Nursing

School of Nursing

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Overview

The programs leading to the bachelor’s of science (BS) in nursing prepare students to become professional registered nurses (RN), working in a variety of healthcare settings, meeting the diverse needs of individuals and families across the life span and among all community groups. Both programs are designed for individuals who feel challenged by the complex and ever-changing health needs of society, and who desire to respond to these needs.

The curriculum emphasizes holistic, culturally relevant, evidence based care related to wellness, health promotion, illness, injury and disease prevention, disease management and end of life care across the life span. Upper division courses prepare graduates with the knowledge and skills required to provide comprehensive nursing care for acute and chronic health problems in various clinical practice settings based on concepts of professionalism and professional values, basic organizational and systems leadership for patient safety and quality care, scholarship for evidence-based practice, application of patient care technology and information management, health care policy, finance and regulatory environments, and inter-professional communication and collaboration for improving patient health outcomes.

Graduates of these baccalaureate programs base their practice on theories, critical-thinking, and research findings from nursing science as well as other disciplines, such as biological and behavioral sciences.

About our Degrees

The UB School of Nursing offers two programs in order to obtain the Bachelor of Science (BS) in nursing.

Basic Nursing Program. This program provides the curriculum required for a freshman or transfer student who is pursuing a nursing degree for the first time.

Accelerated Nursing Program (ABS). The accelerated second-degree option offers the undergraduate nursing curriculum as an intensive, full-time, 12 month program designed for students who have already completed a bachelor's degree in a field outside of nursing.

Acceptance Criteria

Admission is competitive and granted on a space available basis.

Basic BS Nursing Program

UB and Transfer Student Admission
All applicants must apply to both UB and the School of Nursing. The University application and transcripts are due by February 1, while School of Nursing applications are due by February 28.

Successful completion of most nursing prerequisites, which must include anatomy and physiology, and the ability to complete all prerequisites by the following fall semester. Applicants must obtain grades of "C" or better in all prerequisite courses and have at least a 3.0 overall GPA to apply.

Accelerated Nursing Program (ABS)
Separate applications must be completed for the University at Buffalo and the School of Nursing by October 1.

All applicants must possess at least an earned bachelor's degree, and must have completed at least four prerequisites at the time of application as well as the ability to complete all prerequisite courses before the summer start date with a minimum 3.0 overall and prerequisite GPAs.

About our Courses

The typical class size for:
Nursing

Freshman/introductory courses is: 200
Sophomore/intermediate courses is: 100
Upper level/advanced courses is: 120 (8 in clinical)

In the School of Nursing, what do teaching assistants (TAs) do?

TAs are licensed registered nurses, pursuing graduate degrees, who assist with clinical and classroom instruction.

Suggested Introductory Courses for Basic Program

- ANA 113 Anatomy
- NUR 250 Human Growth and Development
- PGY 300 Human Physiology
- PSY 101 Introductory Psychology

Colleges that have good feeder programs for this department include:

- Alfred State College
- Erie Community College
- Genesee Community College
- Jamestown Community College
- Monroe Community College
- Niagara County Community College
- Trocaire College

For course descriptions, please see Courses.

About our Faculty

The faculty in the undergraduate program are expert practitioners of nursing, all having advanced preparation in their fields of specialization. Many have achieved national and international recognition. Faculty are actively engaged in research, making significant contributions to nursing science and theory. Among the honors that have been awarded to faculty members include the Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching, membership in the American Academy of Nursing, and election to office in the American Nurses Association and Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing. Many faculty have the distinction of holding certification as expert clinical practitioners awarded by professional associations that promote and recognize only the highest standards of nursing excellence.

See a list of our Undergraduate Faculty.

About our Facilities

A fully equipped health assessment lab, nursing skills, and simulation lab.

School of Nursing Simulation technology which features state-of-the-art patient simulators in a virtual operating room that is connected to patient monitors, and one utilized to simulate ambulatory and acute nursing situations.

The Center for Nursing Research (CNR), which houses a research library and is a repository for information on internal and external sources of funding, including guidelines and application forms. The CNR also facilitates research experiences for undergraduate and Honors College Students.

