Capstone College of Nursing

The Capstone College of Nursing (CCN) awards the degree of Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN).

Licensure

Upon completion of the program, students meet the educational qualifications of the Alabama Board of Nursing for taking the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses. Completion of the academic program in no way assures the student of licensure. No employee, agent or representative of the University is authorized or empowered to provide such assurances either directly or by implication.

BSN Degree

The degree of Bachelor of Science in Nursing requires the completion of the courses designated in the following program of study. Elective hours may be used to complete a major portion of the University Core Curriculum; additional courses, however, may be required. Students may choose to enroll in summer session(s) to meet requirements and to adjust the program of study to meet individual needs. Students should also review core curriculum requirements in the Academic Records and General Academic Policies section of this catalog. Bold letters indicate courses that meet specific University core curriculum requirements. Clinical nursing courses are not taught in summer sessions.

NOTE: The Capstone College of Nursing reserves the right to make modifications in its program and policies as necessary, but every effort will be made to implement the general program for full-time students.

Minors

A student may pursue a minor in any area that has a University-approved minor program and is approved by the ONSS. Consult the departmental listings in this catalog for specific requirements of minor programs.

Application for Degree

An online application for a degree must be completed the semester in which the student will complete all requirements for the BSN degree. The degree application may be accessed through a student’s myBama account.

Admission Requirements

Admission to Lower Division

Students are admitted to the Capstone College of Nursing when they meet University of Alabama admission requirements. Students are encouraged to acquaint themselves with general academic regulations of the University, as stated under the Admissions section of this catalog. Transfer students are encouraged to seek advisement from the Capstone College of Nursing Office of Nursing Student Services. Knowledge of policies and procedures is the student’s responsibility. Detailed policies and procedures are contained in the Capstone College of Nursing student handbook, which is available at http://nursing.ua.edu/start_page.htm. Students are notified of any policy changes. It is the student’s responsibility to abide by the most recently published or posted policies and procedures. An official, current copy of the handbook is available in the office of the Assistant Dean of Undergraduate Programs.

Promotion to Upper Division

Application forms for promotion to the upper division may be obtained online at nursing.ua.edu. It is the student’s responsibility to secure an application and submit it by the deadline. Applicants for the upper division must have been admitted to the University of Alabama prior to submitting an application for upper division.

Promotion Policies

To progress to the professional component of the nursing curriculum, a student must possess a functional level of capability to perform the duties required of a professional nurse. These abilities include, but are not limited to:

- adequate vision such as that required to observe changes in physical conditions, to read small print on labels and laboratory reports, and to discern subtle changes in color
- adequate hearing such as that required to distinguish muted sounds through a stethoscope
- fine motor skills and manual dexterity such as those required to handle small, delicate equipment
- strength such as that required to turn and assist with lifting adults and to lift and carry children
- the mobility to respond quickly to emergency situations
- the ability to engage in two-way conversations and interact effectively with others orally and in writing
- the ability to detect odors
- the ability to consistently and dependably engage in critical thinking to make safe and ethical clinical judgments

The faculty of the Capstone College of Nursing has identified the skills and professional behaviors that are essential for the pursuit of a course of study to be eligible to take the National Council Licensure Examination–RN and to practice as a professional nurse. These skills include, but are not limited to, the skills presented in The Essentials of Baccalaureate Education for Professional Nursing Practice, a publication of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing. If these skills and professional behaviors cannot be developed by the student, either unassisted or with the dependable use of assistive devices, the faculty reserves the right to disenroll the student from clinical courses. A copy of The Essentials of Baccalaureate Education for Professional Nursing Practice is available upon request from the college’s Office of Academic Programs.

Promotion to the upper division requires successful completion of the lower-division courses designated on the Capstone College of Nursing BSN program of study. Students may apply and be considered for promotion to the upper division during the final lower-division semester they have completed all courses prior to the semester for which application to the upper division is made. In such instances, promotion to the upper division may be granted conditionally, pending successful completion of all courses required for promotion. Promotion to the upper division may be withdrawn if the level of academic performance is significantly lower in those courses completed after conditional promotion.

Only those applicants whose grade point averages are at least 3.0 for the required courses in the lower division and whose GPAs are at least 2.75 for the required science courses are eligible to apply for promotion. Meeting minimum requirements does not guarantee promotion to the upper division of the nursing curriculum.

