

Official Program Outline



HERZING[®]
— UNIVERSITY —

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING – BRIDGE OPTION (BSN)

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

This Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program prepares the licensed practical nurse (LPN), paramedic, military medic, respiratory therapist, or cardiovascular technologist to practice as a nurse generalist member of the healthcare team in a variety of settings. The program focuses on patient-centered care, teamwork, collaboration, evidence-based practice, safety, quality improvement, and informatics. The program emphasizes the use of innovative technologies and preparation for assuming leadership roles.

PROGRAM OUTCOMES

Upon completion of their program, the student should be able to:

1. Prioritize patient-centered care using clinical judgment and the nursing process.
2. Collaborate with patients, families and team members to provide safe and culturally competent care.
3. Integrate evidence-based practice within diverse clinical settings to deliver optimal care.
4. Minimize risk of harm to patients and providers through both systems effectiveness and individual performance.
5. Use informational technology to communicate, mitigate error, support decision making, and manage patient care.
6. Evaluate quality improvement processes to enhance patient outcomes.
7. Integrate professionalism and advanced leadership skills within the interdisciplinary healthcare environment.
8. Analyze national and global policies, legislative concepts, and economics to address population outcomes.

PROGRAM CONTENT

A minimum of 120.00 semester credit hours is required for graduation. Students who have completed a program in practical nursing, paramedic, respiratory therapy, or cardiovascular technologist in the state in which the program was completed and who hold a current license from any state will be awarded 24.00 semester credit hours toward this degree.

THIRD PARTY TESTING

Assessment and remediation are critical components of nursing education. Students in the nursing program may be required to take third-party, standardized, proctored exams in an electronic format throughout the curriculum. Students may be required to go to a third-party testing site to complete exams. These standardized tests are valid and reliable predictors of success on the NCLEX examination and provide valuable feedback concerning student strengths and weaknesses. Student learning outcome data identifies content areas that require remediation, allowing faculty to personalize student support and intervention. Courses that utilize third-party exams will incorporate the points earned on the test as a percentage of the final grade earned for the course as specified in the course syllabus.

BSN Nursing Curriculum Progression Milestone Exams and Policy

The purpose of the nursing progression milestone exams and policy is to ensure preparation of the student for the NCLEX exam. This process validates knowledge acquisition and application through standardized, third-party exams. Students will be required to complete three progression milestone exams at key points in the curriculum as well as an exit exam during the final semester. Each progression milestone exam is a comprehensive assessment of all content covered in the program up to exam administration.

Progression Milestone exam #1 is administered after or while completing NSG 125.

Progression Milestone exam #2 is administered after or while completing NSG 221, NSG 222, and NSG 223.

Progression Milestone exam #3 is a Pharmacology exam and will be administered during the term prior to NSG 426.

If the *benchmark score on the first formal attempt is not attained, a plan for remediation will be developed in collaboration with the faculty/program chair/NCLEX coach and a second attempt will be provided.

If the student is below the *benchmark score on the second attempt, the student cannot enroll in the next semester clinical courses. The student will be enrolled in any outstanding general education courses as well as a nursing remediation course to provide remediation of content. At the end of the 8-week remediation course, students will be provided a final attempt to demonstrate competency.

If the student is unsuccessful on the final attempt to demonstrate competency, the student will be dismissed from the ASN/AASN or BSN program and will not be eligible to re-enter into either program. A student who is dismissed may appeal to transfer into the Practical Nursing (PN) program or any other non-nursing program offered at Herzing University. Note: the PN program is not offered at all locations.

Students who are successful on the final retake exam will be rescheduled by Registrar Services.

Students who are unsuccessful on the final retake exam will be dismissed from the nursing program and provided advisement on alternative program pathways.

RN Exit Exam

The exit exam will cover content from all nursing courses, is reflective of NCLEX readiness and is administered in the final semester. Students will take practice assessments during the NSG426 course, in conjunction with individualized remediation and completion of assignments focused on NCLEX readiness. This is followed by a final exit exam.

