

DEGREE PROGRAMME IN NURSING
BACHELOR OF HEALTH CARE
PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION

210 ECTS credits
Duration of studies 2012-2015

Approved 23.12.2011





DEGREE PROGRAMME	Degree Programme in Nursing
EXTENT OF DEGREE IN ECTS CREDITS	210
DEGREE PROGRAMME INSTRUCTION LANGUAGE	English
CODE	SNP12S1
QUALIFICATION AWARDED	Bachelor of Health Care
LEVEL OF QUALIFICATION	The European Qualifications Framework (EQF) level 6. Bachelor's degree corresponds to a bachelor's degree at scientific university level. (Act 426/2005, 10 §.)
SPECIFIC ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS	Eligibility is obtained with general upper secondary school, vocational training, international baccalaureate, vocational college diploma or foreign degree/qualification which gives eligibility for higher education in the awarding country. EU/EAA citizens do not need to provide an English Proficiency certificate. NON-EU/EAA citizens must provide an English language proficiency certificate. For further information, http://www.jamk.fi/english/education
ACCREDITATION AND SPECIFIC ARRANGEMENTS FOR RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING	Accreditation methods are described in degree regulations and the Study Guide. For accreditation, the student needs to submit all certificates of his/her previous school, work experience, letters of reference etc. In other words, all documents that shows what the student has done and learned previously (studies, work experience etc.) We also need the course descriptions and the curricula of the programmes the student has attended. With the help of these documents the student has to self-evaluate his/her competences based on non-formal and informal learning; after this process he/she may ask for recognition.



QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS AND REGULATIONS

In addition to the documents quoted as the bases for planning degree-awarding education, the competences and the objectives of the Degree Programme in Nursing are based on ARENE's profession-specific (degree programme in nursing) competences and the requirements of the directive (2005/36/EY) issued by the European Parliament and Council on 7 September 2005 on the recognition of professional qualifications. Moreover, the following report of the Ministry of Education (2006) has been utilised in planning: Ammattikorkeakoulutusta terveydenhuoltoon (health care education provided by universities of applied sciences. Graduates' professional competences, core studies, and minimum number of credits).

PROFILE OF THE PROGRAMME

After graduating as bachelor of health care the students will have competences required in essential nursing interventions and are able to promote the health and well-being of the population in different circumstances in a culturally sensitive way. They have adapted basic competences in entrepreneurship and possess inner entrepreneurial attitude towards their career and know how. They are able to plan, assess and develop health promotion and nursing activities based on international, national, regional and organizational strategies, taking into account the cultural backgrounds of the families and communities. Understanding the basics of disaster management and being able to take protective measures and provide effective care under unusual caring circumstances is also emphasized. The focus of nursing studies is on applied research related to family nursing.

KEY LEARNING OUTCOMES

The overall learning outcome of the Degree Programme is that the students possess the professional knowledge of nursing and are able to critically apply the knowledge in changing environments. Students possess the basic entrepreneurship and leadership skills. They are able to perform professional nursing tasks on the basis of the best possible evidence. They can comply with the ethical principles and they are able to assume responsibility for developing themselves and their field of work.

PROFESSIONAL GROWTH AND KNOW-HOW

The curriculum of the Degree Programme in Nursing consists of competence areas as well as generic and programme specific competences. The learning process proceeds by competence areas, which consist of courses and they develop throughout the studies. The competences are described as process charts at three levels of development: basic-level competences, intermediate-level competences, and advanced level competences. Both the learning outcomes and the contents of the competence areas and the courses are based on these levels.



The competences of the students develop within the competence areas from the basic level to the advanced level and thus provide them with the ability to develop progressive expertise in their work. Based on their career plans, the students make choices within the competence areas and courses through their assignments and learning methods, through their bachelor's theses, and through their practical training environments.

The competence areas of the Degree Programme in Nursing (210 cr) include the interdisciplinary competence area shared by all the JAMK students, i.e. Transferable Skills (15 cr), and the competence areas shared by all the students of the School of Health and Social Studies, i.e. Welfare Services (15 cr) and Research and Development (20 cr). The competence areas shared by all the students of the Degree Programme in Nursing are Basics of Nursing (30 cr), Health Promotion and Public Health Problems (40 cr), Family and Community Nursing (25 cr), Nursing in Different Health Care Settings (25 cr), and Developing Nursing Expertise (25 cr).

