

Medicine Wheel Paradigm

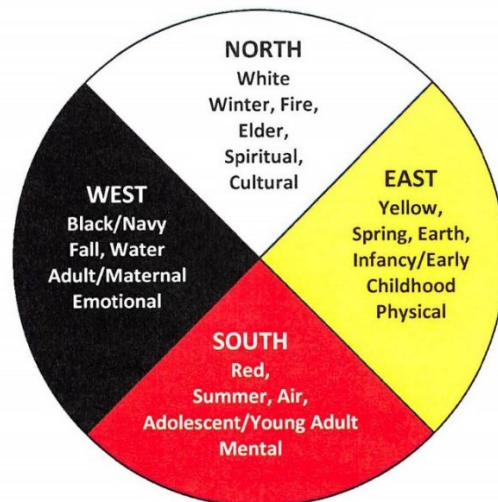
Woven into the nursing education program is the grounding paradigm of the Medicine Wheel, which represents the holistic and balanced nature of traditional life ways and ways of knowing for cultural groups. This model, in multiple variations, is common to many American Indian tribes, and is utilized to represent the cycle of life and guide work with individuals, families, or communities from the perspectives of health, education, sociology, or spirituality.

The four quadrants or directions (East, South, West, North) represent holistic characteristics which fit with the four concepts of nursing's metaparadigm (health, nursing, person, and environment) (Moss, 2016). Each direction is represented by a color (yellow, red, black/navy blue, white), a season (spring, summer, fall, winter), a dimension of the person/being (physical, mental/cognitive, emotional, spiritual), and a specific age group and/or stage of development (infancy/childhood, Adolescence/youth, adult, elder).

As the seasons and stages of development cycle with the sun and direction of the clock, the concept of the person is comprehensive and holistic throughout and across all seasons/stages of development. This careful balance of comprehensive, multi-dimensional perspectives from the Medicine Wheel align with the holistic nature of nursing and nursing education.

Utilization of these concepts throughout the nursing education program will support cultural safety for both the nursing students and their future patients of culturally diverse backgrounds. Use of the Medicine Wheel to guide the inclusion of culture into the development and implementation of the Nursing Program upholds the mission of the institution to link cultural tradition with contemporary education for ensuring highly competent, safe, and holistic nursing care. (Moss, 2016)

Aaniiih Nakoda College Grow Our Own Nursing Medicine Wheel



Alignment of End-of-Program Student Learning Outcomes, Medicine Wheel Concepts (Moss, 2016), Professional Competencies and Contemporary Professional Nursing Standards

End-of-Program Student Learning Outcome (SLOs)	Medicine Wheel (MW) Concepts (Moss, 2016) related to Aaniiih Nakoda College Nursing Mission and Philosophy (M&P)	Professional Competencies	National Student Nurses Association Code of Ethics Core Values (Contemporary Professional Nursing Standards)
1. Apply the Medicine Wheel Paradigm (Moss, 2016) of Aaniiih Nakoda College's <i>Grow Our Own</i> Nursing Program to provide multi-dimensional nursing care to meet the healthcare needs of patients in the local and regional communities.	MW: Holistic ANC M&P: Holistic and cultural sensitivity	QSEN: Patient-centered care NLN: Human Flourishing	Quality Education Advocacy Care Diversity
2. Integrate an American Indian focus to administer culturally safe patient and family-centered holistic care throughout the Medicine Wheel (Moss,2016) lifespan seasons.	MW: Multi-dimensional Care ANC M&P: Maintain and revitalize indigenous lifeways of Aaniinen and Nakoda Tribes	QSEN: Teamwork and collaboration NLN: Human Flourishing Nursing Judgment Professional Identity Spirit of Inquiry	Leadership & Autonomy Quality Education Advocacy Care Diversity
3. Utilize the nursing process to incorporate evidence-based knowledge and resources to provide balanced, quality patient care.	MW: Cultural Safety ANC M&P: Linking cultural tradition & contemporary knowledge in culturally appropriate manner	QSEN: Safety NLN: Human Flourishing Nursing Judgment Professional Identity Spirit of Inquiry	Quality Education Advocacy Professionalism Care Diversity
4. Incorporate the values of the Aaniiih and Nakoda lifeways to combine cultural, legal, and ethical accountability into professional nursing practice.	MW: Balanced Care ANC M&P: Individual and community development, empowerment, <i>Grow Our Own</i> nurses	QSEN: Informatics Evidence-based practice NLN: Nursing judgement Professional Identity, Spirit of inquiry	Advocacy Professionalism Diversity

Medicine Wheel and Alignment References:

- Alignment concepts completed by Brown, B., Werk, A. and Hemmer B. (2018). Aaniiih Nakoda College.
- Moss, M. (ed.). (2016). *American Indian health and nursing*. New York, NY: Springer Publishing Company. (Medicine Wheel with adaptations from Brown, B. & Werk, A., Aaniiih Nakoda College in 2018).
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