

# Nursing, Registered NURSE

Associate in Science Degree

Division of Science and Allied Health

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Nursing, Registered

## Career Opportunities

This program prepares the student for employment as an entry-level staff nurse in hospitals, doctors' offices, skilled nursing or extended care facilities, surgery centers, ambulatory care settings, occupational health and other related agencies. Registered nurses provide nursing care to clients and groups of clients throughout the lifespan. They have many responsibilities from direct patient care to leadership roles, depending on the specific setting in which they are working. Program graduates are eligible to apply for the examination given by the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses.

## Recommended High School Preparation

College preparatory courses including algebra, biology, chemistry and physiology. A chemistry course with laboratory experience in a college or university with a grade of "C" or better is required as prerequisite to the basic science courses.

## Program Information

The Associate in Science Degree Program of Nursing at Sacramento City College is approved by the California Board of Registered Nursing. Students enrolled in this program are required to complete a combination of general education, science, and nursing education courses with related clinical experiences in cooperating local hospitals. The complete program is four semesters and two summer sessions in length-80-82 units total.

In addition to regular expenses such as enrollment fees, living costs, activity fees and books, nursing major students also have the expense of uniforms, equipment, professional liability insurance, graduation and licensing costs. They also have the responsibility for their physical examinations, required immunizations, background checks, and drug screens as well as transportation to and from clinical agencies for day and evening learning experiences. All enrolled students must have a current CPR Category "C" American Heart Association or Professional Rescuer American Red Cross Certificate.

## Additional Information

Informational meetings are held several times each semester and provide prospective students with information on program prerequisites, enrollment process, and other facts about the program. For information call (916) 558-2271 or visit the SCC Web Site at <http://www.scc.losrios.edu>.

## Enrollment Eligibility

Completion of BIOL 430 and BIOL 431 (Anatomy and Physiology) and BIOL 440 (Microbiology) with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better.

Completion of NUTRI 300 (Nutrition) or FCS 340, FCS 324/ PSYC 370 (Human Development: A Life Span), PSYC 300 (General Principles), and ENGWR 300 with a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or better.

Completion of ENGRD 110, with a grade of "C" or better, or eligibility for ENGRD 310 as determined by the reading assessment process for all applicants who do not have an AA degree or higher.

Courses taken for Credit/No Credit (C/NC) will be calculated into GPAs as a "C" grade.

Graduation from an accredited high school (graduates from outside the United States must have transcripts evaluated by an approved independent agency), or successful completion of General Education Development (GED) or California High School Proficiency Exam (CHSPE). These requirements are defined by the current Nurse Practice Act, Title 16, California Code of Regulations, Section 1412.

## Enrollment Process

1. Applications for enrollment and official transcripts supporting completion of prerequisite courses must be submitted to the Science and Allied Health Division by the posted due date. Enrollment applications and deadlines are available from the Science & Allied Health Division Office (Mohr Hall, Room 18 or 558-2271) or the SCC website at <http://www.scc.losrios.edu/~nursing/>.
2. Successful completion of the enrollment eligibility requirements places the applicant in the pool of qualified applicants. A computerized random selection process is used to select students to be offered enrollment.
3. All students offered enrollment into the Nursing program will complete the Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS) developed by Assessment Technologies Institute, LLC (ATI). A composite score of 67 is required for program enrollment. Additional information is available from the Nursing department or on the SCC Nursing website.
4. Students accepted to the nursing program will be required to complete a physical examination, inoculations, drug screen, background check, and possess a current CPR card and malpractice insurance prior to the start of the semester.

## Nursing, Registered Associate in Science Degree

### Required Program

#### Nursing Courses Units

First Semester - NURSE 405, Fundamentals of Health and Nursing Care.....	10.5
Second Semester- NURSE 415, Nursing and Health Maintenance Through Adult Years .....	11.0
Third Semester - NURSE 425, Nursing Complex Health Problems Through the Life Cycle .....	11.0
Fourth Semester - NURSE 435, Complex and Multiple Patient Care.....	10.0
NURSE 445, Clinical Seminar .....	0.5
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>43</b>

#### General Education and Science Courses Required for the Nursing Program Units

ENGWR 300, College Composition .....	3
COMM 301, Introduction to Public Speaking (3)..... or COMM 331, Group Discussion (3)	3
PSYC 300, General Principles.....	3
SOC 300, Introductory Sociology (3)..... or ANTH 310, Cultural Anthropology (3)	3
FCS 324, Human Development.....	3
FCS 340, Nutrition .....	3
or NUTRI 300, Nutrition (3)	
BIOL 430, Anatomy and Physiology .....	5
BIOL 431, Anatomy and Physiology .....	5
BIOL 440, General Microbiology .....	4
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>32</b>

**Total Program Units 75**

### Associate in Science (A.S.) Degree

All Nursing Students must meet graduation requirements for the Associate Degree which will be obtained by completing the required courses listed above plus the general education requirements.

