Considering Online Nursing Courses?

If you are considering an online course please realize that there are advantages and disadvantages to taking an online nursing course. Online classes are not easier, actually may seem more difficult for you and some students do not learn well in an online environment. Some pros and cons are some identified below:

- To increase your chance of success in an online course, we recommend that a student should have had courses such as Introduction to Computers, Introduction to the Internet or relevant experience.

- Online or independent study courses sound really great, but the completion rate is often less than face to face. Students often find the online format difficult.

- There is a nursing program policy that states a student may only enter a nursing core course twice. If you register for an online nursing course and withdraw from it, that enrollment counts as one of your attempts for that course. So please be sure that this is the best choice for you.

- If you complete the first two nursing theory courses, you cannot work ahead. The prerequisite to 2nd semester theory courses is completion of all courses in first semester.

- Previous and current nursing students find the peer support, study groups, face to face interaction with the instructor a very important component of the nursing program. These things will be very different in an online course.

- Students in nursing classes form groups and progress through the nursing program sequence. Students who choose online options will take an online course independently then join the cohort, then leave the group for another online course. This sometimes creates difficulty for students who do not formally merge with the larger group. Consider how you learn the best.

- Some students find online very difficult while other students who are able to put in the time and commitment find online courses very rewarding.