

# Nursing

## BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

### Why earn a degree in nursing?

Every day we hear about our aging population, or a breakthrough in health science research, or a touching story about somebody battling illness. Those stories pique your curiosity and you've always been interested in a career in the health care sector. UFV can start you on a path to a profession where you can make a significant difference in someone's life.

#### WHAT TYPE OF CAREER CAN I EXPECT?

That depends on you and where you want to take your career. UFV's Nursing degree program is designed to meet your needs and will prepare you for a career in health care. Recent health care reforms launched by the provincial government emphasize health promotion, disease prevention, and community-based health care. These changes mean new opportunities for today's UFV nursing grads, who are recognized as major contributors to health care reform. Upon graduation, you will be prepared to practise in hospitals or in the community — and at many different levels. UFV's BSN program is designed to prepare you to be an effective and professional nurse in an evolving health care environment.

#### HOW WILL UFV PREPARE ME FOR MY CAREER?

UFV's Nursing degree program offers instruction in nursing, health sciences, social sciences, research, and an opportunity for individual focus in a variety of areas.

We offer three degree options:

- BSN — a four-year program
- BSN — a three-year program
- BSN-LPN Access — This program allows Licensed Practical Nurses to bridge into the second year of the nursing program.

UFV's program is approved by the College of Registered Nurses of B.C. Upon graduation you will be eligible to successfully write the registration examinations, which will allow you to practise as a registered nurse.



*“UFV has a well-rounded program that provides you with a good balance of theory and clinical hours.”*

— SHARON VERDE,  
1999 graduate, Bachelor  
of Science in Nursing.

# Nursing



*“Nursing is not for everyone. At UBC you take a lot of theory before you get into the clinical setting. UFV combines theory and clinical, so you get a sense right away if you’re suited for this or not. The range of clinical experience was also great, with different hospitals and working environments to sample.”*

— GREG ASAYO, Bachelor of Science in Nursing, 2001 graduate.

Because you have a life, UFV provides course delivery options that are flexible wherever possible and include independent study, lectures, seminars, multimedia approaches, and simulation in labs and tutorials. During the clinical experiences you will work in hospitals and community agencies with supervised practica, preceptorships, and observational experiences. Keep in mind that clinical experience may include extended work days, evening shifts, and weekends. Again, this will prepare you for eventual work in a health care setting.

## WHAT DO I NEED TO GET IN?

Basic degree applicants will need to have:

1. B.C. secondary school graduation or equivalent (GED or ABE provincial diploma) with:
  - » Biology 12 (UFV BIO 093) or first-year university-level biology (UFV BIO 111) and Chemistry 11 (UFV CHEM 083) or first-year university-level chemistry (UFV CHEM 105, 110 or 113) with a minimum of C+ grade completed within five years prior to enrolment
  - » Math 11 (Algebra, or Principles of Math 11), or UFV MATH 085 with a minimum C+ grade
  - » English 12 (UFV ENGL 091 or ENGL 099) with a minimum B grade, or ENGL 105 with a minimum C grade

2. Current Standard First Aid certificate
3. Basic Rescuer — Level C certificate
4. Identification documents — birth certificate, marriage certificate, verification of name change, landed immigrant/Canadian citizenship
5. Valid driver’s licence
6. Volunteer experience or employment in a health care field. Volunteer experience will consist of a minimum of 30 hours of volunteer work with adults or children in an acute care, long-term care, or community health care agency. You will be asked to submit a written reference that reflects the length and nature of the volunteer experience or employment in a health care field

## I’M ALREADY AN LPN; CAN I GET MORE FROM MY CAREER?

Absolutely! UFV recognizes that careers change and evolve and that’s why we introduced Licensed Practical Nursing Access to the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program. This access option will present you with an opportunity as a licensed practical nurse to bridge into our Nursing program and lead you toward that degree you’ve been dreaming about. The LPN Access option is offered subject to seat availability in Year Two of the BSN program.

## WHAT ARE THE ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE LPN OPTION?

Here’s a brief outline of what you’ll need as an LPN access applicant:

- English 105 or equivalent with a minimum C grade
- HSC 110 and HSC 112 or equivalent with a minimum C grade or completion of a challenge exam with a minimum C grade
- Current full scope practicing registration as a Licensed Practical Nurse in B.C.
- Employment in a health care setting
- Basic Rescuer — Level C certificate
- Identification documents

## CAN I GET ACADEMIC CREDIT FOR THE SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE THAT I HAVE GAINED IN MY LIFE SO FAR?

Yes. UFV offers Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR), a flexible assessment process that evaluates your experiential learning (what you already know and can do) for post-secondary credit. Experiential learning includes independent study, volunteer activities, non-credit courses, workplace learning, and military service. To find out more, check out the PLAR website at [www.ufv.ca/plar](http://www.ufv.ca/plar) or contact Susan Brown, Assessment Services Coordinator, PLAR at 604-851-6342 or [susan.brown@ufv.ca](mailto:susan.brown@ufv.ca).

### IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE?

Once prerequisites have been met, you will be sent a letter acknowledging your “complete” status. Each spring and fall complete applicants are invited to attend information sessions. You will write an application essay at that time and can sign up for your individual interview with program faculty at the information session. Additional forms will be enclosed with the invitations and should be completed and returned to the nursing department.