Spaces in the upper division are limited. When the number of students seeking promotion to the upper division exceeds the number of spaces available, the most qualified applicants will be promoted. Those applicants who present the strongest academic records and who show the most promise for success in the upper division will be promoted. Native UA students are defined as those who have completed 32 or more hours of the required lower-division coursework at UA or through Advanced Placement (AP) or Dual Enrollment courses completed in high school.

Transfer students are defined as those students who have completed less than 32 hours of the required lower-division coursework at The University of Alabama. A transfer student may be accepted into the upper division when the academic record, taken as a whole, presents evidence of outstanding academic performance and a strong likelihood of success in the upper division.

Students requesting a transfer to the upper division of the nursing program from another BSN program must follow the promotion policies above.

The Capstone College of Nursing does not accept nursing courses from another BSN program. The number of students promoted each semester is dependent upon available resources; promotion to upper division is competitive. Applications and deadlines for promotion to the upper division may be obtained online at nursing.ua.edu.

Upon progression to the upper division, permission to depart from the clinical sequence must be obtained from the assistant dean of Undergraduate Programs. Because of the limitations in clinical course spaces, departure from the sequence for any reason may significantly lengthen the time for program completion.

Withdrawal from the First Clinical Nursing Course

Any student who withdraws from or does not successfully complete the first clinical nursing course in the upper division must contact the assistant dean of Undergraduate Programs to be considered for placement in the course the next semester. The student will be placed in the course on a space-available basis only. Before considering placement of any students who have not succeeded in the course, preference for spaces will be given to those applicants who meet all promotion criteria and who have not previously been promoted. If space becomes available for a student’s reassignment to the course, a second unsuccessful attempt by that student in any other clinical course will result in academic suspension from the Capstone College of Nursing.

Return to the Undergraduate Nursing Program after a Nonacademic Leave of Absence

Following a nonacademic leave of absence (e.g., military, medical or other) from the Capstone College of Nursing for six or more months, a student’s academic record and time elapsed since completing clinical nursing courses will be reviewed by the
assistant dean of Undergraduate Programs to facilitate the student’s readiness to re-enter the program.

Individualized plans will be negotiated with the student to facilitate a smooth transition into the program and may include knowledge-refresher activities, either informal or formalized independent study.

Components of the refresher plan may include, but are not limited to, the following:
- review of medication calculations and completion of a medication-calculation exam
- review of health-assessment materials such as videotapes
- review of appropriate charting and documentation methods
- practice with medication administration such as PO, IM and IV
- practice with skills such as Foley catheter insertion, NG tubes, suctioning, sterile dressing changes, injections and IV insertion
- review of content from an NCLEX Review book of content areas previously completed

This option is offered to facilitate the student’s successful re-entry into the BSN program. The student assumes responsibility for his or her learning and is encouraged to seek needed assistance.

Degree Requirements
Standards of Conduct

The nursing student shall comply with legal, moral and legislative standards that determine unacceptable behavior of the nurse and that may be cause for denial of a license to practice as a registered nurse in accordance with the Alabama law regulating practice of registered and practical nursing stated below.

The board shall have the power to deny, revoke or suspend any license issued by it or to otherwise discipline a licensee upon proof that he or she is guilty of fraud or deceit in procuring or attempting to procure a license; has been convicted of a felony; is guilty of a crime involving moral turpitude or of gross immorality that would tend to bring reproach upon the nursing profession; is unfit or incompetent due to personal habits; is habitually intemperate due to the use of alcohol or is addicted to the use of habit-forming drugs to such an extent as to render him or her unsafe or unreliable as a licensee; has been convicted of any violation of a federal or state law relating to controlled substances; is mentally incompetent; is guilty of unprofessional conduct of a character likely to deceive, defraud or injure the public in matters pertaining to health; or has willfully or repeatedly violated any of the provisions of this article as defined by board rules and regulations. (Alabama Board of Nursing Administrative Code, September 1997)

Failure to comply with any of the above stipulations while in the nursing program constitutes grounds for dismissal from the program.

It is important for nursing students to know about the Alabama Board of Nursing’s regulations governing review of candidates for initial and continuing licensure eligibility. There will be questions on the application to take the examination for licensure as a registered nurse that ask, “Have you ever been arrested for or convicted of a criminal offense?”, and, “Have you ever been arrested for or convicted of driving under the influence of drugs/alcohol?” Application to take the examination may be denied on the basis of this review. Although these policies apply specifically in Alabama, other states have similar stipulations for licensure.

Essential Skills and Behaviors

See the Promotion Policies section of this catalog under Admission Requirements to the Capstone College of Nursing.

