

# Los Angeles Valley College Associate Degree Nursing Program

## PHILOSOPHY

Consistent with College's mission and goals of providing vocational education that emphasizes critical thinking, cultural awareness, life-long learning, wellness, professional development and social responsibility. The Associate Degree Nursing Program at Los Angeles Valley College prepares individuals from the College's diverse community to apply to take the National Council for State Boards of Nursing licensing exam (NCLEX-RN), required for entry-level employment as registered nurses in the healthcare industry served by the College.

Teaching/learning is a continuous and interactive process with the student responsible for his or her own learning. The teaching process provides information, resources, and guidance to facilitate individual learning needs. The faculty believes that learning is a goal-directed, life-long process that changes behavior. Because students differ in their learning styles and needs, the faculty uses a variety of instructional strategies and support services to promote student achievement and success.

The faculty believes the following about Nursing, Health, Person, and Environment.

**Nursing** is an *Art* and a *Science*. Nursing, as an *Art*, embodies learned therapeutic and caring behaviors and the creative use of skills and expertise essential to promote, maintain, and restore the person to an optimal level of health. Nursing, as a *Science*, integrates concepts from the humanities and the natural and behavioral sciences to develop a body of knowledge that supports the delivery of "evidence-based care". Committed to lifelong learning, nursing requires the continual acquisition of new knowledge and skills to accommodate an ever-changing healthcare environment.

Nursing is a complex and multifaceted profession directed towards promoting the patient's optimal level of health through the utilization of the nursing process, the application of critical thinking, and the transfer of theory into clinical practice. Nursing encompasses Human Flourishing, Nursing Judgment, Professional Identity and Spirit of Inquiry.

**Health** encompasses the wellness/illness continuum. Health/wellness is viewed as a dynamic state of wholeness for optimal functioning. Illness is viewed as a dynamic state of loss, dysfunction, or disorganization.

Health is threatened when one or more of a person's basic needs produce consequences that are beyond their capacity to cope. Healing is the process through which illness is overcome and health is reestablished. Throughout the life span the promotion, maintenance, and restoration of health is the primary goal of nursing.

The faculty believes that the patient is a **Person** who, as a complex holistic being, has physiological, emotional, cognitive, developmental, social, cultural and spiritual-ethical dimensions that are in constant interaction with a changing internal and external environment. Each person has unique perceptions, values, beliefs, and goals. As a member of society, the person is affected by issues and changes in a diverse community and in the healthcare environment.

**Environment** involves bio-psychosocial, developmental, cultural, and spiritual-ethical elements, which interact and impact a person's needs. Nursing, through the modification of stimuli and appropriate utilization of resources, can positively affect the person's environment.