GENERAL INFORMATION

DEGREE PROGRAMME
Degree Programme in Nursing

PERIOD OF EXECUTION
2014-2017

SCOPE
210 ECTS credits

DESCRIPTION
The studies prepare for professional nursing, in which you plan, implement and develop the practice of nursing in various settings. Nurses provide nursing care, help, support and rehabilitation. They operate flexibly in multi-professional and multi-cultural settings in both family and community care, as well as in health promotion. Nursing studies will take you through a varied and multi-disciplinary area of healthcare. You are able to plan your studies according your own study path and include your own interests in your degree from our versatile course offerings.

We offer modern healthcare lab environments in which you learn skills, knowledge and decision-making together with our teachers, experts and fellow multi-professional students. In our nursing programme you will meet people from around the world, learn about different cultures and simultaneously study to be a competent nurse. It is also possible to take part in an exchange programme to deepen your global competence. Our programme meets the requirements of EU legislation. After graduation you will be ready to face the challenges in healthcare as a nurse or as an entrepreneur. Let’s make a career plan for you and implement it!

LANGUAGE OF STUDY
English

CODE
SNP14S1

DEGREE
Bachelor of Health Care

DEGREE LEVEL
National Qualifications Framework level 6

THE TARGET GROUP AND THE ADMISSION CRITERIA
Eligibility is obtained with a qualification from general upper secondary school or vocational training, an international baccalaureate, a vocational college diploma or a foreign degree/qualification which gives you eligibility for higher education in the country in which the qualification is awarded. EU/EAA citizens do not need to provide an English Proficiency certificate. NON-EU / EAA citizens must provide an English language proficiency certificate.

STUDIES

KEY LEARNING OUTCOMES
The key learning outcomes of a Degree Programme in Nursing are based on the Curriculum work document and on the qualifications for the degree programme. The overall learning outcome of the Degree Programme is that students possess at professional level of knowledge in nursing and are able to critically apply their knowledge in changing environments. Students possess basic entrepreneurship and leadership skills. They are able to perform professional nursing tasks on the basis of the best possible evidence. They can comply with ethical principles and are able to assume responsibility for developing themselves and their field of work.

PROFILE
After graduating as Bachelor of health care, the students will possess the competences required for essential nursing interventions and they will be able to promote the health and well-being of the population in various circumstances in a culturally sensitive way. They have adapted basic competences in entrepreneurship and possess an inner entrepreneurial attitude towards their career and know-how. During their studies, foreign students have many possibilities to study Finnish both in the classroom and in clinical environments. The focus of nursing studies is on applied research related to family nursing. Students have the opportunity to study abroad, practicing in clinical environments, or/and they can take part in theoretical studies. The studies are practically oriented, consisting approximately 1/3 of their overall studies.
COURSE STRUCTURE

COURSE CONTENT AND PERFORMANCE

Studies include basic and vocational studies, elective studies, practical training and the final thesis.

During the first study year, studies consist of basic compulsory studies and basic nursing studies. The module is called basic nursing and it includes the following courses: Gerontological nursing, the Basics of Clinical Nursing, the Basics of Clinical Decision Making and Judgement and Professional Practice I.

In the second and third year the modules consist of Mental health, addiction and crises nursing, Nursing in Common Illnesses, Family and Community Nursing and Nursing in different health care settings. The fourth year contains the bachelor’s thesis and nursing studies which come under the umbrella of Developing nursing expertise. In the developing nursing expertise module, students study according to their career plan in varied healthcare settings and learn more about nursing in international fields.

The course must be completed in no more than two full semesters from the start thereof. The exception is for the thesis and practice, as well as for extensive courses completed in a number of semesters. If a course is not completed, the student shall re-start it.

