



STONE ACADEMY

Practical Nursing

Programmatic Overview

PRACTICAL NURSING DIPLOMA PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

The Practical Nurse plays an important role in a client's plan of care. Though they are not allowed to develop the actual plan of care, they do make important contributions to it. The LPN's contributions to the plan of care consists of the collection of data, implementing therapeutic nursing measures, performing therapeutic nursing interventions and using ethical decision making within the guidelines of the Nurse Practice Act to provide care.

This program will prepare and assist students in acquiring the basic knowledge and skills necessary to be hired into an entry-level position as a Practical Nurse. The program develops the student's knowledge base and skills by providing a theoretical foundation and by developing the student's ability to perform clinical procedures. Training is provided by a balance of lecture, lab, and clinical components.

All nursing theory courses provide a section to discuss a theoretical nursing care plan including assessment, probable short and long term goals, nursing diagnosis, and nursing interventions, along with rationales.

Students are exposed to the nursing process in their first clinical rotation where they start to become familiar with gathering data from the client's medical record. As they progress, they are encouraged to incorporate data into a workable care plan. Instructors may require the student to complete nursing care plan(s) in each clinical course. These nursing care plans will be evaluated, corrected, and used as a learning tool. As students progress in their clinical rotation, they may make suggestions to the APRN or RN with the approval of their instructor. In collaboration with the APRN or RN, students evaluate the effectiveness of nursing interventions; and they may recommend changes in the client's plan of care.

PN education prepares the nurse for an entry-level position in primarily in long-term care settings. The PN graduate functions as a contributing member of the health care team and utilizes the nursing process to provide care to individuals and to groups of clients within the framework of the Nurse Practice Act.

Graduates of this program are eligible to sit, upon graduation, for the Connecticut NCLEX-LPN licensing examination and assume positions in the health care system as Licensed Practical Nurses.

Please Note:

Practical Nursing students will be required to submit a medical examination reported by a licensed physician who describes the student's physical and emotional health no later than two weeks into the program. All required immunizations must be completed before the start of the first nursing course. Students are required to become certified in Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation (Health Provider course), by the American Heart Association or the American Red Cross, prior to starting the clinical rotation.

Prospective students are advised that Section 19a-14 of the Connecticut General Statutes authorizes the Department of Public Health to deny licensure to applicants who may be addicted to drugs or alcohol, have been disciplined in other states, or have been convicted of a felony.

*THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS HANDOUT IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.
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**PRACTICAL NURSING DIPLOMA PROGRAM – DAY AND EVENING
ALL CAMPUSES**

Credit Hours	Course No.	Course Name
3	MED 100	Medical Terminology
3	COM 110	Practical English Communication Skills
3	PHA 110	Practical Mathematics for Healthcare Professionals
3	COM 111	Communication Skills for Healthcare Professionals
3	PHA 111	Pharmaceutical Calculations
3	SEM 110	Seminar I
8	FUN 102	Fundamentals of Nursing
1	LAB 101	Clinical Skills Lab
6.5	SCI 110	Life Science
4	WEL 110	Wellness Promotion Across the Lifespan
3	CLN 111	Clinical I: Primary Nursing Skills
3.5	CLN 112	Clinical II: Basic Client Care
6	SUR 111	Medical Surgical Nursing Across the Lifespan I
4	PHA 112	Pharmacology
4	CLN 113	Clinical III: Advanced Client Care
4	CLN 114	Clinical IV: Medical Surgical Nursing
6	SUR 112	Medical Surgical Nursing Across the Lifespan II
8	CLN 115	Clinical V: Advanced Medical Surgical Nursing
6	SUR 113	Medical Surgical Nursing Across the Lifespan III
6	SUR 114	Medical Surgical Nursing Across the Lifespan IV
6	MAT 102	Maternal - Child Nursing
2	CON 102	Nursing Concepts
6	CLN 116	Clinical VI: Transition to Practice
4	SEM 111	Seminar II

106 Credits, 24 Courses, 64 Weeks, 5 Semesters, 2 Academic Years, Days

106 Credits, 24 Courses, 90 Weeks, 6 Semesters, 3 Academic Years, Evenings

*Courses may be composed of both in-class hours and out-of-class homework hours. Out-of-class work may consist of reading assignments, writing assignments, and projects and are outlined in the syllabi for applicable courses.

