



CATALOG YEAR 2011

(Please use separate form for each add/change)

COLLEGE/SCHOOL/SECTION: College of Nursing and Health Sciences

Course: Add: ___ Delete: ___
(check all that apply) Change: Number ___ Title ___ SCH ___ Description ___ Prerequisite ___
New course will be part of major ___ minor ___ as a required ___
or elective ___ course
New course will introduce ___, reinforce ___, or apply ___ concepts

If new, provide Course Prefix, Number, Title, Measurable Student Learning Outcomes, SCH Value, Description, prerequisite, and lecture/lab hours if applicable. If in current online catalog, provide change and attach text with changes in red and provide a brief justification.

Program: Delete: ___ Add: ___ Change: X Attach new/changed Program of Study description and 4-year plan. If in current online catalog, provide change and attach text with changes in red.

Minor: Add: ___ Delete: ___ Change: ___ Attach new/changed minor. If in current online catalog, provide change and attach text with changes in red.

Faculty: Add: ___ Delete: ___ Change: ___ Attach new/changed faculty entry. If in current online catalog, provide change and attach text with changes in red.

College Introductory Pages: Add information: ___ Change information: ___
Attach new/changed information. If in current online catalog, provide change and attach text with changes in red.

Other: Add information: ___ Change information: X Attach new/changed information. If in current online catalog, provide change and attach text with changes in red. **Change in curriculum plan, including semesters to complete program. Please see attached explanation of proposed change as well as catalog changes.**

Approvals:	Signature	Date
Chair Department Curriculum Committee	<u></u>	<u>3-21-11</u>
Chair Department	<u></u>	<u>22 March 2011</u>
Chair College Curriculum Committee	<u></u>	<u>3-21-11</u>
Dean	<u></u>	<u>22 March 2011</u>

Explanation of proposed changes:

1. Decrease length of program from 6 to 4 semesters, this is in line other BSN programs in Texas where eleven (11) programs (44 percent) are four semesters, nine programs (36 percent) are five semesters and five (20 percent) are six semesters. (Taken from the Coordinating Board of Texas publication: *Professional Nursing Education in Texas Demographics & Trends: 2006*).
2. Increase the hours in didactic for both maternal child and child health nursing to 3 and decrease clinical to 2. Rationale is these two courses continue to low HESI scores and faculty course evaluations indicate that 2 hours a week to cover the theory portion of the content is not enough. In addition the course content is only covered once in the curriculum. To address this issue transfer the course content and clinical related to the critically ill child and pregnant client into the Emergent care nursing that is in the final semester of the nursing program. Students would then have additional exposure to the care of the child and pregnant client in more than one semester of the nursing program.
3. Offer a course on ethics and law in nursing; this is to address the new TBON requirement that all students must pass a comprehensive jurisprudence exam before entering practice. There is no one course that meets these requirements at this time.
4. Due to the increased interest in nursing as a major, limited faculty and clinical resources entry into nursing programs is both competitive and limited. In addition once in the program the rate of attrition is 20% or greater in both the 1st and 2nd semester of the program. To address this problem the committee has recommended that the sequencing of classes and the entry requirements be changes.
 - a. Current Entry Requirement: Currently to enter the SON completion of 3 sciences and 35 hours of core are required. Once in the program students are allowed to take the 4th science in the first semester of nursing and complete all core before entering the 2nd semester of nursing. When attempting to take pending science and university core in conjunction with nursing courses it is difficult for students to have adequate time to study. Nursing courses are taught once a year, taken in sequence with each course building upon the others. If students do not have all core completed by the second semester of nursing school or do not pass their 4th science they must exit the program resulting in an unfilled space that cannot be filled.
 - b. Proposed Change in Content and placement of pathophysiology.
 - 1) Pathophysiology will become a pre-nursing course that must be passed to qualify for entry into the school of nursing. At this time up to 20% of nursing students are unsuccessful in both pathophysiology and Adult Health I when taught together. Both student and faculty evaluations indicate that having a better understanding of pathophysiology before entering nursing would give them the needed background to better understand the concepts taught in Adult Health I. Making this course a pre-requisite will provide students with the necessary background information to better understand Adult Health.
 - 2) Increase pathophysiology to 4 hours and include pharmacology in the course. While pharmacology is being taught throughout the curriculum the pathophysiological interactions of drugs, illness, and the human body is lacking.

