

**DEGREE/PROGRAM CHANGE
FORM C**

Fields marked with * are required

Name of Initiator: Kathy Jean Falkenhagen

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Date:* 12-08-08

Phone Number:* 505 741-1367

Initiator's Rank / Title* Visiting Lecturer I: College of Nursing

Faculty Contact* Kathy Falkenhagen

Administrative Contact* Jim Gilroy

Department* Nursing

Division Nursing

Program Nursing

Branch Nursing

Proposed effective term:

Semester Fall ▼

Year 2009 ▼

Course Information

Select Appropriate Program Undergraduate Degree Program ▼

CIP Code

Name of New or Existing Program * Associate of Science in Nursing

Catalog Page Number

Select Category Degree ▼

Degree Type Associate

Select Action New ▼

Exact Title and Requirements as they should appear in the catalog.
See current catalog for format within the respective college (enter text below or upload a doc/pdf file)
Associate of Science in Nursing degree requested at UNM-Taos. 41 pre-requisite and 52 curriculum hours for a total of 93 hours. The UNM-Gallup Associate of Science in Nursing program will be used as a model. The attachment outlines the above information.
[AS Nursing Taos.doc](#)

☐ **This Change affects other departmental program/branch campuses**

Reason(s) for Request * (enter text below or upload a doc/pdf file)
UNM-BSN-Taos nuring program will end 8/09. Due to the severe nursing shortage in Northern New Mexico, the continuation of a nursing program in the area is essential. See attached document for further justification.
[Reason for Request of the Associate of Science in Nursing Program at UNM.doc](#)
[AS Nursing Taos.doc](#)

Statements to address budgetary and Faculty Load Implications and Long-range planning * (enter text below or upload a doc/pdf file)
Budget, faculty load implications and long range planning outlined as attached.
[Budget.doc](#)

UNM-Taos Associate of Science in Nursing Pre-requisites and Curriculum

<u>Pre-requisites</u>	<u>Credits</u>
ENGL 101 Composition 1: Exposition	3
ENGL 102 Composition 11: Analysis and Argument	3
MATH 120 (Intermediate Algebra) or MATH 121 (College Algebra)	3
PSY 105 General Psychology	3
PSY 220 Developmental Psychology	3
BIOL 123 Bio for Health Related Sciences	3
BIO 124L Bio-Health Sci Lab	1
CHEM 111 Elements of Gen Chemistry with Lab	4
HCHS 111 Medical Terminology	3
BIOL 239L Micro Hlth Sci and Non-Majors	4
BIOL 237 Hum Anat & Physio I Hlth Sci	3
BIOL 247L Hum Anat & Physio I Hlth Sci	1
BIOL 238 Hum Anat & Physio II Hlth Sci	3
BIOL 248L Hum Anat & Physio II Hlth Sci	1
NUTR 244 Human Nutrition	3
Total Credits	<u>41 Credits</u>

Associate of Science in Nursing Curriculum

<u>First Semester</u>	<u>Credits</u>
NURS 115 Nursing Fundamentals	8
HCHS 125 Intro to Pharmacology (already offered at UNM-Taos)	3
NURS 110 Professional Development	1
NURS 239 Pathophysiology I (already offered at UNM-Taos)	3
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	15

Second Semester

NURS 130 Med Surg I	5	
NURS 131 Mental Health Nursing	4	
NURS 240 Pathophysiology II (already offered at UNM-Taos)	3	
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	12	

Third Semester

NURS 230 Women's Health Nursing	4	
NURS 232 Pediatric Nursing	4	
NURS 234 Medical Surgical Nursing II	5	
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	13	

Fourth Semester

NURS 243 Medical Surgical Nursing III	9	
NURS 242L Nursing Practicum	2	
NURS 245 Professional Seminar		1
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	12	

<u>Total Credits</u>	<u>52</u>
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Credits

Reason for Request of the Associate of Science in Nursing Program at UNM-Taos

The UNM-BSN-Taos program will end in 8/09. The Intent of the proposed Associate of Science in Nursing program in Taos is to prepare, educate and support successful nursing professionals in a multicultural rural setting in Northern New Mexico.

It is widely documented that there is a critical shortage of Registered Nurses throughout the state of New Mexico. Due to our aging seniors, rural demographics and increasing population trends for the Northern New Mexico area, it is very important that the state have an increasing number of Professional Registered Nurses providing care in the immediate and forecasted future. This goal can only start to be accomplished with the implementation of the Associate of Science Nursing program at UNM-Taos in the fall of 2009. These students will be trained in a state of the art acute care facility at Holy Cross Hospital (HCH) as well as the rural clinics and additional health care facilities throughout the community. These rural communities are predominately Hispanic with Anglo and Native Americans and will be served by the cohort of nursing students which share this heritage. Cultural awareness will be developed as well as competent health care practices. One of the most effective ways to address the shortage of qualified nurses in rural communities is to train them in their own communities.

Taos County and the surrounding region (Tres Piedras to Cimarron) have a growing and aging population. The total combined population in the Geographic Area is approximately 47,000 people. The population is currently 50% Hispanic, 43% Anglo, and 7% Native American. Due to the aging population and the distances (Taos County alone is twice the size of Rhode Island) there is great difficulty in retaining nurses. The average age of nurses is 54.

