



Think **HIGHER**  
SIENA HEIGHTS UNIVERSITY

# SIENA HEIGHTS UNIVERSITY **NURSING**

Sienna Heights University • 1247 East Sienna Heights Drive • Adrian, MI 49221

[www.sienaheights.edu](http://www.sienaheights.edu)

THE ART & SCIENCE OF NURSING



# The Art

"Nursing is an art: and if it is to be made an art, it requires an exclusive devotion as hard a preparation, as any painter's or sculptor's work; for what is the having to do with dead canvas or dead marble, compared with having to do with the living body, the temple of God's spirit? It is one of the Fine Arts: I had almost said, the finest of Fine Arts."

— Florence Nightingale (1820-1910)

We couldn't agree more with the Pioneer of Modern Nursing. The Siena Heights University Nursing Program is modeled after Nightingale's Christian spirit of service and compassion. In fact, the Adrian Dominican Sisters, the congregation who founded Siena Heights, first arrived in Michigan in the 19th century to establish a hospital for injured railroad workers and the poor. Siena Heights is both honoring its past and looking to the future in establishing nursing.

As a Catholic institution in that Dominican tradition, we believe in the dignity and worth of every human being. That philosophy is embedded into every aspect of SHU's Nursing Program. When designing our RN to BSN degree program, we listened to what working nurses told us they needed. That means the courses are practical and relevant to today's health care professional. Students can tie their personal professional experience into the coursework. Classes such as Ethical, Cultural and Spiritual Nursing Practice and Leadership and Health Care Organizations have a strong thread of ethics, leadership and knowledge of health care systems woven into them.



## MISSION

The mission of the Siena Heights University Nursing Program is to educate prospective and practicing nurses in the art and science of nursing. Based upon a liberal arts foundation, the faculty and students collaborate in a dynamic teaching and learning environment that embraces caring, diversity, and creativity. Siena Heights University nurses strive to continually become more competent, purposeful, and ethical in all interactions with individuals, groups, and communities while providing health care. Respectful of the dignity and worth of all people, Siena Heights University nurses are prepared to provide high-quality nursing care in ever-changing health care systems.

*"Patients experience impersonal interactions in health care. A patient is asked for his or her number instead of his name, or is referred to by a diagnosis. Patients are real people with fears, concerns, and needs. Nurses understand the humanness in their patients. Nurses are real people, too, and connect with patients through caring, genuine interactions. Nurses are the heart of health care."*

— Dr. Sue Idczak, Director of the Siena Heights University Nursing Program



# The Science

"The most important practical lesson than can be given to nurses is to teach them what to observe."

— Florence Nightingale

Nightingale knew the importance of observation in nursing practice—a primary concept in science. Nurses incorporate observation, knowledge, experience, and research to move the science of nursing forward. The Siena Nursing faculty will facilitate students to incorporate problem solving skills, evidenced based research, and advanced assessment skills into practice. The Siena Nursing program is dedicated to providing a climate of academic excellence and extending the existing body of nursing knowledge. We believe nursing education best occurs in a teaching and learning environment utilizing critical thinking, scholarly writing, and reflection as keys to knowledge development.



## FACT

"In hospitals with higher proportions of nurses educated at the baccalaureate level or higher, surgical patients experienced lower mortality and failure-to-rescue rates" (Journal of the American Medical Association study, 2003).

The JAMA study also concluded that a 10 percent increase in the proportion of nurses with bachelor's degrees led to a 5 percent decrease in the likelihood of patients dying within 30 days of hospital admission and the odds of failure to rescue. And with many hospitals striving to become part of the Magnet Recognition Program®, hiring nurses with four-year degrees or higher is fast becoming the preferred standard for quality patient care. We believe that health is a continuum, and the goal of nursing is to assist individuals, families, groups and communities toward optimum health.

"...Siena Heights' program offers the promise of training or retraining for good-paying careers. ... Siena Heights deserves credit for embarking on a difficult but potentially rewarding course to meet society's future needs. ...The SHU program will give more local students the option of studying close to home." — From a Jan. 31, 2007, Adrian Daily Telegram editorial.



# Bachelor of Science in Nursing Degree Completion

## RN-BSN PROGRAM

The Bachelor of Science in Nursing Degree Completion for Registered Nurses (RN-BSN program) was designed for licensed RNs to earn a bachelor's degree in nursing. Students admitted to the RN-BSN program must have graduated from an accredited program of nursing — either a two year associate degree nursing program or a diploma degree hospital based program.

### Admission Requirements:

- an unencumbered license to practice as a registered nurse (RN).
- 40 semester hours of transfer credit in approved nursing courses.
- a minimum 2.0 GPA in nursing courses.

### Requirements for graduation with a BSN:

A total of 120 credit hours with a minimum of 64 hours in approved nursing courses.

Completion of required courses outside the major:

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| • English Composition                          | 6   |
| • Mathematics                                  | 3-4 |
| • Anatomy/Physiology                           | 8   |
| • Chemistry                                    | 4   |
| • Microbiology                                 | 4   |
| • Psychology                                   | 3   |
| • Literature, History, Fine or Performing Arts | 3   |
| • Religion or Philosophy *                     | 3   |
| • LAS 401 *                                    | 3   |
| • Approved electives                           | 18  |

\* Must be taken at Siena Heights.

### Residency Requirements:

The required courses below constitute the 30 hours of residency at Siena Heights. All students must apply and be accepted into the Nursing program before enrolling in nursing courses. A grade point average of 2.0 (GPA) must be maintained in all course work.

### Required Nursing Courses:

24 semester hours at Siena Heights University (residency):

|   |   |
|---|---|
| • NUR 301 Transition to Professional Nursing                | 5 |
| • NUR 370 Advanced Health Assessment                        | 4 |
| • NUR 420 Evidenced Based Research in Nursing Practice      | 4 |
| • NUR 440 Health Care of Communities                        | 5 |
| • NUR 460 Ethical, Cultural, and Spiritual Nursing Practice | 3 |
| • NUR 480 Leadership and Health Care Organizations          | 3 |

### Required Non-Nursing Courses:

6 semester hours at Siena Heights University (residency):

|   |   |
|---|---|
| • REL or PHIL course                            | 3 |
| • LAS 401 Senior Seminar: Integrated Experience | 3 |

**For more information about the RN-BSN program at Siena Heights University please call the admissions office at (800) 521-0009, or email us at [admissions@sienaheights.edu](mailto:admissions@sienaheights.edu).**



*“I think one of the most important aspects about our program is we look at what nursing truly is within the health care system. It’s the interaction of the nurse and the patient in the moment. It’s an art and a science.”*

*— Dr. Sue Idczak, Director of the Siena Heights University Nursing Program*

