

NURSING, B.S.N.

Begin Campus: Any Penn State Campus

End Campus: Abington, Altoona, Erie, Fayette, Harrisburg, Mont Alto, New Kensington, Schuylkill, Scranton, Shenango, University Park, World Campus

Spring 2024 Curricular Update: The program description, entrance requirements, and program requirements detailed on this page are effective beginning Spring 2024. To learn more about what approved curricular changes take effect in Spring 2024, please visit the Changes to the UG Bulletin page (<https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/using-this-bulletin/#changestotheugbulletintext>). To view the requirements in effect for Fall 2023, please visit the 2023-24 Undergraduate Bulletin PDF (<https://bulletins.psu.edu/pdf/undergraduate.pdf>).

Degree Requirements

For the Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree in Nursing, a minimum of 120 credits is required:

Requirement	Credits
General Education	45
Electives	4-9
Requirements for the Major	90-98

21-31 of the 45 credits for General Education are included in the Requirements for the Major. This includes: 3 credits of GHW courses; 9 credits of GN courses; 3-4 credits of GQ courses; 6 credits of GS courses; 0-9 credits of GWS courses.

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.

Requirements for the Major

Requirements for the Major must be completed prior to admission for students taking the Second Degree Option.

A grade of C or better is required for all courses in the major. To graduate, a student enrolled in the major must earn at least a C grade in each course designated by the major as a C-required course, as specified by Senate Policy 82-44 (<https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/#82-44>).

Common Requirements for the Major (All Options)

Code	Title	Credits
Prescribed Courses		
<i>Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
BIOL 161	Human Anatomy and Physiology I - Lecture ¹	3
BIOL 162	Human Anatomy and Physiology I - Laboratory ¹	1
BIOL 163	Human Anatomy and Physiology II - Lecture ¹	3
BIOL 164	Human Anatomy and Physiology II - Laboratory ¹	1
HDFS 129	Introduction to Human Development and Family Studies	3
MICRB 106	Elementary Microbiology	3
MICRB 107	Elementary Microbiology Laboratory	1
NUTR 251	Introductory Principles of Nutrition	3

PSYCH 100	Introductory Psychology	3
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Additional Courses

Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better

CHEM 130	Introduction to General, Organic, and Biochemistry ¹	3-4
or CHEM 110 & CHEM 111	Chemical Principles I and Experimental Chemistry I	
SOC 1	Introductory Sociology	3
or SOC 5	Social Problems	
STAT 200	Elementary Statistics	3-4
or STAT 250	Introduction to Biostatistics	

Requirements for the Option

Requirements for the Option: Require a grade of C or better

Select an option	60-66
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¹ A grade of C or better per course is required for teacher certification.

Requirements for the Option

General Nursing Option (66 credits)

Available at the following campuses: Altoona, Erie, Fayette, Mont Alto, Schuylkill, Scranton, University Park

Students start and remain at the campus of admission for the entire program.

Due to restricted enrollment, the Nese College of Nursing assigns the semester in which students enroll in the following Prescribed Courses and all course prerequisites must be successfully completed.

Code	Title	Credits
Prescribed Courses		
<i>Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
CAS 100	Effective Speech	3
ENGL 15	Rhetoric and Composition	3
NURS 200W	Principles of Nursing Research and Evidence-Based Practice	3
NURS 225	Pathophysiology	3
NURS 230	Introduction to the Fundamentals of Nursing	4
NURS 250	Professional Role Dev I: Intro to Professional Issues in Nursing Practice and Nursing Informatics	2
NURS 251	Health Assessment	3
NURS 301	Nursing Care of the Adult Client Requiring Medical-Surgical Intervention	4
NURS 302	Clinical Judgement in Nursing	1
NURS 305	Introduction to Pharmacological Concepts	3
NURS 306	Nursing Care of Children and Adolescents	3
NURS 310	Therapeutic Nursing Care of the Older Adult Client in a Variety of Settings	3
NURS 320	Nursing Care of the Childbearing Family and Gynecological Client	3
NURS 350	Professional Role Development II: Ethics, Legal and Genetic Issues	2
NURS 405A	Nursing Care of the Adult Client with Complex Health Problems: Part A	4
NURS 405B	Nursing Care of the Adult Client with Complex Health Problems: Part B	4
NURS 415	Community and Family Health Nursing	4

NURS 420	Mental Health Nursing	4
NURS 450A	Professional Role Development III: Leadership and Management	2
NURS 450B	Professional Role Development III: Clinical Capstone	3
NURS 480	NCLEX Prep	2

Additional Courses

Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better

Select 3 credits from the following:		3
ENGL 202A	Effective Writing: Writing in the Social Sciences	
ENGL 202B	Effective Writing: Writing in the Humanities	
ENGL 202C	Effective Writing: Technical Writing	
ENGL 202D	Effective Writing: Business Writing	

R.N. to B.S.N. Option (61 credits)

Available at the following campuses: Abington, Fayette, New Kensington, Shenango, Schuylkill, University Park, World Campus

Students start and remain at the campus of admission for the entire program.

