

NURSING MAJOR (B.S.)

<https://chhs.unh.edu/nursing/program/bs/nursing-major>

Description

The nursing program faculty believe learning is a creative process wherein students are active participants in their education, growth, and development as professional nurses. Faculty members are facilitators and mentors to students within a supportive, scholarly environment.

The curricula are divided into biological, social sciences, and humanities as a foundation for courses in the major, and nursing courses, which emphasize relationship-based care, reflective thinking, clinical decision making, and the application of evidence-based guidelines to develop quality and safe clinical skills. Clinical experiences are offered in area health facilities, community health agencies, and a state-of-the-art simulation laboratory. The senior year culminates in a capstone practicum in which students apply curricular concepts in a precepted clinical experience.

A grade of C or better in high school chemistry is required, as well as biology or physics.

Students are responsible for their own transportation to clinical agencies, uniforms, professional equipment, health insurance coverage, yearly criminal background checks, drug screening, fingerprinting, yearly health assessment, and select immunizations and titers. Students must maintain certification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation at the American Heart Association Basic Life Support for Healthcare Professionals level. All clinical documents must be received by July 1st before the sophomore year, except flu vaccine, which is due by October 15th, and remain up to date until graduation. Clinical documents cannot expire during the academic year; documents that must be submitted yearly must be dated between May 1 and June 30. Students will be assessed a late fee if clinical documents are not received by the due date. Students will be dropped from nursing courses if documentation is not received by the first day of class. Additional costs associated with the program include, but are not limited to, simulation laboratory fees, fees associated with program requirements, and attendance at professional meetings.

Honors-in-Major Program

The Honors-in-Major Program is offered to interested junior nursing students who achieve the required minimum cumulative GPA and minimum GPA in NURS courses at the end of the sophomore year in nursing and/or junior nursing students who are members of the University Honors Program. See Requirements tab for courses and more information.

Requirements

Degree Requirements

Minimum Credit Requirement: 128 credits

Minimum Residency Requirement: 32 credits must be taken at UNH

Minimum GPA: 2.0 required for conferral*

Core Curriculum Required: Discovery & Writing Program Requirements

Foreign Language Requirement: No

All Major, Option and Elective Requirements as indicated.

*Major GPA requirements as indicated.

Major Requirements

Candidates for the nursing degree must satisfy all of the University Discovery Program requirements in addition to satisfying major requirements. Discovery courses listed below require a C or better in the major.

Prerequisite courses require grades of C or better and only one prerequisite course may be repeated one time in order to progress. Most of the prerequisite courses also meet Discovery requirements. Major courses require a minimum grade of C. Nursing courses may not be repeated. A cumulative grade-point average of 2.5 must be maintained throughout the program.

A course in statistics (HHS 540, PSYC 402, SOC 402, MATH 439) must be completed prior to, or taken concurrent with, nursing research. The statistics course requires a C or better in the major.

Clinical Hours: 814*

Code	Title	Credits
Discovery Program Courses		
ENGL 401	First-Year Writing	4
BMS 507 & BMS 508	Human Anatomy and Physiology I and Human Anatomy and Physiology II	8
PSYC 401	Introduction to Psychology	4
BMS 501	Microbes in Human Disease	4
Total Credits		20

Code	Title	Credits
Required Nursing Courses		
NURS 500	Introduction to Professional Nursing	2
NURS 501	Research for Nursing Professionals	4
NURS 504	Disease and Drugs I	4
NURS 505	Diseases and Drugs II	4
NURS 506	Human Development, Interaction and Learning Across the Lifespan	4
NURS 516	Health Assessment and Nursing Fundamentals	4
NURS 516C	Health Assessment and Nursing Fundamentals Clinical	2
NURS 517C	Clinical Integration	2
NURS 601	Function and Wellbeing of Older Adults	2
NURS 611	Care of the Adult with Acute Illness I	4
NURS 611C	Care of the Adult with Acute Illness I Clinical	2
NURS 612	Care of the Adult with Acute Illness II	4
NURS 612C	Care of the Adult with Acute Illness II Clinical	2
NURS 616	Living with Mental Illness	2
NURS 616C	Living with Mental Illness Clinical	2
NURS 621	Maternal and Newborn Nursing	2
NURS 621C	Maternal Newborn Nurs Clin	2
NURS 627	Clinical Judgment in Nursing	4
NURS 702	Child Health Nursing	2
NURS 702C	Child Health in the Community Clinical	2
NURS 704	Public Health Nursing	4
NURS 704P	Public Health Nursing Project	2
NURS 705	Contemporary Leadership within Health Care Systems	4
NURS 711	Clinical Judgment in Complex Illness	2
NURS 721	Integrating Professional Nursing Practice	2
NURS 721C	Integrating Professional Nursing Practice Clinical	6

* Clinical hours are completed through the following required courses: NURS 516C, NURS 517C, NURS 611C, NURS 612C, NURS 616C, NURS 621C, NURS 702C, NURS 721C.

