PROFESSIONAL NURSING CURRICULUM FOUR-YEAR TRACK, BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

The Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) Program prepares graduates to assume entry-level positions in a variety of health care settings. The program is divided into two components; a lower-division focused on meeting course pre-requisites, and an upper-division focused on the clinical and didactic portions of the nursing curriculum. Required pre-nursing courses provide a broad background in general education and form the foundation for the professional nursing component of the program. Courses taken in the last two years of the program provide the theoretical and practical basis for nursing practice in an increasingly complex health care system.

In addition to focusing on the essentials of nursing in the hospital, the curriculum also emphasizes community based and primary care. Opportunities to provide care to diverse clients are provided. Use of technology is integrated throughout the program.

The program prepares graduates for professional positions immediately after graduation and provides a firm foundation for graduate study. Students who earn the Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree are eligible to sit for the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN).

Code	Title	Hours
General Education Courses (https://academic-catalog.uscupstate.edu/academic-programs/general-education-courses/) [1,2]		
I. Communication		
English:		
ENGL U101	Introduction to College Writing	3
ENGL U102	Rhetoric and Writing	3
Speech:		
SPCH U201	Foundations in Oral Communication	3
II. Mathematics, Logic & Natural Sciences		
Mathematics:		
Select one of the following:		3
MATH U120	College Mathematics	
MATH U121	College Algebra	
MATH U126	Precalculus I	
MATH U127	Precalculus II	
MATH U141	Calculus I	
Natural Science (w/ lab): [3]		
BIOL U244 & U244L	Human Anatomy and Physiology II and Human Anatomy and Physiology II Lab	4
CHEM U109 & U109L	Chemistry of Living Things and Chemistry of Living Things Lab	4
or CHEM U112 & U112L	General Chemistry and Qualitative Analysis and General Chemistry and Qualitative Analysis Lab	
Math, Logic and/or Natural Science:		
Select one of the following:		3
MATH U102	Elementary Statistics	
PSYC U225	Psychological Statistics	
SOCY U201	Introduction to Statistics for the Social Sciences	
III. Information Technology		
Information Technology:		
CSCI U138	Introduction to Computer Technology and Artificial Intelligence	3
or INFO U101	Survey of Information Technology	
IV. Fine Arts, Humanities & History		
Fine Arts:		
Select one of the following:		3
ARTH U101	Introduction to Art	
ARTH U105	History of Western Art: Prehistory - Middle Ages	
ARTH U106	History of Western Art: Renaissance - Modern	
MUSC U110	Introduction to Music	
MUSC U140	History of American Popular Music	
THEA U161	Introduction to Theatre Art	
THEA U170	Fundamentals in Acting	
History:		
Select one of the following:		3
HIST U105	History of the United States to 1877	
HIST U106	History of the United States from 1865	
V. Foreign Language & Culture		
Foreign Language:		
Select one of the following: [4,5]		3
ASLG U101	American Sign Language I	
FREN U101	Introductory French I	
GERM U101	Introductory German I	
SPAN U101	Introductory Spanish I	
VI. Social & Behavioral Sciences		
Social & Behavioral Science:		
PSYC U101	Introduction to Psychology	3
VII. General Education Electives		
General Ed. Electives:		
Select any approved general education course or courses (https://academic-catalog.uscupstate.edu/academic-programs/general-education-courses/)		6
Major Requirements [1,2]		
NURS U306	Introduction to Professional Nursing	4
NURS U310	Health Assessment	3
NURS U310P	Health Assessment Lab	0
NURS U320	Fundamentals of Nursing	6
NURS U320P	Fundamentals of Nursing Practicum	0
NURS U325	Evidence-Based Practice	3
NURS U330	Health Alterations I	6
NURS U330P	Health Alterations I Practicum	0
or NURS U331P	International Health Alterations I Practicum	
NURS U351	Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing	6
NURS U351P	Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing Practicum	0
or NURS U352P	International Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing Practicum	
NURS U375	Pharmacology	3
NURS U410	Health Alterations II	6

