Congratulations and welcome to the Modesto Junior College Associate Degree Nursing Program!

My name is Jenny Macias. I am the course coordinator for first semester. Your decision to become a registered nurse is the first step to a profession that is incredibly rewarding and fulfilling.

I would like to begin by introducing “what to expect” for the first semester of the program. In first semester, you will learn various skill sets; attend theory, pharmacology and the clinical setting. You will spend a great amount of your own time reading, preparing, practicing, and studying. Students have verbalized they did not realize the amount of work, time, and dedication the nursing program would be. Please know the nursing faculty are here to support you on your journey to become a nurse however, you must not procrastinate and please adhere to directions and deadlines. Also, take the time now to make arrangements for work, childcare, and any other items you may need to address before starting the program. We have had some students who work throughout the program however; the amount of time spent at work is limited. You will feel overwhelmed and stretched at times throughout the semester. We are here to help and support you! Here we go…
Declaration of Intent:
You have been given a link to a website that holds various important documents. The Declaration of Intent is one of those documents that you must read, sign, and submit as soon as possible so we can hold your seat in the program. You must email your signed form to Kendis Bettencourt (bettencourtK@mjc.edu) as soon as possible, otherwise we will assume your plans have changed and we will offer your place to another applicant.

MANDATORY New Student Orientation:
All first semester students are required to attend orientation. New Student Orientation will provide you detailed information about our nursing program, resources at the college, textbook information, we will provide you with a tour of our facilities, take a picture for your Allied Health student badge and student file, you will have an opportunity to meet with other students who are enrolled in our program. We will have one of our Health Services nurses in attendance to answer your Health Clearance process questions. This is the time to come forth with questions, you are completing the necessary steps to enter the program, write down your questions so we can address them.

*** Bring a lunch for this day, we will have a 30 min. break for lunch.

*** A small reception will follow the orientation. This will give you an opportunity to connect with other nursing students!

Primary Clearance:
This includes the following:

- Health Clearance, Drug Screen, Background Check, BLS certification, and Health Stream modules

It is imperative that you begin this process immediately. It is your responsibility all items of the Primary Clearance have been completed by the deadline (the first day of school- Monday by 5 pm). Acute care facilities require all nursing students to complete these items to participate in the clinical experience. If a student is not in compliance, they will not be allowed to continue in the program.

Health Clearance:
The Health Clearance process consists of:

- Positive antibody titers, immunizations, 2-step TB test, and physical exam

Please download and print the (5) Health Clearance forms, which can be found in the link provided. Those forms consist of:

- History and Physical forms
- TST form
- Minimum Submission Requirements form
- Checklist of Forms to Turn In
- Flu Vaccine form
You are strongly encouraged to begin the Health Clearance process immediately. The Modesto Junior College Health Services website will provide you with information on how to access these services and hours of operation (https://www.mjc.edu/studentservices/healthservices/). Consultations with our Health Services staff is on a walk-in basis, so plan accordingly. You will eventually need a second consultation with a Health Services nurse to obtain your “Golden Ticket,” which is your final health clearance. Please bring to both meetings with the Health Services nurse, the printed copies of all health clearance documents and immunization records.

The Primary Clearance deadline for ALL first semester students: The first day of school- Monday by 5pm. You will submit your “Golden Ticket” and other supporting documentation to Kendis Bettencourt (Glacier Hall Room 111).

Please pay careful attention to the types of titers required for hepatitis, varicella and MMR. If you want to have your medical provider draw blood for your titers, please take the MJC Allied Health Minimum Immunization Submission Requirements form (provided on the website through the link provided), so the medical provider knows which titers are required. All students must have blood work drawn for titers for Varicella, Measles, Mumps, and Rubella, as well as Hepatitis B (if you have previously received 3 Hepatitis B immunizations). Titers can be drawn through the Health Services office at MJC as well. You may use the link to access the website that will provide you with a list of titers and the price for those titers to be drawn in our Health Services office. Be prepared to pay with exact cash. It may take up to one week to get your results. Please do not procrastinate!

Also, your titers may indicate you need to receive one or more immunizations before school starts.

**MMR & Varicella:**

****An important note: Varicella and MMR vaccines cannot be obtained until after the 2-step TB testing is completed. These are live vaccines and will nullify the TB skin test results.

