

BACHELOR'S DEGREE COMPLETION PROGRAMS

North Park University's degree-completion programs are designed for working adults who wish to complete their undergraduate degree and advance their careers. Courses are offered on an accelerated schedule to accommodate non-traditional undergraduate students.

RN-to-BSN Degree-Completion Program

The University offers a part-time or full-time program for registered nurses seeking a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree. Acceptance into the major is contingent upon successful completion of prerequisite courses and a 2.50 cumulative grade-point average (GPA). Registered nurses must also provide evidence of the following:

- Graduation from a National League for Nursing accredited associate degree or diploma nursing program or equivalent.
- Credit for previous coursework in nursing is awarded after successful completion of NURS 3210 for a total of 30 credit hours.
- Licensure to practice as a Registered Nurse in the State of Illinois

RN-to-BSN Degree-Completion students must complete the core curriculum requirements of the School of Professional Studies. These core curriculum courses are offered in an accelerated format through the School of Professional Studies or by transfer of credit. The appropriate corresponding core curriculum classes in the traditional undergraduate program are also open to RN-to-BSN Degree-Completion students.

The Bachelor of Science in Nursing program for RN students is approved by the Department of Professional Regulation of the State of Illinois and is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE).

Registered Nurse Admission Procedures

Prospective students will complete an online application. In addition, the following materials must be received for the application to be complete:

- Transcripts from all previously attended nursing schools, colleges and universities

Program and Academic Requirements

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

Major requirements for the B.S.N. (RN Students)

Required semester hours

RNs must take at least 30 credits at North Park, 24 of which are nursing course credits.

Supporting courses for the major (may also be met through transfer credits)

GS 2080 or a composition course, BIOL 2910, 2930, CHEM 1021, STAT 1490; PSYC 1000, 2700; SOC 1910. Prerequisites in Nursing may also count toward the fulfillment of Core Curriculum requirements.

Required core courses

NURS 3000 (or an approved upper level pathophysiology course), NURS 3030, 3210, 3540, 4240, 4515, 4535, 4590 and 3sh of elective coursework.

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.

3540 Ethics in Health Care (2 sh) GE

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.

3560 Healthcare Informatics (3 sh)

This course prepares healthcare professionals to successfully apply technology to manage healthcare challenges and opportunities. It emphasizes the vital requirement of healthcare professionals to effectively use technology tools that will engage healthcare consumers as partners in care. A theoretical foundation for the field of informatics is introduced and applied. The course is designed for students in nursing or health science programs of study. It is built upon and connected to the University urban, intercultural, and Christian distinctives.

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.

4515 Community Health for Registered Nurses (3 sh)

Designed for registered nurses, the course synthesizes knowledge of the science and practice of community/public health nursing, and is built upon and connected to the University urban, intercultural and Christian distinctives. Focuses on patterns that influence wellness and potential barriers that place populations and communities at risk for major health problems. Includes the health care delivery system and its effects (especially on underserved consumers), chronic and communicable conditions, violence, community empowerment, environmental health, global health issues, and disaster prevention and response. Prerequisite: NURS 4240.

4535 Nursing Leadership: RN (3 sh)

Designed for registered nurses the course is built upon and connected to the University urban, intercultural and Christian distinctives. Focuses on practice at the microsystem level within an everchanging healthcare system. Communication/collaboration with the interprofessional team, coordination of care, continuous quality improvement, and principles and models of leadership will be considered. Prerequisite: NURS 4240.

4590 RN to BSN Capstone (3 sh)

This is a culminating course designed for the RN-BSN student to provide direct experience in a microsystem in a health care practice setting. Students, in collaboration with nursing faculty and practicum liaison, will plan and implement an evidence-based quality improvement project consistent with the professional leadership role. Prerequisite: NURS 4240, 4535.

4870 RN to MSN Pathway (2 sh)

Designed for registered nurses the course is built upon and connected to the University urban, intercultural and Christian distinctives. Content areas include: 1) Patterns that influence wellness and potential barriers that place populations and communities at risk for major health problems, 2) Impact of healthcare policy and the role nurses can take in affecting change, and 3) Issues of multidisciplinary collaboration and coordination in healthcare. Prerequisite: NURS 3210