

RN-BSN ARTICULATION GUIDELINES

The RN-BSN Articulation provides an opportunity for Registered Nurses (RNs) to pursue a BSN degree, and is designed to validate and award credit for existing knowledge, while remaining consistent with the objectives of the generic BSN Program.

Accreditation and Approval

The BSN Program holds full approval status by Louisiana State Board of Nursing (LSBN), 17373 Perkins Road, Baton Rouge, LA 70810, (225) 755-7500 and is accredited by the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC), 61 Broadway – 33rd Floor, New York, NY 10006, (212)363-5555 and the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE), Department 210, Washington, DC 20055-210, (202)785-8320.

Admission/Retention/Progression Criteria

1. Application for the Bachelor of Science in Nursing Program on file in the Department of Nursing.
2. Official transcripts from all colleges or universities attended on file with the University.
3. Yearly documentation of unencumbered Louisiana licensure as a RN on file in the Department of Nursing.
4. Maintenance of a minimum grade of “C” and a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 (4.0 scale) in all required courses in the curriculum.
5. A student is permitted one failure or withdrawal in N226, N417, N420, N422, N427, and N428.
6. Requirements for graduation must be completed within seven years from the date of entry into N417.
7. Evidence of the following is due prior to entry into any clinical nursing course: Negative TB skin test, or negative chest x-ray; Hepatitis-B immunization series; positive Rubella titer, or Rubella vaccine; proof of Varicella vaccination or positive titer. All entering students must have a physical exam completed on the appropriate form, available from University Health Services.
8. A student must earn at least 33 credit hours in residence and earn a majority of the credits in the BSN major through this University.

Course Substitutions

Course substitutions may be submitted for equivalent course work taken at Nicholls and other universities if a grade of “C” or better has been earned. Credit is awarded following approval by the Vice-president of Academic Affairs.

Credit by Examination

Before a credit examination can be administered an application for the examination must be processed and approved signature from the Controller obtained, and fee paid in the Controller’s Office in Elkins Hall. Approval of the Head of the Nursing Department and the Academic Dean are necessary to complete the application. Credit examinations are given by appointment by the instructor teaching the course. Course syllabi are suggested as study guides for the examinations. The appropriate textbook is listed in each syllabus. The University permits only students presently enrolled at Nicholls to take credit examinations. Transfer students may not take credit examinations until all transfer credits are

accepted and recorded by the Office of Enrollment Services. Students are not allowed to take credit examinations in courses that have been audited or enrolled in for credit. To pass a credit examination a student must earn the equivalent grade of “C” or better. A grade of “S” or “U” will be assigned by the instructor as the final grade. The grade will not be used in the computation of a semester or cumulative grade point average. Credit examinations once failed may not be repeated.

General Education courses for which credit by examination may be earned include the following. To arrange for credit by examination contact:

<u>Course#/Title</u>	<u>Credit Hours</u>	<u>Faculty</u>
Allied Health Science 220 – Pathophysiology	3	Mr. Gerard White (985) 493-2612
Allied Health Science 221 – Pharmacology	3	Mr. Gerard White (985) 493-2612
OIS 200	2	Mr Kit Williams (985) 448-4205

Nursing courses for which credit by examination can be earned include the following. To arrange for credit by examination contact:

<u>Course#/Title</u>	<u>Credit Hours</u>	<u>Faculty</u>
N226 – Health Assessment of the Adult Client	3	Rebecca Lyons (985) 448-4694
N420 – Community Health Nursing	5	Shirleen Trabeaux (985) 448-4723
N427 – Nursing Leadership/Management	3	Todd Keller (985) 448-4694
Nursing Elective	3	Rebecca Lyons (985) 448-4697

College Level Examination Program (CLEP)

College Level Examinations can be taken through the Nicholls Testing Center, 212 Elkins Hall, (985)448-4430. Credit is awarded when the Subject examination score is reported on an official transcript from CLEP, sent directly to the university by the CLEP transcript service. A grade of “S” will be assigned by the Office of Enrollment Services if a passing score has been achieved. The grade will not be used in computation of a semester or cumulative grade point average.

