
BSN Degree

Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing

The Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing (BSN) program provides individuals with the ability to implement evidenced-based practice in the delivery of professional nursing care. Evidence-based practice incorporates scientific findings in the delivery of nursing care which includes both theory and practical clinical skills required by the field of nursing to provide leadership and render safe patient care. Successful graduates receive the Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing (BSN) and are eligible to apply for licensure as a Registered Nurse.

BSN PROGRAM OPTIONS DIRECT ENTRY

IUON has developed a traditional 121 credit hour Direct Entry BSN program that can be completed in approximately three calendar years. The Direct Entry program is designed for students to complete prerequisite courses at the IUON campus in St. Kitts, and then transition into the Upper Division Program. These courses can be completed in the first two semesters of the IUON curriculum. Students completing these courses with a cumulative GPA of 2.5 will be ready for entry to the Upper Division program beginning with Semester Three. Students that have completed prior course work at an accredited college may be eligible for advanced standing. The advantage of a direct entry program is that students accepted into this program are guaranteed acceptance into the Upper Division Program providing they have completed all the prerequisites with a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or greater.

UPPER DIVISION

The majority of nursing programs in colleges and universities in the U.S. and Canada are Upper Division. The Upper Division Program provides an accelerated entry for students who have already completed the 11 pre-requisite courses which consists primarily of Semester One and Two courses. As a result, students begin their studies at IUON starting with nursing courses in Semester 3. An advantage of the Upper Division Program is the reduced length of time for completion and starting in nursing courses the very first semester on campus. The Upper Division Program can be completed in approximately two years. Students should indicate which program they are interested in at the time of application.

Prerequisite Courses

To qualify for the Upper Division Program, IUON requires applicants to complete specific general education and science courses with a cumulative GPA of 2.5 from accredited U.S. or Canadian schools and within the specified time-frame established by the college or university. Students are required to submit official transcripts from all colleges attended. Application packets must include an essay indicating interest in a nursing as a career, as well as two letters of recommendation. Personal interviews may be required. Students must also submit a course description for each course they are seeking transfer credit.

The Admissions Committee will carefully review and evaluate each applicant's transcripts. The Academic Services Department will issue a preliminary evaluation of transfer credit to determine if the courses taken meet IUON's published prerequisites.

REQUIRED UPPER DIVISION PREREQUISITE COURSES

Chemistry for Health Sciences with Lab
4

English Composition 1
3

Anatomy and Physiology I with Lab
4

Introduction to Psychology
3

Microbiology for Health Sciences with Lab
4

Anatomy and Physiology II with Lab
4

Developmental Psychology

3

Composition and Rhetoric

3

College Algebra

3

Principles of Speaking and Listening

3

Statistics

3

ADVANCED STANDING

Students who transfer into the IUON BSN program may be eligible for up to 43 transfer credits. The Academic Services Department will carefully review and evaluate each applicant's transcripts and course descriptions to determine transfer credit for IUON. At the time of acceptance we will provide the students with a preliminary determination as to the courses we will accept for transfer credit. Our partner schools will concurrently determine transfer credit for each accepted student. Final determination as to transfer credit for the partner schools will be made within two weeks of acceptance. As a result, accepted students will know prior to matriculation the courses that will be accepted for transfer for both IUON and our partner schools.

Clinical Settings

Students at the International University of Nursing are active participants in the health care system of the nation. Unlike other nursing students, our students have the opportunity to provide "hands on nursing care" in a variety of settings to a multicultural population. The scope of practice in St. Kitts lends to the student's active participation in health promotion, disease prevention, and patient education activities in a variety of nursing practices. Such care includes drawing blood specimens, completing History and Physicals, taking Pap smears, assisting with deliveries of newborns and many more. Clinical agencies utilized by IUON for student clinical experience include community health care centers, acute care and long-term care facilities, as well as island schools, organizations, and other business settings to provide health screening and patient education. One student recently commented "In my three semesters I have had more hands-on experience here than most student nurses have in the traditional nursing program in the states."

IUON can also provide the student a variety of experiences with our computerized human simulators in a 24-bed hospital setting which uses a variety of standardized patients to integrate their science program in a clinically relevant manner.

