

Archived: March 2, 2017

Health Programs

Practical Nursing

Location Offered:

Cowichan, Nanaimo

Credential:

Diploma

Program Length:

2 Years

The Program

This program provides students with the theory and skills required to practice as a Practical Nurse within acute care, extended care, intermediate care, and community care settings. The two-year program includes four consolidated practice experiences and one preceptorship. Students must successfully complete all required courses in each semester before progressing to subsequent semesters and the final preceptorship.

On recommendation of the program faculty, graduates of the Practical Nursing Diploma program may write the Canadian Practical Nurse Registration Examination (CPNRE) to become a Licensed Practical Nurse.

Program Outline

Year 1 - Semester 1	Credits
PRNU 101 - (Pharmacology I)	2
PRNU 102 - (Health Promotion I)	2
PRNU 103 - (Variations in Health I)	2.7
PRNU 104 - (Professional Communication I)	2.3
PRNU 105 - (Professional Practice I)	1.7
PRNU 106 - (Integrated Nursing Practice I)	3
PRNU 107 - (Consolidated Practice Experience I)	3
Total Credits	16.7

Year 1 - Semester 2	Credits
PRNU 111 - (Pharmacology II)	2
PRNU 112 - (Health Promotion II)	2
PRNU 113 - (Variations in Health II)	3
PRNU 114 - (Professional Communication II)	2
PRNU 115 - (Professional Practice II)	1.3
PRNU 116 - (Integrated Nursing Practice II)	4
Total Credits	14.3

Year 1 - Intersession	Credits
PRNU 117 - (Consolidated Practice Experience II)	5
Total Credits	5

Year 2 - Semester 1	Credits
PRNU 202 - (Health Promotion III)	2.4
PRNU 203 - (Variations in Health III)	3
PRNU 204 - (Professional Communication III)	1.3
PRNU 205 - (Professional Practice III)	1.3
PRNU 206 - (Integrated Nursing Practice III)	3
PRNU 207 - (Consolidated Practice Experience III)	3
Total Credits	14

Year 2 - Semester 2	Credits
PRNU 212 - (Health Promotion IV)	1.6
PRNU 213 - (Variations in Health IV)	3.3
PRNU 214 - (Professional Communication IV)	1.3
PRNU 215 - (Professional Practice IV)	1.3
PRNU 216 - (Integrated Nursing Practice IV)	4
PRNU 217 - (Consolidated Practice Experience IV)	7
Total Credits	18.5

Year 2 - Intersession	Credits
PRNU 218 - (Transition to Preceptorship)	1
PRNU 219 - (Preceptorship)	6
Total Credits	7
Total Program Credits	75.5

Admission Requirements

- General admission requirements apply.
- English 12 minimum grade of "C+" or equivalent or Technical Professional Communications 12 with a grade of "B+".
- Pre-calculus 11 minimum grade of "C" or equivalent.
- Biology 12 with a grade of "C".
- HHPN 001 - (Human Anatomy and Physiology for Practical Nurses) with a minimum grade of "C+".

Recommendations for Admission

- Recent course in writing skills.
- Volunteer experience in health care setting.

Notes on Admission

- Indigenous students can apply for reserve seats by submitting the Access Initiative for Indigenous Students form.
- Criminal Record Check. Fieldwork and/or practicums will require a satisfactory criminal record check prior to placement. Criminal Record Checks are requested through VIU. The Registration Centre at VIU will contact prospective students by mail regarding the requirements for a Criminal Record Check. Criminal Record Checks are processed through the Ministry according to the Criminal Records Review Act. A check completed through the RCMP is not sufficient to meet the requirements of the Act.
- Immunization: A completed Immunization Requirements Form is required for the first day of classes.
- C.P.R. level "C" certificate (presumed to include 1 person, 2 persons, infant CPR

and choking victim) is required for the **first day** of classes.

- Proof of W.H.M.I.S. training is required for the **first day** of classes.
- Enrolment in this program is limited. Students who meet or exceed the minimum admission requirements may not necessarily be admitted to the program.
 - Admission is determined by:
 - Candidates meeting admission requirements
 - GPA scores rankings.
- Applicants may be granted conditional acceptance into the Practical Nursing Diploma program prior to successful completion of the required HHPN 001 course. HHPN 001 must be completed before attending any Practical Nursing Diploma courses. Note: To view and register for current course offerings please refer to the Professional Development and Training department.
- This program is currently not available to international students.
- Applicants with English as an Additional Language (EAL) must meet the language requirements set by CLPNBC (2011), and be successful in one of the following prior to licensing:
International English Language Testing System (IELTS) - Academic Version with minimum scores of:
 - Overall Band Score: 7.5
 - Speaking: 7.5
 - Listening: 8
 - Reading: 7
 - Writing: 7.5

Canadian English Language Benchmarks Assessment for Nurses (CELBAN) with minimum scores of:

- Speaking: 8
- Listening: 10
- Reading: 8
- Writing: 7

Transfer from other institutions

The program will consider accepting transfer students from other recognized Practical Nursing Diploma programs on an individual basis, space permitting. The Program Chair, in collaboration with Registration Services, will determine transfer eligibility based on a review of prerequisites, official transcripts, course outlines, and other supporting documentation. Policies and practices developed by the BC Council on Admissions and Transfer for Practical Nursing programs in the BC Transfer system will be used to guide student transfers.

Career Opportunities

Graduates of the Practical Nursing Diploma program can seek employment in a diverse range of employment settings, including: hospitals, nursing homes, extended care facilities, rehabilitation centres, doctors' offices, clinics, companies, private homes, educational institutions, and community health centres.

Start Date and Application Deadline

Nanaimo Campus: The program starts every September at the Nanaimo Campus and applications are accepted between the first business day in October and March 31. For further information regarding application deadlines and program contacts,

check the Program Availability List for the Nanaimo campus.

Cowichan Campus: The program starts in September every other year on even-numbered years (i.e. 2016, 2018) and applications are accepted between the first business day in October and March 31. For further information regarding application deadlines and program contacts, check the Program Availability List for the Cowichan campus.

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