Hours and Grade Points

The student must complete a minimum of 126 hours of academic credit approved by the Capstone College of Nursing to meet the requirements for the degree of bachelor of science in nursing. Additional courses may be necessary for students to meet the University Core Curriculum requirements.

All coursework leading to the BSN degree, including electives, requires a minimum grade of C-.

*Any reference to hours indicates semester hours unless otherwise noted.

CPR Certification

Evidence of current certification as a professional-level provider of cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) is required for registration in all clinical nursing courses. Students are responsible for obtaining and maintaining current CPR certification while enrolled in the Capstone College of Nursing. Certification must be renewed annually and verified through presentation of a CPR card to the Office of Nursing Student Services.

Verification of Health Status

A health form must be completed prior to matriculation in the upper division and prior to beginning senior-level courses if the student’s health status has changed. The health form is available from the Capstone College of Nursing ONSS and must be completed by a licensed physician or a certified nurse practitioner. Students must also present documentation of immunization against hepatitis B and other specified communicable diseases prior to progressing to Semester II upper-division courses and prior to the beginning of the senior year.

Time Limit

If upper-division requirements for the degree have not been completed within five years after initial registration in the Capstone College of Nursing, the student’s academic record will be reviewed to establish appropriate changes or requirements. Any student who has not enrolled in upper-division courses for more than one semester is required to seek approval from the assistant dean of Undergraduate Programs prior to registration to enroll in any subsequent courses. Approval may require repeating courses to ensure that knowledge is current.

Exit Exams

Students are required to make passing scores on all standardized exit exams given in the College. A student who fails to achieve a satisfactory score must complete a remediation program. Failure to satisfactorily complete the standardized program exit exam in the last semester of the program may delay the student’s graduation from the BSN program.

Review Course

Each student is strongly encouraged to take a review course near the end of the BSN program in preparation for the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX).

Special Services, Programs and Educational Opportunities

Academic Advising

The academic adviser in the Office of Nursing Student Services assists students regarding academic matters. Students may make an appointment to meet with the academic adviser for academic matters at any time during the semester. Academic matters include course sequencing, withdrawals, dropping and adding courses, academic progression, registration, and academic problems. Faculty mentors are available to advise and mentor students regarding career goals and questions about the nursing field. Students may request a faculty mentor by submitting the faculty mentor request form available at nursing.ua.edu to the ONSS.

Preregistration Advising

Lower Division

Students must attend a preregistration advising session each semester to be cleared for registration unless the academic adviser has cleared them during that semester. A student who does not complete a designated advisement session during the scheduled period will be required to register during late registration and pay the associated fee. Information about advising and registration is provided at nursing.ua.edu.

Upper Division

Upper Division students participate in a preregistration group advising session facilitated by undergraduate faculty during the designated preregistration advising period in the fall and spring semesters. CCN provides specific information to upper-division students about clinical schedules.

There is no late registration for clinical nursing courses. If extenuating circumstances have made regular registration for clinical courses impossible, approval for late registration in these courses may be requested from the assistant dean of Undergraduate Programs.

Transfer Credit

Transfer credit is accepted if the lower division course content is deemed equivalent to that required in the curriculum of the College. Evaluation is based on course content, the grade earned and credit earned.

Successful completion of examinations available through the University Testing Services may satisfy certain general education requirements. See the Credit by Examination section of this catalog.
Credit Courses Taken in the College of Continuing Studies

Correspondence or Independent Study Courses

Selected general education courses required for the degree of Bachelor of Science in Nursing may be taken from the independent study program of the College of Continuing Studies with prior approval of the Director of Nursing Student Services (see the College of Continuing Studies section of this catalog for details of the independent study program.)

General Policies

Prerequisites

Many lower-division courses have specific prerequisites. See course descriptions for prerequisites or contact the Office of Nursing Student Services for detailed information.

Policies Governing Progression and Graduation

Upon promotion to the upper division, students progress to clinical nursing courses in the established sequence. If a student’s progression is interrupted for any reason, it is the student’s responsibility to contact the assistant dean of Undergraduate Programs to request consideration for reassignment. Because spaces in clinical courses are limited, any alteration of the usual progression may lengthen the student’s program of study.

To be eligible for the degree of Bachelor of Science in Nursing, a candidate must show successful completion of the courses required in the nursing program of study and complete a minimum of 32 semester hours at The University of Alabama.

