

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 128 s.h., including 64 s.h. in the nursing major and 64 s.h. in supporting coursework that is a prerequisite to the nursing major. The program is intended for students beginning their education in nursing. All students must earn a grade-point average (GPA) of at least 2.00 to earn the 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. Students who earn standard admission to the College of Nursing have five semesters to complete prerequisite coursework. 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; see 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	23
Social Science Prerequisites	9-10
Other Prerequisites	19
Courses Required for the Major	64

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 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
	Literary, Visual, and Performing Arts course	3
	Values and Society or Understanding Cultural Perspectives course	3

Natural Science Prerequisites

Course #	Title	Hours
All of these:		
ACB:3110	Principles of Human Anatomy	3
BIOL:1141	Human Biology: Health Professions	4
CHEM:1070	General Chemistry I	3
CHEM:1080	General Chemistry II	3
HHP:2310	Nutrition and Health	3
HHP:2400	Fundamentals of Human Physiology	3
MICR:3164	Microbiology and Human Health	4

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

Course #	Title	Hours
All of these:		
NURS:3111	Caring for Vulnerable Populations	3
STAT:1020/ PSQF:1020	Elementary Statistics and Inference	3
	Electives	13

Courses Required for the Major

Direct and standard admission students complete the following courses for the major in nursing.

Course #	Title	Hours
All of these:		
NURS:3128	Health Assessment and Communication Across the Lifespan	3
NURS:3138	Nursing and Pharmacological Interventions I	5
NURS:3151	Introduction to Clinical Concepts for Nursing	2
NURS:3160	Professional Role I: Professionalism and Patient Safety	3
NURS:3438	Nursing and Pharmacological Interventions II	5
NURS:3451	Basic Clinical Concepts for Nursing	1
NURS:3460	Professional Role II: Research	3
NURS:3518	Pathology	3
NURS:3615	Adult Medical/Surgical Nursing Practicum	3
NURS:3620	Gerontological Nursing	3
NURS:3625	Gerontological Nursing Practicum	2
NURS:3631	Nursing Care of Children and Families	2
NURS:3632	Nursing Care of Childbearing Families	2
NURS:3635	Parent Child Nursing Practicum	2
NURS:3640	Psychiatric/Mental Health Nursing	3
NURS:3645	Mental Health Nursing Practicum	2
NURS:3650	Community and Public Health Nursing	3
NURS:3651	Advanced Clinical Concepts for Nursing	1
NURS:3655	Community and Public Health Nursing Practicum	2
NURS:3660	Professional Role III: Improving Health Systems	3
NURS:4155	Nursing Internship	5
NURS:4160	Professional Role IV: Leadership and Professional Engagement	3
Electives		3
Total Hours		64

See 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.

Honors in Nursing

The College of Nursing Honors Program provides seminars and independent study experience for qualified students. 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.