



Oak Brook Main Campus
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THE DEMANDS OF BEING A NURSING STUDENT

A Different Environment: The nursing program is very different from other programs. **The nursing student has much to learn in a relatively short period of time.** Family and friends play a major role in providing encouragement, environment and materials necessary for the student so he/she can succeed in the program. Students are expected to be independent learners. Each course will require significant time commitments outside of the classroom.

Be Computer Literate: Computer literacy is a key skill for the nursing profession. Therefore, attain and/or sharpen basic computer proficiency skills as this is an expectation for all students. Students must be familiar with Microsoft Office products. All exams are administered on the computer. There are also a growing number of assignments which must be completed on the computer.

Refine Your Writing Skills: Nursing students will have several major writing assignments which are course completion requirements. This includes research papers, care plans and case studies. Know APA!

Clinical Practice Requirements Must Be Met: Clinical practice requirements are set by the clinical sites and your clinical instructor, where students will be doing patient care. These requirements must be met before the student can attend clinical.

Adequate Time to Prepare and Study: A minimum of two hours is required for every course hour taken. In this program, students are often assigned several chapters to read plus written work to complete every day-multiple courses! Program coursework is intense and requires many hours both inside and outside of the classroom for the student to be successful. Average prep time OUTSIDE of class is 25-30 hours per week.

A Place to Study is Necessary: A specific place for study is needed. This study area should have a chair, a desk or a table plus good lighting. A bookcase and filing cabinet will also be needed. It is good if there is quiet when the student is studying. It is best if the student does not have interruptions which he/she is studying.

Prioritize Non-Academic Obligations While in the Nursing Program: The faculty understands students have obligations outside of the program ranging from work to family. It is recommended students do not work more than sixteen (16-20) hours per week. It is challenging to concentrate in class when the body is tired and has not had enough sleep. It is recommended



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not to work six hours prior to a clinical assignment. This is an issue of patient safety and is not negotiable.

Be Prepared for Group Work: Nursing students work with other students and health care teams. Students are often assigned projects they have to complete within a certain period of time. Groups are made up of a diverse mix of students in the course which includes gender, ethnicity and intellectual skills. Groups are usually assigned by the instructor and not self-selected. There is a significant amount of research demonstrating the major role groups play in the overall successful completion of the nursing program.

Practice Interpersonal Skills: The nursing student is expected to have interpersonal abilities sufficient to interact with individuals, families, and groups from a variety of social, emotional, cultural and intellectual backgrounds. The student must establish rapport with clients and clinical site staff and must be able to communicate with others both orally and in writing. The clients the student is assigned may be male or female, old or young, and from a different culture background.

Attendance is Crucial to Success: Students are adult learners and held accountable for both classroom and clinical content; therefore, attendance is crucial to success in the program. The faculty understands some circumstances may prevent a student from attending class. However, it is the student's responsibility to obtain the content from the instructor for the missed class. Absences will jeopardize the student's standing within the course and the program.



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I have been provided some key points by Verve College on what is required to succeed in the nursing program. I have read, agree and understand the key requirements.

Student Signature

Student Name

Date