Program of Study

General Education Courses:

	Sem. Hrs.
Allied Health Science 220**, 221**	6
Fine Arts. Elective	3
Biology 114, 115, 116, 117, 203	11
Chemistry 109	3
OIS 200**	2
English 101*, 102*	6
English literature (200 or above)	3
English 468	3
History	3
Humanities	3
Dietetics 200**	3
Math 101*, 214	6
Psychology 101*	3
Sociology 204	3
General Elective	<u>1</u>
Total	59

*May earn credit via examination (CLEP, etc.)

**May earn credit via examination through Nicholls.

Major Nursing Courses:

<u>Fall Semester</u>	<u>Credit Hrs.</u>	
Nursing 226.	3*	
Nursing 228.	2*	
Nursing Elective	3*	
Nursing 417 (Fall only)	5	(Upon successful completion of Nursing 417, an additional
Nursing 422.	3	33 credit hours titled nursing will be awarded)
	Totals	16 (49)

<u>Spring Semester</u>	<u>Credit Hrs.</u>	
Nursing 420	5**	
Nursing 427.	3**	
Nursing 428	<u>4</u>	
	Total	12

Total General Education = 59

Total Nursing = 61 (28 by enrollment, 33 by credit awarded; of the 28, up to 11 by examination/competency testing)

Total Hours for Degree = 120

*Nursing courses; may earn credit via examination/competency testing

**Nursing 420 and Nursing 427 – may earn credit via examination/competency testing in either, but not both

For additional information concerning the curriculum and University in general a current NSU Bulletin may be obtained at the University Bookstore or via our website at www.nicholls.edu/nursing. For curriculum evaluation, counseling, and advising, please make an appointment with:

Todd M Keller DNS, RN (985) 448-4694
BSN Program Director
Nicholls State University
Department of Nursing
P.O. Box 2143
Thibodaux, LA 70310

ADVISOR'S WORKSHEET

NICHOLLS STATE UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF NURSING
STUDENT: _____

CURRICULUM: NURS RN-BSN
CATALOG YEAR: 2011-2012
STUDENT SS#: _____

REQUIRED COURSES* TAKEN	GRADE	CR.	Q.CR.	COURSE NAME & SCHOOL/SEMESTER
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Allied Health Science 220	_____	<u>3</u>	_____	_____
Allied Health Science 221	_____	<u>3</u>	_____	_____
Fine Arts Elective	_____	<u>3</u>	_____	_____
Biology 114	_____	<u>3</u>	_____	_____
Biology 115	_____	<u>1</u>	_____	_____
Biology 116	_____	<u>3</u>	_____	_____
Biology 117	_____	<u>1</u>	_____	_____
Biology 203	_____	<u>3</u>	_____	_____
Chemistry 109	_____	<u>3</u>	_____	_____
Office Info. Systems 200	_____	<u>2</u>	_____	_____
English 101	_____	<u>3</u>	_____	_____
English 102	_____	<u>3</u>	_____	_____
English Literature	_____	<u>3</u>	_____	_____
English 468	_____	<u>3</u>	_____	_____
Dietetics 200	_____	<u>3</u>	_____	_____
History Course	_____	<u>3</u>	_____	_____
Humanities Course	_____	<u>3</u>	_____	_____
Mathematics 101	_____	<u>3</u>	_____	_____
Mathematics 214	_____	<u>3</u>	_____	_____
Psychology 101	_____	<u>3</u>	_____	_____
Sociology 204	_____	<u>3</u>	_____	_____
Elective	_____	<u>1</u>	_____	_____
	Total	<u>59</u>	_____	_____

Nursing 226	_____	<u>3</u>	_____	_____
Nursing 228	_____	<u>2</u>	_____	_____
Nursing 417*	_____	<u>5</u>	_____	_____
Nursing 420	_____	<u>5</u>	_____	_____
Nursing 427	_____	<u>3</u>	_____	_____
Nursing 428	_____	<u>4</u>	_____	_____
Nursing 422	_____	<u>3</u>	_____	_____
Nursing Elective	_____	<u>3</u>	_____	_____
	Total	<u>61</u>	_____	_____

TOTAL SEMESTER HOURS FOR DEGREE 120

G.P.A. _____

*Upon successful completion of Nursing 417, registered nurse students will be awarded a total of 38 credits.

