

## Nursing, Registered NURSE

### Degree:

A.S. – Nursing, Registered

### Division of Science and Allied Health

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## Nursing, Registered Associate in Science Degree

### Program Information

The Associate in Science Degree Registered Nursing Program at Sacramento City College is approved by the California Board of Registered Nursing. Students enrolled in this program are required to complete general education, science, and nursing courses with related clinical experiences in local hospitals. The nursing courses are four semesters in length.

In addition to regular expenses such as enrollment fees, living costs, activity fees, and books, nursing students have the expense of uniforms, equipment, malpractice insurance, graduation, and licensing costs. They also are responsible for their physical examination, immunizations, background check, and drug screen, as well as transportation to and from clinical agencies for day and evening learning experiences. All enrolled students must have a current health provider CPR with Automated External Defibrillator (AED) card. The nursing program is a full-time rigorous course of study. In order to ensure academic success and to protect students' health, full time employment is not advisable. It is recommended that students who must continue outside employment reduce their hours to 8-12 hours or less per week.

Nursing courses must be taken in sequence. Informational meetings are held several times each semester to provide prospective students with information about program prerequisites, enrollment process, and other requirements in the program. For details call 916-558-2271 or visit the SCC website at <https://www.scc.losrios.edu/nursing/>.

A 75% passing grade is mandatory in theory and clinical practicum of each nursing course for progression in the program. In order to obtain a Registered Nursing license as a graduate, a student must have an Associate in Science Degree in Nursing by the end of the fourth semester.

NOTE: In accordance with Regulation 480 of the State Board of Registered Nursing, a person convicted of any offense, other than a minor traffic violation, may not qualify to be licensed as a Registered Nurse. If there are any questions regarding this matter, please contact the State Board of Registered Nursing or visit their website at [www.rn.ca.gov](http://www.rn.ca.gov).

Enrollment options for Licensed Vocational Nurses: LVNs seeking entry are subject to space availability. These applicants have several options for becoming Registered Nurses. In the "30 Unit Option" the LVN must complete physiology and microbiology prior to entering the second year nursing courses. This option does not lead to an Associate of Science Degree. The LVN to RN Transition option does lead to an Associate in Science Degree in Nursing. This LVN must meet all the program requirements of the generic program. After successfully completing NURSE 307 they transition into the second year of the Registered Nursing Program. A third option is completion of the entire generic associate degree nursing program and all enrollment requirements.

A Diploma RN graduate of a hospital school of nursing who is currently licensed in California may earn an Associate in Science Degree. This Registered Nurse will need to complete requirements for an Associate in Science Degree and fulfill a residency requirement by completing at least 12 units at Sacramento City College.

Transfer students must present evidence of comparable theory and clinical practice courses. Transfer students are admitted on a space available basis.

Those students seeking enrollment, re-entry, or transfer should visit the Sacramento City College Nursing website at <https://www.scc.losrios.edu/nursing/> or call the Science and Allied Health Division office at 916-558-2271.

### Career Opportunities

This program prepares the student for employment as an entry-level staff nurse in hospitals, physician's offices, skilled nursing or long term care facilities, surgery centers, ambulatory care settings, occupational health, and other related agencies. Registered Nurses provide nursing care to clients and groups of clients throughout the lifespan. They have many responsibilities from direct patient care to leadership roles, depending on the specific setting in which they are working. Program graduates are eligible to apply for the examination given by the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses.

### Enrollment Eligibility

To be eligible for enrollment in the program, the student must meet the following criteria:

- Application and acceptance into the Associate in Science Degree Registered Nursing Program at Sacramento City College.
- BIOL 430, BIOL 431, and BIOL 440 with grades of "C" or better and a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better.
- PSYC 300 or PSYC 480; ENGWR 300 or ENGWR 488; COMM 301 or COMM 331; SOC 321 or SOC 482 or ANTH 310 or ANTH 481 with grades of "C" or better and a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or better. In-progress grades will not be accepted for prerequisite courses.
- It is strongly recommended that students complete all general education requirements (Area I-VI) and competency requirements (reading, writing, and mathematics) prior to application to the program.
- Completion of the latest edition of the Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS), developed by the Assessment Technologies Institute, LLC (ATI). A minimum composite score is necessary to be eligible for application to the program. Additional information is available from the SCC Nursing website at <https://www.scc.losrios.edu/nursing/>.
- The Sacramento City College Nursing Program reserves the right to make changes in the enrollment criteria, academic requirements, grading standards, and other processes without notice at any time.

