

## Nursing (NURS)

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The mission of the School of Nursing is to prepare professional nurses for lives of significance and service through baccalaureate and graduate nursing education within the Christian tradition. Our vision is the creation and maintenance of a culture of excellence in nursing education grounded in the compassion of Christ. To this end, the curriculum of the School of Nursing is based on a "caring philosophy."

The School of Nursing offers a four-year program that leads to a Bachelor of Science degree with a Major in Nursing. Successful completion of the program qualifies the graduate to apply for the professional nurse licensing examination, NCLEX-RN.

The curriculum consists of three parts: general education, nursing prerequisites, and courses in the nursing major. Together these courses provide the student with the knowledge and skills needed for beginning practice in professional nursing.

Students are urged to complete a Major Declaration Form by the end of the first year. Official acceptance into the nursing major comes after the completion of all nursing prerequisite courses and is contingent upon the student having achieved a cumulative grade point average of 2.75 or higher, and a minimum of C in all prerequisite courses. No more than two prerequisite courses may be repeated and only one of those may be a science course. Standardized testing is an integral part of the nursing evaluation process, beginning prior to acceptance into the major and continuing throughout the program. Passing a comprehensive standardized examination the senior year is required prior to graduation.

Transfer students may be accepted into the University at any level prior to the fourth year. However, transferring into the nursing major may involve additional time as general education, prerequisites, or nursing courses may not always fit well with North Park University's curriculum. Generally, nursing courses from other nursing programs do not transfer; however, the School of Nursing faculty will evaluate such courses for equivalence and appropriate allocation of transfer credit. Criteria for entrance into nursing, e.g. cumulative grade point average and minimum grade on all prerequisite courses, is the same for transfer students as for other students.

### Accreditation

The programs for pre-licensure and registered nurses are accredited by:  
The Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education  
One Dupont Circle, NW  
Suite 530  
Washington, DC 20036-1120

### Clinical Facilities

Affiliations with more than 80 clinical agencies used for supervised clinical practice include: Chicago Department of Public Health, Chicago-Read Mental Health Center, Children's Memorial Hospital, Evanston, Lake County Department of Public Health, Lutheran General Hospital, Swedish Covenant Hospital and Family Practice Center, Highland Park Hospital, Our Lady of the Resurrection Medical Center, Glenbrook Hospital and home health-care agencies.

### Learning Resource Center

The School of Nursing maintains a Learning Resource Center on campus. This facility, which includes the Helene Fuld Medical Center and the Delores H. Johnson Memorial Nursing Laboratory, is used by students for independent study and the practice of nursing skills.

### Additional Expenses

Estimated additional expenses for nursing students include uniforms, laboratory fee for each clinical nursing course, costs of health examinations, vaccinations, and liability insurance; and standardized examination fees. Students must also plan on transportation expenses associated with travel to agencies and other settings for clinical laboratory. Students are responsible for their own transportation. Costs in the spring term of fourth year are higher because of the need for a car (or equivalent transportation costs) for community health visits.

## Major requirements for the B.S. degree in Nursing (Pre-licensure Students)

### Required semester hours

53 sh

### Prerequisites and supporting courses

BIOL 1250, 1260, 2910, 2930; CHEM 1021 and 1031; NPJ 1000, 2000, MATH 1030 or STAT 1490; PSYC 1000, 2700; SOC 1910, NURS 2540. Many of the prerequisites in Nursing also count toward the fulfillment of General Education requirements.

### Required core courses

NURS 2100, 3020, 3030, 3201, 3220, 3240, 3500, 3520, 3540, 4200, 4201, 4202, 4203, 4240, 4500, 4520, 4540, 4550

### Notes and Restrictions

All nursing majors are required to successfully complete a comprehensive examination in order to receive approval to graduate from the School of Nursing and apply for professional nursing licensure.

### Honors

For admission into the Departmental Honors program, students must reach fourth-year status. Admission requires overall grade point average (GPA) of 3.5 with a minimum major GPA of 3.7 on a 4.0 system. Application for admission may be made upon completion of the spring term in the third year. For graduation with Honors in Nursing, students must earn minimum of 4 sh in NURS 4000 in addition to Nursing major requirements. For general Departmental Honors requirements and NURS 4000 course description, see appropriate sections of this catalog.

