

# BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING COURSES

## BSN Course Descriptions

Credit allowance for nursing courses is based on a semester. Each class hour earns 1 credit hour. Clinical/laboratory hours are computed on a basis of 1 credit hour for each 3-hour clinical/laboratory period.

### Traditional & Accelerated BSN Programs

Courses are the same in the traditional BSN and accelerated BSN programs. However, the accelerated program compresses the 2-year traditional program to 12 months, with key variations in class and clinical approach, with a one 13-week summer session, two 16-week semesters (spring and fall) and sequencing of selected courses.

#### NRSG 250 PRIN CARE HOSPITALIZED 1 Credit Hour

This course is designed as an introductory course for health care professional students in allied health disciplines. The course introduces basic knowledge and skills which are requisite to creating a safe environment for interaction between the practitioner and the client. This course has both a theory and a clinical laboratory component (1 semester credit hour). Nursing credit is not applicable toward a major in nursing.

Typically Offered: FALL

#### NRSG 300 NURSE IN PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE I: INTRODUCTION TO NURSING 1 Credit Hour

This course will introduce the novice level nursing student to a variety of topics from the historical aspects of nursing to the importance of professionalism in academia and in practice. The concepts of critical thinking and clinical judgement will be introduced along with strategies to demonstrate competence in a concept-based curriculum. This is a one credit seminar course where students will work in small groups with an assigned faculty member. 1 Didactic Credit

Typically Offered: FALL/SPR

#### NRSG 301 FOUNDATIONS IN PATHOPHARMACOLOGY I 3 Credit Hours

This is the first of a 3-course series that focuses on the pathophysiologic changes that occur during times of insult or injury to the human body and the pharmacologic therapies that address these changes across the lifespan. Pharmacologic responsibilities of the professional nurse and safe medication administration will be explored. 3 didactic credits

Prerequisite: Anatomy and Physiology; Chemistry

Typically Offered: FALL/SPR

#### NRSG 302 HEALTH ASSESSMENT ACROSS THE LIFE COURSE 4 Credit Hours

This course will focus on a conceptual approach to the holistic assessment of a well person. Assessment of critical periods and life events from pre-birth, birth, infant, child, adolescent, adult, older adult through end of life are included. Students will obtain health histories, identify risk factors, and develop health assessment skills in the physiologic, psychosocial (cognitive/mental, emotional, behavioral, social), developmental and spiritual dimensions within environments. Students will identify the data elements and potential data values associated with each of these assessments; separating normal findings from alterations from normal. Students will participate in active learning experiences in laboratory and simulation settings which will assess the student's beginning ability to convert data to information and apply appropriate knowledge to critical thinking and the decision making process. 4 credits: 2.5 classroom; 1.5 lab

Prerequisite: Anatomy and Physiology I and Anatomy and Physiology II OR Anatomy as a course and Physiology as a course

Typically Offered: FALL/SPR

#### NRSG 303 PERSON-CENTERED CARE I 4 Credit Hours

This course introduces students to many of the fundamental concepts of caregiving. A large part of the course focuses on wellness and health promotion, with students learning to motivate and educate patients to achieve or maintain optimum health. Screening and early intervention are stressed. Patient characteristics and attributes and the impact of health determinants are considered. As students progress, they are introduced to other principles of caregiving in such areas as stress and coping, mobility and elimination. Throughout the course, students are asked to integrate principles of therapeutic communication, interprofessional collaboration, and safety. 4 didactic credits

Corequisite: NRSG 304

Typically Offered: FALL/SPR

#### NRSG 304 PERSON-CENTERED CARE CLINICAL I 4 Credit Hours

This course provides skill development and clinical experiences to augment the learning in all of the other first semester courses. The course provides opportunities for application and integration of primary and secondary prevention strategies, principles of health promotion, use of health information, assessment and planning related to patient profiles, evidence-based practice, and teaching/learning motivational principles, therapeutic communication, inter-professional collaboration, and safety. In addition, students have opportunities to demonstrate the provision of nursing care to assist patients to meet basic needs in a variety of settings. Students develop and practice skills in laboratory and clinical settings. 4 clinical/lab credits

Corequisite: NRSG 303

Typically Offered: FALL/SPR

**NRSG 320 NURSE IN PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE II: EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICE AND LEADERSHIP IN NURSING 2 Credit Hours**

