

**ALLEN COLLEGE – UNITYPOINT HEALTH
STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE**

Supersedes: 11/16, 6/17

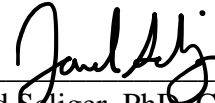
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Last Review Date: October 2019

Required Review Date: November 2023

Administrative Unit: Undergraduate Nursing
Curriculum Committee

Approved By:



Jared Seliger, PhD, CNMT
President

SUBJECT: RN-BSN Challenge Courses

PURPOSE: To provide a uniform process for RN-BSN students to challenge select courses in the RN-BSN curriculum

EFFECTIVE

FOR: RN-BSN students and faculty

POLICY:

RN-BSN students have the opportunity to challenge a maximum of two courses in the RN-BSN program, only one of these courses can be a clinical course. RN-BSN students who request to challenge a course must provide documentation of experience, including clinical experience as appropriate, as a registered nurse that is related to the course that is being challenged.

In order to be eligible to challenge a course, the student must have completed a minimum of one year of part-time employment as a registered nurse and have a minimum of 1,000 hours in a practice setting that is relevant to the content in the course that is being challenged.

In order to successfully complete the challenge of a course, the student shall achieve at least a 73% on the content exam for the course and submit a professional portfolio documenting relevant clinical experience in the content area approved by RN-BSN faculty.

Challenge exams are considered courses and are treated as courses when determining course credit and when making decisions regarding progression. Please take this into consideration when choosing to challenge a course. Required coursework eligible for challenge by students enrolled in the RN to BSN program:

- NU380 – Evidence Based Practice and Nursing Research
- NU458 – Care Coordination Across the Lifespan
- NU450 – Community & Public Health Nursing
- NU462 – Nursing Leadership

Challenge courses are pass/fail and do not impact the student's GPA. Students who pass the challenge course will be awarded full credit for the course. Students who do not pass the challenge course will be required to enroll for the course and the failed challenge course will count as a failed course in his/her progression efforts.

PROCEDURE:

1. RN-BSN students who choose to challenge a course shall contact the Academic Registration Center to register for the challenge course. This shall occur prior to the semester of enrollment in the challenge course.
2. Students who would like to challenge a course during their course of study can contact the Academic Registration Center and have the challenge course added to their plan of study for a future semester. Students are discouraged from registering for a challenge course during their final semester of enrollment.
3. After being registered for the course, the student will have access to the challenge course in the online learning platform.
4. The online learning platform shall provide the student additional details about the professional portfolio and challenge exam.
5. The professional portfolio shall demonstrate how the student has met the course objectives. This shall include documentation and examples of relevant work and/or service experience that is related to the course objectives.
6. The challenge exam shall be a 100 point exam that is proctored. The exam may consist of any of the following types of questions – multiple choice, true/false, short answer, and/or essay.
7. Students shall be provided an exam blue print in order to prepare for the exam which will include: unit objectives, content areas, and breakdown of the types of questions on the exam.