### Special programs

Nursing International Exchange Programs: Established between the School of Nursing and the College of Health and Care in Jönköping, Sweden, and in educational and health care facilities in Morelia, Mexico. Selected nursing students meeting appropriate criteria may spend designated weeks while enrolled in the major to study and gain clinical experience in an international healthcare system.

## B.S. Completion Program for Registered Nurses

The University offers a part-time or full-time evening program for registered nurses seeking a Bachelor of Science degree. Acceptance into the

major is contingent upon successful completion of prerequisite courses and a 2.75 cumulative grade-point average. Registered nurses must also provide evidence of the following:

- Graduation from a National League for Nursing accredited diploma nursing program or associate degree nursing program
- Licensure to practice as a Registered Nurse in the State of Illinois  
Credit for upper division nursing knowledge is awarded after successful completion of NURS 3210 for a total of 26 semester credit hours:

Registered nurses with diplomas from single-purpose and/or associated degree programs may enroll in an accelerated Registered Nurse to Master of Science with a Major in Nursing track. Many B.S. Degree Completion students need some of the general education requirements. These are being offered in the accelerated format (GOAL Studies) and are open to B.S. Degree Completion R.N. students with the permission of the School of Nursing.

The Bachelor of Science in Nursing program for basic and registered nurse students is approved by the Department of Professional Regulation of the State of Illinois and is accredited by the National League for Nursing.

### Registered Nurse Admission Procedures

Prospective students may obtain an application form from the Admissions Office or RN faculty advisors. In addition, the following materials must be received for the application to be complete:

- Application form
- Transcripts from all previously attended universities, nursing school, and high school.
- Scores from ACT or SAT entrance exams, if taken.

The School of Nursing Office should be contacted to arrange for an intake interview.

### PROGRAM AND ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

All academic policies specified for undergraduates apply to students seeking the B.S.

### Major requirements for the B.S. degree in Nursing (RN Students)

#### Required semester hours

22 sh

#### Prerequisites and supporting courses

BIOL 2910, 2930, and NURS 3000 (NURS 3000 waived if transfer credit for upper division Pathophysiology is granted); NP 1000, 2000 or ENG 1050; MATH 1030 or STAT 1490; PSYC 1000, 2700; SOC 1910 Many of the prerequisites in Nursing also count toward the fulfillment of General Education requirements.

#### Required core courses

NURS 3030, 3210, 3540, 4240, 4510, 4530

#### Honors

For admission into the Departmental Honors program, students must reach fourth-year status. Admission requires overall grade point average (GPA) of 3.5 with a minimum major GPA of 3.7 on a 4.0 system. Application for admission may be made upon completion of the spring term in the third year. For graduation with Honors in Nursing, students must earn minimum of 4 sh in NURS 4000 in addition to Nursing major requirements. For general Departmental

Honors requirements and NURS 4000 course description, see appropriate sections of this catalog.

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#### 2100 Survey of Professional Nursing and Health Care (2 sh)

Introduces students to the mission, vision, philosophy, and distinctives of the North Park University School of Nursing; explores the concepts of professional nursing, the history of nursing and nursing education, the roles and settings where professional nurses practice, and envisions a preferred future for the profession

#### 2540 Applied Nutrition (2 sh)

Applies the science of nutrition to human needs throughout the life span. Includes major nutrition related health problems. Explores cultural and ethical issues and values related to nutrition, food consumption, hunger and the environment. Connects to Christian, urban, and international issues.

#### 3000 Pathophysiology: RN (2 sh)

Examines physiologic changes occurring as a result of disease processes. Presents concepts of disease causality cell metabolism, injury and death, infection, and inflammation. Uses a systems approach.

#### 3020 Introduction to Professional Nursing Practice (4 sh)

Introduces students to the foundational concepts and beginning skills required in professional practice. Includes lecture, lab, and clinical.

