Requesting a Cognate Exception

Cognate courses facilitate student exploration of specialty areas in nursing. Specialty areas may include but are not limited to, pediatrics, obstetrics, public health, critical care, psychiatric, or other unique fields in nursing. Six credit hours of cognates are required with a minimum of 3 credit hours from nursing courses. Health care related topics from other disciplines can augment student understanding of ideal patient care in nursing specialties. Pairing nursing cognates or pairing a cognate from the College of Nursing with a course from other colleges may lead to the award of a badge that signifies accomplishment in a specialty area. For example, students interested in pediatrics might pair a CON pediatric cognate with a developmental psychology course to earn a badge in pediatrics.

Process for Requesting Exception

1. Student completes the College of Nursing Cognate Exception Form to petition the BSN Cognate Subcommittee to grant an exception to allow the course to satisfy a Cognate requirement. A minimum grade of "C" is required for cognate courses. Students in the RN to BSN track will submit exception requests to the track coordinator.

2. The Exception Form is sent by e-mail attachment to your academic advisor. The Assistant Dean of Student Affairs, Assistant Dean of BSN Program Studies, and the Chair of the Undergraduate Program Committee, and a faculty member from a nursing specialty (as indicated) will review the request.

3. Exception request submissions are due the semester before the cognate course work is scheduled to begin and February 28 for fall semester and September 30 for spring semester.

4. An electronic copy of the course syllabus and/or description of the course is included in the Cognate Exception Form. Students will also describe the nature of their request.

5. The decision of the subcommittee will be shared with the student, UPC and USAPC.

6. Courses approved by the subcommittee will be added to the list of sanctioned Cognates.

7. Student's degree audit will be updated with the exception.

College of Nursing Cognate Exception Form

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If you have taken a course at UK or elsewhere that is not a designated CON cognate, you may petition the BSN Cognate Subcommittee to grant an exception to allow the course to satisfy a Cognate requirement.

If the course in question is transfer work, it cannot be examined for an exception until it has been evaluated by the Transfer Center to determine how it will be accepted for credit at the University. Please consult with this office in Room 100 Funkhouser Building to address transfer equivalency issues.

To submit a CON cognate exception request, submit an electronic copy of the course syllabus and/or description and describe the nature of your request.

Once submitted, the request will be considered by the committee. The decision of the committee will be shared with the student and other CON stakeholders as warranted. After notification from the committee, any changes will be reflected in 7-10 days in Degree Audit.

Student & Advisor Information

Student Name (Last, First)

UK ID#

Student's UK Email Address

Advisor Name (Last, First)

Advisor's Email Address

Course Information

Course to be considered
(include the prefix and number,
e.g., HIS 123 as it was named at
your home institution)

College or University where the
course was taken

Describe your request. How does this course contribute to a specialty area in nursing?

Attach a copy of the syllabus for the course and a copy of the course description from the bulletin. Courses from other universities will not be evaluated without syllabus and/ or course description information. If you have other information, you may upload this as well.