

BEFORE ENROLLING IN DEGREE APPLICABLE COURSES, IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOU COMPLETE ENGL 001A AND READ 053.

VOCATIONAL NURSING (VN)

DIVISION: Applied Science
DEPARTMENT: Health Occupations
DEPT CHAIR: Marsha Oliver
PHONE: 408-855-5374
INFO: 408-855-5375
COUNSELING: Dr. Carol Beck
PHONE: 408-855-5035

Acceptance criteria, program eligibility and selection process are subject to change. Current information can be located on the Health Occupations website.

All students accepted into the Vocational Nursing (VN) program must be 17 years of age and provide evidence of the following:

- High school diploma/GED
- Current CPR certification
- Current physical exam that includes disease specific immunity, negative TB status, and current tetanus booster
- Negative urine screening and background check

Information regarding these requirements will be provided at the orientation.

Accredited by the California Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technician (BVNPT), the three-semester VN program provides student-centered instruction and meets all board requirements. Classroom instruction is concurrent with clinical practice. All courses must be taken in sequence and completed with a grade of 75% or higher to remain in the program. Successful program completion qualifies graduates to take the National Council Licensing Examination for the Vocational Nurse.

Completion of the VN program does not guarantee licensure.

Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of the Vocational Nursing program, the student will:

1. Demonstrate the use of theoretical concepts and clinical skills during the performance of patient care to prepare for employment as Licensed Vocational Nurse.
2. Apply the nursing process while providing thorough, effective, and safe health care based on individual patient needs (i.e., physical, emotional, cultural/spiritual, and age-related, etc.).
3. Identify deviations from normal anatomy, physiology, and diagnostic findings with diseases and disorders, and safely and effectively demonstrate theoretical concepts and skills basic to the practice of nursing, including applying the nursing process in their provision of direct nursing care in clients of all ages.
4. Identify the function of the caregiver in the promotion of health and wellness.
5. Describe specific age-related physiological changes according to body systems.
6. Define the guiding principles of a restraint-free environment, potential areas of elder abuse, and recognition and causes of elder abuse.
7. Identify physical and development assessment and care techniques as they are adapted to the patient, identify the varying cultural aspects on health care, how to meet the patient and families cultural needs, and identify reactions to hospitalization and illness and describe interventions to minimize stress.
8. Demonstrate accurate dosage calculations and safely administer medications by identifying drug standards, sources, dosages, and therapeutic and non-therapeutic effects.
9. Demonstrate therapeutic communications skills needed when caring for patients from a diverse population.
10. Identify characteristics of professional behavior, leadership, and management, and define the roles and responsibilities of the Licensed VN.
11. Define the major components of the California Vocational Nurse Practice Act, the LVN's scope of practice, standards of care, legal and ethical guidelines, and the importance of understanding the effects of current issues and trends on clinical practice.
12. Successfully complete all requirements for eligibility to apply for the National Council Licensure Examination for the Vocational Nurse.

Students will be assessed through examinations, quizzes, case studies, skill demonstration, oral presentation, discussion, and clinical evaluation.

A.S. Degree:
 • Vocational Nursing

Certificate:
 • Vocational Nursing

Schedule Matrix:

COURSE	FALL	SPRING
VN 050	D	D
VN 55A1	D,E	D,E
VN 55A2	D	D
VN 55A3	D	D
VN 55A4	D	D
VN 55B1	D,E	D,E
VN 55B2	D	D
VN 55C1	D,E	D,E
VN 55C2	D	D
VN 55C3	D	D
VN 056	D	D
VN 057	D	D
VN 058	D	D
VN 060A	D	D
VN 060B	D	D
VN 060C	D	D

D= DAY CLASSES; E= EVENING CLASSES

VOCTIONAL NURSING PROGRAM ACCEPTANCE POLICY

Due to requirements mandated by the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technician, acceptance into the Vocational Nursing program will be dependent on the following:

Vocational Nursing:

- Attendance at an information session (Dates will be posted in W2-202)
- Completion of the Health Occupations Program entrance examination (Assesses for eligibility in English 1A, Math 903 and Reading proficiency)
- Submission of an application for the VN program by the specified deadline (Applications are available at W2-202)
- Satisfactory completion of the prerequisite: BIOSC 022
- It is recommended that students have completed AH 003, NS 015, PSYCH 012, VN 057 prior to applying for this program.
- BIOSC 022, NS 040, PSYCH 012, VN 057 must be completed within 5 years of applying to the program.
- Students must pass all VN courses with a grade of 75% or higher.

For any questions regarding non-acceptance into a program, please contact a counselor for an educational plan.

