

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

R.N. TO B.S.N. OPTION CURRENTLY ON HOLD AND NOT ACCEPTING NEW STUDENTS AT SCHUYLKILL CAMPUS.

Begin Date of Enrollment Hold: January 30, 2024

OPTION AVAILABLE AT ALL OTHER LISTED CAMPUSES

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>).

Program Description

The Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing (B.S.N.) prepares professional practitioners in areas of health promotion and maintenance, illness care, and rehabilitation. The program has three options; two options (GNURS and SCND) prepare prelicensure students and one option (RNBSN) prepares post-licensure (RN) students. BSN majors will choose one of the three options.

After earning the BSN degree, prelicensure students are qualified to take the registered nurse examination for licensure (NCLEX) by the State Board of Nursing.

Graduates of BSN Program may qualify for admission to a graduate nursing program.

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

General Nursing Option (NURS GNURS)

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.

The General Nursing Option admits first year students directly to the major at seven Penn State campuses (University Park, Altoona, Erie, Fayette, Mont Alto, Schuylkill, or Scranton) for Summer or Fall entry. Non-nursing students may not transfer or change major into the 4-year nursing program at University Park; however, students may apply through a competitive Entrance to Major Review process at the six other campuses offering the General Nursing Program.

Nursing students start and remain at the campus of admission all four years. University Park students spend one full academic year at Penn State Hershey Medical Center campus, which requires students to reside at the location.

Clinical experiences occur at clinical facilities within approximately a 50-mile radius of campus.

All transportation and expenses related to clinical are the responsibility of the student. Students must carry professional liability insurance,

complete an annual health examination, criminal background (State and Federal) and child abuse history clearance and drug screening, maintain CPR certification, and adhere to any additional requirements of the clinical facilities. Students may need the use of a car.

RN to BSN Option (NURS RNBSN)

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.

The RN to BSN option admits registered nurse students directly to the major at seven Penn State campuses (Abington, Fayette, New Kensington, Shenango, Schuylkill, University Park and World Campus). The University Park site is a blended program, which includes resident instruction and online nursing courses. The World Campus site is completely online.

For the RN to BSN option, a minimum of 120 credits is required.

Senate legislation 42-97 Credit by Portfolio Assessment enables students to receive credit for certain prescribed nursing courses based on their R.N. licensure which go toward the required minimum of 120 credits.

All transportation and expenses related to clinical are the responsibility of the student. Clinical requirements may include CPR certification, professional liability insurance, health examination including required vaccinations, drug screening, criminal background check (State and Federal) and child abuse history clearances. Students may need the use of a car.

Second Degree Option (NURS SCND)

Available at the following campuses: Altoona, Erie, Harrisburg

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

The SCND degree option admits students who have successfully completed a bachelor's degree in another discipline to the Nursing major through a competitive Entrance to Major Review process. Students must have met all prerequisite course requirements.

The SCND degree option is available at Penn State Altoona, Penn State Erie, and Penn State Harrisburg.

This option admits students who have successfully completed a bachelor's degree in another discipline to the Nursing major through a competitive Entrance to Major Review process. Students must have met all prerequisite course requirements.

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

Clinical experiences occur at facilities within approximately a 50-mile radius of the campus.

All transportation and expenses related to clinical are the responsibility of the student. Students must carry professional liability insurance; complete an annual health examination, criminal background (State and Federal) and child abuse history clearance and drug screening; maintain CPR certification; and adhere to any additional requirements of the clinical facilities. Students may need the use of a car.

What is Nursing?

Nurses serve on the front lines of the health care industry. They work in emergency rooms, outpatient clinics, inpatient facilities, schools and private homes. As the cornerstone of the medical team, nurses assess and monitor patients' body systems, symptoms and vital signs; administer prescribed medications; and provide routine care, such as bathing, dressing, and wound care. Working closely with clients and their families, nurses are often the first to alert doctors of changes in the patient's medical condition.

However, nursing is a profession that requires more than book knowledge and medical skills. Nurses must also act as compassionate caregivers, supportive advocates and thorough educators to improve and preserve the health and quality of life of their patients. Nurses must be flexible, attentive and demonstrate strong critical thinking skills. They must be prepared to act quickly and competently in order to save lives.