Program Schedule:

Day Schedule: Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on theory days and 7:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on clinical days.

Evening Schedule:

Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 and Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on theory days and 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on clinical days.

or

Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. and Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on theory days and 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on clinical days.

CLN 111 – Clinical I: Primary Nursing Skills**3 credits**

The Primary Nursing Skills clinical rotation will provide students with the opportunity to apply knowledge of basic nursing principles and skills in the delivery of client care in the long term care setting. Theories learned in Life Science and Wellness will be applied by using communication techniques and observations of psychological development and physical changes that occur in the elderly. Simple procedures, such as obtaining vital signs, bathing, feeding and transferring clients, which are learned in Fundamentals of Nursing, will be performed. Student's clinical judgment will be developed using the Tanner Clinical Judgment Model and will be further supported with feedback from faculty via the Lasater Clinical Judgment Rubric. Upon completion of this course, students will be qualified to sit for the certification exam for Nursing Assistants. (Pre-requisite: FUN 102 and LAB 101)

CLN 112 – Clinical II: Basic Client Care**3.5 credits**

The Basic Client Care clinical rotation will provide students the opportunity to build upon skills and professional nursing behaviors learned in Clinical I with clients that have common non-complicated disorders. Students will demonstrate competency in specific procedures including basic wound care, treatments, and oxygen therapy by applying knowledge learned from Fundamentals of Nursing, Life Science and Wellness. The student will assist the client and significant others during the normal expected stages of growth and development. Students will identify client problems, appropriate interventions and evaluate nursing care of clients in extended care facilities. Student's clinical judgment will be developed using the Tanner Clinical Judgment Model and will be further supported with feedback from faculty via the Lasater Clinical Judgment Rubric. Students will be expected to continue to master all skills set forth in all prior clinical rotations. (Pre-requisite: CLN 111)

CLN 113 – Clinical III: Advanced Client Care**4 credits**

The Advanced Client Care clinical rotation focuses on the utilization of the nursing process in caring for a dual client assignment. Students will have the opportunity to perform advanced procedures, such as enema administration, wound care, and specimen collection as learned in Advanced Fundamentals. Management of clients with infection, shock, pain, cancer, and mental illness as learned in Medical Surgical 1 theory will be the focus of student-client assignments. Student's clinical judgment will be developed using the Tanner Clinical Judgment Model and will be further supported with feedback from faculty via the Lasater Clinical Judgment Rubric. Students will be expected to continue to master all skills set forth in all prior clinical rotations. (Pre-requisite: CLN 112)

CLN 114 – Clinical IV: Medical Surgical Nursing

The Medical Surgical Nursing clinical rotation focuses on utilization of the nursing process for a multiple client assignment. Students will be provided the opportunity to perform more advanced procedures such as; changing parenteral infusion bags, tracheostomy suctioning, and medication administration as learned in Advanced Fundamentals and Pharmacology. Management of clients with disorders of the cardiac, respiratory, and integumentary systems will be the focus of student-client assignments. Students will integrate theoretical knowledge gained from Medical Surgical I and II, in order to prioritize, and perform therapeutic nursing interventions, all while utilizing their critical thinking skills, to contribute to the nursing care plan. Students will provide reports directly to the nurse responsible for their client and will write nursing notes in accordance with the facility policy. Student's

clinical judgment will be developed using the Tanner Clinical Judgment Model and will be further supported with feedback from faculty via the Lasater Clinical Judgment Rubric. Students will be expected to continue to master all skills set forth in all prior clinical rotations. (Pre-requisite: CLN 113) **4 credits**

