

NURSING, Associate in Science Degree - 3456

Nursing Department

The Nursing AS degree (ADN) prepares students to sit for the NCLEX® licensing exam. Successful completion of this exam is required by the PA State Board of Nursing to obtain licensure to practice as a Registered Nurse (RN). RNs work to promote health, prevent disease, and help patients cope with illness. In addition, they are advocates and health educators for patients, families, and communities. This program provides students with vital nursing care experience as they provide direct patient care; observe, assess, and record symptoms, reactions, and progress; assist physicians with treatments and examinations; administer medications, and assist in convalescence and rehabilitation. Students are taught to develop and manage nursing care plans, instruct patients and their families in proper care, and help individuals and groups take steps to improve or maintain their health. Possible exposure to bloodborne pathogens and potentially hazardous materials may occur. Competence in dosage calculation must be demonstrated throughout the Nursing program in order to advance. Mathematics is an essential safety skill. A dosage calculation course is offered for students who do not meet competence requirements. The student should consider these factors before enrolling in the program. The program is approved by the Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing and is accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN). The complete Nursing program is available at the Gettysburg (four-semester and eight-semester), Harrisburg (four-semester, eight-semester and weekend), Lancaster (four-semester and eight-semester) and York (eight-semester daytime and eight-semester evening) campuses.

All students accepted into the clinical component of the program must undergo (at the student's expense) a Pennsylvania Child Abuse History Clearance, State Police Criminal Record Check, and an FBI fingerprint clearance. Pennsylvania law states that the State Board of Nursing may refuse to license a person who has been convicted of a criminal action(s). This program also requires all students accepted into the clinical component to submit a health examination form completed by a physician/nurse practitioner/physician's assistant with immunization history including verification through blood work, and submit to a drug and alcohol screen. The student should consider all of these factors before enrolling in this program. If the student has any questions regarding this, he or she should contact the Program Director at the campus of his/her choice.

Selective Program: Students must first apply to the College at <http://www.hacc.edu/Admissions/Apply/index.cfm>. Once admitted entry into this program is not guaranteed with admission to the College; this is a selective and competitive admission program. Specific admissions criteria must be met. Please go to the Health Careers website (www.hacc.edu/healthcareers), or contact us by email at start@hacc.edu for specific program entry requirements

Career Opportunities

Graduates of the program are prepared for employment as registered nurses caring for patients in hospitals, extended care facilities, and health care delivery settings.

Competency Profile

The Associate Degree Nursing Program Outcomes are derived from the 4-core concepts and 9-key components of the Conceptual Framework.

This curriculum is designed to prepare students to:

- [Professionalism]** - Possess a sense of **professional identity**, a **spirit of inquiry** and a commitment to the profession of registered nursing.
- Demonstrate the ability to practice as a generalist, using clinical reasoning to provide **safe**, competent, **patient-centered care** to patients across the **lifespan** and **healthcare continuum**.
 - Provide **evidence-based clinical nursing practice** by using evidence to make sound clinical judgments and to deliver safe, competent excellent care.
 - Consistently demonstrate accountability, **ethical behavior**, and adhere to the standards of professional registered nursing practice.
- [Communication]** - Communicate effectively, in a therapeutic way with the patient, promoting human dignity, integrity, and **human flourishing** across the **life span**.
- Demonstrate the ability to utilize **informatics**, computer-based information management systems and patient care technology to navigate the healthcare system in the provision of **patient-centered care**.
 - Demonstrate the ability to respectfully communicate information verbally, nonverbally and in writing, while promoting an environment that supports interprofessional communication and **collaboration** in the provision of **patient-centered care**.
- [Critical Thinking]** - Demonstrate the ability to recall and comprehend information to problem solve using the **nursing process**, **evidence-based practice** and concepts foundational to quality registered nursing practice.

- Utilize **evidence-based practice** to formulate nursing judgments that include the cognitive abilities to apply and analyze data that will direct patient outcomes.
- Demonstrate the ability to apply critical thinking to deliver **clinically competent** care regarding a clinical problem in accordance with the national patient **safety** initiative.

