

COLLEGE OF NURSING

Goals

The College of Nursing is committed to the formation of professional nurses who assume leadership for providing quality health care, integrate evidence and ethics for sound decision making, and collaborate inter-professionally for advocacy of patients, families and communities in a contemporary health care environment. NU's RN-BS Completion Program builds upon the nurse's foundation of knowledge acquired in the associate degree entry level program and professional experiences. The Pre-Licensure (accelerated and four-year) programs provide the foundation of professional nursing knowledge and clinical reasoning experiences to enable students to enter the profession of nursing with the necessary education to deliver comprehensive quality health care expected of a baccalaureate prepared nurse.

Mission

The mission of Niagara University's College of Nursing is to deliver quality nursing education that prepares individuals to provide socially just care through innovative instruction, research, practice, and service.

Program

The courses in Niagara University's Bachelor of Science (BS) in Nursing are focused upon nursing science, and are organized sequentially in clinical and professional tracks. A bachelor's degree in nursing at Niagara University combines liberal arts and sciences with courses in the major.

R.N. to B.S. Program

Niagara University policies for admission as a transfer student apply to the BS Completion program. In addition, a minimum GPA of 2.5 from the associate degree program is required. Progression through the program is dependent upon successful completion of the required courses, with a grade of C+ or better in the major courses. Applicants must have an unencumbered NYS RN license or be eligible to test prior to the beginning of the program. Testing must be completed before the end of the first semester enrolled.

Pre-Licensure Program – (Four-Year and Accelerated) Nursing *

Accelerated Admission Criteria

- 3.0 Minimum Overall Grade Point Average (GPA) from prior degree (BS/BA).
- Two letters of reference
- Seven prerequisite courses must be completed with a C+ grade or higher prior to starting the accelerated program and include:
 - Anatomy and Physiology I and II; w/ lab (2 semesters)
 - Microbiology (with lab)
 - Developmental Psychology
 - Chemistry
 - Statistics
 - Pathophysiology

Four Year Admission Criteria

- A minimum of three years of high school science coursework. This should include at least one year of high school chemistry with minimum earned grades of 80% (either year end average or Regent's

exam score as applicable) and at least one year of high school biology with minimum earned grades of 80% (either year end average of Regent's exam score as applicable)

- Personal essay

*** Individuals who have already taken NCLEX-RN and possess an RN license are not eligible for these pre-licensure programs.**

Bachelors

- Nursing, Pre-Licensure Program (Four-year and ASDBS Accelerated) (<http://catalog.niagara.edu/undergraduate/programs-az/nursing/nursing-pre-licensure/>)
- Nursing, R.N. to B.S. Program (<http://catalog.niagara.edu/undergraduate/programs-az/nursing/nursing-rn-bs/>)

Courses

NRS 100 – Foundations of Professional Nursing (3 credits)

Multidimensionality of professional nursing is explored. Personal vision, values, philosophy, and goals are examined. Contemporary issues are related to scope of practice, standards of care, and legal and ethical guidelines. King's Theory of Goal Attainment exemplifies theory based practice. Other health related theories are compared to build a personal framework for practice. Evidence based practice is introduced. (formerly NUR 376)

NRS 200 – Nursing Concepts I (3 credits)

Prerequisite Must take concurrently with NUR 200L

This 1st level course introduces students to beginning generalist nursing practice. Concepts and skills basic to nursing will be integrated using traditional classroom and skills laboratory methods. A theoretical component will include scope of practice, communication, decision making, and nursing process. Generic nursing intervention skills that support planning, managing, and delivering patient care will include assessment of patients in their environment, safety and asepsis, comfort and hygiene, activities of daily living, and supportive care for mobility, respiration, nutrition, elimination, and other body functions. (Formerly NUR 350)

NRS 200L – Intro to Nursing Clinic Skills (LAB) (1 credits)

Prerequisite Must take NUR 200 concurrently

Companion lab for Nursing Concepts I (formerly NUR 350L)

NRS 210 – Health Assessment and Promotion (3 credits)

Prerequisite Must take NUR 210L concurrently.