Honors-in-Major Program

The Honors-in-Major Program is offered to interested junior nursing students who achieve a minimum grade-point average of 3.75 in NURS courses and cumulative GPA of 3.4 at the end of the sophomore year in nursing and/or junior nursing students who are members of the University Honors Program. A total of 18 credits taken at the honors level is required for the Honors-in-Major Program. Orientation to the Honors-in-Major Program is held at the beginning of the junior nursing year. Students must successfully complete with a grade of B or better 8 additional credits of honors coursework drawn from the following courses:

Code	Title	Credits
Select two courses from the following:		
NURS 612	Care of the Adult with Acute Illness II	4
NURS 627	Clinical Judgment in Nursing	4
NURS 704	Public Health Nursing	4
NURS 705	Contemporary Leadership within Health Care Systems	4

Honors-in-major students must also successfully complete with a grade of B or better:

Code	Title	Credits
NURS 648W	Nursing Honors Seminar I	1-4
NURS 748W	Nursing Honors Thesis I	1
NURS 749W	Nursing Honors Thesis II	4

These self-directed learning experiences, related to the student's interests, are designed to help students acquire advanced knowledge and skills to undertake inquiry or scholarly projects. Students must submit a project description to a faculty adviser at the beginning of the senior year. Students present the results of this study at the Nursing Inquiry Day.

Degree Plan

Degree Plan

First Year

Fall		Credits
BMS 507	Human Anatomy and Physiology I	4
ENGL 401	First-Year Writing	4
HHS 401	College of Health and Human Services Seminar	1
NURS 500	Introduction to Professional Nursing ¹	2
Statistics ³		4
Discovery/Inquiry		4
Credits		19

Spring

BMS 508	Human Anatomy and Physiology II	4
PSYC 401	Introduction to Psychology	4
NURS 501	Research for Nursing Professionals	4
Discovery/Inquiry		4
Credits		16

Second Year

Fall		Credits
BMS 501	Microbes in Human Disease	4
NURS 504	Disease and Drugs I	4
NURS 516	Health Assessment and Nursing Fundamentals (plus lab)	4

NURS 516C	Health Assessment and Nursing Fundamentals Clinical	2
Discovery		4

Credits 18

Spring

NURS 505	Diseases and Drugs II	4
NURS 506	Human Development, Interaction and Learning Across the Lifespan	4
NURS 517C	Clinical Integration (plus lab)	2
NURS 601	Function and Wellbeing of Older Adults	2
Discovery/Elective		4

Credits 16

Third Year

Fall

NURS 611	Care of the Adult with Acute Illness I (plus lab)	4
NURS 611C	Care of the Adult with Acute Illness I Clinical	2
NURS 616	Living with Mental Illness ²	2
NURS 616C	Living with Mental Illness Clinical	2
NURS 627	Clinical Judgment in Nursing	4

Credits 14

Spring

NURS 612	Care of the Adult with Acute Illness II (plus lab)	4
NURS 612C	Care of the Adult with Acute Illness II Clinical	2
NURS 621	Maternal and Newborn Nursing (plus lab) ²	2
NURS 621C	Maternal Newborn Nurs Clin	2
Discovery/Elective		4
Discovery/Elective		4

Credits 18

Fourth Year

Fall

NURS 702	Child Health Nursing	2
NURS 702C	Child Health in the Community Clinical	2
NURS 704	Public Health Nursing	4
NURS 704P	Public Health Nursing Project	2
NURS 711	Clinical Judgment in Complex Illness (plus lab)	2
Discovery/Elective		4

Credits 16

Spring

NURS 705	Contemporary Leadership within Health Care Systems	4
NURS 721	Integrating Professional Nursing Practice	2
NURS 721C	Integrating Professional Nursing Practice Clinical	6

Credits 12

Total Credits 129

¹ May be taken fall or spring semester

² May be taken fall or spring semester.

³ PSYC 402 Statistics in Psychology, SOC 402 Statistics, MATH 439 Statistical Discovery for Everyone, HHS 540 Statistics for Health and Human Service Professionals

⁴ May be taken fall or spring semester

Student Learning Outcomes

The undergraduate student is prepared to:

- Synthesize core knowledge from the liberal arts, sciences, and nursing as the foundation of professional practice.
- Integrate knowledge and skills to assess, design, implement, and evaluate nursing care in a safe, compassionate, culturally sensitive, evidence-based manner.
- Engage clients, families, and communities in collaborative decision-making incorporating evidence-based knowledge and anticipatory guidance.
- Employ team leadership and collaborative skills with other health professionals to optimize client and system outcomes.
- Recognize the influence of complex health systems on health care practice and advocate for policies that promote a socially just, patient centered healthcare system.
- Engage in scholarly inquiry to identify, evaluate and integrate the best current practice.
- Integrates health promotion, clinical prevention strategies when providing care at the individual or population level.
- Incorporates principles of patient safety and risk mitigation when using healthcare technology and therapeutics in the provision of care.
- Uses effective written, verbal, and nonverbal communication strategies when engaged in professional practice.
- Embrace professional values embodied in the ANA code of ethics.