Nursing Program - Nursing Career Ladder Pathway

Associate in Applied Science

Minimum of 71-72 credit hours

This nursing degree program is designed to meet the needs of a student who is currently a licensed LPN or Oklahoma-licensed paramedic who would like to earn registered nurse status. The Career Ladder Pathway recognizes the previous educational experiences of licensed practical nurses and Oklahoma licensed paramedics by providing Advanced Standing Credit opportunities. Credits earned in this program may apply toward a bachelor’s degree at a four-year college or university. Program graduates are eligible to apply for the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses. The Program is approved by the Oklahoma Board of Nursing and is accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing, Inc. (ACEN), 3343 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 850, Atlanta, GA, 30326, 404-975-5000, www.acenursing.org.

Courses identified by “C” within a program curriculum pattern must be completed with a grade of “C” or better by students majoring in this program.

Course Sequence

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Course Grouping

Major Courses: (36 credit hours) Nursing: NUR 1415; NUR 2534; NUR 2535; NUR 2549; Advanced Standing: NUR 1519 and NUR 1524 and NUR 1525: Prior learning credits. All Nursing major courses have pre and co-requisite courses which are listed with the course descriptions in this catalog. These courses also have clinical components that require purchase of liability insurance, immunizations and health records, registration and payment for the Clinical Hub, a clinical uniform, extensive background checks and transportation to clinical sites.

General Education Courses: (19-20 credit hours) English: ENGL 1113, ENGL 1213; History: HIST 1483 or HIST 1493; Political Science: POLSC 1113; Psychology: PSY 1113; Chemistry: CHEM 1115 OR CHEM 1123 AND CHEM 1131

Life Skills Courses: (3 credit hours) Biology: BIO 1023

Support Courses: (13 credit hours) Biological Science: BIO 1314, BIO 1414, BIO 2125

A grade of “C” (74%) must be achieved in all courses required for this degree with the exception of POLSC 1113 and HIST 1483 or 1493 (a grade of “D” is minimum for these courses).

Program Notes

Notes: This Technical and Occupational program is designed to prepare students to enter the job force following completion. See Technical and Occupational Programs in the general information section of the catalog.

Special Admissions Procedures:

Background Checks: Due to clinical agency requirements, the Division of Health Professions requires an extensive nationwide Background Report which includes, but is not limited to, Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation (OSBI) background searches for sex offender, violent offender, and criminal history. The student is responsible for the cost of the Background Report, which must be paid by credit card or money order only. Clinical agency representative(s) review the reports that have any criminal history (or “hits on the designated areas of concern”). The facility alone can accept or deny clinical access to a student. If a student is denied access to clinical sites, he/she will be unable to successfully complete the course or the program. Any break in continuous enrollment will require another complete Background Report.

Drug Testing:

Drug testing is required for all students in the Division of Health Professions. Each student must have a random drug test prior to the first clinical assignment. The fee will be paid with the tuition and other fees for the semester in the program where actual clinical assignments begin. Random drug tests will be done on a predetermined date. Any break in continuous enrollment will require an additional random test. AUAs and LPNs with positive drug screen results must be reported to the Oklahoma Board of Nursing.

Graduates of the nursing program must also meet the requirements of the Oklahoma Board of Nursing for licensure, which include but are not limited to criminal history search and passing the licensure exam.
BIO 1023 - Introductory Nutrition
Prerequisites: ENGL 0203 or adequate placement score or by meeting determined placement measures; MATH 0103 or adequate math placement test score.
3 Credits Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to discuss the composition of nutrients and accessory factors required for human nutrition, relate their roles in human health and disease, and describe the application of basic nutritional principles to the planning of normal and special dietary regimens.

BIO 1314 - Human Anatomy and Physiology I
Prerequisites: ENGL 0203 or adequate placement score or by meeting determined placement measures; MATH 0103 or adequate math placement test score. An adequate biology placement test score or BIO 0123 or a college-level biological science class.
4 Credits Through a systematic study of the structure and function of the human body, its cells, tissues, organs and systems, the student will identify and describe basic anatomical structures and fundamental physiological processes that occur in health and disease for the major body systems. Laboratory work which requires dissection is an integral and required part of the course.

BIO 1414 - Human Anatomy and Physiology II
Prerequisites: BIO 1314
4 Credits With Human Anatomy & Physiology I as a foundation, the student will advance his or her study of the structure and function of the human body and will identify and describe more detailed anatomical structures and more comprehensive physiological processes that occur in health through a systematic survey of the major body systems. Laboratory work which requires dissection is an integral and required part of the course.