- c. Change both Foundations of Nursing and Nursing Skills to pre-requisite courses. Due to high attrition rate (>20% in these courses) and maximize the potential of success for those students who actually enter the program these course must be successfully completed before actually entering the school of nursing. In addition there are always a percentage of students entering nursing who discover after being introduced to the reality and demands of the role that they do not want to be a nurse. In addition since once accepted into the program if students fail two courses they are automatically out of the program. If these courses three courses status is changed to pre-nursing students will actually be provided additional opportunities to be successful.
- d. Decrease the number of hours in community health from 6 (3 theory and 3 clinical) to 5 (3 theory and 2 clinical). Students and faculty both felt that the number of hours in the clinical was not necessary as students are also getting related community clinical experiences in child health nursing (working with school nurses and in the immunization clinic) and mental health nursing (working with clients in the home and outpatient setting). At the present time issues related to bioterrorism are covered in both community health nursing and emergent care nursing. To address this overlap bioterrorism will now be exclusively taught in community health nursing.
- e. Increase the number of hours in research to 4, an emphasis on how research is related to issues, management, and evidence based practice will be included in the course.
- f. Implement the 2 hour ethics and law course which will encompass issues in staff and client management and care.
- g. In the final semester of nursing implement a 1 hour seminar course that is "transition to practice". It will focus on clinical scenarios related to the management of clients and staff in the actual clinical area. Students would participate in a simulated patient care situations and a precepted clinical with the aim of helping them transition into nursing. This addresses issues that have been brought to the attention of the SON by the agencies employing nursing graduates after licensure and student comments.
- h. Increase the number of hours in Emergent care clinical to 3 theory and 3 clinical. The additional hours will be used to address the care of critically ill children and pregnant patients. The portion of the course that addresses bioterrorism will be taught exclusively in the community health course.
- i. Care of the medical surgical client is a major portion of nursing practice. Currently students have two semesters that have no medical surgical content, making it difficult for them when they take Advanced Adult Health. To help bridge this gap the Mental Health course will add concepts related to the impact of stress, chronic illness, dementia and aging have on the psychosocial needs of the client. In the clinical component of the class will be in an acute mental health setting as well as in long term care facility.

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

FALL

FRESHMAN YEAR Hours

Biol 2401 Anatomy & Physiology I	4
ENGL 1301 English Composition I	3
MATH 1301 College Algebra	3
PSYC 2301 Into to psychology	<u>3</u>
	13

SOPHOMORE YEAR Hours

PSCI 2306 American State Govt	3
**CHEM	4
***MICROBIOLOGY	4
HIST 1302 The U.S. Since 1877	<u>3</u>
	14

JUNIOR YEAR

NURS 3525 Child Bearing/NB	5
NURS 3315 Health Assessment	3
NURS 3665 Intro Adult Hlth Nurs	<u>6</u>
	12

SENIOR YEAR

NURS 4665 Adv Adult Health Nurs1	6
NURS 4522 Community Health Nurs	5
NURS 4263 Ethical and Legal Issues	<u>2</u>
	13

SPRING

FRESHMAN YEAR Hours

Biol 2402 Anatomy & Physiology II	4
ENGL 1302 English Composition II	3
*Communication	3
NURS 1302 Cultural Determinant	3
FINE ARTS	<u>3</u>
	16

Summer

ENGL Survey of Literature	3
HIST 1301 The US to 1877	3
MATH 1342 Intro Statistics	3
PSCI 2305 American Natl Govt.	<u>3</u>
	12

SOPHOMORE YEAR Hours

NURS 2310 Nutrition	3
NURS 2414 Pathophysiology	4
NURS 2212 Found of Profess Nurs	2
NURS 2313 Basic Nursing Skills	<u>3</u>
	12

JUNIOR YEAR

NURS 3526 Child Hlth Nurs	5
NURS 3405 Scholarly Inquiry	4
NURS 3558 Mental Health nursing	<u>5</u>
	14

SENIOR YEAR

NURS 4340 Global Health Nurs	3
NURS 4170 Profession role precept	1
NURS 4670 Comp Emergent Care	6
NURS 4290 Senior Lab Seminar	<u>2</u>
	12

*School of nursing will accept ENGL 2311 or university approved core COMM course See Note below:

**Chemistry, select CHEM [1406](#) or any 4 SCH chemistry with lab.

***Microbiology, select from BIOL [2415](#) or BIOL [2421](#)

Total Semester Credit Hours: 120 Hours

Note - telecon with Belva Gonzalez, COMM 1311, ENGL 2311, HUM 2301 or MATH 2371 will satisfy the Communications requirement. 3/29/11.

All courses required for completion of the basic Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree can be completed in four calendar years of full time study, including eight long semesters and **one** summer. The **ten** nursing courses required for completion of the degree Bachelor of Science in Nursing for Registered Nurses can be completed in **three** long semesters and **one summer** of full time study. Information on tuition, fees, and length of program for accredited U.S. Nursing Programs is available from the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission, 3343 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 500, Atlanta, GA 30326, P. 404.975.5000, F. 404.975.5020, www.nlnac.org.

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING (RN/BSN)

Registered Nurse students are admitted in the Spring semester on a space available basis and upon completion of all core coursework. Students are responsible for reviewing the Program of Study requirements of the Dr. F.M. Canseco School of Nursing

JUNIOR YEAR

FALL	HOURS	SPRING	HOURS
		NURS 3414 Pathophysiology	4
		NURS 3302 Cultural Determinants	<u>3</u>
		NURS 3405 Scholarly Inquiry	<u>4</u>
			11
		SUMMER	HOURS
		NURS 3590 Nurse Role And Transition	5
			5
Fall		Spring	
SENIOR YEAR		SENIOR YEAR	
NURS 4522 Community	5	NURS 4340 Global Health	3
NURS 3315 Health Assessment	3	NURS 4670 Emergent Care	6
NURS 4263 Ethical and Legal	<u>2</u>	NURS 4299 Nursing elective	<u>2</u>
	10		11

~~University Core Curriculum is 52 hours~~ University Core Curriculum is 42 hours. Upon successful completion of NURS 3590 and designated mobility exam(s) 31 credits (10 upper division and 22 lower division) will be transferred in for previous nursing coursework.

