

Nursing Program Curriculum

Accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN), this rigorous program is designed for students interested in preparing for professional practice as a Registered Nurse (RN).

Classroom lectures, college laboratories and clinical experience in local health care agencies provide the foundation of knowledge.

Due to an overwhelming interest in Nursing, entrance into the DCC program is highly competitive and open to residents of Dutchess and Putnam counties only and is based on a point system. Learn more about the Nursing department here.

All incoming students are evaluated in Math, Reading, English and Biology to determine placement in courses. The four semester sequence is only possible when a student has tested into ENG 101 and BIO 131 and college-level math and achieved a score of 'Proficient' on the Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS). The total credits required to achieve the A.A.S. in Nursing is 64. Be aware that students often require six or more semesters to complete the A.A.S. degree due to entry requirements and clinical space limitations. Once a student enters the clinical nursing science courses, the course of study for completion is four semesters.

An Associate in Applied Science degree is awarded upon successful completion and the student is eligible to sit for the National Council Licensure Examination for RNs (NCLEX-RN). Graduation from the program does not guarantee admission to licensing. Individuals who have prior convictions are advised to contact the New York State Board for Nursing for advice on legal limitations. After graduation, many students transfer to upper division baccalaureate nursing programs through articulation agreements.

End Program Student Learning Outcomes (EPSLOs)

- NLN Human Flourishing

Advocate for patients and families in ways that promote their self-determination, integrity and ongoing growth as human beings.

QSEN: Patient Centered Care

Student will recognize the patient or designee as the source of control and full partner in providing compassionate and coordinated care based on respect for patient's preferences, values and needs.

- NLN Nursing Judgment

Make judgments in practice, substantiated with evidence, that integrate nursing science in the provision of safe, quality care and that promote the health of patients within a family and community context.

QSEN: Evidence Based Practice

Student will integrate best current evidence with clinical expertise and patient/family preferences and values for delivery of optimal health care.

QSEN: Safety

Student will minimize risk of harm to patients and providers through both system effectiveness and individual performance.

QSEN: Informatics

The student will use information and technology to communicate, manage knowledge, mitigate error, and support decision making.

- NLN Professional Identity

Implement one's role as a nurse in ways that reflect integrity, responsibility, ethical practices, and an evolving identity as a nurse committed to evidence-based practice, caring, advocacy, and safe, quality care for diverse patients within a family and community context.

QSEN: Teamwork and Collaboration

Student will function effectively within nursing and inter-professional teams, fostering open communication, mutual respect, and shared decision-making to achieve quality patient care.

- NLN Spirit of Inquiry

Examine the evidence that underlies clinical and nursing practice to challenge the status quo, question underlying assumptions, and offer new insights to improve the quality of care for patients, families and communities.

QSEN: Quality Improvement

Student will use data to monitor the outcomes of care processes and use improvement methods to design and test changes to continuously improve the quality and safety of health care systems.

First Semester

Course No.	Descriptive Title	Credit Hours
ENG 101	Composition I	3
PSY 111	Introduction to Psychology	3
BIO 131	Anatomy and Physiology I	4
NUR 105	Nursing Science I (a)	6
NUR 107	Survey of Professional Nursing (a)	1
TOTAL		17

Second Semester

Course No.	Descriptive Title	Credit Hours
ENG 102	Composition II	3
PSY 203	Developmental Psychology	3
BIO 132	Anatomy and Physiology II	4
NUR 112	Nursing Science II (a)	8
TOTAL		18

Third Semester

Course No.	Descriptive Title	Credit Hours
BHS 103	Social Problems in Today's World	3
BIO 212	Microbiology	4
NUR 213	Nursing Science III (a)	8
NUR 215	Parent-Child Nursing (a)	3
TOTAL		18

Click to watch Nursing Pinning Ceremony from May 10, 2021

The Associate in Applied Science nursing program at Dutchess Community College located in Poughkeepsie, New York, is accredited by the: Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN), 3390 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 1400 Atlanta, GA 30326, (404) 975-5000. The most recent accreditation decision made by the ACEN Board of Commissioners for the Associate in Applied Science nursing program is March 2015.

Fourth Semester

Course No.	Descriptive Title	Credit Hours
American History (Appendix D)		3
NUR 204	Professional Issues in Nursing (a) (c)	1
NUR 216	Nursing Science IV (a) (c)	4
NUR 218	Nursing Synthesis (a) (c)	2
PED Elective (b)		1
TOTAL		11
	TOTAL CREDIT HOURS	64

NOTES:

1. Students are admitted to the Nursing program on a space-available basis. Once admitted, students are expected to enroll in the nursing courses in sequence. Students who deviate from the sequence cannot be guaranteed re-entry into either a particular course or a particular semester.

2. Entry into Clinical Nursing courses requires that a student is CPR certified and has cleared a criminal background check and drug test.

3. All NUR students are required to submit a completed physical examination form prior to clinical courses. All immunizations indicated on the form must be current. When this form is on file, the College Health Office will issue a waiver clearing the student for clinical courses. Hepatitis B Vaccine series is highly recommended and may be required by the clinical facility under the OSHA Standard on Exposure to Blood borne Pathogens. All nursing students are required to follow flu vaccine and COVID vaccine guidelines of the clinical placement facilities.

a. Nursing courses may not be automatically repeated. A re-entry and an appeal process is outlined in the Nursing Program Handbook.

b. Students may choose the following PED courses: PED 101, PED 106, PED 111, PED 113, PED 114, PED 115, PED 116, PED 117, PED 145, PED 197

c. These courses must be taken in the semester immediately preceding graduation.