

Health Programs

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

4-year Degree Program

Fee Category: V

This collaborative partnership program was jointly developed between various educational institutions in British Columbia. Students entering the program will receive a Vancouver Island University degree.

The Program

The Nursing curriculum was developed as a result of the recognized need for increased education for nurses, the changing directions in health care, and the recommendation made by the Canadian Nurses Association and the College of Registered Nurses of British Columbia (CRNBC), formerly the Registered Nurses Association of BC (RNABC), that the minimum requirement to enter the profession be a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree.

The curriculum includes eight academic semesters, and four consolidated practice experiences. Each successive practice experience involves increased nursing responsibility in order to prepare students for their professional autonomous roles. During practice experiences, students could be working with local, provincial or international health care agencies.

The curriculum is based on the concepts of caring and health promotion, and has been developed in consultation with various government ministries and nursing theorists, practitioners and professional associations. Clinical experience is emphasized, as well as the need for thoughtful, reflective action as defined by the concept of praxis. The curriculum has some flexibility to address community needs, while maintaining transferability from one collaborative partner site to another.

The Bachelor of Science in Nursing program at Vancouver Island University is part of a consortium of eight post-secondary institutions in British Columbia that offer the same nursing curriculum. It is possible to transfer between institutions; however, students should be aware of institutional residency requirements. Space availability at other institutions varies.

The curriculum provides three options:

- **Option A** involves completion of the program in its entirety in order to obtain a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. On successful completion of 8 academic semesters and 4 consolidated practice experiences, and institutional English requirements, students will graduate with a degree. Students will write registration examinations after completion of the program.
- **Option B** ("bridge-in") is designed to allow Registered Nurses (RNs) to complete a Bachelor of Science in Nursing in 4 academic semesters. Nurses with limited practice experience may be required to complete 2 consolidated practice experiences. **Note:** Students with a minimum "B+" in ENGL 111 or 115 are not required to complete additional English credits.
- **Option C** allows Licensed Practical Nurses to access the second year of the Bachelor of Science program after successful completion of selected first-year courses. Once admitted to second year, students choosing this option proceed to degree completion by completing 6 academic semesters and 3 consolidated practice experiences.

Option A and C students must enrol as student members of the College of Registered Nurses of

British Columbia (CRNBC), which will conduct a criminal record check.

A free information session for prospective students is usually held in February. Check with the Advising Centre for more details, 250-740-6410, or visit viu.ca/infosessions.

Option A Admission Requirements

- General admission requirements apply.
- Min. C+ in Chemistry 11, Principles of Math 11, Biology 12 and English 12, or equivalents.
- Submission of a satisfactory BSc Nursing Personal Profile form.
- Admission rankings are determined by a combination of GPA and Personal Profile scores.

Option B Admission Requirements

- Transcript from Diploma School of Nursing and from other educational institutions attended.
- Verification of nursing registration status from CRNBC.
- Two references (forms available upon request).

Additional Admission requirements for Internationally Educated Nurses

- Complete an interview.
- A learning assessment of nursing competencies must be completed.
- Complete a Personal Learning Plan following the learning assessment (as per specified date).
- Successful completion of NURS 247 - Introduction to Nursing in Canada (effective January 2007).
- If first language is not English, a copy of the results of TOEFL/TSE tests or IELTS test of English fluency must be submitted. Minimum language requirements are as follows:

TOEFL - 550 (TOEFL - 214 (computer based) TSE - 50

The CRNBC provides more detailed information on language requirement testing options. Visit the CRNBC website for more details.

Option C Admission Requirements

- Admission requirements for Option A apply.
- Current registration or eligibility for registration as a LPN in British Columbia.
- Two letters of reference.

Notes on Admission - Options A, B, and C

Note: *The following documents are required for the first day of classes.*

- Completed Health History Form
- Completed Immunization Requirements Form
- Proof of C.P.R. level "C" training.
- Proof of W.H.M.I.S. Training (*effective January 2007*)

Prior Learning Assessment credit may be available for courses in this program. Contact the Chair, Bachelor of Science in Nursing program, 250-740-6260.

Note on Progression, Options A, B, C

- Students are required to maintain a 65% average in all courses with no grade lower than 60%.

Start Date and Application Deadline

Option A: The program starts in September of each year, and applications will be accepted from November 15 of the previous year to February 28 of the entering year.

Options B and C: Please contact the Nursing Advisor at 250-740-6246, or the Nursing department 250-740-6175, for information on start dates and application deadlines.

For detailed information about admission and selection criteria, please contact the Advising Centre 250-740-6410.