Knowledge and skills are developed to perform and document a comprehensive health examination (physical, psychosocial, and spiritual) of a child and an adult, including unique assessment of elderly adults, using contemporary technological assessment tools. The student will identify health needs of individuals for promotion, risk reduction, and nursing intervention. (formerly NUR 354)

NRS 210L – Health Assessment Lab (LAB) (1 credits)

Prerequisite Must take NRS 210 concurrently

Companion Lab for NUR 200 Health Assessment & Promotion (formerly NUR 354L)

NRS 230 – Nursing Implications / Drug Therapy (3 credits)

Prerequisite Must have previously taken BIO 212, BIO 213L, BIO 231, BIO

This course provides an overall view of drugs used for treatment of clinical disorders of patients at all levels of the age continuum. Pertinent information about specific drug classifications, dosage, interactions, and nursing implications will be discussed. This course will cover essential content pertinent to the role of the nurse in safe pharmacological treatment of patients. (formerly NUR 356)

NRS 250 – Introduction to Nursing (3 credits)

Prerequisite Must take NRS 260 and NRS 260L concurrently

This course introduces professional nursing practice. Discussions cover the history of nursing and its impact on current nursing practice. Some major program concepts are introduced such as safety, vulnerable populations, social determinants of health, professionalism, and the New York State Nurse Practice Act. The course also covers types of healthcare environments and various healthcare team members with whom the nurse collaborates. (formerly NRS100/NUR376)

NRS 260 – Health Assessment & Lab (4 credits)

Prerequisite Student must sign up for NRS 260L section in same semester.

Health Assessment teaches the knowledge base and nursing skills necessary for a systematic and comprehensive patient assessment. The course teaches how to conduct a health history and perform a physical assessment at a beginning level. Normal assessment findings, cultural differences, common alterations from normal, and variations across the lifespan are incorporated. (formerly NRS210/210L, NUR 354/354L)

NRS 260L – Health Assessment Lab (LAB) (0 credits)

Prerequisite Student must also take NRS 260 during the same semester.

Co-requisite required lab for NRS 260.

NRS 300 – Clinical Judgement in Nursing (2 credits)

Prerequisite Must take NRS 310, NRS 310L, NRS 320, and NRS 330

This course teaches clinical judgment in nursing. All the components of clinical judgment are taught along with a clinical judgment framework students use across program nursing courses to make safe patient care decisions. Students learn specific clinical judgment competencies used to collect, assess, analyze, and evaluate data applied to simple nursing situations supporting the nursing process as well as dealing with aspects of safe practice in the current healthcare environment. This course provides the foundation for the clinical judgment process used to arrive at conclusions based on evidence that is applied throughout all nursing courses and tested on the NCLEX.

NRS 301 – Info Tech for Healthcare Communication (3 credits)

This online course familiarizes the nurse with terminology, standards and rationale for health system information technology. Computer systems to access, enter and manage information are demonstrated. Students employ search and retrieval of scientific literature to support evidence-based practice. Ethics regarding privacy, information storing, sharing, and security are discussed.

NRS 302 – Holistic Health Assmt Across Lifespan (3 credits)

This course expands on knowledge and skills of physical assessment with added dimensions of psychosocial, cultural, and spiritual needs. It emphasizes assessment skills related to newborns, children, adults, and birthing people. Content and theory are acquired and applied through interactive assignments that apply to a variety of healthcare settings.

NRS 303 – Foundations of Palliative Care (3 credits)

This course provides a comprehensive overview of the complexities of palliative care nursing across the lifespan. Content will include general principles of palliative care, advanced care planning, symptom assessment and management, psychosocial and spiritual support, end-of-life care, special patient populations, pediatric palliative care, and ethical considerations in palliative care.

