

Central Connecticut State University

New Britain, Connecticut

**Department of Nursing**

To Our Student Colleagues:

We wish to welcome you into our B.S.N. Program. Since the development of the Nursing Department in November 1981, the faculty has strived to provide a quality nursing program for the preparation of the Baccalaureate nurse within the context of the university environment. Since revision and refinement is an ongoing process, this handbook, including conceptual framework, policies and general information pertinent to the Nursing major, is available for your convenience and reference. We hope that this handbook, along with the CCSU Student Handbook, will serve as a guide to assist in answering your questions.

This handbook is provided to students and applicants for their general information and guidance only. It does not constitute a contract, either express or implied, and subject to revision at the University's discretion. Students should be aware that additional requirements may be imposed for certification or licensure (even once a plan of study has been prepared) if such requirements are imposed by outside licensing or accrediting agencies. A plan of study may be subject to revision to reflect such additional requirements.

The Nursing Faculty

Rev.: March, 2008  
July, 1997  
August, 1993  
July, 1987  
July, 1985

## Table of Contents

	Page
I. The B.S.N. Program	
A. Mission Statement -----	3
B. Philosophy of the Department of Nursing -----	5
C. Purpose of the B.S.N. Program -----	8
1. Overview	
D. Program Objectives -----	8
E. Health Policies .....	9
II. Academic Policies	
A. Attendance -----	10
1. Class	
2. Electronic Communication	
3. Clinical Laboratory	
4. Withdrawal	
5. Cancellation	
B. Clinical Laboratory Practice -----	11
1. Malpractice Insurance	
2. CPR Certification/Recertification	
3. Licensure	
4. Dress Code	
5. Clinical Laboratory Hours	
6. Transportation	
7. Occupational Exposure Policies and Incident Reporting	
C. Academic Standards .....	13
D. Assignments, Examinations, and Grading .....	14
E. Academic Integrity .....	16
III. Policies Specific to RN- BSN Program .....	17

Central Connecticut State University  
Department of Nursing

A. **Mission Statement**

The Nursing faculty, in accord with Central Connecticut State University, believes that, in a dynamic society, education for membership in a profession includes the development not only of expertise in a field but also of social awareness. In contemporary times, this social awareness includes the development of an increasingly global perspective. The professional nurse with a liberal education thinks critically, provides care that is interpersonally and therapeutically competent, and makes socially significant and personally satisfying contributions to society. The ultimate goal of nursing is to assist individuals, families, and groups to achieve optimal levels of health or wellness.

The Bachelor of Science in Nursing Program is a program in the School of Education and Professional Studies, organized in 1981 with initial National League for Nursing accreditation awarded for an eight-year period in 1986 and reaccredited by NLN in 1994. In 2006 the program was accredited by Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) of American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) for the maximum period of 10 years.

The purpose and objectives of the B.S.N. program flow directly from the mission statement of Central Connecticut State University. The purpose of the program, to prepare the student to obtain a B.S.N. degree and to empower the Baccalaureate student to attain the highest standards of academic achievement, public service, and personal development reflects Central Connecticut State University's fundamental responsibility.

As a university, Central Connecticut State University stands firm as an advocate of liberal and humane learning and for enlightened and productive participation in a global society, based on the requirement of blending the liberal arts education with dynamic professional education. In all aspects of learning, students are encouraged to read with discrimination, to think clearly and critically, to write

with accuracy and to appreciate the scientific, social and aesthetic principles and values which have shaped our increasingly interdependent society. At the same time, the university strives to provide an environment that is conducive to the personal development of each student through a wide array of student activities which foster leadership, community service, responsibility and creativity.

The Nursing faculty believes that a liberal education in the natural and behavioral sciences and the humanities, with theory and practice in Nursing, form the basis for critical judgment and professional accountability in Baccalaureate graduates. The belief that formal education is a preliminary to continued study and a lifetime of creative activity, is reinforced throughout the student's program of study and is demonstrated by faculty through their scholarly pursuits. The faculty believe that self-directed inquiry and individualized student learning further reflect their mission to serve a wide range of citizenry with varying characteristics and needs. The purpose of the Department of Nursing is to provide a program of high academic excellence, based upon a strong foundation in the arts, sciences and humanities. The program is designed to prepare a professional nurse generalist who is aware of and alert to existing and anticipated nursing and health care needs of individuals, families, and communities. The professional nurse will be able to respond with relevant knowledge and skills to meet these needs in a variety of health care settings.