Code	Title	Credits
Prescribed Courses		
<i>Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
NURS 200W	Principles of Nursing Research and Evidence-Based Practice	3
NURS 225	Pathophysiology	3
NURS 230	Introduction to the Fundamentals of Nursing	4
NURS 250	Professional Role Dev I: Intro to Professional Issues in Nursing Practice and Nursing Informatics	2
NURS 301	Nursing Care of the Adult Client Requiring Medical-Surgical Intervention	4
NURS 305	Introduction to Pharmacological Concepts	3
NURS 306	Nursing Care of Children and Adolescents	3
NURS 310	Therapeutic Nursing Care of the Older Adult Client in a Variety of Settings	3
NURS 320	Nursing Care of the Childbearing Family and Gynecological Client	3
NURS 357	Introduction to Nursing Informatics	3
NURS 390	Transition and the Professional Nursing Role	3
NURS 405B	Nursing Care of the Adult Client with Complex Health Problems: Part B	4
NURS 417	Family and Community Health Concepts	4
NURS 420	Mental Health Nursing	4
NURS 465	Health Concepts for Adults with Complex Health Care Needs	3
NURS 475	Integrated Concepts in Nursing Practice	3

Additional Courses

Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better

NURS 251	Health Assessment ¹	3
or NURS 352	Advanced Health Assessment for the Registered Nurse	

Supporting Courses and Related Areas

Select 3 credits of NURS 400-Level and 3 credits of lower level (NURS XXX) Supporting Courses 6

¹ A grade of C or better per course is required for teacher certification.

Second Degree Option (60 credits)

Available at the following campuses: Altoona, Erie, Harrisburg

Students start and remain at the campus of admission for the entire program.

Due to restricted enrollment, the Nese College of Nursing assigns the semester in which students enroll in the following Prescribed Courses and all course prerequisites must be successfully completed.

Code	Title	Credits
Prescribed Courses		
<i>Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
NURS 200W	Principles of Nursing Research and Evidence-Based Practice	3
NURS 225	Pathophysiology	3
NURS 230	Introduction to the Fundamentals of Nursing	4
NURS 250	Professional Role Dev I: Intro to Professional Issues in Nursing Practice and Nursing Informatics	2
NURS 251	Health Assessment	3
NURS 301	Nursing Care of the Adult Client Requiring Medical-Surgical Intervention	4
NURS 302	Clinical Judgement in Nursing	1
NURS 305	Introduction to Pharmacological Concepts	3
NURS 306	Nursing Care of Children and Adolescents	3
NURS 310	Therapeutic Nursing Care of the Older Adult Client in a Variety of Settings	3
NURS 320	Nursing Care of the Childbearing Family and Gynecological Client	3
NURS 350	Professional Role Development II: Ethics, Legal and Genetic Issues	2
NURS 405A	Nursing Care of the Adult Client with Complex Health Problems: Part A	4
NURS 405B	Nursing Care of the Adult Client with Complex Health Problems: Part B	4
NURS 415	Community and Family Health Nursing	4
NURS 420	Mental Health Nursing	4
NURS 450A	Professional Role Development III: Leadership and Management	2
NURS 450B	Professional Role Development III: Clinical Capstone	3
NURS 480	NCLEX Prep	2
NURS 495	Nursing Study in Specialized Setting	3

General Education

Connecting career and curiosity, the General Education curriculum provides the opportunity for students to acquire transferable skills necessary to be successful in the future and to thrive while living in interconnected contexts. General Education aids students in developing intellectual curiosity, a strengthened ability to think, and a deeper sense of aesthetic appreciation. These are requirements for all baccalaureate students and are often partially incorporated into the requirements of a program. For additional information, see the General Education Requirements (<https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general->

education/baccalaureate-degree-general-education-program/) section of the Bulletin and consult your academic adviser.

The keystone symbol appears next to the title of any course that is designated as a General Education course. Program requirements may also satisfy General Education requirements and vary for each program.

Foundations (grade of C or better is required and Inter-Domain courses do not meet this requirement.)

- **Quantification (GQ):** 6 credits
- **Writing and Speaking (GWS):** 9 credits

Breadth in the Knowledge Domains (Inter-Domain courses do not meet this requirement.)

- **Arts (GA):** 3 credits
- **Health and Wellness (GHW):** 3 credits
- **Humanities (GH):** 3 credits
- **Social and Behavioral Sciences (GS):** 3 credits
- **Natural Sciences (GN):** 3 credits

Integrative Studies

- **Inter-Domain Courses (Inter-Domain):** 6 credits

Exploration

- **GN,** may be completed with Inter-Domain courses: 3 credits
- **GA, GH, GN, GS, Inter-Domain courses.** This may include 3 credits of World Language course work beyond the 12th credit level or the requirements for the student's degree program, whichever is higher: 6 credits

University Degree Requirements

First Year Engagement

All students enrolled in a college or the Division of Undergraduate Studies at University Park, and the World Campus are required to take 1 to 3 credits of the First-Year Seminar, as specified by their college First-Year Engagement Plan.

Other Penn State colleges and campuses may require the First-Year Seminar; colleges and campuses that do not require a First-Year Seminar provide students with a first-year engagement experience.

First-year baccalaureate students entering Penn State should consult their academic adviser for these requirements.

Cultures Requirement

6 credits are required and may satisfy other requirements

- United States Cultures: 3 credits
- International Cultures: 3 credits

Writing Across the Curriculum

3 credits required from the college of graduation and likely prescribed as part of major requirements.

Total Minimum Credits

A minimum of 120 degree credits must be earned for a baccalaureate degree. The requirements for some programs may exceed 120 credits. Students should consult with their college or department adviser for information on specific credit requirements.

Quality of Work

Candidates must complete the degree requirements for their major and earn at least a 2.00 grade-point average for all courses completed within their degree program.

Limitations on Source and Time for Credit Acquisition

The college dean or campus chancellor and program faculty may require up to 24 credits of course work in the major to be taken at the location or in the college or program where the degree is earned. Credit used toward degree programs may need to be earned from a particular source or within time constraints (see Senate Policy 83-80 (<https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/#83-80>)). For more information, check the Suggested Academic Plan for your intended program.