BSN Degree Requirements
2014-2015 Catalog Year

Introduction:

All of the following degree requirements for a BSN from SSU are the same regardless of which BSN Program Track (Pre-Licensure or Post-Licensure) you complete. Additional explanation is provided for instances where the Post-Licensure BSN Program Track student may meet the requirement in a different manner than the Pre- Licensure student due to their previous nursing education.

To be awarded the BSN at SSU, you must acquire a minimum of 120 units (including no more than 70 units transferred from a community college and 30 units of coursework in residence at SSU) AND meet all specified degree requirements including SSU Nursing Major (Upper Division Nursing required for BSN), General Education, American Institutions, Upper Division General Education, the WEPT, and Ethnic Studies.

Post-Licensure BSN Program Track (TPOST and CPOST): In conjunction with the following information, review the ADN-BSN Degree Summary Guide and the Example Completed Post-Licensure BSN Worksheet to guide you in completing the Post-Licensure BSN Degree Worksheet.

Acquiring 120 Units for the BSN

1. **A maximum of 70 units of community college transfer credit** may be applied toward a CSU baccalaureate degree.
   - *Post-Licensure BSN Program Track:* Within those 70 units of transfer credit toward the BSN, SSU will first count transferrable nursing prerequisite courses and lower division General Education courses and then count community college nursing units to reach a total of 70 units to be transferred to SSU. Upon transcript validation, up to 20 units of Upper Division SSU Nursing credit may be awarded for having passed NCLEX-RN.

2. **A minimum of 30 units of credit must be completed “in residence” at SSU** in order to be awarded a BSN degree from SSU.
   - *Post-Licensure BSN Program Track:* These 30 units will be comprised of 24 units of Upper Division Nursing and 6 units of Upper Division GE taken at SSU or through the CSU Course Match program.

3. **Students with a prior baccalaureate degree** in a field other than nursing need only complete the required nursing courses to receive the BSN pursuant to the CSU Chancellor’s Office Executive Order 1084.
   - *Post-Licensure BSN Program Track:* There are 24 units of required Upper Division Nursing coursework to be completed at SSU in this track. No WEPT or General Education courses are required.

4. A General Education (GE) Transfer Evaluator in the SSU Admissions and Records Office automatically reviews all of the coursework an admitted student has completed at
other schools that may be counted toward GE requirements for the BSN. If you have a question about why a specific course you previously took is not counted toward an SSU degree requirement, email your Transfer Credits Evaluator and ask them -- it may have been missed or it may need to be petitioned to have it counted. The Transfer Evaluator is NOT an Academic Advisor and it is not appropriate to ask them for guidance regarding your plan of study.

5. Although a single course might satisfy two or three (or even four!) degree requirements at once, NEVER, NEVER will you be awarded more than the units assigned that course toward the required 120 units.

6. Coursework completed at the two-year level that was not designated transferable to the CSU by your community college will not be counted toward the SSU baccalaureate degree (in any major!).

7. A Pre-Licensure BSN Program Track student completes 57 units of Nursing coursework and 6 units of Upper Division GE towards the 120 units required for the degree.

8. A Post-Licensure BSN Program Track student completes 24 units of Nursing coursework, 6 units of Upper Division GE, and upon transcript validation may be awarded up to 20 units of nursing credit for NCLEX-RN towards the 120 units required for the degree.

**Completing BSN Degree Requirements**

1. You must complete **40 units of UPPER DIVISION** coursework including at least 18 units of upper division in the major.
   *Post-Licensure BSN Program Track*: Note that your Program will meet and exceed these requirements by enrollment in 24 units of required Upper division nursing courses plus 6 units of required Upper Division GE plus award of up to 20 units of Upper Division Nursing credit for NCLEX.

2. You may enroll in a **maximum of 24 units to take CR/NC** (courses that are designated CR/NC by the university DO count in this 24-unit total). You may not take any required Upper Division Nursing courses in CR/NC mode (they all must be taken for a letter grade).

3. You may complete a **maximum of 30 units via Challenge Examination** (existing SSU courses for which you register and then take a teacher-made exam to receive credit) that will count as resident credit toward the minimum 30 units in residence at SSU. External exams such as CLEP are NOT considered “Challenge Exams” and thus do not count toward the 30 units required in residence at SSU.

4. You must satisfy a minimum of **9 units of General Education (GE) at the Upper Division level** (300 and 400 level SSU courses that are university approved for GE credit).
   - Three (3) units of the required 9 units of UDGE will be satisfied upon completion of your BSN and will count in GE Area E. Therefore, **you need only complete 6 units of Upper Division GE**.
   - Enrollment in Psych 302 at SSU meets 3 units of UDGE in Area E in residence. Passing CLEP for Human Growth and Development will award 3 units of UDGE but IS NOT considered “in residence.” Students who have not met the 30 units in residence at SSU with other coursework should NOT take the CLEP for Psych 302 if units are needed to count in residence.
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- Your total 9 units of Upper Division GE credit must cover at least two GE Areas (the BSN meets GE Area E). Therefore, you must take at least one course that is NOT an Area E course in order to meet this requirement.

*Post-Licensure BSN Program Track:* Upper Division GE courses at SSU are specifically approved courses included on the list you can find by going to the Post-Licensure BSN Resources website and clicking on the link titled “Upper Division GE Guidelines.” To meet the Upper Division GE Requirements **TAKE ONLY 300-400 LEVEL COURSES LISTED ON THE SSU approved 48-unit Transfer Pattern GE Sheet.**

5. You must pass the **SSU Written English Proficiency Test (WEPT).**
6. If you have not already done so, you must also meet the **Ethnic Studies** requirement.
7. If you have not completed the **American History** and the **US Constitution/California State and Local Government** requirements at the time of admission (they can both be completed at the community college level), then you need to do so.
8. If you have additional GE Area C requirements to meet and have NOT received credit for a similar course, you may elect to take the CLEP for “Analyzing and Interpreting Literature” (AILIT 50) which, upon passing, will award SSU’s English 214 for 4 units to GE Area C2 -- Humanities. However, this course DOES NOT MEET an Upper Division GE requirement (it simply counts toward the 12 units of Area C requirement). The reason is that the type of credit this course offers is not the same as the other upper division courses that do meet the requirement, and it DOES NOT COUNT as in residence credit!
9. Frequent consultation with your Academic Requirements Report (ARR) page in your “My SSU” online record to verify what requirements you have remaining to complete for the BSN. Graduation Evaluators will use the ARR to clear you for award of your BSN and if there are errors in your ARR, you need to alert your Academic Advisor and/or your Transfer Evaluator to make certain they are corrected BEFORE your expected graduation date.
10. Questions about degree requirements and your program of study should be directed ONLY to your **Nursing Academic Advisor** (not to Admissions and Records staff, Nursing Department staff, Advising Center staff or other students). Your assigned Academic Advisor may be found in your “MySSU” online account on the Academic Requirements Record (ARR) page.