Instructional sites for the BSN program

St. Kitts Campus: Students complete three to six semesters at the IUON campus located on the Caribbean island of St. Kitts. The clinical portion of the program is begun at a variety of health care facilities located in St. Kitts.

Partner Schools: The final year is completed at one of IUON's partner schools in the U.S. or Canada. IUON students transition and become part of the partner school's student body.

IUON students will be subject to all the regulations, and enjoy the same rights and privileges, as all nursing students at the partner school. Partner school placement is subject to availability and is based on many variables, including, but not limited to, geographic location, program size, student preference, academic standing, and determined eligibility.

IUON Partner Schools:

Colorado State University - Pueblo, CO Louisiana College - Pineville, LA
Morehead State University - Morehead, KY Nipissing University - Ontario, Canada

International

Students: international students must obtain a student visa (F1) to transfer to an IUON partner school in the United States or Canada. Students who are not successful in obtaining a visa may be eligible to apply and enter into the IUON international BSN Program. Students in this track will complete the remaining portion of the program in St. Kitts and may be assigned clinical rotations at other hospital facilities located on neighboring islands.

Degrees Granted

Students graduate with two degrees:

- A degree from IUON
- A degree from the U.S. or Canadian partner school

Academic Calendar

IUON operates on a year round schedule. Refer to the Academic Calendar for each semester's schedule.

BSN CURRICULUM

Semester 1 (Prerequisites completed prior to admission)

Chemistry for Health Sciences with Lab
4

English Composition 1
3

Anatomy and Physiology I with Lab
4

Introduction to Psychology

3

Microbiology for Health Sciences with Lab
4

Semester 2 (Pre requisites completed prior to admission)

Anatomy and Physiology II with Lab

4

Developmental Psychology

3

Composition and Rhetoric

3

College Algebra

3

Principles of Speaking and Listening

3

Statistics

3

19

Semester 3 (St. Kitts)

Nutrition
3

Family Dynamics
3

Nursing Theory
3

Nursing Research
3

Principles of Epidemiology

3

15

Semester 4 (St. Kitts)

Foundations of Professional Nursing Practice
5

Health Assessment & Health Promotion
3

Pharmacology
3

Pathophysiology

3

14

Semester 5 (St. Kitts)

Care of Adult in the Acute Care Setting I

6

Mental Health Nursing

5

Healthcare Informatics

3

Global Health Care Issues

3

17

Semester 6 (St. Kitts or United States)

Community Health & Disaster Preparedness

5

Nursing Care of the Child-bearing Family

5

Elective

3

13

Semester 7 (United Staes or Canada)

Care of Adult in the Acute Care Setting II

7

Pediatric Nursing

5

12

Semester 8 (United States or Canada)

Nursing Leadership
5

Nursing Specialty Practice
2

Senior Seminar
6

13

Total Credits: 121

Course list revised: March 25, 2011

Note: Course list subject to change without advance notice.

Course Descriptions for BSN Program

BIO 101 Anatomy and Physiology I (4 credits)

This course focuses on the study of the organ systems from the perspective of their structure, process, and regulation. This course specifically deals with the language of anatomy and physiology, medical terminology, cells, tissues, integumentary, skeletal system, muscular system, nervous system, and special senses. 45 hours lecture, 45 hours laboratory time. Pre-requisite: none

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BIO 102 Anatomy and Physiology II (4 credits)

This course focuses on the detailed study of the anatomy and physiology of body systems using an integrated approach. Systems include the circulatory, lymphatic, respiratory, digestive, endocrine, reproductive and urinary systems, and embryo/fetal development and pregnancy. The course will culminate in the understanding of the pathophysiology of multiple systems failure as commonly seen in aging. 45 hours lecture, 45 hours laboratory. Pre-requisite: BIO 101

BIO 203 Microbiology for Health Sciences (4 credits)

This course addresses the study of microbial life on earth, including microbial cell biology, growth and metabolism, genetics, diversity and evolution, effects on the environment and the interactions between microorganism and high forms of life. Emphasis will be placed on the relationship between microorganism and humans and current efforts to track and control infectious diseases. 45 hours lecture, 45 hours laboratory time. Prerequisite: none

CHE 101 Chemistry for Health Sciences (4 credits)