NRS 304 – Community & Public Health Nursing (3 credits)

This course reviews concepts necessary for safe patient-centered care in the community. It includes concepts of public health nursing, including frameworks for health promotion and prevention, as well as epidemiological concepts and global health. Nursing content and theory are acquired in the online course and applied through interactive assignments.

NRS 305 – Ethics & Equity in Healthcare (3 credits)

This course focuses on concepts to achieve equity through practice, policy, population health, and interprofessional collaboration. It includes content related to ethical dilemmas in practice including protection of vulnerable populations. Concepts of interest include history of health equity, social determinants, conceptual frameworks, global equity, and health system interprofessional collaborations.

NRS 310 – Foundations of Nursing (7 credits)

Prerequisite Student must take NRS 310L, NRS 300, NRS 320 and NRS 330

Foundations of Nursing introduces basic concepts necessary for safe, compassionate, patient-centered nursing care for patients with well-defined healthcare concerns. Nursing content and theory are acquired and applied in the classroom and skills laboratory then further applied to patient care in various healthcare clinical settings.

NRS 310L – Foundations of Nursing Lab (LAB) (0 credits)

*Prerequisite Take NRS*310*

NRS 315 – Research in Nursing (3 credits)

Research focuses on the interpretation and use of research evidence to inform practice. This builds on previously learned concepts and applies them to the research process. Specific concepts include information management systems, evidence-based practice, patient-centered care, collaboration, and communication.

NRS 320 – General Pathophysiology (3 credits)

Prerequisite Must have previously taken BIO 212, BIO 213L, BIO 231, BIO

This course is designed to correlate basic knowledge of normal physiology with dysfunctional body mechanisms. Students will gain understanding of disease processes through the study of causative mechanisms, and the signs and symptoms which reflect disease processes and disturbances in homeostasis at the cellular, tissue, and major organ level. (formerly NUR 315/NRS 220)

NRS 330 – Pharmacology for Nursing (3 credits)

This course provides nursing theory applied to the study of pharmacology. The content provides foundational concepts related to pharmacotherapeutics that are applied in all nursing courses. The course connects nursing concepts, pathophysiology, nursing implications, and foundational knowledge for safe pharmacological care of diverse patients across the lifespan. (formerly NRS 230)

NRS 350 – Ment Hlth & Population Based Nursing (5 credits)

This course expands on nursing concepts necessary for safe, compassionate, patient-centered nursing care and applies them to the care of patients with mental health concerns and to diverse populations in various community settings.

NRS 350L – Ment Hlth & Pop Based Nrsng Lab (LAB) (0 credits)*Prerequisite Must be taken during the same semester as NRS 350*

Required Clinical and Simulation component for NRS 350.

NRS 355 – Health Policy (3 credits)

Health Policy focuses on the evaluation, development, and leadership in improving the health of the public through health policy development and health system changes. Students use policy theory to critically evaluate current and historic policies, laws, and financial incentives that affect health care delivery and nursing practice.

NRS 360 – Resilience in Nursing (2 credits)

This course provides students with resiliency skills to deal with the rapid-paced, stressful healthcare environment. Students learn how to use resilience to buffer stress, remain composed, and deal with the many unexpected situations nurses face daily.

NRS 365 – Leadership for Baccalaureate Nurse (3 credits)*Prerequisite Take NRS 315*

This course provides the opportunity to apply content to the leadership role of the professional nurse. Students will develop a capstone project. Concepts explored in this course include organization and leadership theories, interprofessional leadership, and integration of evidence-based leadership skills and competencies.

NRS 370 – Nursing Research (3 credits)

Nursing Research focuses on the interpretation and use of research evidence to inform practice. The course builds on previously learned nursing concepts and applies them to the research process. Specific concepts of interest are information management systems, evidence-based practice, patient-centered care, collaboration, and communication. The concept of clinical judgment is used to develop a research proposal that demonstrates application of nursing concepts to a topic related to improving the health of individuals or populations.