A career in nursing opens many doors and allows nurses to shape their own unique career path. Some nurses choose to specialize in specific clinical areas such as pediatrics, mental health or critical care, while others move into case management, education, research, insurance or administrative roles. In this exciting field, every day is truly different, but each one is rewarding.

You Might Like This Program If...

Do you love people and want to make a difference by helping people during some of the best and most vulnerable times of their lives? If so, Nursing may be the major for you! You might like this major if you enjoy learning about the human body and how it functions and heals. Nurses must be flexible, patient, and have a strong work ethic. They work closely with clients and their families while providing respectful and compassionate healthcare. Nurses must be adaptable, quick on their feet and demonstrate good critical thinking and communication skills. Students pursuing this degree should strive to be leaders in the healthcare field and exhibit professionalism and ethical integrity.

Direct Admission to the Major

Incoming first-year students who meet the program admission requirements are admitted directly into the major. Admission restrictions may apply for change-of-major and/or change-of-campus students.

For more information about the admission process for this major, please send a request to the college, campus, or program contact (listed in the Contact tab).

MORE INFORMATION ON ADMISSIONS TO NURSING (<https://www.nursing.psu.edu/general-bsn-degree-program/>)

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Retention Requirements

Nursing students are expected to maintain high academic, ethical, and integrity standards. The Nursing Progression Policy delineates the standards required of students admitted to the General Bachelor

of Science in Nursing (GNURS) and the Second Degree Bachelor of Science in Nursing (SCND) pre-licensure (students without R.N. license) options of the undergraduate nursing program. Details of the Nursing Progression Policy are available in the student handbooks (<https://www.nursing.psu.edu/student-handbooks/>).

Academic Standards: Students who exceed the designated number of attempts will be dismissed from the nursing major.

- Two attempts of any prerequisite course
- One attempt of any two different required NURS course
- Two attempts of the same required NURS course

Ethical Standards: Violations of the Nursing Student Ethical Behavior policy which is based on the Nursing Code of Ethics may result in dismissal from the nursing major.

Academic Integrity Standards: Violations of Penn State Academic Integrity Policy G-9 (<https://undergrad.psu.edu/aappm/G-9-academic-integrity.html>) may result in dismissal from the nursing major.

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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
Additional Courses		
<i>Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
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		
<i>Requirements for the Option: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
Select an option		60-66

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.

Academic Advising

The objectives of the university's academic advising program are to help advisees identify and achieve their academic goals, to promote their intellectual discovery, and to encourage students to take advantage of both in-and out-of class educational opportunities in order that they become self-directed learners and decision makers.

Both advisers and advisees share responsibility for making the advising relationship succeed. By encouraging their advisees to become engaged in their education, to meet their educational goals, and to develop the habit of learning, advisers assume a significant educational role. The advisee's unit of enrollment will provide each advisee with a primary academic adviser, the information needed to plan the chosen program of study, and referrals to other specialized resources.

READ SENATE POLICY 32-00: ADVISING POLICY (<https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/32-00-advising-policy/>)

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Suggested Academic Plan

The suggested academic plan(s) listed on this page are the plan(s) that are in effect during the 2023-24 academic year. To access previous years' suggested academic plans, please visit the archive (<https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/archive/>) to view the appropriate Undergraduate Bulletin edition (*Note: the archive only contains suggested academic plans beginning with the 2018-19 edition of the Undergraduate Bulletin*).

General Nursing Option: Nursing, B.S.N. at University Park, Altoona, Erie, Fayette, Mont Alto, Schuylkill, and Scranton Campuses

The course series listed below provides **only one** of the many possible ways to move through this curriculum. The University may make changes in policies, procedures, educational offerings, and requirements at any time. This plan should be used in conjunction with your degree audit (accessible in LionPATH as either an **Academic Requirements** or **What If** report). Please consult with a Penn State academic adviser on a regular basis to develop and refine an academic plan that is appropriate for you.

First Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
BIOL 161 ^{*#† 1}	3 BIOL 163 ^{*#† 1}	3
BIOL 162 ^{*#† 1}	1 BIOL 164 ^{*†}	1
ENGL 15 or 30H [‡]	3 HDFS 129 ^{*†}	3
PSYCH 100 ^{*†}	3 NUTR 251 ^{*†}	3
NURS 100 (or other First Year Seminar - as required by campus) ²	1 General Education Course (GQ) ^{‡3}	3
General Education Course (GH)	3 CAS 100, CAS 100A, CAS 100B, or CAS 100C [‡]	3
General Education Course (GA)	3	
	17	16

Second Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
CHEM 130 or 110 and 111 ^{*3}	3-4 SOC 1 or 5 [*]	3
MICRB 106 ^{*†}	3 STAT 200 or 250 ^{*††}	3-4
MICRB 107 ^{*†}	1 NURS 225 [*]	3
NURS 250 [*]	2 NURS 230 [*]	4
NURS 251 [*]	3 Integrative Studies Interdomain Course	3
Elective	2-3	
	14-16	16-17

Third Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
NURS 305 [*]	3 NURS 200W [*]	3
NURS 301 [*]	4 NURS 302 [*]	1
NURS 310 [*]	3 NURS 306 [*]	3
NURS 350 [*]	2 NURS 320 [*]	3
Integrative Studies Interdomain Course	3 ENGL 202A, 202B, 202C, or 202D [‡]	3
	Elective	3
	15	16

Fourth Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
NURS 405A [*]	4 NURS 450B [*]	3
NURS 450A [*]	2 NURS 405B [*]	4
NURS 415 [*]	4 NURS 420 [*]	4
Elective	3 NURS 480 [*]	2
	NURS 400-level Supporting Course [*]	3
	13	16

Total Credits 123-126

* Course requires a grade of C or better for the major

‡ Course requires a grade of C or better for General Education

Course is an Entrance to Major requirement

† Course satisfies General Education and degree requirement

¹ BIOL 161, BIOL 162, and BIOL 163 are entrance to major courses for students not directly admitted to the Nursing program who are applying for admission to the Commonwealth Campus Nursing programs through the Review Process. BIOL 161, BIOL 162, and BIOL 163 must be passed with a quality grade of **C** or better to progress to 200-level Nursing courses.

² Alternative First Year Seminar courses can be petitioned to fulfill this requirement.

³ MATH 21 is a prerequisite for CHEM 130. MATH 22 is a prerequisite for CHEM 110. If a student places higher than MATH 21 on the ALEKS Assessment Exam, any GQ may be scheduled.

University Requirements and General Education Notes:

US and IL are abbreviations used to designate courses that satisfy Cultural Diversity Requirements (United States and International Cultures).

W, M, X, and Y are the suffixes at the end of a course number used to designate courses that satisfy University Writing Across the Curriculum requirement.

General Education includes Foundations (GWS and GQ), Knowledge Domains (GHW, GN, GA, GH, GS) and Integrative Studies (Inter-domain) requirements. N or Q (Honors) is the suffix at the end of a course number used to help identify an Inter-domain course, but the inter-domain attribute is used to fill audit requirements. Foundations courses (GWS and GQ) require a grade of 'C' or better.

All incoming Schreyer Honors College first-year students at University Park will take ENGL 137H/CAS 137H in the fall semester and ENGL 138T/CAS 138T in the spring semester. These courses carry the GWS designation and satisfy a portion of that General Education requirement. If the student's program prescribes GWS these courses will replace both ENGL 15/ENGL 30H and CAS 100A/CAS 100B/CAS 100C. Each course is 3 credits.

Program Notes:

- ACADEMIC PLAN OF STUDY: Each level of required nursing courses (200-level, 300-level and 400-level) must be completed PRIOR to progressing to the next level of required nursing courses (e.g. 200-level required nursing courses MUST be completed before progressing to 300-level required nursing courses; 300-level required nursing courses MUST be completed before progressing to 400-level required nursing courses).
- See Ross and Carol Nese College of Nursing Grading Scale and Academic Progression Policy in the BSN Handbook at <https://www.nursing.psu.edu/student-handbooks/>.
- Scheduling Patterns: NURS courses are offered only in the semester indicated, except NURS 415 and NURS 420 may be offered both Fall and Spring semesters at UP and Hershey.
- Students studying at University Park will spend third or fourth year at Hershey Medical Center.

