

The University of Texas at El Paso School of Nursing

Philosophy

The School of Nursing at the University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP), views nursing as an innovative, professional service discipline grounded in the arts, sciences, humanities, nursing theories, patient care technologies, and the application of knowledge obtained through scientifically based inquiry. Nursing faculty promote and adhere to a paradigm of compassionate, patient-centered care that addresses holistic human responses throughout the age continuum. This paradigm includes education, evidence-based practice and research that encompasses provision of care, coordination of care, and professionalism. The School of Nursing Philosophy supports UTEP's mission, embracing its role as an intellectual cultural and socioeconomic asset to the region with a nursing program that meets human resource needs and contributes to the quality of life and social mobility. While the faculty subscribes to a variety of theoretical frameworks reflecting adaptation, self-care, transcultural, and humanistic aspects, we believe that the essence of nursing is compassionate patient-centered care.

Nursing Faculty view compassionate patient-centered care as the basis of nursing. Compassionate patient-centered care involves recognizing patient diversity, potential, autonomy, and universal needs. Further, compassionate care involves understanding and acceptance, promotes egalitarian relationships and has as its ultimate goal the empowerment of all individuals, families, groups, aggregates, and communities. Faculty believe the inherent values of altruism, autonomy, human dignity, integrity, and social justice are fundamental to the discipline of nursing. The concept of compassionate patient-centered care permeates nursing education, research, and evidence-based practice. All of these entities are intertwined in the delivery of health care. Nursing Faculty draw upon their collective cognitive, clinical, and creative abilities to prepare nurses for the delivery of safe and effective nursing care that is in compliance with established Standards of Practice. We believe that both faculty and students have a responsibility to each other to create a learning environment that is conducive to learning, freedom of thought, scholarly inquiry, affirmation of beliefs and skills, critical thinking, clinical reasoning, clinical judgment, ethical practice, facilitative communication, and leadership.

Graduates assume roles as care providers, care coordinators, and professional leaders. They promote the health of individuals, families, and populations, the enhancement of society, and the nursing profession in the 21st century. Health care provides a dynamic environment in which there exists potential for physical, mental, emotional, social, and spiritual well-being for all individuals. Healthcare professionals practicing in this environment work in partnership with each other and the communities they serve. Both independent and collaborative nursing strategies are necessary components of practice. Faculty are committed to role-modeling an inter-professional approach to education, evidence-based practice and research while developing in students outcome-based awareness of the global healthcare environment and a commitment to lifelong learning.

Vision

The UTEP School of Nursing will be the leader in nursing education, evidence-based practice, and research in the global healthcare environment.

Mission Statement

The mission of the University of Texas at El Paso School of Nursing is to prepare professional nurses at baccalaureate, master's, and doctoral levels to meet complex human needs in a competitive global healthcare environment. We seek to inspire evidence-based lifelong learning and utilization of advanced technologies by providing a progressive research environment where students, faculty and researchers investigate and meet global healthcare needs. We strive to improve healthcare and quality of life in our diverse multicultural underserved local communities by preparing graduates to make significant contributions to nursing, local, national, and global communities.

Value Words

Quality – We deliver the highest value in education and research

Service – Through caring, competency and efficiency we provide highest level of customer experience

Communication – By hardwiring our processes we transfer information and knowledge

Accountability – We strive for excellence in everything we do

Ethics – We demonstrate highest level of human conduct and moral principles

Guiding Principles

Excellence – Innovation – Diversity

UTEP School of Nursing Undergraduate Program Objectives

- Provide professional nursing care to individuals, families, groups and communities in various developmental stages and from different socio-cultural backgrounds.
- Use critical thinking and apply theories, principles and concepts in making clinical judgments about the health care needs of individuals, families and communities.
- Intervene to minimize or alleviate stressors: to reinforce positive adaptive behavior, to promote, maintain and restore health, and to care for the ill, disabled, and the terminally ill.
- Collaborate with other professionals, agency personnel and consumers in the planning, implementation and evaluation of health care.
- Practice nursing within the framework of legal, ethical, moral and professional standards.
- Use research findings in the care of clients/patients.
- Provide leadership within the nursing profession and in health affairs.
- Develop a lifetime commitment to intellectual inquiry, self-directed learning and professional growth.
- Use undergraduate education as a basis for graduate study.