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# COLLEGE OF NURSING

Janet M. Brown, Ph.D., Dean

Professors Brown, T. Kessler, Pepa; Associate Professors Mauk, Schmidt; Lecturers Alverson, Ehrman; Adjunct Assistant Professors Brandy, Cory, Koch, Kurtz, Lemley, Zentz.

The College offers a four year curriculum leading to the Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree.

The College also admits transfer students and registered nurses who want to earn a baccalaureate degree. Registered nurses, accelerated, and transfer students may complete the requirements for the Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree in less than four years.

RN students enrolled in the RN-MSN option may complete the BSN and MSN degree in less than three years. Acceptable transfer credit hours from another college or university and credit by examination may be applied toward required and elective credit hours. The transitional course, NUR 275, is required for registered nurses. The BSN, accelerated BSN, RN-BSN, and RN-MSN plans of study are in Valparaiso University's Academic Guide.

**Mission.** The College prepares critically inquiring, competent professional nurses who embrace truth and learning and who respect Christian values while promoting health for persons in dynamic health care environments.

**Purpose and Objectives.** The purpose of the College of Nursing is to prepare beginning and advanced professionals of nursing and to provide an educational base for graduate study based on professional standards. The BSN graduate will:

1. Enter the profession as a critically inquiring competent professional nurse who uses the processes of critical thinking, communication, change, and lifelong learning.
2. Engage in the role components of provider of care, teacher, manager, and research consumer wherever persons live, work, play, and/or worship.
3. Appreciate how the environmental influences of culture, economics, ethics, law, politics, and technology impact a person's health.
4. Promote the health of persons in dynamic health care environments using primary, secondary, and tertiary prevention strategies.

In accordance with the philosophy of Valparaiso University, the faculty of the College believes its responsibility is to foster intellectual, emotional and spiritual growth of the student as an educated person and as a competent professional nurse. The curriculum, therefore, includes a wide variety of foundation courses in the natural and social sciences and the liberal arts as well as courses related to the principles and practice of nursing. Permeating the curriculum is cultivation of the spirit of the University's Christian tradition in the student's quest for excellence in all areas of personal and professional life.

**Graduation Requirements.** In order to realize its objectives, the College holds the students to the following requirements:

**A. Nursing.** A minimum of 63 credit hours in nursing. Courses in which the student is required to earn a grade of C (2.0) or better are:

NUR 201 Professional Role in Nursing	3 Cr.
NUR 203 Health Assessment	3 Cr.
NUR 210 Therapeutic Interventions for the Professional Nurse	4 Cr.
NUR 212 Introduction to Community-Based Nursing and Health Promotion	3 Cr.
NUR 318 Global Health Issues	3 Cr.
NUR 325 Nursing Care of the Childbearing Family	5 Cr.
NUR 341 Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing	5 Cr.
NUR 351 The Aging Process	3 Cr.
NUR 354 Nursing Care of Adults I	5 Cr.
NUR 356 Nursing Care of Adults II	5 Cr.
NUR 415 Introduction to Nursing Research	3 Cr.
NUR 425 Nursing Care of the Childrearing Family	5 Cr.
NUR 458 Complex Health Care Needs of Adults	4 Cr.
NUR 460 Public Health Nursing	5 Cr.
NUR 470 Management and Leadership Strategies for the Professional Nurse	3 Cr.
NUR 480 Professional Role Practicum	5 Cr.
Total	64 Cr.

**B. Arts and Sciences.** A minimum of 51 credit hours from the College of Arts and Sciences is required. Courses in which the student is required to earn a grade of C (2.0) or better are marked with an asterisk\*. The specific requirements are:

CORE 110 The Human Experience I	5 Cr.
CORE 115 The Human Experience II	5 Cr.
THEO 100 The Christian Tradition	3 Cr.
THEO Upper Level Course	3 Cr.
PE 100 Healthy Lifestyles	1 Cr.
Humanities Elective	3 Cr.
CHEM 111, 121, or 131 General Chemistry*	4 Cr.
BIO 151 and 152 Human Biology*	8 Cr.

