

**Margaret H. Rollins School of Nursing**  
**Foundations of Nursing – Nursing 101**  
**Unit I Vocabulary Words**

**Accreditation** – recognizes that institutions or programs meet national standards

**Accountability** – responsible for own actions and to accept the consequences of one's behavior.

**Advocacy** – to protect patient rights when the patient is unable to do so themselves

**Articulation** – formalized arrangement between educational institutions to promote educational mobility.

**Autonomy** – state of being independent and self-directed, to make one's own decisions

**Certification** – recognition of meeting standards of competency in specialty area.

**CEU** – continuing educational unit. Necessary to maintain credentialing for RNs in most states.

**Credentialing** – determining and maintaining standards of practice to promote quality.

**Confidentiality** – protecting one's privacy. No information will be made public without consent of person.

**Ethics** – branch of philosophy that deals with standards of conduct and moral judgment

**Evidence Based Practice** – best practice standards based on scientific research and body of knowledge

**Holistic** – caring for the whole person mind, body, and spirit.

**Integrity** – following the code of ethics. “doing the right thing”.

**Joint Commission** – organization that accredits healthcare facilities to promote quality.

**Malpractice** – negligent acts by persons with specialized education.

**NCLEX** – National Council Licensure Exam. Exam taken to obtain RN license. “Boards”

**Negligence** – failure to behave in a reasonable and prudent manner. Unintentional tort.

**Patient Bill of Rights** – set of 7 rights and one responsibility to strengthen consumer confidence in a fair and responsive healthcare system.

**Profession** – occupation that requires special knowledge, skill and preparation.