

PROGRAM OUTLINE

Program Title:	Bachelor of Science in Nursing (Arctic Nursing)
Level:	Credit
Delivery:	12 Semesters
Credential:	Degree
Location:	Iqaluit
Division:	Health and Wellness Department

Program Description

The Bachelor of Science in Nursing (Arctic Nursing) program prepares graduates with the academic foundation and evidence-informed professional competency to respond to complex health needs in an evolving northern health care system. Students critically examine, synthesize and evaluate knowledge to implement effective nursing care in a diversity of practices and settings with a focus on northern nursing. Graduates practice within intra- and interprofessional health teams and partner with individuals, families, groups and communities to promote, maintain and strengthen health.

The preparation of nurses to respond to the unique health care needs of the Inuit people begins in the first year of the nursing program with an examination of the values, beliefs, and traditions of Inuit culture. Health and health care are examined from the perspective of the Inuit. Throughout the four years of the program, students learn about contemporary nursing and related theories and have opportunities to examine their relevance and appropriateness in Inuit culture. Attention is paid to incorporating culture into the curriculum in addition to relevant research data. The Principles of Inuit Qaujimatuaqangit (Inuit Knowledge) and associated Inuit Social Values are incorporated throughout courses in the program and are the basis of the entire program.

The program, developed collaboratively between Nunavut Arctic College and Dalhousie University, is a four year program that focuses on nursing in Nunavut. It is a response to a need for professional nursing education that is accessible to Inuit and relevant to health care in Nunavut. The BScN (Arctic Nursing) is granted by Dalhousie University and provides nurses with necessary skills to provide nursing care in a variety of settings including community health centres.

The first three years of the program are weighted towards preparation for nursing in an acute care hospital setting and the fourth year focuses on community health, and primary health care,

including knowledge and skills required to work in remote communities in Nunavut. Clinical practicums occur in a wide variety of settings.

Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit

To ensure the preparation of nurses able to provide culturally relevant health care in Nunavut, each course includes the incorporation of *Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit* (Inuit Knowledge) and Inuit Societal Values as they are vital components of the people-centered aspect of our program. Many of the students and most of the clients served are Inuit. Identifying and integrating Inuit knowledge beliefs and values is an essential part of the BScN (Arctic Nursing) Curriculum. The eight principles of IQ have been integrated into the courses to guide content and learner activities.

Career Opportunities

Successful completion of the national exam will allow the graduate to apply for licensure with the Registered Nurses of Northwest Territories and Nunavut or other Canadian jurisdictions to become a Registered Nurse.

Program Admissions

Applicants will be admitted to the program based on meeting the program eligibility requirements and on space availability. Nunavut Inuit, long-term residents of Nunavut and graduates of the Pre-Health Sciences program will be given priority in the selection process.

Applicants wishing to apply to this program must:

- Be a resident of Nunavut for one year at time of application
- Be 17 years of age or older
- Provide a letter of interest
- Submit three (3) letters of reference from an employer, health professional, teacher, college/university instructor or other authority. No family members or friends.
- Provide official transcripts
- An interview in person or by telephone may be required
- Ability to speak, read, write Inuktitut/Inuinnaqtun (an asset)
- Meet academic admission requirements

Academic Requirements

- Grade 12 diploma with at least 70% overall including a Grade 12 Math, English and Science

OR

- Successful completion of PreHealth Sciences with 60% overall or another foundational program equivalency may be considered

Request for Transfer Credit may be available.

A criminal record and vulnerable sector check is required. A record of certain offences may prevent candidates from completing all elements of the program or securing clinical practicum placements.

Prior to working with clients, students must submit proof of current First Aid and CPR-C / BLS and a current immunization record verification by a health care professional.

