ALVERNIA UNIVERSITY

An Education in the Franciscan Tradition

Nursing | Major

"The professors encouraged professionalism in dress, speech and conduct—and it has paid off! I have my dream job in the hospital of my choice." - Laura Rhodes '07, Lehigh Valley Health Network, Cedar Crest, PA

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS IN BRIEF

The purpose of the Bachelor of Science in Nursing program is to offer a highly qualified professional education for students in a Christian-oriented environment. Baccalaureate nursing education is based on liberal arts and sciences. This foundation distinguishes the baccalaureate nursing graduate from diploma and associate degree graduates by preparing them to communicate, evaluate and provide holistic health care to individuals and groups. The successful graduates are eligible to apply for RN licensure by taking the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX-RN).The BSN graduate functions as a generalist practitioner in a variety of health care environments. Alvernia's BSN graduate is prepared to deliver health care to persons of all ages, families and community groups with sensitivity to cultural and environmental factors.

ACADEMIC QUALITY

The Nursing program is approved by the Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing and is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE). Accreditation is an indicator of the quality of the program and reflects adherence to national standards of nursing education.

The three nursing skills laboratories at Alvernia University provide a supportive and caring environment for students to practice and demonstrate nursing skills. Registered nurses who staff the labs work with faculty to provide a variety of creative simulation experiences at all levels of the curriculum. Nursing students learn psychomotor, critical thinking and physical assessment skills necessary for clinical nursing. Students become familiar with equipment and techniques in a non-threatening environment that simulates the clinical nursing setting. A variety of life-sized computer-driven patient simulator manikins are used to enhance student learning. State of the art technology enables recording and remote transmission of simulation scenarios.

NURSING CAREER OPPORTUNITIES WITH BSN

BSN graduates of Alvernia University may be employed in a variety of staff nursing positions in hospitals, long-term care and outpatient facilities. Graduates have secured positions on hospital floors caring for general medical-surgical clients, as well as on specialty units such as maternity and critical care. Registered nurses with a BSN from Alvernia University are well prepared to pursue further education in graduate degree programs for advanced practice careers such as nurse practitioner, educator, and administrator.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Freshman Level: This level is for all first time college students, college students who have less than 29 credits of college level work or students who do not have pre-requisite college level science courses.

- First time college students must meet the general admission requirements of Alvernia University
- First time college students with less than 12 credits of college work must have a minimum composite score from the critical reading and math sections on the SAT of 1000 or greater and a high school grade point average of 2.5 or higher, with consideration given to college preparatory courses of study
- Two (2) letters of reference

As required by the Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing, applicants shall have completed work equal to a standard high school course with a minimum of 16 units, which includes 4 units of English, 3 units of social studies, 2 units of mathematics (1 of which is algebra) and 2 units of science with a related laboratory or equivalent.

Transfer Students: Students wishing to transfer to Alvernia University from another institution of higher education must meet the general admission requirements of Alvernia University and have a minimum grade point average of 2.7. Final decisions regarding transfer into the Nursing program are made by the Nursing Department Chair.

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BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING PROGRAM
CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

Freshman Level

Semester 1		16.5 credits
COL 110	First Year Seminar	2 cr
COM 101	Composition and Research	3 cr
PSY 101	Introduction to Psychology	3 cr
BIO 107	Human Anatomy and Physiology I	4 cr
CHE 106	Fundamentals of Chemistry	3 cr
CHE 109	Fundamental Laboratory Techniques	1 cr
NUR 110	Intro to Experiential Nursing Science I (suggested course)	0.5 cr

Semester 2		17.5 credits
Communication		3 cr
THE 105	Foundations of Theology	3 cr
BIO 108	Human Anatomy and Physiology II	4 cr
BIO 220	Clinical Microbiology	4 cr
Fine Arts (Art or Music)		3 cr
NUR 111	Intro to Experiential Nursing Science II (suggested course)	0.5 cr

Sophomore Level

Semester 3		17 credits
PHI 105	Introduction to Philosophy	3 cr
BIO 216	Nutrition	3 cr
Foreign Language		3 cr
NUR 209	Foundations of Professional Nursing Skills	5 cr
NUR 210	Intro to Nursing Practice: Roles and Responsibilities	3 cr

Semester 4		17 credits
THE 210	Medical Moral Theology	3 cr
Foreign Language		3 cr
Literature		3 cr
NUR 205	Nursing I: Adult Medical Surgical Clients	5 cr
NUR 208	Pharmacology and the Nursing Process	3 cr

Junior Level

Semester 5		15 credits
History		3 cr
NUR 311	Health Assessment Across the Lifespan	3 cr
NUR 315	Nursing II: Birth & Childhood to Adulthood	9 cr

Semester 6		15 credits
BIO 410	Pathophysiology	3 cr
MAT 208	Introductory Statistics	4 cr
NUR 312	Transcultural Nursing	3 cr
NUR 313	Nursing III: Behavioral Health & Chronicity	5 cr

Senior Level

Semester 7		16 credits
PHI or THE (200-400 Level)		3 cr
NUR 408	Introduction to Research Methods	3 cr
NUR 410	Nursing IV: Adult & Geriatric Clients	5 cr
NUR 412	Nursing of the Family & Community	5 cr

Semester 8		12 credits
NUR 409	Leadership & Ethical Dimensions for Nursing Practice	3 cr
NUR 417	Nursing Role Synthesis Practicum	6 cr
NUR 418	Nursing of the Acute & Critically Ill	3 cr

Total 125 credits

CLINICAL FACILITIES

The Alvernia University Nursing Program provides a rich diversity in clinical practice sites. Sites include both inpatient and community sites. Examples include:

Caron Foundation
Ephrata Community Hospital
Health South Rehabilitation Hospital
Good Samaritan Hospital of Lebanon
Penn Foundation Recovery Center
Pottstown Memorial Medical Center
Reading School District
Saint Joseph Medical Center
Schuylkill Medical Center
The Reading Hospital and Medical Center
Wernersville State Hospital
Various Long-Term Care Facilities, Private Office Practices and Clinics

CONTACT INFORMATION

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