



# THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO SCHOOL OF NURSING

## RN-to-BSN Online Degree Option

### Advising and Information Packet

#### Phase 1

##### UTEP Connect

Phone: 1-800-684-UTEP

Email: [utepconnect@utep.edu](mailto:utepconnect@utep.edu)

#### Phase 2

##### UTEP School of Nursing – Office of Student Affairs

Phone: (915) 747-8337

Website: [www.utep.edu/nursing](http://www.utep.edu/nursing)

Location: HSSN Bldg. Room 200

### The UTEP RN-to-BSN Degree Plan consists of:

- **Phase 1** – *University Core Curriculum and Electives*
- **Phase 2** – *Nursing Professional Courses – 2.5 semesters*
- **Minimum Overall GPA** for eligibility to Phase 2: **2.50**
- **Must have 9 credit hours of residency at UTEP to continue into Phase 2.**

### About the BSN:

The UTEP Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program offers students a dynamic course of study that is both theoretical and practical. The program prepares graduates to work in a wide variety of clinical settings and provides the necessary foundation for masters and doctoral degrees in nursing. This educational opportunity is a flexible and affordable option for Registered Nurses who desire a bachelor's degree. Specific "RN Only" online courses build upon the educational and professional experience of Registered Nurses with an associate degree.

The baccalaureate degree in nursing program and master's degree in nursing program at The University of Texas at El Paso are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, 655 K Street, NW, Suite 750. Washington, DC 20001, (202) 887-6791.

# ROADMAP



## into the UTEP RN-to-BSN Program

### STEP #1: Gain **ADMISSION** to UTEP as a New Student or Transfer Student

#### Start PHASE 1

#### UTEP Core Curriculum + Free Electives (if needed)

##### 2 admission options

- Currently in ADN (Associate Degree Nursing) Program/graduated but do not have an active unencumbered RN license
- Graduated from an ADN Program and have an active unencumbered RN license

#### Get Academic Advising for Phase 1

UTEP Connect: [utepconnect@utep.edu](mailto:utepconnect@utep.edu)

#### **Required UTEP Core Curriculum:**

Communication (6 credit hours), Language, Philosophy & Culture (3 credit hours), Creative Arts (3 credit hours), History (6 credit hours), Political Science (6 credit hours), Social and Behavioral Science (3 credit hours, Component Area Option (6 credit hours)

#### Phase 2 Nursing Professional Courses

#### Get Academic Advising for Phase 2

School of Nursing Office of Student Affairs  
[nursing@utep.edu](mailto:nursing@utep.edu)

#### **Phase 2 Nursing Courses:**

- 2.5 semesters—five 7-week courses
- ◇ **Semester 1**
  - ◆ NURS 4402—RN to BSN Role Transition
  - ◆ NURS 4303—Nursing Informatics and Technology
- ◇ **Semester 2**
  - ◆ NURS 4414— Evidence-Based Research
  - ◆ NURS 4502— Nursing Leadership and Management
  - ◇ Clear for graduation by submitting a graduation application
- ◇ **Semester 3**
  - ◆ NURS 4503— Nursing in the Community

**Phase 1 is a pre-requisite to Phase 2**

#### RN BSN Mentorships

As this program is tailored to working licensed nurses- the UTEP RN-BSN program has a mentorship requirement as part of the student's practicum experience courses.

- Students will be selecting a mentor within their place of employment that will mentor them through the practicum assignments.
- This requirement will require the students to meet with their mentor once a week and work together to create a project pertaining to their assignment/course.
- With this requirement, there are many steps that are required to ensure that the student is prepared and cleared for the mentorship.



# THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO

## Bachelor of Science in Nursing RN to BSN Option 2018-2019

<https://www.utep.edu/nursing>

Students must complete all Core Curriculum courses with a C or better. See UTEP catalog for full listing of approved Core Curriculum courses.