Apply for Admission Online or Print Application Form

Special Expenses

Books will cost approximately \$1,000 for the first 2 years; then approximately \$500-\$700 in years 3 and 4. Other expenses include uniforms (\$150-\$200) and shoes (\$100). Travel expenses for clinical experience will vary.

All fees are subject to change without prior notice.

Program Outline

YEAR 1 Option A (effective September 2007)	Credits
NURS 100 (Health and Healing I: Living Health)	3
NURS 101 (Nursing Learning Centre I)	3
NURS 102 (Relational Practice I: Self and Others)	3
NURS 103 (Professional Practice I: Introduction to the Profession of Nursing)	3
NURS 104 (Nursing Practice I: Introduction to Nursing Practice)	1.5
NURS 110 (Health and Healing II: Health Indicators)	3
NURS 111 (Nursing Learning Centre II)	3
NURS 113 (Professional Practice II: Introduction to the Discipline of Nursing)	3
NURS 114 (Nursing Practice II: Coming to Know the Client)	4
NURS 175 (Transitional Practice Experience I)	6
Biology 156 (Nursing: Anatomy and Physiology I)	4
Biology 157 (Nursing: Anatomy and Physiology II)	4
Degree English Requirements	6
Semester Credits	46.5

YEAR 1 Option C--LPN Access to BSN	Credits
Biology 156 (Nursing: Anatomy and Physiology I)	4
Biology 157 (Nursing: Anatomy and Physiology II)	4
NURS 160 (Nursing Theory - Access for PN)	3
NURS 161 (Nursing Practice - Access for PN)	3
Degree English Requirements	6

YEAR 2 Options A and C (prior to September 2008)	Credits
NURS 205 (Clinical Nursing Skills I)	3
NURS 206 (Clinical Nursing Skills II)	3
NURS 215 (Healing Workshop I: Episodic Health Challenges)	3
NURS 216 (Healing Workshop II: Episodic Health Challenges)	3
NURS 225 (Nursing Practice III)	6
NURS 226 (Nursing Practice IV)	6
NURS 227 (Consolidated Practice Experience II)	6
NURS 235 (Nursing Pathophysiology I)	3
NURS 236 (Nursing Pathophysiology II)	3
NURS 256 (Professional Growth II: The Nursing Profession)	3
Semester Credits	39

YEAR 2 Options A and C (effective September 2008)	Credits
NURS 200 (Health & Healing III: Health Challenges/Healing Initiatives)	3
NURS 201 (Nursing Learning Centre III)	3
NURS 202 (Relational Practice II: Creating Health Promoting Relationships)	3
NURS 204 (Nursing Practice III: Promoting Health & Healing)	5
NURS 208 (Health Sciences III: Pathophysiology I)	3
NURS 210 (Health & Healing IV: Health Challenges/Healing Initiatives)	3
NURS 211 (Nursing Learning Centre IV)	3
NURS 214 (Nursing Practice IV: Promoting Health & Healing)	5
NURS 218 (Health Science IV: Pathophysiology II)	3
NURS 275 (Consolidated Practice II)	8
Semester Credits	39

YEAR 3 Option B--Returning RNs	Credits
NURS 321 (Professional Growth/Health: Bridge-In)	3
NURS 341 (Nursing Inquiry)	3
NURS 350 (Health IV: Health Promotion & Community Empowerment)	3
NURS 351 (Nursing Practice VI)	3
NURS 353 (Self & Others III: Reflection on Caring Practice)	3
2 Electives other than Nursing	6
Degree English Requirements	3 or 6
Semester Credits	24 or 27

YEAR 3 Options A and C	Credits
NURS 316 (Health III: Teaching & Learning for Prevention)	3
NURS 325 (Nursing Practice V)	6
NURS 335 (Healing III: Advanced Concepts in Health Sciences)	3
NURS 341 (Nursing Inquiry)	3
NURS 350 (Health IV: Health Promotion & Community Empowerment)	3
NURS 351 (Nursing Practice VI)	3
NURS 353 (Self & Others III: Reflection on Caring Practice)	3
Elective other than Nursing	3
NURS 370 (Consolidated Practice Experience III)	6
Philosophy 331 (Issues in Biomedical Ethics)	3
Semester Credits	36

YEAR 4 Options A, B and C	Credits
NURS 430 (Professional Growth IV: Nurses Influencing Change)	3
NURS 431 (Nursing Practice VII)	3
NURS 460 (Professional Growth V: Research)	3
Approved Nursing elective	3
Elective other than Nursing	3
NURS 475 (Consolidated Practice Experience IV)*	