

Department of Nursing

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Faculty

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Mission

The Department of Nursing's mission is to assist in meeting a regionally recognized need for nurses by preparing a professional nurse capable of synthesizing theoretical and empirical knowledge incorporating concepts from the physical and behavioral sciences, humanities and discipline of nursing in developing and implementing nursing practice. Faculty are committed to mentoring students and to advancing the profession of Nursing through a variety of scholarly activities and service to both the campus and community.

Expected Program Outcome

Upon successful completion of the program, the graduate is expected to:

1. demonstrate synthesis of theoretical and empirical knowledge in developing and implementing nursing practice reflecting understanding of the arts, sciences, humanities and the discipline of nursing.
2. practice the scope of professional nursing with its multiple roles and responsibilities in providing care of the client/client system, as influenced by the historical, ethical, technological and legal aspects of nursing's current and evolving practice.
3. use critical thinking to initiate scientific and creative methods of problem solving to explore, evaluate and select solutions to challenging situations.
4. assess client/client system utilizing the Neuman Systems Model, focusing on physiological, psychological, sociocultural, developmental and spiritual variables in response to environmental stressors.
5. analyze the data collected to determine the client/client system's energy state and the need for nursing intervention.
6. plan nursing interventions to assist the client/client system in retaining, attaining, or maintaining optimal health with regard to the wellness-illness continuum.
7. intervene using the plan of care formulated to assist the client/client system in retaining, attaining or maintaining an optimal level of health.
8. evaluate the client/client system's response to nursing interventions in primary, secondary and tertiary preventions to determine their effectiveness in strengthening the lines of defense and resistance and managing the environmental stressors within the context of the physiological, psychological, sociocultural, developmental and spiritual variables possessed by humankind.

Major

Bachelor of Science in Nursing (1411)

Nursing is a profession for individuals interested in a lifetime of challenge. As a critical part of the health-care system, nurses use skills in critical thinking, problem solving and effective communication to assist individuals, families and groups in retaining, attaining and maintaining optimal levels of health. Nursing requires a genuine interest in people combined with the ability to pull together knowledge from several disciplines and the physical stamina necessary to meet fast-paced demands.

The B.S.N. nursing curriculum is a four-year program which combines general education and nursing, with nursing content beginning in the sophomore year. Students majoring in B.S. Nursing take 71 semester hours of nursing courses and 52 semester hours of required and elective non-nursing courses. Upon successful completion of the B.S.N. program, the graduate is awarded the Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree (B.S.N.) by the University of Tennessee. Graduates with the B.S.N. degree demonstrate the competencies necessary for entry into nursing practice and are eligible to take the National Council Licensure Examination for licensure as a registered professional nurse. The Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree program has full approval of the Tennessee Board of Nursing and full accreditation from the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission, Inc. (NLNAC), 61 Broadway-33rd Floor, New York, N.Y. 10006 (1-800-669-1656 ext 153).

A national need for professional nurses with a wide variety of practice options allows great flexibility and mobility for graduates. Graduates with a baccalaureate in nursing can choose from provision of direct patient care, teaching, administration, research, case management and marketing positions in hospital, community, educational, military, government, industrial and expanded-practice settings. Graduate degrees at the master's and doctoral levels allow greater specialization and further expand job opportunities.

Facilities

Lectures are held on campus or at off-campus sites. Practical lab experiences are held in the departmental labs with patient care and skill stations containing health-care simulators, equipment and supplies for student instruction and practice. Numerous audio-visuals are available for student instruction-learning resources.

Off-campus clinical lab experiences are taught by UT Martin nursing faculty in area health-care agencies. Transportation to various agencies for clinical experiences must be provided by the student.

Departmental Scholarships

Scholarships are available through various health-care agencies and organizations in addition to the scholarships and loans available through Financial Aid. Contact the Department of Nursing for additional information on scholarships for nursing majors or check the Nursing Department's Web page on the www.utm.edu/~nursing home page.