COLLEGE OF NURSING AND HEALTH SCIENCES

UNDERGRADUATE DEGREES

[Bachelor of Science in Nursing \(BSN\)](#)

[Bachelor of Science in Nursing \(RN/BSN\)](#)

DR F.M. CANSECO SCHOOL OF NURSING

The mission of the Canseco School of Nursing in the College of Nursing and Health Sciences is to educate baccalaureate nurses who are outstanding clinicians, scholars, health advocates, mentors and leaders who will be instrumental in addressing the health care needs of communities. The curriculum focuses on preparing expert clinicians to work in partnership with communities.

Nursing students pursue professional courses based on knowledge of physical, biological and social sciences, the humanities and communication skills. Upon successful completion of requisite course in these disciplines, students are eligible to apply for admission to the Canseco School of Nursing for clinical nursing coursework.

Students seeking admission to the nursing program must apply directly to the School of Nursing. Admission to the University does not automatically guarantee admission to the School of Nursing.

The Canseco School of Nursing offers a basic (generic) Bachelor of Science in Nursing program with an accelerated track ([RN/BSN](#)) for the student who is already a Registered Nurse licensed in Texas.

All prospective nursing students should seek advisement from faculty of the School of Nursing, in order to plan a program of study that meets the needs of the student as well as the requirements of the degree plan. Upon completion of prescribed freshman year coursework, including prerequisite science courses, students should submit a record of their grades in freshman year courses, two letters of reference, the signed "acknowledgment of licensure requirements" form and the School of Nursing application form.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS-BASIC NURSING STUDENTS

Students are eligible for admission to clinical nursing courses when the following requirements have been met:

1. Acceptance by Texas A&M International University **and a declared nursing major.**
2. Complete application and supporting documentation received by the School of Nursing by **June 1; application must be accompanied by current updated transcript that includes spring grades.**
3. Completion of pre-nursing course in the Canseco School of Nursing: NURS 1302

Cultural Determinants of Health and enrollment in NURS 2414, NURS 2310, NURS 2212 and NURS 2313 the spring semester prior to application submission.

4. Completion of all core **and support area requirements with a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.5 (on a 4.0 scale) for enrollment in spring pre-nursing coursework.**
5. ~~In the event of summer entry, completion of at least 47 semester credit hours of core curriculum and support area courses with a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.5 (on a 4.0 scale).~~
5. Completion **of all four** required science courses, with a minimum grade of "C" and a grade point average of 2.5 (on a 4.0 scale), **for enrollment in spring pre-nursing coursework.**
6. ~~In the event of summer entry, all four required science courses, with a minimum grade of "C" and a grade point average of 2.5 (on a 4.0 scale), must be completed.~~
6. Prerequisite coursework in the sciences must have been completed within five years of the date of admission to the major. The assessment of dated credits and courses requiring updating will be made by the Admission and Progression Committee of the Canseco School of Nursing.
7. **Students enrolled in pre-nursing coursework of NURS 2310, NURS 2212, NURS 2313, and NURS 2414 must obtain a overall GPA of 2.5 (on a 4.0 scale) in these courses, to submit an application for admission to the school of nursing.**
8. Score baseline proficiency on the Nurse Entrance Exam: **Math, Reading, Vocabulary, and Grammar. The test is administered by the School of Nursing to students meeting criteria 1-7 above. Scores on the entrance exam will be considered in the admission process.**
9. At student expense, verification of drug and criminal background screening by a company or agency designated by the School of Nursing **and are due no later than June 1.**
10. Student must have documentation **no later than June 1** of a current physical examination with no restriction (less than 1 year old), American Heart Association Health Care Provider CPR certification, and the following immunization: DTAP, Varicella or titer, MMR, TB skin test or chest x-ray (less than three years old), Hepatitis B vaccine or informed refusal.

TRANSFER APPLICANTS

Transfer applicants must meet the same academic criteria for admission to Clinical Studies as stipulated above for pre-clinical students. Admission is competitive and contingent on available space. Applicants must meet all admission requirements of the University, and in addition, must meet the following criteria:

1. Accepted into the school of nursing on space available basis only.
2. Have a GPA of 2.5 overall **and on** all previous required nursing course work.
3. Have four required science courses within the last 5 years with a GPA of 2.5.
4. Have completed all previous nursing course work within the previous 24 months.

5. Meet all other university requirements for transfer and be eligible for a degree from TAMIU.
6. At student expense, verification of drug and criminal background screening by a company or agency designated by the School of Nursing **by date of application.**
7. Student must have documentation of a current physical examination with no restriction (less than 1 year old), American Heart Association Health Care Provider CPR certification, and the following immunization: DTAP, Varicella or titer, MMR, TB skin test or chest x-ray (less than three years old), Hepatitis B vaccine or informed refusal.

Criteria for acceptance of transfer work is as follows:

1. Courses taken in nutrition will be evaluated for course transferability.
2. Courses in foundations skills, **and pathophysiology will be evaluated for course compatibility with the SON, credit may be given for these courses if passed with a grade of C or better and taken within the last 24 months.**
3. Introductory medical surgical/adult health nursing, pediatric nursing, mental health nursing, maternity nursing, ~~pathophysiology~~ and health assessment may be accepted provided the courses are deemed equivalent after review of course level, content and hours. In addition these courses must be validated by a score of 75% or better on a predictive exam (exam is usually but not limited to the final exam used in the course). These courses, if taken at another college/university, must have been taken at the advanced level (3000 or 4000).
4. Students applying for transfer must have a letter from the transferring institution indicating that the student is transferring in good standing.

