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*S*chool of Nursing

Bachelor of Science Degree with a Major in Nursing

Freshmen

Northern Illinois University's nursing program is a comprehensive major that prepares the professional nurse for leadership roles in patient care in the total spectrum of health care agencies and settings. The curriculum is approved by the Committee on Nursing of the Illinois Department of Professional Financial Regulation and accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education.

NIU admits well-qualified freshmen applicants to the nursing program. This guarantees a place in the nursing program starting second semester sophomore year, providing satisfactory academic progress is maintained.

Freshmen are applicants with fewer than 24 transferable post-secondary credit hours completed by January 15th.

Application Process – Must be Completed by January 15th

- Apply through the Office of Admissions and specify major as nursing.
- Application materials include:
 1. Application and \$40 application fee (unless the applicant is eligible for an application fee waiver)
 2. Official ACT reading score of 24 or higher or SAT EBRW score of 570 or higher or an Accuplacer score of 79 or higher which can be taken at NIU through Testing Services
 3. Official high school transcripts; including those from all colleges attended, which may include dual credit coursework, if applicable.

Admission Requirements – Must be met by January 15th

- A cumulative GPA of 2.75 or higher in all post-secondary work, which may include credit from NIU and transferable credits from any other college or university.
- Admission is competitive and will be based on such factors as previous academic performance, ACT/SAT score, and high school rank. An established NIU GPA may also be a factor considered in admission decisions.

Note:

Admitted students will begin the five (5) semester nursing curriculum after the following requirements have been met:

- A cumulative GPA of 2.75 or higher in all NIU or transferable post-secondary work
- Achieve a minimum of a C or better in all attempted prerequisite courses
- Complete all of the prerequisite courses listed below
- A drug screen and criminal background check are required of all students. A positive drug screen or negative criminal background check may result in the inability to begin the nursing program.

Prerequisite Courses outside the Department
(31-33 semester hours)

1. **BIOS 103**, General Biology (3), and **BIOS 105**, General Biology Lab (1)
2. **BIOS 213**, Introductory Bacteriology (3)
OR **BIOS 313**, Microbiology (4)
3. **BIOS 357**, Anatomy and Physiology (5)
4. **CHEM 110**, Chemistry (3), and **CHEM 111** Chemistry Lab (1),
OR **CHEM 210**, General Chemistry I (3), and **CHEM 212**, General Chemistry I Lab (1)
5. **ENGL 203**, Rhetoric and Composition II (3)
Or **ENGL 204**, Rhetoric and Composition
6. **PSYC 102**, Introduction to Psychology (3)
7. **NUTR 201**, Human Nutrition (3)
8. **HDFS 280**, Human Development, the Family, and Society (3)
Or **PSYC 225**, Lifespan Development: Childhood through Adulthood (3)
9. **STATS 208**, Basic Statistics (3)
Or **STATS 301**, Elementary Statistics (4)

BIOS 213 OR BIOS 313; and BIOS 357 must be completed within seven years of admission to the nursing program.

Requirements within the Department

(64 semester hours)

Semester I (14 credit hours)

- NURS 302 – Professional Nursing (3)
NURS 303 – Foundations of Nursing Clinical (2)
NURS 304 – Health Assessment (2)
NURS 305 – Foundations of Nursing (3)
NURS 307 – Health Assessment Application (1)
NURS 308 – Alterations in Biological Systems (3)

Semester II (13 credit hours)

- NURS 312 – Nursing Research & Evidence-based Practice (3)
NURS 313 – Adult Health Nursing I Clinical (2)
NURS 314 – Mental Health Nursing (3)
NURS 315 – Adult Health Nursing I (3)
NURS 323 – Mental Health Nursing Clinical (2)

Semester III (13 credit hours)

- NURS 318 – Adult Health Nursing II (3)
NURS 319 – Nursing Care of the Childbearing Family (3)
NURS 333 – Adult Health Nursing II Clinical (2)
NURS 336 – Pharmacology (3)
NURS 343 – Childbearing Family Clinical (2)

Semester IV (12 credit hours)

- NURS 408 – Genetics & Human Genomics (1)
NURS 419 – Population-Focused Nursing (3)
NURS 422 – Child Health Nursing (3)
NURS 425 – Nursing Informatics (1)
NURS 433 – Child Health Nursing Clinical (2)
NURS 443 – Population-Focused Nursing Clinical (2)

Semester V (12 credit hours)

- NURS 431 – Transition to Professional Nursing (3)
NURS 432 – Processes for Nursing Leadership (3)
NURS 435 – Gerontological Nursing (2)
NURS 453 – Capstone Clinical (4)

Note: The nursing curriculum requires a five (5) semester sequence. Nursing students must earn a C or better; or S, and maintain a 2.75 cumulative GPA to progress within the curriculum.

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