The forms include:

- a health assessment
- an immunization record. Hepatitis B immunization will be provided upon entry into the program if you haven't already been immunized
- a criminal record check

If English is not your first language, you might be required to successfully complete UFV's ESL Advanced Speaking/Listening and Writing course

### WHAT IS THE PROGRAM LIKE?

A full description of the courses taken in the three BSN options is available in the UFV calendar at [www.ufv.ca/calendar](http://www.ufv.ca/calendar) .

### SOUNDS GOOD. WHAT DO I DO NOW?

The next step would be to check our online calendar [www.ufv.ca/calendar](http://www.ufv.ca/calendar) . Read the section about our BSN program carefully. To download the program application forms, go to [www.ufv.ca/health](http://www.ufv.ca/health) and select Download Centre. Under Bachelor of Science in Nursing program forms, select both forms. You should then fill out the application forms and submit them along with the required documents and the \$45 application fee, to the Admissions and Records department at any UFV centre or through the internet at [www.pas.bc.ca](http://www.pas.bc.ca) .

### WHEN SHOULD I APPLY?

You may apply at any time; however, if you plan to start your studies in September, your complete application should be received by January 31. If you plan to start your studies in January, your complete application should be received by August 31.

Applications received after these deadlines will be considered if space is still available.

### HOW MUCH WILL IT COST?

Your fees are calculated based on a fee-per-credit basis. Course credits for the Nursing program are approximately 12-17 credits per semester. You should note that the majority of books and supplies are purchased in the first semester. Textbooks and supplies for the first semester total about \$1,600. Additional textbooks will be required throughout the program. Parking fees are required at some clinical placement agencies.

UFV has a comprehensive financial assistance program including scholarships, loans, and bursaries. You can get all the details from Student Financial Aid Services. You can also download a helpful budget planning worksheet at [www.ufv.ca/fineaid/budget](http://www.ufv.ca/fineaid/budget) .

### HOW LONG WILL I STUDY BEFORE I CAN EARN A DEGREE?

For the basic degree student there are two program options available to you — either three or four years. The four-year option has two intakes each year, one in September and one in January. The three-year option occurs only in September. For LPN Access applicants there is one program intake in September. Applicants accepted into this program will complete the degree in two years.



*“I always wanted to learn more as an RN and do more to help the public. UFV's program gives me the opportunity to fulfill this goal while acknowledging my past nursing experience.”*

— CORRIE OUELLETTE, BSN LPN access student.

## WHAT ELSE DO I NEED TO KNOW?

All Nursing and Health Science classes are taught at the Health Sciences centre at our Chilliwack campus. As a program student, you will receive a UFV Nursing Program Student Guidelines and Policies manual, which further explains the requirements of our program. Clinical experiences occur at a number of agencies throughout the Fraser Valley and you will be responsible for your own transportation to these locations.

It's also important to point out that UFV's Nursing program is demanding. We ask a lot of our students and if you are taking a full course load, you will not have time to work either full-time or part-time.

You need to assess your fit for nursing by considering the skills and abilities required of a nurse. These can be determined by reviewing the document titled *Requisite Skills and Abilities for Registered Nurses in B.C.* It is available online [www.crnbc.ca/downloads/464.pdf](http://www.crnbc.ca/downloads/464.pdf).

## WHAT KIND OF ASSISTANCE IS THERE TO HELP ME ADJUST?

Please visit [www.ufv.ca/student-services](http://www.ufv.ca/student-services) to learn about the broad range of services designed to help you learn about and adjust to the university environment.

## CAN I SPEAK WITH SOMEONE ABOUT MY OPTIONS?

Absolutely. We'd love to hear from you. If you're unsure of your direction, contact Student Services at 1-888-504-7441 to connect with an educational advisor, or arrange for career counselling. Also, feel free to contact our Health Sciences centre, located on the Chilliwack campus at 604-795-2817, to speak with someone in the department who can answer more of your questions.



The information contained in this document is subject to change. Please refer to [www.ufv.ca/health](http://www.ufv.ca/health) for up-to-date information. UFV reserves the right to cancel courses and programs.



## About UFV

Nestled in the beautiful Fraser Valley just east of Vancouver, in B.C., UFV is a fully accredited, public university that enrolls more than 11,000 students each year. UFV has campuses in Abbotsford, Chilliwack, and Mission and regional centres in Hope and Agassiz, and a growing presence in Chandigarh, India.

UFV is committed to exceptional post-secondary instruction and a nurturing learning environment. We are large enough to offer variety, yet small enough to offer the personal attention that our students need to thrive. Our small class sizes and focus on teaching allow our students to get to know their instructors and learn in a hands-on setting.

We offer more than 80 programs, including 13 bachelor's degrees, a master's degree, and more than a dozen trades and technology programs. We believe that anyone who wants to go to university should be given the chance, so our admission policies are flexible, and we provide university prep courses and high school completion options. There are many options for learning: full-time, in class, online, as part of a structured program or one tailored specifically to your interests.

Many of our programs "ladder" into one another, allowing students to keep their options open. Our international programming makes for a culturally diverse student body and great opportunities to study abroad, while our continuing studies offerings make learning a lifelong experience.

UFV is recognized nationally for student success, an excellent learning environment, creative integration of programming, and our work with our local communities.

Get to know us better at [www.ufv.ca](http://www.ufv.ca).

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