

Nursing

Division of Nursing

RN to BSN

- **Major: 30 credit hours**
- **Major GPA required for graduation: 2.00**
- **All courses for the major must be completed with a grade of C or better**

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS:

- **Capstone: Practicum in Leadership and Management (NSG 472)**
- **Writing Intensive: Research Application in Practice (W) (NSG 367); Concepts of Leadership and Management (W) (NSG 471)**
- **Service: Practicum in Population Based Care (NSG 452)**

Mission: The mission of the Division of Nursing is to provide a high-quality educational experience to advance nursing professionals who will drive the future of healthcare. We empower students to embody caring and authentic leadership in the pursuit of academic excellence that will prepare them for interprofessional practice. To achieve this end, we inspire broader vision to refine critical thinking, espouse ethical decision making, and integrate evidence-based practice to achieve positive health outcomes in our global community

Goals: The goal of the RN to BSN program at McKendree University is to facilitate the educational advancement of RN's to enhance safe, quality patient care. Graduates are prepared for careers that positively impact society, both locally and globally. The BSN completion program builds on the core competencies and core knowledge the student brings from previous academic nursing programs, and expands on professional nursing values and practices resulting in a deeper and broader scope of professional practice and professional role identity. Graduates of the program are generalists with the necessary base for graduate education and continuing professional development to be leaders in practice and the nursing profession.

Student Learning Outcomes

Students will:

- Demonstrate critical thinking skills by integrating knowledge from nursing and various disciplines.
- Utilize assessment to plan person-centered care for individuals, families, groups, and populations.
- Assess political, social, cultural, economic, and environmental factors that influence population health.
- Translate evidence from nursing to enhance scholarship for nursing practice.
- Identify the need to improve quality and safety in the delivery of patient care throughout the lifespan.
- Demonstrate interprofessional communication and collaboration skills.
- Interpret the healthcare organizations and systems effects on health status.
- Examine the impact of information and healthcare technology in the provision of high-quality healthcare.
- Correlate leadership principles to professional practice.
- Utilize self-reflection in achieving personal, professional, and leadership development.

Accreditation: The baccalaureate degree program in nursing at McKendree University is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (<http://www.ccneaccreditation.org>).

Program Description: The BSN degree is offered exclusively as a baccalaureate completion program for graduates of an associate degree or diploma nursing programs.

Procedures for acceptance into the nursing program

The applicant must submit the following:

1. Application for admission to the university as a transfer student (a maximum of 90 transfer hours may be accepted);
2. Application for admission to the Division of Nursing;

3. Copy of active unencumbered license as a registered nurse;

Continued Enrollment: Students must be in good standing within the nursing program to continue with nursing coursework. To participate in the nursing practicum, students must provide a copy of current RN license, yearly TB skin test or chest x-ray results, current CPR certification, proof of an approved criminal background check, negative drug screen, and proof of required immunity/immunizations. All courses for the major must be completed with a grade of C or better. Any required nursing course for which a grade of C- or lower is received must be repeated. Required nursing courses may be repeated only one time. Students may only repeat a maximum of two required nursing courses to remain in the program. Students must successfully complete HIPAA training prior to participating in any clinical courses.

Note that all McKendree general education requirements are considered to be met if an appropriate associate's degree has been earned.

NURSING MAJOR REQUIREMENTS		30 crs.
NSG 353	PATIENT-CENTERED NURSING CARE	3
NSG 366	CONCEPTS IN RESEARCH	3
NSG 367	RESEARCH APPLICATION IN PRACTICE (W)	4
NSG 440	HEALTHCARE ORGANIZATIONS AND SYSTEMS APPROACH	3
NSG 451	CONCEPTS OF POPULATION BASED CARE	4
NSG 452	PRACTICUM IN POPULATION BASED CARE	3
NSG 453	PROFESSIONAL NURSING PRACTICE	3
NSG 471	CONCEPTS OF LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT (W)	4
NSG 472	PRACTICUM IN LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT	3

RN to MSN Program:

The Division of Nursing also offers an RN to MSN program. Students must have a minimum of a 3.25 GPA for admission into the RN to MSN program. Students will be admitted as undergraduates and will shift to graduate status at the appropriate point in the curriculum. Students must meet all the procedures for acceptance into the undergraduate program. Students may participate in graduation at the BSN and MSN levels as they successfully complete each program. Students will be allowed to complete 6 hours of graduate studies during the undergraduate level with the graduate studies meeting the MSN requirements. Students may choose to opt out of the program at the BSN level without penalty. A student must have a 3.0 GPA to continue in the MSN program following BSN course completion. Students successfully admitted to the RN to MSN program will not be required to apply to the MSN program. Students in the RN to MSN program may have 3 hours (NSG 502) of the MSN courses waived provided they meet all eligibility requirements. For a student to receive credit, he or she must earn a letter grade of at least an A- in NSG 404 and/or 451.