A wide range of educational technology to which students have access, including a wide variety of health-care databases, computer assisted instruction, and electronic mail.

Transfer Policy

Prerequisite courses may be transferred from other accredited institutions if they are deemed equivalent. Students should consult with their School of Nursing advisor to determine equivalency.
Nursing

Extracurricular Activities
Nursing

Nursing Student Organization (NSO)

The purpose of the NSO is to aid in the preparation of nursing students for assumption of professional responsibilities at the school and community level. To accomplish this, students actively participate in School of Nursing and university governance, as well as committee work.

Multicultural Nursing Student Association (MNSA)

MNSA serves the entire School of Nursing with opportunities for diverse students to come together in service, social, educational, and community activities.

Sigma Theta Tau

The Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing chapter encourages and recognizes superior scholarship and/or leadership achievement in nursing. The organization has a commitment to increase the scientific base in nursing practice and thereby improve the health of the public.

Community Service Program

Student organizations and selected courses are typically involved in extensive community service projects.

For more information about the above activities, please see Nursing Organizations.

See the UB Student Association.

Practical Experience and Special Academic Opportunities

Undergraduate Research and Practical Experience

Clinical experience in health-care agencies is part of the curriculum for all nursing students. In a final preceptorship, faculty strive to arrange a clinical site according to individual student professional goals within Western New York.

Independent Study
Faculty may sponsor students interested in completing an independent study.

Honors, Awards and Scholarships

Special scholarships are offered to nursing students and contingent upon the availability of funds. The Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo also supports scholarships for Erie County residents.

Career Information and Further Study

Skills gained in this program:

- Advocacy
- Assessment
- Documentation
- Interpersonal
- Leadership
- Management
- Research
- Supervisory
- Teaching

Career Choices

- Clinical specialist
- Critical care nurse
- Director of nursing
- Emergency room nurse
- Flight nurse
- Forensic nurse
- General duty nurse
- Geriatric care nurse
- Head nurse
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- Holistic nurse
- Home health care nurse
- Integrated care deliverer
- Intensive care nurse
- Medical editor/writer
- Medical surgical nurse
- Military officer
- Nurse anesthetist
- Nurse consultant
- Nurse educator
- Nurse midwife
- Nurse practitioner
- Occupational nurse
- Operating room nurse
- Parish nurse
- Pharmacology/medical sales
- Private duty nurse
- Professor
- Public health nurse
- Rehabilitation nurse
- Researcher
- School nurse
- Women's health nurse

Work settings include:

Staff nursing and Specialty Unit nursing in various hospitals, community centers, doctor's offices, nursing homes, patient's homes, schools, private practice, and agencies in Western New York and throughout the country.

What percentage of graduates goes on to find related employment?

95%

Salary Information

As of May 2009, the mean salary for registered professional nurses in the Buffalo-Niagara region was $61,360 (Bureau of Labor Statistics).

What percentage of graduates goes on to graduate school?

35-45%

Additional Resources

- American Nurses Association
- Johnson and Johnson
- Nurses for a Healthier Tomorrow
- National Student Nurses' Association
- Honor Society of Nursing/Sigma Theta Tau International
- American Association of Colleges of Nursing

Degree Options

Basic Nursing Program:
Contact Alisha Taggart-Powell at ataggart@buffalo.edu.

Accelerated Bachelor of Science (ABS) Program:
Contact nursing@buffalo.edu.

Degrees Offered

Undergraduate: Basic and Accelerated (ABS)
Graduate: Advanced Certificate (Nursing Education), DNP Adult Clinical Nurse Specialist, DNP Nurse Practitioner, MS Nurse Anesthetist, Post-MS DNP Nurse Practitioner, PhD
Acceptance Criteria

Admission is competitive and granted on a space available basis.

All applicants must apply to both UB and the School of Nursing. The University application and transcripts are due by February 1, while School of Nursing applications are due by February 28.

Successful candidates will present a strong academic record. Applicants must have completed most of the prerequisites, including anatomy and physiology, at the time of application and be able to complete all remaining prerequisites by the following fall semester. A minimum grade of "C" is required in all prerequisite courses as well as at least a 3.0 overall GPA to be eligible for admission.