SUPPORT COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

AHSC 220. Pathophysiology. 3-3-0. Prerequisites: C or better in BIOL 114, 115, 116, and 117 and credit or registration in NURS 226. Systems approach which identifies, characterizes, and analyzes physiological alterations in the functions of the human body. Emphasis on the alterations of normal physiology and the various ways alterations are manifested. (51.0901)

AHSC 221. Pharmacology. 3-3-0. Prerequisites: C or better in BIOL 114, 115, 116, and 117 and credit or registration in NURS 226 or DIET 305. Underlying principles of actions of various drug groups; sources, physical and chemical properties, physiological actions, absorption rate, excretion, therapeutic uses, side effects, and toxicity. Emphasis on fundamental concepts applying to actions of most drugs. (51.0901)

BIOL 114. Human Anatomy and Physiology I. 3-3-0. Prerequisite: Non-developmental placement. A descriptive presentation of the structure and function of the organ systems of the human body covering cells, tissues, bones, muscles, nervous system and endocrine system. This course is also available via Internet. Basic computer knowledge is required for students enrolled in the Internet section. (26.0403)

BIOL 115. Human Anatomy and Physiology Laboratory I. 1-0-3. Prerequisite: Concurrent enrollment or prior completion of BIOL 114. A laboratory course to accompany BIOL 114 using specimens, models and instruments to investigate the structure and function of the human body. (26.0403)

BIOL 116. Human Anatomy and Physiology II. 3-3-0. Prerequisites: BIOL 114 and 115. A descriptive presentation of the structure and function of the organ systems of the human body covering the cardiovascular, immune, respiratory, digestive, excretory and reproductive systems. This course is also available via Internet. Basic computer knowledge is required for students enrolled in the Internet section. (26.0707)

BIOL 117. Human Anatomy and Physiology Laboratory II. 1-0-3. Prerequisite: Concurrent enrollment or prior completion of BIOL 116. A laboratory course to accompany BIOL 116 using specimens, models and instruments to investigate the structure and function of the human body. (26.0707)

BIOL 203. General Microbiology. 3-3-0. Prerequisites: BIOL 155 156 or 114 116, or permission of department head. Morphology, classification, physiology, metabolism, and genetics of microorganisms including a brief survey of application to disease, epidemiology, immunity, and applied and environmental microbiology of food and water, sanitation, industry, agriculture, ecology, and genetic technology. (26.0503)

CHEM 109. General, Organic, and Biological Chemistry for Nursing. 3-3-0. Prerequisite: Non-developmental Math placement. Emphasis is on broad aspects of general, organic, and biochemistry necessary for the comprehension of biological processes occurring within the human body. (40.0599)

DIET 200. Applied Nutrition. 3-3-0. Prerequisite: Completion of 30 hours non-remedial coursework to include “C” or better in both ENGL 101 and MATH 101 or higher. Basic nutrition related to food and health problems in the present socio economic and cultural environment. Emphasis on the practical application of the science of nutrition. This course is also available via Internet. Basic computer knowledge is required for students enrolled in the Internet section. (51.3101)

ENGL 101. English Composition I. 3-3-0. Prerequisites: Initial placement by ACT score of 18 or better in English, or C or better in ENGL 003, or satisfactory score on departmental placement test. Introduction to expository writing and critical thinking. This course is also available via Internet. Basic computer knowledge is required for students enrolled in the Internet sections. (23.0401)

ENGL 102. English Composition II. 3-3-0. Prerequisite: C or better in ENGL 101 or satisfactory score on placement test. Further development of expository writing and critical thinking, with an introduction to research and the literary genres. C or better in ENGL 102 is required for graduation. This course is also available via Internet. Basic computer knowledge is required for students enrolled in the Internet sections. (23.0401)

ENGLISH LITERATURE. 3-3-0. From English literature courses numbered 200 level or above.

ENGL 468. Technical Writing for the Sciences. 3-3-0. Prerequisite: C or better in ENGL 102 and Junior standing. Application of writing skills to specialized tasks in technical and scientific areas. Individual and collaborative writing projects. (23.0101)

FINE ARTS ELECTIVE. 3-3-0. From any ART or MUS course, or from FNAR 105, 301, 302, or from SPCH 300 as specified by the major/minor/concentration/certification.

GENERAL ELECTIVE. a total of 1 credit hour to replace the UNIV 101 course.

HISTORY. A total of 3 hours of History from any **HIST** prefix courses.

HUMANITIES. A total of 3 hours of any Board of Regents approved Humanities course.

