

## **NURSING**

### **Associate of Applied Science Degree**

(Degree Audit Program Code: ADN-AAS)

The Associate of Applied Science degree in Nursing is a 60-credit-hour curriculum designed to prepare a student to become a Registered Nurse in the State of Texas. Upon program completion, the Associate Degree Nursing graduate is eligible to take the NLCEX-RN licensure examination.

Nursing is a service to individuals, families, and to the community. The individual nurse has science based competencies and skills to assist people, sick or well, to cope with their health needs. Nursing is practiced in conjunction with other disciplines of the healthcare team.

#### **Mission Statement:**

In keeping with the mission of Galveston College, the Nursing programs will provide a collaborative educational environment of the highest standards to prepare graduates committed to excellence in nursing practice in evolving healthcare settings serving local and global communities.

#### **Program Outcomes:**

The faculty of the Galveston College Associate Degree Nursing program is acutely aware of their mission to move students from novice learner to professional healthcare provider. Nursing program graduates are expected to demonstrate certain skills that reflect a professional demeanor. These outcomes include the ability to function as a/an:

1. Caring, competent, clinical reasoning practitioner;
2. Involved community member;
3. Coordinator of client care;
4. Lifelong learner;
5. Moral and ethical decision maker;
6. Accountable, contributing member of the nursing profession; and,
7. Advocate for high standards of nursing practice.

These seven program outcomes fully encompass the four primary essential competencies identified as Entry Level Competencies by the Texas Board of Nursing for the Associate Degree Nursing Graduate:

- Member of the Profession
- Provider of Patient-Centered Care
- Patient Safety Advocate
- Member of the Health Care Team

#### **Admission Requirements:**

All prospective candidates who wish to be admitted to the Associate Degree Nursing program should contact the Nursing Department. Applicants must:

1. Complete the requirements for admission to the College. (Admission to Galveston College does not guarantee admission to the nursing program.) Application to the nursing program requires the filing of a pre-plan/degree plan, which shows evidence of:
  - a. Satisfactory completion of Texas Success Initiative (TSI) requirements.
  - b. Satisfactory completion of an Intermediate Algebra course (MATH 0304) or Foundation of Statistics course (MATH 0308), or a passing placement test score within five years of the program start date. Mathematics courses are accepted according to Galveston College requirements.
  - c. Satisfactory completion of BIOL 2401, Anatomy and Physiology I, within five years of the program start date.
  - d. Satisfactory completion of HPRS 1206, Essentials of Medical Terminology.
2. Achieve a grade of “C” or better in all required prerequisite courses. An overall G.P.A. of 2.7 as well as a G.P.A. of 2.5 on all prerequisite courses is required for admission consideration. Math and science courses must have been taken within five years of the program start date. Transcripts may not reflect more than one (1) “D” or “F” in any nursing course
3. Prospective applicants will be required to pass a nurse entrance test administered at Galveston College, as part of the admission criteria. Students must register with the Nursing Department for exam administration. Students who do not pass the examination will be counseled and remediation will be recommended. A passing score on the exam is valid for one year.
4. Be in good standing at Galveston College.

5. Obtain a clear background check or approved Declaratory Order from the Texas Board of Nursing.
6. Provide evidence of first Hepatitis B vaccination.
7. Personally complete the Nursing Program Application. (This is a separate application from the Galveston College application.) This application is to be filed with the Nursing Director.
8. Pharmacology (RNSG 1301) and Health Assessment (RNSG 1215) may be completed in advance, but no more than 12 months prior to the beginning of the ADN program.

Acceptance to the Associate Degree Nursing program is through a selection process based on a point system and is highly competitive. Students will earn points based on selected prerequisite and science courses, Grade Point Average, nurse entrance test scores, and general education courses completed. The information packet, available on-line, details the procedure for program application. Potential applicants are expected to be familiar with the application requirements and process. Not everyone who applies will be accepted.

