

Introduction

The Bachelor's Degree in Nursing seeks to provide future general nurses with the skills necessary to respond to our society's needs as concerns the promotion, improvement, and recovery of good health among the population. Students enrolled in the program learn how to properly use the technological, scientific, and human resources available and to guide, prescribe, and administer quality care for patients, their families, and the community as a whole. Additionally, the Bachelor's Degree in Nursing provides the training necessary so that graduates may work in the many social and institutional health-care settings found in local, national, and international contexts, fulfilling the many responsibilities inherent in their role.

The curriculum of the Bachelor's Degree in Nursing ([Ministerial Order CIN2134/ 2008](#)) calls for the Degree's teaching to consist of 240 ECTS credits (four academic years). Student learning is facilitated by a curriculum which blends theory and hands-on learning alongside research activities, with 81 credits devoted to practicum-based training and 9 devoted to the undergraduate thesis, where the theory and practical components of the degree come together in the form of a research project.

The Fundación Jiménez Díaz-UAM has extensive experience in training within the nursing profession. Founded in 1962 by Dr. Carlos Jiménez Díaz, the institution has remained true to its three basic values--care, teaching, and research. Of these, the most widely recognized facets of the work done in the FJD are quality teaching and hands-on training. The proximity between the FJD School of Nursing and the hospital's care facilities and also the expertise of the School's faculty are two of the School's primary strengths. However, the learning process is also influenced by the health-care system, the culture, and the standards of conduct of each institution. Throughout the learning process, we must not lose sight of the School's philosophy on "humanizing science," as we are convinced that this educational model aids in providing future nurses with holistic, professional training so that they will be able to provide for the needs of people, families, and their community.

Objectives

The aim of the Bachelor's Degree in Nursing taught at the Fundación Jiménez Díaz School of Nursing in conjunction with the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid is to train nurses to have integrity and to occupy leadership roles in the fields of education and research, thus meeting the needs of people, families, and communities thanks to their solid scientific and humanistic skills. With these abilities, nurses go on to promote and maintain people's health or help the sick as they recover their health; provide palliative care and dignity for the dying; promote versatility and adaptability in their daily work; and approach their profession with a sense of teamwork and a multidisciplinary mindset so as to best adjust to a changing society and its cultural diversity.

To achieve these goals, a [Curriculum](#) has been designed which is followed in all of the Schools of Nursing that are associated with the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid. The study program is divided into four modules based on discipline and function, thus creating greater unity between educational planning and the acquisition of competencies, and even allowing for common elements to be developed across different academic programs. These modules are in turn made up of semester-long courses, and students take 30 ECTS credits per semester, 60 per year, totalling 240 over four years. Knowledge and skills are acquired progressively, beginning with the basic-training subjects. Upon completion of these courses, students take compulsory classes that develop the fundamental knowledge imparted in the beginning stages. Finally, students enroll in courses that help them

develop key aspects of nursing practice. To achieve these goals, a clinical practicum program has been designed to complement students' study of theory and educate future nurses on all the health needs of people. In this practical stage of their education, students rotate between general-care units, specialist-care units, and even travel to settings found outside of the hospital itself, where they gain specific knowledge on elderly care and care for underprivileged populations and promote good health in the community.

In their training, students develop social skills and a sense of responsibility and solidarity. For this reason, an event is scheduled every year to bring the newest students together with those who are nearing the end of their degree, promoting a sense of community within the university and encouraging stays abroad.

Requirements and admission

Both the avenues and requisites concerning [Admission](#) into the Fundación Jiménez Díaz School of Nursing Bachelor's Degree are established by the application and admission regulations of the Public Universities of Madrid. These rules are available on the Universidad Autónoma website.

Every year, 75 students are admitted to the program for full-time or part-time study. At the time of matriculation, students decide which of the two they prefer. This decision then applies to the entire first year of study but can be changed during the following year. Full-time students enroll in 60 credits per academic year. Those studying under a part-time program enroll in classes having credits of between 40% (24 ECTS credits) of those taken by full-time students and up to 60% (36 ECTS credits) of the number of full-time credits.

All courses are taught in Spanish, although some contain readings in English, and the suggested activities entail reading scientific articles written in English. Therefore, students seeking admission to the program are recommended to have a sufficient level of proficiency in English so as to be able to read and understand articles in English.

Currently, students may apply to the Bachelor's Degree in Nursing upon completion of any of the programs which appear in the link on access and admission, although most students who enter the program do so after completing the Health Sciences option under the Spanish *Bachillerato* program. While there are no specific requisites concerning prior training and skills, it is strongly recommended that potential students be equipped with a set of abilities which will facilitate their acquisition of the knowledge and competencies taught during the program, such as an ability to communicate in both oral and written Spanish, fluency with new technologies, an ability to work both individually and in groups, and a critical and ethical perspective and understanding of the societal and political state of the country, as these are essential components required to understand and take on the problems of our surroundings and to grasp the perspective and limitations that determined by time and place.

The [Regulations governing continued enrollment](#) can be consulted by accessing the following website:

Competencies acquired in the program

The following competencies set forth under the Qualifications Framework for Higher Education (MECES) are given special emphasis in the Bachelor's Degree Program in Nursing:

- The ability to analyze data and reach decisions, reflecting on relevant topics of a social, scientific and ethical nature.

- The capacity to manage information, including search, analysis, and synthesis of documents obtained from a number of sources.
- The ability to organize, plan, address problems, make decisions, and adapt to new situations.
- A commitment to ethics and a sense of solidarity.
- The ability to learn and to work autonomously, a sense of quality-driven motivation, goals-orientedness, and a critical view of others and of oneself.

Joining the workforce

The nursing profession is considered to have one of the highest levels of employability, and the Bachelor's Degree in Nursing is one of the few university degrees with academic regulations established by the European Union. This degree of uniformity in nursing education across the European Union has led to real transnational movement among nursing professionals.

Recent graduates of the Fundación Jiménez Díaz School of Nursing can gain an international profile through the Capiro Sanidad Group. Capiro, a group of companies that administratively and financially manages the Fundación Jiménez Díaz, is one of the leading providers of health-care services and is present in Sweden and Spain, and also in such countries as the United Kingdom, France, Norway, Denmark, Finland, and Germany.

[Report on hiring rates among graduates of the FJD Nursing School, 2009-2010](#)

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[Report on hiring rates among graduates of the FJD Nursing School, 2007-2008](#)

[Report on hiring rates among graduates of the FJD Nursing School, 2006-2007](#)

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