Program Information

This is a four-year degree program, which includes fall, winter and spring semesters in all years. The current program structure and courses is a modification from the previous program. The modified curriculum was introduced in September 2019. The modified curriculum has foundational courses concentrated in year 1 and 2, and a focus on specialized nursing practice in year 3 and 4. The program design includes 8 semesters across 4 academic years with spring intersession courses focusing on concentrated clinical application. This provides a focused transition to practice with a range of potential practice settings through consolidated clinical placements in a variety of settings including urban, rural, and remote geographical areas.

Travel is required for some clinical experiences.

A number of abilities and skills are required to be successful in the BScN program. These include, but are not limited to, the following:

- An **ability to communicate clearly in English**, both spoken and written.
- **Basic computer literacy** is necessary as students are required to submit essays and assignments as part of their course requirements.
- An interest in providing **client care to an ethically and culturally diverse** clientele of individuals spanning all age groups,
- **Strong communication and interpersonal skills** in the context of their collaborative relationships with clients, instructors, peers, and interprofessional health care team members.
- **Critical thinking skills** – when providing care to clients, students must demonstrate responsible, safe, and ethical behavior and make informed, considered decisions.
- **Ability to work independently** to provide professional nursing care and/or as a member of an interprofessional health care team.
- The **ability to carry out skills** such as preparation and administration of medication to clients, wound management, and basic and specialized personal care skills and comfort measures.
- The capacity to maintain their own **mental, emotional, social, and spiritual wellbeing** while working in a rewarding but often stressful working environment.

Some situations in nursing can be stressful and emotionally demanding for example in emergency situations. Shift work is an integral part of this occupation. Physical demands include moving others as well as spending long periods of time on your feet.

- **Continued First Aid and CPR recertification** throughout the program.
- **Application of knowledge and skills** during nursing clinical placements may take place in a variety of settings including medical-surgical, geriatric, obstetrics, pediatrics, mental health, public health, community care and home care. These practice experiences may take place in various communities. Students must be prepared to travel in order to access these placements and may incur additional personal costs.
- The nursing practice work environment requires *demanding lifting and moving techniques and extensive hand washing*. *Applicants with serious injuries, physical limitations, skin disorders, significant health challenges or latex allergy should consider carefully how they will manage in this physically and mentally challenging environment* before applying to the program.

Program Outcomes

Graduates of the BScN (Arctic Nursing) program will:

1. Be competent and accountable practitioners according to established professional and ethical standards
2. Demonstrate person-centredness and cultural safety in clinical practice
3. Be committed to critical inquiry, reflective, evidence informed practice
4. Demonstrate ethical, legal, and professional accountability in the practice of nursing
5. Be guided by knowledge of the national and Inuit-specific determinants of health
6. Practice according to the principles of Primary Health Care
7. Advocate for diversity and inclusion across a variety of health care settings with a focus on northern nursing
8. Be effective communicators and able to work in collegial interprofessional relationships with a variety of partners
9. Demonstrate strengths-based and transformational leadership and change management skills in beginning professional nursing practice
10. Influence nursing and health outcomes on a professional, social, and political basis
11. Transition successfully to practice
12. Demonstrate confidence and competence to work within an interprofessional team
13. Be independent learners and information synthesizers to contribute to imaginative and innovative future-oriented nursing practice and health system change

Completion Requirements

To graduate from this program, students must successfully complete all courses and clinical hours, and obtain a mark of 60% or higher. Graduates will be eligible to write the National Council for Licensure Examination (NCLEX).

The course credits for the degree must be completed within 6 years.

Program Structure

For students entering the program September 2019 and later:

4 years – 12 semesters, including clinical placements in Semester 3, 5 – 12 in a variety of settings and focus including Acute and Chronic Care (Inpatient, Outpatient, Home Care, Mental Health and urban settings), Public Health, children, families, leadership and remote community.

Total credit hours include 30 non-nursing credit hours and 90 nursing credit hours for a total of 120 credit hours for the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (Arctic Nursing).