In the Taos area, HCH, the Taos Living Center, Indian Health Care Clinics, Questa and Penasco Rural Health Clinics, Mountain Home Health Care Agency and Plaza del Retiro have all been affected by the nursing shortage. According to Anna Abeyta, Chief Clinical Nursing Officer at HCH, the vacancy rate for RN's is 13.2 percent with "Traveling Nurses" becoming a common phenomenon in the hospital setting. HCH currently employs 12 Travelers, which breaks down to more than 1/5 of their Registered Nurse staff.

Perli Cunanan of Con Alma Foundation states that “New Mexico has the most significant shortage of health professionals in the nation”, with an estimated deficiency of 4,520 Registered Nurses just five years from now. Everyone is affected personally by a lack of nurses and patients suffer the most.

As stated in the New Mexico NS4 Study (December 2004), “During the past years, nursing shortages at New Mexico hospitals forced three quarters of facilities to curtail services (close beds, divert emergency patients, reduce services, shorten hours or close Intensive Care Unit beds). Over half of the facilities had turn to high cost travelers for staff, an action which has clear implications for the quality of care and economic future of the state. The Nursing shortage in New Mexico is expected to triple by 2010.

The Department of Labor has projected that the healthcare industry will grow by 30% through 2112 and opportunities in nursing are expected to grow by 35%. In the October 2005 report of the American Association of State Colleges and University’s regarding the nursing shortage, it states “higher education must be prepared to take action.”

The nursing shortage is not new news. The profession of nursing is in demand as one of the highest growth tracks in the industry. Everyone is affected by the lack of nurses and patients suffer the most.

Since the BSN program started, UNM-Taos has worked to develop the capacity and the pipeline to support a program of nursing through science and health related prerequisites. Now, UNM-Taos and (HCH) are prepared and can provide an innovative, sustainable, high quality Associate of Science in Nursing program which will serve the needs of the community.

The requested Associate of Science in Nursing program would utilize the existing faculty, classroom and office space, as well as the clinical sites, supplies, equipment and ancillary support from the UNM-BSN program. The transition would be seamless from the UNM-BSN to the Associate of Science in Nursing program with a start date in the fall 2009.

The UNM-Gallup ADN-RN program will be used as a model. The curriculum and coursework are already in the UNM system and will be reviewed, adapted and streamlined to educate Associate of Science in Nursing students in Taos.

The formation of the Associate of Science program at UNM-Taos in collaboration with Holy Cross Hospital is a vital endeavor with strong community support. This could be one of the most important programs offered in Northern New Mexico.

UNM-Taos Associate of Science in Nursing Pre-requisites and Curriculum

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Credits

**Budget, faculty load implications and long-range planning for the
Associate of Science in Nursing Degree at UNM-Taos**

- \$337,000 grant from NM HED for program start up has been awarded for faculty salaries and equipment.
- \$15,000 Perkins grant awarded for equipment.
- Title V monies available for Educational Infrastructure funding.
- Additional grants applied for to provide Simulation training for student use and teaching.
- Existing UNM-BSN faculty members will remain in Taos to teach in the Associate of Science in Nursing program and transition as Director of Nursing and additional full time FTE associate.
- Adjunct UNM-Taos faculty will continue to teach pre-requisites and actual nursing courses in the proposed curriculum.
- One FTE from Holy Cross Hospital committed to provide clinical coordination and available when the program starts.
- 0.75 FTE Administrative Assistant funded.
- Each year Holy Cross Hospital provides \$200,000 in scholarships for high school students entering the nursing profession as a career.
- Mountain Home Health Care and Hospice provides \$5,000 per year for any student interested in working at Mountain Home Health care upon graduation.
- By 7/2011, the entire UNM-Taos Associate of Science in Nursing program will be sustained through formula funding, tuition, Holy Cross Hospital assisting in partnership with scholarships, salaries and clinical sites for the students.
- The evaluation team will meet quarterly to review the implementation of the program and evaluate how it might serve more students. Members include:
 - Kean Spellman, CEO of HCH
 - Ana Abeyta, Chief Clinical Nursing Officer, HCH
 - Dr. Martinez Hewlett, Microbiologist and Professor Emeritus, UNM-Taos
 - Jim Gilroy, Dean of Instruction, UNM-Taos
 - Kathy Falkenhagen, MSN RN, UNM-Taos ADN-RN Director of Nursing
 - Dr. Valerie Romero-Legget, VP for Diversity, UNMHSC
 - Dr. Alfredo Vigil, Secretary of Health, New Mexico
 - Shannon Lujan, RN, Taos Pueblo
 - Steve Fulhlendorf, Executive Director, Taos Chamber of Commerce
- To measure the outcomes of the goals, UNM-Taos will track:
 - The number of applicants for the fall 2009 class.
 - The retention of the numbers of cohort into the subsequent semesters and ultimately, the number that successfully obtain their RN license.
 - The enrollment in Pre-Nursing classes at UNM-Taos consisting Medical Biology, Chemistry, Nutrition, Anatomy and Physiology, Psychology, English, Math and Medical Terminology.
 - The enrollment of high school student in the Tech Prep Nursing pathway from nine area high schools.
 - Track the number of HCH nursing scholarships to area students who are enrolled in nursing programs (pre ADN-RN and BSN), as well as the number of high school scholarships given to the students with the intention of studying nursing.