Students who are unable to reach the *benchmark score on the exit exam will receive an Incomplete (I) grade for their NSG 426 course and will be required to successfully reach this benchmark on the final exit exam by the second week of the subsequent semester to resolve the (I) grade.

If they are unable to resolve the (I) grade by the second week of the subsequent semester, the grade will convert to an (F) grade and the student will be placed on “Approved Break” for the remainder of the semester, during which time they must remain actively engaged in formal remediation. This will cause a delay in program completion and graduation. Students should discuss the implications of being on “Approved Break” with their financial aid advisor.

**Threshold benchmark scores required to pass the milestone or exit exams are based upon national student performance data and may be changed at any time by the university.*

DOSAGE CALCULATION EXAMS

Dosage calculation exams are required at multiple points throughout the program. A student who is unable to pass any of the exams will not be allowed to progress without completion of remediation and demonstration of competency as evidenced by reaching the required score on a final dosage calculation exam attempt.

REQUIRED COURSES IN NURSING

55.00 semester credit hours are required.

Course Number	Course Name	Prerequisites/Corequisites	Semester Credit Hours
NSG 120	Nursing Pathophysiology	SC 166, SC 254	3.00
NSG 124	Pharmacology	SC 166, SC 254	3.00
NSG 126	Transition to Professional Nursing	SC 166, SC 254	3.00
NSG 221	Mental Health Nursing	NSG 120, NSG 125	4.00
NSG 222	Family Nursing	NSG 123 or NSG 125	6.00
NSG 223	Medical-Surgical Nursing II	NSG 123, NSG 221	6.00
NSG 233	Medical-Surgical Nursing III	NSG 223	5.00
NSG 321	Advanced Leadership and Management	None	3.00
NSG 323	Community and Public Health Nursing	None	5.00

Course Number	Course Name	Prerequisites/Corequisites	Semester Credit Hours
NSG 324	Evidence Based Practice in Nursing	MA 320	3.00
NSG 421	Nursing Informatics	None	3.00
NSG 423	Policy, Trends, & Ethics in Nursing	None	3.00
NSG 425	BSN Practicum	NSG 233/NSG 426	5.00
NSG 426	Review of Integrated Nursing Concepts	NSG 233/NSG 425	3.00

DUAL CREDIT OPTION FOR TAKING GRADUATE LEVEL COURSES

Dual Credit Options are not available for New Orleans students. See Academic Information for full requirements under title Earning Graduate Credits as an Undergraduate Student.

Undergraduate Course	Graduate Course Equivalency
NSG 321 Advanced Leadership and Management	NU730 Systems-Based Practice <i>(Transferrable to MSN & DNP Programs)</i>
NSG 324 Evidence Based Practice in Nursing	NU 602 Epidemiology, Research, and Theory <i>(Transferrable to BSN to DNP Program Only)</i>
NSG 421 Nursing Informatics	NU 725 Technology and Nursing Informatics in Advanced Practice <i>(Transferrable to MSN & DNP Programs)</i>
NSG 423 Policy, Trends, & Ethics in Nursing	HA 610 Health Policy and Management <i>(Transferrable to MSN Program, except for MSNWHNP)</i>

REQUIRED COURSES IN GENERAL EDUCATION

Students enrolled in the BSN program must complete a minimum of 41.00 semester credit hours in general education distributed among the following disciplines. A minimum of 9.00 semester credit hours must be upper level (300- to 400-level courses). The Herzing University General Education offerings are listed below. Refer to the General Education section of the catalog for additional information on general education requirements.

