



UNIVERSITY COLLEGE CORK  
Catherine McAuley School of Nursing and Midwifery



UNIVERSITY COLLEGE CORK  
COLÁISTE na hOILISCOILE CORCAIGH

## Degree of BSc (Hons) General Nursing

*In Partnership with*  
Cork University Hospital, Bon Secours Hospital, Mercy University  
Hospital and South Infirmary/Victoria University Hospital



SOUTH INFIRMARY  
VICTORIA UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL



# General Nursing Programme & Philosophy

The 4 Year General Nursing BSc programme reflects the beliefs and values of staff in the School of Nursing and Midwifery and the four Health Service Providers: Mercy University Hospital, South Infirmary/Victoria University Hospital, Cork University Hospital and the Bon Secours Hospital. The philosophy relates to beliefs and values on: nursing, the person receiving care, health and health care, nurse education and learning, and the environment in which nursing is practiced.

## What is Nursing?

Nursing is concerned with promoting, maintaining and protecting the quality of human life and the quality of health of individuals, families, and communities. In so doing, the practice of professional nursing involves a dynamic and systemic caring process characterised by sensitivity, respect, trust, dignity, reflection, creativity, critical inquiry, innovation, and empowerment of others.



## Programme Details

Successful completion of the four year Pre-Registration / Degree Programme leads to Registration as a Nurse (RGN) with An Bord Altranais and the award of a BSc (Hons) Nursing from the National University of Ireland.

In 1st year you will begin with 10 weeks of theoretical instruction, followed by 2 weeks of clinical placement. The total number of weeks of lectures, clinical placement, study leave/ examinations, holidays over the four years of the programme are identified as follows:

- Year 1* 26 weeks theoretical instruction & study leave, 12 weeks clinical placement & 15 weeks holidays
- Year 2* 26 weeks theoretical instruction & study leave, 13 weeks clinical placement & 12 weeks holidays
- Year 3* 13 weeks theoretical instruction & study leave, 19 weeks practice placement & 22 weeks holidays
- Year 4* 12 weeks theoretical instruction & study leave, 37 weeks practice placement (of which 36 weeks are rostered paid placements) & 4 weeks holidays



# Theoretical Instruction

The student undertaking the general nursing programme gains theoretical instruction in:

Nursing Studies  
Biological Sciences and Social Sciences

Two-thirds of the theoretical content of the educational programme is devoted to Nursing Studies, one-sixth to biological Sciences and one-sixth to Social Sciences.



*Brookfield Health Sciences Complex incorporating  
The Catherine McAuley School of Nursing & Midwifery*



## Clinical Placements

All students will be allocated a parent hospital for the duration of the four-year programme. While on clinical placement in the hospitals and other health care placements, you will work/study under the supervision of Clinical Nurse Managers, Preceptors, Staff Nurses and Clinical Placement Co-ordinators, and others to facilitate achievement of the learning objectives.

Bon Secours Hospital is located within 5 minutes walk from the main UCC campus on College Road, Cork. It is a large independent Acute, General & Maternity Hospital with 335 beds. It caters for 18,200 admissions and 29,000 outpatient attendants each year. There are over 700 staff employed in the hospital, of which approximately a third are nurses.

The Mercy University Hospital is located in the City Centre (Grenville Place). It is an acute general hospital offering a comprehensive range of in-patient, out-patient, day care and emergency service. The hospital comprises 349 beds and

employs in excess of 450 nursing and para nursing staff. Specialities include Urology and Gastroenterology.

The South-Infirmiry-Victoria University Hospital (SIVUH) is an acute general hospital with 275 bed capacity. It has 25,400 admissions per year and treats 30,000 patients annually in the Emergency Department. The Out-patient Department cares for 51,000 patients every year. It is the Regional Centre for ENT and Dermatology services and is the major centre in the area for the treatment of Breast Cancer and Gynaecological Oncology.

Cork University Hospital is located in the western suburbs of Cork City and is a major acute hospital in the Southern Region. It has 600 acute beds and approximately 26,000 admissions a year. The busy Accident & Emergency Department treats 55,000 patients a year. There are in excess of 2,000 staff of which approximately 850 are nurses, working in a very wide range of services and specialities.