STUDENT SELECTION

If at any time the number of qualified applicants should exceed the faculty and facilities available, the Admission and Progression Committee will determine the final selection of students based upon the completion and grade point average on prerequisite core curriculum, support area courses, **pre-nursing courses and grade on the Nurse Entrance Exam.** Any student who meets admission requirements but is unable to enroll in a given year will ~~be given priority for enrollment the following year.~~ **need to re-apply by June 1st of the following year.**

DECLARATORY ORDER REQUIREMENTS OF TEXAS BOARD OF NURSE EXAMINERS

A petition for Declaratory Order must be submitted by the nursing candidate/applicant if one of the following criteria apply:

- I. For any criminal offense, including those pending appeal, has the candidate/applicant:
 - A) been convicted of a misdemeanor?
 - B) been convicted of a felony?
 - C) pled nolo contendere, no contest, or guilty?
 - D) received deferred adjudication?
 - E) been placed on community supervision or court-ordered probation, whether or not adjudicated guilty?

- F) been sentenced to serve jail or prison time? court-ordered confinement?
- G) been granted pre-trial diversion?
- H) been arrested or have any pending criminal charges?
- I) been cited or charged with any violation of the law?
- J) been subject of a court-martial; Article 15 violation; or received any form of military judgment/ punishment/action?

(Only exclude Class C misdemeanor traffic violations.)

Note: Expunged and Sealed Offenses: While expunged or sealed offenses, arrests, tickets, or citations need not be disclosed, it is the applicant's responsibility to ensure the offense, arrest, ticket or citation has, in fact, been expunged or sealed. It is recommended that the applicant submit a copy of the Court Order expunging or sealing the record in question with the application. Failure to reveal an offense, arrest, ticket, or citation that is not in fact expunged or sealed, will at a minimum, subject the license to a disciplinary fine. Non-disclosure of relevant offenses raises questions related to truthfulness and character.

NOTE: Orders of Non-Disclosure: Pursuant to Texas Government Code § 552.142(b), if the applicant has criminal matters that are the subject of an order of non-disclosure the applicant is not required to reveal those criminal matters on this form. However, a criminal matter that is the subject of an order of non-disclosure may become a character and fitness issue. Pursuant to other sections of the Government Code, chapter 411, the Texas Nursing Board is entitled to access criminal history record information that is the subject of an order of non-disclosure. If the Board discovers a criminal matter that is the subject of an order of non-disclosure, even if the applicant properly did not reveal that matter, the Board may require that the applicant provide information about any conduct that raises issues of character.

In addition a petition for Declaratory Order must be submitted if the nursing candidate/applicant answers YES to the following questions:

- II. Are you currently the target or subject of a grand jury or governmental agency investigation?
- III. Has any licensing authority refused to issue you a license or ever revoked, annulled, cancelled, accepted surrender of suspended, placed on probation, refused to renew a license, certificate or multi-state privilege held by you now or previously, or ever fines, censured, reprimanded or otherwise disciplined you?
- IV. Within the past five (5) years have you been addicted to and/or treated for the use of alcohol or any other drug?*
- V. Within the past five (5) years have you been diagnosed with, treated, or hospitalized for schizophrenia and/or psychotic disorders, bipolar disorder, paranoid personality disorder, antisocial personality disorder, or borderline personality disorder?*

If "YES" is answered to any question I-V, the applicant must provide a signed and dated letter describing the incidence(s) that is being reported to the Texas Board of Nursing. The applicant may indicate "NO" if he/she has completed and/or is in compliance with Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses (TPAPN) for substance abuse or mental illness.

Documentation requirements and forms for Declaratory Order Application may be found at <http://bon.state.tx.us/olv/pdfs/DOapp.pdf>

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS-RN/BSN STUDENTS

Registered Nurses seeking admission to the RN/BSN program apply directly to the School of Nursing. Admission to the University does not automatically guarantee admission to the School of Nursing. All students entering the RN/BSN track are considered transfer students and accepted into the BSN program on a space available basis. In addition to completing all requirements for general admission to the University, the student must meet the following criteria:

