

**ITEM: 114-401-R0102 ATTACHMENT**

A LEVEL II PROPOSAL

TO RETITLE THE EXISTING NURSING PROGRAM DEGREE AT  
MILES COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
FROM ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE IN NURSING  
TO ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

SUBMITTED TO:  
THE MONTANA BOARD OF REGENTS

SUBMITTED BY:  
MILES COMMUNITY COLLEGE

THIS PROPOSAL HAS BEEN APPROVED BY:

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(President) (Date)

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(Business Manager) (Date)

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(Dean of Professional/Technical Division) (Date)

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(Dean of Arts & Sciences Division) (Date)

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(Nursing Program Director) (Date)

## **OBJECTIVES AND NEEDS**

Miles Community College (MCC) proposes to retitle the degree awarded for the existing Registered Nurse program. The current degree title of Associate of Applied Science in Nursing will be changed to Associate of Science in Nursing. The purpose of the proposal is to comply with the Montana Board of Regents request and the Two-Year Committee's general recommendation (attached) that all Montana two-year Associate Degree Registered Nurse Programs carry the title of Associate of Science in Nursing (ASN).

### **Statement of Need**

Over the past few years, all of the Practical Nurse Programs in Montana have changed from Certificate Programs to Associate of Applied Science in Practical Nursing Degrees. To facilitate clear differentiation in the various levels of nursing preparation, the MCC Nursing Program requests to be titled Associate of Science in Nursing. The proposed degree title is congruent with the national trend towards titling two-year nursing RN degrees as Associate of Science in Nursing Degrees. The change will decrease confusion and facilitate ease of student transfer between the MCC Registered Nurse Program and other Associate Degree Registered Nurse Programs.

### **Relationship to the Role and Scope of the Institution**

The role and scope of Miles Community College since its founding in 1939 have been to provide programs and services that enrich the lives of our students and the citizens of our community and service area. The institution's role and scope are achieved through offering workforce training, certificates, technical programs and transfer degree programs. This proposal will enhance MCC's institutional role and scope by increasing the transferability of this program to other educational institutions.

### **Proposed Curriculum**

The total number of credits required by the MCC Registered Nurse Program curriculum will remain unchanged at 72. The rationale for maintaining the current number of required credits is that the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC), a MCC Nursing Program accrediting body, mandates that all Associate Degree Registered Nurse Programs require no more than 72 credits. Since the current MCC Nursing curriculum has been approved as meeting or exceeding the NLNAC standards, there will be no change in the nursing course requirements. The proposed changes will occur in the elevation of the general education course requirements only. This proposal creates a Registered Nurse curriculum that is equitable in general education requirements to the MSU-Northern Associate of Science in Nursing Program.

### **Summary of Changes**

- **Change:** HE263 Nutrition & Diet Therapy ( 3 credits) will be replaced by IT120 Introduction to Computers (3 credits). **Rationale:** Much of the content of the nutrition class can be integrated into the nursing courses. The current level of technology in the health care workplace dictates that nurses be computer literate. Also, an Introductory Computer course is a requirement at MSU-Northern.
- **Change:** SS105 Introductory Sociology (3 credits) will be replaced by a choice of MA105 Contemporary Math (3 credits) or MA201 Introductory Statistics (4 credits). **Rationale:** A higher level Math is necessary to meet Associate of Science Degree requirements. The MSU-Northern ASN requires MATH 110 (4 credits) or MATH 112 (3 credits). The MSU-Bozeman Bachelor's Degree in Nursing requires Statistics as does MSU Northern's RN to BSN Program (Registered Nurse to Bachelor of Science in Nursing Program). However, owing to the NLNAC constraints of 72 credits, there is only room for a 3 credit course. The 3 credit Contemporary Math will be the requirement with Intro to Statistics (4 credits) the option.
- **Change:** HU Humanities Elective will be replaced by a required HU 215 Ethics. **Rationale:** Ethical decision making plays a major role in nursing care. The Nursing Faculty feel strongly that the credit constraints placed by NLN necessitates making Ethics a requirement and not an option.
- **Change:** General Chemistry or an equivalent will be a prerequisite for Anatomy & Physiology I. **Rationale:** The General Chemistry or equivalent requirement is necessary for nursing knowledge. Anatomy & Physiology will be more readily transferable to other institutions. Also, MSU-Northern's ASN has a Physiological Chemistry requirement.