### Enrollment Process

Eligible students are selected for the program according to the following steps:

- Enrollment criteria, enrollment applications, and deadlines are available from the Sacramento City College nursing website at <https://www.scc.losrios.edu/nursing/>. The Associate in Science Degree Registered Nursing Program at Sacramento City College uses a multicriteria enrollment process. The latest edition of the ATI Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS) must be taken before applying, and a minimum composite score must be achieved in order to apply to the program. A Los Rios Community College District student identification number is required to access the online application. Points earned from the multicriteria enrollment form determine eligibility for the random selection pool from which a class is selected. Students must reapply each semester. There is no waiting list.
- Applications for enrollment and unofficial transcripts supporting completion of prerequisite courses and graduation course requirements must be submitted to the Science and Allied Health Division by the posted due date. Please see the nursing website at <https://www.scc.losrios.edu/nursing/> for more information about the enrollment process.

## Nursing, Registered (NURSE)

**Upon completion of this program, the student will be able to:**

- integrate the nursing process with critical reasoning skills, in direct and indirect nursing care to meet the patient's developmental and basic human needs.
- revise individualized nursing interventions to safely provide care to assist adult and older adult patients in need of preventative, restorative, or rehabilitative patient centered care.
- incorporate evidence-based practice, patient care standards, informatics, and critical thinking skills to enhance safety, quality improvement, and effectiveness of nursing care.
- generate therapeutic, respectful, and caring communication with patients and families, while promoting collegiality with peers and colleagues.
- formulate accurate and timely documentation and reporting of patient assessments, interventions, progress, and outcomes of care in the written and electronic medical record.
- design patient-centered teaching plans and assist patients and their families in developing self-advocacy skills necessary to maintain optimum levels of functioning and health.
- manage the nursing care for a group of patients, utilizing leadership skills, collaboration, teamwork, resource utilization, and supervision of team members consistent with their scope of practice.
- prioritize patient care needs, using critical thinking and time management skills, to organize and provide safe nursing care in a responsible and accountable manner.
- integrate ethical principles, legal boundaries, and cultural competency in all areas of nursing practice.
- assess learning needs through reflective thinking and use resources to engage in continuous improvement in skills and knowledge.

**Required Program**

**Units**

ANTH 310 Cultural Anthropology (3) .....	3
or ANTH 481 Honors Cultural Anthropology (3)	
or SOC 321 Race, Ethnicity and Inequality in the United States (3)	
or SOC 482 Sociology of Race, Ethnicity and Inequality in the United States – Honors (3)	
BIOL 430 Anatomy and Physiology .....	5
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BIOL 440 General Microbiology .....	4
COMM 301 Introduction to Public Speaking (3) .....	3
or COMM 331 Group Discussion (3)	
ENGWR 300 College Composition (3) .....	3-4
or ENGWR 488 Honors College Composition and Research (4)	
PSYC 300 General Principles (3) .....	3
or PSYC 480 Honors General Principles (3)	
NURSE 407 Fundamentals of Health and Nursing Care .....	12
NURSE 417 Nursing and Health Maintenance .....	12
Through the Lifecycle	
NURSE 427 Nursing Complex Health Problems .....	12
Through the Life Cycle	
NURSE 437 Nursing in Complex and Multiple Patient Care .....	12

**Total Program Units**

**74-75**

**Associate in Science (A.S.) Degree**

The Nursing, Registered Associate in Science (A.S.) degree may be obtained by completion of the required program, plus general education requirements. See SCC graduation requirements.

