



January 3, 2021

TO: MSU Curriculum Planning Committee  
From: Susan Raph, Associate Dean, MSU College of Nursing

Dear Curriculum Planning Committee,

Thank you for taking the time to carefully review the College of Nursing's [CON] proposed new Bachelor of Science in Nursing [BSN] curricula. This document serves to provide insight into the development and continuing plan for the implementation of the proposed courses.

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### CON Curriculum Revision Process

- Over the past year under the direction and leadership of Dr. Ann Galloway, a select committee of nursing faculty representatives of campus with subject matter expertise worked to redesign the Bachelor of Science in Nursing [BSN] curriculum and a modified curriculum for the accelerated BSN program.
- The redesign is based on the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education [CCNE] accreditation standards (2018) and the newly developed professional nursing competencies from the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN, 2021).
- The full course plan was reviewed and approved by faculty at multiple junctures over the past year and fully adopted by the College of Nursing Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee [UAAC] on November 24, 2020.
- The CON has consulted with the College of Letters and Science, College of Agriculture – Department of Microbiology and Immunology, Gallatin College, and University Studies regarding proposed changes to prerequisite coursework.
- In preparation for university approval, the committee developed several documents to accompany the proposed courses intended to provide full understanding of the program of study, program goals, overall structure, and implementation plan. These documents are included in the supporting materials section of each CIM course proposal.
- The first nursing course, *NRSN 116 Introduction to Professional Nursing* is scheduled to begin fall 2021 pending final MSU approval. The remaining nursing courses will begin fall 2022.
- All pre-nursing students have been noticed on the CON website and through pre-nursing advisors of pending prerequisite and curricular changes in anticipation of university approval.
- All nursing students admitted under the current curricula will be able to finish their coursework and graduate by spring 2024. This will allow for a phased-in approach for the new curricula.

### Highlights and Intended Improvements of New BSN Curricula

- The BSN curricula needed to be updated to align with national trends and accreditation standards.
- The time to complete BSN prerequisites has been increased from three semesters to four.
- The nursing courses have been consolidated to four semesters with a goal to improve our 4 year graduation rate.
- The Accelerated BSN program schedule has been shifted to a fall semesters start and the overall program time has been decreased to three semesters to be competitive in the region and meet the workforce demand requested by our clinical agencies.
- The curricula reflect increased efficiency in delivery of clinical hours and the expanded use of simulation learning.

### Course Inventory Management Required Information

- Instructor Information: The College of Nursing generally makes final decisions for teaching assignments during the final part of spring semester for the ensuing academic year. Select faculty with subject matter expertise have been populated into CIM courses as exemplars.
- Course Syllabi: The curriculum committee has created Master Resource Outlines [MROs] for each new course that contains required CIM content. This includes: rubric, course number, title, course description, course objectives, course learning outcomes, AACN competencies, AACN curricular threads, required course content and concepts, and suggested student learning activities. During AY 21-22, the CON faculty will work in course teams to finalize standardized teaching/learning strategies, course syllabi, and a comprehensive assessment plan.
- Curriculum Mapping: The traditional and accelerated programs of study have been mapped to the AACN competencies, curricular threads, identified faculty topics, and the most current 2019 NCLEX [RN national licensure] Test Plan.
- Other Supporting Material.
  - CON policy outlining the AACN Domains and Competencies are included for clarification and support.
  - BSN and ABSN Plans of Study

Thank you again for your time and expertise. We look forward to your comments.

Sincerely,

*Susan Wallace Raph, DNP, RN, NEA, BC*

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