

School of NURSING

Mission Statement

The School of Nursing seeks to provide Christ-centered, biblically based, service-focused nursing education, equipping individuals with the skills and abilities required of professional nurses to effectively serve Christ and to assume servant-leadership roles while providing ministry and service to humankind. The Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) pre-licensure program provides a strong foundation in biblical studies, liberal arts and the sciences.

BSN Graduate Competencies

The following competencies are threaded throughout the curriculum – progressing from awareness, recognition and beginning application, to application and performance, to proficiency. The competencies are guided by the curricular framework, program, term, course and clinical outcomes.

- Biblically Based Christian Worldview
- Global Perspective
- Patient-Centered Care
- Interprofessional Collaborative Practice
- Clinical Reasoning and Professional Judgment
- Promote Health/Prevent Disease/Address Healthcare Needs
- Professional Development
- Christian Character/Professional Values
- Skills/Abilities of a Professional Nurse Generalist
- Safety/Quality of Care and Accountability

The Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) pre-licensure program is granted approval from the Minnesota Board of Nursing. Nursing Major candidates who have completed all program, credit and degree requirements will be recommended for the candidate's licensure (NCLEX-RN®)

The baccalaureate degree program in nursing at University of Northwestern – St. Paul is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (www.ccnaccreditation.org).

ADMISSION TO THE NURSING MAJOR

The application process to the School of Nursing is competitive. Through the application portal, the student can access the School of Nursing application to the University of Northwestern, St. Paul School of Nursing. Applications are taken year-round. Applications will be considered up to one month prior to a cohort launch as a result of necessary clinical on-boarding requirements. Applicants will be notified on a first-come-first-served basis until all vacant positions are filled. Qualified students unable to be placed will be put on a waiting list and will be notified when a position becomes available. Candidates will be screened carefully for acceptance into the program and for best placement in either the accelerated or traditional path. The School of Nursing will give consideration into each candidate's preference when determining placement into the accelerated or traditional path. Because space is limited, not all candidates are guaranteed acceptance into the School of Nursing, or into their preferred path. Qualified candidates with more credits from UNW will be given higher consideration over those with fewer credits from this institution.

In order to be considered a qualifying candidate for the School of Nursing, the following minimum criteria must be met:

1. Acceptance to University of Northwestern – St. Paul, meeting all admission requirements (i.e., completed application and official transcripts).
2. Currently enrolled in or successful completion (with a grade of C or higher) of all pre-requisite courses (BIO3145/3145L; BIO3157/3157L; BIO3158/3158L; CHE1021/1021L; ENG1105; MAT-prefix course; PHI2016; PSY2108) or their equivalents as approved by the appropriate Academic Department Chair and/or Registrar. All prerequisite courses or their equivalents must be completed by the start of Term 1 of the nursing program.
3. Currently enrolled in or successful completion of core curriculum courses. Students may enter the program with up to 15 remaining credits from non-prerequisite courses. All supporting courses and core curriculum courses must be completed by the end of Term 3.
4. High school students who have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.75 on a 4.00 scale will be considered for early admission. The TEAS Entrance Examination is waived for early admission students.
5. Consideration will be given to those with a cumulative GPA of at least 2.75 (on a 4.00 scale) based upon all courses taken and a satisfactory score on the TEAS Entrance Examination (score of 65% or higher). Exceptional applicants will be given highest preference, pending availability, having a cumulative GPA of 3.75 or higher and a TEAS score above 80.

In order to be accepted into the School of Nursing, the following criteria must be fulfilled, demonstrating the highest of excellence:

1. Completed School of Nursing application to the University of Northwestern – St Paul School of Nursing. The student will receive provisional acceptance to the School of Nursing. Once all requirements are approved, the student will be entered into the School of Nursing.
2. Clearance letter – from DHS NetStudy 2.0 (Department of Human Services Background Check) and National Background Check.
3. Completed School of Nursing forms:
 - a. Health Clearance
 - b. Documentation of all immunizations
 - c. Background Disclosure
 - d. Release Agreement
 - e. Agreement to Program Policies
 - f. Student Confidentiality Agreement
4. Basic Life Support (BLS) Certification for Healthcare Professionals.
5. Satisfactory scores on the TEAS entrance exam.
6. Satisfactory personal interview conducted by faculty from the Nursing's Admission and Progression Committee, demonstrating suitability for the nursing profession.
7. A positive recommendation by the School of Nursing's Admission and Progression Committee.

