



# COLLEGE CATALOG ADDENDUM A 2020 – 2021

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# *RIVERSIDE COLLEGE OF HEALTH CAREERS*

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Riverside College of Health Careers is certified to operate in the Commonwealth of Virginia by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV).

The College is institutionally accredited by the Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools (ABHES)

This Institution is approved to offer GI Bill® educational benefits by the Virginia State Approving Agency.

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(Practical Nursing Program curriculum change effective January 1, 2021)

This Catalog is for informational purposes only and does not create a contract, nor does it constitute a guarantee of continued enrollment. Riverside College of Health Careers continuously attempts to improve each program and reserves the right to modify admission criteria, curriculum, course content, and policies as deemed necessary. Policy references are for public information purposes only. Enrolled students should refer to the most current policies published in their online course management system as needed.

*Cover photo: College Administration Building.*

*Back cover photos clockwise from top left: students in front of Ruby Pope Drumm Health Sciences Library; student study group on the campus lawn; students in front of the classroom building; students relaxing in the Treehouse Café.*

# Practical Nursing Program

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**THE PRACTICAL NURSING PROGRAM HAS MODIFIED ITS CURRICULUM BY REDISTRIBUTING SOME COURSE CONTENT. THIS CHANGE WILL BECOME EFFECTIVE WITH THE STUDENTS ENTERING THE PROGRAM IN JANUARY 2021.**

## COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Complete course sequencing, clock hours, and semester credit hours (CR) awarded are shown on the Curriculum Plan page at the end of the program section. Occasional evening and weekend hours may be required.

### LEVEL ONE

**PN 101C: CLINICAL PRACTICUM I (2.0 CR):** This course provides students with the opportunity to apply the basic knowledge and skills learned in Level 1. Using the nursing process as the framework, students practice technical and interpersonal skills to provide nursing care for patients in a variety of settings.

**PN 111—MEDICAL TERMINOLOGY (1 CR):** This distance course provides students with an introduction to the language of healthcare, including analysis of the basic components of medical terms and medical records using symbols, prefixes, suffixes, and combining forms.

**PN 121—NURSING FUNDAMENTALS (5 CR):** This course includes concepts and principles of basic nursing skills and facilitates the development of psychomotor nursing skill competency to meet the individual needs of patients. Basic math skills and principles of pharmacology are included to prepare students for safe administration of medications. Students use beginning clinical problem solving to practice skills in the nursing lab and apply them for the care of patients in a variety of settings.

**PN 131—HEALTH ASSESSMENT (1.5 CR):** This course focuses on holistic assessment of individuals throughout the lifespan. Students learn interviewing skills and physical examination techniques to obtain subjective and objective client data. Age-specific modifications in approach and examination techniques are presented, together with anticipated normal findings and commonly identified deviations for each age group.

**PN 141—NURSING CONCEPTS (2 CR):** This blended course introduces students to basic nursing concepts designed to meet individual human health needs. Students learn principles of critical thinking, therapeutic communication, nursing process, growth and development, teaching and learning, legal and ethical issues. Knowledge and application of these evidence-based principles

facilitate the beginning student's ability to provide safe, effective, holistic nursing care.

**PN 151—BODY STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION (3 CR):** This blended course provides an opportunity for the preclinical level student to gain an understanding of the normal structure and function of the human body. The course proceeds from simple to complex anatomy and physiology of each body system and incorporates the relationships among organ systems. The course incorporates wellness practices.

**GEN 121—BASIC NUTRITION FOR NURSING (1 CR):** This distance course is designed to provide the beginning student with knowledge of the fundamentals of nutrition. Topics will include digestion and absorption of carbohydrates, fats, proteins, vitamins and minerals.

### LEVEL TWO

**PN 102C—CLINICAL PRACTICUM II (2.5 CR):** This course provides students with the opportunity to apply the intermediate knowledge and skills learned in Levels 1 and 2. Using the nursing process as the framework, students practice technical and interpersonal skills to provide nursing care for patients, families, and significant others in a variety of settings.

**PN 122—ADULT HEALTH NURSING I (2 CR):** This course includes concepts related to the pathophysiology, clinical manifestations, selected diagnostic and therapeutic procedures, nursing care and medical management, drug and diet therapy, and complications for adult and older adult clients with alterations of the gastrointestinal, urinary, hematologic, lymphatic, and integumentary systems.