This course is a study of selected topics in general, organic, and biological chemistry oriented toward health sciences. 45 hours lecture and 45 hours laboratory time. Prerequisite: none

ENG 101 English Composition (3 credits)

This course focuses on the development of the student's skill in writing expository prose, using various essay modes and effective essay-writing techniques, emphasizing the conventions of standard written English in academic

writing. 45 lecture hours. Prerequisite: none

ENG 102 Composition and Rhetoric (3 credits)

This course focuses on the development of the student's reading skills, emphasizing research and critical evaluation of scientific reading. This course also reinforces the student's writing skills by emphasizing expository prose using persuasive argument, cause and effect, problem solving, and a fully documented critical research paper. 45 lecture hours. Prerequisite: ENG 101

EPI 310 Principles of Epidemiology (3 credits)

This course provides students with an understanding of the core principles of epidemiology of human disease prevention and treatment, with particular emphasis on emerging infectious and blood borne diseases. Students will develop detailed case studies that demonstrate their application of appropriate scientific principles to community and global health issues. 45 hours lecture. Prerequisite: none

HCS 352 Healthcare Informatics (3 credits)

Students utilize the latest in healthcare technology to further their understanding of the use of electronic databases, computerized medical records, and medical decision support systems. Students will be exposed to the applications of technology systems in the monitoring and treatment of emerging and chronic diseases in community populations as well as acute care settings for disease management and palliative care. 45 lecture hours. Prerequisite: none

HCS 451 Global Healthcare Issues (3 credits)

Students will demonstrate advanced understanding of theoretical constructs of human behavior, leadership, organizational dynamics and epidemiology as applied in case studies of major global health issues. Topics include preventable and emerging new infectious diseases, HIV/AIDS, chronic diseases in minority populations, and selected orphan diseases. 45 lecture hours. Pre-requisite: none

MTH 105 College Algebra (3 credits)

This course is an introduction to the fundamental concepts of algebra. Concepts covered includes: linear and quadratic equations and inequalities; Cartesian plane and graphing; polynomial and rational functions; exponential and logarithmic functions; systems of equations and inequalities; matrices; Arithmetic and Geometric Sequences and Series. 45 lecture hours. Pre-requisite: none

MTH 113 Introduction to Statistics (3 credits)

This course is an introduction to concepts and application of data collection, presentation of data, extraction of useful information from data and the analysis and interpretation of such information. The focus of this course is on the commonly used statistical techniques applicable to specific health care problems and research in the medical field within the context of nursing. 45 lecture hours. Prerequisite: none

NUR 212 Foundations of Professional Nursing Practice (5 credits)

This course is a foundations class which introduces the nursing student to basic principles of nursing science at the baccalaureate level and the professional roles of direct care provider, manager of care, member of the multidisciplinary health care team, as well as an accountable member of the nursing profession. Legal and ethical dimensions of the nursing profession are introduced. Student accountability and commitment as an active participant in the teaching, learning, and evaluation processes are necessary for successful completion of the course and progression to the next level nursing course. Forty-five (45) hours lecture and ninety hours of clinical/skills laboratory experience are requirements of the course. Prerequisite: Completion of Semesters 1 and 2

NUR 231 Health Assessment (3 credits)

This course presents the basic principles and concepts involved in the assessment of clients across the lifespan, moving from wellness to illness. Students will apply concepts from anatomy and physiology and the foundations of practice. 15 hours lecture, 30-simulation lab, 45 clinical experience. Pre-requisite or co-requisite: NUR 212.

NUR 232 Pharmacology (3 credits)

This course provides students with the basic principles of pharmacology and pharmaco-therapeutics so that they are prepared to assume the role of the nurse in drug therapy. Specific emphasis will be placed on drug classifications and the most common medications used to treat diseases across the lifespan. Students will learn to utilize internet-based resources for researching pharmaco-therapeutic and herbal/ over the counter medications. 45 hours lecture. Prerequisite or Co-requisite: NUR 212

NUR 233 Nutrition (3 credits)

This course builds upon the psychology of human behavior, physiology and biochemistry to provide the student with a foundation of knowledge in nutrition science. Students will apply these principles to individuals in designing plans for healthy growth and development across the lifespan and to population issues such as obesity and chronic diseases. 45

lecture hours. Prerequisite: none

NUR 303 Pathophysiology (3 credits)

