**What to expect at Saddleback Nursing School**

There are 60 students entering in the Fall.  They have 6 groups of 10 students.  I was assigned Thurs/Fri. at San Clemente Hospital, however, other groups were assigned Monday/Tuesday or Thursday/Friday at Mission Hospital or Hoag  Hospital or Fountain Valley Hospital etc.

Now they also ask us to register for IV therapy which is three Saturdays and The Mental Health training and CPR class are on Sat.

See the N263 for skills lab?  It doesn't show any dates, it's because that is days they assign once we start.  
The first semester takes up most of your time since you are doing skills training along with clinicals 2 days a week and lecture is once a week (every Wed. for the full 2 years)

After the first semester, I hear we can pick our clinical dates and hospital when we register.  It will depend on our registration date as to if we get what we want or not, so you don't want to have too many credits and a late registration date because you will get last pick.

As far as anything you could do to make the students more prepare....tell them to start saving money!  The cost of uniforms, books, equipment and other misc. things it costs approx. $2000 up front.

You have already prepared them study wise.  I learned a lot about Anatomy, but I also learned good study habits from you.  When you explained that your lecture quizzes were to get people to study in between the lab practicums, it is true.  Otherwise, I would not have studied until the last minute and would have done poorly.   When you explained that we MUST memorize a certain amount of bones(muscles etc) each day and build upon it, you were dead on.  You said to memorize an easy part of the body with a hard part to even it out instead of starting off with all hard and giving up or starting off easy and giving up by the time it gets hard!  That information on how to study was very helpful in your class as well as all my other classes and now I feel prepared to take on all the info. I need to study for the nursing program.

They have already posted 7 assignments due the first day of class and we will be tested.  It is overwhelming to some, however, I am going to split it up evenly over the next 7 days (just like you taught us) so it won't be so overwhelming and I will feel confident.

The only way to have a job while in the program would be to work nights or weekends.  Even that would have to be under 15 hours a week.  I believe there is a test once a week on skills and lecture so you need to study and practice when you are not in lecture and at clinicals.

I had to quit my job for the school district since I work days and it would conflict with the nursing program.  I just started working as a Basic Life Support Instructor (CPR for healthcare providers) That way, I am working nights and weekends.  The owner is an RN that graduated from SB nursing program so he understands how demanding the program is the first semester.  He only schedules me to work one day a week right now until my load lightens up and I can teach more classes.

That's why I saved up money the past 2 years too.  Some students try to work at a hospital, but most are waitresses or don't work and live with their parents or their spouse supports them.

I applied for financial aid but that isn't disbursed until a few weeks into the semester.  I heard that hospitals will hire you as a nurse’s assistant after your first semester if they like you. (Last semester 2 people from the program were hired at San Clemente Hospital as nurse assistants so have been working all summer).

Derek said he also had to quit his job to be able to get through the accelerated program at Concordia for his BSN

There are always scholarships to apply for too.  Once you get an acceptance letter to a program, apply immediately because the scholarships pay more if you are already in a nursing program.

You could also let them know to get the BLS training ASAP.  The card is good for 2 years and it will help them to copy it and turn in with their application.  The company I work at is right down the street from Saddleback College in Mission Viejo.  The website is:  <http://expresstraining.net/>  
they also have ACLS, PALS and lots of other training for nurses.  I am in the process of working with him to offer a workshop class for the TEAS exam (a required exam to take prior to applying to any California nursing program) because a high score on that exam can almost guarantee you into any program :)  
He is hoping to be able to offer that workshop class within the next few months.  
Let me know if you or the students have any other questions, I would be more than happy to help :)

Sandy Kudza <sandykudza@gmail.com>

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **ENROLL IN THE FOLLOWING CLASSES AFTER COMPLETING ALL REQUIRED PAPERWORK** | | |
|  | **FALL 2012**  **N 170 Lecture**  **N 170 Lab**  **N 171 Lecture**  **N 171 Lab**  **N263** | Fundamentals of Nursing **Wednesday 7:30-11:20am and 1:00-**  **2:20pm**   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **San Clemente, ticket # 22120** | **Thursday/Friday** |   **LAB 6:30am-4:00pm Aug. 23- Oct. 29, 2012**  **First three weeks of semester Aug. 23 – Sept. 13, 2012, at Saddleback College, then 7 weeks at Hospital**  Mental Health Nursing **Monday and Wednesday 1:00-3:35**  **October 31, 2012 (last 6 weeks of the semester)**   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **College Hospital, ticket # 22105** | **Thursday** |   LAB 6:45 am – 3:00 pm  Skills Lab – Basic |
|  |  |  |
| **YOU MAY ENROLL IN THE FOLLOWING CLASSES WHEN YOU HAVE YOUR PERMIT TO REGISTER** | | |
| **\* REQUIRED**  **COURSES** | **GERO 101** | **Lifecycle I (If you have not already completed course yet)**  **Wednesday or Thursday during 2nd 8 weeks** |
|  | **N160** | **Pharmacology (If you have not already completed course yet) Tuesdays or Thursdays** |
| **\* SUPPORT**  **CLASSES** |  | |
|  | **N 202** | Success Strategies in Nursing, August 17, 2012 |
|  | **HSC 291** | Management of Assaultive Behavior *(REQUIRED.) Offered during the*  *semester prior to the beginning of N171 Mental Health Nursing Lab.)*  *Offered Sept. 15, OR Sept. 20, OR Sept. 22, 2012 8am – 4:05 pm* |
|  | **HSC 222**  **CPR** | **All nursing students are required to have a current CPR (Health Care Provider) Card from American Heart Association.**  *September 8 and September 9, 2012 at Saddleback College*  *or Lifeline (949)347-0247* |