

NURSING, BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (B.S.), R.N.-B.S. COMPLETION PROGRAM

The School of Nursing offers the a traditional curriculum in the baccalaureate program as well as the online R.N.-B.S. completion. Successful completion of curricular requirements results in a Bachelor of Science degree. Note that the applicant is responsible for seeking advice from the School of Nursing on courses taken prior to admission.

Program goal

The goal of the VCU School of Nursing Bachelor of Science in Nursing program is to prepare students with foundational competencies as nurse generalists for entry into professional nursing practice.

Student learning outcomes

Upon completing this program, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate competence to practice person-centered care across the lifespan and across the continuum of healthcare systems
2. Integrate theories and concepts from liberal education and related disciplines into nursing practice
3. Exhibit professionalism that reflects the inherent values fundamental to nursing
4. Display effective interprofessional teamwork skills
5. Demonstrate professional nursing practice grounded in the application of current evidence
6. Utilize information technologies and processes related to patient care delivery
7. Show competence in leadership, quality improvement and patient safety to provide quality health care
8. Apply health promotion and disease prevention competencies at the individual and population levels

Other information

Our international and non-native, English-speaking students bring different perspectives and new thinking to our nursing programs. To ensure that all incoming student are prepared for the school's academic rigor, all international applicants and non-native, English speaking applicants without a degree from a U.S. high school, college or university must provide additional information with their applications according to the English language proficiency guidelines on the program admission tab.

Admission requirements

To be considered for admission to the School of Nursing, applicants must:

1. Be eligible for readmission or be in good standing at the last college or university attended
2. Submit a completed application with all required materials to the School of Nursing
3. Have graduated from a diploma or associate degree program in nursing from a regionally accredited college or university
4. Have an R.N. license from a U.S. state or territory by the time they start **NURS 409** (Students that do not have their R.N.

license by this time will not be allowed to progress in the program. Students who do not currently have an R.N. license in the U.S., consult with the **Commission on Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools** and the **Virginia Board of Nursing** for steps needed to obtain a Virginia R.N. license.)

5. Provide additional information with the application according to the English language proficiency guidelines for applicants who are international or non-native English speakers without a degree from a U.S. high school, college or university (additional information can be found on the **VCU International Admissions website**)
6. Complete the following general education courses (with minimum grades of C-) at a regionally accredited college or university
 - a. The following courses or their transfer equivalents (14 credit hours) must be completed prior to starting the nursing program:

Course	Title	Hours
BIOL 205	Basic Human Anatomy ¹	4
PHIS 206 & PHIZ 206	Human Physiology and Human Physiology Laboratory ¹	4
UNIV 111 Play course video for Introduction to Focused Inquiry: Investigation and Communication	Introduction to Focused Inquiry: Investigation and Communication	3
UNIV 112 Play course video for Focused Inquiry II	Focused Inquiry II	3
UNIV 200	Advanced Focused Inquiry: Literacies, Research and Communication	3

¹

Applicants attending colleges or universities which offer anatomy and physiology as a combined two-semester course must complete the entire course sequence prior to starting the nursing program. One semester of a combined anatomy and physiology course will not transfer, nor can one semester of a combined anatomy and physiology course be used in conjunction with a stand-alone anatomy or physiology course to fulfill this requirement.

- b. A minimum of 24 credit hours of the following required 37 credits must be completed prior to starting the nursing program. All general education courses must be completed prior to enrolling in NURS 488:

Course	Title	Hours
BIOL 101 & BIOZ 101 or BIOL 151 & BIOZ 151	Biological Concepts and Biological Concepts Laboratory Introduction to Biological Sciences I and Introduction to Biological Science Laboratory I	4
BIOL 209 & BIOZ 209 or BIOL 303 & BIOZ 303	Medical Microbiology and Medical Microbiology Laboratory ¹ Microbiology and Microbiology Laboratory	4-5
BIOL 217	Principles of Nutrition ²	3

PSYC 101 Play course video for Introduction to Psychology	Introduction to Psychology	4
PSYC 304	Life Span Developmental Psychology	3
SOCY 101 Play course video for Introduction to Sociology	Introduction to Sociology	3
or ANTH 103	Introduction to Anthropology	
STAT 208	Statistical Thinking	3
or STAT 210	Basic Practice of Statistics	
or STAT 212	Concepts of Statistics	
Additional college-level course work ³		12-14

1

Students may also successfully complete the microbiology NLN exam to satisfy this requirement

2

Students may also successfully complete the nutrition NLN exam to satisfy this requirement

3

Courses must be eligible for transfer to VCU. See the Transfer Center website for **course equivalencies**.

Prerequisites for second degree students

1. Applicants who have completed a previous baccalaureate degree at a regionally accredited college or university are required to complete only the following prerequisites prior to enrollment in **NURS 488**:

Course	Title	Hours
BIOL 205	Basic Human Anatomy	4
BIOL 217	Principles of Nutrition	3
BIOL 209 & BIOZ 209	Medical Microbiology and Medical Microbiology Laboratory	4-5
or BIOL 303 & BIOZ 303	Microbiology and Microbiology Laboratory	
PHIS 206 & PHIZ 206	Human Physiology and Human Physiology Laboratory	4
PSYC 304	Life Span Developmental Psychology	3
STAT 208	Statistical Thinking	3
or STAT 210	Basic Practice of Statistics	
or STAT 212	Concepts of Statistics	

Requirements for co-enrolled students

To be considered for admission to the School of Nursing, applicants must:

1. Be eligible for readmission or be in good standing at the last college or university attended
2. Submit a completed application with all required materials to the School of Nursing

