

Request for Undergraduate Emphasis Geriatric Nursing Leadership (RN – BS)

In 2008, more than 50% of patients in hospitals were over 65. Yet, of the 2.2 million registered nurses in the U.S., less than 1% were certified in Gerontology. (John A. Hartford Foundation). Students who graduate from the University of Utah College of Nursing with an emphasis in Geriatric Nursing Leadership will be prepared to fill in this gap in care provision.

The Geriatric Nursing Leadership (GNL) curriculum is offered within the RN – BS program. Students enroll for the same program of study as RN – BS students, with two exceptions: they take a separate research course, and their elective is pre-designated with a course created specifically for GNL students. Curriculum is enhanced with geriatric exemplars, and course modifications utilize Geriatric Nursing Education Consortium materials from the John H. Hartford Foundation and the American Association of Colleges of Nursing. Two specialized courses have been developed: Applications of Research in Aging and Best Practices in Geriatric Nursing. Current clinical content (pain management, end of life care, prevention of falls, pressure ulcers) and leadership/management skills (human resource management, teaching, mentoring, quality improvement) relevant to the geriatric nurse leader are core to the program.

Students in the Geriatric Nursing Leadership cohort graduate with the educational foundation to sit for national board certification (Geriatric Nurse), have obtained a concentrated body of knowledge in a field of nursing with a severe shortage, and when combined with their work experience, are prepared for leadership roles or to seek further education at the DNP or PhD level. Throughout the program of study, curriculum is focused on the care of older adults in all settings, and an emphasis is placed on leadership development.

The program of study has been developed so that each semester the student receives a geriatric-intensive experience/class. This reinforces the geriatric materials and exemplars in the non-geriatric intensive courses. All faculty are geriatric experts affiliated with the University of Utah Hartford Center of Geriatric Nursing Excellence. Coursework culminates to a final student-developed and implemented best practice/quality improvement project in the workplace.

Program of Study

Fall	Spring	Summer
<u>NURS 3003: Individual and Family Assessment (3)</u> <u>GERON 5100: Applications of Research in Aging (3) QI</u>	<u>NURS 4050: Nursing History/Health Policy (3) CW</u> <u>NURS 4280: Advanced Concepts in Pathophysiology (3)</u> <u>NURS 5050: Best Practices in Geriatric Nursing (3)</u> <u>UUHSC 5500: Cultural Competency and Mutual Respect (1)</u>	<u>NURS 3005: Global and Community Epidemiology (3) QI IR</u> <u>NURS 3530: Family and Community Focused Care (4) DV</u>
<b style="text-align: center;">Fall <u>NURS 4202: Professional Leadership in Health Care (3)</u> <u>NURS 4410: Integrated Nursing Practice (5)</u>		