

Additional Information on the Proposed VWU-SCOHS Joint BSN Program

Overview:

The proposed Joint VWU-SCOHS BSN program is a cooperative academic agreement between Virginia Wesleyan University (VWU) and the Sentara College of Health Sciences (SCOHS). In this program, students would take prescribed course of study at VWU during the first year and a half, and would be co-enrolled at VWU and SCOHS during the remainder of the degree. While completing BSN prerequisite courses at VWU, students must take the prescribed course of study and must meet with the Director of Allied Health Programs and their academic adviser on a regular basis to ensure that all program prerequisites are met.

Program Admission:

Formal admission to the BSN program requires 3.30 GPA overall and in prerequisite courses, with no course grade lower than a C- during the first year of the program. Formal acceptance into the BSN program occurs at the end of the Freshman year. Students would need to maintain GPA standards and complete the remaining prerequisite courses during the fall of the Sophomore year. Ten (10) admission slots are guaranteed to VWU students who meet all admission standards on a competitive basis. Additional students who meet all required admission standards (beyond the guaranteed 10) may be accepted by Sentara on a competitive basis through the normal admission process, but they are not automatically guaranteed admission to the joint BSN program. Formal admission to the nursing program during the sophomore year is a feature typical to most BSN programs.

To be guaranteed formal admission to the nursing program, a VWU student must complete 36 semester hours of credit at VWU at the time of application to SCOHS (June 15th prior to beginning the joint BSN program the following January), including all specified BSN prerequisite courses. The remainder of the prerequisite course requirements (to total 56 semester hours) would be taken during that summer and the following fall semester. Students must earn an overall GPA of 3.30 or higher on a 4.00 scale, with no course grade below a "C-" (1.67) for all prerequisite courses. The top students applying to the program will be identified by VWU, with final program admissions decisions made by SCOHS. Students would take 71 semester hours at SCOHS over the next two and a half years, with one additional WES 300 seminar taken at VWU during a summer session. Upon completion of the program, the graduate is eligible to apply to take the NCLEX-RN licensing exam.

If students do not successfully complete the program prerequisites by the end of the 3rd semester, it is possible to complete the prerequisite courses during semesters four and five, and gain nursing program admission after 2.5 years at VWU. This would cause the student to complete the BSN in five years. To avoid spending five years as an undergraduate it's important that students seeking to earn the joint VWU-Sentara BSN enter Virginia Wesleyan fully committed to their plans and prepared to begin required coursework during the first semester of their freshman year.

Approved Joint Curriculum for VWU-SCOHS BSN Students:

VWU Coursework		Sentara University of Health Sciences Coursework	
Course	Credit Hours	Course	Credit Hours
CHEM 120 Introductory Chemistry OR CHEM 1xx Chemistry for Health Sciences	4	NUR 221 Foundations of Nursing AND NUR 222 Application of Found. Skills	8
PSY 101 Introductory Psychology	4	NUR 214 Health Assessment	4
PSY 205 Lifespan Developmental Psych.	4	NUR 215 Pathophysiology	3
BIO 221 Human Anat. & Physiol. I	4	NUR 351 Nursing Care of Acute Illness Throughout the Lifespan AND NUR 352 Clinical Management of Acute Illness Throughout the Lifespan	9
BIO 222 Human Anat. & Physiol. II	4	NUR 353 Found. of Maternal-Newborn and Women's Health Nursing AND NUR 354 Clinical Mgt. of the Maternal-Newborn and Women's Health Patient	4
BIO 2xx Introductory Microbiology	4	NUR 311 Pharmacology	3
BIO 2xx Human Nutrition	4	NUR 361 Nursing Care of Chronic Illness Throughout the Lifespan AND NUR 362 Clinical Mgt. of Chronic Illness Throughout the Lifespan	9
PHIL 321 Ethics and Health Care	4	NUR 355 Professional Nursing	3
SOC 351 Medical Sociology	4	NUR 421 High Acuity Nursing	3
Math 210 Introductory Statistics	4	NUR 422 Population Health	3
ENG 105 The Art of Writing	4	NUR 423 Clinical Management of Specialty Patients	4
Lower Level Arts Elective	4	NUR 409 Evidence-Based Nursing Pract.	3
WES 100 Wesleyan Seminar I	4	NUR 415 Nursing Leadership & Mgt.	3
WES 200 Wesleyan Seminar II	4	NUR 431 Issues and Trends in Nursing	4
WES 300 Wesleyan Seminar III	4	NUR 416 Preceptorship	5
		Nursing Elective	3
Total Credit Hours at VWU	60	Total Credit Hours at SCOHS	71

Joint Program Definition:

According to the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC):

"An agreement by two or more institutions to grant a joint academic award is one whereby students study at two or more institutions and the institutions grant a single academic award bearing the names, seals, and signatures of each of the participating institutions."

For the purposes of this program, VWU and SCOHS agree to pursue the offering of a joint academic award through a course of study at both institutions, granting a single academic degree, the BSN, jointly bestowed by both institutions as one academic award. This diploma will bear the names and seals of both VWU and SCOHS, including appropriate signatures from both institutions.

Schedule of Course Offerings: beginning in the 2020-2021 Academic Year (1st Year Courses), and in the 2021-2022 Academic Year (2nd Year Courses)

Year	Fall	January	Spring	Summer
1 st	CHEM 120 or CHEM 1xx, PSY 101, BIO 221, and WES 100 at VWU	Lower Level Arts (VWU)	ENG 105, SOC 351, BIO 222, and PHIL 321 at VWU	BIO 2xx (Human Nutrition) at VWU
2 nd	PSY 205, BIO 2xx (Intro. Microbiology), WES 200, Math 210 at VWU		NUR 221, 222, 214, and 215 at Sentara	WES 300 at VWU
3 rd	NUR 311, 351, 352, 353, and 354 at Sentara		NUR 355, 361, 362, and Nursing Elective at Sentara	Optional
4 th	NUR 409, 421, 422, and 423 at Sentara		NUR 415, 416, and 431 at Sentara	

Joint VWU-SCOHS BSN Program Steering Committee:

VWU Director of Allied Health Programs – Dr. Deirdre Gonsalves-Jackson

SCOHS Dean of Academic Affairs – Dr. Cynthia Banks

At least 2 additional Faculty from VWU

At least 2 additional Faculty from SCOHS

Accreditation:

Virginia Wesleyan University (VWU) is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award bachelor’s and master’s degrees. Sentara College of Health Sciences (SCOHS) is not accredited by SACS Commission on Colleges and the accreditation of VWU does not extend to or include SCOHS or its students. Further, although VWU agrees to accept certain course work from SCOHS to be applied toward an award from VWU, that course work may not be accepted by other colleges or universities in transfer, even if it appears on a transcript from VWU. The decision to accept course work in transfer from any institution is made by the institution considering the acceptance of credits or course work.

Additional Information:

Additional Information on VWU courses can be found at:

<https://www.vwu.edu/academics/catalog.php>

Additional Information on the Sentara BSN program and courses can be found at the following links:

<https://sites.google.com/sentara.edu/catalog-studenthandbook/home>

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Fue_eh_zK0eK_hcEo6pmcgw0lu3Uo-nD/view

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1G4_hYBr5RNmLwEy2WcWWv6mO0kGkcXce/view

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1BcRYsm2epNCYohYXBoOiu4DDsM9hFt6E/view>