CLN 115 – Clinical V: Advanced Medical-Surgical Nursing and Nursing Leadership 8 credits

The Advanced Medical Surgical Nursing and Nursing Leadership clinical rotation continues to utilize the nursing process in caring for a multiple client assignment. Students will integrate knowledge gained from Medical Surgical III and IV in the management of clients with disorders of the musculoskeletal, endocrine, hematologic, gastrointestinal, nervous, genitourinary, reproductive and sensory systems. Emphasis is placed on further developing the skills of prioritization, decision-making, time management, and critical thinking appropriate to the LPN's scope of practice. Leadership skills are enhanced as the student begins to function in the role of team leader. Student's clinical judgment will be developed using the Tanner Clinical Judgment Model and will be further supported with feedback from faculty via the Lasater Clinical Judgment Rubric. Students will be expected to continue to master all skills set forth in all prior clinical rotations. (Pre-requisite: CLN 114)

CLN 116 – Clinical VI: Transition to Practice 6 credits

The transition to practice clinical rotation is a culmination of all prior theory and clinical experiences. Students will integrate the knowledge gained in Nursing Concepts and Nursing Seminar II to further their understanding of the responsibilities and challenges of the LPN within the healthcare system. An emphasis on the nursing concepts of advocacy, delegation, ethics, leadership, accountability, emergency preparedness and professionalism will be addressed within this rotation. Students will continue to care for a multiple client assignment, while focusing on plans of care that extend to the client's discharge. Student's clinical judgment will be developed using the Tanner Clinical Judgment Model and will be further supported with feedback from faculty via the Lasater Clinical Judgment Rubric. Students will be expected to continue to master all skills set forth in all prior clinical rotations. (Pre-requisite: CLN 115)

COM 110 – Practical English Communication Skills 3 credits

This course presents the fundamentals of professional written communication through the instruction of basic principles of grammar including the eight parts of speech, plurals, possessives, and predicate agreement. The correct usage of punctuation is studied to prepare students for written communications. Proofreading and spelling skills are also stressed. Students will review the eight parts of speech as well as focus on skills including subject verb agreement, pronoun antecedent agreement, tense consistency, active and passive voice, and correct comparisons. This course provides students with instruction in reading comprehension and thinking skills necessary for college reading. It includes instruction in critical analysis, critical interpretation, and advanced instruction in vocabulary and literary comprehension. (Pre-requisite: None)

COM 111 - Communication Skills for Healthcare Professionals 3 credits

This course is designed to prepare students to apply writing and grammar skills to a multitude of real world healthcare scenarios. Health care reform and regulatory change has begun to highlight the need for health care professionals to communicate themselves clearly through written communication as it relates to reports and patient history. In addition, students will be given an introduction to common medical terminology and health related vocabulary. Effective writing skills are essential for health care professionals to clearly express themselves to patients, their families, and other practitioners. (Pre-requisite: COM 110)

CON 102 – Nursing Concepts**2 credits**

This course identifies the legal and ethical issues involved in the maintenance and promotion of health and the implementation of restorative and therapeutic measures across the lifespan. Content includes employment issues, scope of practice, leadership, professional development, and continuing education. The Nursing Process is utilized to assist the students to learn how to utilize advanced critical thinking skills to take action in legal and/or ethical issues that may be encountered while practicing as a Licensed Practical Nurse. A component of this course focuses on the role of the LPN in various health care delivery settings. It also includes discussion of variety of leadership styles, the responsibilities and skills of the leader as they pertain to the Licensed Practical Nurse within the scope of the practice as defined in the State of Connecticut Nurse Practice Act. (Pre-requisite: Completion of Clinical I -V)