It is anticipated that professional nurses, as individuals and as citizens, will demonstrate responsibility and accountability to the consumer as well as to themselves and the profession. They will be collaborative participants in the health care system.

The program is designed to serve as a foundation for graduate study and to provide an environment in which students can develop their potential as individuals and as contributing members of society.

## **B. Philosophy Of The Department Of Nursing**

### **Introduction**

The Nursing faculty, in accord with the mission of Central Connecticut State University, believe that in a dynamic society, education for membership in a profession includes the development not only of expertise in a field but also of social awareness. In contemporary times, this social awareness includes the development of an increasingly global perspective. The professional nurse with a liberal education thinks critically, provides care that is interpersonally and therapeutically competent, and makes socially significant and personally satisfying contributions to society. The ultimate goal of nursing is to assist individuals, families, and groups to achieve optimal levels of health or wellness.

### **Person and Health**

Wellness is holistic in nature and encompasses physical, emotional, social, and spiritual well-being. A person is a dynamic, bio-psychosocial system who is in constant interaction with his ever-changing environment. A person's state of wellness, throughout the life cycle, is altered by events both internal and external. These events, affected by environmental factors, are both developmental and situational and may be either biophysical or psychosocial. Some of these events can be hazardous in that they are critical to a person's future levels of wellness, both immediate and long-term. People respond to these events in terms of inherent biophysical potential and psychosocially and culturally based experiences. The outcome of this response is determined by the perception of the event, repertoire of coping measures, and external support systems. When these coping mechanisms are insufficient to deal effectively with hazardous events, a state of crisis develops and external interventions are required for resolution.

## **Nursing**

At all levels on the wellness continuum, the role of the nurse is to contribute to the provision of an optimal environment in order to promote growth and to maximize movement toward the highest level of wellness that the individual is able to achieve. The practice of nursing is both a science and an art based on professional nursing standards; it achieves its goals by a process known as caring. Caring involves therapeutic interventions based on interpersonal communication skills, technical competence, and the deliberate use of an intellectual process, consisting of assessing, planning, intervening, and evaluating a plan of care with the client. Nursing has both independent and interdependent functions. The independent function of the nurse is the diagnosis and treatment of responses to actual or potential health problems. The interdependent function of the nurse is to work with other health care providers to promote an interdisciplinary approach to comprehensive health care.

Nursing intervention varies with whether or not the client is in need of services. Emphasis is placed on prevention through health teaching, support of functional coping mechanisms, and the mobilization of support systems. When total recovery seems improbable, the nurse works, through rehabilitation, to return the client to this optimal level of wellness or to support a rational and dignified death.

The Baccalaureate degree in Nursing fosters self-awareness, intellectual curiosity, and personal fulfillment -- the hallmarks of Baccalaureate education. Baccalaureate Nursing education strengthens nursing practice with a foundation in the sciences and humanities which contributes to theory-based practice, systematic inquiry, critical thinking, and a broadened social awareness. Baccalaureate preparation in Nursing prepares a professional, competent generalist who exerts leadership and is able to transcend specific health care settings to utilize the nursing process in a multitude of environments. In addition, the professional nurse brings skills in research, planned change, and teaching/learning to the

health care setting. The Baccalaureate degree also provides the nurse with a base for graduate education in Nursing.

### **Society/ Environment**

Nursing, as a profession, is engaged in a social contract with the larger social system in that it provides an essential service to that society from a multicultural perspective. Because a person also exists within the context of family and society, professional nursing acknowledges families and communities, in addition to individuals, as appropriate recipients of care. In response to unique needs of specific populations and dynamics within the health care system, the professional nurse also designs and assumes new roles that enable nursing to respond positively to the needs of a dynamic society.

