

Hunter-Bellevue School of Nursing Mission Statement

The Hunter-Bellevue School of Nursing has been long committed to excellence and access in the education of undergraduate and graduate students in the profession of nursing. The nursing faculty believes that education rests upon the involvement of the student in a general education component as the basic pursuit of professional studies and to the knowledge and skills necessary for competent practice.

The Hunter-Bellevue School of Nursing is dedicated to serving a student body which reflects the diversity of New York City. The faculty are committed to preparing professionals for service, leadership, and activism to a pluralistic community. The curriculum is designed to meet the highest professional standards while preparing nurses who provide culturally-competent care to people from diverse backgrounds.

The goal of the Hunter-Bellevue School of Nursing education is to encourage intellectual, personal, and professional growth in each student. The fundamental aim is for the student to use rational, critical, and creative powers in the delivery of health care. Faculty and students, together with our community of interest, share the responsibility for creating a climate conducive to freedom of thought, creative and independent inquiry, and open communication. Professional practice requires a commitment to lifelong learning in response to changes in nursing and health care.

While teaching and research are the primary mission of the Hunter-Bellevue School of Nursing, community service is an integral component provided within the context of the

professional experience. The comprehensive undergraduate and graduate programs offered by the School of Nursing, the scholarly activities of its faculty and the myriad community agencies affiliated with the School all demonstrate the School's congruence with the Hunter teaching, research and service missions. The Hunter-Bellevue School of Nursing faculty seeks to generate new nursing knowledge and to design professional education programs to address the multiple health care needs of residents of New York City and beyond, particularly the diverse, underserved urban populations.

Hunter-Bellevue School of Nursing Mission Goals

The School of Nursing:

1. is committed to excellence and access in both the general and professional education of undergraduate and graduate students in nursing;
2. is dedicated to preparing professionals from diverse backgrounds for service, leadership, and activism by providing culturally-competent care to people from diverse backgrounds;
3. creates a climate which fosters intellectual, personal, and professional growth as well as a commitment to lifelong learning;
4. sees teaching and research as the primary mission while recognizing community services in a variety of agencies as an integral component provided within the context of the professional experience.
5. seeks to generate new nursing knowledge and to design professional education programs to address the multiple health care needs of residents of New York and beyond.

Hunter-Bellevue School of Nursing Philosophy

We believe in the wholeness of the person encompassing body-mind-spirit in integral unity. The person continuously interacts with a constantly evolving environment. Therefore, we need to understand both person and environment, which includes families and peer groups as well as the physical environment, in order to work with the complex constellation of factors that either facilitate or impede health and wellness.

Because nurses look at the whole person in relation to the environment, we tend to use disease as information about the health pattern of the whole person, looking at the experience and meaning of the disease to the person in light of the options for change that are available to the client. When the health pattern of the person, family, group, or community is disrupted, nurses engage in the full range of health promotion, maintenance, and restoration activities to assist the client in achieving optimal wellness.

Professional nursing offers a humanistic, caring, and comprehensive approach to promotion of wellness, prevention of illness, and holistic management of health problems across the life span. Both the undergraduate and graduate curricula emphasize nursing science, research-based practice, understanding of diverse groups, and the societal need for health care. The goals of our programs include encouraging personal growth and maturation of students, developing professional competence in nursing leading to license and certification, enhancing critical thinking and communication skills, and fostering a commitment to life-long learning. The

undergraduate program prepares generalists to deliver services for health promotion and illness management, health teaching, and enhancing the self-care of clients, whether individual, group, family, or community. The graduate programs prepares advance practice nurses with the specialized knowledge and skills needed to deliver care and design programs to meet the health care needs of specific groups and communities.

As a faculty, we are committed to the development of a community of professionals who celebrate diversity and demonstrate competence, compassion, and sensitivity. This community values nursing and its contributions to the health of society. We are committed to scholarly work, including an emphasis on nursing research that contributes to the expansion of nursing science, improvement of nursing practice and education, and innovative health policy. We value service to the community which contributes to the improvement of health care.

We believe that all members of society have the right to the full range of health services. We recognize that: health and socio-political issues constantly interact, collaboration with other disciplines is crucial, and client participation and shared decision making are essential to maximizing health and wellness. In this environment of managed care and market-driven forces that influence nursing practice, we endeavor to prepare our graduates with skills in management and leadership while instilling a philosophy of nursing that emphasizes the worth and dignity of every human being. Activism in the health care environment and advocacy for the health of humans and environment are emphasized as much as cost-effectiveness and interdisciplinary collaboration.

In an effort to prepare our graduates for future as well as current health care environments, we maintain flexibility in the curriculum. Periodically evaluating both undergraduate and graduate curricula allows us to institute changes facilitating education at the Hunter-Bellevue School of Nursing that is progressive and creative. This process of curricular innovation is facilitated through close cooperation with our community of interest. Graduates of our programs and representatives from the health care agencies with which we hold contracts are regularly surveyed to evaluate our programs and offer suggestions for changes. We maintain relationships with our legislators, inviting them as guest speakers and offering students the opportunity to become politically astute and active. Faculty serve as liaisons to key nursing organizations, such as ANA, AACN, NONPF and other specialty groups, keeping us apprised of current standards for and changes in health care.

Program Objectives - Baccalaureate

Purposes:

1. To prepare nurses generalists who deliver services for health promotion and illness management, health teaching and enhancing the self-care of clients (individuals, groups, families, and communities).
2. To foster a commitment to lifelong learning in our students.

The baccalaureate graduate will:

1. Synthesize knowledge from nursing and the arts and sciences to provide a theoretical framework for a humanistic, caring, and comprehensive approach to promotion of wellness, prevention of illness, and holistic management of health problems across the life span.
2. Use the nursing process as a guide in providing the range of health promotion, maintenance, and restoration activities needed to assist clients in achieving optimal wellness.
3. Demonstrate personal and professional accountability in providing culturally competent care to people from diverse backgrounds.
4. Demonstrate activism and advocacy in health care and health care policy on behalf of human and environmental health.
5. Use nursing research as a basis for improving nursing care and advocating for changes in health policy.
6. Evaluate management and leadership processes with individuals, families, groups and communities in a comprehensive approach to health promotion and holistic management of health problems (across the life span).

7. Use appropriate teaching strategies in educating clients for knowing participation in their own health and wellness.
8. Participate in multi-disciplinary activities to plan, implement, and evaluate health care for all client systems.
9. Continually demonstrate commitment to personal growth and lifelong learning through the active pursuit of knowledge and diverse life experiences.

Program Objectives - Graduate Program

Purposes:

1. To prepare advanced practice nurses who are competent to meet current and future challenges in the health care system.
2. To provide a foundation for continued professional and personal development, lifelong learning, and doctoral study.

The graduates of the masters programs will:

1. Synthesize knowledge from nursing and the arts and sciences to provide a theoretical framework for advanced practice.
2. Evaluate specialized knowledge and skills needed to deliver care to clients and design programs to meet the health care needs of specific groups and communities.
3. Use the research process to systematically investigate ways to enhance nursing practice, improve delivery of health care services, and recommend innovative health policy initiatives.
4. Foster client participation and shared decision-making in health care and health care policy to maximize health and wellness for humans and environment.
5. Demonstrate activism, advocacy, and leadership in the health care environment and in the nursing profession.
6. Generate a philosophy and definition of advanced practice that emphasizes the right to the full range of health services for all members of society, affirms the worth and dignity of every human being, and demonstrates a humanistic caring approach that values diversity.
7. Collaborate with clients in managing their health-illness status through the advanced practice nursing role.