**OCCUPATIONAL
PROFILES OF
GRADUATES WITH
EXAMPLES**

Most of the graduates are working as a nurse in Jyväskylä region in varied field of nursing expertise (basic healthcare, nursing homes, specialized healthcare). It is also possible to start an entrepreneurial career after graduation.

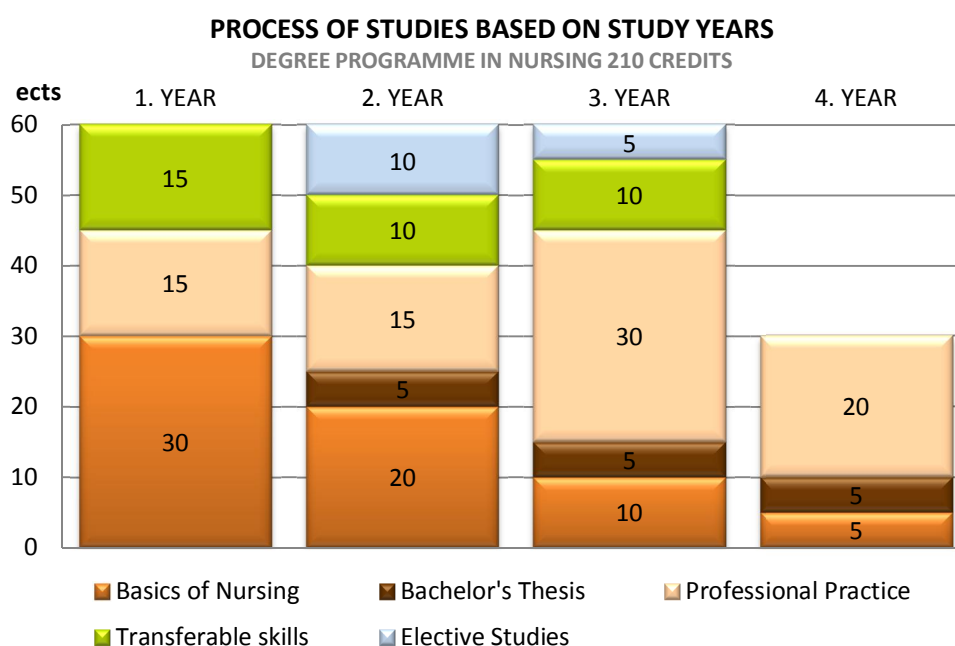
**ACCESS TO
FURTHER STUDIES**

Upon graduation and approximately 3 years after the workplace phase, the student may continue their studies in a university of applied sciences' degree programme leading to a Master's degree. A Master's degree earned at a university of applied sciences is equivalent to a Master's degree earned at university. Studies may also be continued by applying to, for example, university Master's degree programmes or equivalent. After earning a Bachelor's degree at JAMK, it is also possible to continue studying in Master's degree programmes at foreign universities.

JAMK also offers opportunities for continuing education in professional specialisation studies, higher education level apprenticeship training and professional development studies. If the student earns a Master's degree, they may be given the opportunity to enrol in academic or artistic post-graduate studies at university (Section 37 of the Universities Act 558/2009). Students must apply for post-graduate studies separately.



**COURSE
STRUCTURE
DIAGRAM**



**EXAMINATION
REGULATIONS,
ASSESSMENT AND
GRADING**

Studies are comprised of courses and broader competence areas. Courses are taken during one academic year. However, they must be completed by no later than the end of the autumn term for the following academic year. If a course remains incomplete, the student must take it over again during the following academic year. Exceptions to this include theses, internships and special workplace-based project studies.

In the first classroom session, the course's key learning objectives and content as well as its various assignments and assessment criteria are gone over, possible examination dates are discussed (main examination) and the end date of the course, after which no more assignments are accepted, is announced. The student is given a total of three chances to complete a given course: the main examination of the course or two separately specified re-examinations.

The competences of the Degree Programme in Nursing are described as generic and programme-specific competences. The assessment of the competences is based on the descriptions of the objectives of the competence areas and courses and on the assessment criteria. The students also assess the development of their competences in accordance with the above three levels in cooperation with their Career Tutors. The development of the competences in practical training is also assessed on the basis of three levels: basic, intermediate and advanced level. Assessment is based on the criteria designed for each level.

Learning outcomes are assessed in accordance with course's key learning objectives. If not mentioned otherwise in the programme description, a grading scale of 5 to 1 (5 Excellent, 4 Very Good, 3 Good, 2 Satisfactory, 1 Sufficient) is used. The students have the right to know how the assessment criteria have been applied to them. In special cases, a pass/fail scale may be used. The



completion of a course will be entered in the record of credits within a month from the given end date of the course, and always before the end of the academic year.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

A prerequisite for receiving a Bachelor's degree is that the student completes the studies (courses, internship, thesis and maturity exam) in their degree programme, within the period of their right to study, in accordance with their personal study plan.

