

ASSOCIATE IN NURSING (Registered Nurse Limited Entry Program)*

The Nursing curriculum is designed to prepare students to function as a registered nurse in structured acute care, chronic care, and outpatient care settings after passing the NCLEX. Students should contact individual state licensing boards for specific state licensure information. An applicant who has been convicted of a felony is advised to contact the appropriate State Board of Nursing regarding eligibility for licensure. Transfer students may be admitted to the advanced standing level after meeting certain criteria.

Upon satisfactory completion of this program, the student is eligible to apply to the BSN Completion Program, after meeting their criteria, at NMSU-Las Cruces or the LTNM Satellite BSN Program at Gerald Champion Regional Memorial Hospital. The NMSU-Alamogordo Nursing Program is approved by the New Mexico State Board of Nursing and holds accreditation from the National League of Nursing. The National League of Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC) is a resource of information for the NMSU-Alamogordo Nursing Program and can be contacted at NLNAC, 61 Broadway, New York, NY 10006; (212) 363-5555, ext. 153, Fax: (212)-812-0390, or via the Internet at www.nlnac.org.

* This is a limited entry program. In addition to meeting regular undergraduate admission requirements, students must be selected to the program. Special application forms are required and can be obtained from the Advising & Career Services office (505) 439-3720 or at the Nursing Program Office (505) 439-3660. Selection takes place twice each year; submission deadline is listed in the application. Students are subject to regulations contained in the Nursing Program Student Handbook and other university published handbooks.

All nursing prefix courses must be taken in sequence as specified. General education courses and non-nursing prefix courses may be taken prior to (but no later than) the sequence specified in the Nursing Degree Plan as long as all prerequisite requirements are met.

Prerequisite: Students should check the application for specific criteria necessary to be eligible to enter the selection process and should consult an Academic Advisor for best course sequences for academic success.

Licensure: It is essential that prospective students be informed that the New Mexico State Board of Nursing may deny, revoke, or suspend any license held or applied for under the Nursing Practice Act, upon grounds that the licensee or applicant violates any of the following actions (from NMAC 16, 12.1, 2, 3, 4, 5; 61-3-28):

1. Is guilty of fraud or deceit in procuring or attempting to procure a license or certificate of regulation;
2. Is unfit or incompetent;
3. Is convicted of a felony;
4. Is habitually intemperate or is addicted to the use of habit-forming drugs;
5. Is mentally incompetent;
6. Is guilty of unprofessional conduct;
7. Has willfully or repeatedly violated any provisions of the Nursing Practice Act; or
8. Was licensed to practice nursing in any jurisdiction, territory or possession of the United States or another country and was the subject of disciplinary action similar to acts described in this subsection. A certified copy of the record of the jurisdiction, territory or possession of the United States or another country taking the

disciplinary action is conclusive evidence of the action.

Selection into the Nursing Program: Selection into the Nursing Program is based on an objective point system, an applicants overall GPA for the prerequisite and required courses listed on the curriculum degree plan (please see Degree Plan for explanation of GPA requirement), and the students ability to pass the HESI Admissions Assessment Exam with a minimum score of 76% in the English, Reading, and Math sub-section of this exam and an overall minimum score of 76%. The applicant is responsible for the expense of the exam. For additional information on the computation of points, please refer to the NMSU – Alamogordo website (<http://alamo.nmsu.edu/~nursing>) or make an appointment with the Nursing Program Advisor to review your transcripts. All applications must be received before the Admission Assessment Exam.

Post-selection Requirements: After selection into the Nursing Program and before the first day of classes, students must submit proof of current CPR for health professionals certification (American Heart or Red Cross). Additionally, students must show one-time proof of rubella immunity and current tuberculosis testing (negative PPD or confirmation x-ray). An up-to-date tetanus/diphtheria booster and Hepatitis B vaccine are also highly recommended but not required at the time the student begins the Program. A felony background check is also mandated.