In the first contact lesson of a course, the learning outcomes and the content of the course are reviewed, along with the various procedures and evaluation criteria. In addition, a potential examination date is agreed upon (the immediate performance time) and the course completion date is announced, after which attempts are no longer accepted. Students have the opportunity to try and achieve the completion of a course a total of three times: during the immediate performance time for the course or in two specially determined re-examination times.
| **LEARNING ASSESSMENT** | Learning outcomes are assessed in relation to the learning objectives of the course. Assessment decisions are based on the assessment criteria provided in the course descriptions. Courses are assessed on the assessment scale specified in the course description. According to its purpose, the scale may be either of five steps: 5 (excellent), 4 (very good), 3 (good), 2 (satisfactory) and 1 (adequate) or a pass (P)/fail (0). Completion of the course has been failed (fail (0)) if the student does not achieve the minimum outcomes set for completion of the course.

The student has the right to know how the criteria apply him or her. Course performance is recorded in the transcript of records no later than one month after the declared time of completion of the course and always before the end of the school year. |
| **ACCREDITATION AND RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING (RPL)** | The procedures for accreditation are described in the Degree Regulations and in the Study Guide. The student may apply for accreditation of higher education studies completed elsewhere (Finnish Online University of Applied Sciences, Open Studies, or another higher education institution) or for competences he/she has acquired in other ways. In making accreditation decision versatile methods are used. The student may be asked to show their competences in an exam, interview or other activity.

To obtain accreditation, the student needs to submit all certificates from his/her previous school, work experience, letters of reference etc. In other words, all documents that show what the student has done and learned previously (studies, work experience, etc.) We also need the course descriptions and the curricula of the programmes the student has attended. With the help of these documents the student has to self-evaluate his/her competences based on non-formal and informal learning; after this process he/she may request recognition. |
| **MODE OF STUDY** | In the area of health and social care, expertise is especially developed through versatile cooperation between educational institutions and the world of work, which offers students an authentic learning environment. The expertise needed at work develops in the social context in a work community. Students are gradually integrated in professional communities. At the initial stage, individual support and guidance are offered. By working together, the students are gradually given more responsibilities and opportunities for participation and flexible integration in the world of work. The aim is innovative learning that benefits the students, the teachers and the world of work, but which is also critical and produces and distributes new knowledge.

Each student will plan their personal study path with the tutor teacher. New, flexible learning methods, such as virtual studies, the utilisation of social media, the conversion of work experience into learning modules, and alternative ways of demonstrating one’s competence are being used in teaching.

Student R&D competences develop gradually throughout the whole learning process. From the very beginning, learning and teaching aim to provide students with the ability to acquire research-based information, and to use it and to process it.

The objective of entrepreneurial studies is that the students know the basics of entrepreneurship and the possibilities that the production and development of health care services offer. They recognise that entrepreneurship offer a career option and the possibilities supporting entrepreneurship in their own studies.

International degree and exchange students create a multicultural and genuinely international study atmosphere. International lecturers and experts bring international special expertise into the programme. The Degree Programme in Nursing also provides an opportunity to Finnish students to study in English in international groups in their home country. The language and cultural studies and courses implemented in English, as well as |
various projects, enhance the international competences of students. The integration of international students in the Finnish cultural environment is promoted through areas such as Finnish language courses. Finnish language studies are also integrated into each nursing competence area using different teaching methods such as practical exam.

The students may complete part of their degree abroad in the form of studies or practical training. International student exchange takes place through the Nordplus and Erasmus Programmes, for example. JAMK has a large number of international partner universities, and the cooperation agreements that have been made with them give JAMK students a wide range of possibilities to study abroad. Any studies completed abroad are included in the students’ personal study plans.

### PROFESSIONAL GROWTH AND KNOW-HOW

The curriculum of the degree programme is based on the competences in nursing and working life, universities’ own and national degree-specific competences. The competence areas consist of courses that form different modules. Any joint and degree-specific competences are attached to these studies. The focus area of the university, Family wellbeing and health promotion is promoted to students throughout their studies.

Based on their career plans, students make choices within the competence areas and courses through assignments and learning methods, through their bachelor’s theses, and through their practical training environments.

### QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS AND REGULATIONS

In addition to the documents quoted as the bases for planning degree-level education, the competences and the objectives of the Degree Programme in Nursing are based on Finnish Universities’ profession-specific competences (the Degree Programme in Nursing) and on the requirements of the directive (2005/36/EY) issued by the European Parliament and Council on 7 September 2005 covering the recognition of professional qualifications. Moreover, the following report by the Ministry of Education (2006) has been utilised in planning: Ammattikorkeakoulutusta terveydenhuoltoon (health care education provided by universities of applied sciences, core studies, and the minimum number of ECTS credits).

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

A person applying for a Degree Programme in Nursing must meet certain health requirements to be able to study and work in the field. For further information please see the applicant’s guide.

The students may be charged separately for any material costs corresponding to real acquisition or production costs of study material, tools, equipment, or supplies that remain in the student’s possession after the education is completed. If a student obtains similar material from other sources, he or she will not be charged the material costs (Government Decree 1230/2009 § 2).

Bachelor’s degree programme is free for the students.

### GRADUATION

The prerequisite for receiving the certificate of Bachelor’s degree is that students complete the studies of their degree programme during the study period in accordance with the personal learning plan (PLP).

JAMK University of Applied Sciences provides students with a certificate of completion of the Bachelor’s degree (210 ECTS credits). To the certificate are attached the academic transcripts.

### EMPLOYMENT AND FURTHER STUDIES

#### EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Most of the graduates work as a nurse in various fields of nursing expertise (basic healthcare, nursing homes, specialised healthcare). It is also possible to start an entrepreneurial career after graduation.
**OPPORTUNITIES FOR POST-GRADUATE STUDIES**

After graduation and after about three years of a phase of normal working life phase, the students of a bachelor’s degree programme can continue their studies in a master’s degree programme. The master’s degree at the University of Applied Sciences is a University Master’s degree. Students can also continue their studies by applying for areas such as, for example, the Master’s degree programmes in universities or for an equivalent training programme. After the Bachelor’s studies, it is, of course, also possible to continue in foreign institutions of higher education on the various Master level degree programmes.

JAMK University of Applied Sciences also offers continuing education opportunities for specialisation studies, Learning agreement type in-service training as well as in working life based continuing education. If a student graduates from the Master’s degree programme, he or she can get the opportunity to continue their studies in the scientific or artistic studies of universities (§ 37/558/2009). All further studies must be applied for separately.

**OTHER INFORMATION**

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<tr>
<th>HEAD OF THE DEGREE PROGRAMME</th>
<th>Marjo Palovaara, Programme coordinator, tel. +358 400 976 746, <a href="mailto:marjo.palovaara@jamk.fi">marjo.palovaara@jamk.fi</a></th>
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<tr>
<td>PROGRAMME PLANNING PROCESS</td>
<td>Apart from the teaching staff, a group consisting of representatives of students and work places (non-institutional and institutional basic health care and specialised health care) has participated in planning the Degree Programme and in defining the learning outcomes and objectives in the curriculum. The competences required in the world of work and in the future are defined in further detail and are annually included in the courses, based on the challenges arising from current research data and the practical work environment in health care.</td>
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| SCHOOL | JAMK University of Applied Sciences  
School of Health and Social Studies,  
Degree Programme in Nursing  
Puistokatu 35, 40200 Jyväskylä |
| QUALITY MANAGEMENT | JAMK University of Applied Sciences uses the quality management system audited by the Finnish Higher Education Evaluation Council (FINHEEC). The education is developed on the basis of feedback gathered from students. The feedback gathered from JAMKO (student union) Grumbeweek is used to develop the studies. Yearly students attend a feedback session with the head of the programme in order to provide feedback and suggestions for improving the studies.  
The principles of the curriculum are approved by the JAMK University of Applied Sciences Board of Education and the Vice Rector of the degree programme specific curriculum. |
| PEDAGOGICAL PRINCIPLES | The degree programme is implemented in accordance with the pedagogical principles established by the University of Applied Sciences Academic Board.  
| ETHICAL PRINCIPLES | The students and staff of the University of Applied Sciences operate jointly in accordance with the accepted ethical ideas (Academic Board 5.12.2007).  
| LAST UPDATE | 13 December 2013 |
| CURRICULUM APPROVED | 17 December 2013  
Heikki Malinen, Vice Rector |