

**SOCHI
ASSOCIATE DEGREE IN NURSING**

TITLE: CREDIT BY EXAMINATION

PURPOSE: This policy describes the general procedure for challenging one or more courses within the Nursing Program. This policy applies to the advance placement student and military personnel who have held Military Health Care Occupations.

DESCRIPTION:

The credit by examination procedure is described in the current college catalog. The student must file a petition for approval to challenge a course by examination with the Admissions and Records Office. This petition must be approved before the Credit by Exam begins.

*Individuals who have held Military Health Care Occupations, specifically: Basic Medical Technician Corpsman (Navy HM or Air Force BMTCP), Army Health Care Specialist (68W Army Medic) or Air Force Independent Duty Medical Technician (IMDT 4N0X1C) may achieve advanced placement into 2nd semester of the nursing program with documentation of education and experience (within the last two years) qualifying them for the specific Military Health Care Occupation and upon successful completion of the challenge option that consists of two (2) parts – theory portion and clinical portion.

Once approval is received, the process in the division is as follows:

1. The challenge option for each course being challenged contains two (2) parts:

Part 1: Theory portion Part 2: Clinical portion
2. Students wishing to challenge courses within the COS Nursing Program must notify the Director the semester previous to the course they are challenging.
3. If a student chooses to challenge a course, ALL portions (theory & clinical) in that course must be challenged.
4. The student must first achieve a score of at least 75% on the written exam for the theory portion of the course being challenged. If the theory score is below 75%, the student must take the course as scheduled.
5. Once the theory portion has been passed with 75% or more, the student must take the clinical part of the challenge option. If a student earns a satisfactory (Pass) rating on the clinical portion, the grade earned will be the grade achieved on the written portion. If clinical performance is less than satisfactory, the student will take the course as scheduled.

The clinical portion of the challenge option will be comprised of the challenge procedure of the course.

6. Where applicable, the student must complete a satisfactory nursing care plan/ concept map for each clinical rotation being challenged.

REFERENCE:

DATE APPROVED/REVIEWED/REVISED: 12/2025

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ASSOCIATE DEGREE NURSING**

Challenge Procedure for NURS 100: Fundamentals for Nursing and Clinical with Skills Lab

Description:

A student who meets the requirements of the Nursing Program Challenge Policy may challenge the theory and/or clinical components of the NURS 100 course.

Procedure:

Theory Challenge

1. Pass all NURS 100 exams (quizzes, midterm, and final).
2. The student must achieve a score of 75% or greater in order to pass the theory challenge examination. Scores will NOT be rounded up (for example, a score of 74.9 will not be rounded up to a 75).

Clinical Challenge

1. Pass all skills lab activities.
2. During a clinical week (2 clinical days), care for 2 patients, safely & competently perform a head-to-toe physical exam, personal hygiene, activity/mobility exercises, and any appropriate procedures.
3. Construct a complete care plan.

NURS 255: Pharmacology Course may not be challenged

Challenge Procedure for NURS 110: Beginning Medical Surgical Nursing & Clinical with Skills Lab Description:

A student who meets the requirements of the Nursing Division Challenge Policy may challenge the theory and/or clinical components of the NURS 110 course.

Procedure:

Theory Challenge

1. Pass all NURS 110 exams (quizzes, midterm, and final).
2. The student must achieve a score of 75% or greater in order to pass the theory

challenge examination. Scores will NOT be rounded up (for example, a score of 74.9 will not be rounded up to a 75).

Clinical Challenge

1. Pass all skills lab activities.
2. During a clinical week (1 clinical day), care for 1 patient, performing a head-to-toe physical exam, personal hygiene, activity/mobility exercises, and any appropriate procedures.
3. Complete assigned documentation packet on assigned patient, including documentation of a head-to-toe assessment at a satisfactory level as determined by the course instructor.

Challenge Procedure for NURS130-Intermediate Medical Surgical Nursing and clinical

Description:

A student who meets the requirements of the Nursing Division Challenge Policy may challenge the theory and/or clinical components of the NURS130 course.

Procedure:

Theory Challenge

- 1.. The student will take a written examination containing multiple-choice questions which cover theory concepts as follows:
 - Acid-base Balance
 - Cellular Regulation
 - Metabolism
 - Elimination
 - Fluid and Electrolytes
 - Inflammation
 - Mobility
 - Evidence-based Practice
2. The student must achieve a score of 75% or greater in order to pass the theory challenge examination. Scores will NOT be rounded up (for example, a score of 74.9 will not be rounded up to a 75).

Clinical Challenge

1. The student must spend one (1) full day in the clinical areas with a NURS 130 Instructor. Additional clinical days may be required if the instructor needs more time in the clinical setting to observe the student.

2. The student will perform complete patient care, medication administration, medication research forms, biographical data forms, lab analysis form and a comprehensive assessment on all assigned clients. The student will be assigned 1-2 clients.
3. The student must satisfactorily complete an assessment, care plan and charting on one client, plus any additional assignments.

Challenge Procedure for NURS 140: Arts and Science of Nursing Maternal Child Health and Clinical

Description:

A student who meets the requirements of the Nursing Division Challenge Policy may challenge the theory and/or clinical components of the NURS 140 course.

