



School for Professional Studies

Registered Nurse to Bachelor of Science in Nursing



RN to BSN Information & Application Packet

1-888-9DEGREE
(1-888-933-4733)



School for Professional Studies ▪ 55 Fair Drive ▪ Costa Mesa, CA 92626 ▪ 1-888-9DEGREE
http://www.vanguard.edu/sps/dp.aspx?doc_id=8044

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Sally Morgan, MSN, Founding Director & Associate Chair

MISSION: To provide scientifically sound, value-based nursing education to prepare graduates to lead with knowledge, integrity, and compassion. The RN to BSN program combines innovative curriculum, interdisciplinary teaching, and collaborative partnerships. The course of study promotes critical inquiry, enhances the nurse's practice and philosophy, and prepares the nurse for leadership roles in the increasingly complex healthcare environment.

The Nursing Advisory Board

The curriculum for the RN to BSN degree program at Vanguard University has been developed by a Nursing Advisory Board whose members are highly qualified and professionally recognized.

Connie Austin, MA, MSN

Director of Undergraduate Admissions
Director of RN to BSN Adult and Professional Studies Program
Associate Professor of Nursing
Azusa Pacific University

Diana Avans, PhD

Chair of the Department of Kinesiology
Associate Professor of Exercise and Sports Science
Vanguard University

Daniel de Roulet, PhD

Assistant Provost for Learning & Assessment
Professor of English
Vanguard University

Paul M. Cox, PhD

Dean, School for Professional Studies
Associate Professor of Social Ethics
Vanguard University

Trish Fisher, MBA

Associate Chair of Business
Assistant Professor of Marketing
Vanguard University, School for Professional Studies

Rick Martin, RN, MSN

Senior Vice President of Patient Care Services
Chief Nursing Officer
Hoag Hospital

Cecil H. Miller, PhD

Dean, School of Natural Sciences and Mathematics
Associate Professor of Physiology and Cell & Molecular Biology
Vanguard University

Sally Morgan, BSN, MSN

Founding Director & Associate Chair
former Director of Nursing, Golden West College

Tammy Rice, RN, MSN

Assistant Dean, Health Science, Human Services, and Emeritus Institute
Nursing Program Director
Saddleback College

Terri Thompson, BSN, MS
Director, Clinical Education
Children's Hospital of Orange County

Kathleen Winston, RN, DNSc(c)
Dean, Health Science, Human Services, and Emeritus Institute
Saddleback College

Admission Requirements

(The following items will be considered as part of the application review process)

1. Overall GPA of 3.0 (out of 4.0) and 3.0 in all nursing courses– official transcripts required for verification
2. Minimum grade of “C” (2.0) on all pre-requisite course work
3. Three letters of reference, at least one professional and one personal
4. Applicant's Statement of Purpose
5. Personal Interview
6. Completion of Academic Skills Assessment (administered by the university)
7. Verification of valid RN License and RN Malpractice Insurance
8. Verification of current certification in CPR and Fire Safety
9. Completed Health Exam form
10. Background Check (contracted by the university)
11. Two years work experience – recommended, but not required

General Education Degree Requirements

English Composition	6 units
English Composition (3)	
Research Writing (3)	
Humanities/Fine Arts	6 units
Communications (3)	
Humanities (3)	
Science with lab	16 units
Human Anatomy (4)	
Physiology/Human Biology (4)	
Microbiology (4)	
Chemistry (4)	
College Math	3 units
Philosophy/Religion	3 units
Social Sciences	9 units
Psychology (3)	
Sociology (3)	
Life Span/Development (3)	
Total General Education Units	43 units
Total Nursing Major Units (course descriptions follow)	48 units
Total Elective Units	33 units
Total units needed for B.S.N. degree	124 units

Nursing Course Descriptions

YEAR ONE

NURS 305 • Nursing Theory and Professional Practice

Units: 4

Description: This course assists students with their transition into the role of a BSN student. Special emphasis will be placed on the philosophy of the nursing program and the Roy Adaptation Model as the conceptual framework. Discussion and comparison of concepts will be applied to the practice of professional nursing. Integration of theory into the understanding and synthesis of subsequent course learning experiences will be explored. Students will develop a change project using the Roy Adaptation Model.

NURS 310 • Information Technology in Nursing

Units: 4

Description: This course will be introduced to computer applications in nursing and health care. They will develop computer literacy skills in the area of information processing, computer technology, steps for developing an information system and issues related to privacy and confidentiality. Students are expected to share their findings with class members in presentation format. Computer laboratory experience will include an investigation of computer applications within nursing, focusing specifically on their use in nursing administration, research, clinical practice and education.

NURS 315 • Writing and Critical Analysis of Health Related Issues

Units: 4

Description: Prerequisite: ENGL 220C (or equivalent). This course focuses on critical thinking and research writing relevant to learning and practice in nursing. Includes self-assessment, collaborative learning, problem solving approaches, and clinical decision making. Applies critical analysis to health-related issues.

NURS 320 • Ethical Issues and Legal Aspects for Nursing and Health Care

Units: 4

Description: Prerequisite: Philosophy or Religion course completed. This course introduces students to the analysis of ethical issues and dilemmas arising in nursing practice and health care systems. Emphasis is placed on values clarification, models for ethical decision making, consideration of relevant legal aspects, and related documents that guide professional practice. Woven throughout the ethical discussions is reference to the importance of Christian values and a Christian worldview in identifying and solving ethical issues that arise out of the practice of nursing.

NURS 325 • Multi-Dimensional Assessment with Lab

Units: 4

Description: Prerequisite: Human Growth and Development. This course focuses on assessing the experience of health and illness across the lifespan through observations and interactions with individuals, families, and communities; specifically, stimuli that influence behavioral responses within health and illness. The framework used will be the biopsychosocial assessment of the Roy Adaptation Model. Lab fee.