Nursing (NSG)

NSG 302 BODY FLUIDS AND ELECTROLYTES This course will be accepted for competency in chemistry. The focus in this web-based course is on the chemistry of fluid, electrolytes, and acid-base balance. Students identify basic physiological processes responsible for maintaining balance. Major causes and signs and symptoms of imbalance are included, as well as nursing assessment and management or persons with imbalances.	1	NSG 355 HEALTH POLICY AND ECONOMICS This course introduces students to basic concepts and principles of health policy, healthcare economics, and healthcare delivery in the climate of managed care. Public and private funding of healthcare will be discussed. Students will examine the history and evolution of healthcare in America and the impact of the current system on cost, availability, access, and quality of healthcare. The United States system of healthcare delivery will be compared to those of other nations. Future trends in healthcare will be discussed.	3
NSG 303 INFECTIOUS DISEASES The focus of this course is on the identification, treatment, and control of selected infectious diseases. Students explore a variety of both commonly occurring as well as infrequently occurring communicable diseases in mankind. Using current professional literature, students describe the development of a selected drug-resistant pathogen.	1	NSG 366 CONCEPTS IN RESEARCH The focus of this introductory research course is on the concepts of nursing research. Students are able to describe basic research concepts and techniques and appreciate the ethics of nursing research. Evaluative skills are developed by critiquing current nursing research. Using peer-reviewed research articles, students analyze and summarize nursing research on a selected topic.	3
NSG 308 ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY REVIEW This course will be accepted for competency in anatomy and physiology. In this web-based course, students focus on the structure and function of the human body using the systems model. Because nurses base much of their practice on the understanding of anatomy and physiology, practice-related information will be explored.	1	NSG 367 RESEARCH APPLICATION IN PRACTICE (W) In this writing-intensive course, students will explore evidence-based approaches to frequently encountered clinical questions. Through an in-depth evaluation of current research literature, students investigate evidence-based nursing practice. Using peer-reviewed research articles, students analyze and summarize nursing research on a selected topic.	4
NSG 309 SPIRITUALITY IN NURSING This course provides an opportunity for students to investigate the importance of spirituality in nursing and in the lives of the patients. Using reading assignments and classroom discussions, students will explore the relationship between nursing and spirituality, including assessment of patients' spiritual needs, the nurse's role in the provision of spiritual care, the spiritual nature of the nurse-patient relationship, the spiritual history of nursing, and the contemporary interest in spirituality within the nursing profession.	3	NSG 380-389 SPECIAL TOPICS IN NURSING Studies in current topics or specialized areas of nursing practice. Prerequisite: Admission to the nursing program or instructor consent.	1-4
NSG 310 INTRODUCTION TO NURSING BUDGETS In this course, students develop an understanding of the healthcare budgeting process. Development of a budget and a business plan will be emphasized. Prioritization of health care needs and services will be considered.	3	NSG 404 DIVERSITY IN HEALTHCARE DELIVERY In this course, students develop cultural responsiveness by exploring and analyzing cultural beliefs, attitudes, and values of clients, families, and communities, as well as health care providers. Students will describe the impact of cultural beliefs on health and health care practices, as well as propose strategies to gain trust with the client/family to improve health outcomes. This course also serves to explore epidemiology with underserved and vulnerable populations applied to preserving, promoting, and maintaining the health of the global and diverse populations.	3
NSG 353 PATIENT-CENTERED NURSING CARE This course will reinforce and build on foundational nursing knowledge as the student transitions to a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) role. Students will enhance their holistic assessment competency in providing culturally sensitive care across the lifespan, including end-of-life care. Through this course, students are presented with challenging ethical and legal clinical scenarios to better equip them to provide care across ever-changing healthcare environments.	3	NSG 405 ETHICAL / LEGAL ISSUES IN HEALTHCARE In this course, students discuss legal issues impacting current nursing practice. Students explore historical and social factors influencing the development of ethics in nursing practice and analyze ethical problems inherent in contemporary practice of nursing. Students analyze emerging professional roles in nursing, paying particular attention to the advocate component of these roles.	3

Nursing (NSG)

NSG 440 3

HEALTHCARE ORGANIZATIONS AND SYSTEMS APPROACH

This course will provide an overview of healthcare organizations and systems. The impact of legal and government aspects on the healthcare system will be introduced. Healthcare informatics and technology integration in the healthcare system will be explored. The value of safety and quality within healthcare organizations will be examined.

NSG 451 4

CONCEPTS OF POPULATION BASED CARE

In this course, students develop knowledge of health promotion and disease prevention concepts, as well as differentiate various levels of health care (primary, secondary and tertiary). Factors that influence the health status of groups and communities are examined. Students develop beginning-level skills in community assessment, epidemiological investigation, and community health education. Students complete an in-depth study of the health needs of selected vulnerable populations and groups within the community and develop evidence-based interventions. Students examine the role of the community and public health nurses in a variety of practice settings. Fall, annually.

NSG 452 3

PRACTICUM IN POPULATION BASED CARE

This practicum course is designed to apply principles of community/public health nursing, in caring for individuals, families, aggregates, and populations. Students will engage in interprofessional collaboration with members of a healthcare team in community agencies for the provision of care to individuals, families, and/or aggregates. Pre/corequisite: NSG 451. Fall, annually.

NSG 453 3

PROFESSIONAL NURSING PRACTICE

This course prepares nurses transitioning to the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) role for the dynamic nursing landscape and complexities of modern healthcare. This course examines the evolving role of nurses, the impact of healthcare policy and laws that shape the profession, and the roles and responsibilities of the interdisciplinary team. Through this course, students are challenged to explore professional nursing writing skills, evidence-based practice, lifelong learning, and personal wellness.

NSG 471 4

CONCEPTS OF LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT (W)

This course provides a foundation for students to investigate theories of leadership and management. Students develop strategies in delegation, supervision, management, and leadership. Critical thinking and decision making skills inherent to the professional nurse will be emphasized. Pre/corequisite: NSG 367, 452. Spring, annually.

NSG 472 3

PRACTICUM IN LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT (Cumulative Practicum Experience)

This cumulative practicum course experience provides a foundation for students to apply theories of leadership and management in a preceptor setting. Students implement strategies in delegation, supervision, management, and leadership. Critical thinking and decision making skills inherent to the professional nurse will be synthesized. Pre/co-requisite: All other courses must be completed or in process. Each semester.

NSG 480 1-4

INDEPENDENT STUDY IN NURSING