



University Bulletin

Undergraduate Degree Programs

Primary Navigation

Nursing

The mission of the Penn State College of Nursing is to improve the health of all people in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, the nation, and the world through the development of qualified nurse leaders at all levels of practice, the development of nursing science related to health and health care, and the provision of nursing care to individuals, families, and communities. This mission is accomplished through the integrated programs of nursing education, research, scholarship, and outreach. The geographic dispersion of the nursing programs helps extend offerings to students across the state and to positively influence the health of the citizens of the Commonwealth, even in the most rural areas.

The College of Nursing features a complete range of educational programs in nursing: the associate of science (A.S.), the bachelor of science (B.S.), the master of science (M.S.), and the doctor of philosophy (Ph.D.). The two-year A.S. degree program helps students prepare to provide nursing care in a variety of health care settings to individuals with commonly occurring acute or chronic conditions. The B.S. degree program helps students prepare to provide comprehensive care to individuals, families, groups, and communities and has three options: the General option (NURS GNURS), a four-year program that includes a broad liberal arts and science foundation for students seeking an initial professional degree; the Second Degree option (NURS SCND), which is for students who have a B.S. degree in another discipline; and the R.N. to B.S. option (NURN), which is for registered nurses who wish to complete a B.S. degree program.

Graduate programs in nursing can be found in the [Graduate Degree Programs Bulletin](#).

The College of Nursing's A.S., B.S., and M.S. degree programs are approved by the Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing and accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN). The B.S. and M.S. degree programs are also accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE).

RECOMMENDED ACADEMIC PLANS

Recommended Academic Plans provide, in table form, the courses students might schedule semester by semester as they pursue a specific undergraduate degree. Each college or campus maintains Recommended Academic Plans for its own majors/degree programs. Links to these plans are on the Division of Undergraduate Studies website at: <http://www.dus.psu.edu/semplans.htm>. Questions concerning the Recommended Academic Plans should be directed to the college or campus involved or the Division of Undergraduate Studies.

COLLEGE OF NURSING

PAULA MILONE-NUZZO, *Dean*
RAYMONDE A. BROWN, *Associate Dean for Undergraduate Programs*
JUDITH E. HUPCEY, *Associate Dean for Graduate Education and Research*

Baccalaureate Degrees

Nursing

Altoona College
Penn State Abington
Penn State Erie, The Behrend College
Penn State Harrisburg
University College: Penn State Fayette, Penn State Mont Alto, Penn State New Kensington,
Penn State Schuylkill, Penn State Shenango, Penn State Worthington Scranton
University Park, School of Nursing (NURN)
World Campus

PROFESSOR PAULA MILONE-NUZZO, *Dean, College of Nursing*

This major prepares registered nurse students as professional practitioners in areas of health promotion and maintenance, illness care, and rehabilitation. The major in Nursing is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE), One DuPont Circle, NW Suite 530, Washington, DC 20036 (202-463-6930). Part-time or full-time study is available at any of the campus sites. The University Park site is a blended program, which includes resident instruction and online nursing courses. The World Campus site is completely online.

Senate legislation 42-97 *Credit by Portfolio Assessment* enables students to receive credit for certain prescribed nursing courses based on their RN licensure.

Students must meet all requirements of the clinical institutions that provide preceptors and clinical experiences. These requirements may include CPR certification, professional liability insurance, health examination, drug testing, criminal background check (State and Federal) and child abuse history clearances. Students also are responsible for their own transportation to and from clinical settings and may need the use of a car.

Graduates of this major may qualify for admission to a graduate nursing program.

For the B.S.N. degree in Nursing, a minimum of 120 credits is required.

Scheduling Recommendation by Semester Standing given like (Sem: 1-2)

GENERAL EDUCATION: 45 credits
(21 of these 45 credits are included in the REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MAJOR)
(See description of General Education in this bulletin.)

UNITED STATES CULTURES AND INTERNATIONAL CULTURES:
(Included in ELECTIVES, GENERAL EDUCATION course selection, or REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MAJOR)

WRITING ACROSS THE CURRICULUM:

(Included in REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MAJOR)

ELECTIVES: 3-5 credits

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MAJOR: 91-93 credits[1]

(This includes 21 credits of General Education courses: 3 credits of GHA courses; 9 credits of GN courses; 3 credits of GQ courses; 6 credits of GS courses.)