To remain in the major, students are required to maintain good academic standing within UB and the School of Nursing by maintaining at least a 3.0 overall GPA.

Prerequisite Courses

ANA 113 Human Anatomy (4)
PMY 302 Introduction to Pharmacology (4)
Chemistry (if not already taken in high school; official transcript required) (4-5)
MIC Fundamentals of Microbiology (4)
NTR 108 Human Nutrition (3)
NUR 250 Human Growth and Development (3)
PGY 300 Human Physiology (4)
PGY 412 Applied Physiology (2)
PHI 337 Social and Ethical Values in Medicine (3)
PSY 101 Introductory Psychology (3)
SOC 101 Introduction to Sociology (3) or UGC 211 American Pluralism and the Search for Equality or Cognates
PSY 207 Psychological Statistics or STA 119 Statistical Methods (4)

Applicants with a previous non-nursing bachelor's degree from a U.S. institution or international equivalent and a minimum overall GPA of 3.0 will be waived from the following prerequisites: PHI 337 Social and Ethical Values in Medicine (3), PSY 101 Introductory Psychology (3), and SOC 101 Introduction to Sociology (3) or UGC 211 American Pluralism and the Search for Equality (or Cognates) (3)

Required Courses

NUR 370 Nursing as a Profession (3)
NUR 309 Health Assessment (4)
NUR 371 Basic Nursing Therapeutics (4)
NUR 373 Basic Nursing Therapeutics Practicum (2)
NUR 311 Family Nursing (2)
NUR 372 Health Promotion Across the Lifespan (1)
NUR 348 Evidence-Based Practice and Nursing Research (3)
NUR 374 Nursing Care of Women and Children (5)
NUR 375 Nursing Care of Women and Children Practicum (4)
NUR 376 Principles of Nursing Leadership (1)
NUR 378 Health Promotion and Disease Prevention within Populations (2)
NUR 393 Informatics and the Health Care Environment (3)
NUR 410 Public Health Nursing for Population Health (2)
NUR 447 Advanced Clinical Nursing (3)
NUR 470 Health Maintenance and Restoration (4)
NUR 474 Health Maintenance and Restoration Practicum (4)
NUR 472 Promoting Quality Health Outcomes and Culture of Safety (2)
NUR 475 Nursing Management in Complex Situations (2)
NUR 478 Concepts of Complex Acute Care (3)
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NUR 471 Concepts of Complex Acute Care Practicum (4)
NUR 479 Senior Synthesis Seminar (1)

Summary
Total required credit hours for the major: 100-101

See Baccalaureate Degree Requirements for general education and remaining university requirements.

Recommended Sequence of Program Requirements

(Assumes high school chemistry has been completed)

FIRST YEAR
Fall ANA 113, PSY 101
Spring NTR 108, NUR 250, PGY 300, CHE 101

SECOND YEAR
Fall PMY 302; SOC 101 or UGC 211; PSY 207 or STA 119
Spring MIC 301, PGY 412, PHI 337

THIRD YEAR
Fall NUR 309, NUR 311, NUR 370, NUR 371, NUR 372, NUR 373
Spring NUR 393 (or 348), NUR 374, NUR 375, NUR 376, NUR 378

FOURTH YEAR
Fall NUR 348 (or 393), NUR 410, NUR 470, NUR 474, NUR 472
Spring 1 (first 12 weeks) NUR 447, NUR 475, NUR 478, NUR 481, NUR 479
Spring 2 (last 3 weeks) NUR 447

Accelerated Bachelor Of Science (ABS) Program For Second-Degree Students - B.S.

Acceptance Criteria
Admission is highly competitive and granted on a space available basis.

All applicants must apply to both UB and the School of Nursing. UB application and transcripts are due by September 15, while School of Nursing applications are due by October 1.

All applicants must possess at least an earned bachelor's degree outside of nursing.

Students must have completed at least four prerequisites at the time of application and show the ability to complete all remaining prerequisite courses before the summer start date, with a minimum 3.0 overall and prerequisite GPAs.