This course is devoted to baccalaureate level professional nursing concepts. Students will focus on the practical skills required to identify and appraise best evidence to support nursing practice. Roles of the professional nurse will be explored, including the attributes of leadership and the assimilation of professional values. This course addresses the professional issues of evidence-based practice, collaboration and teamwork, ethics, safety, risk reduction, law and regulation, and organizational systems in providing patient-centered care. The appropriate use of technology and informatics to leverage change in nursing care and continuous quality improvement and to assist in decision making will be integrated throughout the course. 2 didactic credits

Prerequisite: Statistics

Typically Offered: FALL/SPR

**NRSG 321 FOUNDATIONS IN PATHOPHARMACOLOGY II 3 Credit Hours**

This is the second of a 3-course series that focuses on the pathophysiologic changes that occur during times of insult or injury to the human body and the pharmacologic therapies that address these changes across the lifespan. Pharmacologic responsibilities of the professional nurse and safe medication administration will be explored. 3 didactic credits

Prerequisite: Anatomy Physiology; Chemistry

Typically Offered: FALL/SPR

**NRSG 323 PERSON-CENTERED CARE II 5 Credit Hours**

This course focuses on exemplars illustrative of the identified concepts using the life course perspective. Secondary prevention strategies to promote wellbeing for individuals, families and groups across the life course will be introduced. Students will analyze selected nursing concepts and related research, focusing on primary and secondary prevention and the acute disease process. Collaboration with other health professionals in order to facilitate patient transition from acute illness to optimal health will be emphasized. 5 didactic credits

Prerequisite: NRSG 302, NRSG 303, NRSG 304

Corequisite: NRSG 301, NRSG 321, NRSG 324

Typically Offered: FALL/SPR

**NRSG 324 PERSON-CENTERED CARE CLINICAL II 4 Credit Hours**

This course provides skill development and clinical experiences to augment learning in all other corequisite courses. Emphasis will be placed on the students' beginning utilization of clinical decision-making tools and development of clinical reasoning skills to implement safe nursing interventions for individuals, families and/or groups with predictable outcomes. The clinical experiences will provide opportunities for the use of primary and secondary prevention strategies to promote wellbeing and prevent disease across the life course. A variety of health care settings will be utilized to maximize student experiences. 4 clinical credits

Prerequisite: NRSG 302, NRSG 303, NRSG 304

Corequisite: NRSG 301, NRSG 321, NRSG 323

Typically Offered: FALL/SPR

**NRSG 325 POPULATION-CENTERED CARE I 2 Credit Hours**

The primary focus at this level is to apply concepts to individual/family and local community. The exemplars help students to apply concepts and explore population-based practice with a focus on social determinants of health, vulnerable populations, access to care and appropriate community services, environmental health risks in the home and local community, and health promotion/education at the individual and family levels. 2 credits (1 didactic/1 clinical)

Prerequisite: NRSG 301

Typically Offered: FALL/SPR

**NRSG 391 HONORS NURSING RESEARCH 1-3 Credit Hours**

This course is designed to help students from any College of Nursing learn more about nursing research by engaging in research with faculty on an ongoing research project. Emphasis is placed on the conducting and dissemination of research as a foundation for a future career in research. Didactic classroom activities (class will meet 4-5 times each semester) will facilitate learning about specific research topics (i.e., writing a mini-research proposal, writing a research abstract), and interaction with fellow classmates about the research project. In addition, students will work with a faculty mentor to develop a mini-research proposal, participate in research team meetings, submit a research abstract, and present the findings from the study. 1-3 didactic credits  
Prerequisite: include a GPA greater than or equal to 3.5 and completion of semester 1 courses in the BSN program. In addition, students must have completed the CITI Required Training in the Protection of Human Research Subjects. 4 didactic credits required: 1 semester credit hour for 4 consecutive semesters (Spring, Summer, Fall, and Spring) for a total of 4 credits. Students who complete 4 credits of this nursing elective will have a transcript designation of Honors Nursing Research Scholar. Students who complete < 4 credits will have the coursework only shown on their transcript.

Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU

**NRSG 393 INTRODUCTION TO PRIMARY CARE NURSING 1-3 Credit Hours**

This course will introduce the student to the concept of primary care, the role of the nurse in leading primary care, primary care nursing skills, and the nurse role in addressing health care system drivers for improving primary care practice. The concept-based curriculum focuses on nurse management of chronic disease in primary care settings including but not limited to communication, collaboration, safety, patient education, culture, care coordination, professionalism, quality, health care delivery, health care infrastructure, ethics, leadership, healthcare policy, economics and organization. 1-3 didactic credits