MODE OF STUDY

Combined face-to-face and distance learning

In area of health and social care, expertise develops especially through versatile cooperation between educational institutions and the world of work, which offers students an authentic learning environment. The expertise needed at work develops in the social context in a work community. The students are gradually integrated in professional communities. At the initial stage, individual support and guidance are offered. By working together, the students are gradually given more responsibilities and opportunities for participation and flexible integration in the world of work. The aim is innovative learning that benefits the students, the teachers and the world of work, but is also critical and produces and distributes the students, the teachers and the world of work, but is also critical and produces and distributes new knowledge.

Each student will plan their personal study path with the tutor teacher. New flexible learning methods, such as virtual studies, utilisation of social media, conversion of work experience into learning modules, and alternative ways to of demonstrating one's competence are being used in teaching.

The students' R&D competences develop gradually throughout the whole learning process. From the very beginning, learning and teaching aim at providing the students with the ability to acquire research-based information, to use it and to process it. At a later stage of the learning process, the students participate in JAMK's own or external research or development projects in the "Work-related Development Project" Course (5 cr). Optional professional studies and practical training may also be completed in projects. Entire courses or learning assignments connected with courses may be integrated in R&D projects.

The objective of entrepreneurial studies is that the students know the basics of entrepreneurship and the possibilities that the production and development of health care services offer. They recognise entrepreneurship as a career option and the possibilities supporting entrepreneurship in their own studies.

International degree and exchange students create a multicultural and genuinely international study atmosphere. International lecturers and experts bring international special expertise into the Programme. The Degree Programme in Nursing also provides for an opportunity to Finnish students to study in English in international groups in their home country. The language and cultural studies



and courses implemented in English, as well as various projects enhance the students' international competences. The integration of international students in the Finnish cultural environment is promoted through e.g. Finnish language courses. Finnish language studies are also integrated to each nursing competence area using different teaching methods e.g. practical exam.

The students may complete part of their degree abroad in the form of studies or practical training. International student exchange takes place through e.g. Nordplus and Erasmus Programmes. JAMK has a large number of international partner universities, and the cooperation agreements with them give JAMK students a lot of possibilities to study abroad. The studies completed abroad are included in the students' personal study plans.

**HEAD OF THE
DEGREE
PROGRAMME**

Coordinator of Programme Marjo Palovaara, marjo.palovaara@jamk.fi, tel. +358 400 976 746

**PROGRAMME
PLANNING
PROCESS**

Apart from the teaching staff, a group consisting of representatives of students and work places (noninstitutional and institutional basic health care and specialised health care) has participated in designing the Degree Programme and in defining the learning outcomes and objectives in the curriculum. The competences required in the world of work and in the future are defined in further detail and included in the courses annually, based on the challenges arising from current research data and practical work environment in health care.

SCHOOL

JAMK University of Applied Sciences
School of Health and Social Studies,
Degree Programme in Nursing
Puistokatu 35, 40200 Jyväskylä

**FURTHER
INFORMATION**

A person applying for degree programme in nursing must meet certain health requirements to be able to study and work in the field. For further information please see applicant's guide.

**QUALITY
MANAGEMENT**

JAMK's quality system is audited by the Finnish Higher Education Evaluation Council (FINHEEC). Quality management consists of four elements: 1) planning, 2) action, 3) follow-up and evaluation and 4) quality improvement. The most important elements of quality management in education are

- PLANNING: JAMK strategy, Pedagogical principles, RDI principles, Performance agreement, OPS & HOPS
- ACTION: Education processes, Degree regulations, Study guide



- FOLLOW-UP AND EVALUATION: Course feedback, Student feedback, Follow-up surveys, External evaluations
- QUALITY IMPROVEMENT: Making use of follow-up and evaluations, Daily improvement.

For more information, see JAMK's Quality Manual.

PEDAGOGICAL PRINCIPLES

The Degree Programme is implemented in compliance with the pedagogical principles approved by the Board of JAMK University of Applied Sciences.

ETHICAL PRINCIPLES

The students and staff of JAMK act in compliance with the ethical principles approved by the Board of JAMK University of Applied Sciences on 15 December 2010.

LAST UPDATE

21.12.2011