BIO 2125 - Microbiology
Prerequisites: MATH 0203 or adequate math placement test score. Any four credit hour college-level biology course and a college-level chemistry course.
5 Credits Students are introduced to the biological requirements and activities of microorganisms which influence their roles as integral components of the ecosystem. Students demonstrate knowledge of basic principles of pathology, epidemiology and immunology in addition to performing basic laboratory techniques for isolating, characterizing and identifying common microorganisms.

CHEM 1115 - General Chemistry I
Prerequisites: ENGL 0203, adequate placement score, or by meeting determined placement measures; MATH 1513 or MATH 1533, or both MATH 0403 and High School Chemistry or CHEM 1123. A grade of
5 Credits This course is designed for science and engineering majors. The course covers nomenclature, atomic and molecular structure, stoichiometry, acid/base and other aqueous reactions, states of matter, phase changes, gas laws, and an introduction to thermochemistry. Laboratory experience is an integral part of the course.

CHEM 1123 - Survey of General, Organic, and Biochemistry
Prerequisites: ENGL 0203, adequate placement score, or by meeting determined placement measures; MATH 0403 or adequate math placement test score.
3 Credits This course is designed for nursing and allied health programs which do not require General Chemistry I for science majors. This course is also appropriate for individuals interested in a general overview of chemistry. The course covers selected topics in general chemistry including unit conversions, atomic structure, chemical bonding, acids, bases, pH, chemical equilibrium, electrolytes, and properties of solutions. The course also introduces topics from organic and biochemistry. The relationship between chemical principles and human health is emphasized throughout the course.

CHEM 1131 - Laboratory for Survey of General, Organic, and Biochemistry
Prerequisites: ENGL 0203, adequate placement score, or by meeting determined placement measures; MATH 0403 or adequate math placement test score.
1 Credit Students apply chemical principles discussed in CHEM 1123 in a laboratory setting.

ENGL 1113 - English Composition I
Prerequisites: ENGL 0203, adequate placement score, or by meeting determined placement measures.
3 Credits The student will write well-developed compositions which demonstrate the principles of unity, coherence, and organization and which contain specific details and vivid language. The students will locate library material and incorporate researched materials into compositions.

ENGL 1213 - English Composition II
Prerequisites: ENGL 1103 or ENGL 1113 taken within the last year, with strong encouragement for immediate continuation.
3 Credits In this advanced writing course, students will create essays that explore and evaluate a variety of issues and perspectives suggested by fiction, poetry, drama, essays, and other types of cultural texts. Students will refine and augment the writing techniques they learned in ENGL 1113 or ENGL 1103 to develop well-reasoned, well-structured arguments in a clear, fluid, and engaging prose style.

HIST 1483 - U.S. History to 1877
Prerequisites: ENGL 0203, adequate placement score, or by meeting determined placement measures.
3 Credits After analyzing events in American history from 1400 to 1877 in such areas as revolution, geographic and social mobility, political reform, government precedents and war, students will be able to identify patterns of present day mobility, describe governmental operations in their society and help resolve conflict in society based on the student’s search for change, precedents, and conflict in the American past. A general education requirement.

HIST 1493 - U.S. History 1877 to Present
Prerequisites: ENGL 0203, adequate placement score, or by meeting determined placement measures.
3 Credits After analyzing events in American history from 1877 to the present in such areas as geographic and social mobility, political reform, government precedents and war, students will be able to identify patterns of present day mobility, describe governmental operations in their society and help resolve conflict in society based on the student’s search for change, precedents, and conflict...
NUR 1415 - Nursing Role Transition
Prerequisites: CHEM 1123 and CHEM 1131 OR CHEM 1115, BIO 1023, BIO 1314, BIO 1414, PSY 1113, ENGL 1113. Co-requisites: BIO 2125, ENGL 1213
5 Credits This course is designed to provide an entry point into the Associate Degree in Nursing Program for Oklahoma licensed paramedics and Oklahoma licensed practical nurses who have applied to the nursing program's career ladder pathway. An introduction to the mission, philosophy, and organizing framework of the OCCC Associate Degree Nursing program is included. Emphasis is on assessment, nursing skills and concepts, and selected theory covered the courses NUR 1519 and NUR 1524 and NUR 1525 in the traditional pathway. Course content will be delivered in a blended on campus and online format and will include campus laboratory experiences for the purpose of reviewing and expanding skills in the areas of parenteral therapy, IV therapy, dosage calculation and complex nursing procedures. Active learning, including simulations, will be used to promote clinical reasoning in the campus laboratory and classroom settings.

