



## **Lecture one**

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**PhD Community Health Nursing .**

**Definition of nursing // Nursing** is a profession within the health care sector focused on the care of individuals, families, and communities so they may maintain, or recover optimal health and quality of life. Nurses may be differentiated from other health care providers by their approach to patient care, training, and scope of practice. Nursing, as an integral part of the health care system, include the promotion

of health, prevention of illness, and care of physically ill, mentally ill, and disabled people of all ages, in all health care and other community settings.

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**Definition of a Nurse.** The nurse is a person who has completed a program of basic, generalized nursing education and is authorized by the appropriate regulatory authority to practice nursing in his/her country. Basic nursing education is a formally recognized programmed of study providing a broad and sound foundation in the behavioral, life and others.

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**History of Nursing.**

Throughout the years nurses have played a pivotal role in the health and welfare of the population across the lifespan, and around the world. Recognizing the significance of the past on our current and future profession, the American Association for the History of Nursing advocates for the inclusion of nursing history in nursing curricula.

**Florence Nightingale and the Introduction to Modern Nursing**

When looking at the rise of modern nursing within Europe, it's important to note that Florence Nightingale helped to change the nature of the profession forever. Around the early to late 1900's, nursing was becoming more important than ever, as nurses were needed on the front lines of the many wars being happened , from the Crimean War to the Civil War. Nurses were sent to attend to the sick and wounded soldiers in battle. Florence Nightingale began her nursing care as a nurse within the Crimean War that took place in the mid 1850's, tending to injured soldiers on the battlefield. During this time, deaths from injuries were increased , due to the lack of general hygiene and the huge amount of fatal infections that resulted from these

wounds. Upon encountering this, Nightingale asked for and received aid from the British government that allowed for much better hygiene throughout the battlefield and nearby hospital. It was due to this that the rate of death from infections dropped quickly in a short period of time. Throughout the rest of her life, Nightingale advocated for sanitary living conditions for patients, as well as providing similar designs to be implemented within hospitals, an ideal that has spread throughout the entirety of the nursing profession .



**Florence Nightingale**

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**Modern Nursing Within Europe:** It was because of the influence of Florence Nightingale that nursing as a profession became what it is today, though both Europe and the U.S. offered different advancements throughout the period leading up until now. As for Europe, the nursing profession improved when, in 1860, Nightingale opened the very first nursing school in London, which was known as the Florence Nightingale School for Nurses. This helped to put the way for more and more schools being founded and opened officially for preparation nurses to receive actual training and education for the field they were entering, thus providing basic for

modern nursing. While Florence Nightingale is one of the most popular nurses in history, it is not to be believed that she was the only one in nursing. In fact, there were a few others that helped to provide advancements to nursing in the 1800's. For instance, Clarissa Harlowe Barton was a nurse who founded the American Red Cross soon after the Civil War, while Linda Richards and Agnes Elizabeth Jones helped to create a number of nursing schools throughout the U.S. and Japan during the mid to late 1800's. These women worked tirelessly to provide high quality health care to anyone that needed it, providing the model for nursing that still exists today.

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### **Education Required of a Nurse Today**

While in the late 1800's and 1900's, those looking to become nurses would simply go to school and achieve a certification in nursing, it's now possible to attend nursing school and choose any number of degrees to graduate with. Here's a small look at what those are. In the U.S., you can choose to receive a diploma in nursing, which merely requires 3 years of study and a certain amount of hours of hospital-based work. This type of degree is the oldest such nursing degree and has been present since the late 1800's. Today, students have the added option of choosing to gain an associate's degree in nursing, as well as a bachelor's degree, master's degree or even a doctorate degree in nursing. Each successive degree requires extra years of study, though also gives students better career opportunities within the field of nursing. Upon obtaining any one of these degree types, students will then have the opportunity of taking a licensure examination and becoming a registered nurse or practionniaer or advanced nurses practionniaer. While the role of nurses in the world has expanded dramatically within the last 2 centuries, it's clear that nursing will continue to grow into an even more important aspect of the health care.