Advising Notes
Academic advisement for students applying to the ABS program is provided by the School of Nursing.

Equivalent transfer courses may be approved by the School of Nursing.

Minimum requirements must be met for admission into the accelerated program; however, it is expected that successful applicants will exceed these criteria.

Prerequisite Courses

ANA 113 Human Anatomy (4)
PMY 302 Introduction to Pharmacology (4)
Chemistry (if not already taken in high school; official transcript required) (4-5)
MIC 301 Fundamentals of Microbiology (4)
NTR 108 Human Nutrition (3)
NUR 250 Human Growth and Development (3)
PGY 412 Applied Physiology (2)
PGY 300 Human Physiology (4)
PSY 207 Psychological Statistics or STA 119 Statistical Methods (4)

Recommended Prerequisite Courses
### PHI 337 Social and Ethical Values in Medicine (3)

#### Required Courses

- **NUR 309** Health Assessment: Concepts and Skills (4)
- **NUR 310** Assessment of Families and Communities (3)
- **NUR 370** Nursing as a Profession (3)
- **NUR 373** Basic Nursing Therapeutics (3)
- **NUR 374** Primary Care with Families across the Lifespan (5)
- **NUR 374L** Nursing Therapeutics in Primary Care (3)
- **NUR 440** Critical Elements in Nursing Leadership (4)
- **NUR 447** Advanced Clinical Nursing (3)
- **NUR 470** Health Maintenance and Restoration (4)
- **NUR 470L** Nursing Therapeutics in Health Maintenance and Restoration (4)
- **NUR 471** Clinical Seminar: Health Maintenance and Restoration (1)
- **NUR 478** Concepts of Complex Acute Care (3)
- **NUR 478L** Nursing Therapeutics in Complex Acute Care (4)
- **NUR 511** Health Care Systems, Policy and Ethics (3)*
- **NUR 512** Research Methods for the Practice Professions (4)*
- **NUR 518** Health Promotion and Risk Reduction (2)*

#### Summary

Total required credit hours for the major: 91-97*

*37-43 are required to apply; 9-12 are graduate level

See [Baccalaureate Degree Requirements](#) for general education and remaining university requirements.

#### Recommended Sequence of Program Requirements

Once students begin the ABS nursing sequence, all must progress through the program together as a "cohort" or learning community.

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<td>Spring 2 (last 3 weeks)</td>
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*Graduate level credit

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**NUR 250: Human Growth and Development**

- **Credits:** 3
- **Semester(s):** Fall, Spring
- **Type:** LEC/REC

Examines selected physiological and psychosocial factors that influence and characterize human growth and development throughout the life span. Includes lecture/discussion and class participation activities.

**NUR 309: Health Assessment: Concepts and Skills**

- **Credits:** 4
- **Semester(s):** Fall, Summer
- **Type:** LEC/LAB/REC

Prepares students to perform a health assessment on an adult and child. Emphasizes a systematic and comprehensive health assessment as a database for identifying nursing diagnoses. Highlights developmental aspects, sociocultural influences, health-illness perceptions, normal variations of health-status findings, and documentation throughout the course. Students become familiar with the use of assessment instruments through practice in a supervised on-campus laboratory. Must be taken in program sequence.

**NUR 310: Family Nursing**

- **Credits:** 3
- **Semester(s):** Fall, Spring
- **Type:** LEC

This course focuses on family and group dynamics. The application of the nursing process to promote holistic family health across the lifespan is addressed. Situational and contextual issues that impact family and group functioning are explored. Key issues related to crisis intervention with families and groups and the family's presence during critical experiences of health care are discussed. The imperative need for ongoing research on caring for families and groups by nurses is identified.
NUR 348: Evidence Based Practice and Nursing Research

Credits: 3
Semester(s): Fall, Spring
Type: LEC

Foundations for evidence-based practice in nursing. Specific elements of evidence-based practice include formulating the clinical question, conducting a search strategy, critically appraising the evidence, and implementation of evidence in the clinical environment. Basic concepts of the research process will form the foundation for assessing the quality of evidence. Explores the relationship between evidence-based findings and nursing practice to achieve favorable and cost-containing client outcomes. Must be taken in program sequence.