NUR 2534 - Mental Health Nursing
Prerequisites: NUR 1519, NUR 1524, NUR 1525, BIO 2125, Co-requisites: POLSC 1113, Prerequisites for Baccalaureate to Associate Degree Nurse Accelerated Pathway (BADNAP): NUR 1519, NUR 1524, NUR 1525, Co-requisite: NUR 2535, Prerequisites for Career Ladder Pathway (CLP) are: NUR 1415, BIO 2125, ENGL 1213, Co-requisite: POLSC 1113
4 Credits NUR 2534 is designed for the learner to build upon nursing knowledge, skills, and clinical reasoning abilities acquired in previous nursing courses while meeting the multi-dimensional needs of clients across the lifespan within complex healthcare systems. NUR 2534 focuses on safe, quality nursing care of clients with more complex medical-surgical health alterations. Learners will be expected to use communication competencies, including technological and informatics competencies, while functioning with increasing effectiveness as a healthcare team member to provide client-centered care. The course is also designed to assist the learner to apply principles of teaching/learning necessary to meet the more complex needs of assigned clients. Each learner will be expected to act in accordance with the values, ethics, legalities, and standards for nursing practice. NUR 2535 includes theory, campus laboratory and clinical learning experiences. Online learning experiences are integrated components of the course.

NUR 2535 - Medical-Surgical Nursing III
Prerequisites: NUR 1524, NUR 1525, BIO 2125, Co-requisites: POLSC 1113, Prerequisite for Baccalaureate to Associate Degree Nurse Accelerated Pathway (BADNAP): NUR 1524, NUR 1525, Co-requisite: NUR 2534, Prerequisites for Career Ladder Pathway (CLP) are: NUR 1415, NUR 2534, BIO 2125, ENGL 1213, Co-requisites: POLSC 1113
5 Credits NUR 2535 is designed for the learner to build upon nursing knowledge, skills, and clinical reasoning abilities acquired in previous nursing courses while meeting the multi-dimensional needs of clients across the lifespan within complex healthcare systems. NUR 2535 focuses on safe, quality nursing care of clients with more complex medical-surgical health alterations. Learners will be expected to use communication competencies, including technological and informatics competencies, while functioning with increasing effectiveness as a healthcare team member to provide client-centered care. The course is also designed to assist the learner to apply principles of teaching/learning necessary to meet the more complex needs of assigned clients. Each learner will be expected to act in accordance with the values, ethics, legalities, and standards for nursing practice. NUR 2535 includes theory, campus laboratory and clinical learning experiences. Online learning experiences are integrated components of the course.

NUR 2549 - Nursing Process IV
Prerequisites: NUR 2534, NUR 2535, POLS 1113, Co-requisites: HIST 1483 or HIST 1493. Prerequisites for Baccalaureate to Associate Degree Nurse Accelerated Pathway (BADNAP): NUR 2534, NUR 2535, Co-requisite: POLSC 1113 Prerequisites for Career Ladder Pathway (CLP): NUR 2534, NUR 2535, POLSC 1113, Co-requisites: HIST 1483 or HIST 1493.
9 Credits Nursing Process IV is designed for the learner to build upon nursing knowledge and skills acquired in previous nursing courses, including higher levels of clinical reasoning abilities. Each learner will independently use the nursing process and clinical reasoning to meet the multi-dimensional needs of a variety of clients, whether individual, family, group, or community. Client-centered care will be provided in settings within complex healthcare systems, including critical care. The learner will use a collaborative approach involving the client, family, significant others, and members of the healthcare team to manage responsibilities for groups of clients. Each learner will be expected to act in accordance with professional role expectations, including the values, ethics, legalities, and standards for entry-level nursing practice.

POLSC 1113 - American Federal Government
Prerequisites: ENGL 0203, adequate placement score, or by meeting determined placement measures
3 Credits A study of the principles, structure, processes and functions of the United States federal government.

PSY 1113 - General Psychology
Prerequisites: ENGL 0203, adequate placement score, or by meeting determined placement measures
3 Credits A survey of the major areas of study in psychology such as motivation, learning, physiology, personality, social psychology, abnormal behavior, perception, memory, cognition/thought, and treatment.