Prerequisite: Completion of first semester of major or permission of instructor

Typically Offered: FALL/SPR

Capacity: 20

**NRSG 394 HEMATOLOGY/ONCOLOGY CARE CONSIDERATIONS 1-3 Credit Hours**

This is an elective course for baccalaureate nursing students. The course content will build upon the foundational knowledge provided in the standard undergraduate coursework to provide students with a deeper understanding of the unique health care needs of individuals experiencing a cancer diagnosis. Students are introduced to cancer biology, risk prevention and health promotion, screening and diagnosis, treatment modalities, survivorship and supportive care needs, and palliative and end of life care. Additional concepts related to the professional role of an oncology nurse, the multidisciplinary care team, care of vulnerable populations, ethics, advocacy, and legal and financial topics are covered. 1-3 didactic credits

Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU

**NRSG 395 SCHOOL HEALTH NURSE SCHOLAR 1 Credit Hour**

This course will introduce the student to the concept of school health nursing, the role of the nurse in providing services in the school setting, education and training for school health related topics and the nurses role in addressing health care system drivers for improving school nursing practice. In addition, the student will observe and analyze the expression of the concepts from the concept-based curriculum as seen in school health care settings including but not limited to communication, collaboration, safety, patient education, culture, care coordination, professionalism, quality, health care delivery, health care infrastructure, ethics, leadership, healthcare policy, economics and organizations. These concepts will be addressed in a systematic fashion, as appropriate, for the course sequence. 4 didactic credits required: 1 didactic credit hour for 4 consecutive semesters (spring, summer, fall, and spring) for a total of 4 credits.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Semester 1 courses

Corequisite: Must be taken concurrently with NRSG 324, NRSG 325, and NRSG 430 in the semesters those courses are offered.

Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU

**NRSG 401 FOUNDATIONS IN PATHOPHARMACOLOGY III 2 Credit Hours**

This is the third of a 3-course series that focuses on the pathophysiologic changes that occur during times of insult or injury to the human body and the pharmacologic therapies that address these changes across the lifespan. Pharmacologic responsibilities of the professional nurse and safe medication administration will be explored. 2 didactic credit hours.

Prerequisite: NRSG 301, 321

Corequisite: NRSG 403, 404

Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU

**NRSG 403 PERSON-CENTERED CARE III 4 Credit Hours**

This course focuses on the care of complex individuals, families, and groups in stable situations with predictable outcomes. Students will analyze selected nursing concepts and exemplars and related research. Students are expected to focus on primary, secondary, and tertiary prevention and health equity for historically underrepresented groups. Collaboration with the patient and family to move toward maximal levels of functioning will be emphasized. 4 didactic credit hours.

Prerequisite: NRSG 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 320, 321, 323, 324, 325

Corequisite: NRSG 401, 404

Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU

**NRSG 404 PERSON-CENTERED CARE CLINICAL III 4 Credit Hours**

Clinical experiences provide opportunities for application and integration of primary, secondary and tertiary prevention and the chronic disease process; collaboration with the patient and family to enhance health in illness and develop highest level of functioning. Experiences will also encompass end of life strategies, risk anticipation, advocacy and conflict management. Clinical settings such as hospitals, mental health facilities, long-term care facilities, home health care and hospice settings will be utilized with persons along their life course: infants, children, adolescents, adults and older adults. 4 credit hours.

Prerequisite: NRSG 300, 302, 303, 304, 321, 324, 325

Corequisite: NRSG 403

Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU

**NRSG 405 POPULATION-CENTERED CARE II 4 Credit Hours**

This is a synthesis course. Previously taught concepts are applied to vulnerable and at-risk populations. The exemplars help students apply concepts and explore population-based practice with a focus on specific populations of interest and at-risk populations. The course is grounded in an assessment of a population's health status, considers broad determinants of health, emphasizes all levels of prevention and explores the nurse's role in intervening with communities, systems, individuals and families, to impact community health. The new concepts are healthcare law, healthcare policy, healthcare organizations, and vulnerability. 4 credits (2 didactic/2 clinical)

Prerequisite: NRSG 321, NRSG 323, NRSG 324, NRSG 325

Typically Offered: FALL/SPR

**NRSG 430 NURSE IN PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE IV: LEADERSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE 4 Credit Hours**

This synthesis course develops leadership, management, and professionalism expected of a nurse with a bachelor's level education. The didactic portion of this course synthesizes and integrates concepts encountered by nurses in complex healthcare systems. Professional role development, interprofessional collaboration, delegation, resource management, ethical, legal, and workplace issues are considered. The clinical experience provides opportunities for application of concepts to identified health care processes utilizing continuous quality improvement methodology and evidence-based practice. 2 didactic and 2 clinical credit hours.

