

Nursing, Vocational

SCHOOL OF HEALTH AND PUBLIC SAFETY

Visit the [Program Mapper](#) for more information on when to take classes and career information.

DEGREE

A.A. - Nursing, Vocational

CERTIFICATE

Nursing, Vocational

Program Description

The Vocational Nursing curriculum comprises three semesters of combined didactic and clinical work on campus and at affiliated healthcare facilities. Upon satisfactory completion of the prerequisites and the nursing courses, a Certificate of Achievement is awarded and the student is then eligible for the National Licensure Examination. An Associate in Arts degree is also available for those students who complete the Merced College General Education requirements.

Program Prerequisites and Information:

*ALLH-67; ^BIOL-50 or ^BIOL-16; ^NUTR-10 and ^VOCN-46A
All program prerequisites must be passed with a grade of "C" or better and combined GPA of 2.0 or higher.

^Must be completed within five (5) year of the date of application.

*ALLH-67 has no recency

Program Start Dates - Only one cohort is in session at a time.

August 2020 (Fall semester), January 2022 (Spring semester),
August 2023 (Fall semester), January 2025 (Spring semester), etc.

For program application and additional information go to:

<http://www.mccd.edu/academics/alliedhealth/nurse-vocational/apply.html>

Accepted students must provide proof of the following requirements: Tdap, MMR, HEP B, Varicella, Current Flu Vaccine, Negative TB test or Negative Chest X-ray, CPR Certification, (American Heart Association - BLS), Physical, criminal background and drug screening clearances.

Further information will be provided at the MANDATORY orientation. If a student is unable to provide proof of these requirements within the designated timeframe, the student will be deemed ineligible for admission.

While enrolled in the program, you will be assigned to various clinic facilities in addition to the on-campus portions of the program. By enrollment into the program, you agree to accept clinical assignments in whatever clinical site you are assigned. Clinical assignments will be scheduled during the normal working day hours.

Highlights

The Allied Health Center houses a complete Vocational Nursing Skills Lab, large computer lab, conference rooms, study rooms and multiple large and small classrooms. The Vocational Nursing Program has state-of-the-art equipment and software that assist students with learning current procedures.

Accreditation:

The Vocational Nursing Program is accredited by the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians (BVNPT):

DEAN
VALERIE ALBANO

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[Vocational Nursing Website](#)

Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians
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Sacramento, CA 95833
(916) 263-7800 bvnpt@dca.ca.gov

DEGREE

A.A. - Nursing, Vocational (12550.AA)

An Associate of Arts Degree is available for those students who complete the Merced College General Education requirements and the following courses.

Program Student Learning Outcomes

- Collaborate with the health care team in providing care.
- Incorporate knowledge of nursing curriculum to pass the NCLEX exam.
- Utilize the nursing process to establish a plan of care, recognizing value and commitment to the practice of nursing standards.
- Apply a code of ethics in solving ethical dilemmas while providing patient/family care.
- Utilize therapeutic communication to obtain positive outcome sin planning and goal setting for patient care.
- Demonstrate effective knowledge, skills, and abilities to a nursing career that is constantly evolving and to focus intently on innovative approaches to patient care.

Students successfully completing the courses listed below are awarded a Certificate of Achievement in Vocational Nursing and are eligible to sit for the NCLEX-VN examination. An Associate in Arts Degree is available for those students who complete the Merced College General Education requirements and the following courses:

Program Requirements:

Program Core: (55 Units)		Units
BIOL-16	General Human Anatomy.....	4
or		
BIOL-50	Survey of Anatomy and Physiology.....	3
NUTR-10	Nutrition.....	3
ALLH-67	Medical Terminology	3
VOCN-46A	Applied Math for Pharmacology.....	1
VOCN-40	Foundations of Nursing.....	11
VOCN-46B	Pharmacology for Nurses.....	2
VOCN-47A	Nursing Guidance I	1
VOCN-42	Principles and Practices of Nursing Care I.....	14
VOCN-47B	Nursing Guidance II	1
VOCN-44	Principles and Practices of Nursing Care II.....	14
VOCN-47C	Nursing Guidance III	1
Total: (55 Units)		

Note: A student must achieve a final score of 75% or better in each of the core nursing courses to continue in the program. When two courses must be taken concurrently, passing grades must be maintained in both for the student to continue in either course.

Students successfully completing the courses listed below are awarded a Certificate of Achievement in Vocational Nursing and are eligible to sit for the NCLEX-VN examination. An Associate in Arts Degree is available for those students who complete the Merced College General Education requirements and the following courses:

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CERTIFICATE

Nursing, Vocational (12550.CT)

Program Requirements:

Program Core: (55 Units)		Units
BIOL-16	General Human Anatomy.....	4
or		
BIOL-50	Survey of Anatomy and Physiology.....	3
NUTR-10	Nutrition.....	3
ALLH-67	Medical Terminology	3
VOCN-46A	Applied Math for Pharmacology	1
VOCN-40	Foundations of Nursing.....	11
VOCN-46B	Pharmacology for Nurses.....	2
VOCN-47A	Nursing Guidance I	1
VOCN-42	Principles and Practices of Nursing Care I.....	14
VOCN-47B	Nursing Guidance II	1
VOCN-44	Principles and Practices of Nursing Care II.....	14
VOCN-47C	Nursing Guidance III	1
Total: (55 Units)		

Note: A student must achieve a final score of 75% or better in each of the core nursing courses to continue in the program. When two courses must be taken concurrently, passing grades must be maintained in both for the student to continue in either course.