Total 120 credits and 2800 course hours

- 1680 Lab / Simulation / Clinical hours
- 1150 Theory Hours
- No electives

Year/Semester	Course #	Course/Module Name	Lab /Clinical	Course Hours	Credits
		Year 1 – Semester 1 (September – December)			
Year 1 - Sem 1 (Sep – Dec)	ANPH 8100	Anatomy & Physiology		75	4.5
	SOCI 1000	Introduction to Sociology for Nursing		45	3
	PSYC 1000	Introduction to Psychology for Nursing		45	3
	ENGL 1101	Academic Writing		45	3
		Semester 1		210	13.5
		Year 1 - Semester 2 (January – April)			
Sem 2 (Jan – Apr)	ANPH 8101	Anatomy & Physiology		75	4.5
	BIOC 8100	Introductory Biochemistry for Nursing Students		45	3
	NURS 8110	Teaching & Learning		45	3
	NURS 8111	Foundations of Nursing Practice		45	3
		Semester 2		210	13.5

		Year 1 – Semester 3 (April – June)			
Sem 3 (Apr – Jun)	NURS 8115	Clinical Integration I	110		3
		Semester 3	110		3
		Year 2 – Semester 4 (September – December)			
Year 2 – Sem 4 (Sep – Dec)	MICI 1100	Health Science Microbiology		45	3
	NURS 8210	Health & Healing I: Pathophysiology & Therapeutics		45	3
	NURS 8211	Community & Mental Health		45	3
	NURS 8212	Contemporary Issues in Health Care		45	3
		Semester 4		180	12
		Year 2 – Semester 5 (January – April)			
Sem 5 (Jan – Apr)	NURS 8220	Health & Healing II: Pathophysiology & Therapeutics		45	3
	NURS 8221	Nursing Research, Epidemiology, & Evidence Informed Practice		45	3
	NURS 8222	Foundations of Clinical Nursing Practice		45	3
	NURS 8215	Clinical Integration II	110		3
		Semester 5	110	135	12
		Year 2 – Semester 6 (April – June)			
Sem 6 (Apr – Jun)	NURS 8225	Clinical Integration III: Medical Surgical Nursing in Acute and Chronic Settings	220		6
		Semester 6	220		6
		Year 3 – Semester 7 (September – December)			
Sem 7 (Sep – Dec)	NURS 8310	Professional Formation: Leadership Perspectives		45	3
	NURS 8311	Nursing Concepts for Aging Adult Population		45	3

	NURS 8312	Nursing Concepts for Childbearing Families		45	3
	NURS 8315	Clinical Integration IV	110		3
		Semester 7	110	135	12
		Year 3 – Semester 8 (January – April)			
Sem 8 (Jan – Apr)	NURS 8320	Nursing Concepts for Children, Adolescents, and Young Adults		45	3
	NURS 8321	Community and Population Health		45	3
	NURS 8325	Clinical Integration V: Infants, Children & Young Adults	220		6
		Semester 8	220	90	12
		Year 3 – Semester 9 (April – June)			
Sem 9 (Apr – Jun)	NURS 8335	Clinical Integration VI: Nursing Care of Clients Experiencing Episodic & Persistent Illness	220		6
		Semester 9	220		6
		Year 4 – Semester 10 (September – December)			
Sem 10 (Sep – Dec)	NURS 8411	Professional Formation: Nursing and Social Responsibility		45	3
	NURS 8410	Relational Practice and Advanced Clinical Reasoning		45	3
	NURS 8415	Exploratory Nursing Practice	220		6
		Semester 10	220	90	12
		Year 4 – Semester 11 (January – April)			
Sem 11 (Jan – Apr)	NURS 8425	Transition to Practice in the North 1	250	100	12
		Semester 11	250	100	12
		Year 4 – Semester 12 (April – June)			
Sem 12 (Apr – Jun)	NURS 8425	Transition to Practice in the North 2	220		6
		Semester 12	220		6

