

RN to BSN PROGRAM – CAL STATE SAN MARCOS

Cal State's RN to BSN (Bachelor of Science in Nursing) Program begins each Fall. Students with a valid California RN License and graduates of a BRN-approved and regionally-accredited college are eligible to enter the University. These students will be granted 32 semester units for their previous nursing courses and can transfer in up to 70 units (including the 32 nursing units) taken at a community college, to be applied towards the BSN degree. Admission to the RN-BSN program will require a separate admissions process through the School of Nursing. Entrance requirements to the RN to BSN program include completion of the same Pre-Nursing Core, or equivalents, as are required of students in the generic nursing program and additional lower-division preparatory courses, as list below. Many students will have already completed these requirements but it is recommended that if students have completed 70 or more units in a community college, they complete necessary prerequisite and preparatory courses at a four year institution.

The RN to BSN Program at CSUSM is designed as a two-year, part-time program, of approximately 9 units each semester (fall and spring) and a minimum of 5 units in at least one summer session. Students will graduate with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing when all Nursing major and University degree requirements are met.

Below are lists of courses required for the RN to BSN Program at CSUSM. The first list includes the required, prerequisite Pre-Nursing core courses. The second list includes the required preparatory courses needed to begin the nursing courses in the RN to BSN Program. The third list of courses includes the GE requirements and University graduation requirements that are not required for entry to the program, but must be completed in order to graduate with a BSN degree from CSUSM. It is probable that many students will have already met some of the courses/requirements in the below lists from other institutions.

RN to BSN program students should strive to achieve the highest grades possible in these courses as these courses provide the foundation for the upper division Nursing courses. Students must complete all prerequisite and preparatory to the RN -BSN nursing major courses with a grade of C or better (grade of C- is not acceptable in any course, including separate labs) and courses with substandard grades can be repeated only once.

CSU PRE-NURSING CORE – Completion required for admission as a major to the RN to BSN Program*

The following Pre-Nursing Core has been adopted by all CSU Nursing Programs, and are required prerequisites for the RN to BSN Program at Cal State San Marcos.

GE Area at CSUSM for Native Students	CSUSM Course No.	Course Title	No. of Units	C -- Co-requisite P -- Pre-requisite
B2	BIOL 175	Introduction to Anatomy/Physiology I	4	None
	BIOL 176	Introduction to Anatomy/Physiology II	4	P -- BIOL 175
	BIOL 160	Microbiology	4	None
B1	CHEM 105	Organic and Biochemistry for Life	3	P -- ELM or B4 Math course
B3	CHEM 105L	Organic and Biochemistry for Life Laboratory	2	C – CHEM 100
B4	MATH 115	College Algebra (Pre-Calc or any level of Calculus is acceptable if already completed)	3	ELM requirement
A1	GEO 102	Oral Communication	3	None
A2	GEW 101	Written Communication	3	None
A3	Choose One: LTWR 115 or MATH 110 or PHIL 110 or PSYC 110	Critical Reading and Writing Critical Thinking Critical Thinking Critical Thinking in Psychology	3	P – GEW 101 None None None

Advising Information for the RN to BSN PROGRAM – CAL STATE SAN MARCOS

ADDITIONAL LOWER-DIVISION, PREPARATORY COURSES – Completion required prior to graduation.

GE Area at CSUSM for Native Students	Course No.	Course Title	No. of Units	C -- Co-requisite P -- Pre-requisite	When First Available at CSUSM
D or D7	ANTH 200	Cultural Anthropology	3	None	Now
D	or SOC 101	Introduction to Sociology	4	None	Now
	BIOL 215	Experimental Design and Statistical Analysis	4	C -- BIOL 215L	Now
	BIOL 215L	Laboratory Experimental Design and Statistical Analysis	4	C – BIOL 215	Now
	PSYC 100	Intro to Psychology	3	None	Now
D	PSYC 210* or SOC 204*	Intro to Development Psychology Human Relationships Across Life Span	3 3	None	Now

- We will accept any approved statistics course completed at a California Community College or other CSU that includes Inferential Statistics. See the ASSIST Web site (www.assist.org) for courses at local community colleges that articulate with the Nursing Major requirements.
- We will accept any approved Growth and Development Across the Lifespan course. See the ASSIST Web site.
- As proposed, a specific UD (Upper-Division) Area E course at Cal State San Marcos is included within the 2-year RN to BSN Program; therefore, students would not need to take a LD Area E course if not completed already.

Additional GE and Graduation Requirements at CSUSM, which can be taken before, during, or after the 2-year RN to BSN Program. These courses are not required for entry into the 2-year RN to BSN program at Cal State San Marcos, but will be required to graduate from CSUSM.

GE Area at CSUSM for Native Students	Course	No. of Units
One of these courses counts for Area C at CSUSM	SPAN 101/ SPAN 102/ SPAN 201 All three courses (or equivalent) are required to graduate – see your Advisor * Spanish is highly recommended for Nursing students. If you have already completed your foreign language requirement in another foreign language, you are not required to take additional courses in Spanish. If you test out of this requirement without receiving course credit, you must still meet the Area C GE requirement through other coursework.	3-11
C1	Any C1 Approved Course	3
C2	Any C2 Approved Course	3
American Institutions*	HIST 130 or HIST 131; and	3
	PSCI 100	3

* One of these courses can be counted for GE Area D
Exception: If a particular college or university allows a single American Institutions course to meet all of the California American Institution requirements, such a course cannot be used to GE Area D.

**For students who have already completed 70 or more units at community college, you may need to complete any of the non-NURS course requirements at California State University San Marcos (CSUSM). The State of California has set a maximum of 70 community college units which can be applied towards the total units needed to graduate. All CSU-eligible community college courses and grades will transfer, but when the University calculates total units needed to graduate, the 70-unit, community-college rule applies.

For completion of the Bachelor of Science of Nursing you need 133 units. Often students need to complete elective units not offered within the program to reach the minimum number of units for graduation.

For example:

133 units are needed for graduation from RN-BSN program.

-70 units maximum are allowed to transfer from any community college.

-45 units are offered within the RN-BSN program at CSUSM.

18 units are remaining that cannot be taken at a community college. These units **MUST** be taken at a four year institution.

CSUSM Extended Learning will offer some courses that will count toward this total but most likely not all. Students in the RN-BSN program through Extended Learning are not eligible to take classes on the main CSUSM campus offered through 'state side' CSUSM.