RN to BSN Option: Nursing, B.S.N. at University Park, Abington, Fayette, New Kensington, Shenango, Schuylkill, and World Campuses Campuses

The course series listed below provides **only one** of the many possible ways to move through this curriculum. The University may make changes in policies, procedures, educational offerings, and requirements at any time. This plan should be used in conjunction with your degree audit (accessible in LionPATH as either an **Academic Requirements** or **What If** report). Please consult with a Penn State academic adviser on a regular basis to develop and refine an academic plan that is appropriate for you.

First Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
BIOL 161 ^{**†}	3 BIOL 163 ^{**†}	3
BIOL 162 ^{**†}	1 BIOL 164 ^{**†}	1
PSYCH 100 ^{**†}	3 HDFS 129 ^{**†}	3
ENGL 15 or 30H [‡]	3 NUTR 251 ^{**†}	3
General Education Course (GH) [†]	3 General Education Course (GQ) [‡] 1,2	3
General Education Course (GA) [†]	3 CAS 100, CAS 100A, CAS 100B, or CAS 100C [‡]	3
	16	16

Second Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
CHEM 130 or 110 <i>and</i> 111 ^{*2}	3-4 SOC 1 or 5 [*]	3
MICRB 106 ^{**†}	3 STAT 200 or 250 ^{**†}	3-4
MICRB 107 ^{**†}	1 NURS 251 or 352 [*]	3
NURS 390 ^{*3}	3 NURS Supporting Course [*]	3
NURS 357 [*]	3 Integrative Studies Interdomain Course	3
Elective	2-3	
	15-17	15-16

Third Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
NURS 417 [*]	4 NURS 200W [*]	3
Integrative Studies Interdomain Course	3 NURS 465 [*]	3
Elective	3 ENGL 202A, 202B, 202C, or 202D [‡]	3
	10	9

Fourth Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
NURS 475 ^{*4}	3 Portfolio Credits for RN License	33
NURS 400-level Supporting Course [*]	3	
	6	33

Total Credits 120-123

* Course requires a grade of C or better for the major

‡ Course requires a grade of C or better for General Education

Course is an Entrance to Major requirement

† Course satisfies General Education and degree requirement

- ¹ Within the 30 credits of required General Education Domain courses, students must take 6 credits of Integrative Studies courses (Inter-domain or Linked courses). Students should consult with their academic adviser to select appropriate courses.
- ² MATH 21 is a prerequisite for CHEM 130. MATH 22 is a prerequisite for CHEM 110. If a student places higher than MATH 21 on the ALEKS Assessment Exam, any GQ may be scheduled.
- ³ NURS 390 should be the first NURS course taken in the R.N. to B.S.N. option.
- ⁴ NURS 475 should be the final NURS course taken in the R.N. to B.S.N. option.

University Requirements and General Education Notes:

US and IL are abbreviations used to designate courses that satisfy Cultural Diversity Requirements (United States and International Cultures).

W, M, X, and Y are the suffixes at the end of a course number used to designate courses that satisfy University Writing Across the Curriculum requirement.

General Education includes Foundations (GWS and GQ), Knowledge Domains (GHW, GN, GA, GH, GS) and Integrative Studies (Inter-domain) requirements. N or Q (Honors) is the suffix at the end of a course number used to help identify an Inter-domain course, but the inter-domain attribute is used to fill audit requirements. Foundations courses (GWS and GQ) require a grade of 'C' or better.

All incoming Schreyer Honors College first-year students at University Park will take ENGL 137H/CAS 137H in the fall semester and ENGL 138T/CAS 138T in the spring semester. These courses carry the GWS designation and satisfy a portion of that General Education requirement. If the student's program prescribes GWS these courses will replace both ENGL 15/ENGL 30H and CAS 100A/CAS 100B/CAS 100C. Each course is 3 credits.

Program Notes:

- Typically, students entering NURN have the General Education and/or major requirements completed and will receive transfer credits. Speak with an adviser to have transfer transcripts evaluated.