VOCATIONAL NURSING (VOCN)

VOCN-40 FOUNDATIONS OF NURSING

11 units: 5 hours lecture, 18 hours lab TBA.
 Limitation on enrollment: Enrollment in the Vocational Nursing Program; current CPR Card; physical; immunizations; a negative TB skin test or negative chest x-ray within the last 6 months; background check and urine drug screen. Proof of completion of an educational course of study through the 12th grade or evidence of completion of equivalency thereof (C2530-VN Practice Act).
 Prerequisites: ALLH-67; BIOL-16 or BIOL-50; NUTR-10; VOCN-46A.
 Corequisites: VOCN-46B, VOCN-47A.

This course covers theory, principles, and practice of fundamental nursing skills needed to care for adult patients. Health and its preservation is stressed. Interpersonal relationships, community resources, and prevention and treatment of disease are studied. Clinical experience is integrated with classroom theory, and is provided at affiliating hospitals, under direct supervision of Merced College nursing instructors. This is the first semester of nursing theory of a three-semester sequence. Clinical experience is integrated. (05/19)

VOCN-42 PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICES OF NURSING CARE I

14 units: 8 hours lecture, 18 hours lab TBA.
 Limitation on enrollment: Enrollment in the Vocational Nursing Program; current CPR Card; a negative TB skin test or negative chest x-ray. Prerequisite: VOCN-40. Two-way corequisite: VOCN-47B.

This course emphasizes theoretical principles and clinical experience in meeting Maslow's basic human needs of nutrition, oxygenation, elimination, and affiliation. It involves clinical experiences in meeting the basic human needs of individuals of all ages with commonly occurring health problems. This course is part of the second semester of a three-semester program. Clinical experience is integrated. (05/19)

VOCN-44 PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICES OF NURSING CARE II

14 units: 8 hours lecture, 18 hours lab TBA.
 Limitation on enrollment: Enrollment in the Vocational Nursing Program; current CPR card; a negative TB skin test or negative chest x-ray. Prerequisite: VOCN-42. Two-way corequisite: VOCN-47C.

This course emphasizes theoretical principles of Maslow's basic human needs of safety, hygiene, rest, activity, comfort, and self-actualization as it relates to common and complex health problems occurring in individuals of all age groups. Pathophysiologic and psychosocial assessment and management of medical-surgical disorders are stressed. General pharmacological and nutritional considerations are included. This course is part of the third semester of a three-semester program. Clinical experience is integrated. (05/19)

VOCN-46A APPLIED MATHEMATICS FOR PHARMACOLOGY

1 unit: 1 hour lecture.
 Prerequisites: ENGL-01A; MATH-C, MATH-61, or MATH-62.

This is an introductory pharmacology course which includes an introduction to the professional context of drug administration, and study of the metric, apothecary, and household systems of measurement. Nursing responsibility to patient safety is included. Completion of this course requires accurate interpretation of doctors' order, reading medication bottles, calculating drug dosages, and the reason for their application. (01/19)

VOCN-46B PHARMACOLOGY FOR NURSES

2 units: 2 hours lecture.
 Limitation on enrollment: Enrollment in the Vocational Nursing Program. Prerequisite: VOCN-46A. Two-way corequisites: VOCN-40, VOCN-47A.

This is an introductory pharmacology course which uses effects and safe administration of medications. Common local and systemic drugs are studied. Nursing responsibilities and client safety are emphasized. (05/19)

VOCN-47A NURSING GUIDANCE I

1 unit: 1 hour lecture.
 Limitation on enrollment: Enrollment in the Vocational Nursing program. Two-way corequisites: VOCN-40, VOCN-46B.

This course examines socialization and interpersonal communications related to vocational nursing. Course topics include verbal and non-verbal communication; communication problems in the nurse-patient relationship; the hospital as a working and learning environment; self-actualization relating to the elderly; and death and dying. (05/19)

VOCN-47B NURSING GUIDANCE II

1 unit: 1 hour lecture.
 Limitation on enrollment: Enrollment in the Vocational Nursing program. Prerequisite: VOCN-40 ,VOCN-47A. Two-way corequisite: VOCN-42.

This course examines the nature of stress and its influences on coping and adapting. Related topics examine include crisis and crisis intervention, and psychophysiological and somatopsychic responses to stress and anxiety. (05/19)

VOCN-47C NURSING GUIDANCE III

1 unit: 1 hour lecture.
 Limitation on enrollment: Enrollment in the Vocational Nursing program. Prerequisite:-VOCN-42. Two-way corequisite: VOCN-44.

This course examines current and evolving patterns of mental health care and the shifts from inpatient custodial care to community-based treatment for the mentally ill. This course also examines the health-illness continuum, psychopathology, neuroses and psychoses, clinical disorders and maladaptations of behavior, and psychopharmacological approaches to treatment. (05/19)

VOCN-48 INTRAVENOUS THERAPY/BLOOD WITHDRAWAL

2 units: 2 hours lecture.
 Limitation on enrollment: Licensed as a Vocational Nurse (required by section 2860.5 of the Board of Vocational Nurses and Psychiatric Technicians) or Registered Nurse.

This short-term course is designed to prepare nurses to start and superimpose intravenous fluid and perform blood withdrawal as ordered by the physician. The course will cover psychological preparation of the patient, selection of equipment, aseptic technique, relevant anatomy and physiology, pharmacology of intravenous solutions, and administering blood components. Students will perform simulated and actual intravenous catheterization and blood withdrawals. (05/19)