FUN 102 – Fundamentals of Nursing**8 credits**

This introductory nursing course covers basic nursing skills and the process of applying those skills to a client's ever changing need. Maslow's hierarchy of need and the Nursing Process are taught as the basis to prioritize client care and introduce basic nutrition. Therapeutic interventions and skills progress from basic to complex and address client environment, communication skills, infection control, client safety and comfort. Skills are practiced in a controlled laboratory setting. Students learn to understand the concepts of health promotion and wellness, cultural and spiritual diversity and therapeutic relationships focusing on communication techniques. Students will apply their theoretical knowledge in Clinical I and Clinical II and all subsequent clinical rotations. (Pre-requisite: None)

LAB 101 – Clinical Skills Lab**1 credit**

This course will provide students with an introduction to the care of a client in a clinical setting, laboratory or simulation setting. Under the direction of an instructor, students will have an opportunity to provide or observe basic nursing care. Procedures, such as vital signs, bathing, feeding, communication and transfers, learned in Fundamentals of Nursing, will be practiced in a controlled environment. As students demonstrate a mastery of skills related to basic nursing care they will begin learning more advanced procedures including urinary catheter insertion, intravenous line monitoring, tube feeding, tracheostomy care and wound care. (Co-requisite: FUN 102)

MAT 102 – Maternal - Child Nursing**6 credits**

The concept of family centered approach to maternal-child nursing is used in this course. The cultural diversity in the childbearing family is explored along with the basic physical, social, emotional, and spiritual needs. Content includes care of the family unit throughout the normal cycle of conception, pregnancy, delivery, and puerperium. Possible complications in each of these areas are also reviewed. Nutrition, pharmacotherapy, client teaching and ethico-legal issues are integrated throughout the course. (Pre-requisite: None)

MED 100 – Medical Terminology**3 credits**

This course is designed to familiarize the students with the structure of medical language and provides effective strategies for building and learning medical terms using word parts. An introduction to word parts and human body structure is followed by learning medical terms associated with the individual body systems. The body systems that will be discussed include: skeletal, muscular, cardiovascular, lymphatic, respiratory, digestive, urinary, nervous, eye and ear, integumentary, male and female reproductive, and endocrine. (Pre-requisite: None)

PHA 110 – Practical Mathematics for Healthcare Professionals **3 credits**

This course provides a comprehensive review of general mathematics including arithmetic, algebra, problem solving, word problems, equations, fractions, charts, and mathematical conversions using real-life examples. Proficiency in the material in this course is required to prepare students for the application of mathematics in theory and in practice. This course will provide students with examples of mathematical problems that may be encountered in a practical setting. After completing this course, students will have a strong foundation in mathematics, terminology, and abbreviations used in health science careers. (Pre-requisite: None)

PHA 111 - Pharmaceutical Calculations **3 credits**

Medical professionals use mathematics and problem solving daily to provide care for their patients. This course is designed to equip students with the mathematical skills commonly applied by health care professionals in the field. Students will be given instruction designed to help them think logically and analytically. Subject matter covered in this course will provide students the foundations and instruction needed to convert units of measure, as well as calculate dosages to administer medication. (Pre-requisite: PHA 110)

PHA 112 – Pharmacology **4 credits**

This course introduces students to the basic knowledge of medications, including their implications for use in therapeutic and restorative care of clients whose holistic balance of health has been altered. Basic concepts of pharmacology, medication classifications, dosages and medication administration techniques are integrated with the nursing process. This allows students to safely participate in the maintenance and promotion of health on the wellness/illness continuum. (Pre-requisite: PHA 111)

SCI 110 – Life Science **6.5 credits**

This basic anatomy and physiology course of various body systems will also provide a survey of chemistry and microbiology. Students will develop an understanding of basic concepts of medical terminology; including word parts, human body structures and medical terms associated with individual body systems. This basic knowledge will help the students understand the structure and function of the human body in wellness. It will provide an understanding of the mechanisms involved in illness and then restorative and therapeutic care. This is important so that the students will be able to participate in their role in the maintenance and promotion of health. Students will apply theoretical knowledge learned here in Clinical I and in all subsequent clinical rotations. (Pre-requisite: None)

SEM 110 – Seminar I **3 credits**

This course focuses on the students in the nursing program as adult learners in the health care field. The goal of learners is to actualize their potential. They can reach this goal if they enhance their ability to learn, grow, communicate and function effectively. This course will help provide the tools students need to reach their goal, and to begin the process of developing a professional awareness. This course is graded as a pass/fail. (Pre-requisite: None)

SEM 111 – Seminar II **4 credits**

This *pass/fail* seminar course focuses on the transition of the student to that of a graduate practical nurse and encapsulates the entirety of their clinical and theoretical experiences throughout the program. This course will provide a concentrated opportunity for students to

review subjects and determine areas of strength or areas in which to increase their focus. This review will serve as an assessment of students' readiness to sit for the NCLEX-PN upon graduation. (Pre-requisites: SEM 110 and SUR 111 – 114)

SUR 111 – Medical-Surgical Nursing Across the Lifespan I

6 credits

This initial Medical Surgical Nursing course addresses the way a client's health status for basic physical and psychological functions is affected by the interaction between adults and their environment. Students will explore factors that influence the client's responses to illness emphasizing the care of the adult and older adult client. A client's health status is affected by perioperative care, pain, infection, shock, mental illness, and oncological disorders. Students will utilize knowledge of the nursing process and medication administration to assume roles in the restorative and therapeutic care of the ill client. Clinical experiences are provided in Clinical III. (Pre-requisite: FUN 102)

SUR 112 - Medical-Surgical Nursing Across the Lifespan II

6 credits

This course focuses on therapeutic and restorative care of a client's holistic balance of health. Students will study the care of the adult and older adult client with alterations in the integumentary, cardiovascular, and respiratory systems. Each system will be explored in relation to anatomy and physiology, diet therapy, pharmacology, disease process, and the nursing process with an added focus on the older adult, evidence-based practice (EBP) and quality initiatives. This course also explores communication and interactive techniques in the health education of clients and families. Clinical experiences will be provided in the nursing skills laboratory and Clinical IV. (Pre-requisite: SUR 111)

SUR 113 – Medical-Surgical Nursing Across the Lifespan III

6 credits

This course focuses on therapeutic and restorative care of a client's holistic balance of health. Students will study the care of the adult and older client with alterations in the health status of the musculoskeletal, endocrine and gastrointestinal systems. Each system will be explored in relation to anatomy and physiology, diet therapy, pharmacology, disease process, and the nursing process. Clinical experiences will be provided in Clinical V and VI. (Pre-requisite: SUR 112)

SUR 114 – Medical-Surgical Nursing Across the Lifespan IV

6 credits

This course focuses on therapeutic and restorative care of a client's holistic balance of health within the wellness continuum. Students will study the care of the adult and older client with alterations in the health status of the nervous, genitourinary, reproductive, immune and sensory systems. Each system will be explored in relation to anatomy and physiology, diet therapy, pharmacology, disease process, and the nursing process. This course also addresses disaster planning and the emergency response. Students will apply theoretical knowledge, which they learned in Clinical VI. (Pre-requisite: SUR 113)

WEL 110 – Wellness Promotion Across the Lifespan

4 credits

This course explores personality development theories, in order to provide students with the basic knowledge of human growth and development. It focuses upon the concept that every person has biological, psychological, social, and spiritual qualities; and they have inherent dignity and worth. These qualities create a culturally diverse population. This course uses Maslow's hierarchy of needs as a framework for an introduction to nutrition across the lifespan. It also explores therapeutic measures for health promotion and health maintenance, and the nurse's role in helping to maintain and promote wellness. Students will apply this theoretical knowledge in Clinical I and all subsequent clinical rotations. (Pre-requisite: None)