PRESCRIBED COURSES (76 credits)

BIOL 129 GN(4), BIOL 141 GN(3), BIOL 142(1), HDFS 129 GS(3), MICRB 106 GN(3), MICRB 107 GN(1), NUTR 251 GHA(3), PSYCH 100 GS(3) (Sem: 1-4)

NURS 200W(3)[38], NURS 357(3)[38], NURS 390 US(3)[38] (Sem: 3-4)

NURS 225(3)[37], NURS 230(4)[37], NURS 250 US(2)[37], NURS 301(4)[37], NURS 305(3)[37], NURS 306(3)[37],

NURS 310(3)[37], NURS 320(3)[37], NURS 405B(4)[37], NURS 420(4)[37], (Sem: 5-6)

NURS 417 US;IL(4)[38], NURS 465(3)[38], NURS 475(3)[38] (Sem: 7-8)

ADDITIONAL COURSES (9-11 credits)

Select 3-4 credits from: CHEM 101 GN(3); or CHEM 110 GN(3) and CHEM 111 GN(1) (Sem: 1-4)

Select 3 credits from: SOC 1 GS(3) or SOC 5 GS(3) (Sem: 1-4)

Select 3-4 credits from: STAT 200 GQ(4) or STAT 250 GQ(3) (Sem: 1-4)

Select 3 credits from: NURS 251(3)[38] or NURS 352(3)[38] (Sem: 3-4)

SUPPORTING COURSES AND RELATED AREAS (6 credits)

Select 6 credits from courses on school-approved list in consultation with adviser (3 credits of which must be at the 400 level)

[1] A student enrolled in this major must receive a grade of C or better, as specified in Senate Policy 82-44.

[37] Credit by Portfolio Assessment

[38] Due to restricted enrollment, the School of Nursing assigns the semester in which students enroll in these courses and all course prerequisites must be successfully completed.

Last Revised by the Department: Fall Semester 2017

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Review Date: 10/3/2017

UCA Revision #1: 8/9/06

HH

Updated contact info for ACEN accrediting agency: 7/31/13

Nursing

Penn State Altoona (General Nursing and Second Degree)

Penn State Erie, Behrend Campus (General Nursing)

Penn State Harrisburg (Second Degree)

University Park (General Nursing)

University College: Penn State Fayette, Penn State Mont Alto, Penn State Worthington

Scranton (General Nursing)

PROFESSOR JANICE PENROD, *Interim Dean, College of Nursing*

The Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing prepares students to become professional practitioners in areas of health promotion and maintenance, illness care, and rehabilitation. After earning this degree in Nursing, students are qualified to take the registered nurse examination for licensure by the State Board of Nursing. The Nursing major is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE), One DuPont Circle, NW Suite 530, Washington, DC 20036 (202-463-6930); and approved by the Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing.

B.S.N. Nursing majors will choose one of the following options:

General Nursing Option (NURS GNURS): This option admits students directly to the major as first year students and at the time of admission only. Nursing students will start and remain at the campus of admission all 4 years. Non-nursing students may not transfer or change major into the 4-year nursing program at University Park, but will be considered through a competitive review process for admission at the 5 other campuses offering the General Nursing program. Clinical experiences occur at clinical facilities within a 50-mile radius of campus; University Park students will spend 1-2 years at Penn State Hershey Medical Center, which requires students to reside at that location.

Second or Additional Degree Option (NURS SCND): This option admits students, who have successfully completed a bachelor's degree in another discipline, to the major through a review process. All students must have met all general education and prerequisite course requirements. This option is available at Penn State Altoona and Penn State Harrisburg. Clinical experiences occur at facilities surrounding Altoona and Harrisburg.

For Both Options: All transportation and expenses related to clinical are the responsibility of the student. All students must carry professional liability insurance; complete an annual health examination, criminal background and child abuse history clearance; drug testing; maintain CPR certification and adhere to any additional requirements of the clinical facilities. A laptop computer is required.

Undergraduate Academic Progression Policy

The Academic Progression policy delineates the academic standards for pre-licensure students (students without an RN license). Failure of two nursing courses results in dismissal from the Nursing major. Details of the academic progression policy are available in the student handbook. (<http://www.nursing.psu.edu/undergrad/handbooks/>).

For the B.S.N. degree in Nursing, a minimum of 120 credits is required. The Second or Additional Degree Option requires the completion of 60 credits of general education and prerequisite courses in the first degree program (prior to admission) and 60 credits of nursing courses completed after admission.