### **Learning**

Learning is an active, life-long process in which permanent changes in behavior occur in cognitive, affective, and psychomotor domains. Learning is based upon factors both internal and external to the learner; internal factors include motivation, readiness, and individual learning styles. External factors include sequencing, use of multiple teaching modalities, and maintenance of a supportive environment. Students are active participants in the learning process. Faculty structure formal and informal learning environments that take place in an atmosphere of mutual respect. Faculty also function as role models for students; through their activities, they provide an example of professionals who are themselves involved in life-long learning and socially responsive activities.

### **Teaching**

Teaching involves a relationship between the student and teacher that fosters independence on the part of the learner. It involves structuring a series of progressive learning experiences that are futuristic as well as contemporary, challenging, and flexible. This process occurs in a milieu that encourages life-long learning, an inquiring frame of reference, and mutual respect.

### C. **Purpose of the Department of the B.S.N. Program**

The purpose of Central Connecticut State University's Department of Nursing is to provide a program of high academic excellence, based on a strong foundation in the liberal arts. This program is designed to prepare a Professional Nurse Generalist who is aware of and alert to existing and anticipated nursing and health care needs of individuals, families and communities. The Professional Nurse will be able to respond with relevant knowledge and skills to meet these needs in a variety of health care settings.

It is anticipated that this Professional Nurse, as an individual and as a citizen, will demonstrate responsibility and accountability to the consumer as well as to herself or himself and to the profession. She or he will be a collaborative participant in the health care system.

The program is designed to serve as a foundation for graduate study and to provide an environment in which students can develop their potential as individuals and as contributing members of society.

In summary, upon completion of this program the faculty expects graduates to:

- Be a professional competent Generalist in Nursing
- Recognize the need for continued personal and professional development throughout life
- Possess the educational background for post-Baccalaureate study in Nursing
- Practice professional Nursing

### D. **Program Objectives**

Upon completion of the program, the graduate will be able to:

1. Operate from a selected philosophical and conceptual framework derived from Nursing theory and Nursing practice in a dynamic process of refining and extending his/her practice.
2. Critically evaluate and apply relevant knowledge from the biological and social sciences, the arts, and humanities to the practice of Nursing.
3. Utilizes the nursing process in caring for individuals, families, and groups from diverse cultural and socioeconomic backgrounds, across the life span, in all stages of crisis, and in a variety of settings.
4. Critically evaluate research for its applicability to nursing practice and future study.
5. Demonstrate individual responsibility and accountability for nursing actions and for activities related to the development of Nursing as a profession.

6. Demonstrate individual use of leadership skills in achieving nursing goals and meeting health care needs of clients in diverse health care settings.
7. Functions in a collaborative role with members of an interdisciplinary team in providing care to diverse individuals, families, and groups in a variety of settings.
8. Incorporate social awareness into ongoing personal and professional development.

## E. **Health Policies**

### E.1 **Immunizations and Physical Examination**

Prior to the first day of scheduled class in any course with a clinical component, all full-time and part-time nursing students must submit to the University Health Services evidence of the following:

1. PHYSICAL EXAMINATION: A complete physical examination is required. Annual forms should be submitted each year.
2. IMMUNIZATION/TITRES: OSHA regulations, clinical agency requirements, and Connecticut state law require that all nursing students provide evidence of the following immunization or titre:
  - A. HEPATITIS B VACCINE : (Recombinvax HB Vaccine is given in 3 dosages usually at one month intervals and costs approximately \$200.00.)

One or more of the following shall be on file:

- i. Hepatitis B virus (HBV) immunization record
- ii. Documented history of HBV infection
- iii. Antibody status positive titers showing previous antigen response to HBV
- iv. Documented informal refusal regarding HBV immunizations (available in the department of Nursing).

#### B. MEASLES

Connecticut State Law requires two doses of measles vaccine. Dose one must have been given after the student's first birthday provided this is after January 1, 1969. Dose two must have been given after January 1, 1980. Each dose must be at least one month apart. Persons born before January 1, 1957 need not be considered susceptible since they were likely to have been naturally infected. If you have had the disease, you need to demonstrate immunity by a laboratory bloodwork for measles as acceptable proof of immunity. Those persons for whom the vaccination is not advised need to present a written statement from your physician as to the contraindication of the immunization.

