

# School of Nursing

GREGG E. NEWSCHWANDER, *Dean*  
JENNIFER SCHUESSLER, *Associate Dean*

THE SCHOOL OF NURSING, established in 1979, offers a program of study leading to the bachelor of science in nursing. The nursing curriculum prepares beginning professional nurse generalists who are capable of functioning as members of the healthcare team in providing care for individuals and groups in diverse settings. The program also provides an educational base for advancement in formal study, research and practice. The facilities and resources of the university are used to provide a broad academic background in the humanities and sciences. Graduates are eligible to make application to the NCLEX-RN examination to become registered nurses.

A pre-professional program in Nursing Science is required of students seeking admission to the professional curriculum. The first two years of course work are designated Pre-Nursing (PNUR). The Professional Curriculum requires five terms including 1-2 summer terms, depending on the semester of admission. The Curriculum includes classroom, laboratory and clinical experiences.

Curriculum in Nursing-Traditional			
FR	F	S	
BIOL	1020		Principles of Biology and Lab (1021).....4 **
<b>CHEM</b>	<b>1030/31</b>		<b>Fundamentals of Chemistry</b> ..... ** 4
ENGL	1100	1120	English Composition I & II.....3 3
			Core History ..... ** 3
MATH	1120		Pre-Calculus Algebra.....3 **
			Social Science Core.....3 3
			Core Fine Arts .....3 **
HDFS		2010	Lifespan Human Development ..... ** 3
or			
PSYC		2120	Developmental Psychology.....
			16 16
<b>SO</b>			
			Core Lit I & II .....3 3
BIOL	2500	2510	Human A & P I & II .....4 4
BIOL	3200		General Microbiology .....4 **
NTRI	2000		Nutrition & Health.....3 **
PHIL		1020	Intro to Ethics ..... ** 3
or			
PHIL		1030	Ethics and the Health Sciences ..... ** 3
STAT		2510	Statistics ..... ** 3
PSYC		2010	Psychology..... ** 3
or			
SOCY		1000	Sociology.....
			14 16

JR	M	F		M	F
<b>NURS</b>	<b>2020</b>		<b>Fall Admission</b>		
			Nursing: The Foundation of Health Care.....3 **		
<b>NURS</b>		3110	Theoretical Concepts of Prof. Nsg. Practice ..... ** 3		
<b>NURS</b>		3130	Evidenced-Based Skills Assess. & Health Prom..... ** 4		
<b>NURS</b>		3141	Conc. & Evid.-Based Skills for Prof. Clin. Prac..... ** 3		
<b>NURS</b>		3120	Nursing Pathophysiology..... ** 3		
			3 13		

JR	S	M		S	M
<b>NURS</b>	<b>3210</b>		<b>Clinical Pharmacology</b> .....2 **		
<b>NURS</b>	<b>3220</b>		Evidenced Based Practice.....2 **		
<b>NURS</b>	<b>3230</b>		Prof. Nsg. Con.: Acute Care Across Life Span .....6 **		
<b>NURS</b>	<b>3231</b>		Prof. Nsg. Con.: Acute Care: Clinical .....4 **		
<b>NURS</b>		3330	Prof. Nsg. Con.: Childbearing Fam. & Rep. H..... ** 4		
<b>NURS</b>		3331	Prof. Nsg. Con.: Childbearing Fam. Clinical ..... ** 2		
<b>NURS</b>		3340	Prof. Nsg. Concepts Across Populations ..... ** 3		
<b>NURS</b>		3341	Prof. Nsg. Concepts Across Populations Clin..... ** 3		
			14 12		

SR	F	S		F	S
<b>NURS</b>	<b>4230</b>		<b>Prof. Nsg. Con.: Chronic &amp; Complex Cond</b> .....5 **		
<b>NURS</b>	<b>4231</b>		<b>Prof. Nsg. Con.: Chronic/Complex Cond. Clin.</b> .....5 **		
<b>NURS</b>	<b>4810</b>		<b>Prof. Nsg. Leadership in Microsystems</b> .....2 **		
			Elective (optional-major) .....2 **		
<b>NURS</b>		4910	Prof. Nsg. Leadership in Complex Systems ..... ** 3		
<b>NURS</b>		4911	Leadership Practicum..... ** 2		
<b>NURS</b>		4920	Transitions to Professional Nursing..... ** 2		
<b>NURS</b>		4921	Nursing Practice Preceptorship..... ** 5		
UNIV		4AA0	NU1 Undergraduate Graduation ..... ** **		
			12-14 12		