Scheduling Recommendation by Semester Standing given like (Sem: 1-2)

GENERAL EDUCATION: 45 credits
(21 of these 45 credits are included in the REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MAJOR)
(See description of General Education in front of *Bulletin*.)

FIRST-YEAR SEMINAR:
(Included in ELECTIVES or GENERAL EDUCATION course selection)

(Second or Additional Degree Option: First-Year Seminar not required since students accepted into this program are required to have earned a bachelor's degree in another discipline)

UNITED STATES CULTURES AND INTERNATIONAL CULTURES:

(Included in REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MAJOR)

WRITING ACROSS THE CURRICULUM:

(Included in REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MAJOR)

ELECTIVES: 4-9 credits

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MAJOR: 87-92 credits **[1] [2]**

(This includes 21 credits of General Education courses; 3 credits of GHA courses; 9 credits of GN courses; 3 credits of GQ courses; 6 credits of GS courses.)

COMMON REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MAJOR (ALL OPTIONS): 30-32 credits**PRESCRIBED COURSES** (21 credits)

BIOL 129 GN(4), BIOL 141 GN(3), BIOL 142(1), HDFS 129 GS(3), MICRB 106 GN(3), MICRB 107 GN(1), NUTR 251 GHA(3), PSYCH 100 GS(3) (Sem: 1-4)

ADDITIONAL COURSES (9-11 credits)

CHEM 101(3); or CHEM 110 GN(3) and CHEM 111 GN(1) (Sem: 1-4)

SOC 1 GS(3) or SOC 5 GS(3) (Sem: 1-4)

STAT 200 GQ(4) or STAT 250 GQ(3) (Sem: 1-4)

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE OPTION: 57-60 credits**GENERAL NURSING OPTION:** (57 credits)**PRESCRIBED COURSES** (54 credits)

NURS 225(3)**[38]**, NURS 230(4)**[38]**, NURS 250 US(2)**[38]**, NURS 251(3)**[38]** (Sem: 3-4)

NURS 200W(3)**[38]**, NURS 301(4)**[38]**, NURS 305(3)**[38]**, NURS 306(3)**[38]**, NURS

310(3)**[38]**, NURS 320(3)**[38]**, NURS 350(2)**[38]** (Sem: 5-6)

NURS 405A(4)**[38]**, NURS 405B(4)**[38]**, NURS 415 US;IL(4)**[38]**, NURS 420(4)**[38]**, NURS

450A(2)**[38]**, NURS 450B(3)**[38]** (Sem: 7-8)

SUPPORTING COURSES AND RELATED AREAS (3 credits)

Select 3 credits at the 400 level from School-approved list in consultation with adviser (Sem: 7-8)

SECOND OR ADDITIONAL DEGREE OPTION: (60 credits)**PRESCRIBED COURSES** (60 credits)

NURS 225(3)**[38]**, NURS 230(4)**[38]**, NURS 250 US(2)**[38]**, NURS 251(3)**[38]** (Sem: 1)

NURS 200W(3)**[38]**, NURS 301(4)**[38]**, NURS 305(3)**[38]**, NURS 310(3)**[38]**, NURS

350(2)**[38]** (Sem: 2)

NURS 306(3)**[38]**, NURS 320(3)**[38]**, NURS 415 US;IL(4)**[38]**, NURS 420(4)**[38]** (Sem: 3)

NURS 405A(4)**[38]**, NURS 405B(4)**[38]**, NURS 450A(2)**[38]**, NURS 450B(3)**[38]**, NURS

495(6)**[38]** (Sem: 4)

[1]A student enrolled in this major must receive a grade of C or better, as specified in Senate Policy 82-44.

[2] Completed prior to admission for students taking the Second or Additional Degree Option.

[38]Due to restricted enrollment, the School of Nursing assigns the semester in which students enroll in these courses and all course prerequisites must be successfully completed.

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Comments

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Associate Degrees

Minors

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This is the official bulletin of The Pennsylvania State University. Programmatic expectations for General Education are those in effect at the time of admission to degree candidacy, and college and major requirements are those in effect at the time of entry to college and major. These are accurately indicated in each student's degree audit.

The University reserves the right to change the requirements and regulations listed here and to determine whether a student has satisfactorily met its requirements for admission or graduation, and to reject any applicant for any reason the University determines to be material to the applicant's qualifications to pursue higher education. Nothing in this material should be considered a guarantee that completion of a program and graduation from the University will result in employment.

The University Faculty Senate has responsibility for and authority over all academic information contained in the Undergraduate Bulletin.