Student Organizations

Student Nurses Association. The Student Nurses Association at UT Martin is the student branch of the American Nurses Association and is composed of students majoring in nursing or pre-nursing who are interested in various nursing careers and experiences. Monthly meetings usually include speakers, films, or other types of programs. SNA sponsors several money-making projects. Benefits available to SNA members include eligibility for the National Student Nurses Association Scholarships, nursing journals, access to nursing conventions, meetings and a banquet at the end of the year.

Any student majoring in nursing can join SNA by contacting a member for a membership blank and paying annual dues. All interested students are urged to attend meetings and consider joining.

Sigma Theta Tau. Pi Tau is the local chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International, the honor society for nursing. Senior nursing students who meet the criteria are invited to be members of the organization in their last year of the B.S.N. program. Later graduate nurses who are recognized as community leaders may be eligible to join. The Sigma Theta Tau is involved in the advancement of nursing practice and of nursing as a profession.

Admission, Advanced Standing, Retention, and Readmission

The nursing program is open to men and women who satisfy the entrance requirements of the university and the nursing program. Students are eligible to participate in extracurricular activities made available by the university to students of all disciplines.

The admission, advanced standing, retention and readmission policies of the Department of Nursing may differ from other programs in the university because limited enrollment is necessary to provide student clinical experiences while assuring safe patient care and adherence to standards required for state licensure of registered professional nurses.

Admission

All students not currently enrolled at UT Martin are required to apply for admission to the university by submitting an application to the Admissions Office.

Admission to the B.S.N. clinical program is separate from admission to the university. Applicants must submit a separate application to the Department of Nursing for admission to clinical nursing. Priority is given to applicants whose application is received by February 1 before the fall semester in which admission to B.S.N. clinical nursing courses is desired. Admission priority will also be given to students who have successfully completed all the courses listed in the B.S.N. curriculum for the freshman year (or at least 33 semester hours of required general education courses which include Chemistry 121, Mathematics 140 or 185 or 251, Microbiology 251, Psychology 110-120, and Zoology 251 or equivalent courses). A grade of D or F in any of these specified required courses will delay or alter admission to the clinical nursing program. The applications are screened for selection on a competitive basis by the Department of Nursing Admissions and Policies Committee.

Students accepted to begin B.S.N. nursing courses are required to:

1. have removed all high school deficiencies.
2. be certified in First Aid and CPR (Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation) Basic Health Care Provider before beginning Nursing 212 clinical experiences.
3. maintain a grade of C or above in all required courses (otherwise the student may not be allowed to begin the B.S.N. program) and a cumulative GPA of 2.00 or above.
4. demonstrate evidence of physical and mental health by submitting the appropriate health form to the Department of Nursing on or before the first day of nursing class. Failure to do so cancels eligibility and acceptance to the B.S.N. program. The student is legally and ethically accountable and responsible to provide safe nursing care. Therefore a student may be required to be evaluated by a qualified individual before client contact is permitted if the faculty believes that the student is physically or psychologically impaired for clinical experience.
5. provide evidence of negative report on drug screen and felony background checks.

Advanced Standing Admission

Students requesting to receive nursing credit for previous nursing education must:

1. submit an application for Advanced Standing to the Admissions and Policies Committee of the Department of Nursing by February 1 for admission to fall semester clinical nursing courses and by August 1 for admission to Spring semester clinical nursing courses.
2. be eligible for admission to the university.
3. meet all admission requirements to the nursing program.
4. submit documents that verify reasons for leaving the previous nursing program.
5. successfully pass any written exams and skills evaluations required by the Department of Nursing to demonstrate nursing competencies comparable to the placement level requested.
6. if licensed practical/vocational nurse, successfully pass Nursing 212 and 231 Fundamentals I & II by challenge examinations (will include skills evaluation). Nursing 221 Concepts and Theory, Nursing 201-202 Pharmacology I-II and Nursing 241 Health Assessment will still be required.