**PN 172—MATERNAL-CHILD NURSING (4 CR):** This course introduces students to principles of obstetric and pediatric nursing. Normal pregnancy and childbirth, and complications of pregnancy and childbirth are examined. Principles of nursing care for the management of term, pre-term, and post-term newborns are included. Multicultural, community, and wellness concerns for the care of mothers and infants from conception to post-delivery are addressed. Nursing care of children includes principles of growth and development from birth through adolescence. Common pediatric disorders and illnesses are taught according to body systems. Health promotion is emphasized by providing education and anticipatory guidance for the patient, family, and significant others.

# Practical Nursing Program, cont.

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## LEVEL THREE

### **PN 182—MENTAL HEALTH/PSYCHIATRIC NURSING (1.5 CR):**

This blended course provides an opportunity for students to gain knowledge of the concepts underlying the nursing care of clients with mental illness. Basic theories of mental health, mental illness, substance abuse, current methods of treatment, and the potential for restoration to optimal wellness are discussed.

### **PN 123—ADULT HEALTH NURSING II (4 CR):**

This course includes concepts related to the pathophysiology, clinical manifestations, selected diagnostic and therapeutic procedures, nursing care and medical management, drug and diet therapy, and complications for adult and older adult patients with alterations of the cardiovascular, neurological, sensory, respiratory and endocrine systems.

### **PN 124—ADULT HEALTH NURSING III (2 CR):**

This course includes concepts related to the pathophysiology, clinical manifestations, selected diagnostic and therapeutic procedures, nursing care and medical management, drug and diet therapy, and complications for adult and older adult patients with alterations of the musculoskeletal, reproductive systems, as well as surgical, oncology, and terminally ill patients.

### **PN 103C—CLINICAL PRACTICUM III (2.5 CR):** This course provides students with the opportunity to apply the complex

knowledge and skills learned in Levels 1, 2, and 3. Using the nursing process as the framework, students practice technical and interpersonal skills to provide nursing care for patients, families, and significant others in a variety of settings.

### **PN 104C—CLINICAL PRACTICUM IV (2 CR):**

This course provides students with the opportunity to apply the complex knowledge and skills learned in Levels 1, 2, and 3. Using the nursing process as the framework, students practice technical and interpersonal skills to provide nursing care for patients, families, and significant others in a variety of settings.

### **PN 200—CAPSTONE (4 CR):**

This course is designed to prepare students for entry-level practice. Evidence-based knowledge and skills essential for successful transition to the realities of today's workplace are included. Emphasis is placed on principles of leadership, professionalism, conflict resolution, clinical decision making, mentoring and coaching, employment skills, professional practice issues, and critical thinking skills. A precepted clinical experience provides students with the opportunity to begin the transition from student to graduate. The NCLEX-PN component of this course provides an opportunity for graduating students to gain practical experience and preparation for successful completions of the National Council Licensure Examination for Practical Nursing (NCLEX-PN).

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## Academic Calendar

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### **FALL SEMESTER 2020**

Semester begins: August 17  
Last Day to Add/Drop: August 28  
College Closed: September 7  
(Labor Day)  
Student Break: October 12-13  
No Classes November 25-27  
(Thanksgiving)  
Semester Ends: December 7  
Student Break: Dec. 8 to Jan. 8  
College Closed: December 24-25  
(Christmas)

### **SPRING SEMESTER 2021**

College Closed: January 1  
(New Year's Day)  
Semester Begins: January 11  
Last Day to Add/Drop: January 22  
Student Break: March 8-12  
Semester Ends: April 30  
Student Break: May 3-14

### **SUMMER SEMESTER 2021**

Semester Begins: May 17  
Last Day to Add/Drop: May 28  
College Closed: May 31  
(Memorial Day)  
College Closed: July 4  
(Independence Day)  
Semester Ends: July 14  
Student Break: July 15 to August 13

# Practical Nursing Program Curriculum Plans

## DAY DIVISION

Two-16 week semesters and one-8 week semester

LEVEL 1	A	CS	CE	Clock Hours	Credit Hours
PN 101C Clinical Practicum I			90	90	2.0
PN 111 Medical Terminology	15			15	1.0
PN 121 Nursing Fundamentals	45	90		135	5.0
PN 131 Health Assessment	15	22.5		37.5	1.5
PN 141 Nursing Concepts	30			30	2.0
PN 151 Body Structure & Function	45			45	3.0
GEN 121 Basic Nutrition for Nursing	15			15	1.0
<b>TOTAL LEVEL HOURS</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>112.5</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>367.5</b>	<b>15.5</b>

