

# BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

## B.S.N.

Recognized as a leading accredited undergraduate and graduate level nursing program, BU prepares students for a wide range of careers in critical care, obstetrics, pediatrics, rehabilitation, trauma, home care, and other clinical specialties, and case management. This offers the increasingly valuable path toward a master of science in nursing (MSN).

As modern health care becomes increasingly complex, this rigorous and demanding program requires potential students to have exceptional leadership and time management skills, self-assurance and critical thinking.

Other factors suggesting potential for success at BU include a strong background in algebra and chemistry as well as very high reading comprehension skills and a strong work ethic. Students enjoy high success on the NCLEX examination, a strong placement rate, and continuation of graduate studies after initial work experiences.

BU's MSN program offers a wide range of options for nursing professionals. All programs are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education. In addition, the nurse anesthesia graduate option is accredited by the Council of Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs.

BU recently added a Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program that is also accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education.

## MISSION STATEMENT

The faculty of the Department of Nursing accepts as its own the mission of Bloomsburg University and recognizes education for professional nursing as an integral part of higher education. The educational process integrates concepts drawn from the liberal arts and sciences into the baccalaureate, master's and doctoral programs in nursing to assist students in acquiring the knowledge, skills, values, and professional behaviors essential to beginning or advanced practitioners of professional nursing.

## ACCREDITATION

The Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) and Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) programs are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) and are fully approved by the Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing. The nurse anesthesia program is accredited by the Council of Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs. The Doctoral of Nurse Practitioner (DNP) is also accredited by CCNE.

Accreditation is an indication of public approbation, attesting to the quality of the educational program, and the continued commitment of the sponsoring institution to support the program.

For any further information regarding the accreditation of the program, please contact Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education at 655 K St, NW, Suite 750, Washington, D.C., 20001 or call (202) 887-6791.



## PROGRAM GOALS

The goals of the BSN program are to assist students to:

- attain the competencies required of a professional nurse, including application of relevant knowledge, skills, values and other professional behaviors designed to help the client attain an optimal level of functioning.
- collaborate with others to promote health in a diverse and multicultural society.
- value and engage in activities designed to enhance personal growth and promote professional role development through lifelong learning.

## IN THE CLINICAL AREAS...

BU nursing students receive an intensive and varied preparation in the clinical areas. Beginning in the sophomore year, students interact with clients across the life span in a variety of health care agencies. Using an approach which values the whole patient and which encourages critical thinking, students learn not only to assess and treat illness but also to promote health and restorative activities. Preparing for their professional futures, Bloomsburg students experience the key roles of practitioner, teacher, leader/manager, and consumer of research.

Students must assume responsibility for their own travel to inpatient and community clinical agencies. Travel may vary from one mile to approximately 40 miles, depending on the nature of clinical experiences.



## APPLICATION CATEGORIES

Applications to the nursing program fall into two categories: first-year and transfers.

- **FIRST-YEAR** - A secondary school student or secondary school graduate without any postsecondary experience (formal education beyond secondary school).
- **TRANSFER** - An applicant who was previously enrolled at Bloomsburg University or who was enrolled in a postsecondary educational program.

## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS AND PROCESS

### FIRST-YEAR CANDIDATES

Secondary school students should submit an application to the university's Office of Admissions early in their senior year (see website on Admissions, Financial Aid, Fees). Secondary school graduates who have had no formal education beyond secondary school must apply early in November to be considered for admission in the fall semester.

The following guidelines are used to evaluate first-year candidates for admission to the Bachelor of Science in Nursing program:

- A minimum of 18 academic units from secondary school. These units must include a minimum of 4 units of English, 3 units of social studies, 2 units of mathematics (1 of which is algebra) and 2 units of science with a related laboratory or the equivalent, plus other academic units in grades 9 through 12.
- B average or above in secondary school.
- SATs of 1110, or equivalency of 1180 on the new SAT, or ACT of 24 or higher.
- B or better in high school chemistry.
- Class rank within the top 25 percent

It is important that the candidate indicates nursing as the major. The Office of Admissions uses these guidelines in accepting first-year students directly into the nursing program. Nursing faculty consult with the Office of Admissions as necessary regarding candidates for admission. An interview is not required, but the Department of Nursing faculty are available to talk with prospective candidates during Open Houses or "Information Sessions".

### EXTERNAL TRANSFER CANDIDATES

The Student Admission, Progression and Retention (SAPR) Committee generally reviews transfer applications biannually. Applications must be completed and sent to the Office of Admissions. Only completed files are forwarded to the department.

- Candidates with college credits from institutions other than Bloomsburg University must apply directly to the Office of Admissions. The Office of Admissions reviews the application and evaluates the credits from the transcripts submitted, and if the candidate meets the requirements for transfer into the university, the application is forwarded to the Department of Nursing. The minimum requirements beyond those for admission to the university are a GPA of 2.5, 16 or greater earned academic credits and evidence of a minimum grade of C in a prerequisite natural science courses. Grades attained in prerequisite science courses outweigh the overall GPA.
- Individuals seeking a second bachelor's degree are considered for admission to the nursing program by the Department of Nursing's chairperson.