#### **Procedure After Admission:**

Successful applicants will:

1. Be informed by mail of acceptance into the program. All entering students will be notified by mail of the scheduled nursing orientation session and will be required to attend.
2. Submit a complete personal health history form furnished by the UTMB Office of Student Health. Health history and required immunizations will be at student expense. Immunizations must be completed prior to beginning clinical.
3. Maintain certification in Basic Life Support (CPR-Health Professional Level) throughout the course of study.
4. Be required to produce a clear drug screening test as directed by the school. Failure to pass the drug test will result in expulsion from the program.
5. Be required to complete a DPS/FBI Background Check and fingerprint scanning.

#### **State Board Requirements:**

Permission to take the NCLEX-RN for licensure as a professional nurse is regulated by the Texas Board of Nursing. Students who have been previously convicted of a crime other than minor traffic violations, arrested for any crime, or if ever hospitalized or treated for mental illness and/or chemical dependency **may not** be approved by the Board for licensure. For further information, students may contact the Texas Board of Nursing in Austin.

#### **Application Requirements:**

Applications for admission to the Associate Degree Nursing program will be accepted by the Nursing Department beginning **September 15<sup>th</sup>** of each year for the next academic year. Only those prospective students whose files are completed and submitted by **February 15<sup>th</sup>** will be considered for admission according to specific criteria. Applicants completing prerequisites by the end of the spring semester may be considered on a space available basis.

Applicants who are not admitted to the program are not automatically considered for the next year's class and must re-apply each year. A student who is accepted for the current class but does not enroll in the program will be required to re-apply for the next admission. A new pre-plan must be completed each time a student re-applies.

All students desiring admission to the Associate Degree Nursing program should have a Pre-ADN plan on file in the Nursing Department. Only students who have completed all admission requirements will be considered for admission to the Associate Degree Nursing program.

#### **Transfer Policies:**

Students who wish to transfer credits should submit official transcripts to Galveston College Admissions. Transfer nursing courses are evaluated on a course-by-course basis. Transfer grades below a "C" are not accepted for credit in the nursing program. Mathematics and science courses must have been taken no more than five years from acceptance to the nursing program; mathematics is accepted according to Galveston College requirements. Only one nursing course repeat is allowed. Students transferring credits must meet with the Nursing Director to have their transcripts evaluated. Admission must be within one (1) year of leaving the prior nursing program. Students desiring admission after one (1) year must complete the entire program from the beginning.

Transfer students from other nursing programs who meet the standard admission requirements are eligible for admission on a space-available basis.

The student desiring transfer credit must:

1. Meet admission requirements for Galveston College and the Associate Degree Nursing Program.
2. Currently hold an overall GPA of 2.7 as well as a GPA of 2.5 on all prerequisite courses.
3. Arrange to have transcripts from former institutions including high school or G.E.D. certificate sent to the Admissions Office at Galveston College.
4. Have a letter concerning eligibility from previous nursing programs sent to the Director of Nursing prior to the first day of class.
5. Submit course syllabi for review to Nursing Director.
6. Successfully complete all testing requirements.
7. Enter the ADN program before or at the beginning of the second year.
8. Complete 18 technical/workforce education semester hours at Galveston College prior to graduation from Galveston College (ADN).
9. Obtain a clear background check or an approved Declaratory Order from the Texas Board of Nursing.
10. Be aware that there will be random and/or unannounced drug screening tests after acceptance into the nursing program. Failure to pass the random drug test will result in expulsion from the program.

Additional admission requirements are dependent upon the course of entry and include a comprehensive math exam in each clinical course, a standardized examination and a laboratory skills demonstration.

**All requirements must be accomplished prior to completion of the preceding semester to which the student is requesting entry.** Students will be notified of admission status prior to the first day of class.

#### **Academic Progression Requirements: Grading System and Repetition of Courses**

The grading system for the Associate Degree Nursing program courses is:

A = 91 – 100	C = 75 – 80
B = 81 – 90	F = Below 75

The student is required to:

1. Achieve a grade of “C” (75) or better in all nursing courses required in the ADN curriculum to progress in the nursing program. Grades will not be rounded.
2. Achieve a grade of “C” or better in all science and general education courses required in the ADN curriculum to progress in the nursing program. Students must complete all concurrent courses within a semester to progress to the next semester.
3. Complete nursing and science courses in sequence and within a period of five years. Students are subject to failure or dismissal at any time for documented incidents of unsatisfactory/unsafe clinical performance.
4. Pass specialty exams at the completion of RNSG courses as outlined in course syllabi.