University Core Curriculum	Hrs	Grade
<b>Communication (Select 6 hours)</b> COMM 1611, ESOL 1311, ESOL 1312, RWS 1301, RWS 1302, RWS 1601 Math 1320	6	
<b>Life and Physical Sciences (Select 6 hours)</b> BIOL 1305, BIOL 1107, BIOL 2311, BIOL 2111, BIOL 2313 BIOL 2113, CHEM 1407, CHEM 1305, CHEM 1105		CR
<b>Language, Philosophy, &amp; Culture (Select 3 hours)</b> ENGL 2311, ENGL 2312, ENGL 2313, ENGL 2314, ENGL 2318, Fren 2322, HIST 2301, HIST 2302, PHIL 1301, PHIL 2306, RS 1301, SPAN 2340, WS 2300, WS 2350	3	
<b>Creative Arts (Select one 3 hour course)</b> ART 1300, ARTH 1305, ARTH 1306, DANC 1304, FILM 1390, MUSL 1321, MUSL 1324, MUSL 1327, THEA 1313 HIST 1301 AND HIST 1302 POLS 2310 AND POLS 2311	3 6 6	
<b>Social Behavioral Science (Select one 3 hour course)</b> ANTH 1301, ANTH 1302, ANTH 1310, ANTH 2320, CE 2326, COMM 2350, COMM 2372, ECON 2303, ECON 2304, EDPC 1301, EDU 1342, ENGL 2320, GEOG 1310, LING 2320, LING 2340, PSYC 1301, SOCI 1301, SOCI 1310	3	
<b>Component Area Option (Select 6 hours)</b> BUSN 1301, COMM 1301, COMM 1302, CS 1310, CS 1320, SCI 1301, UNIV 1301	6	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>33</b>	

Pre-Professional Courses	Hrs	Grade
Math 1320 Math for Social Sciences I	3	CR
BIOL 1305-1107 General Biology with lab	4	CR
BIOL 2311-2111 Anatomy/Physiology with lab	4	CR
BIOL 2313/2113 Anatomy/Physiology II with Lab	4	CR
CHEM 1407 <i>OR</i> 1305/1105 <i>lab required</i>	4	CR
MICR 2330 Microorganisms and Disease	3	CR
HSCI 2302 Fundamentals of Nutrition	3	CR
NURS 2303 Foundations of Nursing Practice	3	CR
NURS 2307 Pharmacotherapeutics	3	CR
NURS 2402 Pathophysiology	4	CR
<b>Total Advanced Placement Credit</b>	<b>35</b>	

### \*Electives (9 credit hours)


**TOTAL 9**

### RN to BSN Option Block Acceptance Requirements

**Required clearances:** Click on the following link for more information.

<https://www.utep.edu/nursing/academic-programs/undergraduate/rn-to-bsn-online-degree/how-to-apply.html>

**Grade requirements:** All nursing courses must be passed with a C [ $\geq 75$ ] or better and maintain a minimum GPA of 2.50.

**Effective with students accepted Summer 2006 or later:** Two failures in nursing courses will result in dismissal from the School of Nursing. Dismissal also occurs if a NURS class is not successfully completed in two attempts--a "W" counts as an attempt.

Professional Courses--RN to BSN Option	Hrs	Grade	Sem/Yr
NURS 3401 Introductory Health Assessment	4	CR	
NURS 3604 Nursing Care of the Individual	6	CR	
NURS 3608 Family Development Stressors	6	CR	
NURS 3609 Family Situational Stressors	6	CR	
<b>Total Advanced Placement Credits</b>	<b>22</b>		
<b>RN-BSN 1st Semester</b>			
NURS 4402 Role Transition	4		
NURS 4303 Nursing Informatics & Technology	3		
<b>RN-BSN 2nd Semester</b>			
NURS 4414 Evidence-Based Research	4		
NURS 4502 Nursing Leadership & Management	5		
<b>RN-BSN 3rd Semester</b>			
NURS 4503 Nursing in the Community	5		
<b>TOTAL 21</b>			

Total Credit Hours: **120**

Students must complete at least 25% of their 120 semester Hours at The University of Texas at El Paso. This equates to a total of 30 semester hours. The first 9-hours are attained via core course or possible elective course enrollment. Students will receive the remaining 21 hours via successful completion of the Phase 2 nursing courses. Returning UTEP students may already have partially or completely satisfied this "residency" requirement.

\* Students must complete core and elective courses before they begin the RN-BSN professional courses.

\* RN-BSN professional courses will only be offered to students who have been accepted to the program, completed all pre-requisites and on a space-available basis. All official transcripts must be received and evaluated prior to registration to the RN-BSN professional courses.