Academic Probation and Suspension

The general academic scholarship rules of the University apply to students enrolled in the Capstone College of Nursing; however, any written agreements entered into by students and the dean of the College take precedence over the University’s general rule. See the Academic Records and General Academic Policies section of this catalog for further details.

Any student who receives a second D or F in any nursing course, or in any combination of nursing courses, will be academically suspended from the Capstone College of Nursing.

Readmission of Academically Suspended Students

After a lapse of one regular semester from the last date of enrollment, a student who has been suspended by the Capstone College of Nursing may apply for readmission through the office of the senior associate dean of Academic Programs. This application may be submitted immediately after notification of suspension. The application, the student’s record of performance and other pertinent information submitted by the student will be reviewed, and a recommendation concerning the application for readmission will be made to the dean of the College. Students who are suspended a second time are placed on indefinite academic suspension.

Readmission Following Withdrawal

A student who has withdrawn from the upper division of the Capstone College of Nursing and who wishes to be readmitted after an absence of one semester or more must do the following:

1. Contact the assistant dean of Undergraduate Programs for information about the readmission process.
2. Contact Undergraduate Admissions to determine if an application for readmission is required. Permission to return to the Capstone College of Nursing will depend on the student’s previous performance and the availability of space in the required nursing courses. Readmission may require repeating courses to ensure that knowledge is current.

Maximum Hours

A student may not exceed a course load of 18 semester hours except with the approval of the dean of the College.

Policy on Repeating Courses

A record of all courses attempted will appear on the student’s transcript. If a grade below C- is received in any course required in the program of study, the course must be repeated on a space-available basis.

Pass/Fail Option

With special permission, a student may choose to receive a grade of Pass (P) or Fail (F) for a course instead of the conventional A, B, C, D or F. If a P is earned, the hours count, but the grade point average is not affected. If an F is earned, the GPA is reduced.

• Only elective courses may be taken as pass/fail.
• Courses used to meet University Core Curriculum requirements may not be taken on a pass/fail basis.
• Forms for the pass/fail option may be obtained from the College’s ONSS.
• See the Academic Records and General Academic Policies section of this catalog for further details.

Administrative Withdrawal from Clinical Nursing Courses

Students’ clinical experiences are considered a vital part of learning the practice of professional nursing and faculty guidance is available in facilitating these learning experiences. As students progress through the program of study, they are expected to increase their abilities to function independently and assume responsibility for their actions. When a student’s clinical decision making is deemed by faculty to constitute unsafe or unethical nursing practice, or when there is lack of adherence to established policies and procedures related to professional conduct, the student will receive a failing grade in the course and will be withdrawn from the course and/or suspended from the program. Administrative withdrawal procedures are initiated by faculty through the office of the senior associate dean for Academic Programs. Further progression in the Capstone College of Nursing is determined according to the rules for academic probation and suspension and the availability of space.

Auditing Courses

Clinical nursing courses are not open to auditors.

Clinical Nursing Expenses

Standard University of Alabama tuition is charged for enrollment in clinical nursing courses. In addition to textbook expenses, clinical nursing students are responsible for the provision of uniforms and supplies for performance in the clinical area. Students are responsible for their own transportation to and from all clinical experiences. The expense of required liability insurance and standardized test fees is also the responsibility of the student. Detailed information on ordering uniforms and supplies will be furnished when students are promoted to the upper division of the nursing program.

In addition to standard University fees, a laboratory fee is assessed when students are enrolled in nursing courses. Costs for textbooks, physical-assessment equipment, mobile device (iPod Touch), mobile device software and other supplies for the first semester of upper-division work substantially exceed those of subsequent semesters.

Late Registration

There is no late registration for clinical nursing courses.

RN Mobility

Registered nurses who enroll at The University of Alabama may opt to pursue one of two tracks toward the completion of a higher degree or degrees. Students may enroll in either an RN to BSN or RN to BSN/MSN track. Both programs of study allow students to continue working and to complete the majority of required coursework online or by other means of distance education.

RN to BSN Track

The RN to BSN program of study is specifically designed for the registered nurse student to earn a bachelor’s degree. The program consists of 52-58 semester hours of required lower-division coursework and 25 semester hours of upper-division coursework. Lower-division studies include courses that meet University Core Curriculum requirements for a bachelor’s degree. All lower-division hours must be successfully completed prior to enrolling in upper-division courses. Upon admission to the University as an RN to BSN student, credit for 38 hours of NUR courses is awarded.