Vocational Nursing - A.S. Degree and Certificate

The Licensed Vocational Nurse is a member of the health care team and works under the direction of a Registered Nurse or physician. The Vocational Nurse Program offers both a Certificate of Proficiency and an A.S. Degree. Students desiring an A.S. Degree must complete the college graduation requirements for an Associate of Science Degree in Vocational Nursing.

Certificate requirements consist of three semesters of study. Classroom theory consists of 9 to 11 hours per week. Approximately 18 hours are spent in clinical experiences (VN55A1, VN55B1, VN55C1). Students must maintain a grade of C or better in all classes in the program. Upon completion of the program, students are eligible to apply for the national licensing examination.

Enrollment is limited. Contact the Applied Science Office for test dates and brochures. Students should make an appointment with a counselor for additional information and clarification.

Core Curriculum Courses (Required)	Units
AH 011..... American Heart Association Health Care	
..... Provider CPR or equivalent	0.5
BIOSC 022 Anatomy and Physiology for AH Workers	4.0
VN 050..... Introduction to Vocational Nursing	0.5
Semester I	
VN 55A1 Clinical Lab	6.0
VN 55A2 Medical/Surgical Nursing Theory	4.0
VN 55A3 Communications and Behavior	3.0
VN 55A4 Introduction to Nursing Process	1.0
VN 059A Pharmacology	1.5
Semester II	
NS 040..... Diet in Health and Disease	2.0
PSYCH 012 Human Growth & Development	3.0
VN 55B1 Clinical Lab	6.0

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VN 55B2	Medical/Surgical Nursing Theory	4.0
VN 056	Obstetrical Nursing	2.0
VN 059B	Pharmacology	1.5

Semester III

VN 55C1	Clinical Lab	6.0
VN 55C2	Medical/Surgical Nursing Theory	4.0
VN 55C3	Issues and Trends	2.0
VN 57	Introduction to Gerontology	2.0
VN 58	Introduction to Child Health	2.0
Total Program A.S./Cert. Requirements		53.0-55.0

VOCATIONAL NURSING (VN)

050 • INTRODUCTION TO VOCATIONAL NURSING 0.5 unit

Total Lecture 8.0 hours

Prerequisite: Acceptance into the Vocational Nursing Program

This course helps acquaint incoming Vocational Nursing students with Mission College, available services, and the Vocational Nursing Program. It covers college orientation and information regarding the Vocational Nursing Program policies and procedures, study skills assessment and time management. *Pass/No Pass Option.*

55A1 • INTRO TO MEDICAL-SURGICAL CLINICAL 6.0 units

Total Lab 324.8 hours

Advisory: Eligibility for ENGL 108A and READ 053

Prerequisite: BIOSC 022, Acceptance into the Vocational Nursing Program

Corequisite: AH 011 VN 055A2, VN 055A3, VN 055A4 and VN 059A

Acceptable for credit: California State University

A foundation course in which learning experiences are designed to give the student a working knowledge of the principles and skills necessary to nursing in the hospital and in the home. Classroom instruction is followed by demonstrations in live situations. Students spend approximately 18 hours a week in the hospital perfecting skills through actual nursing care of patients. Clinical experience is correlated with classroom learning. Emphasis is placed on competence in performing basic nursing procedures and skills, including observing, reporting and recording. *Materials Fee: \$79.00. Pass/No Pass Option.*

55A2 • MEDICAL-SURGICAL NURSING THEORY 4.0 units

Total Lecture 73.6 hours

Advisory: Eligibility for ENGL 001A, READ 053 and MATH 903

Prerequisite: BIOSC 022; Acceptance into Vocation Nursing Program

Corequisite: VN 055A1, VN 055A3, VN 055A4, VN 059A and AH 011 (or equivalent)

Acceptable for credit: California State University

This course is designed to teach the student how a group of particular body systems are organized and to give them a beginning knowledge on how they function. The student will also learn about each system's disorders, the principal problems of the nursing care and the nurse's role in assisting with the diagnosis and in planning the therapeutic management of the patients with conditions affecting the integumentary, musculoskeletal, neurosensory and genitourinary systems. *This course may be offered by a distance learning format. Grade Only.*

55A3 • COMMUNICATIONS AND BEHAVIOR 3.0 units

Total Lecture 54.4 hours

Advisory: Eligibility for ENGL 108A and READ 053

Prerequisite: Acceptance into the VN program, BIOSC 022

Corequisite: VN 055A1, VN 055A2, VN 055A4, VN 059A

Acceptable for credit: California State University

This course is designed to provide the beginning health care practitioner with an introduction to interpersonal relationships and behavior. It focuses on basic communication concepts and skills as an integral component of the interpersonal process. It further explores common behavioral responses that individuals or families may manifest to actual or threatened changes to their level of wellness. Background theory, assessment criteria, management suggestions and examples of intervention are given. *This course may be offered by a distance learning format. Grade Only.*