BIO 210 Microbiology*	4 Cr.
BIO 260 Human Nutrition*	3 Cr.
PSY 110 General Psychology*	3 Cr.
PSY 201 Statistical Methods*	3 Cr.
PSY 330 Child and Adolescent Development*	3 Cr.
Total	48 Cr.

**C. Electives.** In addition to meeting the requirements in Nursing and Arts and Sciences listed previously, the student must present for graduation a sufficient number of electives to bring the total number of credit hours to 124. No more than 6 credits may be baccalaureate nursing credits.

**Note:** No more than four credit hours in applied music, including ensemble, and no more than four credit hours of PE 101-149 may be applied toward a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree.

**D. Requirements for Admission to the College of Nursing.** Freshman students who have declared nursing as a major will be admitted directly into the nursing program.

The minimum criteria for admission into the Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing option is a cumulative 3.0 grade point average in previous college course work, completion of all science prerequisite courses, and a minimum of 60 transfer credits.

Associate degree and diploma graduates are eligible for admission to the RN-BSN degree option if they are licensed as a registered nurse in Indiana. Registered nurses are eligible for admission to the RN-MSN option if they have a 3.0 grade point average in at least 51 credits of prerequisite course work.

**E. Progression.** Students are required to present annually, beginning in NUR 203, evidence of a recent (within the year) physical examination, current immunization (rubeola and HBV included), rubella titer, Mantoux test, current CPR certification or recertification, and a criminal background check. The College of Nursing does not make arrangements for meeting these requirements.

Students must maintain a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.50 in all course work and 2.50 in the required nursing courses in the nursing major to remain in the College of Nursing. Students must earn a grade of C (2.0) or better in courses designated in sections A and B (\*) of Graduation Requirements.

Dismissal from the College of Nursing occurs when a student earns a grade of less than 2.0 in any two of the following courses: required courses with a nursing number, BIO 151, BIO 152, BIO 210, and CHEM 111. No nursing course may be repeated more than once.

All nursing students are required to take a series of evaluative achievement tests throughout their nursing coursework. The fee is currently \$380 payable when registered for NUR 201, but is subject to change.

**Minor.** A nursing student may declare a minor in another college provided that no more than six credit hours of courses required for the nursing major are used in fulfilling requirements of the minor. The minor is noted on the student's academic record.

**Course Intensification.** A College of Nursing student may propose a special project for earning one extra credit in one nursing course in which they are enrolled in a given semester. College of Nursing students may use only 6 credit of nursing courses toward the required 12 elective credits for the Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree.

The following regulations pertain to this option for a student:

1. Student must have a nursing gpa of 2.7 or above.
2. The course must be offered in the College of Nursing for 3 or more credits.
3. Student must meet with the academic advisor to determine if course intensification is appropriate. The initiative and responsibility for developing a satisfactory proposal lie with the student.
4. Student must obtain the advisor's signature on the Petition to Intensify a Course.
5. Student must submit a one-page proposal for the intensification project and the Petition to the instructor of the course for approval.
6. Student must submit the approved proposal for the intensification project and the Petition to the Dean for approval.

**Student Nurses Association.** All student nurses are invited to join the Student Nurses Association.

**Sigma Theta Tau International.** Students who have completed at least one-

half of the required nursing courses and who have demonstrated superior scholastic achievement and evidence of professional leadership potential may be elected to membership in this international honor society of nursing. The Zeta Epsilon Chapter was installed at Valparaiso University in 1982.

**Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE).** The College of Nursing is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, One Dupont Circle, NW, Suite 530, Washington, DC, 20036-1120; phone 202.887.6791; <[www.aacn.nche.edu](http://www.aacn.nche.edu)>.

**Note:** Students are responsible for transportation to and from all clinical and community agencies and for transportation associated with home visits. The College of Nursing uses a variety of accredited health facilities to provide broad clinical experience for students; consequently, access to a car is necessary in most clinical courses.

**Note:** Prerequisites for the following courses are at least sophomore standing, completion of BIO 151, BIO 152, and CHEM 111, and a cumulative grade point average of 2.50 or above.