UA Lower-Division Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BSC 215</td>
<td>Human Anatomy &amp; Physiology I</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&amp; BSC 216</td>
<td>Human Anatomy &amp; Physiology II</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BSC 242</td>
<td>Microbiology And Man</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH 104</td>
<td>Introductory Chemistry</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CS 102</td>
<td>Microcomputer Applications</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EN 101</td>
<td>English Composition</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&amp; EN 102</td>
<td>English Composition</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HD 101</td>
<td>Life Span Human Development</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 110</td>
<td>Finite Mathematics</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>or higher</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHL 223</td>
<td>Medical Ethics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHL 292</td>
<td>Introduction to Ethics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The RN to BSN/MSN program of study is an accelerated option for the experienced, highly-qualified RN who holds an associate degree or diploma in nursing. RNs who meet MSN program admission criteria can apply for early admission to the Graduate School while completing the BSN requirements. The RN to BSN/MSN track decreases the time required to complete both the BSN and MSN degree programs. The program of study includes 6–8 semester hours of credit in each of the six semesters required of the track. The BSN degree is awarded after completion of all BSN requirements in the fourth semester. The MSN degree is awarded after completion of all MSN requirements. Two options are available for the RN to BSN/MSN student: nursing case manager or the clinical nurse leader.

Promotion to Upper Division
The most qualified applicants will be selected each year for promotion to upper division for the RN to BSN/MSN track. The number of applicants promoted is dependent on the educational resources available to support this track. Every effort will be made to promote all applicants who meet the criteria. The application for promotion is due in the Office of Nursing Student Services prior to each fall semester.

Promotion Criteria
To be eligible for promotion to the upper division, a registered nursing student must have the following:

- satisfactory completion of all lower-division requirements
- an overall grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale on the required lower-division courses
- an overall grade point average of 2.0 on all required science courses
- an unencumbered RN license in the state where clinical course requirements will be completed
- graduation from an NLN-AC accredited school of nursing.

Lower-Division Courses — RN to BSN/MSN Track

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Name</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NUR 319</td>
<td>Nrsng Informatics for RNs</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NUR 329</td>
<td>Inq. Evidence Based Pract RNS</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NUR 348</td>
<td>Role Tran in Baccalaureate NUR</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NUR 449</td>
<td>Community Health For RNs</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NUR 455</td>
<td>Leadership &amp; Management Roles</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NUR 465</td>
<td>Complex Client Sys RNs</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Hours: 25

*Clinical course

NOTE: Each of the courses above requires time in addition to class meeting times (e.g., library work, clinical time, or meetings with faculty and student groups).

Promotion to Upper Division
The most qualified applicants will be selected each year for promotion to upper division for the RN to BSN track. The number of applicants promoted is dependent on the educational resources available to support this track. Every effort will be made to promote all applicants who meet the criteria. The application for promotion is due in the Office of Nursing Student Services prior to each fall semester.

Promotion Criteria
To be eligible for promotion to the upper division, a registered nursing student must have the following:

- satisfactory completion of all lower-division requirements (grade of C- or higher)
- an overall grade point average of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale on the required lower-division courses
- an overall grade point average of 2.0 on all required science courses
- an unencumbered RN license in the state where clinical course requirements will be completed
- graduation from an NLN-AC accredited school of nursing

RN to BSN/MSN Track

The RN to BSN/MSN program of study is an accelerated option for the experienced, highly-qualified RN who holds an associate degree or diploma in nursing. RNs who meet MSN program admission criteria can apply for early admission to the Graduate School while completing the BSN requirements. The RN to BSN/MSN track decreases the time required to complete both the BSN and MSN degree programs. The program of study includes 6–8 semester hours of credit in each of the six semesters required of the track. The BSN degree is awarded after completion of all BSN requirements in the fourth semester. The MSN degree is awarded after completion of all MSN requirements. Two options are available for the RN to BSN/MSN student: nursing case manager or the clinical nurse leader.
The purpose of this course is to introduce the student to the role of pharmaceutical agents in assisting with the individual’s adaptation to stressors. A brief history and a discussion of the legal controls that regulate the field of pharmacology are included. Drug prototypes are utilized to examine the major classifications of drugs. Included in each drug classification is a discussion of pharmacokinetics, therapeutic uses, adverse reactions, precautions, and contraindications. The special considerations of groups of individuals who may be receiving drug therapy are also included. Health teaching and nursing implications for each drug classification are emphasized. (Theory).