The following table demonstrates in ***bold italics*** where the changes will occur. The nursing courses will remain the same in both credit requirements and sequence.

<b>CURRENT CURRICULUM OF ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE IN NURSING</b>		<b>PROPOSED CURRICULUM OF ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE IN NURSING</b>	
<b>FALL SEMESTER (First Year)</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>FALL SEMESTER (First Year)</b>	<b>Credits</b>
CA 101 Composition I	3	CA 101 Composition I	3
<i>*HE 263 Nutrition &amp; Diet Therapy</i>	3	<i>*IT 120 Introduction to Computers</i>	3
NR 101 Fundamentals of Nursing	5	NR 101 Fundamentals of Nursing	5
PY 101 General Psychology	3	PY 101 General Psychology	3
SC 204 Anatomy & Physiology I	4	SC 204 Anatomy & Physiology I	4
<b>SPRING SEMESTER</b>		<b>SPRING SEMESTER</b>	
NR 102 Fundamentals of Nursing II	5	NR 102 Fundamentals of Nursing II	5
NR 103 Pathophysiology	3	NR 103 Pathophysiology	3
NR 104 Intro to Pharmacology for Nurses	1	NR 104 Intro to Pharmacology for Nurses	1
NR 112 Math for Meds	1	NR 112 Math for Meds	1
PY 203 Lifespan Developmental Psychology	3	PY 203 Lifespan Developmental Psychology	3
SC 205 Anatomy & Physiology II	4	SC 205 Anatomy & Physiology II	4
<b>FALL SEMESTER (Second Year)</b>		<b>FALL SEMESTER (Second Year)</b>	
NR 201 Adult Nursing OR	9	NR 201 Adult Nursing OR	9
NR 202 Maternal & Child Nursing	7	NR 202 Maternal & Child Nursing	7
NR 204 Pharmacology II	3	NR 204 Pharmacology II	3
SC 211 Introduction to Microbiology	4	SC 211 Introduction to Microbiology	4
<i>*SS 105 Introduction to Sociology</i>	3	<i>*MA 105 Contemporary Math OR *MA 201 Introductory Statistics</i>	3 4
<b>SPRING SEMESTER</b>		<b>SPRING SEMESTER</b>	
NR 201 Adult Nursing OR	9	NR 201 Adult Nursing OR	9
NR 202 Maternal & Child Nursing	7	NR 202 Maternal & Child Nursing	7
NR 203 Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing	3	NR 203 Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing	3
NR 205 Professional Issues	2	NR 205 Professional Issues	2
CA 112 Public Speaking	3	CA 112 Public Speaking	3
<i>*HU Humanities Elective</i>	3	<i>*HU 215 Introduction to Ethics</i>	3

### **Comparison to Similar Programs**

MSU-Northern offers an Associate of Science in Nursing Degree. The following table demonstrates a comparison of general education course requirements between MCC's proposed ASN and MSU-Northern's ASN. MSU-Northern does not require Lifespan Developmental Psychology or Ethics but does require Physiological Chemistry. General Chemistry or an equivalent is a prerequisite for MCC's Anatomy & Physiology I.

<b>MCC'S PROPOSED ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE IN NURSING</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>MSU-NORTHERN'S ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE IN NURSING</b>	<b>Credits</b>
CA 101 Composition I	3	ENGL 111 Written Communication I	3
IT 120 Introduction to Computers	3	CIS 110 Introduction to Computers	3
PY 101 General Psychology	3	PSYC 101 Introduction to Psychology	3
SC 204 Anatomy & Physiology I	4	BIOL 241 Anatomy & Physiology I	4
Py 203 Lifespan Developmental Psychology	3		
SC 205 Anatomy & Physiology II	4	BIOL 242 Anatomy & Physiology II	4
SC 211 Introduction to Microbiology	4	BIOL 217 Microbiology	4
MA 105 Contemporary Math OR MA 201 Introductory Statistics	3 4	MATH 112 College Algebra OR MATH 110 Math for Liberal Arts	3 4
CA 112 Public Speaking	3	SPCH 141 Fundamentals of Speech	3
HU 215 Ethics	3		
SC 107 General Chemistry or equivalent will be a prerequisite to SC 204, A & P I		CHEM 112 Physiological Chemistry	3

**TOTAL NON-NURSING CREDITS**

**33-34**

**30-31**

### Course Descriptions

#### CA101 Composition I

**3 cr**

**(F,S)**

Introductory writing course with emphasis on writing to a targeted audience. Composition I prepares entry-level college students for success in a wide variety of academic and vocational writing concerns. Topics include: writing process, formal voice, audience concerns, close reading strategies, effective styles and techniques, and the use of the computer as a writing tool. Asserting and supporting a central claim and using MLA documentation and format are additional topics which will be addressed.