55A4 • INTRODUCTION TO NURSING PROCESS 1.0 unit

Total Lecture 16.0 hours

Advisory: Eligibility for ENGL 108A and READ 053

Prerequisite: Acceptance into the VN Program, BIOSC 022

Corequisite: VN 055A1, VN 055A2, VN 055A3, VN 059A

Acceptable for credit: California State University

This course is designed to provide the student nurse with the framework to meet individualized needs of the client, family, and community. It focuses on basic assessments, nursing diagnosis, planning, implementation, and evaluation. It defines the scope of practice and identifies standards of nursing care. Benefits for the client and the student nurse will be explored. *This course may be offered by a distance learning format. Pass/No Pass Option.*

55B1 • INTERMEDIATE MEDICAL-SURGICAL CLINICAL 6.0 units

Total Lab 324.8 hours

Advisory: Eligibility for ENGL 001A, READ 053; MATH 903

Prerequisite: Successful completion of 1st semester VN program and AH 011

Corequisite: VN 055B2, VN 056, VN 059B and NS 015 and PSYCH 012

Acceptable for credit: California State University

An intermediate level foundation course in which learning experiences are designed to give the student a working knowledge of the principles and skills necessary to nursing in the hospital and in the home. Classroom instruction is followed by demonstrations in live situations. Students spend approximately 18 hours a week in the hospital perfecting skills through actual nursing care of patients. Clinical experience is correlated with classroom learning. Emphasis is placed on competence in performing basic nursing procedures and skills, including observing, reporting and recording. *Pass/No Pass Option.*

55B2 • MEDICAL-SURGICAL NURSING THEORY 4.0 units

Total Lecture 73.6 hours

Advisory: Eligibility for READ 053 and ENGL 001A, MATH 903

Prerequisite: Successful completion of 1st semester VN program, BIOSC 022 and current CPR card

Corequisite: VN 055B1, VN 056, VN 059B, NS 015 and PSYCH 012

Acceptable for credit: California State University

This course is designed to teach the vocational nursing student about disorders, principal problems of nursing care, the nurse's role in assisting with the diagnosis, planning, and implementation of the therapeutic management of the patient with conditions affecting the respiratory, reproductive, cardiac, and vascular systems. *This course may also be offered via live broadcast. Grade Only.*

055C1 • MEDICAL-SURGICAL CLINICAL LAB 6.0 units

Total Lecture 16.0 hours

Advisory: ENGL001A

Prerequisite: Successful Completion of 1st and 2nd semester VN program

Corequisite: VN55C2, VN55C3, VN057 and VN058

Acceptable for credit: California State University

This is an advanced level experiential course designed to give the student a working knowledge of the principles and skills necessary for providing nursing care in a variety of settings. Clinical experience is correlated with classroom learning and includes an emphasis on integrating the critical elements of nursing into the care of medical-surgical, geriatric and pediatric clients. Emphasis is placed on continued competence in critical thinking skills and in performing vocational nursing functions. The focus is on developing beginning leadership skills and transitioning from a student level to a novice level of practice. *Pass/No Pass Only.*

055C2 • MEDICAL-SURGICAL NURSING THEORY 4.0 units

Total Lecture 73.6 hours

Advisory: ENGL001A and Eligibility for READ 53

Prerequisite: Completion of 1st and 2nd semester VN program

Corequisite: VN55C1, VN55C3 and VN058

Acceptable for credit: California State University

This course is designed to teach the student about particular body systems, how they are organized and how they function. The students also learn about each system's disorders, the principal problems, and the nurse's role in assisting with the diagnosis and planning of the therapeutic management of the patient with gastrointestinal, endocrine, neurological, and hematological disorders. *Grade Only.*

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055C3 • VOCATIONAL NURSING SEMINAR ISSUES AND TRENDS

2.0 units

Total Lecture 36.8 hours

Advisory: ENGL001A

Prerequisite: Completion of 1st and 2nd semester VN program.