Graduation Requirements: A minimum grade of *C* must be earned in all required courses to continue in the nursing program and to graduate. In addition, all clinical competencies must be completed at the satisfactory level. These competencies are listed in the Nursing Program Student Handbook and will be introduced to students during the first semester and emphasized throughout the remainder of the program.

Transfer from an approved associate degree or baccalaureate nursing program with equivalent courses: *To apply for transfer,* the applicant must submit evidence of equivalent courses with minimum grades of *C*. Nursing courses are only valid for three years from the date of application. Applicants will be required to perform competency demonstrations applicable to the transferring course. For specific information, students should contact the Nursing Program Advisor.

Degree Plan: A GPA of 2.75 or greater at time of selection is required to enter the program without successful completion of coursework in Anatomy and Physiology. Applicants with a GPA between 2.5 but less than 3.0 are strongly encouraged to complete Anatomy and Physiology prior to selection. GPA is computed only on those courses listed below.

Prerequisites:

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|------|--|---|
| CHEM | 110G | Principles and Applications of Chemistry | 4 |
| | OR | CHEM 111G | |
| | OR | Completed two semesters of high school chemistry within the last two years | |
| Each with a grade of C or better | | | |
| CCDM | 114N | Algebra Skills | 4 |
| | OR | Placement into MATH 120 | |
| | OR | Completing high school Algebra I and II within the last two years | |
| Each with a grade of C or better | | | |
| BIOL | 211G | Cellular and Organismal Biology | 3 |
| BIOL | 211L | Cellular and Organismal Biology Lab | 1 |
| BIOL | 253 | Human Anatomy | 4 |
| | OR | BIOL 225 Anatomy and Physiology I | |
| BIOL | 254 | Human Physiology and Lab | 4 |
| | OR | BIOL 226 Anatomy and Physiology II | |
| OENA | 101 | Nursing Assistant Theory and Lab | 3 |
| | OR | Proof of completion in an equivalent program | |
| | OR | Current CNA certificate | |

Note: Each of these courses may be placed out of through testing. Consult Academic Advisors for information on appropriate testing procedures (placement exam or CLEP). BIOL 211 G/211L is currently required for the Degree Plan (Pre-admission Requirement)

All non – nursing requirements (must be completed prior to the beginning of fourth semester or receive waiver from APG Committee)

All courses required in the nursing curriculum must be graded C or higher.

Semester I

| | | | |
|------|------|---|---|
| PSY | 201G | Introduction to Psychology | 3 |
| HNFS | 251 | Human Nutrition | 3 |
| NURS | 170 | Foundations of Nursing (4+9P) | 7 |
| NURS | 172L | Practicum: Critical Thinking & Nursing Process (6P) | 2 |
| NURS | 173 | Physical Assessment | 1 |

Semester II

| | | | |
|------|------|--|---|
| C EP | 110G | Human Growth and Behavior | 3 |
| ENGL | 111G | Rhetoric and Composition | 4 |
| NURS | 180 | The Adult Client I (4+12P) | 8 |
| NURS | 185 | Holistic Approach to Pharmacotherapeutic Interventions I | 2 |

Semester III

| | | | |
|------|------|---|---|
| BIOL | 221 | Introductory Microbiology | 3 |
| BIOL | 221L | Introductory Microbiology Lab | 1 |
| NURS | 182* | Legal & Ethical Issues in Nursing Practice* | 2 |
| NURS | 280 | Women's Health Issues (2+6P) | 4 |
| NURS | 283 | Pediatric Nursing (2+6P) | 4 |
| NURS | 272 | Care for the Aging Client | 1 |
| NURS | 275 | Holistic Approach to Pharmacotherapeutic Interventions II | 2 |

Semester IV

| | | | |
|------|------|---|---|
| NURS | 270 | The Adult Client II (2+9P) | 5 |
| NURS | 282L | Practicum: Management of Client Care (3P) | 1 |
| NURS | 284 | Practicum: Preceptorship (9P) | 3 |
| NURS | 285 | Holistic Approach to Pharmacotherapeutic Intervention III | 1 |

Total Credits Required 72

* Course may be taken in either second or third semesters.

