

NURSING, BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (B.S.)

The School of Nursing offers 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.

While an unrestricted R.N. license from a U.S. state or territory is not required for admission to the Ph.D. program, if a student plans to engage in research activities that require licensure, the student will need to obtain a license. The student will work with the faculty adviser to determine if a license is needed or to consider alternative methods for conducting the research. Students can consult with **CGFNS International** and the **Virginia** or relevant state or territory board of nursing for the steps needed to obtain an R.N. license.

A background check and drug screen are not required for admission but may be required by an agency/site in which the student is conducting research.

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 a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 based on a scale of 4.0 on all college course work
4. Present no grades lower than C- in all parts of anatomy, physiology and microbiology courses (Anatomy, physiology and microbiology courses must be taken within 10 years of starting the nursing program.)
5. Present no grades lower than C- in any other prerequisite or collateral course
6. 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 (<https://www.vcu.edu/admissions/apply/international/undergraduate-applicants/>.)
7. Complete the following prerequisites prior to starting the nursing program:

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 205	Basic Human Anatomy ¹	4
BIOL 217	Principles of Nutrition	3
PSYC 101 Play course video for Introduction to Psychology	Introduction to Psychology	4
SOCY 101 Play course video for Introduction to Sociology or ANTH 103	Introduction to Sociology Introduction to Anthropology	3
UNIV 111 Play course video for Focused Inquiry I	Focused Inquiry I	3
UNIV 112 Play course video for Focused Inquiry II	Focused Inquiry II	3

8. Complete the following collateral requirements prior to beginning nursing courses:

Course	Title	Hours
PHIS 206 & PHIZ 206	Human Physiology and Human Physiology Laboratory	4
BIOL 209 & BIOZ 209	Medical Microbiology and Medical Microbiology Laboratory	4-5

or BIOL 303 & BIOZ 303	Microbiology and Microbiology Laboratory	
STAT 208	Statistical Thinking	3
or STAT 210	Basic Practice of Statistics	
or STAT 212	Concepts of Statistics	
PSYC 304	Life Span Developmental Psychology	3

Refer to the VCU Transfer Center website (<http://www.transfer.vcu.edu/>) for equivalencies at other colleges and universities.

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Applicants attending colleges or universities which offer anatomy and physiology as a combined two-semester course must complete the entire course sequence prior to enrolling in the School of Nursing. 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. If taking stand-alone anatomy and physiology courses, human or comparative anatomy and human or animal physiology are accepted.

Note: Applicants are not required to submit standardized test scores.

Degree requirements for Nursing, Bachelor of Science (B.S.)

Course	Title	Hours
General education (http://bulletin.vcu.edu/undergraduate/undergraduate-study/general-education-curriculum/)¹		30
Select 30 credits of general education courses in consultation with an adviser. ¹		
Major requirements		
• Major core requirements		
NURS 301	Nursing Informatics	3
NURS 350	Introduction to Professional Nursing	2
NURS 380	Applied Health Assessment Across the Lifespan	3
NURS 403	Evidence-based Practice in Health Care	3
NURS 408	Ethics, Law and Public Policy: Application to Nursing Practice	3
NURS 450	Pathophysiology and Pharmacology I	4
NURS 451	Pathophysiology and Pharmacology II	4
NURS 478	Leadership and Management in Health Care: Theory and Application	3
NURS 484	Entry Into the Nursing Profession	3
NURS 494	Senior Synthesis	5
NURS 523	Fundamental Nursing Concepts	3
NURS 524	Applied Practice: Health Assessment Across the Lifespan and Fundamental Nursing Concepts	3
NURS 535	Population Health, Prevention, and Wellness Concepts Across the Lifespan	4
NURS 536	Applied Practice: Population Health, Prevention, and Wellness Across the Lifespan	2

NURS 547	Chronic Care Concepts Across the Lifespan	4
NURS 548	Applied Practice: Chronic Care Concepts Across the Lifespan	3
NURS 550	Acute Care Concepts Across the Lifespan	4
NURS 551	Applied Practice: Acute Care Concepts Across the Lifespan	3

• Additional major requirements

IPEC 501	Foundations of Interprofessional Practice	1
IPEC 502	Interprofessional Quality Improvement and Patient Safety	1
IPEC 560	Interprofessional Collaborative Care for Older Adults	1

