

Introduction

This textbook is one of two *English for Nursing* textbooks designed to prepare non-native speakers of English for the language-related skills and tasks and cultural content necessary for success in associate- and baccalaureate-degree nursing programs in the United States. The textbook could also be used in re-entry programs in nursing for internationally educated nurses who need to familiarize themselves with nursing in the United States. This book focuses on **academic** strategies and skills for nursing, including reading and vocabulary, research and writing, and listening and note-taking.

Essential to students' success in nursing courses are the ability to: read and understand nursing textbooks and articles from nursing journals; listen carefully to lectures and take accurate notes; participate in class and group discussions; think critically; and do well on multiple-choice tests. Students must also be able to write coherent, well-organized papers; to analyze, synthesize, and integrate information from a variety of outside sources; and follow academic conventions of paraphrasing, summarizing, quoting, and documenting.

Students must also be aware of and develop strategies for handling issues in nursing that, from a cultural perspective, they may not be comfortable with because nursing in the United States is based on certain cultural values, beliefs, and practices that may or may not be consistent with students' own values, beliefs, and practices. Working through such issues as mental health and illness, and sexuality in nursing, before students enter nursing programs will not only increase students' degree of comfort and confidence in addressing these issues in their courses, but also their ability to handle these issues in practice.

To address these many objectives, this book is divided into six units, each of which focuses on a different academic skill taught through nursing content. The nursing content focuses on nursing as a profession, the nursing shortage, the role of culture in nursing, and culturally sensitive topics in nursing such as mental illness and death and dying. The content is presented in each unit through two readings, either articles from nursing journals or chapters from nursing textbooks. Each unit includes activities based on the academic skills introduced, as well as discussion questions and writing assignments that are more communicative in nature. Available online (www.press@umich.edu/esl/nursingacad/) is a lecture on mental health and illness so students can practice the listening and note-taking skills necessary for lecture comprehension. Available for teachers online is the Instructor's Manual, which provides supplementary material and exercises on grammar and vocabulary points, quizzes for some of the units, and a transcript of the lecture. An answer key is also available online for exercises in the textbook.

The audience for this textbook is ESL pre-nursing students, at both the baccalaureate and associate-degree levels and at the intermediate to advanced levels of language proficiency. Students should be working toward admission to an associate- or baccalaureate-degree program in nursing and should have already taken general academic ESL classes.

The textbook is equally appropriate for immigrants (whether recently arrived, long-term residents, or citizens) and international students. It is also appropriate for internationally educated nurses who need to strengthen their language skills and/or familiarize themselves with cultural issues in nursing while preparing to enter the U.S. workforce.