NURS U410P	Health Alterations II Practicum	0
or NURS U412P	International Health Alterations II Practicum	
NURS U440	Nursing of Childbearing Families and Women's Health	5
NURS U440P	Nursing of Childbearing Families and Women's Health Practicum	0
or NURS U443P	International Nursing of Childbearing Families and Women's Health Practicum	
NURS U445	Child Health Nursing	5
NURS U445P	Child Health Nursing Practicum	0
or NURS U446P	International Child Health Nursing Practicum	
NURS U450	Health Alterations III	5
NURS U450P	Health Alterations III Practicum	0
or NURS U451P	International Health Alterations III Practicum	
NURS U461	Community and Public Health Nursing	6
NURS U461P	Community and Public Health Nursing Practicum	0
or NURS U471P	International Community and Public Health Nursing Practicum	
NURS U480	Nursing Content Mastery	1
NURS U499	Leadership in Professional Nursing Practice	3
NURS U499P	Leadership in Professional Nursing Practice Practicum	3
Supporting Courses [1,2]		
NURS U301	Nutrition	3
NURS U308	Pathophysiology Topics in Health Care [3]	3
or BIOL U370	Pathophysiology	
BIOL U243 & U243L	Human Anatomy and Physiology I and Human Anatomy and Physiology I Lab [3]	4
BIOL U250 & U250L	Principles of Microbiology and Principles of Microbiology Lab [3]	4
PSYC U302	Developmental Psychology	3
Total Hours		**126**

1 All courses must be completed with a minimum grade of C or better.
2 Final responsibility for satisfying degree requirements as outlined in the USC Upstate academic catalog rests with the student.
3 Required science courses have a 5-year age limit. Students are allowed two attempts to earn a "C" or better in each course. Attempts include a W, WF, and AUD. Students who make below a "C" two times in any required science courses or any nursing courses or any combination, will be ineligible for the program. All applicants must have a 2.5 or higher GPA on at least three required sciences to be eligible to apply.
4 The minimum acceptable level of competency is completion of the 101 level of a language.
5 If the student places at the 102 level or higher, the foreign language requirement has been fulfilled and the student will not be required to take an additional course and can graduate with 123 credit hours.

Admission Policies

Admission as a Freshman

Entering USC Upstate freshmen interested in nursing as a career must meet general entrance requirements of the university. Students declaring nursing as a major are noted as “lower-division students” and are advised in the Office of Nursing Student Support Services. Students enrolled in the lower division of the college should meet with an advisor in planning an appropriate program of study. The program of study will ensure that each student registers for the correct prerequisite courses for the upper division courses. Students must meet with a nursing advisor each semester prior to registration. Students must complete all prerequisites prior to enrolling in the upper division of nursing. For information or assistance, call the College of Nursing (864) 503-5441.

Admission into the nursing major is competitive. A separate application for the final two years of the nursing major (https://www.uscupstate.edu/academics/mary-black-college-of-nursing/undergraduate-programs-and-resources/bachelor-science-nursing/) must be submitted by published dates on the forms available on the College of Nursing website. The College admits applicants for the non-licensed portion of the upper division twice a year for the fall and spring semesters. Each semester’s junior class is selected from all applicants who meet all the minimum requirements.

Admission to the Upper Division

The final two years of the nursing curriculum are considered to be the upper division and are composed of professional nursing courses. In order to be considered for admission to the professional nursing major, students enrolled at USC Upstate must complete a separate application form (https://www.uscupstate.edu/academics/mary-black-college-of-nursing/undergraduate-programs-and-resources/bachelor-science-nursing/) which is available through the College of Nursing website. Transfer students must first apply to USC Upstate through the Office of Admissions and also complete a separate application available through the College of Nursing website.

Applications for admission for non-licensed students must be submitted to the College of Nursing by published dates for Fall and Spring semesters. Students typically apply for admission into the upper division during the first semester of their sophomore year. Applicants are not required to complete a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) program.

Bachelor of Science in Nursing applicants should meet the following criteria:

Admission into the upper division, or final two years of study, in the nursing program is competitive. All applications are carefully reviewed. Minimum admissions criteria for Bachelor of Science in Nursing applicants are listed below.