### INTERNAL TRANSFER CANDIDATES

Students majoring in other academic disciplines at the university who wish to transfer into the nursing program must apply directly to the Department of Nursing's chairperson. They must meet the guidelines for external transfer candidates admissions as well as provide evidence of at least a GPA of 2.5. The candidate seeking transfer completes an internal transfer application and submits it to the department for consideration.

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## GENERIC COURSE SEQUENCE

*Generic is a term used by the national accreditation agencies and Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing for students who are not registered nurses, specifically, freshman students, internal and external transfer students, and second-degree students. A typical sequence of course work for each category is depicted below:*

### FRESHMAN YEAR – FALL

English 101 – Foundations of College Writing	3 credits
Psych 101 - General Psychology	3 credits
Biology 173 – Anatomy & Physiology 1	4 credits
Chem 101 – Intro to Chemistry	3 credits
Sociology 211 – Principals of Sociology OR Anthro 200 Principals of Cultural Anthropology	3 credits
<b>TOTAL CREDITS</b>	<b>16</b>

### FRESHMAN YEAR – SPRING

Language Course	3 credits
Psych 210 – Life Span Psychology	3 credits
Biology 174 – Anatomy & Physiology II	4 credits
Chem 108 – Physiological Chemistry	4 credits
<b>TOTAL CREDITS</b>	<b>16</b>

### SOPHMORE YEAR – FALL

*Biology 240 – Intro to Microbiology	3 credits
*Nursing 210 – Professional Nursing	3 credits
*Nursing 215 – Pathophysiology for Nursing	3 credits
*Nursing 214 – Health Assessment	3 credits
General Education Course	3 credits
<b>TOTAL CREDITS</b>	<b>16</b>

### SOPHMORE YEAR – SPRING

Psych 160 – Applied Stats for the Behavioral Science OR Math 141 Intro to Stats	3 credits
**Nursing 211 – Nutrition	3 credits
**Nursing 212 – Pharmacology	3 credits
**Nursing 213 – Foundations of Nursing Practice	5 credits
<b>TOTAL CREDITS</b>	<b>16</b>

### JUNIOR YEAR – FALL

Nursing 314 – Nursing care of Older Adults	2 credits
Nursing 311 – Adult Health Nursing 1	7 credits
General Education Course	6 credits
<b>TOTAL CREDITS</b>	<b>15</b>

### JUNIOR YEAR – SPRING

Nursing 306 – Intro to Research	3 credits
Nursing 312 – Maternal/Child Health Nursing	8 credits
General Education	5 credits
<b>TOTAL CREDITS</b>	<b>16</b>

### SENIOR YEAR – FALL

Nursing 410 – Public Health Nursing	5 credits
Nursing 411 – Psychiatric/Mental Health Nursing	5 credits
General Education course	6 credits
<b>TOTAL CREDITS</b>	<b>16</b>

### SENIOR YEAR – SPRING

Nursing 412 – Adult Health Nursing II	7 credits
Nursing 414 – Leadership & Management in Nursing	4 credits
General Education course	3 credits
<b>TOTAL CREDITS</b>	<b>14</b>

- Course only offered in the Fall semester
- \*\* Course only offered in the Spring semester

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## DEPARTMENT OF NURSING ACADEMIC GOOD STANDING

A student in the baccalaureate nursing program must maintain the following standards for academic good standing to progress in the Department of Nursing.

1. A student must attain a grade of "C" or above in:

- Prerequisite natural science courses:  
BIOLOGY 173 - Anatomy and Physiology I  
BIOLOGY 174 - Anatomy and Physiology II  
CHEM 101 - Introductory Chemistry  
CHEM 108 - Physiological Chemistry  
BIOLOGY 240 - Introductory Microbiology
- Prerequisite social science courses:  
PSCYH 101 - General Psychology  
PSYCH 210 - Life Span Psychology  
SOC 211 - Principles of Sociology  
or  
ANTHRO 200 - Principles of Cultural Anthropology



In order to progress to the sophomore year professional nursing courses, a student must:

- Complete all prerequisite social science courses and prerequisite natural science courses (except BIOLOGY 240 Introductory Microbiology) by the end of the prior spring semester.
- Obtain a cumulative GPA of 2.50 at the end of the freshman year (after 24 earned credits).

A student who does not meet the requirements for progression to the sophomore year will be dismissed from the program. A student seeking readmission from a departmental dismissal must do so in accord with the Departmental Transfer Policy. A student must attain a grade of "C" or above in all required NURSING departmental non-clinical professional nursing courses:

NURSING 211 - Nutrition  
NURSING 212 - Pharmacology  
NURSING 214 - Health Assessment  
NURSING 215 - Pathophysiology for Nursing Practice  
NURSING 306 - Introduction to Nursing Research  
NURSING 314 - Nursing Care of Older Adult  
NURSING 414 - Nursing Leadership and Management

A student who does not meet the identified requirements for departmental academic good standing in departmental non-clinical professional nursing courses will be required to eliminate the identified deficiencies through a repetition of the course before progressing in the baccalaureate nursing program.