Second Degree in Nursing Option: Nursing, B.S.N. at Altoona and Harrisburg Campuses

The course series listed below provides **only one** of the many possible ways to move through this curriculum. The University may make changes in policies, procedures, educational offerings, and requirements at any time. This plan should be used in conjunction with your degree audit (accessible in LionPATH as either an **Academic Requirements** or **What If** report). Please consult with a Penn State academic adviser on a regular basis to develop and refine an academic plan that is appropriate for you.

First Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits Summer	Credits
NURS 250*	2 NURS 350*	2 NURS 320*	3
NURS 225*	3 NURS 301*	4 NURS 306*	3
NURS 230*	4 NURS 310*	3 NURS 420*	4
NURS 305*	3 NURS 415*	4 NURS 405B*	4
NURS 251*	3 NURS 405A*	4	
	15	17	14

Second Year

Fall	Credits
NURS 302*	1
NURS 450A*	2
NURS 450B*	3
NURS 480*	2
NURS 495*	3
NURS 200W*	3
	14

Total Credits 60

- * Course requires a grade of C or better for the major
- ‡ Course requires a grade of C or better for General Education
- # Course is an Entrance to Major requirement
- † Course satisfies General Education and degree requirement

Additional Notes:

- See **Ross and Carol Nese College of Nursing Grading Scale** and **Academic Progression Policy** in the Second Degree BSN Handbook at <https://www.nursing.psu.edu/student-handbooks/>.
- All General Education and prerequisite courses are completed with first degree and prior to admission.
- The SCND curriculum is sequential and prescribed. All courses must be successfully completed with a grade of "C" or higher in order to progress to the next semester.
- **NURS 495 Nursing Study in Specialized Setting** : 3 credits required in place of 3 credits of general electives; clinical immersion practicum.

Career Paths

After earning a B.S.N. and successfully passing the NCLEX-RN licensing exam, Registered Nurses have the opportunity to enter into a stable and growing work force. Additionally, the Penn State B.S.N. degree creates a strong foundation for continuing into advanced nursing roles through a variety of graduate level nursing programs. The versatility of the B.S.N. degree provides graduates with the skills and background to pursue the career path that is right for them. Nurses have countless options to explore different specialties, advance into leadership roles, and continue

with lifelong learning while providing high quality nursing care to their clients.

Careers

Demand for nurses continues to rise. The B.S.N. degree in Nursing is rapidly becoming the degree of choice for many healthcare facilities, rendering baccalaureate-educated nurses highly marketable. Graduates of the baccalaureate nursing program have a vast array of rewarding employment opportunities. Employment settings include:

- Trauma centers and community hospitals caring for the critically ill or injured
- Home health agencies providing medical care to homebound clients
- Rehabilitation and long-term care facilities
- Hospice agencies caring for people with terminal illnesses
- Schools or pediatric/neonatal units working with children and newborns
- Military bases
- Insurance agencies evaluating patient claims and teaching classes to insurance agents
- Travel and cruise ship nursing

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT POTENTIAL CAREER OPTIONS FOR GRADUATES OF THE NURSING, B.S.N. PROGRAM (<https://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/registered-nurses.htm>)

Opportunities for Graduate Studies

A baccalaureate degree in nursing is typically required to pursue advanced degrees in nursing, which prepares the nurse for roles such as nurse educator, nurse practitioner, clinical nurse specialist, nurse midwife, nurse anesthetist, nurse administrator and nurse researcher. The Ross and Carol Nese College of Nursing at Penn State offers several advanced-degree options for B.S.N. educated nurses. On-campus options are available for nurses interested in research through the Ph.D. in Nursing or dual-title Ph.D. programs in Nursing & Bioethics or Nursing and Clinical & Translational Sciences (CTS). Several online options are offered to provide flexibility to working nurses across the country. These programs include M.S.N. degrees in Nurse Administration and Nurse Education and a Doctor of Nursing Practice (D.N.P.) degree with options in leadership and nurse practitioner including Family/ Individual Across the Lifespan, Adult Gerontology Primary Care, and Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT OPPORTUNITIES FOR GRADUATE STUDIES (<https://bulletins.psu.edu/graduate/programs/majors/nursing/>)