NRS 400 – Adult Health Nursing (7 credits)

Adult Health Nursing expands on nursing concepts necessary for safe, compassionate, patient-centered nursing care and applies them to adult patients with stable and unstable conditions. The course also expands on professional nursing concepts including clinical judgment and collaboration with healthcare team members. Nursing content and theory are acquired and applied in the classroom then further applied to patient care in the simulation laboratory and various healthcare clinical settings. Must be taken with NRS 400L.

NRS 400L – Adult Health Nursing Lab (LAB) (0 credits)*Prerequisite Students must take NRS 400 in same semester*

Lab, Clinical and Simulation components for NRS 400. Students must be registered for both courses in the same semester.

NRS 405 – Resilience in Nursing (3 credits)

This course provides students with resiliency skills to deal with the rapid-paced, stressful healthcare environment. Students learn how to use resilience to buffer stress, remain composed, and deal with the many unexpected situations nurses face daily.

NRS 410 – Maternal, Newborn, & Pediatric Nursing (5 credits)

This course expands on nursing concepts necessary for safe, compassionate, patient-centered nursing care and applies them to the reproducing family, the neonate, and children. Nursing content and theory are acquired and applied in the classroom then further applied to patient care in the simulation laboratory and/or various healthcare clinical settings.

NRS 410L – Maternal, Newborn & Pediatric Nurs Lab (LAB) (0 credits)**NRS 415 – Capstone for the Baccalaureate Nurse (3 credits)***Prerequisite Take NRS 365*

This course is designed to provide the RN-BSN nursing student with leadership experience reflective of a synthesis of cognitive and affective skills acquired in the program. Students will integrate knowledge of nursing research and leadership, as well as theory to design, implement, and lead a team to improve health outcomes.

NRS 420 – Nurs Practice to Improve Patient Outcome (3 credits)

This course focuses on improving patient outcomes by studying the role of the nurse in various areas of healthcare practice such as case management, quality improvement, transitional care, sentinel events, and other areas that affect patient outcomes. Related concepts that are studied include safety, healthcare quality, healthcare organizations, and health policy.

NRS 450 – Adult Health and Complex Care (7 credits)

Nursing Care of Complex Patients expands on the nursing concepts necessary for safe, compassionate, patient-centered nursing care applied to the care of patients with complex healthcare issues. The course expands on professional nursing concepts including clinical judgment and collaboration with other healthcare professionals. Nursing content and theory are acquired and applied in the classroom then further applied to patient care in the simulation laboratory and/or various healthcare clinical settings.

NRS 450L – Adult Health Complex Care Clinical (0 credits)*Prerequisite Take NRS*450***NRS 460 – Transition to Nursing Practice (3 credits)**

This advanced, comprehensive course provides a synthesis of all nursing concepts and content taught throughout the program with application using case-based learning in the classroom. This course enables the individual student to recognize areas that need enhancement prior to entering professional nursing practice. Also included is a review of content and strategies for success on the NCLEX-RN.

NRS 470 – Leadership for the Baccalaureate (3 credits)

This capstone course provides the opportunity for the student to apply nursing content to the leadership role of the professional nurse. Students complete a leadership project that demonstrates the ability to synthesize previous learning experiences from across the curriculum applied to an identified area of nursing leadership in a selected healthcare environment.

NUR 352 – The Developing Family (3 credits)*Prerequisite Must take NUR 353 concurrently with NUR 352*

Nursing science and knowledge related to the developing family, including child bearing, labor and delivery, and post-partum health and deviations will be addressed. Acute and chronic health problems of children and adolescents will be integrated with developmental needs, as related to nursing practice. Gynecological health and respective nursing practice will also be incorporated.