#### C. MUMPS

Physician documentation of one (1) dose of live attenuated mumps vaccine on or after the first birthday or history of illness or titre.

D. POLIO (Speak with your physician about this vaccination.)

E. RUBELLA

Physician documentation of immunization with live virus vaccine on or after one's first birthday OR a blood test documenting adequate immunity.

F. TETANUS/DIPHTHERIA (Speak with your physician about this vaccination.)

G. TUBERCULOSIS

An intermediate PPD at entry to the program. Yearly intermediate PPD. Exceptions to this rule are:

Those students with BCG immunization, positive PPD or evidence of immunosuppression\*.

\*For these exceptional cases, a physician's note documenting no evidence of TB symptoms must be received on a yearly basis. This should also include documentation of an initial single chest x-ray demonstrating freedom from the disease.

H. VARICELLA (CHICKEN POX) STATUS): Proof of vaccine or titre.

STUDENTS MUST MAKE ARRANGEMENTS TO HAVE REQUIRED IMMUNIZATIONS COMPLETED BEFORE THE BEGINNING OF THE CLINICAL SEMESTER/SESSION. Students will not be permitted to begin their clinical experience until ALL materials are received and reviewed.

Nursing students who are ill or infectious will not be permitted to the clinical experience/laboratory. In the event that a student reports to the clinical area, the final judgment regarding the student's health status will be with the clinical faculty. Students are required to obtain approval to return to the clinical area from CCSU Health Services or a private physician.

It is the student's responsibility to inform the clinical faculty of any existing health problems. The student has the responsibility to advise the clinical faculty of any health problems which may affect the student's ability to perform or which may compromise her/his health and safety in the clinical area or the health and safety of the patients/clients at the agency utilized for the clinical experience.

## II. ACADEMIC POLICIES

### A. Attendance

1. Class. If the learner is unable to attend a scheduled class, faculty notification prior to the class session is expected. The learner is responsible for class material needed. Classes will begin on time. If a student is absent for more than five days for medical reasons, she/he must notify the University

Health Services in advance of her/his return; for non-medical reasons, she/he must notify the Office of Student Services, which notifies the instructor.

2. Electronic communication. Electronic communication devices (i.e. cell phones, pagers) are not allowed to be on inpatient clinical settings or during class or laboratory. Phones must be placed on silent mode or turned off. Cell phones must be put away during exams and are not permitted during test taking FOR ANY REASON.
3. Clinical Laboratory. The clinical laboratory is not considered to be optional, but a planned experience in an agency to implement theory and principles. Therefore, all students are required to attend clinical laboratory as scheduled. If a student cannot attend at the assigned time, she/he is responsible for notifying the instructor and agency ahead of time, so that other arrangements can be made to ensure continuity of care for the assigned clients.
4. Withdrawal. Withdrawal for students is the same as that in the regular University. A part-time student dropping a course must inform their advisor at the time of withdrawal. Full-time students dropping a course must confer with the Dean of the School of Educational and Professional Studies. Failure to officially withdraw will result in an automatic "F" for the course. Cessation of attendance in a class does not constitute withdrawal. Notice to instructors or telephone calls are NOT official notice of a student's intention to withdraw from a course. Students should check the academic calendar regarding withdrawal dates.
5. Cancellation (Weather). If it appears necessary to cancel classes for any reason, the Administration will notify Radio Station WTIC, Hartford (1080). Evening Division classes will not be automatically canceled when day classes are canceled. Radio announcements canceling Evening Division classes will normally be made at 2:00 p.m. Snow Phone: 832-3333.
6. Academic Advising. Faculty members in the Department of Nursing serve as advisers for nursing students. It is the student's responsibility to meet with their adviser each semester for academic advising and course registration. Students are encouraged to seek out their adviser for professional career advising and support. Since courses fill quickly and there are limited seats available, it is strongly recommended that students register during university registration periods. It is not the department or adviser's responsibility if a course or section closes and the student is late to register.