Retention

1. To continue in the nursing curriculum, each student must maintain a college grade point average of 2.0 or above and a C or above in all nursing courses.
2. Progression in clinical nursing with grades less than C in non-nursing (general education) courses is permitted provided prerequisite and corequisite requirements are met. Students must remove D and F grades in all required courses in the curriculum before graduation.
 - a. A prerequisite is a course that must be completed with a C or above prior to taking the desired course.
 - b. A corequisite is a course that must be taken at the same time as the desired course or completed previously with a grade C or above. Withdrawal from one corequisite will also require withdrawal from the other corequisite course(s).
3. Students must maintain a satisfactory grade in the nursing lab portion of each clinical nursing course and must have a C or above in the theory portion of each required nursing course in order to obtain a final grade of at least a C in the course. The theory portion includes passage of a medication calculation examination.
4. If unsatisfactory clinical performance is characterized by dangerous, inappropriate, or irresponsible behavior which actually or potentially places the welfare of the client or family in jeopardy, the student will be removed from clinical client care and will receive a failing grade for that course.
5. CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation) Basic Health Care Provider certification must be kept current while enrolled in nursing courses.
6. Students enrolled in clinical nursing courses are required to have student liability insurance through the university.
7. Students must take a Dosage Calculation Exam each semester and receive a passing score (75% or above) in order to remain in the program. Two opportunities will be given each semester to obtain a passing score.
8. Students enrolled in clinical courses must annually provide negative report on drug screen and felony background checks in order to attend clinical experiences.

Readmission

1. A period of one year may elapse before a student is readmitted to B.S.N. clinical nursing program since nursing courses are taught in sequence and normally are offered only once a year.

2. Application for readmission to clinical nursing courses must be filed with the Department of Nursing by February 1 for readmission to fall semester and August 1 for readmission to spring semester. Before readmission is considered,
 - a. all grades of less than C in required non-nursing courses must have been removed if offered by UT Martin prior to the readmission date, and
 - b. the applicant will be required to demonstrate evidence of retention of knowledge and skills acquired from previous nursing courses, and
 - c. the applicant will be required to retake NLNs given in corequisite nursing courses and/or the previous level of nursing. For readmission, the applicant must make a percentile of 40% or higher on NLNs and successfully pass skill evaluations.
3. Readmission is contingent on space availability.
4. All students will be evaluated on an individual basis with consideration given to each student's potential for successfully completing the program, which includes both clinical and academic performance. Readmission may be denied even if space is available.
5. A student may repeat only one time any nursing course in which a grade of D or F had been achieved.
6. A student who receives two grades of D or below in nursing courses will not be eligible for readmission, even if the student has already repeated one of the courses and received a grade of C or above.

Note: Ineligibility for the nursing curriculum does not affect the student's eligibility for acceptance into another curriculum offered by the university.

Graduation Requirements

To receive a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree (B.S.N.) all students must:

1. satisfy the university's general education requirements for a bachelor's degree;
2. attain a grade of C or above in each of the B.S.N. curriculum requirements;
3. attain a percentile of 40 or above on the Comprehensive Nursing Achievement-RN secured, a standardized exam and;
4. complete the B.S.N. degree program.

Students already licensed as Registered Nurses may complete the B.S.N. degree program and meet the general requirements for a bachelor's degree as follows:

1. complete required non-nursing courses for which equivalent college credits have not already been received. Credit may be received for some courses through challenge or CLEP exams.
2. receive credit for Nursing 212, 221, 231, 331, 341, 401 and 406 by fulfilling one of the following options:
 - a. registered nurses with associate degrees in nursing — transfer the courses taken in their associate-degree programs in nursing for credit and presentation of a current Tennessee registered nurse license.
 - b. registered nurses with hospital diplomas — present record of a hospital diploma transcript and a current Tennessee registered nurse license as validation of knowledge and registration of the proficiency validation with the registrar.
3. complete Nursing 350 Transition to Professional Nursing in place of Nursing 321.
4. take the remainder of required nursing courses. Students may request to challenge Nursing 201, 202, 411 and 431. Three years of clinical experience within the last five years will be required to challenge either Nursing 411 or 431.