#### NOTE:

- Nursing courses must be taken in sequence.
- Graduation requirements may be taken before entering the nursing program or concurrently. A grade of "C" or better is mandatory in each course in the Required Program above for progression in the program and for recommendation for application for the licensing examination. If the grade for the performance in the clinical area is unsatisfactory, the semester grade will be "F" irrespective of achievement on paper and pencil tests. Students who need tutoring may enroll in HSER 1000.
- In order to obtain a R.N. License as a graduate, students must be degreed by the conclusion of NURSE 435.

## Enrollment Options for Licensed Vocational Nurses

LVNs seeking entry are subject to space availability. These applicants have four options to prepare for the California licensure examination for Registered Nurses.

- 30 unit option: The LVN must complete physiology and microbiology prior to entering the second year nursing courses, NURSE 425 and NURSE 435. This option does not lead to an Associate Degree in Nursing.
- LVNs who seek advanced placement by challenge examinations (15 units are the maximum number allowed) in the ADN program must meet all program requirements for science, communication and Associate in Science Degree.
- LVNs who wish to pursue the Associate in Science Degree in Nursing through the generic program must meet all requirements for admission.
- LVNs seeking career mobility option must meet all the program requirements for science, communication and Associate in Science degree and complete NURSE 305, 425, 435, and 445.

## Baccalaureate Degree

Since the various Schools of Nursing may change prerequisite and admissions procedures, it is important that nursing students who are contemplating transfer to a four-year institution consult with a counselor as early as possible.

## Diploma RN Pursuing Associate Degree

Graduates of hospital schools of nursing who are currently licensed in California may earn an Associate in Science Degree at Sacramento City College. This R.N. will need to do the following:

- Complete requirements for an Associate in Science Degree (consult with counselor on graduation requirements). At least 12 units must be completed at Sacramento City College to meet the residency requirement.
- Petition for graduation. At this time the college will grant 30 units in nursing toward the major.

Interested registered nurses should contact the Science & Allied Health Division, Mohr Hall 18, (916) 558-2271.

#### Transfer

Transfer students must present evidence of comparable theory and clinical practice and are admitted on a space available basis.

#### Enrollment, Reentry or Transfer

Those students seeking enrollment, re-entry or transfer should contact the Director of the Associate Degree Nursing Program, Sacramento City College, 3835 Freeport Boulevard, Sacramento, CA 95822 or call (916) 558-2271.

# Nursing, Registered (NURSE)

## **NURSE 305 Transition to Associate Degree Nursing 4 Units**

*Prerequisite:* Completion of BIOL 430, BIOL 431, and BIOL 440 with a cumulative GPA of 3.0; PSYC 300, FCS 340, FCS 324; ENGWR 300, COMM 301 or 331, and SOC 300 or ANTH 310 with a cumulative GPA of 2.5.

*Enrollment Limitation:* Student must have completed Registered (Associate Degree) Nursing program application enrollment process before they are eligible to enroll in nursing courses. Student must possess a current California license as a Licensed Vocational Nurse.

*Course Transferable to CSU*

*Hours:* 54 hours LEC; 54 hours LAB

This bridge course is designed for the California Licensed Vocational Nurse (LVN) who is admitted for advanced placement into the second year of the Associate Degree Nursing Program. Critical thinking skills necessary for successful role transition are emphasized throughout the course. Topics include care of adult and geriatric clients with specific medical-surgical nursing disorders, assessment skills, pharmacology, nursing process, theory-based nursing practice, legal/ethical issues, cultural and ethnic diversity, and the educator role of the Registered Nurse (RN). Concurrent acute care hospital laboratory experience emphasizes critical thinking, problem solving, decision making, and implementing nursing theory in clinical practice.

## **NURSE 315 Pharmacology and Implications for Nursing 2 Units**

*Prerequisite:* None.

*Course Transferable to CSU*

*Hours:* 36 hours LEC

This course will detail the principles of pharmacology, pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics, pharmacotherapeutics, and adverse drug reactions. The major drug classes and related nursing implications for people receiving drugs that affect the body systems, prevent and treat pain, infections, malignant neoplasms, and seizure disorders will be discussed. In addition, drugs that alter psychogenic behavior and sleep patterns will be presented.

