Bachelor of Science in Nursing, BSN

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

The Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) prelicensure program of study requires a minimum of 123 s.h., including 63 s.h. in the nursing major and 60 s.h. in supporting coursework that is a prerequisite to the nursing major. The degree program is intended for students pursuing a career in nursing. All students must maintain a cumulative grade-point average (GPA) of at least 2.50 to earn the nursing degree.

BSN students may complete their entire program at Iowa, enrolling in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to complete courses that are prerequisites to the nursing major, or they may transfer from an institution that offers comparable prerequisite courses that are approved by the University of Iowa and the College of Nursing. University of Iowa students who have declared an interest in the prelicensure nursing program are advised at the university's Academic Advising Center until they are admitted to the College of Nursing. They must earn standard admission to the College of Nursing once they have completed the prerequisite coursework, which they have five semesters to complete. They begin work for the nursing major in the spring of their third year and complete the major in four semesters, earning the BSN degree.

Highly qualified applicants may be admitted to the College of Nursing directly under the BSN direct admission program; visit Admission [p.] in this section of the catalog. Students who are part of the BSN direct admission program spend their first four semesters (two years) on prerequisite coursework and complete the requirements for the nursing major during the next four semesters (their third and fourth years), earning the BSN in a total of four academic years.

Nursing courses are based on concepts of health, deviations from health, and nursing intervention. Coursework progresses in complexity across the curriculum. The curriculum reflects the current trend in health care delivery toward an emphasis on nursing as a service provided both inside and outside hospitals. Students have access to clinical experiences selected from a multitude of agencies in Iowa and around the country. After admission to the College of Nursing, each student is assigned a professional advisor in the college's Felton Student Success Center.

The following coursework is required for BSN students.

Requirements	Hours
General Education Prerequisites	13
Natural Science Prerequisites	20
Social Science Prerequisites	9-10
Other Prerequisites	18
Courses Required for the Major	63

The BSN prelicensure program requires the following coursework. Students must complete the prerequisite coursework before beginning the work required for the major in nursing.

Prerequisite Courses

All of the following prerequisites must be completed prior to enrolling in the nursing major courses. Any high school deficiencies must also be completed or satisfied with collegiate coursework. Students work with their academic advisor to ensure these requirements are complete.

General Education Prerequisites

Course #	Title	Hours
All of these:		
RHET:1030	Rhetoric: Writing and Communication	4
International and Global Issues course		3
Interpreting Literature or Literary, Visual, and Performing Arts course		3
Values and Society or Understanding Cultural Perspectives course		3

Natural Science Prerequisites

Course #	Title	Hours
This course:		
HHP:2310	Nutrition and Health	3
One of these:		
BIOL:1141	Human Biology: Health Professions	4
BIOL:1411 & BIOL:1412	Foundations of Biology and Diversity of Form and Function	8
One of these:		
CHEM:1080	General Chemistry II	3
CHEM:1120	Principles of Chemistry II	4
One of these:		
ACB:3110	Principles of Human Anatomy	3
HHP:2100	Human Anatomy	3
HHP:3105	Anatomy for Human Physiology	3
HHP:3115	Anatomy for Human Physiology With Lab	5
One of these:		
HHP:2400	Fundamentals of Human Physiology	3
HHP:3500	Human Physiology	3
HHP:3550	Human Physiology With Laboratory	5
One of these:		
MICR:3164	Microbiology and Human Health	4
MICR:2157 & MICR:2158	General Microbiology and General Microbiology Laboratory	5

Social Science Prerequisites

Course #	Title	Hours
Both of these:		
NURS:1030	Human Development and Behavior	3
PSY:1001	Elementary Psychology	3
And one of these:		
SOC:1010	Introduction to Sociology	3-4
SOC:1030	Contemporary Social Problems	3-4

Other Prerequisites

Direct admission students typically complete NURS:1020 First-Year Seminar (1 s.h.) as part of their 8 s.h. in elective coursework.

Course #	Title	Hours
All of these:		
NURS:3111	Caring for Vulnerable Populations	3
NURS:3518	Pathology	3
WRIT:1650	Essentials of Writing: Nursing	1
Electives		8
And one of these:		
STAT:1020/ PSQF:1020	Elementary Statistics and Inference	3
STAT:1030	Statistics for Business	4
STAT:2010	Statistical Methods and Computing	3
STAT:2020	Probability and Statistics for the Engineering and Physical Sciences	3
STAT:3510/ IGPI:3510	Biostatistics	3
STAT:4143/ PSQF:4143	Introduction to Statistical Methods	3
BIOS:4120	Introduction to Biostatistics	3

Courses Required for the Major

Course #	Title	Hours
All of these:		
NURS:3220	Health Assessment Across the Lifespan: BSN	3
NURS:3221	Health Assessment Across the Lifespan Lab: BSN	1
NURS:3310	Fundamentals of Nursing: BSN	2
NURS:3313	Fundamentals of Nursing Practicum and Lab: BSN	2
NURS:3410	Mental Health Nursing: BSN	3
NURS:3415	Mental Health Nursing Practicum: BSN	2
NURS:3480	Professionalism in Nursing: BSN	3
NURS:3610	Nursing Care of Adults and Pharmacology I: BSN	4
NURS:3613	Nursing Care of Adults Practicum I: BSN	3
NURS:3710	Population Health Essentials for Nursing Practice: BSN	2
NURS:3810	Gerontological Nursing: BSN	3
NURS:3815	Gerontological Nursing Practicum: BSN	2
NURS:3880	Quality, Safety, and Informatics in Health Systems: BSN	3
NURS:4010	Nursing Care of Adults and Pharmacology II: BSN	4
NURS:4015	Nursing Care of Adults Practicum II: BSN	2
NURS:4110	Pediatric Nursing: BSN	2
NURS:4310	Maternal Newborn Nursing: BSN	2
NURS:4315	Pediatric and Maternal Newborn Practicum: BSN	3
NURS:4480	Research and Improving Nursing Practice: BSN	3
NURS:4610	Population Health Care Management and Planning: BSN	3
NURS:4615	Population Health Practicum: BSN	2
NURS:4710	Pathways to Practice: BSN	1
NURS:4715	Senior Nursing Internship: BSN	5
NURS:4880	Leadership and Professional Identity: BSN	3
Total Hours		**63**

Visit BSN–Plans of Study and Prerequisite Information on the College of Nursing website for semester-by-semester study plans for direct and standard admission students. Sample plans represent one way to complete a program of study. Actual course selection will vary and should be discussed with an academic advisor.

Honors in Nursing

The College of Nursing Honors Program provides seminars and independent study experience for qualified students in nursing major courses. In order to pursue honors studies in nursing, students must maintain a University of Iowa GPA and a nursing major GPA of at least 3.50.

The honors program in nursing enables students to explore subject matter based on individual interests, needs, and goals. It provides opportunities for self-initiative, research experience, scholarly writing, and intellectual and personal development, and it challenges students to grow and excel. Students who fulfill the requirements of the program graduate with honors in nursing.

In addition to honors in their majors, prelicensure BSN students have a variety of opportunities for honors study and activities through membership in the University of Iowa Honors Program; visit Honors at Iowa to learn about the university's honors program.