Courses

NUR 102. Freshman Compass: Nursing. 1 sem. hr.
The purpose of this elective course is to introduce the student to the Capstone College of Nursing and to help the student develop an awareness of and appreciation for the nursing profession. Emphasis is placed on the advisement process, study skills, professional nursing organizations, an overview of the CCN curriculum, and opportunities in nursing. (Theory).

NUR 104. Liv Learning Prof Nursing Prac. 2 sem. hrs.
This elective course focuses on awareness of education of nursing majors at The University of Alabama Capstone College of Nursing and the profession of nursing. Students have the opportunity to learn about The University of Alabama campus, the Capstone College of Nursing and the profession of nursing. Activities will be included to promote students’ development of relationships with other nursing students and other students in Harris Hall. This course, which is known as a compass course, will point you in the right direction, much as a compass would. (Theory).

NUR 155. Freshman Seminar. 3 sem. hrs.
The purpose of this course is to provide the history, facts and trends of the evolution of HIV/AIDS. Particular emphasis will be given to the prevention and early detection of infection for college students. Students will have an opportunity to increase their knowledge and understanding of the disease and the impact it has had on individuals, special populations, and the world. Guest lecturers, videos, and community experiences will enhance this learning experience. (Theory).

NUR 305. Human Pathophysiology. 3 sem. hrs.
The purpose of this course is to introduce students to fundamental pathology of the human body. This course examines physiological change results in disruptive adaptive responses throughout the lifespan. These disruptive responses are approached in a systematic manner. A combination of identified cellular concepts and a body systems approach is utilized to structure course content. Included are basic cellular processes in human pathology, pathology associated with the major body systems, and physiology associated with the aging process. (Theory).

NUR 307. Medication Calculation. 1 sem. hr.
This course is designed to facilitate the students’ development of those skills necessary to properly calculate medication dosages and to prepare the student for the Medication Calculation Mastery Exam. Emphasis is placed on those cognitive skills necessary to perform the calculations correctly. (Theory).

NUR 308. Conceptual Foundations Prof Nu. 3 sem. hrs.
This course focuses on concepts and issues relevant to professional nursing practice. Content related to the values of professional nursing and issues affecting practice will be examined. Students are introduced to concepts from the CCN philosophy and conceptual framework. Writing proficiency within this discipline is required for a passing grade in this course.

NUR 309. Nursing Informatics. 3 sem. hrs.
This required online course is limited to nursing majors who have previous computer experience. The course focuses on utilization of computers in health care education, practice, research and administration with emphasis on nursing applications. The computer assignments provide experience with a clinical information system, Internet, PDAs, word processing, databases, spreadsheets, and graphics programs. Computing proficiency is required for a passing grade in this course.

NUR 312. Clinical Internship. 1-3 sem. hr.
An elective clinical course that focuses on the further refinement of clinical and leadership skills. Students taking more than one semester hour will contract with the clinical faculty member for additional assignments. (Laboratory).

NUR 317. Indep Study In Nursing. 1-10 sem. hr.
This course focuses on individual independent study of a selected topic under the supervision of a nursing faculty member with relevant expertise. Prior approval of proposal by faculty sponsor and associate dean required. Elective.

NUR 319. Nrsng Informatics for RNs. 3 sem. hrs.
This required online course is limited to nursing majors who have previous computer experience. The course focuses on utilization of computers in health care education, practice, research and administration with emphasis on nursing applications. The computer assignments provide experience with a clinical information system, Internet, PDAs, word processing, databases, spreadsheets, and graphics programs. Theory. Computing proficiency is required for a passing grade in this course. Prerequisite(s): CS 102.

NUR 324. Fundmntl Prof Nursing Practice. 9 sem. hrs.
Integration of knowledge, theories, and skills from the humanities, arts, and sciences serves as the foundation for this introductory clinical course. Students will develop adult assessment skills including the health history, physical, psychosocial, and spiritual aspects necessary for critical thinking in professional nursing practice. The nursing process will be presented as a framework for critical thinking, decision making, and nursing practice. Levels of prevention will be introduced as a model for health care. (Theory and laboratory).

NUR 326. Pharmacology Nursing Practice. 3 sem. hrs.
The purpose of this course is to introduce the student to the role of pharmaceutical agents in assisting with the individual’s adaptation to stressors. A brief history and a discussion of the legal controls that regulate the field of pharmacology are included. Drug prototypes are utilized to examine the major classifications of drugs. Included in each drug classification is a discussion of pharmacokinetics, therapeutic uses, adverse reactions, precautions, and contraindications. The special considerations of groups of individuals who may be receiving drug therapy are also included. Health teaching and nursing implications for each drug classification are emphasized. (Theory).

