NCLEX Pass Rate: Class of Fall 2016 87%

Upcoming Events
- Finals April 24-27
- Graduation April 28
  - Commencement @ 900
  - Pinning Ceremony @ 1200
  - COSE Convocation @ 1400
- DN Assessment May 1 @ 900
- Dominican Republic Service Trip May 5-13

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- Faculty Spotlight
- New Computer Lab
- Level Updates
- SNA Update
- Nursing School Tips
- Celebration of Southern Utah Nursing
This summer, SCA 011, located in the Center for Health and Molecular Science building will undergo a remodel to host a computer lab for the nursing department. The cabinets of SCA 011 will be redesigned to house laptops for use of nursing students to complete their ATIs and other computer testing. The computer lab is expected to be ready for use summer of 2017.

Selwyn Layton is an assistant professor in the Department of Nursing at SUU. He has been teaching here since the fall of 2009 where he taught both pharmacology and care of adults. He received his first baccalaureate degree from SUU where he majored in Business Management. Shortly thereafter, Selwyn discovered his passion for the healthcare field and then went on to pursue a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Touro University-Nevada in Henderson, Nevada. He then earned his Master of Science in Nursing Administration with an Education Emphasis from Touro University-Nevada.

He has past experience in education with teaching BLS classes, IV certification classes, and medical assistant courses. Selwyn has completed the BLS certification, American Heart Association BLS instructor certification, ACLS certification, PALS certification, and Trauma Nurse Core Course (TNCC).

Selwyn brings expertise in medical surgical nursing, cardiovascular nursing, and high acuity nursing. He remains current in clinical practice as an emergency nurse in Cedar City Hospital. Selwyn currently teaches high acuity nursing to the level four nursing students at SUU.
“Our class is so excited to be in level 4 and in our last semester of nursing school. We can't believe that we are getting so close to taking the NCLEX and beginning our first jobs as registered nurses. Our class has really enjoyed precepting and the independence we have had this semester. High acuity clinicals have been very educational and improved our critical thinking skills. Many of us recently completed the Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) and Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS) courses. Multiple people in our class already have jobs lined up following graduation. This semester we have welcomed 2 new babies into our class and are expecting another one before graduation. Congrats to our new parents! We are preparing for our graduation and pinning ceremony and can't wait for April 28th to get here. We'd like to thank the faculty for their continued support in helping us to achieve our goals.” -Katelyn Christensen, Level Four

“Level III has brought many new experiences to our class as we have helped bring life into this world and been out in the community doing clinical hours! We have enjoyed a wide variety of learning opportunities including becoming Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) members. Many in our class are now working as Licensed Practical Nurses and we all are looking forward to December and to becoming Registered Nurses! We love the nursing staff here at Southern Utah University and appreciate their hard work and dedication they put into this nursing program! Our advice to the other nursing students is to soak up every new experience you have, even if you realize your niche may not be in labor and delivery!” -Jaycie Smith, Level Three
“Level two has been a blast! Now being able to perform all of the necessary nursing skills, we have had a lot of fun in clinical. Our med/surg and pharmacology class has been challenging, but a lot of us are keeping the motivation up by reminding ourselves that we have the chance to be licensed practical nurses this coming summer!” -Level Two

“Nursing school has been more overwhelming than any of us expected, but it is also more rewarding than we could have imagined. The long hours have been challenging, but it has been a lot of fun to begin to enter the field and practice the skills we have learned in clinical. Level one has been great to us so far and we are excited to see what’s next to come.” -Level One

“The RN to BSN students are busy finishing up the semester and getting excited for graduation in less than a month! It has been the most demanding semester of the program, for sure. Highlights of the semester were our trip to the capital, our high acuity respiratory lab and our contemporary issues presentations! Thanks to all of the SUU nursing department staff for your great instruction and support of our academic pursuits!” -Sandi Wood, RN to BSN
“SNA has worked on two major events this semester: Valentine’s Day Flower Fundraiser and the Light Up the Night 5K. We have had a large amount of involvement with students and volunteers! The students are currently working on the Light Up the Night 5K that we are hosting to raise money for Camp Kesem. Camp Kesem is a nonprofit organization that helps children whose parents have or have had cancer. It is a wonderful cause and we have been working very hard to make this event successful. We have also had the privilege of having a few of our very own students be elected into officer positions for the Utah Student Nurses Association!” –Brittany Wilson, SNA President
We asked level fours, who are less than one month away from graduation, for advice for making it through nursing school—here is what they said:

“Keep track of everything in a planner.” - Abby Oliver

“Do practice questions over summer break.” - Sandra Snow

“Keep track of your clinical hour (especially if you show up early or stay late) from the beginning. This helps you when you start applying for jobs.” - Kiersten McCarthy

“Take as many ATI practice tests as you can before the actual ATI test. Have a group text to remind each other of tests, quizzes, and assignments coming up.” - Kendra Hansen

“Get to know your professor. Do daily NCLEX questions and pass the NCLEX on your first try!” - Kody Holt

“Stay ahead on homework and have your day scheduled out. This way assignments don’t feel as overwhelming!” - Katelyn Christensen

“Take advantage of your clinical experience and ask questions! Study on your own, but also in small groups once you are comfortable with the information.” - Megan McClimans

“Don’t stress too much! You are going to do great! Stay on top of homework and have a positive attitude.” - Whitni McGuire

“Your motivation will drop. Try avoiding temptations such as Netflix, YouTube, and other activities until homework is done! This will only be for a short time. You are almost there. You can do it!” - Sadie Nemelka

“Stay positive!” - Emily Young

“Be ready to work hard and don’t procrastinate! Also breathe and enjoy your free time. It will be hard and extremely overwhelming, but it will all be fine— you will make it.” - Hailey Wilbourne

“Make a list of all your major projects for the semester. Include due dates, topics, and group members. Start working on these projects early so they don’t sneak up on you.” - Marika Schaefer

“Work hard and have fun. Study the ATI books” - Jeff Farnsworth

“It’s going to be busy and stressful, but don’t forget to laugh and enjoy it. Make friends and study hard, but don’t forget to take a break. Remember that you don’t have to be perfect because you’re learning. It will be okay!” - Ashlee Mohr

“Take time for yourself. Exercise, drink water, breathe, and take one day at a time.” - Amber Gloster

“Take time for yourself outside of nursing school. Do something that you love to do. This will help keep you sane throughout the insanity that is nursing school!” - Andrea Fausett
On February 23, 2017, Southern Utah University’s Nursing Department hosted its annual Celebration of Southern Utah Nursing to recognize outstanding nurses within the community. The annual celebration consists of a formal dinner hosted by the program’s level four students as well as a presentation of awards to recognize those nurses nominated as outstanding by community members and their fellow healthcare workers.

This Year’s Nurses Recognized as Outstanding Are:

Medical Surgical Nurse – Amanda Elaine Cooley
Home Health & Hospice Nurse – Jill Marie Maheu
Small Hospital Generalist – Melissa Brinkerhoff
Labor & Delivery Nurse – Kaye L. Holman
Critical Care Nurse/ER – Kimberly Wilde
Long Term Care Nurse – Caralyne Bulloch
Community/Public Health Nurse – Michelle Andersen