3. Earn a minimum grade of C- in all required nursing classes at Reynolds, Brightpoint, Southside Virginia or Rappahannock Community College
4. Provide proof of associate degree and an R.N. license from a U.S. state or territory by the time they begin **NURS 409** (students that do not have their associate degree and R.N. license by that time will not be allowed to progress in the program)
5. Complete the following general education courses (with minimum grades of C-) at a regionally accredited college or university
 - a. The following courses or their transfer equivalents (14 credit hours) must be completed prior to starting the nursing program:

Course	Title	Hours
BIOL 205	Basic Human Anatomy ¹	4
PHIS 206 & PHIZ 206	Human Physiology and Human Physiology Laboratory ¹	4
UNIV 111 Play course video for Introduction to Focused Inquiry: Investigation and Communication	Introduction to Focused Inquiry: Investigation and Communication	3
UNIV 112 Play course video for Focused Inquiry II	Focused Inquiry II	3
UNIV 200	Advanced Focused Inquiry: Literacies, Research and Communication	3

1

Applicants attending colleges or universities which offer anatomy and physiology as a combined two-semester course must complete the entire course sequence prior to starting the nursing program. One semester of a combined anatomy and physiology course will not transfer, nor can one semester of a combined anatomy and physiology course be used in conjunction with a stand-alone anatomy or physiology course to fulfill this requirement

- b. A minimum of 24 credit hours of the following required 37 credits must be completed prior to starting the nursing program. All general education courses must be completed prior to enrolling in **NURS 488**:

Course	Title	Hours
BIOL 101 & BIOZ 101	Biological Concepts and Biological Concepts Laboratory	4
or BIOL 151 & BIOZ 151	Introduction to Biological Sciences I and Introduction to Biological Science Laboratory I	
BIOL 209 & BIOZ 209	Medical Microbiology and Medical Microbiology Laboratory ¹	4-5
or BIOL 303 & BIOZ 303	Microbiology and Microbiology Laboratory	
BIOL 217	Principles of Nutrition ²	3

PSYC 101 Play course video for Introduction to Psychology	Introduction to Psychology	4
PSYC 304	Life Span Developmental Psychology	3
SOCY 101 Play course video for Introduction to Sociology	Introduction to Sociology	3
or ANTH 103	Introduction to Anthropology	
STAT 208	Statistical Thinking	3
or STAT 210	Basic Practice of Statistics	
or STAT 212	Concepts of Statistics	
Additional college-level course work ³		12-14

1

Students may also successfully complete the microbiology NLN exam to satisfy this requirement

2

Students may also successfully complete the nutrition NLN exam to satisfy this requirement

3

Courses must be eligible for transfer to VCU. See the Transfer Center website for **course equivalencies**.

Prerequisites for second degree students

1. Applicants who have completed a previous baccalaureate degree at a regionally accredited college or university are required to complete only the following prerequisites prior to enrollment in **NURS 488**:

Course	Title	Hours
BIOL 205	Basic Human Anatomy	4
BIOL 217	Principles of Nutrition	3
BIOL 209 & BIOZ 209	Medical Microbiology and Medical Microbiology Laboratory	4-5
or BIOL 303 & BIOZ 303	Microbiology and Microbiology Laboratory	
PHIS 206 & PHIZ 206	Human Physiology and Human Physiology Laboratory	4
PSYC 304	Life Span Developmental Psychology	3
STAT 208	Statistical Thinking	3
or STAT 210	Basic Practice of Statistics	
or STAT 212	Concepts of Statistics	

Degree requirements for Nursing, Bachelor of Science (B.S.), R.N.-B.S. completion program

Course	Title	Hours
Major requirements		
• Major core requirements		
NURS 301	Nursing Informatics	3
NURS 307	Professional Nursing Role Development I	3

NURS 308	Professional Nursing Role Development II	3
NURS 403	Evidence-Based Practice in Health Care	3
NURS 408	Ethics, Law and Public Policy: Application to Nursing Practice	3
NURS 411	Population Health: Application to Nursing Practice	5
NURS 414	Interprofessional Collaborative Practice	3
NURS 462	Advanced Pathophysiological Concepts: Application to Patient Care	3
NURS 478	Leadership and Management in Health Care	3
NURS 488	Integrated Concepts of Professional Nursing Practice	3

Ancillary requirements

Credits required for admission and for program corequisites	50
Upper-division proficiency credits awarded after successful completion of NURS 308	39

Total Hours **121**

The minimum number of credit hours required for this degree is 121.

Students who complete the requirements for this degree will receive a Bachelor of Science in Nursing.

What follows is a sample plan that meets the prescribed requirements within a four-year course of study at VCU. Please contact your adviser before beginning course work toward a degree.

Credits required for admission and for program corequisites: 50

Semester 1		Hours
NURS 301	Nursing Informatics	3
NURS 307	Professional Nursing Role Development I	3
Term Hours:		6
Semester 2		
NURS 308	Professional Nursing Role Development II	3
NURS 403	Evidence-Based Practice in Health Care	3
Term Hours:		6
Semester 3		
NURS 411	Population Health: Application to Nursing Practice	5
Term Hours:		5
Semester 4		
NURS 408	Ethics, Law and Public Policy: Application to Nursing Practice	3
NURS 462	Advanced Pathophysiological Concepts: Application to Patient Care	3
Term Hours:		6
Semester 5		
NURS 414	Interprofessional Collaborative Practice	3
NURS 478	Leadership and Management in Health Care	3
Term Hours:		6
Semester 6		

NURS 488	Integrated Concepts of Professional Nursing Practice	3
Term Hours:		3
Total Hours:		32

Upper-division proficiency credits awarded after successful completion
of NURS 308: 39

The minimum number of credit hours required for this degree is 121.