**NURSE 299 Experimental Offering in Nursing .5-4 Units**

*Prerequisite: None*  
*Hours: 90 hours LEC*  
 See Experimental Offerings

**NURSE 307 LVN-RN (Associate Degree Nursing) Transition 5 Units**

*Prerequisite: See Enrollment Limitation*  
*Enrollment Limitation: Enrollment in the Associate Degree Nursing (Registered Nursing) program and a licensed vocational nurse (LVN)*  
*Course Transferable to CSU*  
*Hours: 54 hours LEC; 108 hours LAB*

This course is designed for the California Licensed Vocational Nurse (LVN) who is admitted for advanced placement into the second year of the Registered (Associate Degree) Nursing Program. Theory and clinical experiences are related to helping medical surgical adult and older adult patients adapt to acute and chronic pathophysiological stressors in preventative, restorative, or rehabilitative settings. Content focuses on the LVN (Licensed Vocational Nurse) transitioning into the role of the associate degree RN (Registered Nurse). The concepts of basic human needs, safety, human development, nutrition, communication, sexuality, cultural and spiritual diversity, legal and ethical aspects of nursing, pharmacology and pathophysiology, are integrated in the course. Emphasis is given to clinical decision making, critical thinking, safety, teamwork, and collaboration.

**NURSE 308 LVN-RN 30-Unit Option 8 Units**

*Prerequisite: See enrollment limitations.*  
*Enrollment Limitation: Acceptance into the LVN-RN 30 unit option track and completion of BIOL 431 and BIOL 440 with grades of "B" or better.*  
*Course Transferable to CSU*  
*Hours: 72 hours LEC; 216 hours LAB*

This course, designed for the LVN-RN 30 unit option student, emphasizes theory and clinical experiences related to helping patients and families adapt to complex pathophysiological and psychopathological stressors. This course focuses on the care of the medical, surgical, and psychiatric nursing patient to meet his/her needs for risk reduction and optimal wellness in preventative, restorative, or rehabilitative settings. The sub-concepts integrated throughout the course include safety, human development, nutrition, sexuality, cultural and spiritual diversity, pathophysiology, pharmacology, legal and ethical principles. Course emphasis is on mental health and psychopathology, acute advanced medical and surgical content, end-of-life care, and evaluation of patient-centered outcomes. Learning experiences in the classroom, simulation lab, and clinical setting provide students the opportunity to utilize critical thinking, evidence-based practice, technology, teamwork, collaboration, clinical decision-making, and interdisciplinary communication principles in the delivery of quality nursing care.

**NURSE 315 Pharmacology and Implications for Nursing 3 Units**

*Prerequisite:* None.

*Advisory:* BIOL 100 (Introduction to Concepts of Human Anatomy and Physiology) with a "C" or better

*Course Transferable to CSU*

*Hours:* 54 hours LEC

This course is an introduction to the science of pharmacology and nursing. The role of the nurse in safely administering medications and evaluating the therapeutic response is emphasized. Drug classifications and their actions, interactions, and adverse effects, are specifically related to patient developmental stages and nursing professional standards.

**NURSE 325 Medical Dosage Calculations 1 Unit**

*Prerequisite:* None.

*Course Transferable to CSU*

*Hours:* 18 hours LEC

This course prepares students to accurately calculate oral and parenteral drug dosages for medication administration. Students will learn three systems of measurement and conversion from one system to another. Basic flow rates of IV fluids will be covered. Course content will also include: 1) review of basic arithmetic operations used in dosage calculations; 2) interpretation of drug labels; 3) common medical abbreviations used in dosage calculations; 4) use of the following methods: basic formulas, ratio and proportion, fractional equation, and dimensional analysis in dosage calculations. Calculators will not be used in this course.

**NURSE 407 Fundamentals of Health and Nursing Care 12 Units**

*Prerequisite:* See Enrollment Limitations

*Advisory:* FCS 324, NUTRI 300, or PSYC 370; with grades of "C" or better.

*Enrollment Limitation:* Acceptance into the Registered (Associate Degree) Nursing Program and completion of BIOL 430, BIOL 431, and BIOL 440 with grades of "C" or better and a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better. PSYC 300 or PSYC 480; ENGR 300 or ENGR 480 or; COMM 301 or COMM 331; SOC 321 or ANTH 310 or ANTH 481 with grades of "C" or better and a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or better. It is strongly recommended that students complete all general education requirements (Area I-VI) and competency requirements (reading, writing, and mathematics) prior to application to the program.

*Course Transferable to CSU*

*Hours:* 108 hours LEC; 324 hours LAB

This course utilizes the conceptual framework of the curriculum (Basic Human Needs, Life Cycle Development, Health Illness Continuum, Significant Health Problems, and Stress Adaptation) to provide the foundation for the following three semesters of the program. It includes an introduction to professional nursing, its evolution, present trends and issues, legal aspects, and concepts underlying current practice. Basic principles of delegation, management, teamwork, and collaboration are introduced and integrated into appropriate content. The theory and related clinical experiences prepare the student to apply the nursing process when providing direct patient care to patients with common medical surgical problems, with a focus on basic human needs. The student is introduced to critical thinking and clinical decision-making, while using evidence-based practice to support patients' adaptive mechanisms for attaining and maintaining wellness during early, middle, and late adulthood. The sub concepts integrated throughout the course are personal hygiene, safety, nutrition, communication, human sexuality, cultural/spiritual diversity, legal/ethical aspects, pharmacology, and pathophysiology. Emphasis is given to the promotion of health and risk reduction in adults and elders in theory, clinical, and the simulation lab.

**NURSE 417 Nursing and Health Maintenance Through the Lifecycle 12 Units**

*Prerequisite:* NURSE 407 with a grade of "C" or better

*Enrollment Limitation:* Enrollment in Associate Degree Nursing (Registered Nursing) program

*Course Transferable to CSU*

*Hours:* 108 hours LEC; 324 hours LAB

This course continues integration of the conceptual framework of the curriculum (Basic Human Needs, Life Cycle Development, Health Illness Continuum, Significant Health Problems, and Stress Adaptation). The second semester provides theory and clinical experiences for medical surgical, pediatric, and maternal-child patients in need of preventative, restorative, or rehabilitative nursing care, in acute, home, or community settings. Content focuses on application of patient-centered care and health promotion principles to prevent illness and achieve optimum wellness. There is emphasis on the utilization of the nursing process, critical thinking, evidence-based practice, safety, life cycle development, nutrition, communication, human sexuality, cultural/spiritual diversity, self-advocacy, legal/ethical aspects, quality improvement, teamwork and collaboration, pharmacology, and pathophysiology. Learning experiences provide students with opportunities to acquire new clinical skills, develop clinical judgment, use reflective practice, and apply previously learned concepts and principles in a variety of settings including the classroom, clinical, and simulation lab.

**NURSE 427 Nursing Complex Health Problems Through the Life Cycle 12 Units**

*Prerequisite:* NURSE 417 with a grade of "C" or better

*Enrollment Limitation:* Enrollment in Associate Degree Nursing (Registered Nursing) program

*Course Transferable to CSU*

*Hours:* 108 hours LEC; 324 hours LAB

This course emphasizes theory and clinical experiences related to helping patients and families adapt to complex pathophysiological and psychopathological stressors. This course focuses on the care of the medical, surgical, and psychiatric nursing patient to meet his/her needs for risk reduction and optimal wellness in preventative, restorative, or rehabilitative settings. The sub-concepts integrated throughout the course include safety, human development, nutrition, sexuality, cultural and spiritual diversity, pathophysiology, pharmacology, and legal/ethical principles. Course emphasis is on mental health and psychopathology, medical surgical content, end-of-life care, and evaluation of patient-centered outcomes. Learning experiences in the classroom, simulation lab, and clinical setting provide students the opportunity to utilize critical thinking, evidence-based practice, technology, teamwork, collaboration, clinical decision-making, and interdisciplinary communication principles in the delivery of quality nursing care.