#### CA112 Fundamentals of Public Speaking

**3 cr**

**(F,S)**

This course is intended to help students develop skills in speaking, organizing thoughts, and listening. Major emphasis is placed on the preparation and presentation of formal speeches.

#### HU215 Ethics

**3 cr**

**(S)**

This course is an introduction to the major theories that dominate moral philosophy, including cultural relativism, subjectivism, divine command theory, natural law theory, psychological egoism, ethical egoism, utilitarianism, Kantian theory, social contract theory, and virtue theory. Also, emphasized are fundamentals of logic, including inductive reasoning, deductive reasoning, and logical fallacies.

#### IT120 Introduction to Computers

**3 cr**

**(F,S)**

An introductory course designed for students majoring in Computer Technology. This course covers the use of computer hardware, software, and concepts with emphasis on business applications. Instruction includes general computer operation, operating systems, communications, information systems, and ethical use of computers. Integrated software coverage includes word processing, spreadsheet, and database. **Prerequisite: AA101 or permission of instructor.**

#### MA105 Contemporary Math

**3 cr**

**(F,S)**

The course will cover ideas in mathematics and their applications to other disciplines. Topics will include ideas from set theory, logic, elementary statistics and probability, combinations, and permutations. This class is intended for students not expecting to enroll in additional math classes. **Prerequisite: MA102 or a score of 66 or better on the Algebra portion of the COMPASS placement test.**

- MA201 Introductory Statistics** **3 cr** **(F,S)**  
 An introduction to descriptive and inferential statistics. Topics covered include descriptive statistics, probability, various distributions including the normal and binomial distributions, estimation, sample sizes, hypothesis testing, correlation, regression, one way analysis of variance, multinomial experimentation, contingency tables, and nonparametric testing. Students will collect and analyze their own data as well as use the computer and calculator for statistical analysis. **Prerequisite: MA102 oa score of 66 or better on the Algebra portion of the COMPASS placement test.**
- NR101 Fundamentals of Nursing I** **5 cr** **(F)**  
 An introduction to the roles of the Associate Degree Registered Nurse (ADRN) as 1) provider of care, 2) manager of care, and 3) member within the discipline of nursing. Emphasis is on the role of the provider of care and includes concepts of critical thinking, communication, patient teaching, clinical competence, health assessment, and human needs and responses. The Nursing Process is used as a basis for decision making in the long-term care setting. Integrated into these concepts is the uniqueness of health care delivery in rural settings. The course includes a clinical component. **Corequisites: SC204, PY 101, CA101, and H 263.**
- NR102 Fundamentals of Nursing II** **5 cr** **(S)**  
 Continued development of the concepts of the roles of the Associate Degree Registered Nurse (ADRN) with emphasis on the roles as provider of care and manager of care. Includes concepts of Gerontological Nursing, basic physiological and psychosocial needs of the adult and geriatric client, caring for the surgical client and professional nursing concepts including leadership, management and legal aspects. This course includes a clinical component. **Prerequisite NR101, Corequisites: NR103, NR104, NR112, PY203, SC205.**
- NR103 Pathophysiology** **3 cr** **(S)**  
 Introduction to the physiologic responses to altered health states. Biological and behavioral perspectives of common health problems are included. **Prerequisite: SC204, Corequisite: SC205.**
- R104 Intro to Pharmacology for Nurses** **1 cr** **(S)**  
 A theoretical overview of fundamental concepts of pharmacology as related to nursing practice including documentation, orders, legal aspects, general aspects of medication administration, pharmacological references, and nursing implication of medication administration. **Prerequisite: NR101, Corequisite, NR102.**
- NR112 Math for Meds** **1 cr** **(S)**  
 This course includes mathematical formulas and medication concepts commonly used in nursing. Students learn about the equipment used in measuring dosages, as well as interpreting drug orders, understanding drug labels, and calculating oral, parenteral, and pediatric dosages of drugs. Intravenous calculations and advanced intravenous calculation methods are included. **Prerequisites: NR 101 and 90% on Basic Math Screening Test. Corequisite: NR102, NR104.**
- NR201 Adult Nursing** **9 cr** **(F,S)**  
 Application of the three roles of the ADRN to the nursing care of the adult population in a variety of health care settings. Includes a clinical component. **Prerequisites: NR102, NR103, NR104, NR112 and pre/corequisite: NR204.**
- NR202 Maternal and Child Health Nursing** **7 cr** **(F,S)**  
 Application of the three roles of the ADRN to the nursing care of the family as a group and individual members of the family during the childbearing cycle and childhood. Includes a clinical component. **Prerequisites: NR 102, NR 103, NR 104, and NR 112. Pre/corequisite: NR204.**
- NR203 Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing** **3 cr** **(S)**  
 Application of the three roles of the ADRN to the nursing management of the client with a psychiatric diagnosis, including treatment modalities, application of the Nursing Process, and decision-making skills. Includes a clinical component. **Prerequisites: PY101, NR102, NR204.**