NUR 353 – Care of Developing Family (3 credits)*Prerequisite Must take NUR 352 concurrently with NUR 353.*

This clinical based course combines theoretical knowledge gained in NUR 352 and 466 with clinical practice. The student will apply principles of nursing science and evidence based care in the specialty areas of obstetrical, gynecological, and pediatric nursing. Inter-professional collaboration in planning and implementing care will be addressed. The role of nurse as advocate and educator in support of the family system will be addressed.

NUR 355 – Building Healthy Communities (3 credits)

Prerequisite Must have taken NUR 352 and NUR 353. Nursing students must

Epidemiological concepts are applied to health of populations. Role of nurse in planning, delivering, and evaluating programs to communities is addressed. The trans-theoretical model of stages of readiness to change is contrasted with King's Interactive system theory. Public health mandates and research-based nursing interventions are applied to population based health.

NUR 372 – Individual With Health Needs (3 credits)

Prerequisite Must take NUR 372L and NUR 399 concurrently.

In this second level course, deviations from health are contrasted with healthy states of individuals. The influence of genetics and the bio-psycho-social and spiritual components of health and related threats are discussed. Therapeutic interventions, both immediate and long term are discussed, and the role of the professional nurse examined. Therapeutic, diagnostics, and nutritional interventions for collaborative care are included.

NUR 372L – Nursing Concepts III (LAB) (1 credits)

Prerequisite Must take NUR 372 and NUR 399 concurrently

This lab course addresses skill-based competencies that are evidence based and associated with the theoretical course, NUR 372. This course will introduce skill-based competencies, grounded in evidence to inform practice. The lab skills are specific to the health needs and health deviations of individuals. The clinical skills introduced in this course include: . Parenteral Medication Administration . Medication Reconstitution . Oxygen Therapy . Intravenous infusions, both Primary and Secondary . Advanced Wound Care . Insertion of Nasogastric Tubes and Tube Feedings . Colostomy/Ileostomy Care . Bladder Catheterization and Catheter Care . Tracheostomy Care & Suctioning

NUR 399 – Clinical Care of Individual (3 credits)

Prerequisite Take NUR 372 and NUR 372L concurrently.

In this clinical course, the student applies principles of nursing care management, knowledge, and skills associated with the delivery of professional nursing care appropriate to patient health needs that is based on mutual goal setting with patients, inter-professional collaboration with colleagues and research based evidence in health care delivery settings.

NUR 401 – Honor Thesis I (3 credits)**NUR 402 – Honors Thesis 2 (3 credits)****NUR 430 – Mental Health Nursing (3 credits)**

*Prerequisite Must have previously taken NUR*352 and NUR*353. Nursing*

This course focuses on nursing science and knowledge applicable to the client with psychiatric mental health disorders. The course will focus on the role of the professional nurse in various psychiatric treatment settings as well as current treatment modalities. The client population includes children, adolescents, and adults. The course will also include an experiential learning experience to provide the student with an opportunity to apply theoretical knowledge to clinical practice.

NUR 450 – Research Process for Evidence Based Care (3 credits)

Prerequisite Must have previously taken MAT 102.

Emphasis is on accessing, analyzing, and critiquing research in scientific literature to determine implications for practice. The scientific process to conduct research is examined. Ethical considerations are discussed. The professional nurse's role in identifying potential research problems, participating in research, evaluating its content, and synthesizing findings for evidence-based practice is examined.

NUR 460 – Complex Patient Centered Care (3 credits)

Prerequisite Must have previously taken PSY 201, NUR 315, NUR 356, NUR

This course focuses on nursing science and knowledge applicable to persons with imbalances of health in complex conditions. Bio/psycho/social threats and genetic implications in relation to complex health imbalances will be examined. Unique aspects of age and developmentally appropriate communication, therapeutics, and nutritional interventions will be related to specific complex health imbalances. Nursing implications will be discussed.