General Admission Requirements[1]

- Applicants must be admitted to the University of South Carolina Upstate and have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.
- Minimum GPA requirements must be maintained through the completion of all prerequisite courses.
- Applicants must earn a C or better in all prerequisite courses to be considered for admission.
- Applicants must have a minimum required science GPA of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale.
  - The five courses included in the science GPA are:
    - BIOL U243 (https://academic-catalog.uscupstate.edu/search/?P=BIOL%20U243) Human Anatomy and Physiology I/BIOL U243L (https://academic-catalog.uscupstate.edu/search/?P=BIOL%20U243L) Human Anatomy and Physiology I Lab and BIOL U244 (https://academic-catalog.uscupstate.edu/search/?P=BIOL%20U244) Human Anatomy and Physiology II/BIOL U244L (https://academic-catalog.uscupstate.edu/search/?P=BIOL%20U244L) Human Anatomy and Physiology II Lab

    - CHEM U109 (https://academic-catalog.uscupstate.edu/search/?P=CHEM%20U109) Chemistry of Living Things/CHEM U109L (https://academic-catalog.uscupstate.edu/search/?P=CHEM%20U109L) Chemistry of Living Things Lab
    - NURS U308 Pathophysiology Topics in Health Care or BIOL U370 (https://academic-catalog.uscupstate.edu/search/?P=BIOL%20U370) Pathophysiology
    - BIOL U250 (https://academic-catalog.uscupstate.edu/search/?P=BIOL%20U250) Principles of Microbiology/BIOL U250L (https://academic-catalog.uscupstate.edu/search/?P=BIOL%20U250L) Principles of Microbiology Lab
  - These courses must be successfully completed in 2 attempts (W, WF, and AUD count as one attempt) to remain eligible for admission.
- An applicant who fails two required science courses, any two nursing courses[2], or a combination of the two, by earning a grade less than a C will be ineligible for admission.
- If a student is required to complete the BIOL U143 (https://academic-catalog.uscupstate.edu/search/?P=BIOL%20U143) Foundations of Human Physiology/ BIOL U143L Foundations of Human Physiology Laboratory. course before progressing to BIOL U243 (https://academic-catalog.uscupstate.edu/search/?P=BIOL%20U243) Human Anatomy and Physiology I/BIOL U243L (https://academic-catalog.uscupstate.edu/search/?P=BIOL%20U243L) Human Anatomy and Physiology I Lab, the Foundations course will count as a required science course and must be successfully completed in 2 attempts (W, WF, and AUD count as one attempt) to remain eligible for admission. The Foundations course will not count towards the required science GPA.
  - Examples that would cause ineligibility include, but are not limited to:
    - A grade below a C in Chemistry twice
    - A grade below a C in Anatomy and Physiology (A&P) I and Medical Terminology
    - A grade below a C in Anatomy and Physiology II and Microbiology
    - A student withdraws and receives a W for A&P I. Then in a second attempt, earns a grade below a C in A&P I. The student has exhausted the attempts for the course.
  - Retaking a course for a passing grade does not negate a previous failure.
- The College of Nursing does not recognize the grade forgiveness policy of USC Upstate or any other school.
- Applicants must have completed all prerequisite requirements prior to beginning upper-division nursing courses. All prerequisites must be completed by the end of the previous major semester (fall or spring). If applying for fall term, one course may be taken over the previous summer at a USC system campus only.
- If a student has an academic integrity violation on record, their eligibility will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.
- Upon tentative acceptance to the program, students must successfully complete:
  - a criminal background check
  - a drug screening
  - American Heart Association Healthcare Basic Life Support (BLS) certification
  - clinical requirements as mandated by our clinical settings

Science and Nursing Course Policies

In addition to the science and nursing[2] course notes above:

- Applicants must have completed two of the five required science courses and be enrolled in a third required science at the time of application.
- All science and nursing[2] courses must be completed within the last five years.
- If an applicant has two science and/or nursing failures from any school within the last 5 years, they would be ineligible for the program.

---

[1] Applicants that meet one of the two following admission criteria are encouraged to apply (3.0 Cumulative GPA and 2.5 Science GPA). These students will be considered on a case by case basis when seats are available.

[2] Nursing courses are defined as any USC Upstate course with a prefix of NURS or any course that is accepted as a NURS course for our program.

1. The student will apply critical reasoning in nursing judgment and ethical decision-making, using a broad knowledge base, to make evidence-based decisions grounded in standards of nursing practice.
2. The student will demonstrate effective communication using various modalities and technologies to provide caring, competent, and holistic nursing care to diverse populations across the lifespan.
3. The student will practice competent nursing care that is evidence-based, safe, holistic, and therapeutic to individuals, families, and communities in a variety of clinical settings.
4. The student will operate as a professional role model and assume responsibility and accountability for personal and professional behaviors, ethical practice, and client advocacy.