**NR 204 Pharmacology** **3 cr** **(F)**  
 Addresses the concepts of pharmacology as applied to the nursing care of clients. Emphasis is on broad drug classification, commonly administered drug interactions, nursing implications of drug therapy, and client teaching. Prerequisites: NR 102, NR 104, NR 112, currently licensed LPN or currently licensed RN, or permission of the instructor. **Corequisites: NR201 or N 202.**

**NR 205 Professional Issues** **2 cr** **(S)**  
 Addresses professional employment, issues related to nursing ethics, and legal aspects of nursing. **Corequisite: NR201 or NR202.**

**PY101 General Psychology** **3 cr** **(F,S)**  
 This course is an introduction to the methods of study in psychology, cognitive science, and neuroscience, including an overview of physiological aspects of behavior, sensation, perception, research methodology, statistics, learning principles, motivation, intelligence, cognition, abnormal behavior, personality, therapy, and social psychology.

**PY203 Lifespan Developmental Psychology** **3 cr** **(S)**  
 This course is an introduction to the theories of human development across the lifespan, with an emphasis on developmental research methodology. **Prerequisite: PY101.**

**SC204 Anatomy & Physiology I** **4 cr (Lec 3, Lab 1)** **(F)**  
 This is the first half of a one year course in anatomy and physiology. The general principles of cell and tissue biology are covered. Structure and function of the following will be covered: skeletal, muscular, and nervous systems. **Prerequisite: SC 107 or 80% or better on challenge exam or one year high school chemistry.**

**SC 205 Anatomy & Physiology II** **4 cr (Lec 3, Lab 1)** **(S)**  
 This is the second half of a one year course in anatomy and physiology. The structure and function of the following will be covered: endocrine, digestive, cardiovascular, respiratory, reproductive, and urinary systems. The relationship between body anatomy and physiology is emphasized. **Prerequisite: SC 204.**

**SC211 Introduction to Microbiology** **4 cr** **(S,Su)**  
 Covers the role of microorganisms in human disease; the culture and differentiation of bacteria; modes of transmission of microbes; techniques of sterilization; aseptic procedures; use of disinfectants and antibiotics; etc. Three hours of lecture and two hours of lab per week. **Prerequisite: at least one lab course in biological science.**

**ADEQUACY, ACCREDITATION, AND ASSESSMENT ISSUES**

**Adequacy of Faculty**

Present faculty, facilities, equipment, and library holdings are adequate and meet or exceed Northwest Commission on Colleges Standards. Since there will be no change in the nursing courses, there will be no change in the current nursing faculty. All nursing faculty have been approved by the Montana State Board of Nursing and are as follows:

<b>NURSING INSTRUCTOR</b>	<b>COURSES TAUGHT</b>
Kathleen Wankel MN, RN	Director, NR 112
Marlys Eggum RN, FNP-C	NR 101, NR 205
Cathie Gwin MSN, FNP, APRN-C	NR 202, NR 104, NR 204
Mary Quintus MSN,RN	NR 103, NR 203
Karla Lund BSN, RN (MSN Candidate in Spring 2002)	NR 201

The proposed general education courses to be added to the curriculum are currently available through MCC's course offerings. Current MCC instructors who will teach the added general education courses are:

INSTRUCTOR	COURSES TAUGHT
Darci Dance B. A., M.S. Psychology	HU 215
Nancy Swope, B. S., Information Technology	IT 120
Delores Cameron, B.S., Information Technology	IT 120
Elizabeth Lawrence B.S., M. Ed.	SC 107, SC 204, SC 205
Bette Jewell, B.S. Business and Math with Statistics option	MA 201
Stan Taylor B.S., M.S., Math	MA 105

