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Policy Name: General Education Requirements  
Policy Number: ACA 3.03  
Title of Policy Owner: Dean of Academic Affairs  
Approved by: Policy Committee/Administrative Cabinet  
Effective Date: 8/1/2020  
Version: 1.0  
Policy Status: Approved

- I. Policy  
General Education Requirements
- II. Purpose  
The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for general education requirements at Bon Secours Memorial College of Nursing (BSMCON).
- III. Scope  
This policy applies to all students of Bon Secours Memorial College of Nursing (BSMCON) as defined.
- IV. Definitions  
None
- V. Policy Details

### **GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS**

These courses are required to provide the student with a solid foundation in liberal education. Questions regarding the transferability of general education courses should be addressed with the Office of the Registrar. Students are required to satisfactorily complete all general education courses with a “C” or better as defined in the policy College Grading System (ADM 2.02).

#### **Fall 2016 to Spring 2018 Admission**

Students admitted to the Pre-Licensure BSN or the Post-Licensure RN-BSN programs between Fall 2016 to Spring 2018 must meet general education course requirements as described in the following section.

#### **Students without a previous Bachelor’s Degree**

Students must complete 56 general education credits as outlined by the Cluster Model below.

**Students with a Bachelor's Degree**

Students admitted with a Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university in another discipline will be considered to have met all of the general education requirements with the exception of the following courses. The specific foundational courses in math and science below are required to support the nursing curriculum.

- Developmental Psychology (3 credits) - refer to BSMCON Catalog
- Microbiology (3-4 credits) – refer to NUR 2.01 for admission details
- Anatomy & Physiology (6-8 credits)
- Statistics (3 credits)

**BSMCON General Education Cluster Model****Cluster 1: Social Consciousness (minimum of 9 credits)**

The development of social consciousness is crucial to producing well-informed and capable citizens who can participate productively in society, with openness and awareness of others outside one's own work, with an understanding of the past in order to build a fair, opportune, and sustainable future, and with appreciation of interconnections and how local actions affect the global environment.

Elective coursework in the social consciousness category can include: History, Religion, Business, Economics, Psychology, Sociology, Political Science, Women's Studies, Anthropology, Public Policy. The following courses are required in this cluster:

- General Psychology
- Developmental Psychology

**Cluster 2: Creative Aesthetic (minimum of 6 credits)**

The development of a creative aesthetic includes the ability to be flexible and take intellectual risks. The intrinsic value of creativity promotes skills such as problem solving, perseverance, and dedication. The ability to work with others and to both generously consider and critically examine the thoughts, goals, and values of others as well as one's own are fundamental to the creative aesthetic.

Elective coursework in the creative aesthetic cluster can include: Fine Arts, Graphic Arts, Dance, Photography, Music, Philosophy, Ethics, Literature, Classics, Creative Writing.

**Cluster 3: Analytical Competencies (minimum of 15 credits)**

The analytical competencies foster the student's capacity for critical thinking, productive and open dialogue, and the ability to proactively solve problems and embrace the challenges of the world. These general education courses are fundamental to the foundation of the health sciences curriculum.

Elective coursework in the analytical competencies cluster can include: Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Lab Science, Natural Science, Ecology, Nutrition, Math. The following courses are required in this cluster:

- Microbiology - refer to BSMCON Catalog
- Anatomy & Physiology I
- Anatomy & Physiology II
- Statistics

**Cluster 4: Connectedness (minimum of 9 credits)**

The development of connectedness enables students to connect and integrate knowledge among the liberal arts and health sciences, in the belief that together the arts and sciences provide comprehensive insight into our world and human condition.

Elective coursework in the connectedness cluster can include: Communication, Public Speaking, Foreign Language, Medical Terminology, Computer literacy. The following courses are required in this cluster:

- English I
- English II

**Cluster 5: Elective (no minimum)**

A broad-spectrum of elective coursework expands liberal education. This provides a venue for the student to explore their intellectual curiosity and foster their ability to apply an array of theories and concepts which encourage the examination of multiple perspectives and ways of thinking.