NURS 330 • Introduction to Statistics with Emphasis in Health Sciences

Units: 4

Description: This course provides nursing students conceptual background of statistical techniques and statistical experience with an emphasis on application relevant to identifying outcomes. The course includes selecting, applying, and interpreting univariate and bivariate statistical methods. The applied statistical focus is on performing statistical procedures to answer research questions using existing health science databases. The course provides a framework for understanding and applying commonly used data analysis techniques in health care research using SPSS-PC.

YEAR TWO

NURS 405 • Nursing Research and Seminar

Units: 4

Description: This course explores the historical, philosophical, and ethical aspects of nursing research. The relationship between nursing research and professional accountability is explored. An emphasis is placed on the principles and methods of research process with emphasis on evaluating research to determine significance and applicability to nursing practice. Students will apply concepts to a research project.

NURS 410 • Principles of Pathophysiology with Lab

Units: 4

Description: Prerequisite: Chemistry. This course presents knowledge of pathophysiology, using a systems approach, as applied in current nursing practice. Selected major health problems, their pathophysiology and medical treatment are discussed. Topics from various scientific and clinical areas will be explored and coordinate with other courses in the nursing program. Lab fee.

NURS 415 • Sociocultural Contexts of Diversity: Implications for Nursing Practice

Units: 4

Description: This course examines how cultural, socioeconomic, religious, racial, generational, and lifestyle differences are experienced by members of society, and how these variables are related to health and disease. Also included is a concerted understanding of how cultural and social practices impact health both positively and negatively. This course is intended to be taken in conjunction with NURS 420 Community Health Nursing and Clinical Studies. Both courses are designed to help the student integrate diversity knowledge within the community health setting.

NURS 420 • Community Health Nursing and Clinical Studies

Units: 4

Description: This course, through clinical experience in community settings, will help the student develop the expertise to work with groups experiencing acute and chronic healthcare issues. This course is intended to be taken in conjunction with NURS415 Sociocultural Contexts of Diversity: Implications for Nursing Practice. Eighty hours of clinical lab is required.

NURS 425 Education Theory & Process of Teaching in Nursing

Units: 4

Description: This course explores education theory and skills in clinical teaching situations with emphasis on individuals, families, and groups. Content includes theories and principles of learning, teaching strategies and methodologies, teaching resources, assessment and evaluation of instruction. An emphasis will be placed on contextual learning and the Kolb learning theory. This course is designed to be taken in conjunction with NURS430 Leadership/Management in Professional Nursing.

NURS 430 • Leadership/Management in Professional Nursing

Units: 4

Description: This course explores theories of leadership/management, concepts of power, motivation, decision-making, change, budgeting and management skills related to the professional nursing role in the health care system. This course is designed to be taken in conjunction with NURS 425 Education Theory & Process of Teaching in Nursing. The clinical component will be directed by the student's chosen future professional path/role.

Vanguard University
RN to BSN Nursing Program

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Why should I choose to attend Vanguard's RN to BSN Nursing Program?

- Vanguard's Nursing Program is designed and formatted for working RNs
 - Vanguard's prerequisites have been developed in concert with local community college Associate Nursing Degree programs to help insure a smooth transition
 - No class will have more than 15 students
- Vanguard's Nursing Program offers convenience
 - You can finish your BSN in two years
 - Each course meets one night per week for eight weeks
 - All courses are guaranteed to be offered; there is no waiting for classes
- Vanguard's Curriculum is not a restatement of your previous Associate Nursing Degree
 - Vanguard's BSN Nursing Degree curriculum was developed by a Nursing Advisory Board consisting of representatives from Hoag Hospital, CHOC, Golden West Community College, and Saddleback Community College
 - Vanguard's curriculum is comprised of meaningful courses designed to promote critical thinking, ethical decision-making, and prepares nurses for leadership roles
 - Vanguard's Nursing curriculum is meant to build and expand upon your previous education
- Vanguard's Nursing Faculty are exceptional nurses and teachers
 - All instructors hold an MSN or PhD degree
 - Instructors care about students and bring theory and concept to life in small, dynamic classes
- Vanguard is dedicated to student service
 - The Vanguard staff is comprised of highly skilled individuals dedicated solely to the nursing program, including a student service coordinator, nursing recruiter, and nursing financial aid officer

2. How will I finance my education?

- Each course will cost \$500.00 per unit for a 4 unit course or \$2,000.00
 - All courses are guaranteed to be offered
 - Books are included in tuition
- The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) provides student loans and grants for those who qualify with payments being deferred until six months after you complete your education
- Private Scholarships
- Personal loan options

3. What are the basic requirements to get in to the BSN Degree Completion Program?

- RN Degree
- GPA of 3.0 in the nursing classes along with an overall 3.0 GPA

4. If I have been out of school for a while, will I have more prerequisites to take?

- Because the RN to BSN degree was developed in concert with local community college ADN programs, possible prerequisites will be minimal
- All prerequisite courses are offered in an accelerated format, one night per week

5. What else should I know about Vanguard University?

- Vanguard is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, and is conveniently located in Costa Mesa on a vibrant 38-acre campus
- The university is home to an exceptional theater program (acknowledged for excellence by the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts,) an award-winning music program (invited to sing at Carnegie Hall in New York City three consecutive years,) and an outstanding athletic program (we have the #1 ranked women's basketball team in the US in the NAIA)
- The university has been ranked as a best college by *The Princeton Review* and as one of the top ten comprehensive colleges in the west by *US News and World Report* for both 2005 and 2006
- The university offers skill workshops, opportunities for trips abroad, and has an on campus café open in the evening after the cafeteria closes