JR	F	S		F	S
<b>NURS</b>	<b>2020</b>		<b>Spring Admission</b>		
			Nursing: The Foundation of Health Care .....3 **		
<b>NURS</b>		3110	Theoretical Concepts of Prof. Nsg. Practice ..... ** 3		
<b>NURS</b>		3130	Evidenced-Based Skills Assess. & Health Prom..... ** 4		
<b>NURS</b>		3141	Conc. & Evid.-Based Skills for Prof. Clin. Prac..... ** 3		
<b>BIOL</b>		3120	Nursing Pathophysiology..... ** 3		
			3 13		

JR	M	F		M	F
<b>BIOL</b>	<b>3210</b>		<b>Clinical Pharmacology</b> .....2 **		
<b>NURS</b>	<b>3230</b>		<b>Prof.Nsg. Con: Acute Care Across Life Span</b> .....6 **		
<b>NURS</b>	<b>3231</b>		<b>Prof. Nsg. Con.: Acute Care Clinical</b> .....4 **		
<b>NURS</b>		3220	Evidence Based Practice..... ** 2		
<b>NURS</b>		3330	Prof. Nsg. Con.: Childbearing Fam. & Rep. H..... ** 4		
<b>NURS</b>		3331	Prof. Nsg. Con.: Childbearing Fam. Clinical..... ** 2		
<b>NURS</b>		3340	Prof. Nsg. Concepts Across Populations ..... ** 3		
<b>NURS</b>		3341	Prof. Nsg. Concepts Across Populations Clin..... ** 3		
			Elective Optional Major.....2		
			12 14-16		

SR	S	M		S	M
<b>NURS</b>	<b>4230</b>		<b>Prof. Nsg. Con.: Chronic &amp; Complex Cond</b> .....5 **		
<b>NURS</b>	<b>4231</b>		<b>Prof. Nsg. Con.: Chronic/Complex Cond. Clin.</b> .....5 **		
<b>NURS</b>	<b>4810</b>		<b>Prof. Nsg. Leadership in Microsystems</b> .....2 **		
<b>NURS</b>		4910	Prof. Nsg. Leadership in Complex Systems ..... ** 3		
<b>NURS</b>		4911	Leadership Practicum..... ** 2		
<b>NURS</b>		4920	Transitions to Professional Nursing..... ** 2		
<b>NURS</b>		4921	Nursing Practice Preceptorship..... ** 5		
UNIV		4AA0	NU1 Undergraduate Graduation ..... ** **		
			12 12		

### TOTAL HOURS - 127-129

Curriculum guides for the junior and senior year vary according to semester of admission to professional program.  
\* Students may be enrolled in selected pre-nursing courses while taking NURS 2020

## Admission

Freshman eligibility is determined by the Office of Enrollment Services. Admission requirements are stated elsewhere in this *Bulletin*. High school mathematics, chemistry and biology courses are strongly recommended, along with other college preparatory courses in social science, history, literature and English composition. Students are strongly encouraged to see the academic advisor in the School of Nursing on a regular basis.

Transfers from other institutions must apply through the Office of Enrollment Services. Review of transcripts by the School of Nursing will determine the amount of credit allowed for the pre-nursing requirements. Students may be considered for transfer into Pre-Nursing from another school on campus if they have an overall unadjusted GPA of at least 2.5 on all courses attempted at Auburn University. Students planning to transfer are encouraged to contact the School of Nursing as soon as possible for advisement on transfer of credits. Students must possess the functional ability to perform the skills and behaviors required of a professional nurse.

These abilities include but are not limited to:

1. Adequate vision, such as that required to observe changes in physical conditions, to read small print on labels and markings on syringes, and to discern subtle changes in color;
2. Adequate hearing, such as that required to distinguish muted sounds through a stethoscope;
3. Fine motor skills and manual dexterity, such as that required to handle small, delicate equipment;
4. Strength to turn and assist with lifting adults, and to lift and carry children;
5. The mobility to respond quickly in emergency situations;
6. The ability to communicate and interact effectively with others, orally and in writing;
7. The ability to detect odors; and
8. The ability to read independently and to comprehend the written word.

**Professional Program:** Admission to the professional program occurs in both Fall and Spring. Pre-nursing students must formally apply for admission to the professional program, typically during the sophomore year, and meet the deadlines and requirements for each admission cycle. To be eligible for consideration for an interview and admission, applicants must have completed at least 3 of the 5 required science courses in the pre-nursing curriculum and have no more than 22 hours of pre-nursing coursework outstanding. Criteria considered for admission include unadjusted pre-nursing GPA, science GPA, number of hours completed at Auburn, successful completion (C or better) of all pre-nursing requirements and interview score. While the GPA to be considered for an interview is an overall unadjusted GPA of 2.5 or higher, interviews will be granted based on the overall unadjusted GPA of the pool of applicants and in reality a higher GPA may be required to interview. Applicants will be interviewed only once each academic cycle. If not accepted for admission at the time of their interview, applicants can reapply the next admission cycle by completing a reapplication form. In this case, the applicant's original interview score will be used. Due to limited enrollment, all students who meet minimum requirements may not be interviewed or admitted.