Elective coursework in this cluster can include a wide variety of course credit with the following limitations:

- Maximum of 3 credits of physical education coursework can be applied to the degree.
- Student orientation courses will not transfer.

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### **Beginning Fall 2018 Admission**

Beginning Fall 2018, students admitted to the Pre-Licensure BSN or the Post-Licensure RN-BSN program must complete the general education course requirements as described in the following section.

### **Students without a previous Bachelor's Degree**

Students must complete 52 general education credits as outlined by the Cluster Model below. Any exceptions to this are at the discretion of the Program Chair and Dean of Academic Affairs. Of the 52 general education credits, 6 credits are required upper level general education credits from BSMCON.

### **Students with a Bachelor's Degree**

Students admitted with a Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university in another discipline will be considered to have met all of the general education requirements with the exception of the following courses. The specific foundational courses below are required to support the nursing curriculum.

- Developmental Psychology (3 credits)
- Microbiology (3-4 credits)
- Anatomy & Physiology (6-8 credits)
- Statistics (3 credits)
- Upper level BSMCON general education courses (6 credits)

### **BSMCON General Education Cluster Model**

#### **Cluster 1: Social Consciousness (minimum of 9 credits)**

The development of social consciousness is crucial to producing well-informed and capable citizens who can participate productively in society, with openness and awareness of others outside one's own work, with an understanding of the past in order to build a fair, opportune, and sustainable future, and with appreciation of interconnections and how local actions affect the global environment.

Elective coursework in the social consciousness category can include: History, Religion, Business, Economics, Psychology, Sociology, Political Science, Women's Studies, Anthropology, Public Policy. The following courses are required in this cluster:

- General Psychology
- Developmental Psychology

**Cluster 2: Creative Aesthetic (minimum of 3 credits)**

The development of a creative aesthetic includes the ability to be flexible and take intellectual risks. The intrinsic value of creativity promotes skills such as problem solving, perseverance, and dedication. The ability to work with others and to both generously consider and critically examine the thoughts, goals, and values of others as well as one's own are fundamental to the creative aesthetic.

Elective coursework in the creative aesthetic cluster can include: Fine Arts, Graphic Arts, Dance, Photography, Music, Philosophy, Ethics, Literature, Classics, Creative Writing.

**Cluster 3: Analytical Competencies (minimum of 15 credits)**

The analytical competencies foster the student's capacity for critical thinking, productive and open dialogue, and the ability to proactively solve problems and embrace the challenges of the world. These general education courses are fundamental to the foundation of the health sciences curriculum.

Elective coursework in the analytical competencies cluster can include: Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Lab Science, Natural Science, Ecology, Nutrition, Math. The following courses are required in this cluster:

- Microbiology
- Anatomy & Physiology I
- Anatomy & Physiology II
- Statistics

**Cluster 4: Connectedness (minimum of 9 credits)**

The development of connectedness enables students to connect and integrate knowledge among the liberal arts and health sciences, in the belief that together the arts and sciences provide comprehensive insight into our world and human condition.

Elective coursework in the connectedness cluster can include: Communication, Public Speaking, Foreign Language, Medical Terminology, Computer literacy. The following courses are required in this cluster:

- English I
- English II

**Cluster 5: Elective (no minimum)**

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A broad-spectrum of elective coursework expands liberal education. This provides a venue for the student to explore their intellectual curiosity and foster their ability to apply an array of theories and concepts which encourage the examination of multiple perspectives and ways of thinking.

Elective coursework in this cluster can include a wide variety of course credit with the following limitations:

- Maximum of 3 credits of physical education coursework can be applied to the degree
- Student orientation courses will not transfer

VI. Attachments  
None

VII. Related Policies  
ACA 3.06 College Grading System  
ACA 2.01 Nursing Admission

VIII. Disclaimers  
a. Nothing in this policy creates a contractual relationship between Bon Secours Memorial College of Nursing (BSMCON) and any party. BSMCON, in its sole discretions, reserves the right to amend, terminate or discontinue this policy at any time, with or without advance notice.

IX. Version Control

Version	Date	Description	Prepared by
1.0	5/11/2020	Revisions and new template	Dean of Academic Affairs