**NUR 201. Professional Role in Nursing.**

Cr. 3. An overview of professional nursing practice, analyzing the concepts of person, health, nursing, and environment. Explores the expanding role of the professional nurse including provider of care, teacher, manager, and research consumer. Students develop communication skills used in professional nursing.

**NUR 203. Health Assessment.**

2+1, Cr. 3. Clinical practice in assessment skills of persons across the life-span. Emphasis is placed on those communication and psychomotor techniques that are fundamental for an organized and comprehensive health assessment relating to the nursing process.

**NUR 210. Therapeutic Interventions for the Professional Nurse.**

2+2, Cr. 4. An introduction to the concepts and principles of therapeutic and pharmacological interventions applied by the professional nurse in a dynamic health care environment. Prerequisites: NUR 201 and 203.

**NUR 212. Introduction to Community-Based Nursing and Health Promotion.**

2.5+1.5, Cr. 3. Focuses on health promotion and the influence of diversity among persons living within the United States. This course is open to

all university students with a sophomore standing or above and could be of benefit to students considering careers in theology, psychology, church work, social work, medicine, occupational or physical therapies. A service learning component is included that will provide experiences in interfaith community-based health promotion activities. This course may be used to fulfill the U.S. Diversity component of the General Education Requirements.

**NUR 275. Transition to Professional Nursing.**

Cr. 4. Concepts relevant to professional nursing are discussed and applied. Explores the expanding role of the professional nurse including provider of care, teacher, manager, and research consumer while emphasizing the process of communication, critical thinking, change, and lifelong learning. Prerequisite: RN licensure in Indiana.

**Note:** Prerequisites for the following courses are NUR 201, 203, 210, and 212, BIO 210 and a cumulative and nursing grade point average of 2.5 or above.

**NUR 318. Global Health Issues.**

Cr. 3. Provides the student with the opportunity to explore economic, social, ethical, legal, cultural, political, and technological issues in health care from a global perspective. The course will include a comparative analysis of selected health care delivery systems from around the world. This course is open to all university students with sophomore standing or above. May be used to fulfill the Cultural Diversity course component of the General Education requirements.

**NUR 322. Women and Their Health.**

Cr. 3. A study of women's health with a scope beyond childbearing and childrearing that promotes a comprehensive view of the health care needs of women. Health concerns of women are examined both within the medical model and a self-help framework. Emphasis is placed on the promotion and support of women's involvement in decision making and responsibilities for their health. No prerequisites. Open to all students. May be used for the Gender Studies Minor.

**NUR 325. Nursing Care of the Childbearing Family.**

3+2, Cr. 5. The study and practice of professional nursing with a focus on childbearing women, families, and newborns at all levels of prevention. Emphasis is placed on a family-centered approach in community settings.

**NUR 341. Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing.**

3+2, Cr. 5. The application of psychiatric mental health nursing principles in the care of persons who have been impacted by psychiatric

disturbances. Using psychobiological and behavioral theories and therapeutic communication skills, emphasis is placed on the promotion of optimal mental health functioning for individuals, families, and communities.

**NUR 351/551. The Aging Process.**

Cr. 3. An introduction to the theories and various dimensions of aging. Normal biological aging and health issues facing the elderly will be explored. Attitudes and expectations about aging will be discussed. Service learning activities will promote a holistic understanding of the aging process. This course is open to all university students, sophomore standing and above is recommended. Includes a service learning component.

**NUR 354. Nursing Care of Adults I.**

3+2, Cr. 5. Concentrates on the development of professional nursing practice with adults experiencing acute and chronic changes in health. Emphasis is placed on meeting the health needs of these adults and their families in a variety of environments at all levels of prevention.

**NUR 356. Nursing Care of Adults II.**

3+2, Cr. 5. A continuation of Nursing Care of Adults I. Concentrates on the development of professional nursing practice with adults experiencing acute and chronic changes in health. Emphasis is placed on meeting the health needs of these adults and their families in a variety of environments at all levels of prevention. Prerequisite: NUR 354.