Ancillary requirements

BIOL 101	Biological Concepts (satisfies general education BOK for natural sciences and AOI for scientific and logical reasoning) ¹	3
or BIOL 151	Introduction to Biological Sciences I	
BIOL 205	Basic Human Anatomy ²	4
BIOL 209 & BIOZ 209	Medical Microbiology and Medical Microbiology Laboratory	4
or BIOL 303 & BIOZ 303	Microbiology and Microbiology Laboratory	
BIOL 217	Principles of Nutrition	3
BIOZ 101	Biological Concepts Laboratory	1
or BIOZ 151	Introduction to Biological Science Laboratory I	
PHIS 206 & PHIZ 206	Human Physiology and Human Physiology Laboratory	4
PSYC 101 Play course video for Introduction to Psychology	Introduction to Psychology (satisfies general education BOK for social/behavioral sciences and AOI for diversities in the human experience) ¹	4
PSYC 304	Life Span Developmental Psychology	3
SOCY 101 Play course video for Introduction to Sociology	Introduction to Sociology (either satisfies BOK for social/behavioral sciences; SOCY 101 satisfies AOI for diversities in the human experience; ANTH 103 satisfies AOI for global perspectives) ¹	3
or ANTH 103	Introduction to Anthropology	
STAT 208	Statistical Thinking (satisfies general education quantitative foundations)	3
or STAT 210	Basic Practice of Statistics	
or STAT 212	Concepts of Statistics	

Electives

Select courses at 300-level or higher 11-13

Total Hours 121

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Some course work completed toward admission will also fulfill general education requirements. Admission to the program requires 24 credits.

2

Applicants attending colleges or universities which offer anatomy and physiology as a combined two-semester course must complete the entire course sequence prior to enrolling in the School of Nursing. 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. If taking stand-alone anatomy and physiology courses, human or comparative anatomy and human or animal physiology are accepted.

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.

Freshman year

Fall semester

		Hours
BIOL 101 & BIOZ 101	Biological Concepts and Biological Concepts Laboratory (satisfies general education BOK for natural sciences and AOI for scientific and logical reasoning)	4
PSYC 101	Introduction to Psychology (satisfies general education BOK for social/behavioral sciences and AOI for diversities in the human experience)	4
UNIV 111	Focused Inquiry I (satisfies general education UNIV foundations)	3
General education course ¹		3
Term Hours:		14

Spring semester

BIOL 205	Basic Human Anatomy	4
BIOL 217	Principles of Nutrition	3
SOCY 101	Introduction to Sociology (satisfies general education BOK for social/behavioral sciences and AOI for diversities in the human experience) or Introduction to Anthropology	3
UNIV 112	Focused Inquiry II (satisfies general education UNIV foundations)	3
Term Hours:		13

Sophomore year

Fall semester

BIOL 209 & BIOZ 209	Medical Microbiology or Microbiology <i>and</i> Microbiology Laboratory	4
BIOL 303	<i>and</i>	
BIOZ 303		

PHIS 206 & PHIZ 206	Human Physiology and Human Physiology Laboratory	4
PSYC 304	Life Span Developmental Psychology	3
STAT 208 or STAT 210 or STAT 212	Statistical Thinking (satisfies general education quantitative foundation) or Basic Practice of Statistics or Concepts of Statistics	3
General education course ¹		3

Term Hours: 17

Spring semester

NURS 350	Introduction to Professional Nursing	2
NURS 380	Applied Health Assessment Across the Lifespan	3
NURS 450	Pathophysiology and Pharmacology I	4
NURS 523	Fundamental Nursing Concepts	3
NURS 524	Applied Practice: Health Assessment Across the Lifespan and Fundamental Nursing Concepts	3
UNIV 200	Advanced Focused Inquiry: Literacies, Research and Communication (satisfies general education UNIV foundations)	3

Term Hours: 18

Junior year

Fall semester

IPEC 501	Foundations of Interprofessional Practice	1
NURS 403	Evidence-based Practice in Health Care	3
NURS 451	Pathophysiology and Pharmacology II	4
NURS 535	Population Health, Prevention, and Wellness Concepts Across the Lifespan	4
NURS 536	Applied Practice: Population Health, Prevention, and Wellness Across the Lifespan	2
Term Hours:		14

Spring semester

IPEC 502	Interprofessional Quality Improvement and Patient Safety	1
NURS 301	Nursing Informatics	3
NURS 547	Chronic Care Concepts Across the Lifespan	4
NURS 548	Applied Practice: Chronic Care Concepts Across the Lifespan	3
Elective		3
General education course or elective ¹		3
Term Hours:		17

Senior year

Fall semester

NURS 408	Ethics, Law and Public Policy: Application to Nursing Practice	3
NURS 550	Acute Care Concepts Across the Lifespan	4
NURS 551	Applied Practice: Acute Care Concepts Across the Lifespan	3
Electives (300-level or higher)		6
Term Hours:		16

Spring semester

IPEC 560	Interprofessional Collaborative Care for Older Adults	1
NURS 478	Leadership and Management in Health Care: Theory and Application	3
NURS 484	Entry Into the Nursing Profession	3
NURS 494	Senior Synthesis	5
Term Hours:		12
Total Hours:		121

1

Some general education categories will be met with admission requirements. Consult with an adviser to determine the remaining categories.

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