Procedure:

Theory Challenge

1. The student will take a written examination containing multiple-choice questions which cover theory concepts and exemplars as follows:
Sexuality: menstrual dysfunction, Sexual dysfunction, STI, Family Planning, Menopause
Reproduction: Antepartum, Alterations in the antepartum period, Intrapartum Care, Alterations in the intrapartum period, Postpartum Care and Alterations in the postpartum period, Newborn Care, Fetal adaptation to extrauterine life and Alterations to adaptation in the newborn period

Legal

Ethical

Advocacy

Quality Improvement

Accountability

Evidence-based practice

Teaching and Learning

Growth & Development

Foundations of Pediatric Nursing

Pediatric Safety

Pediatric Assessment

Common Pediatric Conditions

Pediatric fluid & Medication Management

Nutrition & Infant feeding

Pediatric health promotion & maintenance

2. The student must achieve a score of 75% or greater in order to pass the theory challenge examination. Scores will NOT be rounded up (for example, a score of 74.9 will not be rounded up to a 75).

Clinical Challenge

1. The student must spend at least two full days in each specialty clinical areas with NURS 140 Instructor(s). Additional clinical days may be required if the instructor needs more time in the clinical setting to observe the student.
2. The student must satisfactorily complete an assessment, care plan or concept map and charting on each assigned client, plus any additional assignments pertinent to the specialty area.

Challenge Procedure for NURS 146: Mental Health, Geriatric and Psychiatric Nursing with Skills Lab

Description:

A student who meets the requirements of the Nursing Division Challenge may challenge the theory and/or clinical components of the NURS 146 course.

Procedure:

Theory Challenge

1. The theory challenge will be a comprehensive test of all the psychiatric nursing

concepts and exemplars as outlined in the course syllabus as follows:

Concepts:

Communication
Professionalism
Assessment
Collaboration
Cognition
Legal Issues
Evidence-based Practice
Stress and Coping
Mood and Affect
Addiction
Self
Advocacy and Ethics

Exemplars:

Therapeutic and Non-therapeutic Communication
Therapeutic Relationship
Role of the Mental Health Nurse

Assessment
Interdisciplinary Treatment Team
Legal Criteria for Admission
Mental Health Law (Assault & Battery, Reice's Hearing, Tarasoff Liability Act)
Patient's Mental Health Rights
Legal Commitment
Psychotropic Medications/Therapy
Anxiety and Related Disorders
Depression, Mania and Suicide
Psychosis
Addiction and Substance Abuse
Personality Disorders
Neuro-Cognitive Disorders
Eating Disorders
Abuse and Violence (Child, Sexual, Intimate Partner, Elder, Rape Trauma Syndrome)
Psycho-physiological Response to Stress
Advocacy and Ethics

2. The student must achieve a score of 75% or greater in order to pass the theory challenge examination. Scores will NOT be rounded up (for example, a score of 74.9 will not be rounded up to a 75).

Clinical Challenge

1. The student must spend at least one (1) full day in the clinical area with a NURS 146 Instructor. Additional clinical days may be required if the instructor needs more time in the clinical setting to observe the student.
2. The student will perform complete patient care, including a comprehensive assessment specific for the specialty area. The student will be assigned 1-2 clients.
3. The student must satisfactorily complete an assessment, care plan (either verbal or written) and charting on each assigned client, plus any additional assignments pertinent to the psychiatric clinical portion of the course, i.e., clinical exit exam.

Challenge Procedure for NURS 170: Advanced Medical Surgical Nursing with clinical

Description:

A student who meets the requirements of the Nursing Division Challenge Policy may challenge the theory and/or clinical components of the NURS 170 course.

Procedure:

Theory Challenge

1. The student will take a written examination containing 10 multiple-choice questions on each of the concepts and exemplars as follows:

Perfusion: CAD, DIC, HF

Oxygenation: COPD

Digestion: Hepatitis, Malabsorption disorders, Pancreatitis

Cellular Regulation: Cancer: Breast, Colorectal, Leukemia, Skin

Immunity: HIV/AIDS, Hypersensitivity, RA, SLE,

Mobility: OA, Parkinson's Disease

Sensory: Diseases of the Eye: Cataracts, Macular Degeneration. Glaucoma, Corneal Abrasions, Penetrating /Perforation Eye Injury, Retinol Detachment

Informatics & Quality Improvement: Related to Safety: Sensory perception, mobility (falls)

Advocacy, Accountability, & Ethics: Environmental quality and others related to advocating for patients studied this semester Professional development (maintaining currency) Morality, Ethical dilemmas

2. The student must achieve a score of 75% or greater in order to pass the theory challenge examination. Scores will NOT be rounded up (for example, a score of 74.9 will not be rounded up to 75).

Clinical Challenge

The student will:

1. The student must spend at least two full clinical days of the rotation with a NURS 170 Instructor. Additional clinical days may be required if the instructor needs more time in the clinical setting to observe the student.
2. The student will perform complete patient care, including charting and administration of all ordered medications and IV fluids, on three (3) patients per day.
3. The student must satisfactorily complete comprehensive assessments and full nursing care plans for each assigned patient, including medication research forms for all ordered medications.

NURS 300: NCLEX Live review course may not be challenged. NURS 180:Role

Transition to Professional Nursing and Clinical may not be challenged.