This course focuses on the physical and chemical processes within the human body that can lead to disease, injury or death of an individual. Emphasis is on the adolescent through elderly lifespan. The student will focus on the human response to altered levels of function related to diseases, formulation of nursing diagnosis, and therapeutic intervention. 45 hours lecture. Prerequisite: NUR 212, NUR 231. Co-requisite: NUR 312

NUR 311 Family Dynamics (3 credits)

This course explores the dynamics of family function during times of crisis, stress, or when behavioral health conditions affect one or more family members. Students will explore assessment models for use with diverse family populations and review communication techniques that facilitate relationship building. The course also focuses on the relational and therapeutic aspects of viewing the family as a unit of care. Special family situations such as substance abuse, emotional or physical handicaps, chronic illness, and terminal illness will be discussed. 45 lecture hours. Prerequisite: PSY 102

NUR 312 Care of the Adult in the Acute Care Setting I (6 credits)

This course prepares the nursing student for the care of clients in various health care settings across the lifespan. The course is comprised of didactic and clinical components. The didactic portion provides the student with the theoretical foundation of nursing practice, and the clinical component affords the student the opportunity to practice the art and science of nursing in acute settings such as hospitals, clinical care centers, as well as community settings such as long-term care and primary care clinics. Students must demonstrate the ability to think critically utilizing knowledge from the life and social sciences and humanities, as demonstrated in case reports. 45 hours lecture, 135 hours clinical experience. Prerequisite: NUR 212, NUR 231, NUR 232

NUR 313 Mental Health Nursing (5 credits)

This course teaches students to apply and integrate the concepts of therapeutic communication, and therapeutic use of self within the context of the nurse-client relationship. This course focuses on the nursing care of individuals and families with mental health issues throughout the lifespan. Mental wellness is viewed in relation to client education, growth and development. Consideration of cultural, ethical, and spiritual influences in relation to mental health issues is emphasized. Nursing students will focus on integrating the biological, psychosocial, cultural, and spiritual needs of clients with moderate to severe emotional issues. 45 hours lecture, 90 hours lab and clinical experience. Prerequisite: PSY 102, NUR 212

NUR 314 Community Health and Disaster Preparedness (5 credits)

Students will apply the principles of population health and epidemiology in both individual and family case studies, as well as in disaster scenarios. Students will discuss disease prevention in the context of emerging global diseases, as well as within the constraints of personal and national financial resources. 30 hours lecture, 90 hours clinical/simulation experience. Prerequisite: NUR 212. Co-requisite: EPI 310

NUR 315 Nursing Research (3 credits)

This course will provide students with the principles of research, including the structure, methods, ethics and procedures. Students will explore both theory-testing and theory-generating research and the appropriate methodologies for them. Certification in Protection of human subjects’ web-based education from the N.I.H. will be completed by students. 45 hours lecture. Pre-requisite: None

NUR 317 Nursing Care of the Child-bearing Family (5 credits)

This course presents the principles and concepts, as well as the clinical support, to care for clients and their families during childbearing. The health processes of pregnancy, labor and delivery, and post-partum periods, as well as selected high risk or unhealthy processes, are presented. Emphasis is placed upon normal physiology and pathophysiology as the basis for clinical decision-making in the care of obstetric patients in both the ambulatory and acute care settings. 45 hours lecture, 90 hours clinical experience. Prerequisite: NUR 231, NUR 312

NUR 356 Nursing Theory (3 credits)

This course is an introduction to knowledge-based care, critical thinking and reasoning based on nursing theory. Grounded in the experience of nursing as a caring, practice profession creating the art and science of nursing, students will be introduced to a variety of nursing frameworks, models, and theorists. The concepts of person, health, nursing, environment, caring and transitions will be explored. Students will be guided into examining a nurse theorist and how it compares and contrasts to their personal philosophy of nursing. 45 hours lecture. Prerequisite: None

NUR 357 Nursing Theory and Research (3 credits)