1. Completion of a School of Nursing Application (in addition to the University application form).
2. Acceptance by Texas A&M International University.
3. Evidence of current licensure without restrictions as a Registered Nurse in Texas.
4. A 2.5 (on a 4.0 scale) or better cumulative grade point average (GPA) in all previous subjects taken.
5. A 2.5 (on a 4.0 scale) or better cumulative grade point average (GPA) in all previous nursing coursework.
6. ~~A personal interview with the Nursing Admissions and Progression Committee may be required.~~
6. All University core coursework completed before taking ~~the final semester of nursing coursework.~~ **NURS 4522 Community Nursing.**
7. At student expense, verification of drug and criminal background screening by a company or agency designated by the School of Nursing **by date of application.**
8. Students must have documentation of a current physical examination with no restriction (less than 1 year old), American Heart Association Health Care Provider CPR certification, and the following immunization: DTAP, Varicella or titer, MMR, TB skin test or chest x-ray (less than three years old), Hepatitis B vaccine or informed refusal **by date of application.**
9. RN/BSN students **must enter in the fall.** ~~or spring semester. If entering in spring, the initial course(s) will be NURS [3590](#) (Bridge), NURS [3302](#) (Cultural Determinants), and NURS [4363](#) (Issues in Nursing Management). If entering in the fall, students will take NURS [3314](#) (Pathophysiology) and NURS [3315](#) (Health Assessment).~~
10. Requests for exceptions from GPA or other admission requirements, supported by evidence of extenuating circumstances, will be considered by the School of Nursing Admissions and Progression Committee only after an official School of Nursing Application has been filed. Such consideration for exceptions will be based on the individual student's work performance, academic record, and motivation to continue professional advancement.
11. At the time of entry, the student will be assigned a faculty advisor and be given a degree plan for completion of courses. Any change in degree plan must be made in writing and approved by the appointed advisor. All changes are subject to space availability

STUDENT HEALTH REQUIREMENTS FOR CLINICAL NURSING COURSES

In order to be eligible for coursework involving direct patient care experiences all students must provide documentation of a current physical examination with no restriction (less than 1 year old), American Heart Association Health Care Provider CPR certification, and the following immunization: DTAP, Varicella or titer, MMR, TB skin test or chest x-ray (less than three years old), Hepatitis B vaccine or informed refusal.

CORE PERFORMANCE STANDARDS*

Policy on Essential Abilities

Texas A&M International University College of Nursing and Health Science (CNHS) Nursing Policy on the essential abilities of prospective and current nursing students in undergraduate and graduate clinical programs

Texas A&M International University (TAMIU) College of Nursing and Health Sciences (CNHS) generally represents that the recipient of a baccalaureate or higher degree from a clinical nursing program has been educated to competently practice nursing in all healthcare settings and to apply for RN licensure in the State of Texas. To fulfill this requirement nursing students must engage in a variety of complex and specific clinical experiences that requires a combination of physical abilities and motor skills, sensory abilities, affective, interpersonal, and communicative skills, cognitive abilities, behavioral and emotional sensitivity, and professionalism. These abilities and skills are essential not only to deliver safe and effective professional nursing to patients, but also to ensure the health, safety, and well-being of the nursing student, fellow nursing students, faculty, other healthcare providers, and the community. As such, nursing students must possess the following essential abilities, which are necessary to possess and demonstrate competence in professional nursing, in order to be admitted to, continue, and successfully complete clinical programs at the TAMIU College of Nursing and Health Sciences:

Physical Abilities and Motor Skills

Nursing students should have sufficient physical abilities and motor function so that they are able to execute movements required to provide general care and treatment to patients in all health care settings. For example: For the safety and protection of individuals, the nursing student must be able to perform basic life support, including CPR, and function physically in an emergency situation. The nursing student must have the ability, within reasonable limits, to safely assist an individual in moving, for example, from a chair to a bed, or from a wheelchair to a commode, using appropriate bioengineering equipment consistent with national guidelines (e.g., the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health) and to hold or otherwise care for infants and small children to meet their healthcare, emotional, and developmental needs. Fine motor

skills and other psychomotor skills, including the use of one or both upper extremities, hands, and fingers, are needed for some essential tasks.

Sensory Abilities

The nursing student must have sufficient: visual acuity to see details near and at a distance, as well as be able to discriminate colors accurately; auditory acuity to hear conversation and other sounds in order to assess and protect the health and safety of individual patients and others in the vicinity; and intact tactile sensation to assess (e.g., hot/cold; rough/smooth) and perform appropriate professional nursing functions. Sight and hearing are also necessary to communicate accurately and effectively. Auditory-visual-tactile perception and integration are needed to perform most essential nursing functions.

Situation-Appropriate Affect, Communication, and Interpersonal Skills

A nursing student must be able to communicate effectively with others, and effective communication requires consistency of message, integration of information, and synchrony with circumstances and other data. Situation-appropriate affect is necessary to convey emotions appropriate for the circumstances, and at the same time, to engage in interpersonal communication effectively and sensitively with others. The nursing student must express his or her ideas clearly and appropriately. (See also Behavioral/Emotional section below.) A nursing student must be able to convey or exchange information to conduct an appropriate health history; identify problems presented; explain alternative solutions; and give directions during treatment and post-treatment. The nursing student must be able to communicate effectively in oral and written forms and interpret non-verbal communication. He or she must be able to process and communicate information on the patient's status with accuracy in a timely manner to other members of the healthcare team.

Cognitive

A nursing student must have sufficient cognitive abilities to be able to measure, calculate, reason, analyze, integrate, and synthesize in the classroom and a variety of nursing practicum settings. The nursing student must be able to quickly read and comprehend extensive written material, as well as comprehend oral communication. He or she must also be able to effectively gather information to assess and evaluate individuals, families, groups, and community/environmental situations, and act in a timely fashion using critical thinking. Likewise, the nursing student must be able to select from an abundance of existing information to assess and evaluate the same and take action that shows evidence of integrative functions and critical thinking. Clinical judgment requires the integration of information that results in logical, timely, appropriate and informed action. In addition nursing requires that there be an anticipation of consequences associated with any actions (or inactions) taken. Students must be able to engage in critical self-evaluation, including demonstrating a willingness and ability to give and

receive feedback and to make a correct judgment in seeking supervision and consultation in a timely manner.