MATH 101. College Algebra. 3-3-0. Prerequisite: Grade of C or better in MATH 003, or Grade of D in MATH 100, or Math ACT Subscore of 21 or better, or satisfactory score on placement test. Linear equations and inequalities, linear applications, systems of linear equations, quadratic equations and inequalities, absolute-value equations and inequalities, radical equations, functions and graphs, polynomial and exponential and logarithmic

functions. This course is also available via Internet. Basic computer knowledge is required for students enrolled in the Internet section. (27.0101)

MATH 214. Introductory Statistics. 3-3-0. Prerequisite: C or better in MATH 101 or MATH 117. Organizing data, averages and variations, stem-and-leaf and box plots and other graphical presentations of data, conducting experiments, elementary probability theory, distributions, estimations, hypothesis testing, regression and correlation. This course is also available via Internet. Basic computer knowledge is required for students enrolled in the Internet section. (27.0101)

OIS 200. Computers in the Office. 2-2-0. Prerequisite: Eligibility for MATH 100 or higher. Use of computers in processing business information using typical software packages available for personal computers—focusing on spreadsheet and database processing techniques but also including moderate coverage of word processing techniques. (11.1099)

PSYC 101. General Psychology. 3-3-0. Prerequisite: Eligibility for enrollment in ENGL 101 or higher. An introduction to the science and profession of psychology. (42.0101)

SOCI 204. Cultural Diversity in American Society. 3-3-0. Examines the cultural characteristics, contributions and patterns of contact of diverse groups in American society, including Native Americans, African Americans, Hispanic Americans, Asian Americans and European Americans. (45.1101)

NURSING COURSE WORK FOR BSN COMPLETION

NURS 226. Health Assessment and the Adult Client. 3-2-3. Prerequisite: First 35 hours in the BSN Curriculum. Prerequisites or co-requisites: NURS 225, 228, DIET 200, SOCI 204. RN to BSN students must see an advisor. Introduction of the concepts underlying assessment and the application of basic assessment skills. (51.1601)

NURS 228. Gerontic Nursing Care Concepts. 2-2-0. Prerequisite: First 35 hours in the BSN Curriculum. Prerequisites or co-requisites: NURS 226, DIET 200, and SOCI 204. Examines nursing care of older adults; increased complexity and variations in care; increased co-morbidities and chronic illnesses and associated treatments; and methods to overcome potential barriers to communication with older adults. Formerly NURS 316. (51.1601)

NURS 417. Professional Nursing Practice. 5-3-6. Prerequisites: Completion of first 66 credits of RN to BSN Articulation and unrestricted registered nurse licensure. Seminars and field experiences assist the registered nurse in the transition to the role of the professional baccalaureate nurse. (51.1601)

NURS 420. Community Health Nursing. 5-3-6. Prerequisites: NURS 371, 381. Prerequisite or co-requisite: NURS 400 and 422. RN to BSN students must see an advisor. Incorporates family centered, community based nursing process and biopsychosocial sciences in providing health care to individuals, groups, aggregates, and communities. (51.1601)

NURS 422. Nursing Research and Evidence for Best Practice. 3-3-0. Prerequisite: MATH 214. Emphasis is on the language of nursing research, critical analysis of nursing research, and application of evidence based research findings in clinical practice. Formerly NURS 440. (51.1601)

NURS 427. Nursing Leadership/Management. 3-3-0. Prerequisites: NURS 400, 420, 440. Co-requisites: NURS 428. Nursing Leadership and management of healthcare organizations with emphasis on theory, research, management functions, and practical application. This course is also available via Internet. Basic computer knowledge is required for students enrolled in the Internet section. (51.1601)

NURS 428. Preceptorship Experience in Professional Nursing. 4-0-12. Prerequisites: NURS 400, 417, 420, 440. Co-requisite: NURS 427. RN to BSN students must see an advisor. Theory, research, and practical application to management of a health care team for individuals, families, aggregates, and communities by incorporating critical thinking and decision-making skills. The clinical focus is on utilization of plan of care with emphasis on implementation and evaluation in providing and managing nursing care. (51.1601) **(Students with an earned ASN license may opt to take an additional 4 credit hours of Nursing Electives in place of Nursing 428)**

NURSING ELECTIVE. 3-3-0. Any 3 credit hour Nursing Elective offered through the Department of Nursing.