Students with a grade of “W,” “F,” or “AWN” in any nursing course are dismissed from the ADN program and must re-apply to repeat the course on a space available basis after meeting the criteria for re-admission. Students must also satisfy all requirements to remove “scholastic probation” status prior to re-admission.

Students applying for transfer or readmission who do not have any failures in nursing courses will have priority over a student with one nursing failure.

Students with a total of two failures in nursing courses will be dismissed from the ADN program. Students may re-apply following specified criteria after a period of two (2) years.

#### **Re-admission Requirements:**

Re-admission policies relate to students who are admitted to the Associate Degree Nursing program, leave prior to completion and apply to return to the program. Re-admission is based upon an individual review of the student’s record, and space availability. Students may re-enter the Associate Degree Nursing program only one time if the reason for the exit was failure of a course or courses in the program. Re-admission must be within one (1) year of leaving the program. Students desiring re-admission after one (1) year must complete the entire program.

The applicant must:

1. Be in good academic standing.
2. Submit a written request to the Admission and Progression Committee.
3. Currently hold an overall GPA of 2.7 as well as a GPA of 2.5 on all prerequisite courses. The cumulative GPA must be 2.7 on any courses taken at or transferred to Galveston College. Math and science courses must have been taken

- within five years of the program start date; math courses must follow Galveston College admission requirements.
4. Satisfactorily complete testing re-admission requirements identified for each course.
  5. Resubmit current clear background check and drug screening tests as directed by the Associate Degree Nursing program. A Texas Board of Nursing Declaratory Order may be required.

As part of an exit interview, the faculty and/or Program Director will identify in writing the exact courses (other than RNSG courses) that the student must complete with a grade of “C” or better to be considered for re-admission. The student will be required to complete at least the number of RNSG semester hours in which he/she received a grade of “W” or “F”. If the student elects to complete more than the required hours and the courses are approved by the faculty, the student will be required to complete each course with a grade of “C” or better.

Additional re-admission requirements are dependent upon the course of re-entry and include a comprehensive math exam, a standardized examination and a laboratory skills demonstration.

**All requirements must be accomplished prior to completion of the preceding semester to which the student is requesting entry.** Students will be notified of admission status prior to the first day of class. If the number of students applying exceeds the number of vacancies, the selection will be determined by cumulative GPA at Galveston College.

#### **Students with failure-in any nursing course**

Students who fail any nursing courses have two options for transferring/returning to a nursing program at Galveston College.

1. Wait two years from the-failure and apply for admission to the nursing program, taking nursing courses from their original point of entry (1<sup>st</sup> semester or transition).
2. Apply for admission to the program, taking nursing courses from their original point of entry (1<sup>st</sup> semester or transition) waiving the two year waiting period. Students requesting to apply in this manner will be required to:
  - a. Meet all program admission criteria.
  - b. Obtain a letter of recommendation from a nursing faculty member.
  - c. Submit a letter to the Admission and Progression Committee stating what they believe their weaknesses were and how they intend to return as a successful student.
  - d. Interview with the Admission and Progression Committee if necessary.
  - e. Be aware that students with zero nursing course failures will be considered prior to applicants with one nursing course failure.
  - f. Repeat all nursing courses from their original point of entry, following the curriculum requirements at the time of re-entry.

#### **Non-academic withdrawals**

Nursing students who are in good academic standing who have withdrawn from the Galveston College Associate Degree Nursing Program for non-academic reasons may apply for readmission by submitting a request to the Admission and Progression Committee.

#### **Liability Insurance**

All students enrolled in Galveston College nursing programs will be required to purchase liability insurance. At the time of registration, students will automatically be assessed insurance charges. Liability insurance fees are non-refundable. Students are covered by the insurance policy, not by the coverage or license of the faculty.

#### **Nursing Organizations**

Galveston College nursing students are encouraged to seek membership in college, local, state, and national nursing and student nurse organizations.

#### **Curriculum:**

The Associate Degree Nursing program is approved by the Texas Board of Nursing (BON) and accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN). Information regarding the program can be obtained from ACEN at 3343 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 500, Atlanta, Georgia 30326, (404) 975-5000, [www.acenursing.org](http://www.acenursing.org), or from the BON website.