5. complete 58 semester hours from an accredited four-year school (may include challenge exams).
6. take a minimum of 20 semester hours of upper-division nursing course work in meeting the 30 semester hours residency requirement for graduation from UT Martin. RN students may establish the academic year of residence by taking a minimum of 25% of the degree semester hours at UT Martin, 20 semester hours of which must be upper-division nursing courses. RN students will be allowed to challenge upper-division courses within the residency hours, but these hours will not be counted toward residency.

Extra Costs - Subject to Change:

1. Uniform — \$100
2. White shoes, watch with a sweep second hand, stethoscopes, penlight, scissors and other clinical items — approximately \$200.00 (total cost will vary depending on selection).
3. Liability insurance — \$27.00 per year.
4. NLN achievement exams throughout the program — \$17 per exam, plus processing fees.
5. Supply pack — \$100.00 per year.

Curriculum Requirements

Bachelor of Science in Nursing Degree

General Education Courses

Microbiology 251	4
Zoology 352	4
Biological and Physical Systems (Note 1)	8
Chemistry 121, Zoology 251	
Communication	9
English 110 or 111, and 112, Communication 230	
Fine Arts (Aesthetics) elective	3
Selected from approved general education listing	
Growth and Development	3
Child and Family Studies 211 or Psychology 313	
Humanities	9
Selected from approved general education listing	
Mathematics	6
Mathematics 140 or 185 or 251, and 210	
Social and Behavioral Sciences	6
Psychology 110 and 120	
Total hours General Education	52

Note 1: Highly recommend both Chemistry 121 and 122 if considering higher education and advanced practice, e.g. a specialty area

Major Field Courses: Clinical Nursing

Nursing Level I:

Nursing 201	2
Nursing 202	2
Nursing 212	6
Nursing 221	2

Nursing 231.....	6
Nursing 241 or 312	5
<u>Nursing Level II:</u>	
Nursing 321 or 350	7/8
Nursing 331.....	7
Nursing 341.....	6
Nursing 362.....	1
<u>Nursing Level III:</u>	
Nursing 401	4
Nursing 406.....	4
Nursing 411.....	6
Nursing 431.....	6
Nursing 442.....	5
Nursing 451.....	2
Total Hours Major Field	71

Minimum hours required for a B.S.N. degree.....123

Courses Offered by the Department of Nursing

Nursing 201 Pharmacology I (F, Su)
 Nursing 202 Pharmacology II (Sp, Su)
 Nursing 212 Foundations in Nursing I (F)
 Nursing 221 Concepts and Theories in Nursing (F)
 Nursing 231 Foundations in Nursing II (Sp)
 Nursing 241 Health Assessment (Sp)
 Nursing 280-289 Topics in Health Care (F, Sp)
 Nursing 312 Health Assessment (Su)
 Nursing 321 Acute and Chronic Health Care Nursing I (F)
 Nursing 331 Acute and Chronic Health Care Nursing II (Sp)
 Nursing 341 Mental Health Nursing (F)
 Nursing 350 Transition to Professional Nursing (F)
 Nursing 362 Trends and Issues in Nursing (F, Sp)
 Nursing 380-389 Topics in Health Care (F, Sp)
 Nursing 401 Family Health Nursing (F)
 Nursing 406 Pediatric Health Care Nursing (F)
 Nursing 411 Advanced Health Care Nursing (Sp)
 Nursing 431 Community Health Nursing (F)
 Nursing 442 Leadership and Management in Nursing (Sp)
 Nursing 451 Research in Nursing (Sp)
 Nursing 480-489 Topics in Health Care (F, Sp)

Complete course descriptions can be found in the Course Description section of the catalog.