Alvernia University

John & Karen Arnold School of nursing

RN to BSN Completion Program Student Handbook

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ALVERNIA UNIVERSITY

RN TO BSN COMPLETION PROGRAM

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INTRODUCTION

The RN to BSN Completion Program Student Handbook is designed to supplement the Alvernia University Catalog and Alvernia University Student Handbook. It has been prepared to assist the RN student and faculty in standardizing policies within the Nursing Department.

The policies contain essential requirements in the preparation of the professional nurse

2. Assume an ethical leadership role to improve quality and safety of clients' care within a variety of health care settings.
3. Integrate reliable evidence to inform practice and make clinical judgments.
4. Demonstrate skills in information technology and client care technologies to facilitate ethical and safe care.
5. Recognize local, state, national, and global trends in health policy and regulation and its effect on nursing practice.
6. Use professional communication and collaboration skills to deliver safe and evidence-based, client-centered care.
7. Use evidence-based disease prevention and health promotion practices across the life span.
8. Demonstrate the professional standards of moral, ethical, and legal conduct.
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RN TO BSN CODE OF ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

The RN to BSN Completion Program adopts the American Nurses Association (ANA) Code of Ethics and the Pennsylvania State Board Professional Conduct Standards as a guide for professional nurse behavior. These standards are based on an understanding that to practice nursing as an RN student is an agreement to uphold the trust with which society has placed in us. The statements of the Code and Standards provide guidance for the RN student in the personal development of an ethical foundation. They are not limited strictly to the academic or clinical environment but can assist in the holistic development of the person.

ANA CODE OF ETHICS

A code of ethics makes explicit the primary goals and values of the profession. When individuals become nurses, they make a moral commitment to uphold the values and special moral obligation expressed in their code. The Code for Nurses (ANA, 2015) is based on a belief about the nature of individuals, nursing, health, and society. The development of a code of ethics is an essential activity of a profession and provides one means for the exercise of professional self-regulation.

1. The nurse practices with compassion and respect for the inherent dignity, worth, and unique attributes of every person.
2. The nurse's primary commitment is to the patient, whether an individual, family, group, community, or population.
3. The nurse promotes, advocates for, and protects the rights, health, and safety of the patient.
4. The nurse has authority, accountability, and responsibility for nursing practice; makes decisions; and takes action consistent with the obligation to promo96e (t)2 0 Tc 0talealt

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NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

It is the policy of the John and Karen Arnold School of Nursing to follow through with the Alvernia University Non- discrimination Policy in the admission process, classroom, and clinical practice settings. Please refer to the Alvernia University Catalog.

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SIGMA THETA TAU INTERNATIONAL NURSING HONOR SOCIETY
UPSILON ZETA CHAPTER (#460)

On April 17, 2007 the Nursing Honor Society at Alvernia College was chartered as an official

2.0 Curriculum

Leadership

- Leadership is the informed and wise use of power and the ability to influence others effectively in order to accomplish a goal. The potential for capable and ethical leadership distinguishes Alvernia's nursing students.

Skill

-

3.0 Guidelines and Policies

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ADMISSION AND PROGRESSION POLICY

Upper Level Nursing Courses 31 credits

- NUR 303 Preparation for Professional Writing* 1 credit
- NUR 307 Concepts and Theories* 3 credits
- NUR 316 Health Assessment across the Lifespan for Professional Nurses* 3 credits
- NUR 318 Developing Cultural Competency and Global Awareness* 3 credits
- NUR 320 Introduction to Healthcare Informatics* 3 credits
- NUR 403 Health Restoration in the Aging Population+ 6 credits
- NUR 405 Health Promotion in Families and Communities+ 6 credits
- NUR 411 Nursing Leadership and Management* 3 credits
- NUR 419 Research Methods for Professional Nurses+ 3 credits

* Online class format, MOD schedule
+ Online class format, semester long

Initial 1987; Reviewed Annually; Revised 6/10, 6/11, 6/12, 6/13, 3/16, 8/19, 8/22

UNSUCCESSFUL NCLEX EXAMINATION POLICY

It is the policy of the Alvernia University, John and Karen Arnold School of Nursing RN to BSN Completion Program to require RN Licensure for participation in the upper division courses that include a practice component (NUR 403 and NUR 405).