NUR 368: Research in Human Sexuality

Credits: 3
Semester(s): Fall, Spring
Type: LEC

Elective open to non-nursing students. Focuses on current research on human sexual behavior, including physiological response during sexual activity, early development of sexual attitudes, varieties of sexual relationships, and social/moral issues related to sexual attitudes.

NUR 370: Nursing As a Profession

Credits: 3
Semester(s): Fall
Type: LEC

Explores the evolution, current status, characteristics, and future directions of professional nursing and analyses the foundations of modern nursing. Discusses relationships between historical events and evolving nursing science, theory, and practice. Information seeking methodologies are analyzed with emphasis placed on critical thinking as an approach to making professional decisions. Highlights concepts related to critical thinking, development and critique of persuasive arguments, current issues in nursing, and small group communication. Must be taken in program sequence.

NUR 371: Basic Nursing Therapeutics

Credits: 3
Semester(s): Fall, Spring
Type: LEC

Foundational nursing course; enables students to begin developing an understanding of the professional nursing role. Core nursing concepts, (caring, compassion, wellness, health promotion, disease prevention, therapeutic use of self) are integrated as the student learns about the complex nature of providing nursing care of individuals and their families. Must be taken in program sequence. NUR 372 must be taken concurrently.

NUR 372: Health Promotion

Credits: 3
Semester(s): Fall, Spring
Type: LEC

Introduces the concepts of health promotion as a framework for nursing practice within the healthcare delivery system. Provides the opportunity to examine and implement health promotion programs on the individual and community level. Must be taken in program sequence.

NUR 373: Basic Nursing Therapeutics Practicum

Credits: 3
Semester(s): Fall
Type: LAB

This is a basic nursing therapeutics practicum course which provides laboratory, simulation and clinical practicum opportunities to provide holistic, patient centered care using the nursing process and evidenced based practice concepts. The students will begin to develop and acquire clinical reasoning skills as they learn to provide nursing care to assist individuals and families in achieving optimal health. Students begin to organize and manage nursing care to achieve safe and quality health outcomes.

NUR 374: Primary Care With Families Across the Life Span

Credits: 5
Semester(s): Spring, Summer
Type: LAB

Describes the characteristics of primary health care and its delivery. Examines the nurse's role in delivery of primary health/community-based services focusing on health promotion, disease prevention, and management of episodic illness. Addresses health risks of age groups across the life span within the context of family, culture, and socioeconomic level. Healthy People Goals and other national initiatives provide direction for developing strategies. Must be taken in program sequence. NUR 374 L must be taken concurrently.

NUR 376: Principles of Nursing Leadership

Credits: 1
Semester(s): Spring
Type: LEC

Focuses on leadership skills common to clinical, managerial, and professional situations in nursing. Includes content on motivation, decision-making strategies, change theory, situational leadership, power, and conflict management. Must be taken in program sequence.

NUR 440: Critical Elements in Nursing Leadership

Credits: 4
Semester(s): Spring
Type: LEC

Emphasizes concepts characteristic of baccalaureate nursing education: critical thinking, communication, leadership, and management. Integrates leadership and management skills, organizational structure and behavior, case management for at-risk populations, personnel performance appraisal, quality management, planned change, teaching principles, learning, delegating, and health care informatics. Must be taken in program sequence.
NUR 447: Advanced Clinical Nursing

Credits: 3  
Semester(s): Spring  
Type: LAB

Clinical course that provides students opportunities to pursue, independently and in depth, a specific nursing area of particular interest. Expects ongoing student, faculty, and preceptor collaboration. Students participate in selecting the site for clinical experience. Must be taken in program sequence.