Application forms will be posted on the School of Nursing website by December 1 for Fall admission and March 1 for Spring admission. The deadline for completing an application is February 1 for fall admission and May 15 for spring admission. Interviews for fall admissions are the first Saturday in March and for spring admission the second Saturday in June. Students will be notified of admission decisions in writing by April 1 for fall admission and July 1 for spring admission. Those applicants admitted must successfully complete all pre-nursing courses and NURS 2020 with a C or higher by the end of summer semester for fall admissions and by the end of fall semester for spring admissions.

**Application for RN Licensure.** Following completion of the registered nursing program, the graduate will apply for RN Licensure in Alabama or another state. The Alabama Board of Nursing application has the following questions which must be answered by the applicant:

1. Have you ever been arrested or convicted of a criminal offense other than a minor moving traffic violation?
2. Have you within the last five years abused drugs/alcohol or been treated for dependency to alcohol or illegal chemical substances?
3. Have you ever been arrested or convicted for driving under the influence of drugs/alcohol?
4. Have you within the last five years received inpatient or outpatient treatment or been recommended to seek treatment for mental illness?
5. Have you ever had disciplinary action or is action pending against you by any state board of nursing?
6. Have you ever been placed on a state and/or federal abuse registry?
7. Have you ever been court-martialed/disciplined or administratively discharged by the military?

If an applicant has answered yes to any of the above questions, a full explanation with the appropriate court/treatment records must accompany the application. Applicants must disclose misdemeanors and arrests that didn't not result in convictions. Arrests/convictions include checks written on accounts with insufficient funds and DUIs.

If the Board later learns of arrests or convictions that have not been disclosed, this will be considered fraud and deceit in procuring a license, and disciplinary action will be forthcoming.

Applicants to the School of Nursing need to be aware that they may be denied permission to take the RN licensing examination by the Alabama Board of Nursing if they are not of good moral character. A past record of behavior such as a felony conviction, abuse of drugs or alcohol, or theft of drugs may be grounds for denial of licensure. See Section 610-X-8-.01 of the Alabama Board of Nursing Administrative Code.

## Academic Regulations

Advanced placement credit in pre-nursing courses is granted according to university policies stated elsewhere in the *Bulletin*. No advanced standing is allowed in the natural sciences by the School of Nursing. Proficiency examinations or Advanced Placement (CEEB), with accepted score, may be used for advanced placement.

An overall GPA of 2.0 must be maintained for progression through the professional program. Pre-nursing students who do not attain an overall GPA of at least 2.5 at the end of their freshman year should consider alternative fields of study.

A minimum grade of C is required in pre-nursing courses. Transfer credit will not be granted for courses in which a grade less than C is earned.

In the professional program, a minimum grade of C must be achieved in all courses. Because the professional nursing curriculum is designed for progressive development of nursing knowledge and skills, students who earn a grade less than C in a professional program course are not allowed to progress to the next clinical course. The course in which the student earns a grade less than C may be repeated one time only. Students who earn a grade less than C in two or more professional program courses or whose GPA falls below a 2.0 will be dropped from the professional program and are not eligible for readmission. Transfer credit is not generally allowed for courses in the professional program.

## The Professional Program

**Facilities:** The School of Nursing is housed in Miller Hall, where classrooms, a computer lab, an auditorium, The Attilio Corte Assessment laboratory and faculty offices are located. Facilities for clinical nursing experiences include East Alabama Medical Center and other hospitals in the area, Mental Health Centers, clinics, nursing homes, physicians' offices, Public Health Departments, public schools and industrial sites. Students are responsible for complying with policies and procedures required by agencies in which clinical work is done.

**Expenses:** Students accepted into the professional program should expect to incur additional expenses including a professional fee associated with the clinical courses. Uniforms, equipment, transportation to clinical sites, PDA's, exit exams, content exams, NCLEX reviews, a health examination and liability and health insurance coverage are among the requirements. Students are required to have a drug screening test and may be required to undergo a background check, depending on clinical agency policy. The costs of such requirements will be the responsibility of the students. Detailed information is furnished by the dean's office at the time of admission.

**Accreditation:** The School of Nursing operates with full approval of the Alabama Board of Nursing and is fully accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, One Dupont Circle NW, Suite 530, Washington, DC 20036-1120, (202) 887-6791, [www.aacn.nche.edu/accreditation/](http://www.aacn.nche.edu/accreditation/).