Note: All Nursing Course Practicums are designated with a "P" value in the degree plan above. This "P" value multiplied by three is roughly the corresponding number of clinical hours required/week for fifteen weeks.

Each semester a \$10.00 lab fee will be charged for supplies. An additional \$40.00 examination fee will be charged to offset national examination fees each semester. The NURS 170 class has an additional charge of \$65.00 for the background check and \$70.00 for a drug test.

This program incorporates fundamental and applied courses that are important for obtaining employment upon graduation. However, some of these applied courses may not be suitable for transfer to bachelor's degree granting institutions or may not be applicable to bachelor's degree programs. For further information, contact an Academic Advisor.

Once a student has completed this associate's degree, a bachelor's completion program is available through distance education. For more information, check with the Nursing Department at 439-3660.

Pre-Nursing Certificate

This certificate is designed to assist students in completing all the non-nursing courses required on the nursing degree. There may be other courses that will help a student qualify for nursing. Check with the Nursing department or with an advisor. Completing this certificate does not guarantee a student will be accepted in the limited-entry nursing program at NMSU Alamogordo.

Required Courses for Application into Nursing (20 credits)

| | | | |
|------|------|--------------------------|---|
| COLL | 101 | College Success | 1 |
| ENGL | 111G | Rhetoric and Composition | 4 |

Sciences:

| | | | |
|------|-------|--|---|
| BIOL | 111G | Natural History of Life | 3 |
| BIOL | 111GL | Natural History of Life Lab | 1 |
| BIOL | 211G | Cellular and Organismal Biology | 3 |
| BIOL | 211GL | Cellular and Organismal Biology Lab | 1 |
| CHEM | 110G | Principles and Applications of Chemistry | 4 |
| OENA | 101 | Nursing Assistant Theory and Lab | 3 |

Other Related Courses Required for Completion of Nursing Degree (9 credits)

| | | | |
|------|------|----------------------------|---|
| C EP | 110G | Human Growth and Behavior | 3 |
| HNFS | 251 | Human Nutrition | 3 |
| PSY | 201G | Introduction to Psychology | 3 |

Other Required Courses for Nursing Degree (13 credits)

| | | | |
|------|------|--|---|
| BIOL | 221 | Introductory Microbiology | 3 |
| BIOL | 221L | Introductory Microbiology Lab | 1 |
| BIOL | 253 | Human Anatomy | 4 |
| | OR | BIOL 225 Anatomy and Physiology I | |
| BIOL | 254 | Human Physiology | 3 |
| | OR | BIOL 226 Anatomy and Physiology II (4) | |
| BIOL | 254L | Human Physiology Lab | 1 |
| OEEM | 101 | CPR for the Health Care Professional | 1 |

Electives Required for the Bachelor's Degree in Nursing that are used as tie breakers for admission into the nursing program. (9 credits)

| | | | |
|----------|--|--|---|
| C S | 110 | Computer Literacy | 3 |
| | OR | PHIL "G" | |
| COMM | 265G | Principles of Human Communication | 3 |
| | OR | COMM 253G Public Speaking | |
| ENGL | 218G | Technical and Scientific Communication | 3 |
| Fine Art | ART 101G, MUS 101G, 202G, or THTR 101G | | 3 |
| HIST | "G" | | 3 |
| MATH | 120 | Intermediate Algebra | 3 |
| MATH | 121G | College Algebra | 3 |
| NURS | 150 | Medical Terminology | 3 |
| NURS | 155 | Special Topics | 3 |
| NURS | 290 | Pathophysiology I | |
| OEEM | 120 | EMT Basic | 6 |
| SOC | 101G | Introductory Sociology | 3 |

Total Required Credits 51

A grade of C or better is required in all courses.

The grade in CCDM 114 earns points for admission to the nursing program