**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING PROGRAM (BSN)**

### Purpose

The purpose of the baccalaureate in nursing program is to prepare nurse generalists to be providers, designers, leaders, managers, and coordinators of care as well as accountable members of the nursing profession and to pursue graduate level education.

### BSN Options

The UNMC College of Nursing offers three options for a BSN degree:

- Bachelor of Science in Nursing – Traditional (pre-licensure): A 4-semester program over two years with no summer classes.
- Bachelor of Science in Nursing – Accelerated (pre-licensure): An intense 12-month program for excellent students with a bachelor’s degree in another field.
- Registered Nurse to Bachelor of Science in Nursing (post-licensure): An online advancement program for current registered nurses (RNs) with an Associate Degree in Nursing (ADN) or a Diploma in Nursing. Full-time or part-time options.

**NCLEX** – Graduates of either of the two pre-licensure options are eligible to apply to take the NCLEX-RN examination.

### Outcomes and Essentials

#### BSN Program Outcomes

- Integrate life-long learning strategies to support critical thinking in nursing practice.
- Analyze systems within organizations and disseminate recommendations to promote safe quality health care.
- Utilize evidence-based practice process to improve nursing practice and health care outcomes.
- Use technology and information systems to enhance decision-making in health care delivery systems.
- Practice with regard for shaping healthcare, finance and regulatory policies to influence allocations of healthcare resources.
- Use intra- and inter-professional communication and collaboration to promote care coordination for safe quality patient care.
- Apply levels of prevention to promote well-being and prevent disease in complex situations for individuals and groups.
- Exhibit professional behaviors as a member of multidisciplinary teams.
- Practice caring, competent, holistic, high-quality patient-centered nursing in complex situations.

**Please note:**

- Program purpose and outcomes are the same for the Accelerated BSN and RN to BSN programs but those programs proceed on different schedules, with different learning strategies, for different levels of student (bachelor-degree students for Accelerated BSN program and registered nurses for RN to BSN program).
- The semester objectives are keyed to baccalaureate curriculum essentials set forth by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) as shown in the first column.

#### Semester Objectives

The grid below shows the objectives progression for the Traditional BSN program spanning 4 semesters (2 years).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AACN Essential</th>
<th>Semester 1</th>
<th>Semester 2</th>
<th>Semester 3</th>
<th>Semester 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I. Liberal Education for Baccalaureate Generalist Nursing Practice</td>
<td>Incorporate knowledge from prerequisite courses in critical thinking and collaborative decision making with patients.</td>
<td>Relate knowledge from prerequisite courses in critical thinking and collaborative decision making with patients.</td>
<td>Apply prerequisite knowledge to support decision-making and critical thinking in the care of individuals and groups.</td>
<td>Integrate life-long learning strategies to support critical thinking in nursing practice.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II. Basic Organizational and Systems Leadership for Quality Care and Patient Safety</td>
<td>Use beginning nursing leadership concepts in the provision of safe quality health care.</td>
<td>Practice leadership during provision and coordination of safe, quality health care.</td>
<td>Demonstrate professional leadership in the provision, coordination, and evaluation of safe and quality health care in a variety of systems.</td>
<td>Analyze systems within organizations and disseminate recommendations to promote safe quality health care.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IV. Information Management and Application of Patient Care Technologies</td>
<td>Acquire knowledge of patient care technology and health care information systems.</td>
<td>Use patient care technologies and information systems to promote a safe practice environment.</td>
<td>Apply information technology to individuals and groups in planning to meet health care needs.</td>
<td>Use technology and information systems to enhance decision-making in health care delivery systems.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Admission

Admission to the BSN Program

Students can be admitted to the BSN program in the Traditional, Accelerated, or RN-BSN tracks. Students who have met the requirements for admission to UNMC can apply through NursingCAS (http://nursingcas.org/) which is a centralized application service for students applying to registered nursing (RN) programs at all levels. Students who have already received a Bachelor’s Degree have the option to apply for the Accelerated BSN track. Students who have a Bachelor’s degree and would like to apply for both the Traditional and Accelerated tracks may do so.

Admission to the College of Nursing is a competitive process and is based primarily on your campus preference, the GPA of the required prerequisite courses, the total number of prerequisite courses completed at the time of the application, the receipt of positive references, and a personal statement. For the Accelerated program it also includes an interview with qualified applicants. See the Undergraduate Admission Requirements Policy (5.2.3) in the Student Policies section for details.

Students Whose First Language is not English

For applicants whose native language is not English, the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) or the Pearson (PTE) is required for admissions. Test results must be recent (within five years prior to applying to UNMC). See the English as a Second Language - Undergraduate Students policy (5.2.5) in the Student Policies section for details.

Transfer Credit

The College of Nursing may accept transfer credit earned in an accredited college. The College is the final authority on granting transfer credit and determining how transfer courses and credits apply toward a degree in nursing. Transfer credits are recorded with no grade or quality points assigned. Grades from transfer courses may be considered for admission purposes. See the Undergraduate Transfer Credit Policy (5.2.8) in the Student Policies section for details.