NUR 460L – Nursing Concepts IV Lab (1 credits)

Prerequisite Must take NUR 460 and NUR 461 concurrently with NUR 460L

This lab course addresses skill-based competencies that are evidence based and associated with the theoretical course, NUR 460. Skills are related to nursing care of persons with imbalances of health in complex conditions. The lab will prepare students for complex clinical skills. The clinical skills introduced in this course include: . Care and Maintenance of Central Venous Catheters/PICC lines . Total Parenteral Nutrition Administration . Administration of Blood/Blood Products . Venipuncture & Initiation of an Intravenous Catheter . Cardiac Monitoring/Code Cart Orientation . Care of Chest Drainage Systems/Chest Tubes

NUR 461 – Clin Care Complx Disease Mngt (3 credits)

Prerequisite Must take NUR 460 and NUR 460L concurrently with NUR 461.

This clinical course combines knowledge gained in NUR 460 with clinical practice in the care of the maturing individual and family. Contemporary evidence based nursing interventions are used to design and deliver patient focused care to persons with imbalances of health due to complex conditions. Skill in providing developmentally appropriate communication, therapeutics, pharmacological, and nutritional nursing interventions will be a major focus.

NUR 463 – Nursing in Community Health (3 credits)

Prerequisite Must take NUR 356 and NUR 430 concurrently with NUR 463

This upper level clinical course combines theoretical knowledge gained in NUR 355 with clinical care of the community. The student utilizes the nursing process, research findings, and multi-disciplinary collaboration for health promotion, restoration, and maintenance of health of populations. The role of the nurse in community and public health is emphasized.

NUR 466L – Nsg Care Fam Lifespan (LAB) (0 credits)

*Prerequisite Must have taken NUR*376 and NUR*354;*

This course focuses upon knowledge and skills to apply nursing science and process to families across the life span. Emphasis is on family as a social system and includes mental health and psychological concerns. The nurse assumes role of advocate, collaborator, case manager and change partner to maintain health, treat deficiencies, facilitate restoration, support end of life.

NUR 468 – Information Technology: Tool for Health (AS) (3 credits)

This online course familiarizes the nurse with terminology, standards, and rationale for health system information technology. Computer systems to access, enter, and manage information are demonstrated. Students employ search and retrieval of scientific literature to support evidence-based practice. Ethics regarding privacy, information storing, sharing, and security are discussed.

NUR 470 – Leadership in Health Care Environments (3 credits)

Prerequisite Must have already taken NUR 376, NUR 464, NUR 372, and MAT

System thinking is applied to health care. The role of mission and vision in creating a values-driven organizational culture is discussed. Strategic planning, corporate ethics, leadership styles, and theories of change are related to health systems. Trends in public policy are applied to health care, and interdisciplinary relationships are described.

NUR 474 – Principles of Leadership (3 credits)

Prerequisite Must have taken NUR 352, NUR 353. Nursing

Principles of leadership, administration, and management are explored in relation to nursing practice and health care delivery. Styles of leadership, dynamics of administration, and tools of management are examined and applied to the unique business and service of the health care industry and nursing.

NUR 480 – Senior Nursing Seminar (3 credits)

Prerequisite

*PREREQS:*NUR376,NUR350,NUR315,NUR354,NUR356,NUR372,NUR399,NUR

The focus of this seminar is to integrate and apply knowledge, skills, and understanding of complex concepts required for transition into professional nursing. Case based scenarios and analysis of NCLEX concepts and strategies will prepare the student for successful transition into practice.

NUR 485 – Internship (3 credits)

Prerequisite Must have taken NUR 355, NUR 430, NUR 450, NUR 463, NUR 474.

This capstone course provides experiences to synthesize and apply baccalaureate nursing knowledge and skills in the professional nurse role. A concentrated clinical will be coordinated with a prepared clinical agency preceptor and the student in selected areas of nursing. Experiences that enhance the newly defined professional role are emphasized.

NUR 495 – Special Topics (3 credits)**NUR 497 – Topic: (1 credits)****NUR 499 – Independent Study (3 credits)**