#### 3030 Health Assessment (2 sh)

Integrates knowledge from the natural and behavioral sciences to focus on holistic health assessment of adults. Includes assessment of spiritual, cultural, developmental, and nutritional aspects. Considers ethnic variables of normal assessment. Course culminates with students performing and recording a complete health assessment. Students will describe the role of the nurse in health assessment.

#### 3201 Nursing of Adults I (4 sh)

Based upon knowledge of liberal arts and sciences and basic nursing concepts, applies nursing theory to the care of adults with physiological disorders. The focus is patients who undergo surgery or have disorders in the respiratory, gastrointestinal, cardiovascular, and endocrine disorders. Applies theory and practice in acute care settings.

#### 3210 Concepts of Professional Nursing: RN (4 sh)

A bridge course designed for Registered Nurses. Selected units may be taught on-line. Discusses ways in which nursing practice, personal experience, and liberal arts education interface with nursing professionalism. Introduces theories of adult learning styles, critical thinking, group dynamics, and personal/professional development. Applies theoretical principles to professional writing and presentations. Examines current legal issues, multiculturalism, and healthcare policy. Integrates personal values, Christian perspective, and caring in nursing. Explores students' personal experiences in

various healthcare settings.

**3220 Pharmacology in Nursing (2 sh)**

Introduces basic pharmacological concepts including drug classification, drug actions; routes of administration, drug standards, legislation and control, and nursing implications for patient use.

**3240 Pathophysiology (2 sh)**

Explores major pathophysiology concepts using a physiological systems approach. Applies theories of etiology, pathogenesis, and clinical manifestations to common disease processes. Concepts from anatomy and physiology provide the foundation for exploring human dysfunction. Concepts learned in this course are basic to nursing practice.

**3500 Nursing of Childbearing Families (4 sh)**

Applies a caring philosophy and current knowledge, theory, and research to nursing care of diverse pregnant women, fetuses, newborns, and families. Explores cultural values, community resources, and ethical and spiritual issues related to childbearing. Uses acute and ambulatory care settings.

**3520 Nursing of Children (4 sh)**

Based upon knowledge of liberal arts and sciences and basic nursing concepts, nursing theory is applied to the care of ill children and their families. Emphasizes Family Centered Care. Theory and practice in ambulatory and acute care settings. Patients and families are from urban, suburban, or rural environments. The Christian mission is integrated in the plan of care. A caring philosophy directs interaction with culturally and spiritually diverse families.

**3540 Ethics in Health Care (2 sh)**

Issues and dilemmas in the health care system serve as a basis for examination of theories and principles of ethics. The spiritual domain is considered a valued context for decision-making.

**3910 Topics in Health (2 sh)**

Selected topics in health related areas. Restricted to third-year status or above, or consent of nursing faculty.

**3920 Management of Cardiac Dysrhythmias (2 sh)**

Focuses on identification and management of cardiac dysrhythmias. Provides students with basic information concerning cardiac functioning and conduction principles. Guides students through analysis and interpretation of rhythm strips, and management of various common arrhythmias.

**3940 NCLEX-RN Review (1 sh)**

Presents a comprehensive review of content areas with integration of nursing concepts and test-taking strategies as preparation for successful completion of the NCLEX-RN examination.

**4000 Departmental Honors in Nursing (4 sh)**

Honors independent research study; student completes individually selected nursing research project that includes all steps of the research process. Presents and defends project to nursing and University-wide faculty and community. Student must have completion of minimum of 90 sh; application for admission may be made upon completion of the third year. Special restrictions: School of Nursing approval; fourth-year standing; major GPA 3.7 on a 4.0; overall GPA 3.5. Co-requisite: NURS 4200, 4220, 4240, 4500, 4520.

**4200 Psychiatric/Mental Health Nursing (4 sh)**

Integrates knowledge of human development, behavior and psychological theory; places emphasis on increasing self-awareness and therapeutic use of self and milieu. With assistance and use of collaborative skills, students develop decision-making skills in the psychiatric-mental health care delivery system in a way that communicates respect and understanding.

