
RN to BSN Program Course Description Sheet

RN to BSN Program

The Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing is offered jointly by Rowan University and the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey. It is designed to give additional professional education at the baccalaureate level to practicing nurses. The BSN degree prepares registered nurses to work in the ever-expanding field of nursing. This degree allows nurses to augment their knowledge base and thus enhance their careers. The Bachelor of Science Degree also acts as a stepping stone for the nurse who wishes to pursue a Master of Science Degree in Nursing with six graduate nursing credits included in the program curriculum.

Course of Study

Rowan University requires 121 credits taken within approved general education and major coursework in order to graduate with a Bachelor's degree. **To obtain the BSN all students will complete the following coursework:**

- 31 credits (9 courses) in the major sequence
- 60 credits in general education requirements
- 30 credits awarded for pre-licensure nursing coursework

Note: Once matriculated the students Faculty Advisor will work one-on-one with students to determine their eligibility and credits. The amount of transfer credits accepted varies. (The free electives and general education requirements may be met via transfer credit or courses taken before, during, or after the major.)

Major Sequence

31 credits (9 courses as listed below)

Elective Courses

18 free electives required – transfer credits and remaining coursework to be determined by the students Faculty Advisor.

General Education

60 general education courses required – transfer credits and remaining coursework to be determined by the students Faculty Advisor.

Program Exit

Program exit includes successful completion of all required coursework totaling 121 credits. Student will receive a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree, jointly awarded by Rowan University and the University of Medicine and Dentistry of NJ-School of Nursing.

Course Descriptions for the RN to BSN Program

NURS 03.303: Comprehensive Health Assessment 3 s.h.

This course focuses on total health assessment with differentiation between normal and abnormal findings. The total health assessment content focuses on individuals across the life span. Emphasis is placed on data collection and analysis through history and physical exam.

NURS 03.304: Nursing Informatics 3 s.h.

This course reviews the information needs and information systems related to nursing practice. Students will experience the manner in which informatics supports all areas of practice, including education, clinical practice, administration and research.

NURS 03.401: Community Health Nursing 3 s.h.

This course will explore how community health nurses use concepts from nursing and public health to provide comprehensive, continuous, preventative healthcare thereby promoting health for communities, populations at risk, aggregates, families, and individuals. Students will use critical thinking skills to formulate healthcare strategies which consider the biopsychosocial, cultural, ethical, legal, and economic issues impacting the community as a client. The clinical practicum focuses on clients with diverse needs in a variety of settings.

NURS 03.403: Nursing Care Delivery Systems 3 s.h.

Prerequisites: NURS 03.303, NURS 03.304, and NURS 03.404

The focus of this course is the professional nurse's leadership and management role within health care delivery systems. The multi-faceted aspects of the role of the nurse as leader and manager are explored in depth, with emphasis on the role of the nurse as change agent. Organizational behavior, decision-making, the change process and the management of health care organizations are components of this course. The concepts of professionalism, leadership-management, research and teaching-learning are integrated with the professional nurse's role as a manager. This course prepares students to function as change agents in the health care delivery system.

NURS 03. 404: Research Applications in Nursing Practice 3 s.h.

Prerequisite: Elementary Statistics (STAT 02.100) or the equivalent

Knowledge obtained from this course will prepare students to critically analyze nursing issues from an applied research perspective. Students are provided with the skills needed to manage and interpret nursing data.

NURS 03.405: Health Care Policy and Finance 3 s.h.

The focus of this course is the professional nurse's role in health care policy and finances within health care systems. The multi-faceted aspects of health care policy making and financing within today's ever-changing health care environment are explored. Risk management and quality care are integrated into the course. This course gives the student a financial understanding of the health care delivery system. Students are exposed to the political and legislative process within health care agencies and health care policy development at the state and federal levels. Ethical and legal issues in nursing and health care are explored.

NURS 03.504: Advanced Pathophysiology 3 s.h.

(Pre-requisites: NURS 03.303; enrollment in the Rowan/UMDNJ Joint R.N. to B.S.N. Program)

This course describes the disordered physiology and clinical consequences resulting from common disease processes. Seminar discussions focus on alterations in normal functions of major organ systems. Through problem-solving exercises and case studies, students are encouraged to recognize the pathophysiologic basis of clinical findings associated with disease processes. This course serves as an essential link between the basic sciences and clinical management.

NURS 03.505 : Advanced Pharmacology 3 s.h.

(Pre-requisites: NURS 03.303 and NURS 03.504 ; enrollment in the Rowan/UMDNJ Joint R.N. to B.S.N. Program)

This course expands students' knowledge of clinical pharmacology to provide a sound basis from which to engage in prescriptive drug management. Pharmacodynamics, pharmacokinetics and pharmacotherapeutics of drug classes are explored through a variety of teaching-learning methodologies, including seminar discussion, problem-based case study presentations, focused readings, and web-based exercises.

RN - BSN Elective Courses: Elective course offerings are subject to change from semester to semester and year to year**NURS 03.307: 3 s.h. Epidemiology in Nursing Practice**

In this course, the professional nursing student is introduced to a population-based approach to health care.

Students will incorporate information on the etiology and predictors of events in order to design health promotion and disease prevention strategies.

NURS 03.309: 3 s.h. Topics in Health Care Ethics

Students in this nursing course will examine moral dilemmas created or intensified by recent advances in medical technology and study ways of analyzing those dilemmas. Discussion topics include: euthanasia and the right to die, abortion, behavior modification, allocation of scarce medical resources, in vitro fertilization, genetic screening and engineering and human experimentation. These moral dilemmas will be related to nursing.

NURS 03.503: 4 s.h. Graduate Nursing Research

(Pre-requisites: NURS 03.404, Elementary Statistics (STAT 02.100) or the equivalent; enrollment in the Rowan/UMDNJ Joint R.N. to B.S.N. Program; NURS 03. 404:)

Students focus on the theoretical and scientific underpinnings for evidence-based advanced nursing practice. In-depth critical analysis of scientific research and methods for systemic review, as relevant to patient care and health policy outcomes, are emphasized. Ethical, legal, economic, and cultural issues surrounding the conduct and utilization of research practice are examined. Students obtain skills in using bibliographic databases. The roles of the advanced practice nurse in research are explored.

Helpful Rowan Contact Information

Tiffany Fortunato

Administrative Advisor (Provides assistance from initial inquiry to initial matriculation) Phone: 856-256-4742 Email: fortunato@rowan.edu

RN to BSN Program

(Provides academic assistance after initial registration through graduation clearance.) The RN to BSN Program will assign students to their official Faculty Advisor via email during their first matriculated term.

**Excerpted from the Rowan University Undergraduate Catalogue, 2008-2009, with updates provided by CPCE.*

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