



Faculty of Health, Science, and Technology

Programme Study Plan

Nursing

Programme Code	VGSSK
Programme Title	Nursing Programme
Credits	180 ECTS
Programme Approval	The programme study plan was approved by the Faculty Board for the Faculty of Health, Science and Technology, on 2 of February Month, 2014 (dnr: HNT 2015/53).
Language of Instruction	Swedish
Degree Level	Bachelor's
Degree Type	Professional and general
Prerequisites	General admission requirements plus upper secondary level Mathematics B, Natural Science B, Civics A (field-specific eligibility 16). Or: Mathematics 2a/2b/2c, Natural Science 2, Civics 1b/1a1+1a2 (field-specific eligibility A14).

Introduction

The nursing programme at Karlstad University is designed to give students opportunity to acquire the knowledge and professional skills required to work as a registered nurse as well as for further academic studies.

A registered nurse carries out nursing duties on the basis of ethical conduct and in accordance with science and proven experience. The registered nurse performs duties in many different areas and institutions with varying tasks. Nursing can be described in terms of three areas of expertise: The theory and practice of nursing, Research, development, education and leadership. Holistic approach and ethical conduct permeate the three areas. This means

- practising human core values
- considering and respecting the patient's autonomy, integrity and dignity
- paying attention to the patient and/or next-of kin's knowledge and experiences
- respecting different values and beliefs
- speaking on behalf of the patient and/or next-of kin based on their requests
- apply current research ethical conventions
- paying attention to the knowledge/experiences of the team and others and contributing to a holistic approach to the patient through team cooperation

(Competence description of the registered nurse and midwife, National Board of Health and Welfare, 2005).

The degree programme is designed to prepare for the future demands of continuous learning and development.

Nursing is the main field of study and it constitutes the core of the nurse's independent professional practice. Nursing as a scientific discipline has a patient-centred and clinical basis. Nursing research provides evidence-based knowledge to the nursing practice. Key concepts in nursing are the human being, health, environment and nursing practices. Humanism is the dominant nursing perspective. Nursing aims at promoting health, preventing ill health and disease, protecting and restoring health on the basis of individual circumstances and needs, alleviating suffering and enabling a dignified death. A central part of nursing is the relationships between the nurse, the patient and the next-of-kin. These relationships are characterised by an holistic, ethical and scientific approach. The nursing profession includes assessing and diagnosing actual and potential health problems and the health resources in individuals and groups. Nursing is planned and administered on the basis of perceptions of health and ill health. It is also the responsibility of the nurse to evaluate the nursing provided and draw up care plans and goals. In conclusion, this means identifying and analysing illness, symptoms and functional impairments as well as individual needs and resources to promote health and adjustment to a changed life situation.

Programme Aims

According to the Higher Education Act all first-level education shall aim to develop students'

- ability to make independent and critical assessments,
- ability to identify, formulate and solve problems independently, and
- preparedness to deal with changes at work and in the profession.

In addition to knowledge and skills in their field of study, students shall develop the ability to:

- gather and interpret information at a scholarly level,
- stay abreast of the development of knowledge, and
- communicate their knowledge to others, including those who lack specialist knowledge in the field. (Ch. 1, sect 8, Higher Education Act, SFS 2006:173).

A Degree of Bachelor of Science in Nursing is awarded after the student has completed the courses required to gain 180 ECTS credits and the special requirements specified in The Higher Education Ordinance annex 2, Qualification Ordinance.

For a Degree of Bachelor of Science in Nursing the student shall demonstrate the knowledge and skills required for registration as a nurse.

Knowledge and understanding

For a Degree of Bachelor of Science in Nursing the student shall have:

- demonstrate knowledge of the disciplinary foundation of the field and awareness of current research and development work as well as the links between research and proven experience and the significance of these links for professional practice
- demonstrate knowledge of the planning, management and coordination of health care measures
- demonstrate knowledge of social circumstances that affect the health of children, women and men, and
- demonstrate knowledge of the relevant statutory provisions.