Prerequisite: NRSG 302, 303, 304, 320

Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU

**NRSG 436 TRANSITION TO PROFESSIONAL NURSING 4 Credit Hours**

This course is focused on nursing care of complex patients, families, and groups in unstable situations with unpredictable outcomes. Students will be able to synthesize previous and concurrent knowledge in determining clinical decisions. Students will analyze multiple interrelating nursing concepts and related research, focusing on high-quality, safe patient care across the life course. Exemplars provide opportunities for application and integration of secondary and tertiary prevention strategies. Students will use clinical reasoning skills to achieve optimum physiological and psychological patient and family outcomes. 4 clinical credits

Prerequisite: NRSG 400, NRSG 401, NRSG 405, NRSG 433, NRSG 434, NRSG 430

Typically Offered: FALL/SPR

## RN to BSN Program

### **NRSG 351W HEALTH PROMOTION 3 Credit Hours**

This course will focus on health promotion across the life course utilizing epidemiological principles. Students will identify interventions to support health promotion for individuals, families and/or selected age groups. Students will use patient profile concepts, professional nursing and health care concepts to analyze health promotion goals with individuals, families and/or selected age groups. This course is designed to build on previous education and experience of the registered nurse. 3 classroom credits

### **NRSG 386W EVIDENCE-BASED NRSG PR 2 Credit Hours**

This course provides an introduction to the language and skills of evidence based nursing practice and research. Students will focus on the practical skills required to identify and appraise best evidence to support nursing practice. Students will be exposed to all components of the research process. Issues related to implementation and integration of best evidence in practice will be included. 2 classroom credits

### **NRSG 426W NURSING INTERVENTIONS AND HEALTHCARE OUTCOMES 4 Credit Hours**

This course is designed for the student to describe use of assessment strategies to detect patient health needs, apply chronic care model to enhance patient and family self-management of a chronic illness, discuss process used to propose changes in nursing interventions for patients and their families, and identify selected patient healthcare outcomes. This course is designed to build on the previous education and experience of the registered nurse. Concepts the students will use include: evidenced-based practice and research, healthcare delivery, healthcare infrastructure, clinical judgment, and problem-solving. Emphasis is placed on the students demonstrating critical thinking in written form. 4 classroom credits  
Prerequisite: NRSG 386W

### **NRSG 443W POPULATION CENTERED CARE 3 Credit Hours**

This course is a concept synthesis course in which students use nursing concepts previously introduced and apply them to vulnerable and at risk populations in a variety of clinical and community settings. Opportunities to practice comprehensive, public health nursing roles and functions are provided in structured and unstructured diverse healthcare environments. Health disparities, cultural diversity, social justice and health laws and policies related to population vulnerability throughout the life course are emphasized. Major concepts include care coordination as demonstrated by nurse case management, safety through emergency preparedness and environmental health, and informatics and technology inclusive of epidemiology. Multiple approaches, such as inter-professional and community partnerships, case studies, clinical experiences, population data assessment and analysis and evidence-based practice are expected learning experiences. 3 credits: 2 classroom, 1 clinical  
Prerequisite: NRSG 386W  
Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU

### **NRSG 451W LEADERSHIP IN HEALTHCARE DELIVERY I 4 Credit Hours**

This course is designed to develop leadership, management, and professionalism expected of a nurse with a bachelor's level education. This course explores the complex health care system's internal forces that affect the delivery of care. Specific consideration will be given to professional role development, interprofessional collaboration, delegation, resource management, legal issues, ethical concerns, quality, safety, evidence based practice, and workplace issues for current and projected healthcare needs. Skills in problem solving, critical thinking, clinical reasoning, decision making, and organizational leadership are emphasized. 4 classroom credits

### **NRSG 452W LEADERSHIP IN HEALTHCARE DELIVERY II 4 Credit Hours**

This course is designed to develop leadership, management, and professionalism expected of a nurse with a bachelor's level education. The focus of this course is on personal and professional practice and role development in relation to the complex healthcare system's external forces with specific consideration of environmental, social, political and economic factors that influence health care policy and the organization and operation of healthcare systems. Advocacy and critical assessment and evaluation of needs on the personal, client, community, and global level are examined with needs for new health policy determined. Selected exemplars are examined to help students analyze issues, compare and contrast multiple viewpoints, and formulate appropriate responses to health care policy. Legislative processes on the state and national level are examined, followed, and evaluated. Clinical experiences provide an opportunity to engage in the nurse leader's role, responsibilities and actions that result in positive client outcomes, staff satisfaction, and professional growth. 4 credits: 3 classroom, 1 clinical  
Typically Offered: FALL/SP/SU