

TEXAS WOMAN'S UNIVERSITY

College of Nursing  
RN BS Program

Articulation and Instructional Services Agreement

Addressing the Shortage of Nursing Professionals

A Joint Project with  
El Centro College

January, 2016

Community College to Texas Woman's University  
Program to Program Articulation Guide

Associate of Applied Science in Nursing and Associate of  
Arts/Science Degree to  
Bachelor of Science Degree with a Major in Nursing (RN to BS)

This agreement describes various aspects of a joint project to be implemented by the contracting participants: El Centro College, hereinafter referred to as the "College"; and Texas Woman's University College of Nursing, hereinafter referred to as the "University".

This agreement is entered into by and between the governmental bodies as identified, pursuant to the authority granted and in compliance with the provisions of the Interlocal Cooperation Act, Chapter 791, Texas Government Code.

**OVERALL INTENT**

Whereas the University has baccalaureate programs available in an on-line and other distance learning formats leading to a Bachelor of Science with a major in nursing; and, whereas the College, which provides a certificate, as well as two-year instructional programs leading to an Associate of Applied Science and an Associate of Arts/Science, and serves a specific region of the state where demand for nursing professionals at all levels is high; a collaborative partnership by both institutions will have a two-fold beneficial outcome. By collaborating, the College and University will together address this critical workforce need. By providing the additional education to these nursing professionals, the College and the University will enhance effective delivery of their respective missions by serving the heretofore-unmet health care needs of Houston Region, potentially involving the College service area.

Specifically, as a result of discussions with University representatives, the College believes it can actively help promote and support the University's distance learning nursing degree programs to the benefit of prospective students in the El Centro College service area. The College's long-standing experience with distance learning delivery systems and pool of prepared transfer students underscores its role as a significant partner in meeting such training needs.

**Services and Functions Performed by the University**

Whereas the University has the instructional programs that potentially address the instructional baccalaureate needs of students within the College's service area, it, therefore, agrees to:

- Establish a traditional admission process whereby Associate of Applied Science Degree in Nursing students who, in their last semester of course work at El Centro College, have a 2.5

cumulative grade point average on a 4.0 scale. of combined general education prerequisite courses and nursing courses and meets all of the University's admission requirements including the school's general education requirements, are provisionally assured admission to the RN to BS program. In addition, students must then pass the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) after graduating from the Associate of Applied Science in Nursing program, and are licensed in good standing within the U.S. as a registered nurse, to be admitted unconditionally to the TWU College of Nursing RN to BS Program.

- Establish a concurrent admission process whereby pre-Associate of Applied Science Degree in Nursing students who, in their first and second semester of course work at El Centro College, declare an intent to seek a BS from TWU College of Nursing and complete a Declaration of Intent with El Centro College and University, are assured provisional acceptance to the RN to BS program at the University. The student will also submit an Apply Texas Application, admission fee, and University College of Nursing application & fee to the University. While the students are admitted to the Associate of Applied Science in Nursing at the College, they will be concurrently classified as a student at the University under "nursing entry". The admission to the BS program is predicated upon the students meeting all other admission requirements to the RN to BS program. The students must complete the Associate Degree Nursing program at the College. The students must maintain a 2.5 cumulative grade point average on a 4.0 scale for all the required courses including nursing courses. They also must meet all of the University's admission requirements including the University and college's general education requirements. In addition, students must have passed the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) and are licensed in good standing as a registered nurse within the U.S. before being admitted unconditionally to the University in the RN to BS program.

Accept credit hours earned at El Centro College as described below:

- Up to 60-62 SCH general education/core and 28 SCH advanced placement basic nursing courses.
- Provide reasonable assistance from TWU library services and TWU online Write-Site program to aid students in their course work and research projects.
- Advertising the articulated nursing programs in appropriate publications such as but not limited to the TWU CON Catalog and the TWU CON web page.
- Provide reasonable assistance to the college for the promotion of the program.

**Services and Functions Performed by the College:**

Whereas El Centro College has an existing Associate of Applied Science Degree in Nursing educational program, training facilities and clinical placements, it agrees to:

- Advertise the articulated nursing programs in appropriate publications such as, but not limited to the College web page and the Associate Degree Nursing web page.
- Designate an individual within the Nursing Division to serve as a liaison for students interested in pursuing the Bachelor of Science with a major in nursing from the University.

**Other Provisions:**

- Both institutions will strive to provide students with "seamless" access to assist them in transferring from the College to the University.
- Each institution will identify an operations contact person to assist in addressing student/advising questions, and help resolve project logistical issues that may develop.
- Representatives from both institutions will confer at least on an annual basis to evaluate the success of this agreement; consider curriculum updates and any other requests for changes or proposed amendments as may be deemed necessary.
- Both institutions agree to share aggregate information on student performance as may be necessary to evaluate the success and quality of the services under this agreement.
- Transition to the RN-BS Program occurs with the completion of the Associate of Applied Science Degree and either the Associate of Arts/Science Degree, all general education requirements, and receipt of all previous official transcripts. With the payment of fees and obtainment of the student identification cards, students will have access to various TWU Services.

**Length of Term of This Agreement:**

This agreement shall be in effect for the period of two (2) years, and may be extended and amended at any time by written consent of both parties.