[Caring] - Engage in caring behaviors to provide a **safe**, compassionate, nurturing environment that promotes **human flourishing**.

- Provide **holistic** care, across the **health continuum** that reflects a respect of the values, cultures and lifestyles of diverse patients and families.
- Provide care that is compassionate, culturally sensitive and **holistic**.

Adapted from Educational Competencies for Graduates of Associate Degree Nursing Programs, NLN, 2000.

Bold and italicized words are concepts that thread throughout the Harrisburg Area Community College Nursing Program Conceptual Framework.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS (TOTAL CREDITS = 67)

General Education		Major Requirements		Other Required Courses	
ENGL 101 English Composition I	3	NURS 140 Intro to Nursing Practice Concepts I	1	BIOL 221 Microbiology	4
ENGL 102 English Composition II	3	NURS 141 Intro to Nursing Practice Concepts II	1		
COMM 101 Effective Speaking	3	NURS 142 Health Assessment Concepts for Nursing Practice	3		
Humanities & Arts Elective*	3	NURS 144 Fundamental Concepts for Nursing Practice	3		
Mathematics Elective - MATH 103 or MATH 202	3 or 4	NURS 151 Holistic Health Concepts for Nursing Practice II	4.5		
Mathematics or Science Elective - BIOL 122	4	NURS 240 Adult Health Concepts for Nursing Practice I	2		
Science w/ a Laboratory - BIOL 121	4	NURS 241 Adult Health Concepts for Nursing Practice II	2.5		
Social & Behavioral Science Elective - PSYC 101	3	NURS 242 Family Health Concepts for Nursing Practice I	2.5		
First-Year-Seminar – NURS 143	1	NURS 243 Family Health Concepts for Nursing Practice II	2.5		
Wellness - NURS 150	5	NURS 244 Advanced Behavioral Health Concepts for Nursing Practice	2.5		
	32	NURS 250 Complex Health Concepts for Nursing Practice	2.5		
		NURS 251 Leadership & Management Concepts for Nursing Practice	4		
			31		

*SPAN 104 is highly recommended.

Note: A grade of C or higher is required in all courses.

RECOMMENDED SEQUENCE FOR FULL-TIME STUDENTS

Summer I		Fall Semester I		Spring Semester I	
BIOL 121	4	BIOL 122	4	ENGL 102	3
ENGL 101	3	NURS 140	1	NURS 150	5
NURS 143	1	NURS 141	1	NURS 151	4.5
		NURS 142	3	PSYC 101	3
		NURS 144	3		
Summer II		Fall Semester II		Spring Semester II	
BIOL 221	4	COMM 101	3	Humanities/Arts Elective*	3
MATH 103 or 202	3 or 4	NURS 240	2	NURS 243	2.5
		NURS 241	2.5	NURS 250	2.5
		NURS 242	2.5	NURS 251	4
		NURS 244	2.5		

RECOMMENDED SEQUENCE FOR PART-TIME STUDENTS

Spring Semester I		Summer I		Fall Semester I		Spring Semester II		Summer II	
BIOL 121	4	BIOL 122	4	NURS 150	5	BIOL 221	4	COMM 101	3
NURS 140	1	NURS 141	1	PSYC 101	3	NURS 151	4.5	ENGL 101	3
NURS 142	3	NURS 144	3					NURS 240	2
NURS 143	1							NURS 242	2.5
Fall Semester II		Spring Semester III		Summer III					
MATH 103 or 202	3 or 4	ENGL 102	3	NURS 251	4				
NURS 241	2.5	NURS 243	2.5	Humanities/Arts Elective*	3				
NURS 244	2.5	NURS 250	2.5						

Option for Licensed Practical Nurses: Students who have graduated as Practical Nurses and have a Practical Nursing License in good standing from the PA State Board of Nursing can receive advanced standing in the Associate Degree Nursing Program when they continue their education at Harrisburg Area Community College. Students should contact their advisor about this option.