# EPCC/UTEP TRANSFER GUIDE

## Core Curriculum

<b>Communication</b>	
Select 6 semester credit hours from:	
UTEP	EPCC
COMM 1611	No equivalent
ESOL 1311, ESOL 1312	No equivalent
RWS 1301	ENGL 1301
RWS 1302	ENGL 1302
RWS 1601	No equivalent

<b>Language, Philosophy, &amp; Culture</b>	
Select 3 credit hours from:	
UTEP	EPCC
ENGL 2311	ENGL 2322
ENGL 2312	ENGL 2323
ENGL 2313	ENGL 2342
ENGL 2314	ENGL 2372
ENGL 2318	ENGL 2372
FREN 2322	No equivalent
HIST 2301	HIST 2321
HIST 2302	HIST 2322
PHIL 1301	PHIL 1301
PHIL 2306	PHIL 2306
RS 1301	PHIL 1304
SPAN 2340	No equivalent
WS 2300	WMST 1370
WS 2350	No equivalent

<b>American History (6 credit hours)</b>	
UTEP	EPCC
HIST 1301	HIST 1301
HIST 1302	HIST 1302

<b>Government/Political Science (6 credit hours)</b>	
UTEP	EPCC
POLS 2310	GOVT 2305
POLS 2311	GOVT 2306

<b>Creative Arts</b>	
Select 3 credit hours from:	
UTEP	EPCC
Art 1300	ARTS 1301
ARTH 1305	ARTS 1303
ARTH 1306	ARTS 1304
DANC 1304	DANC 2303
FILM 1390	COMM 2366
MUSL 1321	MUSI 1307
MUSL 1324	MUSI 1306
MUSL 1327	MUSI 1310
THEA 1313	DRAM 1310

<b>Social &amp; Behavioral Sciences (3 credit hours)</b>	
UTEP	EPCC
ANTH 1301	ANTH 2346
ANTH 1302	ANTH 2351
COMM 2350	SPCH 1318
COMM 2372	COMM 1307
ECON 2303	ECON 2301
ECON 2304	ECON 2302
GEOG 1310	GEOG 1302
PSYC 1301	PSYC 2301
SOCI 1301	SOCI 1301

<b>Component Area Option (6 credit hours)</b>	
UTEP	EPCC
BUSN 1301	No equivalent
COMM 1301	SPCH 1315
COMM 1302	SPCH 1321
CS 1310	COSC 1301
CS 1320	No equivalent
SCI 1301	No equivalent
UNIV 1301	EDUC 1300

### **Important:**

1. All courses used to satisfy the core curriculum must be completed with a grade of "C" or better. This also applies to courses transferred from another institution.
2. It is highly recommended that POLS be completed at EPCC then transferred to UTEP or both be completed at UTEP.
3. No substitutions will be allowed in the Core Curriculum.

# **UTEP RN-to-BSN Frequently Asked Questions**

## **(FAQ)**

### **Nursing Phase 1 and 2 Questions:**

#### **How do I apply to UTEP?**

You are considered a transfer student if you have 12 or more transferable credits from another college or university and have a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher.

1. Go to <https://www.applytexas.org> and complete an application.
2. Request to have your official transcripts sent to UTEP (see instructions [here](#)).
3. If you are an international student, pay the \$65 application fee.
4. [Arrange to take tests](#) if needed.

#### **What are the phases of the RN-to-BSN program?**

**Phase 1:** Includes the [University Core Curriculum](#) and free electives. The University Core Curriculum courses are: Communication (6 credit hours), Language, Philosophy & Culture (3 credit hours), Creative Arts (3 credit hours), History (6 credit hours), Political Science (6 credit hours), Social and Behavioral Science (3 credit hours, and Component Area Option (6 credit hours).

**Phase 2:** Phase 2 (2.5 semesters)

#### **RN-to-BSN Semester 1**

NURS 4402 RN-to-BSN Role Transition

NURS 4303 Nursing Informatics & Technology

#### **RN-to-BSN Semester 2**

NURS 4414 Evidence Based Research

NURS 4502 Nursing Leadership & Management (mentorship)

#### **RN-to-BSN Semester 3**

NURS 4503 Nursing In the Community (mentorship)

#### **If I live outside of Texas, can I apply to the RN-to-BSN Program at UTEP?**

Only students living in authorized states are eligible to enroll in the UTEP RN-to-BSN Program. Click [here](#) to view the states authorized to participate in UTEP's online courses and programs.

#### **Does the RN-to-BSN Program require a mentorship?**

Yes. Students will be selecting a mentor within their place of employment that will mentor them through the practicum assignments. This requirement will require the students to meet with their mentor once a week and work together to create a project pertaining to their assignment/course.

#### **As a Phase 1 RN-to-BSN student, where do I get advised?**

Phase 1 RN-to-BSN students are advised online through UTEP Connect. This office can be reached through email at [utepconnect@utep.edu](mailto:utepconnect@utep.edu) or by phone by calling 1-800-684-UTEP.