Competence and skills

For a Degree of Bachelor of Science in Nursing the student shall

- demonstrate the ability to identify health care needs, draw up care plans and provide care and treatment independently and in cooperation with patients and those close to them
- demonstrate the ability to manage pharmaceuticals appropriately and also to inform patients of the effects and side effects of pharmaceuticals
- demonstrate the ability to identify the need of measures to promote health and prevent ill-health and implement them
- demonstrate the ability to initiate methodological improvements and quality assurance
- demonstrate the ability to apply his or her knowledge to deal with different situations, phenomena and issues on the basis of the needs of individuals and groups
- demonstrate the ability to inform and instruct different audiences and also to undertake supervisory duties
- demonstrate the ability to present and discuss in speech and writing interventions and treatment outcomes with those concerned and to document them in accordance with the relevant statutory provisions
- demonstrate the capacity for teamwork and cooperation with other professional categories, and
- demonstrate the ability to review, assess and use relevant information critically and to discuss new data, phenomena and issues with various audiences and so contribute to the development of the profession and professional practice.

Judgement and approach

For a Degree of Bachelor of Science in Nursing the student shall

- demonstrate self-awareness and the capacity for empathy
- demonstrate the ability to assess interventions using a holistic approach to individuals informed by the relevant disciplinary, social and ethical aspects and taking particular account of human rights
- demonstrate the ability to adopt a professional approach to clients or patients and those close to them, and
- demonstrate the ability to identify the need for further knowledge and undertake ongoing development of his or her skills.

Independent project (degree project)

A requirement for the award of a Degree of Bachelor of Science in Nursing is completion by the student of an independent project (degree project) for at least 15 ECTS credits.

In addition to the above requirements in the Qualifications Ordinance, the nursing programme at Karlstad University has been designed to meet the requirements for a general Bachelor's degree (SFS 2006:1053) and the current laws and regulations of the nursing profession.

The requirements for a general Degree of Bachelor of Arts/Science (180 ECTS cr) are the following:

Knowledge and understanding

For a Degree of Bachelor of Arts/Science the student shall

- demonstrate knowledge and understanding in the main field of study, including knowledge of the disciplinary foundation of the field, understanding of applicable methodologies in the field, specialised study in some aspect of the field as well as awareness of current research issues.

Competence and skills

For a Degree of Bachelor of Arts/Science the student shall

- demonstrate the ability to search for, gather, evaluate and critically interpret the relevant information for a formulated problem and also discuss phenomena, issues and situations critically
- demonstrate the ability to identify, formulate and solve problems independently and to complete tasks within predetermined time frames
- demonstrate the ability to present and discuss information, problems and solutions in speech and writing and in dialogue with different audiences, and
- demonstrate the skills required to work independently in the main field of study.

Judgement and approach

For a Degree of Bachelor of Arts/Science the student shall

- demonstrate the ability to make assessments in the main field of study informed by relevant disciplinary, social and ethical issues
- demonstrate insight into the role of knowledge in society and the responsibility of the individual for how it is used, and
- demonstrate the ability to identify the need for further knowledge and ongoing learning.

Programme structure

The nursing programme comprises 180 ECTS cr and consists of integrated courses in nursing 105 ECTS cr, medical science 57.5 ECTS cr and social and behavioural science 10 ECTS cr. (see attachment 1). In addition there is an elective course of 7.5 ECTS cr., in the main field of study or in an area of relevance to programme requirements. Research methods in nursing (15 ECTS cr) are included, of which 7.5 credits are integrated in the courses (see attachment 1). There is also an independent degree project of 15 ECTS cr. The study programme is characterised by selected themes, such as the research process, the nursing process, the nursing profession, which are progressively specialised throughout the three years of study. The progression involves higher demands through the increasing complexity in course content and modes of study and in student independence. The study programme includes 86.5 ECTS cr clinical studies, of which 48 ECTS cr are clinical placement. There is opportunity to study parts of the education abroad.