## **B. Clinical Laboratory Practice**

1. Liability Insurance. All students are required to carry and provide documentation of adequate malpractice and health insurance. Liability coverage should include one million per occurrence and three million maximum annual limit. No student will be allowed to participate in a Clinical Laboratory experience without this documentation. Students must adhere to ANA Code of Ethics and the Connecticut State Nurse Practice Act as well as institutional policies.
2. CPR Certification/Recertification. Current CPR certification is required for students to attend any clinical experience. Evidence of CPR certification must be provided before students can attend clinical. Acceptable CPR courses are BCLS for Health Care Providers from the American Heart Association or BCLS for Professional Rescuers from the American Red Cross.

3. Licensure. Students must be licensed currently as a Registered Nurse in Connecticut if they are in the RN-to-BSN program. A copy must be submitted for the student's file upon admission to the University and annually thereafter.
4. Background Check. Background checks are required as part of the licensing process. Individual hospitals or agencies may require students to submit background checks prior to starting a clinical rotation. It is the student's responsibility to pay for and submit a background check. Situations that may arise will be dealt with on an individual basis.
5. Occupational Exposure and Safety Policies
  - a. Students are required to read and complete the *CHA (Connecticut Hospital Association) Health and Safety Training Course* and pass the post-test annually. It is available on line at [www.chime.org](http://www.chime.org). The post-test must be downloaded, printed, and completed by the students and submitted to the instructor.
  - b. Students must follow their clinical agencies' policies regarding occupational exposure. A copy of the Agency Incident report must be placed in the student's CCSU file if an incident takes place.
6. Dress Code. Students are considered to be accountable both personally and professionally for their dress code. Clothing should be neat, clean, and suitable for a professional setting. Specific dress codes are prescribed by the participating agency. Failure to dress appropriately could be a precipitating factor for the faculty to dismiss a student from the Clinical Laboratory area. A name tag should be worn at all times to identify the individual as a nursing student from CCSU.

For students in the generic BSN program:

- 1) Clean, plain white shoes or leather sneakers must be worn. No sandals or open backed clogs. No soft or cloth shoes.
  - (2) A laboratory coat with the CCSU logo may also be worn.
  - (3) A watch with a second hand is required.
  - (4) A black pen, bandage scissors, tape measure, stethoscope and sphygmomanometer are also required for clinical experiences.
  - (5) Jewelry is limited to one pair of stud earrings and a wedding band. No other visible body piercings or tattoos are allowed.
  - (6) Fingernails must be short. Nail polish and artificial nails are not allowed.
  - (7) Beards and mustaches must be neatly trimmed.
  - (8) Hair is to be secured away from face and off the shoulders.
  - (9) No gum chewing is allowed in clinical.
  - (10) CCSU ID must be carried with you during your clinical experience.
7. Clinical Laboratory. Only the time present in the clinical area, excluding lunch breaks and travel time to and from clinical, are counted as actual laboratory experience. Some courses require independent assignments in order to fulfill the required clinical hours. This independent work must be documented and dated. If a student is absent from an assigned site, the clinical instructor may assign make-up work that she/he feels necessary for the student's learning experience. All required

hours must be completed for the student to receive a grade for the course. Students are expected to be on time for all Clinical Laboratory experiences. They are to be prepared both physically and intellectually for the clinical assignment.

7. Transportation. Students are personally responsible for all transportation to and from Clinical Laboratory experiences. A variety of clinical experiences are necessary to meet the educational needs of nursing students in practice areas. Clinical placement is based on course objectives and the availability of clinical sites. Students may be required to travel within one hour from campus when attending clinical experiences. Students are responsible for any parking and gasoline costs.

There may be evening or weekend clinical rotations that need to be scheduled. The Department of Nursing retains the right to place and schedule students in appropriate settings.

