**CHALLENGE OF NURS 205 (DRUG DOSAGE CALCULATION) AND/OR NURS 212 (PHARMACOLOGY FOR NURSES)**

**BY EXAM**

**POLICY:**

A **nursing applicant who has previous nursing education and experience, including military education and experience, may choose** to challenge the Drug Dosage Calculation course (NURS 205) or the Pharmacology for Nurses course (NURS 212) by taking the Nursing Department's challenge exam(s). A **nursing applicant** who chooses to challenge these courses and successfully passes the exam, will receive a notation on the official transcript that states that the course was challenged (This is not transferrable to another academic institution). The **nursing applicant** will not receive any unit credit or grade for the course. There is no fee for the challenge examination. The challenge examination must be taken prior to enrollment in the course. A **nursing applicant** who has taken NURS 205 or NURS 212 is not eligible to take the challenge exam(s).

**PROCEDURE:**

The procedure for challenging the Drug Dosage Calculation course or the Pharmacology for Nurses course by exam is as follows:

1. The **nursing applicant** must obtain and complete the Challenge Petition form available in the Admission and Records Office or in the Nursing Department.
2. In order to qualify for the exam, you must have done one of the following:
   * Studied similar content in a LVN or other nursing program;
   * Received equivalent training or work experience from military education;
   * Or, completed independent study of the course content.
3. Upon successful completion of the challenge exam (75% average), the instructor will complete the Challenge Petition form.
4. NURS 205 and NURS 212 may be challenged by exam **one time only**.

*Adopted: 5/96*

*Reviewed: 5/97, 5/01, 5/06, 9/15, 5/17, 3/18, 6/24*

*Revised: 5/98, 5/99, 5/00, 5/02, 5/03, 5/04, 5/05, 5/07, 5/08, 5/10, 9/15, 5/17, 6/23*

Information for those who are interested in taking a Challenge Examination for

* + NURS 205 (Drug Dosage Calculations for Nursing Students)
  + NURS 212 (Pharmacology for Nurses)

Thank you for your interest in challenging the Drug Calculations for Nursing Students (NURS 205) course or NURS 212 (Pharmacology for Nurses). Please read the following to see if this option is appropriate for you.

The challenge exam is offered each semester. In order to qualify for the exam, you must have done one of the following:

• Studied similar content in a LVN or other nursing program;

• Received equivalent training or work experience from military education;

• Or, completed independent study of the course content.

**PLEASE NOTE:**

**The Challenge Exam(s) may be taken one time only.** The challenge exam(s) must be taken prior to enrollment in NURS 205 or NURS 212. You are not eligible to take the challenge exam if you have taken the NURS 205 or NURS 212 courses. You will not be granted units, nor will you be given a grade on the transcript. There is no fee for the challenge exam. This is not transferrable to another academic institution. In order to be successful with the challenge exam(s), you must achieve a 75% score on the exam(s). This is the minimum passing score required in all nursing courses.

**NOTE:** If you are challenging NURS 205 Drug Dosage Calculations, you may bring a calculator and scratch paper on exam day. Exam time is 2 hours.

**NOTE:** If you are challenging NURS 212 Pharmacology for Nurses, please allow 2 hours for the exam.

Recommendation for Preparation:

NURS 205: Castillo, S. and Werner-McCullough, M. *Drug Dosage Calculations: An interactive approach to learning nursing math*. [Third Ed.]. Philadelphia: F.A. Davis Company.

NURS 212: Open RN. *Nursing Pharmacology*. XanEdu. <https://www.xanedu.com/catalog-product-details/nursing-pharmacology-by-open-rn>

Course materials for NURS 205 or NURS 212 are available in the CCC bookstore or can be ordered online. **These resources will NOT be provided to you and you must incur all costs of preparation materials.**

**PLEASE NOTE: If you are interested in taking the challenge exam, please obtain and complete the Challenge Petition form available in the Admission and Records Office.** If interested in the challenge exam(s), please email **Professor Christopher (CJ) Price, MSN-Ed, RN**: [cprice@contracosta.edu](mailto:cprice@contracosta.edu)

**The Challenge exam for N205 & N212 will be given twice a year prior to the Spring and Fall semesters; dates are posted on the CCC Nursing Home page.**