Behavioral/Emotional Sensitivity

A nursing student must have the emotional ability required to fully use his or her cognitive abilities, employ good judgment and carry out all responsibilities in a timely matter with respect to his/her professional nursing functions. In addition, the nursing student must be able to develop and maintain professional, sensitive, and effective relationships with individual patients, families, students, and others with whom he or she has professional contact, regardless of the circumstances, which frequently can be stressful. The nursing student must be able to control impulsive behaviors and act in a socially responsible way regarding his/her own behavior and recognize the same in others and take appropriate action as warranted. The nursing student must have the emotional stability to function effectively under stress and to adapt to the environment, which can change rapidly and unpredictably. The nursing student must be able to experience empathy for the situations and circumstances of others and effectively communicate that empathy. The nursing student must be cognizant of his or her values, attitudes, beliefs, affect, and experiences and how these things may influence his/her own perceptions, behaviors, and relationships with others. The nursing student must be able and willing to examine and change his or her behavior when it interferes with relationships with others so that he or she can function effectively and collaboratively in diverse academic and work environments.

Professional Conduct

The nursing student must be able to practice nursing in an ethical and professional manner adhering to the professional code of ethics and professional standards. Students must possess characteristics including integrity, honesty, compassion, empathy, altruism, responsibility, and acceptance of differences. Nursing students must be able to engage in healthcare delivery in all settings and be able to deliver care to all client populations across the life span including but not limited to developmentally disabled persons, medically compromised individuals, individuals from all socioeconomic strata, and other vulnerable populations. Professional conduct is expected in both the academic and clinical/community environments. A nursing student must meet TAMIU and CNHS attendance requirements in all didactic courses and clinical activities.

*Adapted significantly for University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee College of Nursing

Requirements	Standards	Examples
Critical thinking	Critical thinking ability for effective clinical reasoning and clinical judgement consistent with level of educational preparation	Identification of cause/effect relationships in clinical situations

		<p>Use of the scientific method in the development of patient care plans</p> <p>Evaluation of the effectiveness of nursing interventions</p>
Professional Relationships	Interpersonal skills sufficient for professional interactions with a diverse population of individuals, families and groups	<p>Establishment of rapport with patients/clients and colleagues</p> <p>Capacity to engage in successful conflict resolution</p> <p>Peer accountability</p>
Communication	Communication adeptness sufficient for verbal and written professional interactions	<p>Explanation of treatment procedures, initiation of health teaching.</p> <p>Documentation and interpretation of nursing actions and patient/client responses</p>
Mobility	Physical abilities sufficient for movement from room to room and in small spaces	<p>Movement about patient's room, work spaces and treatment areas</p> <p>Administration of rescue procedures-cardiopulmonary resuscitation</p>
Motor skills	Gross and fine motor abilities sufficient for providing safe, effective nursing care	<p>Calibration and use of equipment</p> <p>Therapeutic positioning of patients</p> <p>Ability to safely prepare and administer medication</p>
Hearing	Auditory ability sufficient for monitoring and assessing health needs	Ability to hear monitoring device alarm and other

		<p>emergency signals</p> <p>Ability to discern auscultatory sounds and cries for help</p>
Visual	Visual ability sufficient for observation and assessment necessary in patient care	Ability to observe patient's condition and responses to treatments
Tactile Sense	Tactile ability sufficient for physical assessment	Ability to palpitate in physical examinations and various therapeutic interventions such as nasogastric tube insertion, airway suctioning, etc
Cognitive	Cognitive abilities sufficient to be able to measure, calculate, reason, analyze, integrate, and synthesize in the classroom and a variety of nursing practicum settings.	<p>Ability to quickly read and comprehend written and oral information</p> <p>Ability to effectively gather and analyze information required for assessment purposes in all settings</p> <p>Ability to use clinical judgment that demonstrates an assimilation of information and results in rational, timely, and informed action that takes into consideration of consequences associated with those actions (or inactions).</p> <p>Ability to appropriately select information necessary evaluate effectiveness of interventions and revise plan of care in a manner that shows evidence of integrative functioning and critical thinking.</p> <p>Ability to engage in critical self-evaluation, including</p>

		demonstrating a willingness and ability to give and receive feedback and seek supervision and consultation in a timely manner.
Behavioral/Emotional Sensitivity	Emotional ability required to sufficiently use his or her cognitive abilities, employ good judgment and carry out all responsibilities in a timely matter with respect to his/her professional nursing functions.	<p>Ability to develop and maintain professional, culturally sensitive, and effective relationships with patients, families, students, and other individuals that he/she may come in a professional capacity</p> <p>Ability to control impulsive behavior and act in a socially responsible way.</p> <p>Emotional stability to function effectively under stress and to adapt to the environment, which can change rapidly and unpredictably.</p> <p>Ability to recognize own values, attitudes, beliefs, affect, and experiences and how these things may influence his/her own perceptions, behaviors, and relationships with others.</p> <p>Ability and willingness to examine and change own behavior when it interferes with relationships.</p>
Professional Conduct	The nursing student must be able to practice nursing in an ethical and professional manner adhering to the professional code of ethics and professional standards.	Ability to demonstrate personal attributes including integrity, honesty, compassion, empathy, altruism, responsibility, and acceptance of differences.

		<p>Ability to engage in healthcare delivery in all settings and be able to deliver care to all client populations including but not limited to children, adolescents, adults of all ages, developmentally disabled persons, medically compromised individuals, individuals from all socioeconomic strata, and other vulnerable populations.</p> <p>Ability to demonstrate professional conduct in both the academic and clinical/community environments.</p> <p>Ability to meet CNHS attendance requirements in all didactic courses and clinical activities.</p>
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Adapted significantly from University of Wisconsin Milwaukee College of Nursing (2011) and Southern Regional Education Board. (2004)

Information has been adapted significantly from:

- University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee College of Nursing's Policy on the essential abilities of prospective and current nursing students in undergraduate and graduate clinical programs (2011) and
- Southern Regional Education Board. (2004). Americans with Disabilities Act: Implications for Nursing Education. Retrieved March 21, 2011 from http://www.sreb.org/page/1390/the_americans_with_disabilities_act.html
- Katz, J.R., Woods, S. L., Cameron, C.A., & Millam, S. (2004). Essential qualifications for nursing students. *Nursing Outlook*, 52, 277-288, as well as informed by these other key sources:
- American Association of Colleges of Nursing (1998). *The essentials of baccalaureate education for professional nursing practice*. Washington, D.C.: Author

- Hablutzel, N., & McMahon, B. (1992). *The Americans with Disabilities Act access and accommodations: Guidelines for human resources, rehabilitation, and legal professionals*. Orlando, FL: Paul M. Deutsch Press.
- Wilkerson, D.J., Watson, J.E., & Hutchens, S.H. (2005). *Medical students with disabilities: A generation of practice*. Washington, DC: Association of American Medical Colleges.

Reasonable Accommodation for Disabilities

TAMIU provides reasonable accommodation to qualified students with a disability. Upon admission, a nursing student who discloses a disability and requests accommodation may be asked to provide documentation of his or her disability for the purpose of determining appropriate accommodations, including modification to the program. The TAMIU College of Nursing and Health Sciences will provide reasonable accommodations, but is not required to make modifications that would substantially alter the nature or requirements of the program or provide auxiliary aids that present an undue burden. To matriculate or continue in the curriculum, the nursing student must be able to perform all the essential functions either with or without accommodation. Requests for accommodation should be directed to:

Texas A&M International University – Student Counseling and Disability Services for Students
University Success Center 138 – Phone: 326-2230

GRADING POLICIES

The Canseco School of Nursing has adopted a grading scale in line with other Texas Schools of Nursing, as required by the Board of Examiners:

A – 93-100

B – 84-92

C – 75-83

***D – 71-74**

F – 74 and below

Nursing students must achieve a grade of C or better and pass both clinical and theory components of a course in order to pass that course.

(~~*In some cases, students may receive a non-passing grade of D in prenursing courses.~~)

ATTENDANCE POLICY

The Canseco School of Nursing adheres to the Texas A&M International University classroom attendance policy as stated in the current catalog. In addition, each course has specific attendance requirements for both classroom and clinical activities in order to comply with accreditation requirements.

COURSE POLICIES

Each course syllabus includes a statement of course policies. These may be more, but not less, stringent than overall school or university policies.

BSN PROGRAM ADD, DROP, WITHDRAWAL, AND INCOMPLETE GRADES

The School of Nursing follows the general policies of Texas A&M International University as outlined in the catalog with respect to add, drop, withdrawal and incomplete grades. In addition the following policies apply to Nursing Courses:

1. The faculty of the School of Nursing supports the idea that the use of an "I" or "W" to hide unsuccessful performance is inappropriate.
2. After the 10th week or 2/3 of class both the course faculty and the Dean must approve the withdrawal. Adds or drops must be signed by School of Nursing faculty.
3. All students must maintain a satisfactory (2.00) grade point average:
 - a. Cumulative (includes General Education/Liberal Arts and Nursing).
 - b. Professional (includes only nursing courses). It should be noted that admission to a master's program usually requires a 3.0 GPA in the major at the baccalaureate level.
4. Students must achieve a "C" (2.00) or better in each nursing course. A student may not continue in subsequent courses for which the failed course is prerequisite until a minimum of "C" has been achieved.
5. A student receiving an "F" grade in either the theory or the clinical portion of any nursing course will fail the course.
6. Students may repeat a nursing course, as space is available, only once to raise the grade to "C" or above,
7. Students will automatically and permanently be ineligible to continue in the nursing program if:
 - a. Two F's are earned in the same nursing course.
 - b. Any nursing course is taken three times, withdrawal or failure or combination of both, without earning a "C" or better.
 - c. There is failure of two nursing courses. ~~excluding NURS 1302, NURS 2310 and NURS 4290.~~
8. Students may receive an "I" (incomplete) in a course, in keeping with TAMIU policy. The student and course faculty will contract for completion of course requirements.
9. Students who are unable to maintain active continuous enrollment at TAMIU School of Nursing must apply for a Leave of Absence from the School in order to remain in good standing. Such students will be permitted to re-enter the School of Nursing on a space available basis. ~~and will be given priority for available space.~~

ACADEMIC PROBATION

Probationary status is a warning to a student to improve his/her academic performance in order to remain in the program.