### C. Academic Standards

#### *Pre-nursing Eligibility Criteria*

1. There is a fall only admission, with a limited number of pre-nursing students selected each fall. Admission is expected to be highly competitive and meeting the following minimum criteria does not guarantee admission to the Nursing Program.
2. Pre-nursing students must be ready to start CHEM 150.
3. Admission to CCSU as a pre-nursing major requires:
  - a. Eligibility to enroll in CHEM 150: Chemistry of Allied Health I
  - b. OR AP Credit for CHEM 161 and 162
  - c. For transfer students and re-entry students only,
    - i. A cumulative GPA of 2.70 or better
    - ii. A grade of “C” or better in any required science courses, if completed,
    - iii. A grade of “B-“ or better in any nursing course, if completed
  - d. For change of major students who are matriculated CCSU students,
    - i. An application will be available in February and due March 1
    - ii. A cumulative GPA of 2.70 or better
    - iii. A grade of “C” or better in any required science courses, if completed,
    - iv. A grade of “B-“ or better in any nursing course, if completed

Admission to CCSU does not guarantee admission to the nursing program. Students must be enrolled and matriculated at CCSU prior to application. Students should note the following information regarding application to the nursing program:

#### *Nursing Program Admission Requirements*

1. Admission to the Nursing Program is expected to be highly competitive and meeting the following minimum criteria does no guarantee admission. Priority will be given to CCSU first year pre-nursing majors and CCSU students who have changed their major to pre-nursing.
  - a. Application packets are available February 1
  - b. Submission of all application materials to the Nursing program by March 1
  - c. Matriculation at CCSU
  - d. Completion of a minimum of 14 credits

- e. A minimum cumulative GPA of 2.70 at CCSU and a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.70 for all undergraduate coursework taken at all institutions (including CCSU)
  - f. A grade of “C” or better in CHEM 150: Chemistry of Allied Health I
  - g. A grade of “B-“ or better in NRSE 110: Introduction to Nursing Theories
2. Students who do not meet the above criteria may reapply the following year if admission criteria are met.

*Retention (Pending University Approval)*

1. Once admitted to the nursing program:
  - a. students must maintain an overall nursing GPA of 2.5 each semester,
  - b. and must achieve a C+ or better in each nursing course.
  - c. Nursing courses may be repeated only once.
2. If the overall major GPA drops below a 2.50, the student will be placed on departmental probation and must
  - a. Meet with their academic adviser and the Department Standards Committee to develop a plan of action;
  - b. A student is permitted two semesters of probationary status prior to dismissal from the program;
  - c. When the student earns a semester and cumulative GPA of 2.50 or higher, the student will return to departmental good standing.
3. Students must earn a grade of “C” or better in the following courses: BIO/BMS 318, BIO/BMS 319, BMS 216, BMS 206, CHEM 152
4. Students who achieve below a C+ in a nursing course, may repeat the course once. Two nursing course failures will result in academic dismissal from the program.
5. Clinical experiences are graded pass/fail. A student must receive a passing grade in clinical in order to receive a passing grade in the course. If a student fails the clinical component, they fail the entire course. If they fail the theoretical component, they fail the entire course, and must repeat both theory and clinical component.

*Revocation of Admission to the Professional Program*

1. The following occurrences result in academic dismissal from the Department of Nursing:
  - a. C or below in any two nursing courses in the nursing program
  - b. C or below in the same nursing course more than once.
2. Once dismissed from the program, students may not reapply.

**D. Medication Calculation Test**

As a requirement of the Department of Nursing, students are required to pass the Medication calculation test by the beginning of the fall semester in the Junior year. The exam will be given on scheduled dates at the beginning of each semester. All entering students in the generic BSN nursing program must take and pass the medication calculation exam with a grade of 100% before providing clinical care. Calculators are not permitted. Students who are unable to pass the exam with a grade of 100 & after six attempts will be ineligible to begin the clinical course that semester. Information

regarding this mandatory test will be presented to students in the acceptance letter and workshops will be held in the Nursing Learning Center as posted.

E. **Assignments, Examinations, and Grading**

1. Assignments

1. Students will be provided a detailed course syllabus at the beginning of each course.
2. All assignments within courses must be submitted in order to meet course requirements.
3. Students are encouraged to make copies of all papers prior to submission to the faculty. The faculty reserves the right to retain papers and assignments. **The copier in the Department of Nursing is not available for student use.**

4. Student papers and other written assignments are due on the date specified by the faculty unless specific arrangements have been made by the student *prior* to the due date of the assignment. Consequences will result in a lowering of the grade as stated in the course syllabi.