**NUR 381. Cooperative Education in Nursing.**

Cr. 1-3. Application of the concepts of professional nursing in a health care setting. Requires satisfactory work performance for a preselected employer and submission of a final project. Prerequisite: NUR 210 and approval of the Dean. May be taken on S/U basis.

**NUR 390/490. Topics in Nursing and Health Care.**

Cr. 1-3. An open topic course which may cover specialized areas of nursing, current concepts, nursing concerns of delivery of health services. The course may be taken more than once for a maximum of six credit hours provided there is not duplication of topics. Prerequisites: determined by the instructor. Selected topics offered to non-nursing majors. May be taken on the SU grade basis.

**NUR 395/495. Independent Study in Nursing.**

Cr. 1-6. Independent study of a selected topic. Prerequisite: determined by the instructor. May be taken on S/U basis. Prerequisite: approval of the Dean of the College.

**Note:** Prerequisites for the following courses are NUR 325, 341, 354, 356 (or 275) and a cumulative and nursing grade point average of 2.5 or above.

**NUR 415. Introduction to Nursing Research.**

Cr. 3. An overview of scientific research as applied to nursing and the role of the professional nurse as a research consumer. The course includes the study of the research process and implications of findings for evidenced-based nursing practice. Prerequisite: PSY 201 or equivalent.

**NUR 418/518. Integrative Medicine: A Global Perspective.**

Cr. 3. Students explore approaches to healing and health used by various world cultures and considered alternative to traditional Western medicine. Emphasis is placed on the philosophical, theological, and cultural foundations of these healing strategies. Research and health policy issues associated with these approaches are also discussed. Prerequisite: sophomore standing. Open to all students. May be used to fulfill the Cultural Diversity course component of the General Education requirements.

**NUR 425. Nursing Care of the Childrearing Family.**

3+2, Cr. 5. The study and practice of professional nursing care of children in a variety of settings. Using a family-centered approach, students engage with children and their families at all levels of prevention. Prerequisite: PSY 201 or equivalent.

**NUR 452/552. Introduction to Case Management.**

Cr. 3. An introduction to case management in health care. Content includes the role of the case manager, models of case management, the case management process, standards of practice, and outcome management. A field experience with a case manager in an acute care setting is required (8 hours). Prerequisite: senior standing.

**NUR 454/554. Integrating Case Management into Practice.**

Cr. 3. A study of the knowledge and skills necessary to implement the case manager role along the continuum of care. Community resources, the assessment of client support

systems, reimbursement systems, cost analysis, networking knowledge, legislative and policy issues, and certification requirements are addressed. A field experience with a case manager in a non-acute care setting is required (8 hours). Prerequisite: NUR 452.

**NUR 458. Complex Health Care Needs of Adults.**

2.5+1.5, Cr. 4. This course focuses on the application of professional nursing interventions necessary to care for adults experiencing complex health needs. Emphasis is placed on meeting the multiple requisites of these adults and their families in rehabilitation and critical care settings.

**NUR 460. Public Health Nursing.**

3.5+1.5, Cr. 5. Focuses on the roles of the community health nurse in providing care at all levels of prevention to individuals, families, and aggregates at home and in other community settings. Emphasis is placed on the synthesis of knowledge in nursing, public health, humanities, and sciences as students apply the nursing process to promote and preserve the health of a community and its members. Students will have the opportunity to explore the role of the community health nurse as a member of an interdisciplinary health care team.

**NUR 470. Management and Leadership Strategies for the Professional Nurse.**

Cr. 3. An overview of management and leadership theories as applied by professional nurses in health care environments. Organizational, fiscal, and marketing concepts relevant to health care delivery are explored. Synthesis of the role components of the professional nurse and strategies for managing a career are emphasized.

**NUR 480. Professional Role Practicum.**

1+4, Cr. 5. A course which facilitates the transition from student to beginning professional nurse. Within a clinical setting, students integrate knowledge from nursing and the arts and sciences to assist persons to achieve health. Only offered on S/U basis. All degree requirements must be met prior to beginning clinical practicum experience. Spring corequisite: NUR 458 and NUR 460; Summer corequisite: NUR 470.