### Accreditation

The Miles Community College Nursing Program is accredited through the Montana State Board of Nursing, valid through 2004 and the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC), valid through 2006. There is no anticipated impact on accreditation by the change in program title to ASN. A phone call to NLNAC verified that the change is not considered substantive, and therefore a site visit will not be necessary. A notification letter with documentation of Montana Board of Regents and Montana State Board of Nursing approval is required by NLNAC. The MCC Nursing program is also included in the institutional approval through the Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges.

Pending approval from the Montana Board of Regents, the proposed change will be brought before the Montana State Board of Nursing. Notification, supporting documentation, and approvals will then be submitted to NLNAC and Northwest Commission on Colleges.

### Assessment Plan

The assessment tools the MCC Nursing Program currently uses and will continue to use are:

Prior to Admission to the Nursing Program:

- COMPASS (Computerized Assessment Support System) test
- The NLN Pre-Admission Exam, minimum score of 60 necessary to be admitted to the Nursing Program

During the Program:

- Student evaluation of instructors and clinical experiences
- The HESI (Health Education Systems, Inc.) Exit Exam which is used to predict student success on the NCLEX-RN (RN licensure) Exam

After Graduation:

- Pass rates on the NCLEX-RN Exam. Pass rates on the NCLEX-RN exam are monitored quarterly by the Montana State Board of Nursing and compared to the national average.
- Employer satisfaction - 6 month survey
- Student satisfaction- 6 month survey

Institutional:

- Campus-wide Outcomes Assessment of MCC's Mission and Goals per Northwest guidelines.

### IMPACT ON FACULTY, FACILITIES, COSTS, STUDENTS, AND OTHER DEPARTMENTS AND CAMPUSES

#### Faculty, Support Personnel, Administrative Structure, Facilities and Costs

No new faculty or support personnel will be required for the proposed change. There will be no impact or change in administrative structure. There will no impact on library, class room space, or support services. An additional application lab for Introduction to Computers will be added if necessary. No major purchases are necessary. There will no additional costs associated with this change.

### Enrollment

The MCC Nursing Program accepts 20 students per year into the nursing program. There will be no change in the number of students admitted

### Special Admission Standards

Owing to the change in the Math requirement, there will be a new requirement for admission into the nursing program. The new admission requirement will be completion of MA 102 or comparable

COMPASS test score. This requirement is parallel to the stated prerequisites for MA 105 and MA 201.

### **Implementation**

MCC Nursing accepts 20 students each year in April for enrollment the following Fall Semester. Students currently enrolled at MCC and seeking acceptance into the Nursing Program April 2002 have already been advised and have pre-registered for Spring Semester 2002. These "Pre-Nursing" students will be unaware and possibly unprepared for the new math admission requirement. Changing the Nursing Degree course requirements and admission criteria abruptly and so close to the April deadline would be unfair to those students currently seeking acceptance into the program.

Therefore, MCC requests approval to implement the proposed change over a period of two years beginning Fall 2002. Students accepted into the Nursing Program April 2002 for enrollment Fall 2002 will have the option of seeking either an AASN or an ASN degree. Thereafter (Fall 2003) only the ASN degree will be offered. This transitional year approach will be fair for both students who have been advised using the AASN requirements and for students who are prepared to meet the new requirements and desire the higher degree.

### **Similar Programs in Montana**

MSU-Northern, Montana Tech and Salish-Kootenai offer Associate of Science in Nursing Degrees. The MCC Registered Nurse Program has been in existence since 1975. No new program is being added therefore there is no impact on other campuses regarding unnecessary duplication.

### **Process Leading to Submission of Proposal**

This proposed change is MCC's response to the Board of Regents Two-Year Committee's request that the taxonomy for two-year nursing programs leading to a RN be titled Associate of Science in Nursing (ASN). The changes in the nursing curriculum were a product of the MCC nursing faculty's review and comparison of other Associate of Science in Nursing Degree programs.

National League for Nursing Standards, Montana State Board of Nursing Standards, Northwest Commission Standards as well as Miles Community Standards were considered throughout the process. The MCC Registered Nurse Program curricular changes were approved by the MCC Academic Standards and Curriculum Committee to carry the title of Associate of Science in Nursing.