Programme content

The programme comprises courses that integrate nursing, medical science and social and behavioural science (see attachment 1).

Programme courses:

- Foundations of professional nursing, 30 ECTS cr (G1N)
- Basic clinical nursing, 30 ECTS cr (G1N)
- Symptom management and signs of ill health, 37.5 ECTS cr (G1F)
- Nursing in emergency situations, 7.5 ECTS cr (G1F)
- Research methods in nursing, 7.5 ECTS cr (G2F)
- Elective, 7.5 ECTS cr
- Chronic and complex health care needs, 30 ECTS cr. (G2F)
- Degree project in nursing, 15 ECTS cr (G2E)
- Nursing profession, clinical competence and leadership profession, 15 ECTS cr. (G2F)

Attachment 2. Overview of the nursing programme

Pedagogical philosophy and forms of instruction

The study programme has a process-oriented approach, which means that learning is viewed as an ongoing, meaning-creating and active process in which knowledge is constructed together

with others.¹ It also involves understanding the subject and the tradition, relating it to the present and making knowledge visible and updated as well as shaping subject knowledge into personal, integrated knowledge.²

The educational width, depth and complexity are gradually increased. Initially, the needs of the healthy human being is topic for study, followed by studies in nursing in relation to specific symptoms and signs of illness, and finally the programme focuses on nursing in relation to emergency situations and chronic ill health and complex illness. The progression of the programme requires that knowledge obtained in previous levels constitutes a basis for further learning, thus placing increased demands on the student's sense of responsibility (appendix 1).

The pedagogical methods vary and consist, among other things, of independent studies, group work, lectures, tutoring and seminars. Throughout the programme theoretical and practical knowledge is integrated in order to obtain professional proficiency based on science as well as proven experience. Clinical training comprises studies with explicit connection to clinical work, such as simulated patient cases and exercises in nursing methods and techniques, as well laboratory sessions and practical placement. The student's professional development and her/his self-knowledge are fostered throughout the programme, through a continuous reflection and supervision process.

Examination

Examination refers to pedagogical activities during which assessment of learning outcome fulfilment takes place. Different examination formats are used to assess knowledge, skills and professional and scientific approaches. A degree project in nursing and National Clinical Final Examination conclude the programme. Examination formats are specified in each course syllabus.

Degree title

Professional Degree: *Bachelor of Science in Nursing*

General Degree: *Bachelor of Science. Major: Nursing*

Transfer of credits

Students have the right to request a transfer of credits from previous studies in Sweden or abroad. Decision on credit transfer is made in accordance with current regulations.

Attendance

One week of full-time studies is equivalent to 1.5 ECTS credits. The relation between scheduled classes and individual studies varies according to course content and jointly comprise full-time studies. Parts of the study programme require mandatory attendance, as stated in the course syllabus.

Moving up

Courses build on the knowledge acquired in previous courses.. In order to move up to the next level, students must meet any additional admission requirements specified in the course syllabus.

Clinical placement

Practical placement takes place in health care institutions in Värmland, which may mean extra costs for students.

¹ Bisholt, B. (2009). *Nyutexaminerade sjuksköterskors yrkessocialisation. –Erfarenheter av ett introduktionsprogram*. Diss. Sahlgrenska akademien, Göteborgs universitet.

² Bentling, S. & Jonsson, B. (Ed.) (2012). *Vårdpedagogiska utmaningar*. Stockholm: Liber.

Re-examination

A student who has failed to pass the regular examination has the right to take the exam again on at least two occasions within one year of the regular examination date. For the second re-examination the student has a right to request a new examiner. Re-examination to attain a better grade is not allowed.

A student who has failed to pass the clinical placement has the right to be re-assessed (on two occasions), as soon as circumstances permit.