Course Descriptions

Year 1	
Semester 1 (September – December)	
ANPH 8100	<p>Anatomy and Physiology I 4.5 credits 75 hours</p> <p>Description: Provides students with an understanding of the fundamental principles of human anatomy and physiology. This course will enable students to describe and explain the gross anatomy and histology of the human body. Students will study the functions of the organs and systems of the body focusing in basic cellular physiology. Learners will study the functions of the organs and systems of the body as they relate to nursing practice. The course will also explore the integration of functions within the body. Additional lab requirement 2 hours per week</p>
PSYC 1000	<p>Introduction to Psychology for Nursing 3 credits 45 hours</p> <p>Description: An overview of psychological theory is used to introduce students to the biopsychosocial factors that influence human behaviour. Students develop an understanding of personality development, the biology of behaviour, sensation and perception, learning and other concepts involved in the social behaviour of humans.</p>
SOCI 1000	<p>Introduction to Sociology for Nursing 3 credits 45 hours</p> <p>Description: Provides students with an overview of general concepts of sociology and how they relate to the structure and function of communities in circumpolar environments. The impact of the historical relationship between Inuit and non-Inuit people on Inuit social structures, processes, and the health of families and communities are explored.</p>
ENGL 1101	<p>Academic Writing 3 credits 45 hours</p> <p>Description: The course will explore a variety of issues in academic writing such as style, argument, format and the presentation of information. The course is designed to prepare students to write academic papers. Frequent written exercises will be required.</p>
Semester 2 (January – April)	
ANPH 8101	<p>Anatomy and Physiology II 4.5 credits 75 hours</p> <p>Description: Provides students with an understanding of the fundamental principles of human anatomy and physiology. This course will enable students to describe and explain the gross anatomy and histology of the human body. Students will study the functions of the organs and systems of the body</p>

	<p>focusing in basic cellular physiology. Learners will study the functions of the organs and systems of the body as they relate to nursing practice. The course will also explore the integration of functions within the body.</p> <p>Additional lab requirement 2 hours per week</p>
BIOC 8100	<p>Introductory Biochemistry for Nursing Students 3 credits 45 hours Description: Topics discussed include the structure, biosynthesis and functions of biologically important compounds, enzymes, control of metabolism, genetic engineering and nutrition. Medical aspects are stressed.</p>
NURS 8110	<p>Teaching and Learning 3 credits 45 hours Description: Students will critically analyze and integrate the teaching-coaching domain of nursing practice through examination of the developmental, sociocultural and motivational conditions that affect teaching and learning. Principles and theories of learning are used to develop health education strategies for diverse populations. Students will develop communication and teaching skills.</p>
NURS 8111	<p>Foundations of Nursing Practice 3 credits 45 hours Description: Ethical, professional, legal concepts and theories guiding professional nursing practice are examined. Professional identity, collaboration, compartment, and reasoning related to nursing practices are developed. Theories and frameworks are used to investigate health and social care constructs and the impact of hierarchal structures on individual, communal and global health.</p>
Semester 3 (April – June)	
NURS 8115	<p>Clinical Integration I 3 credits 110 hours Description: Integration of foundational nursing skills and practices, such as health history and assessment, safety, infection control, communication and relational inquiry occurs in clinical application settings. Students use multiple learning modalities to master fundamentals of nursing practice.</p>
Year 2	
Semester 4 (September – December)	
MICI 1101	<p>Health Science Microbiology 3 credits 45 hours +1hour tutorial per week Description: An introduction to microbiology and infectious diseases only for healthcare professionals. It includes a study of the structure and physiology of microorganisms, the ways microorganisms cause disease in man and the way they affect human's wellbeing.</p>
NURS 8210	<p>Health and Healing I: Pathophysiology and Therapeutics 3 credits 45 hours +1hour tutorial per week</p>