## **NURSE 325 Medical Dosage Calculations 1 Unit**

*Prerequisite:* None.

*Course Transferable to CSU*

*Hours:* 18 hours LEC

This course prepares students to accurately calculate oral and parenteral drug dosages for medication administration. Students will learn three systems of measurement and conversion from one system to another. Basic flow rates of IV fluids will be covered. Course content will also include: 1) review of basic arithmetic operations used in dosage calculations; 2) interpretation of drug labels; 3) common medical abbreviations used in dosage calculations; 4) use of the following methods: basic formulas, ratio and proportion, fractional equation, and dimensional analysis in dosage calculations. Calculators will not be used in this course.

## **NURSE 370 Focused Learning in the Associate Degree Nursing Program 1-1.5 Units**

*Prerequisite:* See enrollment limitations.

*Corequisite:* NURSE 405 (Fundamentals of Health and Nursing Care), or NURSE 415 (Nursing and Health Maintenance through Adult Years), or NURSE 425 (Nursing Complex Health Problems throughout the Life Cycle), or NURSE 435 (Complex and Multiple Patient Care).

*Enrollment Limitation:* Acceptance into the Registered (Associate Degree) Nursing Program.

*Course Transferable to CSU*

*Hours:* 6 hours LEC; 63 hours LAB

This course offers strategies to enhance student success in each of the four semesters of the Registered (Associate Degree) Nursing program and in the National Licensure Examination for Nurses after graduation. This course assesses personal aptitudes, learning styles, strengths and weaknesses in written and verbal communication, and potential barriers to successful completion of the nursing program. The course includes the development of personal and professional support systems and development of a purposeful analytic process that results in reasoned decisions and judgments as a healthcare professional. The goal will be to level focused learning from simple to complex as students advance through the nursing program. Course content will address the specific needs of the student as they adapt to clinical, theory and evaluation methods required in the nursing classes and includes evaluation of mastery of the concurrent Registered (Associate Degree) Nursing course objectives and remediation before the final examination. This course utilizes Regional Health Occupations Resource Centers (RHORC) Student Success materials and Assessment Technologies Institute (ATI) teaching materials that supplement and review the Associate Degree content.

## **NURSE 380 Preparing for a Nursing Career 1 Unit**

*Prerequisite:* ENGWR 100 and MATH 100 with a grade of "C" or better.

*Course Transferable to CSU*

*Hours:* 18 hours LEC

This course presents the role of the Registered Nurse (RN) and the Licensed Vocational Nurse (LVN) within various settings in today's health care systems. Students assess their own learning styles and compare their abilities to those required in nursing; critical thinking is applied to several scenarios. Written, verbal, and math skills are emphasized along with learning resources, study strategies, legal and ethical aspects of practice, and stress management. The rigors of being a nursing student and graduate nurse are presented along with information on the current job market and opportunities for advancement in nursing.

## **NURSE 405 Fundamentals of Health and Nursing Care 10.5 Units**

*Prerequisite: See Enrollment Limitations.*

*Enrollment Limitation: Acceptance into the Registered (Associate Degree) Nursing Program and Completion of BIOL 430, 431 and 440 with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better. Completion of FCS 340, FCS 324, ENGRD 300, and PSYC 300 with grades of "C" or better and a cumulative GPA of 2.5 in these four (4) courses. Completion of ENGRD 110 or eligibility for ENGRD 310 as determined by the reading assessment process for all applicants who do not have an AA Degree or higher.*

*Course Transferable to CSU*

*Hours: 72 hours LEC; 351 hours LAB*

This course utilizes the conceptual framework of the curriculum (Basic Human Needs, Life-Cycle Development, Health Illness, Significant Health Problems, Stress Adaptation) to provide the foundation for the following three semesters of the program. It includes an introduction to nursing, its evolution, present trends and issues, legal aspects, and concepts underlying today's practice. Basic principles of delegation, management and home care are introduced and integrated into appropriate content. The theory and related clinical experiences prepare the student to utilize critical thinking and the nursing process in providing direct patient care with a focus on basic human needs. The student learns to use standard nursing measures to support patient's adaptive mechanisms for attaining and maintaining wellness during early, middle and late adulthood. The sub-concepts integrated throughout the course are personal hygiene, nutrition, communications, human sexuality, cultural diversity, legal/ethical aspects, pharmacology and pathophysiology. Emphasis is given to the promotion of health in the elderly and in persons with varying degrees of immobility.