Corequisite: VN55C1, VN55C2 and VN058

Acceptable for credit: California State University

This course is designed to provide the student with an opportunity to explore the profession of nursing. It examines nursing's history, legal aspects and professional organizations as well as pertinent issues facing the practice of nursing today. Learning is discussion oriented, offering the student the opportunity to explore the ever growing and changing profession. Student take a mock State Board exam. This course may also be offered via distance learning. *Materials Fee: \$35.00. Grade Only*

056 • OBSTETRICAL NURSING

3.0 units

Total Lecture 54.4 hours

Advisory: Eligibility for ENGL 001A and READ 053

Prerequisite: Acceptance into VN Program, VN 055A1, VN 055A2, VN 055A3, VN 055A4, VN 060A

Corequisite: VN 055B1, VN 055B2, VN 060B, NS 015, PSYCH 012

Acceptable for credit: California State University

This course is designed to educate the vocational nursing student about nursing interventions utilized for patients coping with reproductive health issues, expectant parents and families in preparation for childbirth and parenting, and to discuss patient care issues with respect to the birth to death continuum. *Grade Only.*

057 • INTRODUCTION TO GERONTOLOGY

2.0 units

Total Lecture 36.8 hours

Advisory: ENGL001A

Corequisite: VN055C1, VN055C2, VN055C3 and VN058

Acceptable for credit: California State University

This course is designed to give the vocational nursing student an introduction to the care of the gerontological client both in an institutional and community setting. The focus is on viewing the last developmental stage of the adult as a normal progression of life, including the basic hierarchy of human needs. This last developmental stage is explored to prepare the vocational nurse for the adaptations associated with the aging process. *Grade Only.*

058 • INTRODUCTION TO CHILD HEALTH CARE

2.0 units

Total Lecture 36.8 hours

Advisory: ENGL001A

Prerequisite: Successful completion of 1st and 2nd semester VN program

Corequisite: VN55C1, VN55C2, VN55C3

Acceptable for credit: California State University

This course incorporates the promotion of health and wellness along with the principles and concepts of current management and therapy related to the care of acutely ill children. Caregiver responsibilities and function using the nursing process approach is emphasized. Content also addresses present-day child care challenges that necessitate patient/parent teaching, discharge planning for home care and adaptations of nursing care to both hospital and home. *Grade Only.*

059A • BEGINNING PHARMACOLOGY, PART I

1.5 units

Total Lecture 27.2 hours

(No longer offered after Spring 2009)

Advisory: Eligibility for ENGL 001A and READ 053 and MATH 903

Prerequisite: BIOSC 022: Acceptance into Vocational Nursing Program

Corequisite: VN 055A1, VN 055A2, VN 055A3, VN 055A4

Acceptable for credit: California State University

A beginning course that presents the basic principles of pharmacology and of calculation of drug doses. Emphasis is on defining pharmacological classes of drugs, explaining use of medication, reference books, and nursing implications in drug therapy. The student will learn what drugs are used for, cautions to observe in their use, side effects, drug interactions, contraindications and how to advise the patient on proper drug use. *Grade Only.*

059B • BEGINNING PHARMACOLOGY, PART II

1.5 units

Total Lecture 27.2 hours

(No longer offered after Spring 2009)

Advisory: Eligibility for ENGL 001A, READ 053 and MATH 903

Prerequisite: Successful completion of 1st semester VN program

Corequisite: VN 055B1, VN 055B2, VN 056, NS 040 and PSYCH 012

Acceptable for credit: California State University

A continuation of a basic course that presents the basic principles of pharmacology. Emphasis is on defining pharmacological classes of drugs, explaining use of medication, reference books, and nursing implications in drug therapy. The student will learn what drugs are used for, cautions to observe in their use, side effects, drug interactions, contraindications and how to advise the patient on proper drug use. *This course may also be offered via live broadcast. Grade Only.*

060A • BEGINNING PHARMACOLOGY, PART I

1.0 unit

Total Lecture 16.0 hours

Prerequisite: Admission to Vocational Nursing Program, BIOSC 022

Corequisite: VN 055A1, VN 055A2, VN 055A3, VN 055A4

Acceptable for credit: California State University

This is a beginning course in pharmacology that presents the vocational nursing student with the basic principles of pharmacology and dosage calculation. The emphasis is on defining pharmacological agents, the use of reference books, and nursing implications in pharmacological therapy. The course will cover the uses for pharmacological agents, precautions for use, side effects, medication interactions, contraindications, and patient teaching for safe and proper pharmacological use. *Grade Only.*

060B • BEGINNING PHARMACOLOGY, PART II

1.0 unit

Total Lecture 16.0 hours

Advisory: Eligibility for ENGL 001A, READ 053 and MATH 903

Prerequisite: Completion of first semester of VN program;

Corequisite: VN 055B1, VN 055B2, VN 056, NS 040, PSYCH 012

Acceptable for credit: California State University

This is a continuation course in pharmacology designed to assist the vocational nursing student in developing the ability to safely administer pharmacological agents. Emphasis is on defining pharmacological classes, their therapeutic and non-therapeutic effects, nursing implications, and aspects of patient teaching for specific medical disorders. *Grade Only.*