	<p>Description: Fundamentals of health and disease patterns, the role of genetics, developmental biology and environment are explored. Cellular mechanisms, inflammatory and infectious responses and cellular biology of cancer are investigated. Diagnosis and therapeutic concepts including preventative therapies and pharmacological and non-pharmacological interventions with consideration of age and cultural variations are introduced.</p>
NURS 8211	<p>Community and Mental Health 3 credits 45 hours Description: The structure and relationships in our existence are fundamental to the development of human potential and nursing practice. Community concepts for a healthy society in the context of northern communities will be introduced. Mental, spiritual, and physical health concerns that impact on health and social well-being in communities will be explored.</p>
NURS 8212	<p>Contemporary Issues in Health Care 3 credits 45 hours Description: The changing patterns of health care delivery and increasing complexity in all practice environments are examined. The nurses' role requires exploration of clients' unique biopsychosocial spiritual and cultural needs and advocacy of health choices and decisions. Ethical decision making and reasoning related to nursing practices are developed.</p>
Semester 5 (January – April)	
NURS 8220	<p>Health and Healing II: Pathophysiology and Therapeutics 3 credits 45 hours +1hour tutorial per week Description: Integrating knowledge of disease, diagnosis and person-centred management is key to successful nursing practice. Specific disease processes related to body systems are described and mechanisms of therapeutic options for management are evaluated. Evidence to support use of pharmacological, non-pharmacological, alternative and complimentary treatments is evaluated.</p>
NURS 8221	<p>Nursing Research, Epidemiology, and Evidence Informed Practice 3 credits 45 hours Description: Examines the methods used to generate, apply and evaluate knowledge in nursing and health care focusing on the basic processes of quantitative, qualitative and epidemiological research. The emphasis is on analysis, synthesis and evaluation of research and the implications for theory and evidence-informed nursing practice. Collaboration with interprofessional research teams is described.</p>
NURS 8222	<p>Foundations of Clinical Nursing Practice 3 credits 45 hours +1hour tutorial per week Description: Collaborating with adults across the life course who experience acute and/or chronic physical or mental illness requires a focus on preventative and</p>

	curative care strategies. Utilization of evidence and application of nursing and interprofessional collaborative care and informed decision-making is examined within the context of person, family, and society.
NURS 8215	<p>Clinical Integration II 3 credits 220 hours Description: Through clinical application (using simulation & clinical experiential learning) students will integrate nursing process, critical thinking, relational practice and evidence-informed decision making in caring for clients with acute and chronic alterations in health to achieve optimal functioning.</p>
Semester 6 (April – June)	
NURS 8225	<p>Clinical Integration III: Medical Surgical Nursing in Acute and Chronic Settings 3 credits 220 hours Description: Using simulation and clinical experiential learning students apply knowledge related to caring for clients with acute, episodic illnesses from birth to death. Interprofessional practice and evaluation of the impact of collaborative care will be a focus.</p>
Year 3	
Semester 7 (September – December)	
NURS 8310	<p>Professional Formation: Leadership Perspectives 3 credits 45 hours Description: Leadership is integral to the practice of every nurse. Examining and applying leadership theories and behaviours enable effective practices to be evaluated. The nursing role in conflict resolution, crisis intervention and therapeutic communication to manage complex situations using multiple perspectives is examined.</p>
NURS 8311	<p>Nursing Concepts of Aging Adult Population 3 credits 45 hours Description: Guided by the principles of Primary Health Care students focus on the psychosocial, cultural, cognitive, and spiritual health of adults and on nursing practices that promote health in adults at specific developmental stages. Issues of determinants of health are specifically addressed. Strategies to promote healthy aging at the individual, family, and community level are explored.</p>
NURS 8312	<p>Nursing Concepts of Childbearing Families 3 credits 45 hours Description: Focuses on the concepts of health related to childbearing families including assessment during pregnancy, birth and post-partum. Approaches to perinatal care and the role of midwifery in northern communities are explored. Theories and concepts in caring for the family as client are utilized.</p>
NURS 8315	Clinical Integration IV