LEVEL 2	A	CS	CE	Clock Hours	Credit Hours
PN 102C Clinical Practicum II			112.5	112.5	2.5
PN 122 Adult Health Nursing I	30			30	2.0
PN 172 Maternal-Child Nursing	60			60	4.0
<b>TOTAL LEVEL HOURS</b>	<b>90.0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>112.5</b>	<b>202.5</b>	<b>8.5</b>

LEVEL 3	A	CS	CE	Clock Hours	Credit Hours
PN 182 Mental Health/Psychiatric Nsg	22.5			22.5	1.5
PN 103C Clinical Practicum III			112.5	112.5	2.5
PN 123 Adult Health Nursing II	60			60	4.0
PN 104C Clinical Practicum IV			90	90	2.0
PN 124 Adult Health Nursing III	30			30	2.0
PN 200 Capstone	45		45	90	4.0
<b>TOTAL LEVEL HOURS</b>	<b>157.5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>247.5</b>	<b>405.0</b>	<b>16.0</b>

PROGRAM SUMMARY	Clock Hours	Credit Hours
Program Hours – Theory	412.5	27.5
Program Hours – Skills Lab	112.5	2.5
Program Hours - Clinical	450	10.0
<b>Total Program Hours</b>	<b>975</b>	<b>40.0</b>

## EVENING WEEKEND DIVISION

Two-23 week semesters and one-12 week semester

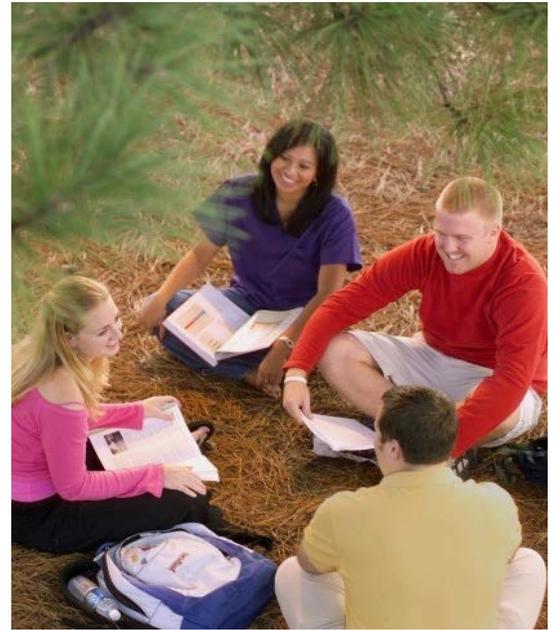
LEVEL 1	A	CS	CE	Clock Hours	Credit Hours
PN 101C Clinical Practicum I			90	90	2.0
PN 111 Medical Terminology	15			15	1.0
PN 121 Nursing Fundamentals	45	90		135	5.0
PN 131 Health Assessment	15	22.5		37.5	1.5
PN 141 Nursing Concepts	30			30	2.0
PN 151 Body Structure & Function	45			45	3.0
GEN 121 Basic Nutrition for Nursing	15			15	1.0
<b>TOTAL LEVEL HOURS</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>112.5</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>367.5</b>	<b>15.5</b>

LEVEL 2	A	CS	CE	Clock Hours	Credit Hours
PN 102C Clinical Practicum II			112.5	112.5	2.5
PN 122 Adult Health Nursing I	30			30	2.0
PN 172 Maternal-Child Nursing	60			60	4.0
PN 103C Clinical Practicum III			112.5	112.5	2.5
PN 123 Adult Health Nursing II	60			60	4.0
PN 182 Mental Health/Psychiatric Nsg	22.5			22.5	1.5
<b>TOTAL LEVEL HOURS</b>	<b>172.5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>225.0</b>	<b>397.5</b>	<b>16.5</b>

LEVEL 3	A	CS	CE	Clock Hours	Credit Hours
PN 104C Clinical Practicum IV			90	90	2.0
PN 124 Adult Health Nursing III	30			30	2.0
PN 200 Capstone	45		45	90	4.0
<b>TOTAL LEVEL HOURS</b>	<b>75.0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>135.0</b>	<b>210.0</b>	<b>8.0</b>

PROGRAM SUMMARY	Clock Hours	Credit Hours
Program Hours – Theory	412.5	27.5
Program Hours – Skills Lab	112.5	2.5
Program Hours - Clinical	450	10.0
<b>Total Program Hours</b>	<b>975</b>	<b>40.0</b>

A = Academic Instructional Hour 15 hours/1 credit  
 CS = Skills Lab Instructional Hour 45 hours/1 credit  
 CE = Clinical Experience Hour 45 hours/1 credit



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