Department of Nursing

Dr. Julie T. Sanford, Department Head

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Professors
M. deValpine, M. Eaton, P. Hale, L. Hulton, M. Mast, J. Sanford

Associate Professors

Assistant Professors

Instructors

Lecturer
H. Taylor

Mission
We engage students, faculty and communities through dynamic and innovative nursing education, practice and scholarship to influence health in our world.

Purposes
In order to support and accomplish this mission the nursing faculty has identified the following purposes:

- Prepare nursing professionals who provide culturally competent, holistic, evidence-based nursing care to individuals, families, aggregates and communities in a wide variety of settings.
- Promote a community of learning that models professional values and lifelong professional development for both faculty and students.
- Promote service-learning activities that include collaborative, cross disciplinary initiatives and partnerships between nursing education and the practice arena to meet the future health needs of consumers.
- Conduct research and creative scholarship to generate nursing knowledge and disseminate that knowledge through collaboration, publication and presentations.

Career Opportunities and Marketable Skills

- Preparation as a professional nurse leading to a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (B.S.N.) degree.
- Eligibility to take the National Certification and Licensure (NCLEX) exam to become a registered nurse (R.N.).
- Preparation for entry-level positions in a wide range of health care settings.
- Upon completion of the R.N. – B.S.N. program of study, students may be eligible for leadership positions in a wide range of health care settings.
- Preparation for graduate study in nursing.

Co-curricular Activities and Organizations

- JMU Chapter of the Virginia Nursing Student Association
- Pi Mu At-Large Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International Nursing Honor Society
- B.S.N. Student Advisory Council

Accreditation
The JMU nursing program is approved by the Virginia Board of Nursing. The baccalaureate and master’s programs at James Madison University are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, One Dupont Circle, NW, Suite 530, Washington, DC 20036, (202) 887-6791.

Program Options
The Department of Nursing offers two program options. The generic B.S.N. program is designed to prepare undergraduate students to practice at the baccalaureate level of professional nursing. The R.N. to B.S.N. program provides flexible learning opportunities at the baccalaureate level for students who are graduates of community college or diploma schools and are licensed registered nurses (R.N.).

Special Admission and Retention Requirements

Generic B.S.N. Program
Admission to the nursing program is limited and competitive. Each semester 90 students are enrolled in junior level nursing courses. All students, including transfer students, must complete the B.S.N. Admission application following admission to the university. B.S.N. admission applications are available on the nursing department website.
A completed B.S.N. admission application must be received by December 1 to be considered for the following fall semester and by July 1 to be considered for admission for the spring semester of the following year. Students not admitted to the program must reapply to be considered in the applicant pool for the following admission cycle.

To be considered for admission to the nursing major, students must:

- Be currently enrolled as a JMU student as a declared nursing major.
- Have earned a minimum JMU cumulative GPA of 3.00 as verified by the academic record (Admission is competitive, based on cumulative GPA and nursing prerequisite course grades and limited to a set number of qualified students).
- Have completed and/or enrolled in 36 academic credits at the time of application.
- Complete the following nursing prerequisite courses (or approved equivalents) with a grade of “C-” or higher: CHEM 120, MATH 220, PSYC 160, NUTR 280, BIO 270, BIO 280 or BIO 290 by the end of the fall semester of the sophomore year (to be considered for the following fall) or by the end of spring semester (to be considered for the following spring).

In order to begin the nursing program, at time of entry to the first full semester, students must:

- Have completed all required nursing prerequisite courses (CHEM 120, MATH 220, PSYC 160, NUTR 280, BIO 270, BIO 280, and BIO 290).
- Have completed JMU General Education requirements.
- Maintain a GPA of at least 3.00 or higher.
- Meet the department’s technical standards.

Admission criteria are available online. Students must meet the department’s technical standards for nursing practice. Technical standards are basic physical, cognitive and psychosocial skills and abilities that are required for nursing practice. The technical standards are posted on the nursing website.

The nursing curriculum is designed as a full time program. The undergraduate program director must approve any deviation from the full time enrollment pattern as outlined in the catalog. Once fully admitted to the program, the student must earn a minimum grade of “C-” or “Pass” in each required nursing course to remain in good standing in the nursing program. A grade of “D”, “F” or “Fail” is considered a failure. A student who for the first time receives a failure in a nursing course may, with department approval, repeat the course. A student who receives a failure in a second nursing course will not be permitted to continue in the program.

Other academic and related policies in effect for students in the nursing program are outlined on the department website.

