

# PRE-LICENSURE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING (BSN) DEGREE PROGRAM

122 CREDIT HOURS – EFFECTIVE MAY 2016



## ABOUT THIS DEGREE PROGRAM

The Chamberlain **Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN)** degree program prepares graduates to provide safe, comprehensive, professional nursing care across the lifespan to individuals, families, aggregates and communities in global societies. Professional nursing care incorporates evidence-based principles, sciences and critical reasoning and judgment in the development of responses to real or perceived healthcare needs.

The BSN graduate possesses the necessary knowledge and core competencies to meet the challenges of a dynamic and evolving profession in the 21st century. The BSN degree program provides the foundation for graduate study and beginning scholarship, encourages service to the profession and community and supports the concept of lifelong learning.

BSN graduates are eligible to apply to take the NCLEX-RN®.\* Graduates must apply to take the NCLEX-RN by submitting all application materials to the state board of nursing in the state in which they wish to become licensed.

\* Completion of a nursing program does not guarantee the graduate's ability to take the NCLEX-RN. Authorization to take the NCLEX-RN rests solely with the state Board of Nursing.

NOTE: Graduates planning to take the NCLEX-RN exam in another state are responsible for contacting the appropriate state board of nursing to obtain application materials.

## GENERAL EDUCATION & SCIENCES

The BSN nursing curriculum prepares the graduate for the practice of professional nursing. This is accomplished through an integration of theoretical knowledge, psychomotor skill acquisition and development of clinical judgment/reasoning. The curriculum integrates professional, ethical and legal standards with decision-making, problem-solving and leadership development. The curriculum is designed to promote lifelong learning among the graduates.

For many students, the first year of the program focuses on general education and sciences; however, given individual transferred coursework, program plans vary. The majority of nursing coursework occurs in the second and third years. Significant clinical practice and SIMCARE CENTER™ hours are planned throughout the degree program to allow students to apply and synthesize content and concepts learned.

### LPN Proficiency Process\*

Chamberlain also provides students with a LPN or LVN license the opportunity to earn the 3-year BSN degree with up to nine proficiency credits for qualifying students who pass skills validation tests and proficiency exams. To be eligible to apply, students must be admitted to the BSN program and hold an unrestricted, active or inactive license as a practical/vocational nurse from the U.S. or a jurisdiction that is an associate member of the National Council of State Boards of Nursing with no active discipline or restrictions on the license. Students interested in this process should contact their student service advisor immediately upon admission for more details.

\* Availability varies by state.

## CORE-DEGREE COURSEWORK

### Degree: Bachelor of Science in Nursing | Semesters: 9 Full Time

Minimum credit hours required for graduation: 122 (56 general education and sciences; 66 nursing)\*. Each lettered group below represents a graduation requirement with any alternate choice.

Course Area	Minimum Credit Hours
<b>English &amp; Communications</b>	<b>9</b>
(a) ENGL-117	3
(b) ENGL-147	3
<b>(c) One of:</b> SPCH-277 or COMM-285**	3
<b>Mathematics &amp; Science</b>	<b>23</b>
(a) BIOS-251	2
(b) BIOS-252	2
(c) BIOS-255	2
(d) BIOS-256	2
(e) CHEM-120	4
(f) BIOS-242	4
(g) MATH-114	4
(h) MATH-399	3
<b>Social Sciences</b>	<b>9</b>
(a) SOCS-185 OR SOCS-195**	3
(b) PSYC-110	3
(c) PSYC-290	3

Course Area	Minimum Credit Hours
<b>Humanities</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>(a) One of:</b> HIST-405; HIST-410 or HIST-420**	3
<b>(b) One of:</b> HUMN-303; HUMN-307**; or RELI-448	3
(c) PHIL-347	3
(d) ETHC-445	3
(e) POLI-330 or POLI-332*** (Nevada campus only)	3
<b>Clinical Nursing</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>(a) All of:</b> NR-226 <sup>†</sup> ; NR-324 <sup>†</sup> ; NR-325 <sup>†</sup> ; NR-326 <sup>†</sup> ; NR-327 <sup>†</sup> ; NR-328 <sup>†</sup> ; NR-341 <sup>†</sup> ; NR-441 or NR-442 <sup>†</sup> ; NR-446 <sup>†</sup> ; NR-452 <sup>†</sup>	
<b>Non-Clinical Nursing</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>(a) All of:</b> NR-103; NR-222 <sup>†</sup> ; NR-224; NR-228 <sup>†</sup> ; NR-283; NR-293; NR-302; NR-304; NR-360; NR-449	
<b>Electives<sup>†</sup></b>	<b>‡</b>
<b>(a) Any combination of the following elective courses:</b> BUSN-115; COMP-100; ECON-312; PSYC-305; PSYC-315; SOCS-350	

\* 129 credit hours for students enrolled prior to May 2016 and students residing in the state of North Carolina.

\*\* Indicates GE course options that must be selected by students pursuing the BSN Concentration in Serving Hispanic Communities

\*\*\* The State of Nevada requires students to meet its requirements for study of the Nevada and U.S. constitutions. The POLI-332 course fulfills this requirement.

† Students pursuing the Concentration in Serving Hispanic Communities will be assigned to the care of Hispanic community members for 25 percent of their total experiential learning activities in the program of study. For non-clinical courses, course assignments will target Hispanic cultural needs.