Admission Key Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BSN Program</th>
<th>Application Opens</th>
<th>Application Due</th>
<th>Program Start</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Traditional BSN</td>
<td>October 1</td>
<td>February 1</td>
<td>August</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accelerated BSN</td>
<td>March 1</td>
<td>July 1</td>
<td>January</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RN to BSN</td>
<td>Continuous</td>
<td>November 1, January, May,</td>
<td>January, May, August</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>March 1, July 1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Curriculum

BSN Plan of Study Information

There are a minimum of 58 credit hours of non-nursing requirements taken at any accredited general education institution for the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree. In addition, to receive the BSN you must complete 62 hours of nursing courses for a total of 120 credits for the BSN degree.

First Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Semester</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NRSG 311</td>
<td>PATHOPHYSIOLOGIC ALTERATIONS IN HEALTH I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NRSG 312</td>
<td>HEALTH ASSESSMENT ACROSS THE LIFE COURSE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NRSG 313</td>
<td>PATIENT CENTERED CARE I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NRSG 314</td>
<td>PATIENT CENTERED CARE CLINICAL I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NRSG 317</td>
<td>PHARMACOLOGY FOR HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS I</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Credit Hours 16
Bachelor of Science in Nursing Program (BSN)

Second Semester
- NRSG 316: Evidence-Based Practice and Leadership in Nursing (3)
- NRSG 331: Pathophysiology Alterations in Health II (2)
- NRSG 332: Pharmacology for Healthcare Professionals II (2)
- NRSG 333: Patient Centered Care II (5)
- NRSG 334: Patient Centered Care Clinical II (4)

Credit Hours: 16

Second Year
First Semester
- NRSG 411: Patient Centered Care III (4)
- NRSG 412: Patient Centered Care Clinical III (4)
- NRSG 413: Population Centered Care (5)
- NRSG 415: Policy and Issues in Healthcare Delivery (3)
  
Credit Hours: 16

Second Semester
- NRSG 419: Transition to Professional Nursing (4)
- NRSG 421: Patient Centered Care IV (3)
- NRSG 422: Patient Centered Care Clinical IV (3)
- NRSG 424: Leadership in Professional Practice (4)

Credit Hours: 18

Total Credit Hours: 62

Please note: The BSN curriculum will continuously evolve to offer superior preparation for the changing demands of modern nursing. Course numbers, titles and other details are subject to change.

**Accelerated BSN Plan of Study**

The Accelerated BSN (Bachelor of Science in Nursing) is an intense 12-month program for well-qualified students with a bachelor's degree in another field.

**12 months – 3 semesters**

**Spring**
- NRSG 311: Pathophysiology Alterations in Health I (2)
- NRSG 312: Health Assessment Across the Life Course (4)
- NRSG 313: Patient Centered Care I (4)
- NRSG 314: Patient Centered Care Clinical I (4)
- NRSG 316: Evidence-Based Practice and Leadership in Nursing (3)
- NRSG 317: Pharmacology for Healthcare Professionals I (2)
- NRSG 331: Pathophysiology Alterations in Health II (2)

  Credit Hours: 22

**Summer**
- NRSG 333: Patient Centered Care II (5)

  Credit Hours: 5

**Fall**
- NRSG 334: Patient Centered Care Clinical II (4)
- NRSG 411: Patient Centered Care III (4)
- NRSG 412: Patient Centered Care Clinical III (4)
- NRSG 424: Leadership in Professional Practice (4)

  Credit Hours: 21

**RN-BSN Nursing Courses**

An RN student must satisfy the following required 20 nursing credits for the BSN degree. RN students must enroll in and complete the minimum 20 semester credits of nursing courses in the College of Nursing to earn a BSN degree from the UNMC. There are no exceptions to the 20 credit hour rule.

Required nursing courses include the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NRSG 351W</td>
<td>Health Promotion</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NRSG 386W</td>
<td>Evidence-Based NRSG PR</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NRSG 451W</td>
<td>Leadership in Healthcare Delivery I</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NRSG 426W</td>
<td>Nursing Interventions and Healthcare Outcomes</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NRSG 443W</td>
<td>Population Centered Care</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NRSG 452W</td>
<td>Leadership in Healthcare Delivery II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prior nursing education / experience / course completion</td>
<td>42</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Credit Hours: 62

**Credit Awards for Prior Nursing Education and Experience**

1. **Course Completion/Portfolio Activities and Review.** Upon completion of NRSG 452W you will be awarded a total of 11 credit hours. These hours are based on a professional review of your portfolio by faculty and completion of activities designed to augment your portfolio. There is a special fee that covers both courses, but is assessed and payable during the semester you register for NRSG 386W.

2. **Previous Education and Work Experience.** Up to 31 additional credits will be awarded upon program completion for prior nursing education and work experience completed before BSN graduation. This is based on working one year full-time as an RN.