It is imperative that you receive your Varicella and MMR vaccines (if needed) as soon as we read your second TB skin test. Otherwise you may not have enough time to complete your health clearance by the first week of the semester.
Tuberculosis Skin Testing (TST):

In order to receive a free TB skin test, you MUST BE REGISTERED for your classes and bring your MJC ID card with a current sticker. This skin test must be placed on a Monday or a Tuesday by a Health Services RN on West Campus during office hours. The test must be read at least 48 hours after it was placed.

The second step of the TB testing must be placed no earlier than 7 days after the first was read, also on a Monday or Tuesday, West Campus Health Services office during office hours. This second step must also be read by a Health Services RN in their office at least 48 hours after it was placed.

Both TST tests may be obtained through the Public Health Department or through your physician. In either of these cases, please download and print the form for the 2-step TST testing process from the link provided with your acceptance packet so that he/she will perform this test according to our protocol: the second TB test must be placed no earlier than 7 days after the first TB test was read.

COLUMBIA students: you must have each TB test administered and read at the same place, either Modesto or Columbia.

***Also, students may receive the T-spot or Quantiferon Gold, which eliminates the need for a two-step TB test.

For students in either Modesto or Columbia, if you are submitting proof of a previous TST from an employer, you do not need to have them use our form. They must abide by the 10 day policy between placement of the first and second test.

****Remember: Varicella and MMR vaccines cannot be obtained until after the 2-step TB testing is completed.

After looking over the Minimum Submission Requirements form found under the Health Clearance link provided on this website, if you have questions about your specific situation, please bring all documents to a Health Services RN at your initial consultation appointment.

Drug Screen and Background Check:

See the Castlebranch Background information sheet on this website for information on completing the drug screen and background check. If you are a student entering the program in the fall semester, you must obtain your Castlebranch Background Check and Drug Screen in the month of August, before the semester starts. If you are a student entering the program in the spring semester, you must obtain your Castlebranch Background Check and Drug Screen in the month of December, before the semester starts. Please refer to the BRN website for questions about criminal backgrounds and what you need to do to prepare for your licensure examination. In addition, you must be cleared through the background check to attend the clinical sites.

You are responsible for turning in completed copies of everything listed on the “Check-list of Forms to Turn In” on the Primary Clearance date (First day of school-Monday by 5pm). The consequence for failure to complete these requirements may result in failure to proceed in the ADN program.
Basic Life Support (BLS) Certification:

ALL nursing students must have current certification from the American Heart Association (AHA) BLS for Healthcare Providers, which may not lapse during the four semesters of the program.

If you are a student entering the program in the fall semester, you must complete the BLS certification in the month of August, before the semester starts. If you are a student entering the program in the spring semester, you must complete the BLS certification in the month of December, before the semester starts.

Below is a list of approved BLS providers. Be sure you have enrolled a BLS course for Healthcare Providers, approved by the American Heart Association.

www.firstladypermanente.com
https://lifesaver.cpr.net/classes/locations/modesto/
www.advatnagementmedicaltraining.com
www.procprclasses.com

Health Stream Modules:

Use the link provided to access the website that will provide information on completing the mandatory Health Stream modules. You will submit two certificates (Rapid Regulatory I and II) on the clearance date (The first day of school- Monday by 5pm). The cost of each module is $3.50.

If you are a student entering the program in the fall semester, you must complete the Rapid Regulatory I & II certificates in the month of August, before the semester starts. If you are a student entering the program in the spring semester, you must complete the Rapid Regulatory I & II certificates in the month of December, before the semester starts.

REGISTRATION FOR NURSING COURSES:

Students must have daily access to a computer. Please register for your nursing courses using our online system, PiratesNet at www.mjc.edu. Your registration date is supplied to you by the college and sent to your school e-mail. You are not able to register for the Nursing Program courses, until your designated registration date/time. When registering, you must set up your MJC student email account. This account will be used to notify you of important MJC information, as well as information related to the nursing program. Your fees are due 10 days after you register.