# Clinical Experience

If you want a career that offers diversity and great job satisfaction in an ever changing environment then General Nursing may be ideally suited to you.



*Adult Medical / Surgical Nursing*



*Home Nursing / Community*



*Maternity Care*



*Operating Theatre*

Here are some examples of the diverse areas that you will gain experience in during your 4 year Degree programme.



*Gerontology*



*Mental Health & Psychiatric Nursing*



*Children's Medical /Surgical Nursing*



*Nursing in Accident & Emergency*

# Your Options

On completion of the BSc (Hons) Nursing programme, and on registration as a qualified General Nurse, you will be able to work in a variety of settings and/or, you may wish to enhance your practice through further education. See some of the many options open to you below:



Intellectual Disability

Emergency Nursing

Neonatology

Perioperative  
Children's Medical / Surgical Nursing



Mental Health

Public Health

Masters in Nursing

Ph.D

Cardiac & Intensive Care

Critical Care

Midwifery

Gerontology



# Entry Requirements

## Under 23 years

Applicants under 23 yrs must satisfy the minimum entry requirements for the College of Medicine and Health. Minimum grade: HC3 in two subjects and passes in four other subjects at H or O level in the Leaving Certificate from Irish, English, Mathematics, one laboratory subject ( i.e. Chemistry, Physics, Biology, Physics with Chemistry (joint)) or Agricultural Science and two other subjects recognised for entry purposes. Application for entry to programme is through the CAO.

## Mature Applicants (over 23)

Application for entry to the programme is through the CAO. Applications are processed by the Nursing and Midwifery Careers Centre, An Bord Altranais.

## BSc (Hons) General Nursing

CAO Standard Code: CK710

CAO Mature Code: CK711



## Cork City

Since the city was founded by St Finbarr over 1,000 years ago it has grown from a trading merchant city to a cosmopolitan vibrant 21st century city of today. The city, situated on the banks of the River Lee, is home to 123,000 people. The overall quality of life and physical environment of Cork City and its hinterland is excellent and is readily accessible to residents and visitors. This is evident in the parks, rivers, lakes, tourist attractions, sports, and recreational facilities available along with many cultural and heritage attractions.

The city also boasts a year long calendar of festivals ranging from folk, jazz, choral and film. In recognition of this commitment Cork City was selected as the European Capital of Culture in 2005. Cork city has the deepest natural harbour in Ireland with direct ferry crossings to UK and mainland Europe. Cork International Airport offers direct flights to the UK and parts of Europe and connecting flights to other European and American destinations.



## Further Information

**Catherine McAuley School of Nursing and Midwifery**  
University College Cork

Enquiries: 021 4902159  
[www.ucc.ie/acad/nursing](http://www.ucc.ie/acad/nursing) E mail: [nursing.studies@UCC.ie](mailto:nursing.studies@UCC.ie)

### Director of Nursing

Cork University Hospital, Wilton, Cork

Enquiries: 021 4546400 Fax: 021 4342690  
[www.hse.ie](http://www.hse.ie)

### Director of Nursing

Bon Secours Hospital, College Road, Cork

Enquiries: 021 4542807 Fax: 021 4544385  
[www.bonsecours.org/ie](http://www.bonsecours.org/ie)

### Director of Nursing

South Infirmary - Victoria University Hospital,  
Old Blackrock Road, Cork

Enquiries: 021 4926100 Fax: 021 4310153  
[www.sivuh.ie](http://www.sivuh.ie)

### Director of Nursing

Mercy University Hospital, Grenville Place, Cork

Enquiries: 021 4271971 Fax 021 4276341  
[www.mercycork.com](http://www.mercycork.com)

### Nursing Careers Centre, An Bord Altranais

Enquiries: 01 6398500 Fax:01 6763348 E mail: [ncc@nursingboard.ie](mailto:ncc@nursingboard.ie)  
[www.nursingcareers.ie](http://www.nursingcareers.ie)

### Central Applications Office (CAO)

Enquiries: 091 509800 Fax: 091 562344 Email: [help@cao.ie](mailto:help@cao.ie)  
[www.cao.ie](http://www.cao.ie)