This course will focus on nursing theory, nursing research, and evidence-based practice as applied to clinical nursing practice. The students will have the opportunity to critique and evaluate nursing theory and research and apply them to the development of their own unique practice theory, and research proposal. Middle-range theories will be identified and studied within the research process. Students will also explore patterns and processes for acquiring knowledge, evolving ethical principles, and its application to the role of the professional nurse. 45 lecture hours. Prerequisite: None

NUR 402 Care of the Adult in the Acute Care Setting II (7 credits)

Students will gain experience in working with adults in the acute care setting, as well as the families of acutely ill individuals. Clinical experience will include palliative and end of life care. Students will be expected to plan, implement and evaluate comprehensive plans of care including principles of pharmacology, nutrition, pathophysiology, and psychosocial aspects of care. The student will also provide client and family education that is individualized to the specific client situation: 30 clinical conference hours, 225 hours clinical experience. Prerequisite: NUR 312

NUR 403 Pediatric Nursing (5 credits)

This course presents the principles and concepts as well as the clinical support to care for the well/ ill child and family. Students will use family systems theory in the development of comprehensive plans of care for the newborn through adolescence, with an emphasis on disease and injury prevention, nutrition, assessment and treatment of common pathologic conditions and disorders of development. These principles will also be applied to families with special needs. 45 hours lecture, 90 hours clinical experience. Prerequisite: NUR 312

NUR 404 Leadership and Management (5 credits)

This course prepares nursing students for clinical practice as a registered nurse at the bachelor's degree level. The student will assume the role of nurse manager/ clinical leader. Whenever possible, nursing students may spend additional hours in their chosen specialty field. 30 hours conference with faculty mentors, 45 hours clinical experience. Pre-requisite or co-requisite: NUR 402.

NUR 458 Nursing Specialty Practice (2credits)

Nursing students will have the opportunity to develop their role within their chosen specialty practice with guidance from faculty mentors. 15 hours conference with faculty mentors, 135 hours clinical experience. Prerequisite or co-requisite: NUR 402.

NUR 459 Senior Seminar (6 credits)

Nursing students are provided the opportunity to utilize theory, practicum and evidenced-based research as the foundation of an in-depth focused practicum experience at a senior level. The purpose of the capstone experience is to help students gain confidence in time management, critical thinking, diagnostic reasoning, documentation and psychomotor skills under the direct supervision of clinical preceptors. 15 hours of lecture and 225 hours of clinical. Prerequisite or co-requisite: NUR 458.

PSY 101 Introduction to Psychology (3 credits)

This course introduces the student to the scientific study of behavior, principles of motivation, emotions, perception, learning, memory, thinking, personality and biological basis of behavior. The course introduces basic concepts of developmental psychology. 45 hours lecture. Prerequisite: none

PSY 102 Developmental Psychology (3 credits)

This course provides the student with a comprehensive overview of human development. Topics highlight the major milestones at each developmental stage from conception to death. The course explores the mechanisms of adjustment and adaptation to the problems of everyday life and looks at effective coping strategies that are functional at every stage of the life cycle. 45 lecture hours. Prerequisite: PSY 101

SPA 101 Beginning Spanish (3 credits) Elective

This course is designed to introduce university students to the basics of the Spanish language with the goal of having students reach the intermediate-low proficiency level according to ACTFL (American Council on the teaching of Foreign Languages) guidelines. By the end of this course, students should be able to handle a variety of communicative tasks in Spanish by using the language in straightforward social situations. Students should also be able to spell words and write simple sentences and explanations using grammatically correct language and proper verb conjugations. 45 hours lecture. Prerequisite: None

SPA 126 Spanish for Health Care Professionals (3 credits) Elective

This course has been specially designed for student nurses who want to learn basic phrases, grammar, and vocabulary in Spanish related to health care. The areas of focus for the course include beginning conversational Spanish focusing on health, pronunciation and basic grammar, basic vocabulary related to healthcare and culturally competent care for Hispanic patients. 45 hours lecture. Prerequisite: None.

SPC 103 Principles of Speaking and Listening (3 credits)

This course introduces students to the basic skills necessary to succeed in public speaking situations: preparing and practicing, using verbal and nonverbal communication cues effectively, and giving and receiving constructive criticism. 45 lecture hours.

Prerequisite: None