

School of Nursing

BARBARA S. WITT, *Dean*
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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 traditional Professional Curriculum requires four semesters and one summer of study, the accelerated Professional Nursing Curriculum requires three semesters and one summer term of study. Both curricular tracks include classroom, laboratory and clinical experiences.

Curriculum in Nursing-Traditional				
FR	F	S	F	S
BIOL	1020		Principles of Biology and Lab (1021)	** 4
CHEM	1030/1031		Fundamentals of Chemistry	** 4
ENGL	1100	1120	English Composition I & II	3 3
HIST		1010	World History I	** 3
MATH	1120		Pre-Calculus Algebra	3 **
HDFS		2010	Lifespan Human Development	** 3
			Social Science Core	3 3
NURS	1010		Orientation to Nursing	1 **
				14 16
SO				
ENGL	2220	2210	World Literature I & II	3 3
HIST		1020	World History II	3 **
PHIL		1030	Ethics and the Health Sciences	** 3
			Core Fine Arts	** 3
BIOL	3200		General Microbiology	** 4
NUFS	2000		Nutrition & Health	** 3
STAT		2510	Statistics	** 3
BIOL	2500	2510	Human A & P I & II	4 4
				17 16
JR				
NURS		3320	Applied Pharmacology	** 2
NURS		3420	Nursing Research & Data Mgt	** 2
NURS	3510		Functional Nursing Skills	1 **
NURS	3511		Functional Nursing Skills Lab	1 **
NURS	3610		Holistic Assessment	3 **
NURS	3611		Holistic Assessment Lab	2 **
NURS	3710	3720	Professional Nsg Concepts I & II	2 6
NURS	3711	3721	Professional Nsg Concepts I & II	1 4
BIOL	4400		Clinical Physiology	3 **
				13 14
SUMMER				
NURS	3530		Holistic Nurs: Mat/New & Wom Health	3
NURS	3531		Holistic Nurs: Mat/New & Wom Health Lab	2
NURS	3630		Holistic Nurs: Comm/Ment Health Nurs	3
NURS	3631		Holistic Nurs: Comm/Ment Health Nurs Lab	2
				10
SR				
NURS	4440		Leadership & Mgt in Nursing	2 **
NURS	4740	4910	Professional Nsg Concepts III & IV	4 4
NURS	4741	4911	Professional Nsg Conc III & IV lab	5 8
NURS			Elective (major)	2 **
UNIV		4AA0	NU1 Undergraduate Graduation	** **
				13 12
TOTAL HOURS - 125				

Curriculum-Accelerated Nursing Degree (AND)				
SR	F	S	F	S
BIOL	4400		Clinical Physiology	3 **
NURS		3320	Applied Pharmacology	** 2
NURS	3510		Functional Nursing Skills	1 **
NUFS	3511		Functional Nursing skills Lab	1 **
NURS	3610		Holistic Health Assessment	3 **
NURS	3611		Holistic Assessment Lab	2 **
NURS	3710		Prof Nursing Concepts I	2 **
NURS	3711		Prof Nursing Concepts I Lab	1 **
NURS		3880	Accelerated Prof Nurse Conc II	** 7
NURS		3881	Accelerated Prof Nurse Conc II Lab	** 6
				13 15
SUMMER				
NURS	3420		Nurse Research & Data Mgt	2
NURS	4880		Accelerated Prof Nurse Conc III	5
NURS	4881		Accelerated Prof Nurse Conc III L	5
				12
NURS	4440		Leader/Mgt in Nursing	2
NURS	4910		Professional Nursing Concepts IV	4
NURS	4911		Professional Nursing Concepts IV Lab	8
UNIV		4AA0	NU1 Undergraduate Graduation	**
				14

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 grade-point average 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 is open annually in fall semester. Pre-nursing students must formally apply to the professional program the spring semester of their sophomore year. The deadline for application will be available in the fall semester. Selected professional program applicants are required to participate in a group interview to be considered for admission to the School of Nursing. Applicants are notified in writing of acceptance or non-acceptance in June. Due to limited enrollment, all students who meet minimum criteria may not be admitted. Applicants must earn a minimum unadjusted grade-point average of 2.5 to be eligible to apply to the upper division. Criteria for consideration for admission include unadjusted pre-nursing grade-

point average, science grade-point average, number of hours completed at Auburn interview score, and successful completion (grade of C or better) on all pre-nursing requirements. While the grade-point average to qualify for consideration is an unadjusted 2.5, in reality it could take a much higher grade-point average to achieve admission.

Registered nurses: An Educational Advancement for Registered Nurse (EARN) Program in which RN students may complete the requirements for the BSN degree in one calendar year of full-time study is offered at the Auburn University Montgomery campus. The Auburn University School of Nursing advisor's office should be contacted for further information.

Accelerated Nursing Degree Program: The School of Nursing offers an Accelerated Nursing Degree (AND) Program which enables students who hold a bachelor's or higher degree in another field to progress through the professional nursing curriculum in three semesters and one summer of full-time study. Students interested in the AND Program must complete specified pre-nursing courses prior to being considered for admission to the Professional curriculum. An undergraduate grade-point average of at least 2.5 is required for admission to the AND Program. Admission decisions are based on unadjusted grade-point averages. The School of Nursing should be contacted for further advisement.

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 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 grade-point average of 2.0 must be maintained for progression through the professional program. Pre-nursing students who do not attain an overall grade-point average 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 grade-point average 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, a skills 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. 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 maybe 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 of Collegiate Nursing Education, One Dupont Circle NW, Suite 530, Washington, DC 20036-1120, (202) 887-6791, www.aacn.nche.edu/accreditation/.