R.N. to B.S.N. Program

The R.N. to B.S.N. program provides flexible online learning opportunity for students who are graduates of community college or diploma schools and are licensed registered nurses (R.N.). Classes are offered online to allow students to maintain employment while completing the B.S.N. degree. The program provides a foundation for professional practice and will equip students for further opportunities afforded through graduate study and advance practice.

JMU will award nurses up to 37 portfolio credits for their prior learning and work experience, as well as 40 transfer credits toward the General Education requirements for a B.S.N.

Thirteen additional general education credits will be required but may be taken concurrently at a local community college and transferred to JMU for credit. Students will complete 30 credits in the R.N. to B.S.N. program in three semesters of full time study or five semesters of part-time study, thus completing a total of 120 semester hours for the baccalaureate degree. Nurses can apply for admission to the R.N. to B.S.N. program once all prerequisite courses have been completed and this has been documented through an academic transcript submission/review process. Additional program eligibility criteria include:

- Associate Degree or Diploma in Nursing from an accredited college/university.
- Completion of the General Education courses required for the Bachelor of Science. May be taken concurrently with nursing course work but must be completed prior to graduation.
- Cumulative GPA of 2.5 or better on a 4-point scale.
- TOEFL scores greater than 570 for international applicants.
- Completion of all prerequisite courses with a grade of “C-” or better.
- Current unrestricted R.N. license in any state, Washington, D.C., or a U.S. possession or territory or an equivalent credential in another country.
- Employment as an R.N. for a minimum of four months and/or plans to practice concurrently with course work.
- Graduates of foreign nursing schools, who are licensed outside of the United States, are required to pass the Qualifying Exam of the Commission on Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools (CGFNS) prior to application and include the exam report with their application materials.
- Ability to meet the department’s technical standards for nursing practice (posted on the nursing website).
- Interested applicants must complete the transcript review process prior to submitting an application. The R.N./B.S.N. program admissions coordinator can be contacted to begin the transcript review process.

Admission to the program is contingent on admission to the university. An electronic application is sent to the applicant for completion once the official transcript review mentioned above is completed satisfactorily.

Once fully admitted to the program, the student must earn a minimum grade of “C-” or “Pass” in each required nursing course to remain in good standing in the nursing program. A grade of “D”, “F” or “Fail” is considered a failure. A student who for the first time receives a failure in a nursing course may, with department approval, repeat the course. A student who receives a failure in a second nursing course will not be permitted to continue in the program.
Degree and Major Requirements
Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Generic B.S.N. Degree Requirements

Required courses | Credit Hours
---|---
General Education, prerequisite and elective courses | 59
Nursing courses (including nursing electives) | 61

Total | 120

1 The General Education program contains a set of requirements each student must fulfill. The number of credit hours necessary to fulfill these requirements may vary.

General Education and Nursing Prerequisite Requirements

The following are course prerequisites required for the Nursing major. Courses must be completed with "C-" or higher.

Prerequisites | Credit Hours
---|---
PSYC 160. Life Span Human Development | 3
CHEM 120. Concepts of Chemistry | 3
MATH 220. Elementary Statistics | 3
BIO 290. Human Anatomy | 4
BIO 270. Physiology | 4
BIO 280. Allied Health Microbiology | 4
NUTR 280. Nutrition for Wellness | 3

Total | 24

1 Contained in General Education Cluster Three.
2 Contained in General Education Cluster Five.

Required Courses | Credit Hours
---|---
NSG 350. Foundations of Nursing | 2
NSG 351. Health Assessment | 3
NSG 352. Clinical Applications and Reasoning in Nursing Care I | 4
NSG 352L. Clinical Applications and Reasoning in Nursing Care I Clinical | 2
NSG 353. Pathophysiology & Pharmacology | 4
NSG 354. The Art and Science of Nursing | 2
NSG 355. Women’s Health | 3
NSG 355L. Women’s Health Clinical | 1
NSG 356. Clinical Applications & Reasoning in Nursing Care II | 4
NSG 356L. Clinical Applications & Reasoning in Nursing Care II Clinical | 2
NSG 357. Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing | 3
NSG 357L. Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing Clinical | 1
NSG 450. Nursing Research | 3
NSG 451. Child Health Care | 3
NSG 451L. Child Health Care Clinical | 1
NSG 452. Clinical Applications and Reasoning in Nursing Care III | 4
NSG 452L. Clinical Applications and Reasoning in Nursing Care III Lab | 1
NSG 453. Population-Centered Care in the Community | 2
NSG 453L. Population-Centered Care in the Community Clinical | 2
NSG 454. Transition to Practice | 3
NSG 454L. Transition to Practice Clinical | 2
NSG 455. Nursing Informatics | 2
NSG 456. Capstone | 5
Nursing Electives | 1

Total | 61

Cluster One normally is completed during the first year. General Education courses in clusters two, three, four and five can be scheduled flexibly as desired by the student across the first and second years.

