

THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SCIENCE-NURSING (RN-BSN)

Based on the American Association of Colleges of Nursing's Essentials of Baccalaureate Nursing Education, the RN-BSN Nursing program is designed to build on the registered nurse's knowledge and skills in seven areas: leadership, quality improvement, evidence-based nursing practice, nursing informatics, population-focused health promotion and disease prevention, interdisciplinary collaboration, and professionalism. Graduates of the program are prepared to assume roles in leadership positions, in the management of complex clinical care coordination, and in community/public health. Successful completion of the RN-BSN Program provides the academic foundation for graduate study.

Goals/Purpose:

The purpose of the RN-BSN program is to:

1. Enhance the knowledge and skills of students in practicing caring for individuals, families, groups, and communities across the lifespan and the continuum of healthcare environments
2. Strengthen research skills and knowledge of students for use in an evidence-based nursing practice
3. Nurture critical thinking and problem-solving skills of students in a healthcare environment
4. Expand data management and communication skills of students in order to improve the quality and safety of nursing care
5. Expand management and leadership strategies and skills of students to meet the needs of the healthcare community

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING - 38 hours

NRSOL 331 – The Nursing Profession Today and Tomorrow (3 credits)
NRSOL 332 – Pathophysiology (3 credits)
NRSOL 333 – Statistics for Nursing (3 credits)
NRSOL 334 – Healthcare Communication (3 credits)
NRSOL 335 – Nursing in a Multicultural Environment (3 credits)
NRSOL 336 – Research and Nursing Practice (3 credits)
NRSOL 337 – Advanced Health Assessment (3 credits)
NRSOL 339 – Healthcare and Social Policy (3 credits)
NRSOL 432 – Global Health Nursing (3 credits)
NRSOL 441 – Community Healthcare (4 credits)*
NRSOL 445 – Principles of Healthcare Management (4 credits)*
NRSOL 490 – Senior Seminar (3 credits)

While all courses are offered in an online format, some courses have a clinical component*.

All RN-BSN students must complete the exit exam prior to graduation.

Fees may be applicable for the exam.

In addition, students graduating with an area of concentration in Health Science–Nursing must complete the following:

Transfer credits from an accredited AS-RN program posted at the time of admission into the program. These credits must have originally been earned with a grade of “C” or better and will

normally include 38 hours of coursework in the following areas:

- o Human Anatomy and Physiology
- o Microbiology / Medical Microbiology
- o Pharmacology
- o Didactic and Clinical Instruction in such venues as Surgical Nursing, Maternal and Newborn Nursing, and Pediatric Nursing

Integrated Studies Course

As part of the General Education curriculum, all students take one Integrated Studies course in place of a standard general education course. These courses are special topics upper-level courses that reflect the University's commitment to nurturing critical thinking and problem solving, often in a cross- or inter-disciplinary context. The following Integrated Studies courses listed below are recommended choices for nursing students:

BUOL 401	Personal Finance
BUOL 402	Business Communications
CHOL 402	Chemistry, Health and Wellness
COMOL 405	Listening and Nonverbal Communication
CROL 401	Child Abuse Investigation
HSOL 403	Human Tragedy and Intervention
HSOL 404	Understanding Child Maltreatment
MMOL 403	Exploring the Non-Canonical Works
PSYOL 402	Psychology of Religion

Course Descriptions

NRSOL 331. The Nursing Profession Today and Tomorrow

This course explores the nursing profession for the RN developing skills and strategies to thrive in a rapidly changing social, scientific, technical and institutional environment. Focus is given to different models of nursing practice. Credit, 3 hours.

NRSOL 332. Pathophysiology

This course explores the pathophysiology of common disease states emphasizing nursing application. The student will address scientific principles essential to understanding alterations in body systems and will develop professional nursing clinical decision making for health promotion, risk reduction, and disease management across the life span. The course examines implications for nursing practice on common alterations in body systems and addresses etiology, clinical presentation, and appropriate treatment of the disease process. This course serves as a pre-requisite for NRSOL 337. Credit, 3 hours.

NRSOL 333. Statistics for Nursing

This course focuses on enhancing understanding and facilitating the application of statistical information to meet the demands for accountability, achieving and maintain best practices and to make outcome-based decisions. This course must be taken before NRSOL 336. Credit, 3 hours.

NRSOL 334. Healthcare Communication

This course explores the rapidly changing information-sharing networks of modern healthcare systems, as well as the teaching opportunities and responsibilities these provide medical personnel in a holistic approach to health care. Credit, 3 hours.

NRSOL 335. Nursing in a Multicultural Environment

This course explores the challenges faced in healthcare in response to the changing demographics of American culture. The course provides an opportunity for students to examine their personal values and social skills related to practice in a multicultural setting. Credit, 3 hours.

NRSOL 336. Research and Nursing Practice

This course provides an opportunity for the practicing RN to develop analytical and interpretative skills in reading research and applying it to clinical practice. Emphasis is given to clinical problem-solving using case studies. Pre-requisite: NRSOL 333. Credit 3 hours.

NRSOL 337 Advanced Health Assessment

This course provides the RN an opportunity to enhance knowledge and skills in physical assessment of patients throughout the lifespan. Topics include wellness, emergency, chronic and acute assessment principles and procedures. Pre-requisite: NRSOL 332. Credit, 3 hours.

NRSOL 339. Healthcare and Social Policy

This course explores current trends and issues in contemporary society and their impact upon public healthcare policy. Emphasis is given to case studies focusing on the dynamic relationship between developments in medical knowledge and methods with changes in public health policy and institutions. Credit, 3 hours.

NRSOL 432. Global Health Nursing

The course uses a multidisciplinary perspective to explore global issues affecting personal, community, and international health and development using approaches from health promotion, population health, and primary health care to help frame analyses. Topics include identification & discussion of lifespan issues that affect global health care and comparing and contrasting the concepts of vulnerability and resilience from the standpoint of cultural factors that affect health status and health care with diverse populations. Credits, 3 hours.

NRSOL 441. Community Healthcare

This course focuses on common issues encountered in public health institutions. Topics include the array of challenges faced by and resources available to health professionals and their patients. Emphasis is given to efficient use of resources to promote health and wellness. Credit, 4 hours.

NRSOL 445. Principles of Healthcare Management

This course explores leadership and management principles in healthcare. Topics include strategies for facing challenges with personnel and patients while promoting cost-effective practices in a complex healthcare system. Credit, 4 hours.

NRSOL 490. Senior Seminar

The course serves as a culmination of the students' baccalaureate education and illustrates the values, knowledge, skills and attitudes of the professional nursing role. The senior project utilizes but is not limited to, knowledge of leadership skills, principles of teaching/learning, health care policy, change process, group process, team building, collaboration, health care policy and delivery systems, quality improvement, evidence-based care, diversity, nursing roles, information technology and systems, population based care and ethical legal issues. The student will develop a scholarly paper built on knowledge, experience, and scholarship to pursue an area of interest and apply it to practice and will create a program synthesis portfolio demonstrating growth in program outcomes. This course must be taken as the last term of the BSN program. Credit, 3 hours.