1. A student is placed on probation if she/he does not maintain a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.00. The final grade report will carry official notice of academic probation.
2. A student is placed on probation if she/he does not maintain a minimum grade point average of 2.00 in nursing courses. The School of Nursing notifies the student of professional probation.
3. A GPA must be returned to minimum of 2.00 to remove probationary status. Students will have 30 semester credit hours in which to remove probationary status.
4. Restriction: Students on probation are not eligible to represent the School of Nursing in any student activity/committees.
5. Students who fail to attain a 2.00 cumulative grade point average for two full-time consecutive semesters will be suspended from the School of Nursing.
6. Students suspended from clinical studies because of a low grade point average may return after a semester, on a space available basis, and take prescribed courses to raise their grade point average. Students unable to raise their grade point average to 2.00 within one semester after returning from suspension will be dismissed from the School of Nursing.
7. Students may also be dismissed from clinical studies for any of the following reasons:
 - a. Academic misconduct such as any act of dishonesty involving academic work.
 - b. Unsafe clinical practice.
 - c. Falsification of credentials.
 - d. Conduct unbecoming to a student as described in the University Student Conduct Code.
8. Academic suspensions and dismissals are nonreversible. However, a student may appeal the course grade which resulted in suspension or dismissal within one semester of the award of the grade. (See grievance procedure.)

RE-ADMISSION TO THE SCHOOL OF NURSING

Students not enrolled in Clinical Nursing Courses for two consecutive semesters or formally dismissed will be placed on inactive status. Applicants for re-admission to the School of Nursing must be eligible for re-admission to the University. Decisions will be made by the School of Nursing Admissions Committee. The deadlines for regular admission apply to students seeking re-admission. However, admission will be on a space available basis. Re-admission application materials are available from the Office of the Dean of the College of Nursing and Health Sciences.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

The School of Nursing adheres to all general requirements and procedures of the university for graduation. For deadlines and requirements, see TAMU catalog. In their final year, students need to verify with their advisors that all requirements for graduation and/or honors have been met. In addition, students are eligible to apply for graduation when the following conditions are met:

1. completion of required semester credit hours
2. a cumulative GPA of 2.00

3. completion of all clinical studies coursework

ELIGIBILITY FOR GRADUATION IN BASIC NURSING

Satisfactory performance on diagnostic examinations in all nursing coursework as designated by the School of Nursing is necessary to validate potential successful performance on the National Council Licensure Examination is required for basic students to be eligible for graduation.

1. All students in the final semester of the clinical nursing program will enroll in NURS [4290](#): Senior Lab Seminar, NURS 4340 Global Nursing (Capstone WIN course), Professional Role Preceptorship NURS 4170, and Emergent Care Across the Life Span NURS 4670.
2. ~~At the beginning of the final semester, students will be administered a diagnostic examination by the School of Nursing.~~
3. ~~Upon receipt of the resulting diagnostic profile, each student will be counseled by the faculty advisor to identify areas of strength and weaknesses. The student and faculty will develop a contract for an individualized plan to assist in meeting the student's needs.~~
4. ~~Comprehensive examination will be administered during the final semester. To be eligible to write the comprehensive examination, the student must provide evidence that the terms of the contract have been met.~~
2. Students who fail to demonstrate satisfactory performance on the comprehensive examination will not be eligible for graduation. in all nursing coursework will not be eligible for graduation.
3. A student who does not achieve a satisfactory grade performance of 75 in all final semester nursing course work NURS 4290 on the comprehensive examination will be required to re-enroll in the affected course(s) the next time it is offered. ~~their NURS 4290: Senior Seminar. and retake the exit examination at the end of the course. If satisfactory performance is not achieved on the second attempt at the course NURS [4290](#), the student will not be eligible for a degree.~~

Degree Requirements for the Bachelor of Science in Nursing.

1. **Hours Required:** A minimum of 120 semester credit hours (SCH): 45 hours must be advanced, and fulfillment of degree requirements as specified in the [Requirements for Graduation](#) and the **Dr. F.M. Canseco School of Nursing** sections of this catalog.
2. **University Core Curriculum:** 41 SCH as outlined in the suggested plans and as specified in the [Requirements for Graduation](#). Wellness/Activity requirements met within nursing courses.
3. **Other Education Requirements:** 11 SCH including BIOL [2415/2421](#), CHEM [1406](#) or any 4 SCH chemistry with lab and MATH [1342](#).
4. **Major:** 68 SCH. Nursing courses for the Basic BSN include NURS ~~[1302](#), [2310](#), [2312](#), [2413](#), [3305](#), [3314](#), [3315](#), [3525](#), [3526](#), [3558](#), [3665](#), [4290](#), [4340](#), [4363](#), [4570](#), [4622](#)~~, and

- ~~4665~~. 1302, 2310, 2414, 2212, 2313, 3665, 3315, 3525, 3526, 3558, 3405, 4522, 4665, 4263, 4340, 4670, 4170, and 4290.
5. Nursing courses for **RN/BSN** include NURS ~~3302, 3305, 3314, 3315, 3590, 4340, 4363, 4570, and 4622~~. 3302, 3414, 3405, 3590, 3315, 4522, 4263, 4340, 4670, 4299.