**As a Phase 2 RN-to-BSN student, where do I get advised?**

Phase 2 RN-to-BSN students are advised online by the School of Nursing Office of Student Affairs advisors:

Leslie Ross [lmross@utep.edu](mailto:lmross@utep.edu)

Vianney Sosa [vasosa@utep.edu](mailto:vasosa@utep.edu)

Claudia Valdiviezo [cavaldivezo@utep.edu](mailto:cavaldivezo@utep.edu)

**What are the pre-requisites to begin the Phase 2 nursing professional courses?**

Students need an active, unencumbered RN license, completion of the Phase 1 University Core Curriculum and/or elective courses (9 hours must be completed at UTEP), and a minimum overall GPA of 2.50 to begin the Phase 2 nursing professional courses.

**Are there any time limits on the University Core Curriculum courses?**

There are no time limits.

**Can I take the Phase 1 pre-requisites at EPCC?**

Yes. The Phase 1 pre-requisite courses may be taken at EPCC. However, the minimum requirements for completion of the RN-to-BSN online degree are a total of 30 hours at UTEP, which must include 21 hours of RN-to-BSN nursing courses and an additional 9 hours to meet minimum residency requirements for graduation. The 9 hours can be met by taking University Core Curriculum courses at UTEP.

**Can I repeat University Core Curriculum courses for higher grades?**

If a student earns a D or F in a 1000 or 2000 level course the student may "D/F repeat" that course. Students have only one opportunity per course to improve their original grades under the D/F repeat policy. The new grade becomes the grade that counts toward the student's cumulative GPA and credit hours for graduation, even if the repeated course grade is lower than the original grade in the course. The D/F repeat policy will be enacted any time an eligible course is repeated.

If a student passes the course with a grade of "C" or better, the student will not be able to repeat the course.

**Do I get credit for my work or life experience?**

No. UTEP does not award university credit for non-academic professional certificate or life experience.

**Can I use graduate-level coursework for the BSN degree?**

No. Graduate-level coursework is not transferrable as undergraduate credit.

**How can I determine what credits will transfer to UTEP?**

Visit the Office of Admissions [online transfer credit equivalency](#) feature where students can have access to transfer equivalencies from various institutions in order to help them determine what transfer credit they can expect to receive upon entry to UTEP. The equivalencies listed are the most current articulations established and may be subject to change.

**What if I fail a Phase 2 nursing course? Can I take the course the following semester?**

Yes. You may contact your Phase 2 Academic Advisor to request to retake the course the following semester. All students have a maximum of 2 attempts to take a Phase 2 nursing course.

**What if I fail two Phase 2 nursing courses?**

A student is dismissed from the RN-to-BSN Program after 2 failures or if a nursing course is not successfully completed in two attempts. A withdrawal counts as an attempt. The student will not be eligible to return to the RN-to-BSN Program at UTEP.

**When does Phase 2 begin?**

Phase 2 begins the semester after completing Phase 1. Phase 2 courses are offered three times a year (Fall, Spring, Summer).

**How do I drop a Phase 2 nursing course?**

To drop a course, e-mail [records@utep.edu](mailto:records@utep.edu) from your Miners e-mail and copy [nursing@utep.edu](mailto:nursing@utep.edu) with the following information (you must use your Miners e-mail address; requests from other e-mail addresses will not be processed):

- Your name and student ID number
- Course's information (e.g. CRN#11111 NURS 4303) (you may find this information on your Goldmine account)
- Brief statement about why you are dropping

**Is the undergraduate UTEP School of Nursing program accredited?**

Yes. The nursing program is accredited by the [Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education \(CCNE\)](#) and approved by the [Texas Board of Nursing](#).

**Do I have to attend an orientation for the RN-to-BSN program?**

No. Students are not required to attend an orientation, but will be required to sign for the Undergraduate RN-to-BSN handbook.

**How do you specialize?**

The decision to specialize and advance professionally is a commitment that generally requires a Master's degree in nursing. Click [here](#) to access the Masters of Science in Nursing & Post-graduate APRN Certification Student Handbook.

**Do you accept nursing courses from other nursing programs?**

No. All professional nursing courses must be taken at UTEP.

**When do I apply for graduation?**

You must submit your [graduation application](#) to the Nursing Office of Students Affairs in your second semester of Phase 2. An e-mail will be sent to your Miners e-mail address with the graduation application and payment deadline. Degrees will not be awarded to students who do not submit a graduation application.

**Where can I go for more information?**

You may visit the UTEP Connect or School of Nursing websites at <https://www.utep.edu/extendeduniversity/utepconnect/> and <https://www.utep.edu/nursing/>.