## **NURSE 415 Nursing and Health Maintenance Through Adult Years 11 Units**

*Prerequisite: NURSE 405 and COMM 301 or COMM 331 with grades of "C" or better.*

*Enrollment Limitation: Enrollment in Associate Degree Nursing (Registered Nursing) program.*

*Course Transferable to CSU*

*Hours: 90 hours LEC; 324 hours LAB*

This course presents theory and practice related to helping patients cope with the physiological stressors commonly encountered in the adult years. Content focuses on common medical-surgical health problems related to the adult and older adult in the acute care, home care, rehabilitation, and community settings. Theory related to personal hygiene, nutrition, communication, pathophysiology, pharmacology, and common health resources is integrated throughout the course. Learning experiences provide students with the opportunity to acquire new clinical skills and apply previously learned principles and concepts in a variety of clinical settings. There is an emphasis on the utilization of the nursing process, management, delegation and critical thinking skills to meet basic human needs, promote health and prevent illness.

## **NURSE 425 Nursing Complex Health Problems Throughout the Life Cycle 11 Units**

*Prerequisite: NURSE 415 with a grade of "C" or better; Completion of SOC 300 or ANTH 310 with a grade of "C" or better.*

*Enrollment Limitation: Enrollment in Associate Degree Nursing (Registered Nursing) program*

*Course Transferable to CSU*

*Hours: 90 hours LEC; 324 hours LAB*

This course emphasizes theory and clinical experiences related to helping patients/families adapt to pathophysiological and psychopathological stressors in addition to assisting patients of all ages in meeting their health promotion needs. Content focuses on the application of medical/surgical principles for adult/pediatric patients and application of psychiatric nursing principles for adult/pediatric mental health patients. The sub-concepts integrated throughout the course include pathophysiology, psychopathophysiology, pharmacology, mental health disorders, adult acute/chronic illnesses and pediatric acute/chronic illnesses, family/patient centered care, health promotion, illness prevention, community health, end-of-life and palliative care, rehabilitative concepts, and evaluation of patient centered nursing outcomes. Learning experiences in the classroom and clinical settings provide students the opportunity to utilize the nursing process as well as organizational, decision-making, critical thinking, interdisciplinary communication, and delegation skills when helping patients of all ages attain optimal physical and mental health.

## **NURSE 435 Complex and Multiple Patient Care 10 Units**

*Prerequisite: NURSE 425 with a grade of "C" or better*

*Corequisite: NURSE 445*

*Enrollment Limitation: Enrollment in the Associate Degree Nursing (Registered Nursing) program*

*Course Transferable to CSU*

*Hours: 72 hours LEC; 324 hours LAB*

The last semester course focuses on theory and practice related to multiple patient assignments and to caring for patients with complex health problems. The learning experiences provide the student with the opportunity to continue developing skills, emphasizing organization, priority setting, decision making, critical thinking, leadership, management, delegating, and ethical and legal personal accountability. Clinical experiences may include, but are not limited to, acute, subacute, extended care, home health care, and hospice.

## **NURSE 445 Clinical Seminar .5 Units**

*Prerequisite: NURSE 425 with a grade of "C" or better*

*Corequisite: NURSE 435*

*Enrollment Limitation: Enrollment in the Associate Degree Nursing (Registered Nursing) program*

*Course Transferable to CSU*

*Hours: 27 hours LAB*

This course is designed to provide supplemental clinical information related to current nursing practice and health care issues.

**NURSE 495 Independent Studies in Nursing 1-3 Units**

*Prerequisite:* None

*Course Transferable to UC/CSU*

*Hours:* 54 hours LEC

See Independent Studies.

**NURSE 499 Experimental Offering in Nursing .5-4 Units**

*Prerequisite:* None

*Course Transferable to CSU*

*Hours:* 54 hours LEC; 63 hours LAB

See Experimental Offerings.

**NURSE 1000 NCLEX-RN Review 1-3 Units**

*Prerequisite:* NURSE 425 with a grade of "C" or better

*Corequisite:* NURSE 435

*Hours:* 27 hours LEC; 81 hours LAB

This course prepares the student to take the NCLEX-RN (National Council Licensure Examination-Registered Nurse). Coursework includes computer test-taking skills, barriers to success, identification of knowledge deficits via a standardized assessment test, and overview of NCLEX-RN content areas. In the classroom, students may earn .5 unit of credit for every 9 hours. In the lab, students implement an individualized study plan and may earn .5 unit of credit for every 27 hours of work. This course is designed to be taken during the last semester of an RN program or after completion of a nursing program. The course is designed for first-time and repeat test takers. This course is graded as Credit/No Credit.