Professional Resources

- Student Nurses' Association of Pennsylvania (SNAPS) (<https://www.snap-online.org/>)
- National Student Nurses' Association (NSNA) (<https://www.nsna.org>)
- Sigma Theta Tau International (<https://www.sigmanursing.org>)
- Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing (<https://www.dos.pa.gov/ProfessionalLicensing/BoardsCommissions/Nursing/Pages/default.aspx#VTEYxCFVhBd>)
- National Council of State Boards of Nursing (<https://www.ncsbn.org>)

Accreditation

The Bachelor of Science in Nursing Programs are approved by the Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing and accredited by the:

Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE)
655 K Street, NW
Suite 750

Washington, DC 20001

202-887-6791 - Phone

202-887-8476 – Fax

<https://www.aacnnursing.org/ccne-accreditation> (<https://www.aacnnursing.org/ccne-accreditation/>)

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES OF NURSING (<https://www.aacnnursing.org/>)

Professional Licensure/Certification

Many U.S. states and territories require professional licensure/certification to be employed. If you plan to pursue employment in a licensed profession after completing this program, please visit the Professional Licensure/Certification Disclosures by State (<https://www.psu.edu/state-licensure-disclosures/>) interactive map.

Contact

Altoona

NURSING MAJOR

Sheetz Family Health Center 106

3000 Ivyside Park

Altoona, PA 16601

814-949-5114

skk6@psu.edu

<https://altoona.psu.edu/academics/bachelors-degrees/nursing/contact-information> (<https://altoona.psu.edu/academics/bachelors-degrees/nursing/contact-information/>)

Erie

NURSING MAJOR

1 Prischak

4205 College Drive

Erie, PA 16563

814-898-6105

behrend-science@psu.edu

<https://behrend.psu.edu/school-of-science> (<https://behrend.psu.edu/school-of-science/>)

Fayette

NURSING MAJOR

2201 University Drive

Lemont Furnace, PA 15456

724-430-4220

mbm12@psu.edu

<https://fayette.psu.edu/academics/baccalaureate/nursing> (<https://fayette.psu.edu/academics/baccalaureate/nursing/>)

Harrisburg

NURSING MAJOR

Olmsted Building W314

Middletown, PA 17057

717-948-6735

kqr1@psu.edu

<https://harrisburg.psu.edu/behavioral-sciences-education/nursing-bsn>
(<https://harrisburg.psu.edu/behavioral-sciences-education/nursing-bsn/>)

Mont Alto

NURSING MAJOR

104F Sci-Tech

Mont Alto, PA 17237

717-749-6205

cmb207@psu.edu

<https://montalto.psu.edu/directory/baccalaureate-nursing-program>
(<https://montalto.psu.edu/directory/baccalaureate-nursing-program/>)

Schuylkill

NURSING MAJOR

Classroom Building 101-E

Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972

570-385-6061

mta133@psu.edu

<https://schuylkill.psu.edu/academics/bacc-degrees/nursing> (<https://schuylkill.psu.edu/academics/bacc-degrees/nursing/>)

Scranton

NURSING MAJOR

4 Library Building

Dunmore, PA 18512

570-963-2656

jmm795@psu.edu

<https://scranton.psu.edu/academics/degrees/bachelors/nursing-degree>
(<https://scranton.psu.edu/academics/degrees/bachelors/nursing-degree/>)

University Park

STUDENT SUCCESS CENTER

UNDERGRADUATE ADVISING OFFICE

109 Nursing Sciences Building

University Park, PA 16802

814-863-2229

nursing@psu.edu

<https://www.nursing.psu.edu/academic-advising/>

World Campus

STUDENT SUCCESS CENTER

UNDERGRADUATE ADVISING OFFICE

109 Nursing Sciences Building

University Park, PA 16802

814-863-2229

nursing@psu.edu

<https://www.worldcampus.psu.edu/degrees-and-certificates/penn-state-online-rn-to-bsn-nursing-bachelor-of-science-degree> (<https://www.worldcampus.psu.edu/degrees-and-certificates/penn-state-online-rn-to-bsn-nursing-bachelor-of-science-degree/>)