12.00 Semester Credit Hours in Communications

- EN 104 – English Composition I
- EN 111 – Information Literacy
- EN 116 – Speech
- EN 304 – English Composition II

14.00 Semester Credit Hours in Science

- SC 154 – Anatomy and Physiology I for Nurses
- SC 166 – Microbiology
- SC 186 – Chemistry
- SC 254 – Anatomy and Physiology II for Nurses

6.00 Semester Credit Hours in Humanities

- HU 140 – Cultural Diversity
- HU 340 – Humanities and Contemporary Popular Culture

6.00 Semester Credit Hours in Mathematics

- MA 109 – College Algebra
- MA 320 – Statistics

3.00 Semester Credit Hours in Social or Behavioral Science

- PS 101 – Psychology

Note: Transfer students may transfer courses that are within 1.00 semester credit hour of the courses listed above to meet these discipline requirements. Any resulting deficiency in the total of 41.00 semester credit hours required in general education may be made up with general education electives from any of the listed disciplines. Science courses being transferred in from other institutions must meet the nursing program science requirements.

SPECIAL GENERAL EDUCATION GRADING REQUIREMENTS FOR NURSING SUPPORT COURSES

The following science courses must be completed with a grade of “B” (80%) or better. Only two attempts are permitted for each course and a student who fails to successfully complete in the maximum attempts is subject to dismissal from the nursing program.

Course Number	Course Name
SC 154	Anatomy and Physiology I for Nurses
SC 254	Anatomy and Physiology II for Nurses

The following general education courses must be completed with a grade of “C” (70%) or better for a student to continue in the nursing program.

Course Number	Course Name
MA 109	College Algebra
MA 320	Statistics
SC 166	Microbiology

A student who is dropped from the nursing program for failing to achieve the minimum grade specified in the courses listed above, but who otherwise meets the academic standards of the University may transfer to another Herzing degree program and/or may appeal to reapply to the BSN nursing program in a future semester.

Distribution of Contact Hours by Course					
Course	Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Clinical Hours	Total Contact Hours	Credits
NSG 120	45.00			45.00	3.00
NSG 124	45.00			45.00	3.00
NSG 126	15.00	30.00	45.00	90.00	3.00
NSG 221	45.00		45.00	90.00	4.00
NSG 222	60.00		90.00	150.00	6.00
NSG 223	60.00		90.00	150.00	6.00
NSG 321	45.00			45.00	3.00
NSG 323	60.00		45.00	105.00	5.00
NSG 324	45.00			45.00	3.00
NSG 421	45.00			45.00	3.00
NSG 233	45.00	30.00	45.00	120.00	5.00
NSG 423	45.00			45.00	3.00
NSG 425	30.00		135.00	165.00	5.00
NSG 426	45.00			45.00	3.00
EN 101	45.00			45.00	3.00
EN 111	45.00			45.00	3.00
EN 116	45.00			45.00	3.00

Distribution of Contact Hours by Course					
Course	Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Clinical Hours	Total Contact Hours	Credits
EN 304	45.00			45.00	3.00
HU 140	45.00			45.00	3.00
HU 340	45.00			45.00	3.00
MA 109	45.00			45.00	3.00
MA 320	45.00			45.00	3.00
PS 101	45.00			45.00	3.00
SC 154	45.00	30.00		75.00	4.00
SC 254	45.00	30.00		75.00	4.00
SC 166	30.00	30.00		60.00	3.00
SC 186	30.00	30.00		60.00	3.00
Block Credit for License					24.00
Totals	1185.00	180.00	495.00	1860.00	120.00

New Course Description

NSG 126 Transition to Professional Nursing

This course focuses on the transition into the role of a Registered Nurse, emphasizing the scope of practice and integration of professional competencies, clinical judgment, evidence-based practice, communication, collaboration, technology, cultural competence, quality, and safety. It aims to identify and strengthen existing competencies, enhance student knowledge, and prepare individuals to deliver quality nursing care that incorporates both prior proficiency and new concepts introduced in the course. Skills and concepts related to nursing assessment are integrated throughout the curriculum and validated in clinical and lab settings.