NUR 328. Inq for Evi-Based Pract in Nurs. 3 sem. hrs.
This course introduces nursing students to key terminology, elements and processes of research. Emphasis is placed on appreciation of the historical and evolving nature of nursing research, the roles of nurses in research, achievement of basic ability to read research literature critically, assessment of the readiness of research for application to practice, identification of strategies for personal and institutional use of research findings in practice, articulation of the importance of research for improving practice and the health of society, and for advancing the nursing profession. This required course meets the University’s Core Curriculum requirements for writing. Writing proficiency is required for a passing grade in this course. (Theory) Prerequisite(s): NUR 324 NUR 326.

NUR 329. Inq. Evidence Based Pract RNS. 3 sem. hrs.
This online course designed for registered nurses introduces key terminology, elements and processes of research. Emphasis is placed on appreciation of the historical and evolving nature of nursing research, the roles of nurses in research, achievement of basic ability to read research literature critically, assessment of the readiness of research for application to practice, identification of strategies for personal and institutional use of research findings in practice, articulation of the importance of research for improving practice and the health of society, and advancing the nursing profession. This required course meets the University’s Core Curriculum requirements for writing. Writing proficiency within this discipline is required for a passing grade in this course. (Theory) Prerequisite(s): NUR 319 or NUR 309; and NUR 348.
NUR 345. Perioperative Nursing. 3 sem. hrs.
This elective course is designed to give students an opportunity to participate in multiple nursing roles in the perioperative environment. These activities are planned to enrich the student’s knowledge and provide application of concepts relevant to operative and anesthesia standards of care. 
Prerequisite(s): NUR 324.

NUR 348. Role Tran in Baccalaureate Nur. 4 sem. hrs.
This online theory course designed for registered nurse students is structured to provide the foundation for continuing development of the students’ body of conceptual and practical knowledge essential for enacting the professional nursing roles. This required course meets the University’s Core Curriculum requirements for writing. Writing proficiency within this discipline is required for a passing grade in this course. (Theory)
Prerequisite(s) with concurrency: NUR 319.

This course provides opportunities for students to gain skills and knowledge on advanced clinical problem solving and decision making.
Prerequisite(s): NUR 324 and NUR 326.

NUR 357. Health Care in Mexico. 3 sem. hrs.
The purpose of this Summer Study Abroad course is to expose students in various disciplines to health care across the lifespan in Mexico. The course will focus on Mexican health care concepts, health care delivery, and health policy.

NUR 372. Prof Nursing Practice-Adults. 8 sem. hrs.
This course focuses on actions designed to detect and intervene in actual or potential health problems in adults and to determine actions that will ameliorate or reduce the consequences of adult disease through support or rehabilitation. Clinical experiences are designed to develop skills for early detection, diagnosis, and treatment of acute and chronic health problems in adults and prevention of further disability. (Theory and laboratory)

NUR 374. Prof Nurs Pract Mental Health. 4 sem. hrs.
This course focuses on actions designed to detect and intervene in actual or potential health problems across the lifespan and to determine actions that will ameliorate or reduce the consequences of mental-health problems. Students will develop skills in detection, diagnosis, and treatment of mental health problems across the lifespan. These mental-health nursing skills are designed to improve the mental health of patients and to prevent further disability. (Theory and laboratory).

NUR 391. Emergency Room Nursing. 3 sem. hrs.
This elective course focuses on chronic emergent and urgent interventions in actual and potential health problems of adults. Clinical experiences are designed to improved mastery of nursing psychomotor skills.
Prerequisite(s): NUR 372.

NUR 418. Prof Nurs Pract Childbear Fami. 4 sem. hrs.
This course focuses on the role of the nurse in providing holistic care to the childbearing family. The student will be given simple to complex situations in class/clinical experiences in which to assist childbearing families to adapt. A major focus will be on the three levels of prevention in the implementation of nursing care to childbearing families who are experiencing a normal maturational process as well as related acute/chronic health problems. (Theory and laboratory).

NUR 420. Prof Nursing Practice-Children. 4 sem. hrs.
This course focuses on actions designed to detect and intervene in actual or potential health problems in children and to determine actions that will ameliorate or reduce the consequences of disease in children through support or rehabilitation. Students will develop skills in early detection and diagnosis of disease in children and treatment of acute and chronic health problems that will prevent further disability. (Theory and laboratory).

