

UBC School of Nursing Policy	Approval Date: July 2017
	Date of last revision: July 2017; Oct 2018, July 2021, June 2022
Title: Progression and Advancement in the BSN Program	
Responsible Executive: Associate Director, Undergraduate Program	

Purpose:

This policy applies to students entering and/or completing courses in the BSN Program.

The academic standing of a student may change to ‘*Academic Probation*’ or ‘*Academic Failure*’ as the result of academic and/or practice learning performance evaluations.

Scope of Application:

This policy applies to students enrolled in any course, practicum, laboratory or other activity in meeting academic program requirements for the BSN program.

Policy:

- a. The minimum passing grade for nursing theory courses is 60%.
- b. The minimum cumulative grade to progress from one term in the program to the next is 65%.
- c. Nursing practice and laboratory courses are marked on a Pass/Fail basis. (*See related SoN Practice Grading Policy & Challenges in Meeting Practice Competencies Policy*). In these courses, a Pass is based on the student successfully meeting the course outcomes and requirements and the nursing practice competencies outlined in the Electronic Practice file for the level (term). Students are required to attend and actively engage in all nursing practice and laboratory experiences throughout the program to advance individual nursing competence.
- d. Students seeking late withdrawal concession (past the Academic Withdrawal date) will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and may be required to provide supportive documentation upon request.

Academic Standing

The Progressions Committee will assign an academic standing as follows:

Student in Good Standing

- A minimum of 60% in each nursing theory course
- An overall average of 65% or greater
- A Pass in a nursing practice course
- A Pass in a Foundational Skills & Competencies course



Academic Probation

Occurs in any one or in a combination of the following cases:

- A student has an overall average for the academic level between 60-65% with no failed courses
- A student is repeating a failed course
- A student who was required to discontinue studies and has been readmitted. *See Academic Regulations – Advancement Regulations in UBC Calendar.*
- A student is identified as having repeated documented concerns in meeting BSN Practice Competencies, BCCNM Professional Standards or other threats to progression and advancement, such as normally outlined in remedial or exigency learning plans during the term and/or across terms.
- A student returning to the program following a late concession withdrawal may be placed on *Academic Probation with conditions identified* for the term upon their return. This will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

Academic Failure

Results from any of the following:

1. Course

- A grade of less than 60% in a nursing theory course.
- A 'Fail' grade assigned in a nursing practice course.
- A 'Fail' grade assigned in a Foundational Skills and Competencies course (i.e. FSCP)

2. Program:

- Students may not repeat the course more than once except in unusual cases. A student who fails a course for a second time or fails two or more courses will be required to discontinue study in the School of Nursing.

Examinations and Assignments

- Supplemental examinations are not offered.
- The minimum passing grade for nursing assignments within the School is 60%.
- A student may not re-write an evaluated or failed assignment.

Other threats to Progression and Advancement

Although satisfactory academic performance, and meeting practice competencies and professional standards are prerequisites to advancement, these are not the sole criteria in the consideration of the suitability of a student's progression and graduation. *See related Policy on Academic or Professional Misconduct.*

Academic or Professional Misconduct

- The School of Nursing reserves the right to require a student to withdraw from the School if, in any academic or practice context, the student does not adhere to the principles



embedded in UBC policies, School of Nursing policies and guidelines, the Canadian Nurses Association Code of Ethics and the British Columbia College of Nurses and Midwives (BCCNM) Professional Standards.

- Student academic misconduct or professional misconduct may result in requirement for withdrawal from the University and/or the School.

Preparation for Nursing Practice Experiences

- Since the safety and well-being of health care recipients is of paramount concern, both faculty and students are responsible and accountable for ensuring that appropriate professional standards (i.e. BCCNM Standards of Practice) are maintained. One important standard is an appropriate knowledge base. Faculty will discuss expected professional standards, including what constitutes appropriate preparation for nursing practice experiences with students at the start of each academic term. Unprofessional behaviours such as inappropriate preparation may result in removal of a student from the placement area. Patterns of unprofessional behaviour may lead to charges of professional misconduct and may result in the requirement for withdrawal from the program.
- Students entering practice must be adequately prepared and oriented to their practice settings to ensure safe integration of students into practice settings. Students cannot enter nursing practice learning experiences if they fail to meet the requirements as set forth. This will delay their practice learning experience and potentially impede their ability to meet the course learning objectives in order to successfully pass the course.

Interprofessional Education

- In order to graduate and to meet the British Columbia College of Nurses and Midwives (BCCNM) requirements for Interprofessional Practice competencies, and as required by BSN program approval from the regulatory body, students must complete the interprofessional education requirements integrated within the curriculum.

Missed Practicum and Lab Time

- The School of Nursing expects that students will recognize they have entered a profession in which commitment to full participation in the learning experiences is an essential component of their professional responsibilities. Attendance is expected in all educational activities and is required for practice and laboratory learning sessions. Persistent missed practice or lab time may jeopardize the student's successful completion of the nursing practice or lab course.
- A failing grade will be given to the student when missed practicum time and/or lab practice experiences preclude the student from demonstrating attainment of required competencies and/or the ability of faculty to adequately assess practice competencies at the expected level.



Processes and Procedures:

- a. The Undergraduate Program Progression Committee meets at the end of each academic term, and as necessary to review the academic progress of each student.
- b. Students on Academic Probation are informed in writing that they must regain Good Standing in the subsequent term in order to continue in the Program.
- c. Prior to academic failure there will be opportunity for dialogue and consultation between the student and course leader.
- d. Ongoing constructive dialogue between the student, faculty, and clinical agency staff, where applicable, is crucial throughout practice courses.
- e. The Progression Committee discusses and makes a decision on return to program options. The Progression Committee decision is sent to the student by the Associate Director, Undergraduate Program
- f. The student is required to inform the BSN Program whether they accept the return to program option at least two months before returning.
- g. The Progression Committee will make recommendations regarding the appropriate requirements for students remediating missed practicum or lab time.

Related Policies:

- Canadian Nurses Association: Code of Ethics
- BCCNM Professional Standards
- SoN Policy: Challenges in Meeting Practice Competencies
- SoN Policy: Grading of Practice Learning Experiences
- SoN Policy: Requisites for BSN Nursing Practice Education
- SoN Policy: Professional Appearance for Practice Learning Experiences
- SoN Policy: BSN Missed Practice Learning Experiences
- SoN Policy: BSN Professional Conduct (2017)
- SoN Policy: Student Misconduct
- UBC Academic Calendar: Advancement Regulation

Reference Material:

- See [Senate Policy V-135, Section 8 b, Medical Circumstances](#)
- See [Vancouver Academic Calendar Withdrawal](#)