

Mission

The mission of the University of Mount Olive's BSN program is to provide high-quality, student-centered nursing education. Our degree program helps meet the nursing profession's and society's needs to improve health and healthcare delivery. The nursing faculty prepares nursing students to think critically and address complex health issues in a multicultural and evolving world.

Vision

The vision of the University of Mount Olive BSN degree program works in concert with that of the university "*...to serve our students, our founding church, and our communities.*" The nursing faculty of the BSN degree program is committed to educating students to become competent nursing leaders, researchers, and educators who integrate their Christian faith, beliefs, values, ethics, and stewardship into their nursing practice while providing compassionate care to a multicultural and evolving patient population.

Philosophy

Baccalaureate education incorporates interdisciplinary knowledge from natural and social sciences, humanities, arts, and nursing. Baccalaureate education fosters an increased sense of professionalism, equips learners with professional knowledge and skills needed to meet the health requirements of a diverse community, prepares students for various professional nursing roles and graduate education, and enables positive attitudes towards lifelong learning. Our BSN degree program education builds on adult students' unique attributes, knowledge, and expertise. The curricula are problem-focused and engage students in active learning.

An eclectic nursing model is a conceptual framework for the University of Mount Olive BSN degree program based on nursing theories. The central concepts of the nursing paradigm are the patient, health, environment, and nursing relationships. This paradigm, nursing theory, and principles of teaching and learning are fundamental to baccalaureate nursing education. The paradigm concepts of nursing are defined below (Bender & Feidman, 2015).

The **patient** is an individual, family, aggregate, and community. Striving toward equilibrium in an unstable environment, the patient is an open adaptive, goal-oriented, and interpersonal system incorporating physical, psychological, interdependence, social, developmental, role, and spiritual spheres. The patient has characteristic energy fields, behavior patterns, and varying degrees of self-care agency, differing across cultures. Patients collaborate with the nurse and share responsibility for health outcomes (Bender & Feidman, 2015).

The **environment** comprises internal and external stimuli, including social, cultural, economic, political, legal, ethical, and spiritual dimensions. The patient and the environment are inseparable, interacting energy patterns unfolding together toward greater complexity and diversity. The environment influences the person's health, and the person, in turn, impacts the environment (Bender & Feidman, 2015).

Health is a state of connectedness and harmony of physical, psychological, social, and spiritual aspects within oneself, others, and the environment. As a dynamic state of well-being, health means system equilibrium, adaptation, and the ability to express oneself productively, resist stressors, and meet self-care needs. Health also means harmonious patterning of energy fields, evolving patterns of consciousness, and the continuous process of changing and becoming. People perceive health uniquely, according to their personal and cultural context (Bender & Feidman, 2015).

Nursing is concerned with the full range of human experiences and responses to health and illness. Nursing incorporates goal-oriented action that assists the patient in adaptation, self-care, equilibrium, and higher levels of consciousness. The roles of the nurse include the provider of care, teacher, advocate, leader, manager, and researcher. The art and science of nursing involve developing a caring relationship, applying scientific knowledge, and using judgment and critical thinking to facilitate health and healing. Nurses promote social justice, influence public policy, and help meet the needs of society to improve health and healthcare delivery (Bender & Feidman, 2015).

Reference

Bender, M., & Feldman, M. S. (2015). A practice theory approach to understanding the interdependency of nursing practice and the environment: Implications for nurse-led care delivery models. *Advances in Nursing Science*, 38(2), 96-109. doi:10.1097/ANS.000000000000068

Dr. Joy Kieffer created 01/2012 (Revised 01/2014; 04/2017; 08/2017; 09/2018; 12/2020; 04/2022; 09/2022; 03/2023)