	<p>3 credits 110 hours</p> <p>Description: Population health, family and perinatal theoretical concepts and evidence are utilized in a variety of practice settings. Family health assessments across various family life stages including focused fetal/newborn/child and parental care in dynamic interprofessional settings enable students to apply theory to practice.</p>
Semester 8 (January – April)	
NURS 8320	<p>Nursing Concepts of Children, Adolescents, and Young Adults</p> <p>3 credits 45 hours</p> <p>Description: Principles of Primary Health Care are applied to health promotion, risk reduction, disease prevention, and common health problems experienced by infants, children, young adults, and their families in rural and remote settings. Concepts of healthy development, illness, and disability, related to the health of the child, adolescent, young adult and family unit are explored.</p>
NURS 8321	<p>Community and Population Health</p> <p>3 credits 45 hours +1hour tutorial per week</p> <p>Description: Students focus on integration of community, public health theory and nursing practice as it applies to primary health care within a population health context. The philosophical basis, roles, settings and functions of community health nursing will be examined and used to explore evidence-informed nursing care delivery to persons, families and populations in community settings.</p>
NURS 8325	<p>Clinical Integration V: Children, Adolescents, and Young Adults</p> <p>6 credits 220 hours</p> <p>Description: Students participate in the care of children, adolescents, young adults and families along a continuum from prevention to specialized care. Through project work students develop an understanding of health equity using principles of primary health care and social determinants of health to positively influence the health profiles of the pediatric population living in the North.</p>
Semester 9 (April – June)	
NURS 8335	<p>Clinical Integration VI: Nursing Care of Clients Experiencing Episodic and Persistent Illness</p> <p>6 credits 220 hours</p> <p>Description: Students apply the principles of Primary Health Care through the integration and application of nursing knowledge and theory to collaborate with clients experiencing episodic and persistent alterations of health, and assist them to meet their optimal level of functioning. Students will work with clients through a continuum of care. Clinical practice will occur in a variety of settings focusing on health issues in urban settings.</p>
Year 4	
Semester 10 (September – December)	

NURS 8410	<p>Relational Practice and Advanced Clinical reasoning 3 credits ~30 hours (3 hours per week)</p> <p>Description: Students engage in relational inquiry, clinical reasoning and multiple ways of knowing related to health and social care. Evaluation of evidence in the context of person-centred care forms the basis for reflective practice that promotes health and wellness and supports management of complex situations.</p>
NURS 8411	<p>Professional Formation: Nursing and Social Responsibility 3 credits ~30 hours (3 hours per week)</p> <p>Description: Collaborating with and across professions, theoretical frameworks are critiqued and applied to gain insight into the nursing role that influences policies and practices in health care. Evaluation of the processes that influence and support change, as well as system inertia, will assist in developing strategies to improve health for society.</p>
NURS 8415	<p>Exploratory Nursing Practice 6 credits 220 hours</p> <p>Description: Students engage in a broad range of clinical, research or theoretical activities, under the direction of faculty or clinical preceptor/facilitator to complete a project relevant to nursing practice. These learning experiences will assist the student to understand the complexity of the integrated nursing role across a range of settings.</p>
Semester 11 (January – April)	
NURS 8425	<p>Transition to Practice in the North 1 12 credits 350 hours (theory, lab, simulation, clinical)</p> <p>Description: Students synthesize their nursing knowledge and refine entry-to practice competencies through integration of theory and practice in concentrated clinical mentorship programs. Through intensive engagement in application of evidence-informed and person-centered care, students are able to develop and refine skills to enhance future nursing practice that is specific to northern nursing.</p>
Semester 12 (April – June)	
NURS 8435	<p>Transition to Practice in the North 2 6 credits 220 hours</p> <p>Description: Students consolidate nursing knowledge and entry-to-practice competencies through intensive, reflective, mentored practice. Emphasizing the professional nursing role, collaboration, interprofessional teamwork, advocacy, time management, priority-setting and leadership are key components of relational practice. Peer-to-peer mentoring and self-directed lifelong learning skill development support preparation for National Licensure examination and ongoing professional development.</p>