Most students can complete general education and prerequisite courses in four semesters, but some students find it necessary to enroll in summer school or an additional year to complete the work satisfactorily.

Major Requirements

Additional information regarding the nursing curriculum can be found on the nursing website.

Junior/Senior Year

First Semester | Credit Hours
---|---
NSG 350. Foundations of Nursing | 2
NSG 351. Health Assessment | 3
NSG 352. Clinical Applications and Reasoning in Nursing Care I | 4
NSG 352L. Clinical Applications and Reasoning in Nursing Care I Clinical | 2
NSG 353. Pathophysiology & Pharmacology | 4

Total | 15

Second Semester | Credit Hours
---|---
NSG 354. The Art & Science of Nursing | 2
NSG 355. Women’s Health | 3
NSG 355L. Women’s Health Clinical | 1
NSG 356. Clinical Applications & Reasoning in Nursing Care II | 4
NSG 356L. Clinical Applications & Reasoning in Nursing Care II Clinical | 2
NSG 357. Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing | 3
NSG 357L. Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing Clinical | 1

Total | 16

Third Semester | Credit Hours
---|---
NSG 450. Nursing Research | 3
NSG 451. Child Health Care | 3
NSG 451L. Child Health Care Clinical | 1
NSG 452. Clinical Applications & Reasoning in Nursing Care III | 4
NSG 452L. Clinical Applications & Reasoning in Nursing Care III Lab | 1
NSG 453. Population-Centered Care in the Community | 2
NSG 453L. Population-Centered Care in the Community Clinical | 2

Total | 16

Fourth Semester | Credit Hours
---|---
NSG 454. Transition to Practice | 3
NSG 454L. Transition to Practice Clinical | 2
NSG 455. Informatics | 2
NSG 456. Capstone | 5
Elective Nursing Credits | 1

Total | 14

1 Can be taken prior to Fourth Semester

Students can seek fall or spring admission to the program. Students must complete 36 credit hours before they will be considered for admission to the program.
R.N. to B.S.N. Degree Requirements

Required courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required courses</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Education courses</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cluster Two, Arts and Humanities</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cluster Four, The American Experience</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nursing courses</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portfolio Credit given for R.N. qualifications (up to)</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Credit for Associate Degree and prerequisites</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

120

1 General Education (at JMU or as VCCS equivalents) and nursing prerequisite requirements.
2 Prerequisite courses (include the following JMU or VCCS equivalents) WRTC 100, WRTC 193, BIO 270 & 290, PSYC 101, PHI 270, SOC 101, BIO 280 or CHMB 120.

Major Requirements

Additional information regarding the nursing curriculum can be found on the nursing department website.

Full-Time Sequence of Classes

First Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall Semester</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NSG 324. RN/BSN Strategies for Success</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NSG 325. Concepts in Aging</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NSG 333. Health Assessment</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NSG 462. Issues in Contemporary Nursing Practice</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NSG 463. Professional Role Transition</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
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Spring Semester

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NSG 460. Informatics</td>
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<tr>
<td>NSG 461. Pathophysiology &amp; Pharmacology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NSG 464. Introduction to Nursing Research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NSG 471. Leadership and Management in Healthcare</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
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</table>

Summer Session

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NSG 466. Community Health Practicum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NSG 469. Caring for the Public’s Health: Community Health Nursing</td>
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<td>5</td>
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</table>

Second year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall Semester</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NSG 325. Concepts in Aging</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NSG 463. Professional Role Transition</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Spring Semester

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NSG 460. Healthcare Informatics</td>
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<td>NSG 471. Leadership and Management in Healthcare</td>
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Part-Time Sequence of Classes

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<tr>
<td>NSG 462. Issues in Contemporary Nursing Practice</td>
<td>3</td>
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Spring Semester

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Special Expenses

A differential tuition of $90 per credit hour is added to the standard charge for courses carrying the NSG prefix. This charge applies to all students, both in-state and out-of-state, at the undergraduate and graduate levels, with exception of students enrolled in the R.N. to B.S.N. program.