‡ In order to satisfy graduation requirements, elective courses may be added to the individual's plan of study. Contact your student service advisor for more information.

NOTE: The General Education coursework grading scale applies to courses with "N" suffix designator (i.e., MATH-114N).

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## CAREERS IN NURSING

### Registered Nurse (RN)

Nurse roles include, but are not limited to\*: provider of care, designer/manager/coordinator of care and member of a profession.

Nursing generalist practice includes both direct and indirect patient care, which includes individuals, families, groups, communities and populations. Nursing practice is built on nursing knowledge, theory and research. In addition, nursing practice derives knowledge from a wide array of other fields and professions, adapting and applying this knowledge as appropriate to professional practice.

The fundamental aspects of generalist nursing practice are: direct care of the sick in and across all environments, health promotion and clinical prevention and population based healthcare. A defining feature of professional nursing practice is the focus on health promotion and risk reduction. Advances in science and technology will continue to emerge, which will help to predict future health problems. Nurses will design and implement measures to modify risk factors and promote healthy lifestyles. These same advances in science and technology also have allowed individuals to live longer and often with increasing numbers of chronic illnesses and conditions. With an increasing emphasis on cost savings and cost benefits, nurses will play a leading role in the provision of care.

Roles of the Baccalaureate General Nurse. (2008). *The Essentials of Baccalaureate Education in Professional Nursing Education*, 7-8.

\* Some careers may require several years of experience in addition to educational credentials.

## CAREER FOCUSED COURSEWORK

Nursing Courses	Credits
NR-103: Transition to the Nursing Profession	2
NR-222: Health & Wellness <sup>†</sup>	3
NR-224: Fundamentals – Skills	3
NR-226: Fundamentals – Patient Care <sup>†</sup>	3
NR-228: Nutrition, Health & Wellness <sup>†</sup>	2
NR-283: Pathophysiology	3
NR-293: Pharmacology for Nursing Practice	3
NR-302: Health Assessment I	2
NR-304: Health Assessment II	2
NR-324: Adult Health I <sup>†</sup>	5
NR-325: Adult Health II <sup>†</sup>	5
NR-326: Mental-Health Nursing <sup>†</sup>	4
NR-327: Maternal-Child Nursing <sup>†</sup>	4
NR-328: Pediatric Nursing <sup>†</sup>	4
NR-341: Complex Adult Health <sup>†</sup>	4
NR-360: Information Systems in Healthcare	3
NR-441: Community Health Nursing – International <sup>†</sup> or NR-442: Community Health Nursing <sup>†</sup>	4
NR-446: Collaborative Healthcare <sup>†</sup>	4
NR-449: Evidence-Based Practice	3
NR-452: Capstone Course <sup>†</sup>	3

<sup>†</sup> Students pursuing the BSN Concentration in Serving Hispanic Communities will be assigned to the care of Hispanic community members for 25% of their total experiential learning activities in the program of study. For non-clinical courses, course assignments will target Hispanic cultural needs.

## KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS

The outcomes for the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree program are as follows:

1. Provides individualized comprehensive care based on theories and principles of nursing and related disciplines to individuals, families, aggregates and communities, from entry to the healthcare system through long-term planning.
2. Demonstrates leadership and collaboration with consumers and other healthcare providers in providing care and/or delegating responsibilities for health promotion, illness prevention, health restoration, health maintenance and rehabilitative activities.
3. Communicates effectively with patient populations and other healthcare providers in managing the healthcare of individuals, families, aggregates and communities.
4. Integrates clinical judgment in professional decision making and implementation of the nursing process.
5. Demonstrates responsibility for continued personal and professional development through enrollment in graduate education, continuing education degree programs, professional reading and participation in professional organizations and community service.
6. Implements professional nursing standards by practicing within the legal definitions of nursing practice and acts in accordance with the nursing code of ethics and American Nurses Association (ANA) standards of practice.
7. Practices in established professional roles consistent with entry-level BSN graduates to provide cost-effective, quality healthcare to consumers in structured and unstructured settings.
8. Incorporates evidence-based practice in the provision of professional nursing care to individuals, families, aggregates and communities.

### Accreditation and State Authorizations & Registrations:

Chamberlain University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission ([www.hlcommission.org](http://www.hlcommission.org)), a regional accreditation agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education. The baccalaureate degree in nursing program, master's degree in nursing program, and Doctor of Nursing Practice program at Chamberlain University are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, 655 K Street NW, Suite 750, Washington DC 20001, 202.887.6791. For the most updated accreditation information, visit [www.chamberlain.edu/accreditation](http://www.chamberlain.edu/accreditation).

Chamberlain University is approved to operate by the Virginia Board of Nursing Perimeter Center, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 300, Henrico, VA 23233-1463, 804.367.4515. Certified to Operate by SCHEV. Unresolved complaints may be reported to the Illinois Board of Higher Education through the online complaint system <http://complaints.ibhe.org/> or by mail to 1 N. Old State Capitol Plaza, Suite 333, Springfield, IL 62701-1377. For the most updated approvals by state information, visit [chamberlain.edu/stateapprovals](http://chamberlain.edu/stateapprovals).

Program/program option availability varies by state/location. Chamberlain reserves the right to update information as it becomes available. Information is current at the time of publication.

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