Bachelor of Science in Nursing Suggested Course Sequence Outline: Four-Year Track

Other course sequences are also possible; students should seek guidance regarding prerequisites. MATH U121 College Algebra or higher is the required prerequisite for PSYC U225 Psychological Statistics. Part-time study in nursing is available but nursing courses must be completed within a maximum of 8 semesters; students should consult with their advisor for proper course sequencing.

Freshman		
Fall		**Hours**
ENGL U101	Introduction to College Writing	3
BIOL U243 & U243L	Human Anatomy and Physiology I and Human Anatomy and Physiology I Lab	4
Select one of the following:		3
MATH U120	College Mathematics	
MATH U121	College Algebra	
MATH U126	Precalculus I	

CSCI U138 or INFO U101	Introduction to Computer Technology and Artificial Intelligence or Survey of Information Technology	3
Elective (UNIV U101 recommended)		3
	Hours	**16**
Spring		
ENGL U102	Rhetoric and Writing	3
BIOL U244 & U244L	Human Anatomy and Physiology II and Human Anatomy and Physiology II Lab	4
Select one of the following:		3
HIST U105	History of the United States to 1877	
HIST U106	History of the United States from 1865	
PSYC U101	Introduction to Psychology	3
Elective (NURS U230 recommended)		3
	Hours	**16**
Sophomore		
Fall		
CHEM U109 & U109L	Chemistry of Living Things and Chemistry of Living Things Lab	4
PSYC U302	Developmental Psychology	3
SPCH U201	Foundations in Oral Communication	3
NURS U308 or BIOL U370	Pathophysiology Topics in Health Care or Pathophysiology	3
Fine Arts, Humanities History courses (https://academic-catalog.uscupstate.edu/academic-programs/general-education-courses/#fineartshumanitieshistory)		3
	Hours	**16**
Spring		
BIOL U250 & U250L	Principles of Microbiology and Principles of Microbiology Lab	4
Select one of the following:		3
CHIN U101	Introductory Chinese I	
FREN U101	Introductory French I	
GERM U101	Introductory German I	
SPAN U101	Introductory Spanish I	
ASLG U101	American Sign Language I	
Select one of the following:		3
MATH U102	Elementary Statistics	
PSYC U225	Psychological Statistics	
SOCY U201	Introduction to Statistics for the Social Sciences	
NURS U301	Nutrition	3
	Hours	**13**
Junior		
Fall		
NURS U306	Introduction to Professional Nursing [1]	4
NURS U310	Health Assessment	3
NURS U310P	Health Assessment Lab	0
NURS U320	Fundamentals of Nursing	6
NURS U320P	Fundamentals of Nursing Practicum	0
NURS U375	Pharmacology	3
	Hours	**16**
Spring		
NURS U325	Evidence-Based Practice	3
NURS U330	Health Alterations I	6
NURS U330P or NURS U331P	Health Alterations I Practicum or International Health Alterations I Practicum	0
NURS U351	Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing	6
NURS U351P or NURS U352P	Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing Practicum or International Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing Practicum	0
	Hours	**15**
Senior		
Fall		
NURS U410	Health Alterations II	6
NURS U410P or NURS U412P	Health Alterations II Practicum or International Health Alterations II Practicum	0
NURS U440	Nursing of Childbearing Families and Women's Health	5
NURS U440P or NURS U443P	Nursing of Childbearing Families and Women's Health Practicum or International Nursing of Childbearing Families and Women's Health Practicum	0
NURS U445	Child Health Nursing	5
NURS U445P or NURS U446P	Child Health Nursing Practicum or International Child Health Nursing Practicum	0
	Hours	**16**
Spring		
NURS U450	Health Alterations III	5
NURS U450P or NURS U451P	Health Alterations III Practicum or International Health Alterations III Practicum	0
NURS U461	Community and Public Health Nursing	6
NURS U461P or NURS U471P	Community and Public Health Nursing Practicum or International Community and Public Health Nursing Practicum	0
NURS U480	Nursing Content Mastery	1
NURS U499	Leadership in Professional Nursing Practice	3
NURS U499P	Leadership in Professional Nursing Practice Practicum	3
	Hours	**18**
	Total Hours	**126**

[1] Admission to the BSN program is required to enroll in all NURS U306 Introduction to Professional Nursing courses and higher, except the support course NURS U308 Pathophysiology Topics in Health Care.