#### **Graduation Requirements:**

To be eligible for an Associate of Applied Science degree in Nursing and receive permission to take the NCLEX-RN exam for licensure, students must have:

1. Successfully completed the prescribed course of study of 60 credit hours.
2. Met the required passing score on a comprehensive NCLEX-RN readiness exam.
3. Met any individually prescribed behavior or remediation related requirements.

**PREREQUISITE COURSES<sup>10</sup>**

<u>BIOL</u>	<u>2401</u>	<u>Anatomy and Physiology I</u>	4
HPRS	1206	Essentials of Medical Term.	2
<u>MATH</u>	<u>0304</u>	<u>Intermediate Algebra<sup>10</sup> or</u>	
MATH	0308	Foundations of Statistics <sup>10</sup>	
			<b>6</b>

**FIRST YEAR****First Semester**

<u>BIOL</u>	<u>2402</u>	<u>Anatomy &amp; Physiology II</u>	4
RNSG	1413	Foundations for Nursing Prac.	4
RNSG	1160	Clinical (Foundations)	1
RNSG	1215	Health Assessment <sup>11</sup>	2
RNSG	1105	Nursing Skills I	1
			<b>12</b>

**Second Semester**

<u>BIOL</u>	<u>2421</u>	<u>Microbiology for Science Majors</u>	4
RNSG	1441	Common Concepts of Adult Health	4
RNSG	1360	Clinical (Common Concepts)	3
RNSG	1301	Pharmacology <sup>12</sup>	3
			<b>14</b>

**Third Semester**

RNSG	2213	Mental Health Nursing	2
RNSG	1161	Clinical (Psyc/Mental Health)	1
<u>ENGL</u>	<u>1301</u>	<u>Composition I</u>	3
			<b>6</b>

**SECOND YEAR****First Semester**

RNSG	2201	Care of Children and Families	2
RNSG	1162	Clinical (Pediatrics)	1
RNSG	2208	Maternal/Newborn Nursing and Women's Health	2
RNSG	1163	Clinical (Maternal/Newborn Child)	1
<u>PSYC</u>	<u>2301</u>	<u>General Psychology</u>	3
<u>Creative Arts<sup>3</sup> or Language, Philosophy, Culture<sup>4</sup></u>			3
			<b>12</b>

**Second Semester**

<u>PSYC</u>	<u>2314</u>	<u>Lifespan Growth and Development</u>	3
RNSG	1443	Complex Concepts of Adult Health <sup>13</sup>	4
RNSG	2262	Clinical (Complex Concepts)	2
RNSG	1144	Nursing Skills II	1
			<b>10</b>

**TOTAL SEMESTER CREDIT HOURS IN PROGRAM: 60**Notes:

<sup>3</sup>Select one course from ARTS 1301, ARTS 1303, COMM 2366, DRAM 1310, DRAM 2366, HUMA 1301, MUSI 1306, MUSI 1310.

<sup>4</sup>Select one course from ARTS 1304, DRAM 2361, DRAM 2362, ENGL 2322, ENGL 2323, ENGL 2327, ENGL 2328, ENGL 2332, ENGL 2333, ENGL 2342, ENGL 2343, HIST 2311, HIST 2312, HUMA 1302, PHIL 1301, PHIL 2306, PHIL 2307.

<sup>10</sup>MATH 0304 Intermediate Algebra or MATH 0308 Foundations of Statistics is a requirement to be met for admission to the program by placement or course completion; however, it should be noted that in order for the student to graduate from the program the student must be TSI complete. Must be completed within 5 years of starting program.

<sup>11</sup>May be enrolled in RNSG 1215 twelve months prior to entering the nursing program. MATH 0304 or MATH 0308, BIOL 2401, and HPRS 1206 are prerequisites for this course.

<sup>12</sup>May be enrolled in RNSG 1301 twelve months prior to entering the nursing program. MATH 0304 or MATH 0308, and BIOL 2401 are prerequisites for this course.

<sup>13</sup>All students will be required to take and pass a comprehensive exit exam in order to pass RNSG 1443. Students will be offered remediation and may repeat the exam twice.

Underline - Identifies courses to meet general education requirements for AAS Degree.