determine how best to fit them into your learning process.

Message Boards, FAQs, Note-Taking Tool

Message boards, FAQs, and a note-taking tool are available in every course of study.

Use the "[Additional Learning Tools](#)" document to review these tools.

Pre-Nursing Program Community



You will find a link to the Pre-Nursing Program Community on your learning resource tab. This community contains announcements, student postings, and mentor tips for successfully completing this course of study. All students are expected to access the community on a regular basis.

The WGU Central Library

The [WGU Central Library](#) is available online to WGU students 24 hours a day. The library offers access to a number of resources, including over 60,000 full-text e-books; articles from journals, magazines, and newspapers; course e-reserves; and tutorials on how to use these resources and the library. The library also includes a reference service for help with research questions or navigating the library.

For more information about using the WGU Library, view the "WGU Library: Finding Articles, Books & E-Reserves" video in the Student Resources section of [The WGU Channel](#).

Center for Writing Excellence: The WGU Writing Center

If you need help with any part of the writing or revision process, contact the Center for Writing Excellence (CWE). Whatever your needs—writing anxiety, grammar, general college writing concerns, or even ESL language-related writing issues—the CWE is available to help you. The CWE offers personalized individual sessions and weekly group webinars. For an appointment, please e-mail writingcenter@wgu.edu.

Course Instructor Assistance

Course instructors are available to help you. Their job is to aid understanding in areas where you need to improve and to guide you to learning resources. Request their help as needed when preparing for assessments.

Course instructors cannot provide reviews of entire assessments. If you fail assessment attempts, review the provided feedback first, then ask the course instructor specific questions about what you can do to meet the competency standard. Request course instructor assistance as necessary in preparing for second attempts at objective assessments or performance task revisions. Mentors cannot guarantee you pass as they do not evaluate assessments; however, they can provide the assistance and advice necessary to help you succeed.

Nursing Standards

You will be able to access Nursing Professional Standards as they apply to your program through the WGU Library. Please access these documents at the following website:

- [WGU Library Nursing E-Reserves](#)

Introduction to Nursing Arts and Science Learning Environment

All reading activities, discussion questions, quizzes, and learning resources for this course of study are found by accessing the Introduction to Nursing Arts and Science learning environment.



Competencies covered by this subject



- The Nursing Process Concepts

The graduate plans patient care using all the concepts identified in the nursing process.

- Basic Principles of Safety & Quality

The graduate plans a safe care environment to promote safety and quality care for patients, the providers, the immediate environment, and the community.

- Therapeutic Communication

The graduate demonstrates therapeutic communication skills necessary to promote patient safety and positive patient outcomes.

- Theories of Growth & Development across the Life Span

The graduate uses the nursing process to plan patient care that incorporates the theories of human growth and development into the care process.

- Health Perception /Health Management

The graduate determines the impact of the health perceptions of individuals and communities on the promotion of health and health management strategies.

- Principles of Ethics, Bioethics, & Nursing Regulation

The graduate demonstrates decision-making skills that reflect a professional and ethical framework and adhere to the guidelines and regulations set by professional and state regulatory bodies.

- Medical Terminology, Symbols, & Abbreviations

The graduate uses accurate medical terminology, symbols, and abbreviations in communicating medication information verbally, technologically, and in writing.

Learning Environment

The material for this course of study is housed in a separate learning environment. In this learning resource, you will be able to

- complete the activities and reading assignments to prepare for the assessment for this course;
- answer the quizzes to gauge your learning; and
- communicate with your mentor and other students as you study.

Once you have completed the material within the learning environment, you should return to this course of study for your exam information.

Learning Materials

Access the learning environment for this course at the following link and complete the readings, activities, and quizzes for the following section:

- [Introduction to Nursing Arts and Science](#)

Final Steps

Congratulations on completing the activities in this course of study! This section will guide you through the assessment process.

Assessment Information

The activities in this course of study have prepared you to complete the ACT1 performance assessment. If you have not already completed the assessment, you will do so now.



You must pass the performance assessments in order to pass this course of study. In addition, your course instructor will submit a recommendation regarding your admission into the nursing program.

Accessing Performance Assessments

You should have completed the following tasks as you worked through this course of study. If you have not completed the tasks in [TaskStream](#), do so now.

- ACT1: ACT Task 1
- ACT1: ACT Task 2

For directions on how to receive access to performance assessments, see the "[Accessing Performance Assessments](#)" page.

Feedback

WGU values your input! If you have comments, concerns, or suggestions for improvement of this course, please submit your feedback using the following form:

- [Course Feedback](#)

ADA Policy

Western Governors University recognizes and fulfills its obligations under the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and similar state laws. Western Governors University is committed to provide reasonable accommodation(s) to qualified disabled learners in University programs and activities as is required by applicable law(s). ADA Support Services serves as the principal point of contact for students seeking accommodations and can be contacted at ADASupport@wgu.edu. Further information on WGU's ADA policy and process can be viewed in the student handbook at the following link:

- [Policies and Procedures for Students with Disabilities](#)