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8. Submission of Letter of Intent will be submitted through the application portal.
9. Attendance at all scheduled orientations for University of Northwestern – St. Paul and School of Nursing.

RETENTION IN THE NURSING PROGRAM

Retention in the Nursing Program is based on the following:

1. Maintain a cumulative GPA of at least 2.75.
2. Maintain a GPA of at least 2.75 in the major.
3. Meet all minimum grade requirements as defined in the university catalog and the School of Nursing Handbook.
4. Abide by established university and school policies on academic integrity and upholding community and professional standards.
5. Maintain all student health clearance/immunization requirements, BLS requirement and criminal background screening, with supporting documentation demonstrating current records.

If the appropriate GPAs are not maintained, consideration may be given by the School of Nursing to place the student on probation, dismiss the student from the nursing program, or to counsel the student into another program area.

A nursing course (NUR prefix) may only be repeated one time. This includes whether the student failed or withdrew from the course (“W” notation on transcript). Upon failing or withdrawing from a nursing course during the second attempt, the student will immediately be dismissed from the School of Nursing. Dismissed students are required to meet with the Chief Nurse Administrator for a scheduled exit interview.

Only two (2) nursing courses (NUR prefix) may be repeated. The student who fails or withdraws from a third nursing course will immediately be dismissed from the School of Nursing. Dismissed students are required to meet with the Chief Nurse Administrator for a scheduled exit interview.

A student who has failed one or more nursing course(s) (NUR prefix) in a term, must write a letter to the Admission and Progression Committee of the School of Nursing, notifying of 1) their intent to continue in the nursing program; 2) their preferred term to repeat the nursing course(s); and 3) strategies taken to ensure success in the repeated course(s). The Admission and Progression Committee of the School of Nursing will make final decisions on placement of students who need to repeat nursing course(s).

All nursing courses (NUR prefix) must be repeated successfully prior to taking other nursing courses. A student must have completed all NUR courses from term 1 to enter term 2, all NUR courses and BIO 3159 from term 2 to enter term 3, and all NUR courses from term 3 to enter term 4 nursing courses.

All supporting courses and core curriculum courses must be completed by the start of Term 4 of the Nursing program. Failure to meet sequential progression requirements will delay progression of the student within the Nursing program according to the curriculum plan.

The Admission and Progression Committee of the School of Nursing and/or the Chief Nurse Administrator will make final decisions in dismissal cases. All dismissal cases may be appealed.

FOR FURTHER DETAILS REGARDING ADMISSION AND PROGRESSION IN THE BACCALAUREATE OF SCIENCE IN NURSING (BSN) PRE-LICENSURE PROGRAM, SEE THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTHWESTERN NURSING STUDENT HANDBOOK.

READMISSION IN THE NURSING PROGRAM

A student who wishes to be readmitted to the nursing program after a formal withdrawal, having completed a scheduled exit interview with the Chief Nurse Administrator, must reapply to the School of Nursing for consideration of admission. Any student readmitted to the program will be required to:

- Meet university and program admission criteria prior to readmission.
- Have a cumulative GPA of at least 2.75 on a 4.00 scale.
- Demonstrate a satisfactory level of knowledge from prerequisite nursing courses.
- Demonstrate successful competency of safe and accurate medication calculations and administration (if applicable).
- Demonstrate successful competencies in all clinical skills previously taken (Fee).

A readmitted student will be expected to meet graduation requirements in effect at the time of readmission and to follow the School of Nursing’s program policies in effect for that academic year.

Students may appeal decisions made to the School of Nursing’s Admission and Progression Committee with the concurrence or recommendation of the academic advisor or course instructor. Decisions on appeal requests are the responsibility of the Admission and Progression Committee and may be approved or denied based on individual circumstances and an evaluation of the request.

APPEALS PROCESS**SCHOOL OF NURSING ACTIONS**

The School of Nursing Appeals Committee will consider academic matters concerning the relationship between nursing students and the School of Nursing. Examples of academic matters which the committee will consider are listed below:

- Admission to the nursing program
- Dismissal from the School of Nursing program
- Actions of the Admission and Progression Committee

Detailed information about the appeals process is available in the School of Nursing Student Handbook.

NCLEX-RN® EXAMINATION AND APPLICATION FOR LICENSURE

Completion of the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) pre-licensure program is a necessary requirement for, but does not guarantee eligibility to take the NCLEX-RN® Examination. Please refer to the appropriate state board of nursing where licensure is desired, for full eligibility requirements. The board of nursing decides on candidate eligibility to take the NCLEX-RN® Examination. Links to all boards of nursing websites and contact information is available through the National Council of State Boards of Nursing’s (NCSBN) website: ncsbn.org. NCSBN also provides general information about the NCLEX-RN® examination, including its development and information regarding examination administration.