Register for the following:

- MNURSE 270 Nursing Process: Pharmacology 2 units
- MNURSE 271 Nursing Process: Fundamentals 6.5 units
- MNURSK 800 Nursing Skills Development 0 units
**COURSE INFORMATION, HOURS, AND LOCATION:**

**Modesto students:** Glacier Hall, Room 201, and the nursing skills lab.

**Columbia students:** In Modesto (Glacier Hall 201) for the first day of the semester then, Columbia College: Redbud Room 17 and the nursing skills lab.

**Nursing Process: Fundamentals (MNURSE 271)**
- **Skill Set Days** – Mon. & Tues. 0830 to 1400 (times may vary/ weeks 1-7).
- Please Note: for the first day of school, class will be from 0830 to 1600 with a 30 minute lunch.
- Please refer to the N 271 calendar for specifics.

**Skills Lab**
- In addition to class time, students are expected to **spend 5-8 hours** on their own time, practicing skills in the Skills Lab **each week** throughout the semester.

**Theory**
- **Wednesdays:** 0830 am to 1155 am for the entire semester.

**Clinical**
- **You must be flexible!** You will be placed in a clinical rotation schedule at a local acute care facility. Your clinical days could be on **Monday and/or Tuesday**, but there is a possibility of **Friday and/or Saturday**. Times and places to be announced during or before the first three weeks of school.

**Nursing Process: Pharmacology (MNURSE 270)**
- **Thursdays:** 0830 am to 1045 am for the entire semester.

**Re-Entry Policy:**
I also want you to know ahead of time about our re-entry policy. Students who fail or withdraw from first semester ADN courses (N270 and/or N271) are **NOT** guaranteed re-entry into the ADN program. Students who exit the ADN program must make an appointment with the ADN program director or assistant director for an exit interview. A withdrawal for medical reasons must be substantiated by a physician’s note.

I want you to be aware of these factors early on, so that you understand the commitment you have made to enter into this program.

It is imperative that you plan ahead, make arrangements for childcare, and connect with your employer to make arrangements. Again, this program is time intensive and requires an extensive amount of your own time to prepare, study, and practice.

**CANVAS:**
The N270 & N271 syllabi, course information, and calendars will be available to download and print from CANVAS. You will be given instructions and an access date to download and print documents at New Student Orientation. If you are not familiar with how to use CANVAS, please let us know. We can help you!
TEXTBOOKS:
Textbooks may be purchased at the Pirates Bookstore. You will find a list of the first semester textbooks you need to purchase on this website, provided through the link.

Please note: the bookstore no longer accepts personal checks. Please call the bookstore at 575-6840 or go to their website bookstore.yosemite.cc.ca.us for dates and times of operation. It is advised that you NOT purchase books until after the mandatory New Student Orientation orientation. You will be given information about the textbook bundles, as well as your reading assignment for the first two weeks for theory, pharmacology, and skill sets.

UNIFORMS and SUPPLIES:
The official ADN program uniform and patch must be purchased from Scrubs & Beyond. The store is located at 2225 Plaza Pkwy. Ste. C-15/16 Central Valley Plaza Modesto, CA (209) 527-6028.

You may not substitute other uniform tops or pants, even if similar in appearance. Scrubs & Beyond have the item numbers for you to try on and order. Please be proactive in ordering uniforms as there is an approximate 3 weeks turn-around time for ordering, embroidering, and delivery.

White leather shoes with closed toe and heel must be worn with the uniform, as well as white socks/compression stockings. You must also purchased a retractable badge holder (plain, without writing, MJC blue). In addition, you will be responsible for purchasing your own stethoscope and penlight. Scrubs & Beyond have both items in stock, but you may also purchase these items elsewhere.

You must have your complete uniform by the date of your hospital orientation. Please refer to your student handbook for additional uniform information and you are welcome to ask questions at the New Student Orientation.

Words of Encouragement:
The first semester team and I are looking forward to working with you this semester. It is astonishing to see how much students learn and grow throughout the semester. It will seem like a wild rollercoaster ride, but please enjoy your experience as a nursing student. I am a product of this program and I am proud of this program. There were times when I felt overwhelmed and stressed, but I greatly appreciated the experience I had as a Modesto Junior College nursing student. The nursing faculty are here to support you. Please take advantage of the resources we have to offer here at this college, as well as the program. Use office hours to connect with the faculty, review exams, and to discuss content.

Let’s have a great semester!

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