A student may repeat departmental non-clinical professional nursing courses only once. A student who does not attain a grade of "C" or above in the repeated departmental non-clinical professional nursing course will be dismissed from the nursing program.

A student must attain a grade of "C" or above in the classroom theory portion and "Pass" in the Clinical Evaluation in all required NURSING departmental professional nursing courses with a clinical component:

NURSING 210 - Professional Nursing  
NURSING 213 - Foundations of Nursing Practice  
NURSING 311 - Adult Health I  
NURSING 312 - Maternal and Child Health Nursing  
NURSING 410 - Community Health Nursing  
NURSING 411 - Psychiatric-Mental Health Nursing  
NURSING 412 - Adult Health II

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## KEY POINTS:

- Caring, compassionate, confident, knowledgeable, affordable.
- Direct admission to major
- Personal attention by faculty adviser
- Consistently above the state and national pass rate on the National Licensure Examination
- Highly qualified faculty members, varied clinical experiences and state-of-the-art computer and learning laboratory.
- Nursing students are active in the Student Nurses Association, Sigma Theta Tau (the honor nursing society), Nurses Christian Fellowship ASIG, varsity and intramural sports, and student government activities
- Following commencement, alumni enjoy high job placement rates and an abundance of career options. Some pursue Bloomsburg University's master's degree in nursing.

A student who does not attain a "C" or above in the classroom theory portion in a NURSING departmental professional nursing course with a clinical component and attains a "Pass" in the Clinical Evaluation will receive the letter grade earned through the Class Grading evaluation procedures stated in the course syllabus.

The clinical portion of the course is evaluated as "Pass" or "Fail" using the Clinical Evaluation criteria for each course level (Sophomore Level, Junior Level, Senior Level). A student who attains "Fail" in the Clinical Evaluation in an NURSING departmental professional nursing course with a clinical component will receive the grade of "E" for the course.

A student who does not meet the identified requirements for departmental academic good standing in professional nursing courses with a clinical component will be required to eliminate the identified deficiencies through a repetition of the course before progressing in the baccalaureate nursing program.

The department reserves the right and the responsibility to develop procedural guidelines for the implementation of this academic good standing policy. Recommendations concerning academic progression and retention are made to the Department of Nursing Chairperson by the departmental Student Admission, Progression, and Retention Committee. Based upon the recommendations, sophomore, junior and senior students who do not meet the requirements for academic good standing are placed on departmental probation, required to take a departmental leave of absence, or dismissed from the program.

## LICENSURE

The Bachelor of Science in Nursing is awarded to those students who successfully complete the requirements for the degree. Degree recipients (non-R.N.) are then eligible to take the NCLEX licensure examination administered by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing.

In accordance with the Professional Nursing Law (P.L. 317, No. 69, Jan. 1, 1986) a felonious act prohibits a person from obtaining licensure in Pennsylvania. In compliance with this legislation, the following guidelines are enforced by the Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing.

A license or certificate shall not be issued to an applicant who has been convicted of a felonious act prohibited by the act of April 14, 1972 (P.L. 233, No. 64) known as The Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act; or convicted of a felony relating to a controlled substance in a court of law of the United States or any other state, territory or country unless

- At least ten (10) years have elapsed from the date of conviction;
- The applicant satisfactorily demonstrates to the Board that the applicant has made significant progress in personal rehabilitation since the conviction such that licensure should not create a substantial risk of further violations.
- The applicant otherwise satisfies the qualifications contained in or authorized by this act. (Convicted includes a judgment, an admission of guilt or a plea of nolo contendere. A person convicted of any felonious act may be prohibited from licensure by the Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing at any time.)

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## HEALTH POLICY

Based on the requirements of the Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing and contractual agreements with agencies that provide clinical practice sites, the Department of Nursing requires students to have a yearly physical examination, specific diagnostic tests and immunizations. Dental and eye examinations also are required upon admission.

## CLEARANCES

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has enacted legislation to ensure that educational and health care systems provide a safe environment for children and provision of services safeguarding the rights of older adults while protecting them from abuse. Prior to all clinical nursing courses, students must provide evidence of criminal and child abuse background clearances.

## SUBSTANCE ABUSE POLICY

The Department of Nursing expects that all students within the department will fully comply with the university's policies relating to alcoholic beverage and drugs published in the student handbook on BU's website. Students found to be in violation of these policies can be expected to face sanctions delineated in departmental policies. Prior to all clinical nursing courses, students must provide evidence of clean drug screening.



## SIMULATED LEARNING LAB

BU's Simulated Learning Lab (SLL) exists to provide our nursing students with a safe and controlled environment to master the skills necessary to excel not only during their clinical experiences at BU but throughout their nursing careers.

The SLL has a skills lab equipped with hospital beds, various task trainer models, computerized adult simulation mannequins, a computerized pediatric mannequin, and a computerized medication dispensing system. Students engage in clinical demonstrations, practice sessions, and clinical simulations during their sophomore, junior, and senior years.



### Department of Nursing

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