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ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Students are admitted to Alvernia University and are fully accepted in the RN to BSN Completion Program when the following documentation is submitted:

- RN to BSN Completion Program application
- Official transcripts for all previous nursing school and college courses. An official transcript of all previous work is required whether a student has earned transfer credits or not, or whether a student wants transfer credits.
- Photocopy of a current Pennsylvania Registered Nurse License- when obtained

Students may be admitted to the RN to BSN Completion program prior to passing the NCLEX; however, students are not permitted to progress and register for the two practice component courses (NUR 403 and 405) without a current and valid PA RN license.

ACADEMIC PROGRESSION POLICIES

- 123 credits required for Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree
- At least 33 of the last 60 credits must be taken at Alvernia University
- Minimum of 30 credits at the 300/400 level
- Community service and human diversity requirements met in major
- Both theoretical and practice components of the professional nursing courses must be satisfactorily completed
- A grade of “C” or better in all nursing courses is required to progress in the RN to BSN Completion Program
- Some liberal arts courses may be challenged by the College Level Examination Program (CLEP)
- Maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.0
- Adhere to the Alvernia University Catalog, Student Handbook, and Nursing Department RN to BSN Completion Program Student Handbook policies

Initial 1987; Reviewed Annually; Revised 6/10, 6/12, 6/15, 6/18, 6/19

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FORMAL COMPLAINT PROCEDURE

A formal complaint is defined as a written expression of serious dissatisfaction related to any aspect of Alvernia University John and Karen Arnold School of Nursing. A formal complaint is distinguished from a dispute about a grade in a course or other course evaluation matter, which is handled under the Alvernia academic grievance procedures and harassment complaints, which are handled in accordance with the Alvernia University Harassment policy. See student handbook

Alvernia University Policies | Alvernia University

Initial 4/11; Reviewed Annually

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ACADEMIC GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES- GRADE APPEAL

Appealing an Assignment Grade

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STATEMENT ON THE USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA

Students are reminded that the standards for professionalism are the same online as in any other circumstance. Based on the current evidence, the following "best practices" for Social Media use are suggested:

- Think twice before posting anything on a Social Media website.
- Be respectful of your audience or potential audience.
- Photographs should represent how you want the public at large, including future employers, to view you as a person.
- Protect confidential and proprietary information.
- Follow code of conduct guidelines for each institution/healthcare facility with which you are associated.
- Identify your views as being your own opinions and not those of Alvernia University or any institution/healthcare facility with which you are associated.
- Protect the institutional voice of Alvernia University and all healthcare facilities/institutions with which you are associated.
- Do not have the illusion that anything you do or say is private.

Any questionable situation that comes to the attention of the nursing faculty/staff will be reported to the Chief Nursing Officer and Dean of the College of Health Sciences. Students may be counseled about appropriate social media use and a written note placed in their academic file. Disciplinary action may be taken.

All students are expected to read and follow the guidelines outlined below in relation to appropriate use of social media.

x Student handbook- Student Handbook- Social Media Policy

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NURSING STUDENT HEALTH POLICY

It is the policy of the Alvernia University John and Karen Arnold School of Nursing RN to BSN Completion Program to comply with university and healthcare facility/community agency health policies.

EACH STUDENT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR:

1. Personal health insurance coverage.
2. Documentation of immunizations as required by the university or healthcare facilities and community agencies.
3. Maintenance of good health promotion practices and utilization of preventive care in common illnesses.

In addition to health & wellness policy requirements, background clearances (FBI, Pennsylvania State Police, and Child Abuse) are required for the practice component courses NUR 403 and NUR 405. Further information is provided within these courses.