CRIMINAL OFFENSES

According to Minnesota Statute 135A.157, students need to be aware “...that arrests, charges, or convictions of criminal offenses may limit employment possibilities in specific careers and occupations [such as the nursing profession] and may limit their ability to obtain federal, state, and other financial aid...” For more information regarding the nursing profession within the state of Minnesota, please contact the Minnesota Board of Nursing.

Nursing Bachelor of Science in Nursing

The Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) major is a pre-licensure program that prepares students for the candidate's licensure examination, known as NCLEX-RN®. There are two paths within the nursing program: the accelerated path and the traditional path. Both paths have the same content and a mix of traditional, transfer, and post baccalaureate students (i.e., students who hold a bachelor's degree in another field from an accredited institution of higher learning).

The degree for traditional undergraduate students is granted upon the completion of credits specified below and on pages 48–49 (40 credits must be successfully completed in 3000- or 4000-level courses).

NOTE: Due to the rigorous nature of the program, students are strongly encouraged to limit outside employment while enrolled.

The following must be completed before beginning the Nursing program:

All designated core curriculum courses as outlined in the curriculum plan.

All prerequisite courses or their equivalents (minimum grade of C required):

BIO3145/3145L, BIO3157/3157L, BIO3158/3158L, CHE1021/1021L, ENG1105, MAT-prefix course, PHI2016, PSY2108

Traditional Undergraduate Specific Core Curriculum Courses

- Students in the Accelerated track may enter the program with up to 10 remaining credits from non-prerequisite courses.
- Students in the Traditional track may enter the program with up to 14 remaining credits from non-prerequisite courses.
- All supporting courses and core curriculum courses must be completed by the end of Term 3.
- Leadership & Professionalism course in core curriculum: NUR4316 instead of LDR4425.
- Theological Philosophy course in core curriculum: PHI2016
- Scientific & Quantitative Literacy courses in core curriculum: natural science course BIO1011/1011L; social science course PSY2108

Pre-Nursing Science Courses. 16 cr

Minimum grade of C required in BIO3145, BIO3157, BIO3158, and CHE1021.

BIO3145/3145L	Microbiology4
BIO3157/3157L	Human Anatomy4
BIO3158/3158L	Human Physiology4
CHE1021/1021L	Principles of Chemistry I4

Nursing and Support Courses. 59 cr

Minimum grade of C required in all NUR courses and BIO3159.

Term 1

NUR2215	Professional Nursing: Called to Serve	2
NUR2216	Assessment & Communication Strategies for Service	4
NUR2217	Serving through Interprofessional Collaboration	2
NUR2218	Foundational Adult Care Services	6
Core curriculum course: (2–4 cr)		

Term 2

BIO3159	Pathophysiology	4
NUR3215	Pharmacology and Therapeutic Services	3
NUR3216	Advanced Adult Care Services	8
Core curriculum course: (2 cr)		

Term 3

NUR3315	Infant Child Family Care Services	6
NUR3316	Psychiatric-Mental Health Care Services	3
NUR3317	Serving Transcultural Populations	4
(TRADITIONAL STUDENTS MAY APPLY THIS COURSE TO THE CULTURAL & GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT REQUIREMENT IN CORE CURRICULUM)		
Core curriculum course: (2–4 cr)		

Term 4

NUR4310	Business Finance for Healthcare Services	2
NUR4315	Evidence-Based Services	3
NUR4316	Service Leadership & Management	2
NUR4317	Community and Population-Based Care Services	4
NUR4318	Synthesis of Care Services	3
NUR4319	NCLEX-RN Preparation for Service	3
(last 4 weeks of the Term)		

Post-Baccalaureate Program

Post-Baccalaureate Required Core Curriculum Courses (22–24 credits)

BIA1007	Christian Thinking & Living (or BIB1826 Honors)	2	ENG1105	Composition	4
BIA1015	Interpreting Scripture (or BIA1827 Honors)	2	MAT-prefix course	2-4
BIB4360	Systematic Theology (or BIB4825 Honors) or		PHI2016	Ethics	4
BIB4365	Historical Theology or BIB4460 Biblical Theology	4	PSY2108	Lifespan Psychology	4
LDR3415	The Self-aware Leader	0-2			

Minimum grade of C required in ENG1105, MAT-prefix course, PHI2016, and PSY2108.