This agreement may be terminated by one year's advance written notification of such intent by one party to the other. THE UNDERSIGNED CONTRACTING PARTIES do hereby certify that the services specified above are necessary and essential for the activities that are properly within the statutory functions and programs of both El Centro College and Texas Woman's University.

This curriculum is designed for students who wish to complete or have already completed the Associate of Applied Science in Nursing at El Centro College, are core complete and completed an AA or AS, and intend to transfer to Texas Woman's University to complete a B.S. in Nursing. This plan includes completion of the core curriculum graduation requirements and additional nursing prerequisites at *Community College* and TWU graduation requirements.

Students in good standing will be provisionally admitted to the RN BS program and may take NURS 3643 (RN Introduction to Baccalaureate Nursing) and/or BIOL 4344 (Pathophysiology) prior to passing the NCLEX exam. However, they may not progress to NURS 3614 (Nursing Assessment Across the Lifespan) or any other NURS course without first passing the NCLEX exam.

Students must be core complete at *Community College* and have a minimum grade point average of 2.5 on the required non-nursing lower division courses. If students are not core complete at *Community College* then they will need to become core complete at TWU. See TWU Undergraduate Catalog for other requirements and deadlines.

**Lower Division Courses**

<b>Semester I</b>	<b>Hours</b>	<b>Semester II</b>	<b>Hours</b>
ENG 1013 ( <i>ENGL 1301</i> ) Composition I	3	ENG 1023 ( <i>ENGL 1302</i> ) Composition II	3
PSY 1013 ( <i>PSYC 2301</i> ) Intro to General Psych	3	PSY 1603 ( <i>PSYC 2314</i> ) Developmental Psychology	3
HIST 1013 ( <i>HIST 1301</i> ) U.S. History, 1492-1865	3	<b>BACT 1003/1001</b> ( <i>BIOL 2320/2120</i> ) Microbiology & Lab	4
<b>Chemistry</b> (any college-level, lecture & lab)	4	<b>ZOOL 2013/2011</b> ( <i>BIOL 2301/2101</i> ) Anatomy & Physiology & Lab	4
Elective	2		
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>14</b>

**Lower Division Courses**

<b>Fall</b>	<b>Hours</b>	<b>Spring</b>	<b>Hours</b>
GOV 2013 ( <i>GOVT 2305</i> ) U.S. National Government	3	GOV 2023 ( <i>GOVT 2306</i> ) Texas Government	3
<b>ZOOL 2023/2021</b> ( <i>BIOL 2302/2102</i> ) Anatomy & Physiology & Lab	4	HIST 1023 ( <i>HIST 1302</i> ) U.S. History 1865-present	3
<b>MATH 1703</b> ( <i>MATH 1342</i> ) Elementary Statistics I	3	Multicultural Women's Studies Core	3
<b>NFS 2323</b> ( <i>BIOL 1322</i> ) Nutrition	3	Wellness or Mathematics CAO Core	3
Language, Philosophy, & Culture Core	3	Creative Arts Core	3
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>15</b>

Students must complete the nursing core courses **bolded above** before starting the program. Prerequisite courses which may be taken with the first level of nursing courses (Nursing 3643, Nursing 3612, Nursing 3614) include the Creative Arts core option, Wellness or Math core option, & Language, Philosophy & Culture core option, and the elective. However all prerequisites (with the exception of Multicultural Women's Studies core option which must be completed by graduation) must be completed to progress beyond Nursing 3643, Nursing 3612, and Nursing 3614.

**Semester I at Texas Woman's University**

<b>RNs receive 28 hours credit for:</b>		<b>Hours</b>	
NURS 3813 Pharmacology	3	BIOL 4344 Pathophysiology	4
NURS 4615 Mental Health Competencies	5	NURS 3612 Introduction to Nursing Research	2
NURS 4055 Child Health Competencies	5	NURS 3643 RN Introduction to Bacc. Nursing	3
NURS 3035 Adult Health Competencies I	5	NURS 3614 Nursing Assessment across the Life Span	4
NURS 4045 Adult Health Competencies II	5		
NURS 3025 Women's Health and Family Role Comp.	5		
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>13</b>

<b>Semester II</b>	<b>Hours</b>	<b>Semester III</b>	<b>Hours</b>
NURS 3804 RN with Families and Groups	4	NURS 4813 RN High Acuity Nursing	3
NURS 4612 Promoting Wellness in the Aging Family	2	NURS 4823 Competencies in RN Transition to Bacc. Nursing**	3
NURS 4614 Community Health Competencies <sup>(GP)</sup> **	4		
NURS 4803 Leadership and Management	3		
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>6</b>

<sup>(GP)</sup> Global Perspective requirements will be demonstrated

\*\* Indicates class has a clinical component

Total hours for major courses: 46

Total hours for degree: 120

**El Centro College**



Joan Becker  
School of Nursing

Date: 2/11/16



Sondra Flemming  
Vice President of Community and Economic Development

Date: 2/18/16



Dr. Jose Adames  
President

Date: 2-18-16

**Texas Woman's University**



Dr. Anita Hufft  
Dean, College of Nursing

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



Dr. Robert Neely  
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Date: 2/4/16