2. Examinations

1. University policies concerning examination procedures will be strictly enforced.
2. All examinations must be taken on the day scheduled. If there is an excused absence for an examination, students must assume responsibility for making arrangements with the appropriate faculty member within one week for a make-up exam; otherwise, the grade automatically becomes a zero. Make-up exams may be in a different format than the original exam.
3. When a student is late for an examination, the student may be permitted to take the exam but will not be given additional time. Faculty, though, may deny students access to an exam if they are unreasonably late for an exam.
4. Before students receive course accommodations for a disability related need in a nursing class, the students will need to make an appointment with the Disabilities Resource Office located in Willard.
5. No dictionaries, cell phones, and calculators are allowed during exams.

3. Grading

The grading system of the Department of Nursing will be in accordance with those policies set by the governance of the Connecticut State University as indicated in *the Student Undergraduate Catalog*. The numerical ranges that are used are as follows:

GPA	GRADE	SCORE RANGE
4.0 -----	A -----	93-100

3.7 -----	A- -----	90-92
3.3 -----	B+ -----	87-89
3.0 -----	B -----	84-86
2.7 -----	B- -----	80-83
2.3 -----	C+ -----	77-79
2.0 -----	C -----	74-76
1.7 -----	C- -----	70-73
1.3 -----	D+ -----	67-69
1.0 -----	D -----	64-66
0.7 -----	D- -----	60-63
0.0 -----	F -----	59 and down

Incomplete - An I (Incomplete) which is not removed within the first eight weeks of the following semester becomes an “F.”

Students who have concerns related to academic policy or grading in any nursing course should observe the following communication channels:

- a. Contact the faculty member for discussion.
- b. If the issue is not resolved after discussion with the faculty responsible for the course, then the Chairperson of the Department of Nursing may be contacted to clarify program policy and resolve the identified issue.
- c. If the issue is still not resolved, the student may write the Dean of Education and Professional Studies requesting resolution of the issue.

#### F. Academic Integrity

Academic misconduct is defined by the CSU code of conduct as “including but ‘not limited to providing or receiving assistance in a manner not authorized by the instructor in the creation of work to be submitted for academic evaluation including papers, projects and examinations (cheating); and presenting, as one’s own, the ideas or words of another person or persons for academic evaluation without proper acknowledgement (plagiarism).” For further information and understanding, students should familiarize themselves with the Undergraduate Policy on Academic Integrity found at the following address: <http://www.ccsu.edu/AcademicIntegrity/>

#### G. Awards/ Scholarships

Often there are organizations that give out scholarships or awards to nursing students based on either scholastic ability or need. Please check the bulletin board located outside the Nursing Learning Center or in the nursing office for posted applications.

#### H. Organizations

*Student Nurses Association (NSNA)*. CCSU is a member of the National Student Nurses’ Association. Membership in this organization automatically makes one a member of the Connecticut Student Nurses’ Association. Students are encouraged to join and participate in local, state, and national activities. Membership is open to all students attending CCSU. Membership requires dues that are the student’s responsibility.

*Sigma Theta Tau International (STT)*. STT is the International Nursing Honor Society. CCSU is part of Iota Upsilon Chapter at Large with Saint Joseph College and The University of Hartford. Students in their Junior or Senior Year are inducted annually based on academic standing and organization criteria. Information will be announced yearly in the spring. It is open to both programs.

### III. POLICIES SPECIFIC TO THE RN- BSN PROGRAM

#### A. Admission Requirements for the RN-BSN Program

In addition to meeting all requirements established for admission to Central Connecticut State University, the applicant must:

- a. Be licensed as a registered Nursing in Connecticut;
- b. Must carry and provide documentation of adequate malpractice and health insurance;
- c. Applicants must be certified and provide proof of CPR;
- d. Complete upon faculty recommendation the following courses:
  - a. Freshman English (3 cr)
  - b. Elementary Statistics (3 cr)
  - c. Intro to Psychology (3 cr)
  - d. Intro to Sociology (3 cr)
  - e. Natural Science (6 cr)
- e. Admission to the University does not guarantee acceptance to Upper Division Courses; applicant in their final year of a diploma or associate degree program may be accepted on a provisional basis.