

Bergen Community College  
Assessment Report for 2008-2010

Department/Program: Nursing

Department Leader: Mrs. Joan Murko

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Assessment Project Coordinator (if not the Department Leader):

Date Submitted: 3/15/10

Program(s), if applicable (AAS, Interdepartmental, etc.):

AAS Nursing

Mission/Goal statement of the department or program:

Bergen Community College Nursing Program Mission is to prepare graduates for the practice of nursing in a variety of health care settings as beginning practitioners. Graduates will have acquired knowledge, skills, competencies, and social learning through a distinct curriculum based upon Orem's self care model. Behaviors of compassion, caring and community service with a diverse population are emphasized throughout our curriculum. The associate degree program is characterized by critical thinking, clinical competence, accountability, client advocacy and a commitment to the value of caring. Graduates will be eligible to continue their education and pursue a Baccalaureate degree.

**SEMESTER 1: Create the Assessment Plan**

Goal or learning objective being assessed:

Department Goals

1. To identify the relationship between nursing students GPA through out the nursing program and its affect on student learning outcomes as demonstrated by the scores received on the exit exam given at the end of the program.
2. To increase student's success on the nursing exit exam given to senior level students.
3. To implement a student lead/faculty remedial process thought out all levels of the nursing program to assist students in their ability to "learn how to learn."
4. To evaluate the effects of this remedial process upon students' scores on the exit exam.

Relevant Core Competencies: (check as many as apply)

Communication

Quantitative Reasoning

Critical Thinking

- Civic Responsibility     Technological and Information Fluency     Personal Skills  
 Interpersonal Skills     Creativity and Aesthetic Appreciation     Applied Knowledge

Means of Assessment:

1. The GPA scores in the nursing program for students graduating in 2007 and 2008, approximately 250 students, will be compared to their first attempted exit exam scores. To accomplish this we will also be assessing:

a. To identify the GPA scores at risk for success on the exit exam.

b. To identify the minimum GPA score required in the nursing program that correlates with students' exit exam success rates.

## SEMESTER 2: Develop an Assessment Strategy

Criterion for success:

85 % of students with GPA scores of 3.0 or greater in the nursing program courses, will pass the exit exam on their first attempt.

Dean's Comments:

VP's Comments:

## SEMESTER 3: Implement Assessment Plan & Strategy

Summary and analysis of data collected:

Methodology:

The GPA scores of 195 nursing students graduating in 2007 and 2008 were identified and tabulated. The exit exam scores of these 195 students were identified. Each student's GPA score was compared to their exit exam score. A score of 850 or greater on the exit exam defined student success and allowed these students to sit for NCLEX-RN licensure examination. Students who do not obtain 850 or greater are not certified to sit for the NCLEX-RN licensure exam unit. These students are required to take the exit exam again till a score of 850 has been reached.

As part of the assessment process at Bergen Community college, two nursing faculty assumed the responsibility to examine the impact of nursing students' GPA scores in the nursing program and their success on the exit exam. These scores were examined to determine:

- if there was a relationship between the students' GPA scores throughout the nursing program and its affect on student learning outcomes as demonstrated on the exit exam given at the end of the program.
- if there was a relationship between students who repeated courses in the nursing program after failing and their success scores on the exit exam

- to identify the GPA scores at risk for success on the exit exam

#### Findings:

38 students out of 195 or 19.4% had GPA scores in the nursing program at or above 3.5.

32 students out of 38 or 84% with GPA's at or above 3.5 passed the exit exam.

86 students out of 195 or 44.1% had GPA scores in the nursing program between 3.0 and 3.4

60 students out of 86 students or 70% with GPA scores between 3.0 and 3.4 passed the exit exam.

54 students out of 195 or 27.6% had GPA scores in the nursing program between 2.5–2.9.

17 students out of 54 or 31% with GPA scores between 2.5 -2.9 passed the exit exam.

17 students out of 195 or 8.7% had GPA scores equal to or less than 2.4 after repeating courses in the nursing program.

5 students out of 17 or 29% with GPA scores of 2.4 or below after repeating courses in the nursing program passed the exit exam.

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#### Conclusions:

1. Students with a GPA score of 3.5 or better appear to have an 84% chance of passing the exit exam.
2. Students with a GPA score of 3.0-3.4 appear to have a 70 % chance of passing the exit exam.
3. Students with a GPA score of 2.5 -2.9 appear to have a 31% chance of passing the exit exam.
4. Students with a GPA score below 2.4 and have repeated courses in the program appear to have a 29% chance of passing the exit exam.



(The Summary should appear here. Use attachments only to provide information to support the summary.)


## SEMESTER 4: Reporting and Revising

#### Use of results:

Students need to maintain GPA scores of 3.0 or greater throughout the nursing program to increase their chances of success on the exit exam. Students with GPA scores of 2.9 or less are at risk for successfully completing the exit exam. The lower the GPA the greater the risk of failing the exit exam.

For these reasons, the Department of Nursing needs to institute a structured remedial program to help students maintain GPA scores predictive of success on the exit exam. This program will need to be administered by a faculty member responsible for the implementation, coordination and evaluation of student's progress throughout the nursing program and on the exit exam.

Student learning outcomes will continue to be measured by assessment liasons to determine the effects of this remedial program on student GPA's throughout the program and their success on the exit exam.

Dean's Comments: 

VP's Comments: