

Online RN to Bachelor of Science Nursing



A Leader in Nursing Education

As the first public college in Massachusetts to offer a nursing program, Fitchburg State College has a long distinguished history in nursing education. With its new laboratories and technology upgrades, our nursing program continues to explore innovative educational methods to serve the needs of the Commonwealth. The Department of Nursing has a reputation for excellence, and has educated over 3000 professional nurses who contribute to the workforce of hospitals and health care agencies throughout Massachusetts and beyond.

We are approved by the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Nursing and accredited by the Commission in Collegiate Nursing Education. In the Department of Nursing, each of the 17 faculty members has at least five years of clinical experience, and an average tenure in the department of seven years. Half of the faculty are doctorally prepared in nursing, all full time faculty hold a master's degree in nursing.

Distinctive features of the program include personalized attention from your faculty, low student/faculty ratio, and personal advising. Whether you are looking to advance in your current position, prepare for a new role in your organization, or continue your education in graduate school, the Fitchburg State online RN to BSN program can help you achieve your goals.

The curriculum sharpens your critical thinking skills, introduces you to nursing research and evidence based practice, and strengthens your leadership skills. Nurses with a BSN from Fitchburg State College are in high demand. Nearly 100 percent of licensed graduates are employed immediately.

Curriculum

In order to obtain a BSN from Fitchburg State College you are required to take 121 credits. The RN curriculum provides the opportunity for educational mobility for U.S. licensed registered nurses through the acceptance of transfer credits, CLEP testing and challenge examinations.

All RN to BSN students are required to take a 1 credit Portfolio Preparation course. This course is designed to help you prepare a portfolio that will be submitted to the faculty to determine the amount of clinical hours you will be required to complete.

Liberal Arts and Science Credits

A total of 59 Liberal Arts & Science credits must be fulfilled as part of the RN to BSN program. Most Associate Degree RNs are able to use transfer credits to fulfill many of these credits. Additionally, some of these requirements may be fulfilled through CLEP (College Level Examination Program) testing, which can be arranged through Career Services at Fitchburg State College.

Admissions Resources

E-mail: gceadvisor@fsc.edu

Web site: www.fsc.edu/rntobsn/

For E-Advising



GCE
Virtual Advisor

fsc.edu/gce/virtualadvisor

Art

5 courses; a minimum of 15 cr. One of these courses must have a global diversity non-western designation.

ENGL 1100 Writing I	3 S.H.
ENGL 1200 Writing II	3 S.H.
Art or Music	3 S.H.
Literature	3 S.H.
Elective	3 S.H.

Citizenship

3 courses; a minimum of 9 cr. Introduction to Sociology fulfills the global diversity designation.

History	3 S.H.
PSY 1100 General Psychology	3 S.H.
SOC 1100 Introduction to Sociology	3 S.H.

Science, Math, Technology

4 courses; a minimum of 12 cr.

MATH 1700 Applied Statistics	3 S.H.
BIOL 1200 Anatomy & Physiology I	4 S.H.
BIOL 1300 Anatomy & Physiology II	4 S.H.
BIOL 2700 Survey of Microorganisms	3 S.H.

Option C

4 courses chosen by the student, in consultation with their advisor; a minimum of 12 cr with a minimum of 6 cr. at or above the 2000 level.

PSY2200	Human Growth & Development	3 S.H.
	Electives	9 S.H.

Free Electives

2 or 3 courses; a minimum of 8 cr.

Electives	8 or 9 S.H.
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* *Math Readiness Requirement is required of all transfer students.*
Institutional credit only: it does not count toward graduation credits.
This requirement must be met prior to entering the Nursing Curriculum.

Nursing Credits

A total of 62 nursing credits must be fulfilled as part of the RN to BSN program. Associate degree RN's may transfer a maximum of 31 nursing credits from their associate degree institution; diploma RN's may be awarded 31 nursing credits through the successful completion of the National League for Nursing's (NLN) Acceleration Challenge Exam (ACE) II. The NLN ACE II exams are scheduled and administered through the Department of Nursing. The examinations are given in the areas of Care of the Adult Client, Care of the Client during Childbearing/Care of the Child, and Care of the Client with a Mental Disorder. A minimum score of 90 is required on each examination. If a score of 90 is not achieved in a specific area, the diploma RN student will be required to take the appropriate Fitchburg State nursing course from the list below:

- NURS 2910 Nursing Care of the Childbearing Family
- NURS 3910 Nursing Care of the Mentally Ill Client
- NURS 3920 Nursing Care of the Child
- NURS 3930 Nursing Care of the Adult

Further information about scheduling the NLN ACE II exams for diploma RNs can be obtained by contacting the Department of Nursing at 978-665-3221 or by email at cmcgrath@fsc.edu.

Nursing Credits Taken at Fitchburg State

All RN to BSN students are required to earn the remaining 31 credits of nursing courses through Fitchburg State College. These courses are:

NURS 3500	Nursing Concepts I	3 S.H.
NURS 3600	Nursing Concepts II	3 S.H.
NURS 3650	Portfolio Preparation	1 S.H.
NURS 4000	Nursing Research	2 S.H.
NURS 4400	Community Health Nursing	5 S.H.
NURS 4500	Nursing Care of Diverse Populations	2 S.H.
NURS 4510	End of Life Care or	3 S.H.
NURS 4520	Introduction to Forensic Nursing	
NURS 4800	Selected Practicum	10 S.H.
NURS 4850	Nursing Leadership & Management	2 S.H.

Library Services: The Amelia V. Gallucci-Cirio Library

The Library is located in the Hammond Building and provides daily services.

Web Site

The FSC Library maintains a home page (www.fsc.edu/library) on the Internet to provide information about the library such as hours, online reference services, research inquiries, and access to the library's catalog.

Online Resources

The library maintains subscriptions to electronic journals and databases that include indexes and abstracts; access to thousands of electronic journals with full-text articles; reference titles; and relevant subject based web-sites. They are available from the library home page and from off campus.

Materials Collection

The library houses an extensive collection of materials to support course work and faculty needs, including approximately 238,000 books, 1,300 print periodical subscriptions, and the complete ERIC document collection (online and microfilm).

Reference Services

The reference desk provides service daily. You can also call the Reference Desk (978-665-3223) or stop by the library for assistance.