Approved leave and non-completion

Students who wish to discontinue or go on leave must notify the study and career adviser in writing using the appropriate form.

Local Regulations

The local regulations for first and second and level studies at Karlstad University stipulate the rights and obligations of staff and students.

Student Expulsion procedures

A student who suffers from mental disorder, abuses alcohol or drugs, or has been guilty of a serious offence endangering others or valuable property can be expelled until further notice. In such a case, the Vice Chancellor files a complaint to the Expulsion Board of Higher Education, which investigates the matter and makes a decision. A decision of expulsion shall always entail that the student must discontinue the education until further notice. The Expulsion Board of Higher Education is responsible for all Swedish higher education institutions (*Higher Education Act* Ch. 4 sect. 6, SFS 1992:1434, Regulations of Student Expulsion from Higher Education SFS 2007: 989).

FÖRDELNING AV HÖGSKOLEPOÄNG (hp) I SJUKSKÖTERSKEPROGRAMMETS KURSER

Kurs	Omvårdnad	Medicinsk vetenskap	Samhälls- och beteendevetenskap	Antal hp per kurs	Progression huvudområde 3)
Omvårdnadens grund och sjuksköterskans profession ¹⁾	13	14	3	30	G1N
Grundläggande klinisk omvårdnad ¹⁾	18	10	2	30	G1N
Omvårdnad vid symtom och tecken på ohälsa ²⁾	22	15,5		37,5	G1F
Omvårdnad vid akuta situationer	3,5	4		7,5	G1F
Valfri kurs				7,5	
Vetenskapliga metoder i omvårdnad	7,5			7,5	G2F
Omvårdnad vid långvarig ohälsa och multisjuklighet	16	11	3	30	G2F
Examensarbete i Omvårdnad	15			15	G2E
Sjuksköterskans profession, kliniska kompetens och ledarskap	10	3	2	15	G2F
	105	57,5	10	180	

1) I dessa kurser ingår vetenskapliga metoder i omvårdnad omfattande 7,5 hp

2) Krav på godkänd kurs: Omvårdnadens grund och sjuksköterskans profession 30 hp

3) Progression inom huvudområde anges enligt följande:

G1N grundnivå, har endast gymnasiala förkunskapskrav

G1F grundnivå, har mindre än 60 hp på grundnivå som förkunskapskrav

G2E grundnivå, har minst 60 hp som förkunskapskrav och innehåller examensarbete

G2F grundnivå, har minst 60 hp kurser på grundnivå som förkunskapskrav

ÖVERSIKTSBILD AV SJUKSKÖTERSKEPROGRAMMETS KURSSTRUKTUR 180 högskolepoäng (hp)
(Omvårdnad 105 hp, Medicinsk vetenskap 57,5 hp och Samhälls- och beteendevetenskap 10 hp)

Termin 1.

Omvårdnadens grund och sjuksköterskans profession, 30 hp
varav kliniska studier 12 hp inkl. VFU 1,5 hp

Termin 2.

Grundläggande klinisk omvårdnad, 30 hp
varav kliniska studier 18 hp inkl. VFU 6 hp

Termin 3.

Omvårdnad vid symtom och tecken på ohälsa, 37,5 hp
varav kliniska studier 30 hp inkl. VFU 21 hp

Termin 4.

Omvårdnad vid
akuta situationer,
7,5 hp
varav kliniska
studier 3 hp inkl.
VFU 1,5 hp

Vetenskapliga
metoder i
omvårdnad, 7,5
hp

Valfri kurs, 7,5
hp

Termin 5.

Omvårdnad vid långvarig ohälsa och multisjuklighet, 30 hp
varav kliniska studier 15 hp inkl. VFU 10,5 hp

Termin 6.

Examensarbete i omvårdnad, 15 hp

Sjuksköterskans profession, kliniska
kompetens och ledarskap, 15 hp
varav kliniska studier 8,5 hp inkl.
VFU 7,5 hp