NUR 422. Prof Nursing Pract Comm Health. 4 sem. hrs.
This nursing course focuses on the knowledge and skill competencies required for community/public health nursing practice. Educational and clinical experiences are community-based, community-oriented, and population-focused. Health promotion, risk reduction and management, and disease prevention for individuals, families, and populations in community settings are emphasized. The course also emphasizes knowledge and practice of illness and disease management in noninstitutional environments. (Theory and laboratory).

NUR 449. Community Health For RNs. 5 sem. hrs.
This online course designed for registered nurses focuses on the knowledge and skill competencies required for community/public health nursing practice. Educational and clinical experiences are community-based, community-oriented, and population-focused. Health promotion, risk reduction and management, and disease prevention for individuals, families, and populations in community settings are emphasized. The course also emphasizes knowledge and practice of illness and disease management in noninstitutional environments. Theory and Laboratory.
Prerequisite(s): NUR 319 and NUR 348.

NUR 455. Leadership & Management Roles. 5 sem. hrs.
This online course designed for registered nurses focuses on leadership theory and management functions essential to professional nursing. The application of leadership and management principles through completion of a leadership project comprises the clinical experience for the course. Theory and Laboratory.
Prerequisite(s): NUR 319; and NUR 348; and NUR 329.

NUR 465. Complex Client Sys RNs. 5 sem. hrs.
This online synthesis course, designed for registered nurses, provides opportunities for the registered nurse student to examine complex acute and chronic health problems across levels of prevention. Students will apply concepts from prerequisite and concurrent courses and use critical thinking and decision-making skills to evaluate interventions to ameliorate or reduce the health problems. Activities will focus on nursing actions used to intervene in care of complex clients. Theory and Laboratory.
Prerequisite(s): NUR 309 or NUR 319; and NUR 343 or NUR 348; and NUR 328 or NUR 329; and NUR 449.

NUR 471. Prof Nurs Pract Complex Client. 4 sem. hrs.
This synthesis course provides opportunities for the student to examine complex acute and chronic health problems across the levels of prevention. Students will apply concepts from prerequisite and concurrent courses and use critical thinking and decision-making skills to evaluate interventions to ameliorate or reduce the health problems. Clinical activities will focus on nursing actions used to intervene in care of complex clients. Writing proficiency within this discipline is required for a passing grade in this course. (Theory and laboratory).

NUR 473. Leadership Prof Nursing Practi. 7 sem. hrs.
This course focuses on leadership theory and management functions essential to professional nursing. Skills essential to this role development are communication, collaboration, negotiation, delegation, coordination, and evaluation of interdisciplinary work, and the application of outcome-based practice models. Clinical experiences focus on enactment of the professional nurse role in a concentrated practicum in secondary or tertiary prevention care facilities. Leadership and management principles are applied as students enhance direct care delivery skills, critical thinking, and decision-making. (Theory and laboratory).

NUR 474. Honors Prof Nurs Practice. 7 sem. hrs.
This course focuses on leadership theory and management functions essential to professional nursing. Clinical experiences focus on enactment of the professional nurse roles in a concentrated practicum in secondary or tertiary care facilities. Leadership and management principles are applied as students enhance direct care delivery skills, critical thinking and decision-making. The honors section will complete an in-depth comparison of quality improvement models for health care management. Subsequent application of a selected model in a rural health care delivery system will be implemented and reported in a scholarly paper. (Theory and laboratory).

NUR 475. Preparation For Licensure. 1 sem. hr.
This synthesis course provides opportunities for the student to assess his/her knowledge acquisition and to implement strategies with faculty assistance to ameliorate deficiencies and maximize learning. Students will have the opportunity to use individual, group, and technology-based methods to facilitate critical thinking and problem-solving using client situations. Students will also complete the licensure application process. (Theory).

NUR 479. Ind Study Licensure Prep. 1 sem. hr.
This independent study course provides opportunities for students to assess their knowledge acquisition and implement strategies with faculty assistance to ameliorate deficiencies and maximize learning with faculty assistance. Students will have the opportunity to use individual and technology-based methods to facilitate critical thinking and problem solving using hypothetical client situations. Students will also complete the licensure application process. (Theory).

NUR 480. Ind Study: Lic Prep II. 1 sem. hr.
This independent study course provides opportunities for students to assess individual knowledge acquisition and to implement strategies to ameliorate deficiencies and maximize learning with faculty assistance. Prerequisite(s): NUR 479.