**4201 Nursing of Adults II (4 sh)**

Based upon knowledge of liberal arts and sciences and Nursing of Adults I, nursing theory is applied to the care of adults with physiological disorders. The focus is patients who have cardiovascular, peripheral vascular, neuromuscular and renal disorders typically seen in older adults. Applies theory and practice in acute care settings. Co-requisite: NURS 4202.

**4202 Concepts in Gerontology (2 sh)**

Focus is on being old in America and transitions that impact health of older adults and families. Explores issues related to the health care industry, access to health care, and health care management. Considers culturally specific issues, and ethics of health care at the end of life. Incorporates priorities of Healthy People 2010 and ANA standards of practice for gerontological nursing. Co-requisite: NURS 4201.

**4203 Concepts of Gerontology Internship (1 sh)**

Applies gerontological concepts in student-selected activities. Students identify, plan, implement, and analyze the effectiveness of their acute and community-based service related activities that promote healthy lifestyles, enhance the quality of life, or support adaptive behaviors with the elderly. Requirements include a course project incorporating specific cultural and ethnic perspectives to provide optimal, individualized care.

**4240 The Research Process in Professional Nursing (2 sh)**

Introduces elements of the research process with emphasis on becoming a consumer of research. Focus is on relevance of research findings to evidenced-based quality health care. Considers ethical issues in research.

**4500 Community Health Nursing (5 sh)**

Synthesizes knowledge in the science and practice of community health nursing, and is built upon and connected to the University urban, international and Christian distinctives. Focuses on patterns that influence wellness, and potential barriers that place individuals, families, and communities at risk for major health problems. Includes health care delivery system and its effects on under-served consumers and professionals, community assessment, epidemiology, violence in the community, environmental & occupational health issues, world health issues, and home health hospice care. Applies theory and practice in community health settings.

**4510 Community Health Nursing: RN (6 sh)**

Designed for registered nurses, the course synthesizes knowledge of the science and practice of community health nursing, and is built upon and connected to the University urban, international and Christian distinctives. Focuses on patterns that influence wellness and potential barriers that place individuals, families or communities at risk for major health problems. Includes health care delivery system and its effects on underserved consumers and professionals, community assessment, epidemiology, violence in the community, environmental & occupational health, world health issues, and

home health hospice care. Applies theory and practice in community settings.

**4520 Synthesis of Nursing Practice (5 sh)**

Culminating nursing course. Synthesizes knowledge in arts and sciences, nursing theory, and current management principles in multi-complex health care settings. Includes leadership, management, and synthesis of multi system disorders.

**4530 Management/Leadership in Nursing; RN (6 sh)**

Designed for registered nurses as a culminating nursing course. Focuses on synthesis of nursing knowledge, integrating management and leadership principles and addressing professional challenges and opportunities in nursing. Individualized practice opportunities in clinical settings.

**4540 Health Policy and Politics (2 sh)**

Examines and emphasizes the challenges and opportunities related to issues in health policy and health care from a local, national, and international perspective. Addresses the political, economic, legal and ethical aspects of the United States Health Care policy and health care issues, their impact on patients, and mechanisms and strategies for political advocacy and influence.

**4550 Leadership and Management in Nursing (2 sh)**

Integrates leadership and management theory in the preparation of nurse leaders and managers who, through the functions of leading, managing and directing others in a variety of healthcare settings, will not only know how to use power appropriately, but will empower others in serving humankind.

**4901 Nursing Comprehensive Exam (0 sh)**

Comprehensive examination of major requirements.

**4910 Independent Study in Nursing (1 or 2 sh)**

The student completes an individually selected nursing project. Open only to nursing majors with consent of faculty and School of Nursing Director.

**4970 Internship in Nursing (1-4 sh)**

Internship in an approved healthcare setting. A maximum of 4 semester credit hours of elective credit can count toward the overall graduation requirement. The student must have completed at least 14 semester hours in nursing and have a minimum GPA of 2.75 in the nursing major. Approval by the Selection and Progression Committee and the Director of the Undergraduate Nursing Program is required. Please refer to the catalog for further internship requirements and guidelines. Awarded on an individual basis. Prerequisite: NURS 3010, 3020, 3030, 3201, 3220, 3240.