NUR 470: Health Maintenance and Restoration

Credits: 4  
Semester(s): Fall  
Pre-requisites: NUR 374 and NUR 375  
Co-requisites: Student must register for NUR 474LAB and NUR 470LEC in the same term  
Type: LEC

Covers goals of health maintenance and restoration for individuals with acute and chronic illness. Presents major physical and mental illnesses and disabilities across the life span through exemplar case studies that deal with nursing interventions related to functional health, homeostatic regulation, protection against harm, and psychological function. Also examines effective use of the health-care system. Must be taken in program sequence. NUR 470 L must be taken concurrently.

NUR 471: Clinical Seminar: Health Maintenance and Restoration

Credits: 1  
Semester(s): Fall  
Type: SEM

Studies clinical situations encountered in NUR 470L Nursing Therapeutics in Health Maintenance and Restoration. Students share clinical reports and raise critical questions regarding practice issues, and propose and evaluate responses. Issues focus on direct care, health-system concerns, and professional interactions at both the client and system levels. Must be taken in program sequence.

NUR 472: Promoting Quality Health Outcomes and Culture of Safety

Credits: 1  
Semester(s): Fall  
Type: LEC

Examines nursing management skills and behaviors with applicability in a wide variety of client-care settings. Emphasizes organizational structure and behavior, applying information management and case-management techniques to the management of care for groups of clients, and applying principles of delegation, supervision, and personnel evaluation to management of care provided by others. Must be taken in program sequence.

NUR 475: Nursing Management in Complex Situations

Credits: 2  
Semester(s): Spring  
Pre-requisites: NUR 472 or NUR 436  
Type: LEC

Focuses on specific responsibilities of the nurse manager, including information management, human resource management, fiscal management, quality management, and management of change. Students apply critical thinking, decision-making, and leadership skills to studying these areas of responsibility. Must be taken in program sequence.

NUR 478: Concepts of Complex Acute Care

Credits: 3  
Semester(s): Spring  
Type: LEC

Reviews knowledge and skills required to care for patients throughout their life spans who have complex, life-threatening health problems, including trauma, problems with oxygenation, disruptions of the nervous system, and disruption of the immune system. Emphasizes assessment skills and nursing interventions to restore physiological and psychological stability. Must be taken in program sequence.

NUR 479: Clinical Seminar: Complex Acute Care

Credits: 1  
Semester(s): Spring  
Type: SEM

Content derived from clinical situations encountered in NUR 478L Nursing Therapeutics in Complex Acute Care. Students share clinical reports and raise critical questions regarding practice issues and propose and evaluate responses. Issues focus on direct care, health-system concerns, and professional interactions at both the client and system levels. Must be taken in program sequence.

NUR 495: Supervised Teaching

Credits: 1 - 3  
Type: TUT

The content of this course is variable and therefore it is repeatable for credit. The University Grade Repeat Policy does not apply.

Outstanding undergraduate students can enrich their education and gain personal recognition through participation in a supervised teaching experience with a Nursing faculty member. In concert with the faculty member, student teachers will have an opportunity to develop their leadership, management, teaching, technology, and presentation skills in a course previously completed.

NUR 496: Issues in Clinical Practice

Credits: 1  
Type: TUT

Accompanies a summer clinical experience in which students provide patient care at a health-care agency in the Buffalo area. Focus of discussions is on issues that arise out of patient care and the clinical setting such as communication, clinical skills, interactions with colleagues, and documentation of care that is provided. Must be taken in program sequence.

NUR 497: Nursing Honors Research
Nursing

Credits: 3
Semester(s): Fall, Spring
Type: TUT

The content of this course is variable and therefore it is repeatable for credit. The University Grade Repeat Policy does not apply.

Students accepted into the School of Nursing Honors Research program must complete this course twice, during both semesters of the senior year. It will provide an opportunity for outstanding undergraduate nursing students to enrich their education and gain personal recognition through participation in the scholarly work of a research faculty member. In concert with a faculty member, the student will conduct a research project that culminates into a senior thesis of publication quality.

NUR 499: Independent Study

Credits: 1 - 4
Semester(s): Fall, Spring, Summer
Type: TUT

The content of this course is variable and therefore it is repeatable for credit. The University Grade Repeat Policy does not apply.

Supplements regular offerings of the department. Students must secure the instructor's permission before registering for an independent study.