

INTRODUCTION TO PATHWAYS TO NURSING

Andrea Renwanz-Boyle, DNSc

Associate Professor & Director, FNP Program

San Francisco State University

School of Nursing

April 13, 2011

Pathways to Nursing

- **Educational Options in Nursing**
 - **1. Associate Degree Programs**
 - **2. Bachelor of Science Degree Program (BSN) (Traditional or Fast Track)**
 - **3. Entry Level Masters Program (MSN)**
 - **4. RN to BSN (Associate Degree to Bachelor of Science Degree) (BSN)**

Pathways to Nursing

- **Associate Degree Programs**
 - 1. Usual length- 2-3 years
 - 2. Offered at California Community Colleges
 - 3. There are approximately 80 programs in California
 - 4. Associate Degree preparation at the lower division level
 - 5. Graduates prepared to provide basic nursing care in many settings

Pathways to Nursing

- **Bachelor of Science in Nursing**
 - 1. Usual length 4 years
 - 2. Offered at California State Universities (CSU) and many private universities
 - 3. There are currently 19 CSU nursing programs
 - 4. Baccalaureate preparation at the lower and upper division level leading to the Bachelors Degree
 - 5. Graduates prepared to provide nursing care in many different settings and are able to assume leadership and administrative positions

Pathways to Nursing

- **Masters Entry Level Programs**
 - 1. Usual length 1-3 years
 - 2. Offered at CSU and private universities
 - 3. Baccalaureate degree in a field other than nursing required
 - 4. Programs include prelicensure nursing courses followed by graduate nursing courses
 - 5. Graduates receive a masters degree
 - 6. Graduates prepared to assume leadership roles in advanced nursing practice in a variety of settings

Pathways to Nursing

- **RN to BSN Programs**
 - 1. Usual length- 1 year
 - 2. Offered at CSU and private universities (often in partnership with California Community Colleges)
 - 3. Associate Degree and California RN License required
 - 4. Preparation at the upper division level
 - 5. Graduates prepared to assume many leadership and administrative positions
 - 6. Graduates awarded a Bachelors degree and are eligible for future masters study

Pathways to Nursing

- **Admission Requirements for many Nursing Programs in California**
 - 1. **Completion of pre-licensure prerequisite requirements:**
 - **Anatomy, Physiology, Microbiology, Chemistry, Statistics,**
 - 2. **High School Diploma**
 - 3. **Completion of the following high school courses may help with college prerequisite courses:**
 - **English (4 years), Math (3-4 years), Science (2-4 years), Social Studies (3-4 years), Foreign Language (2 years recommended but not required)**

Pathways to Nursing/Example

- **BSN Admission Criteria at SFSU**
 - 1. **Completion of SFSU Admission Criteria**
 - 2. **Completion of SFSU Nursing Pre-requisites**
 - A. **General Microbiology and lab (Bio 210/211)**
 - B. **Human Anatomy and lab (Bio 328)**
 - C. **Human Physiology and lab (Bio 610/611)**
 - D. **Survey of Chemistry and lab (Chem 101/102)**
 - E. **Elementary Statistics (quantitative reasoning Math 124)**
 - F. **Nutrition in health and disease (DFM 253)**
 - G. **General psychology (Psy 200)**

Pathways to Nursing/Example

- **BSN Admission Criteria at SFSU (continued)**
 - 3. GPA of 3.0 or better (all college GPA)
 - 4. Minimum grade of C or better in all nursing prerequisites
 - 5. Completion of all CSU GE requirements
 - 6. Completion of the Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS V) with a ranking of proficient or better
 - 7. Completion of supplemental criteria (health care related work or volunteer experience, multi-cultural community experience, etc)

Pathways to Nursing/Example

- **Entry Level Masters Admission Criteria**
 - 1. Completion of the GRE Analytical Writing Section (Score of 4 or higher is required for admission)
 - 2. Earned bachelor's degree with a GPA of 3.0 or better
 - 3. Completion of nursing pre-requisite course work with a grade of C or better
 - 4. Letters of recommendation and references
 - 5. Healthcare, volunteer, or work experience
 - 6. Goal Statement

Pathways to Nursing/Example

- **Strong Applicants:**

- 1. Have a GPA greater than 3.0 (in recent years, students have an earned GPA of 3.7 or better in the nursing prerequisite courses)
- 2. Provide documentation in the area of supplemental criteria (health related work, volunteer experience, multi-cultural community experience)
- 3. Perform above the proficient level in the TEAS V (Bachelors Program) or score above 4 in the GRE Analytical Writing Test (Masters Program)

Pathways to Nursing/Example

- **Strong Applicants (continued)**
 - 4. Communicate effectively in English (both verbally and in writing)
 - 5. Are able to speak another language besides English
 - 6. Relate effectively with other people and cultures
 - 7. Demonstrate leadership and commitment, especially when focused on underserved populations

Pathways to Nursing

- **Pathways to Nursing course offered at SFSU this summer**
 - **1. Program dates: June 20 to August 12, 2011**
 - **2. Program times: Tuesday and Thursday 9AM-11AM**
 - **3. Program Costs: Low Cost**
 - **4. Program Units: 2 Units**
 - **5. Goal of Course: Introduction to nursing, nursing pathways currently available to applicants, and effective career advising for those interested in nursing careers**
 - **6. Open to anyone interested (undergraduates, post-bacs from the SF Bay Area and surrounding communities)**

Pathways to Nursing

- **SFSU Formal Post-Bac Program**

- **Currently provides pre-req and elective course work for pre-meds and pre-dents**
- **Currently includes only 2 pre-nursing students who are completing nursing school pre-requisites**
- **A dedicated Nursing Post-Bac Program is scheduled to begin in early June, 2012, for about 6 students**
- **In later years, this program will expand to serve more students**
 - **Career- Changer Track (CCT) for those taking nursing school pre-reqs for the first time.**
 - **Academic Enhancer Track (AET) for those needing to retake some of the nursing school pre-reqs**

Pathways to Nursing

- **Nursing Post-Bac Program (continued)**
 - 1. Open to students with earned Bachelor's degrees
 - 2. Designed for students who need to take or retake nursing prerequisite courses (some or all of the courses)
 - 3. Proposed cost is \$ 500-\$600/unit
 - 4. Financial Aid available in the form of student loans
 - 5. Program Goal: preparation of students to be strong applicants to nursing programs (SFSU and other programs)

Pathways to Nursing

- **Questions?**
- **Contact Dr Andrea Boyle at: aboyle@sfsu.edu**
- **THANK YOU for attending today's session**