



**DEPARTMENT OF NURSING**  
**Undergraduate Nursing Student Handbook**

**2020 - 2022**



## **Department of Nursing Greetings!**

Welcome to the Bowie State University (BSU) Department of Nursing Undergraduate Nursing Program! This is an exciting time to return to school and pursue nursing education. Our faculty and staff are eager to assist you in attaining your career goals and objectives. The Undergraduate Nursing Program provides a rigorous and challenging educational experience. Planning ahead and time management are essential components for success. Resources are available in the University and within the Department of Nursing to assist you to achieve your goals and objectives in this academic pursuit. The nursing faculty will facilitate your learning and socialization into the professional nursing arena. The faculty is also available to answer your questions or concerns. We strongly encourage you to seek assistance or guidance as early as necessary.

This handbook includes the policies and procedures governing the Undergraduate Nursing Program and we urge you to review the content carefully. You are accountable for adhering to the policies and procedures outlined in this handbook. In addition, you are expected to review and abide by the policies stipulated in the BSU Undergraduate Academic Catalog.

We are delighted that you have chosen BSU! We sincerely believe that you will be successful in achieving your nursing educational goals in continuing your journey of lifelong learning!

Kindest regards,  
Dr. Jacqueline J. Hill, Chairperson  
Department of Nursing Bowie State University

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## **BOWIE STATE UNIVERSITY POLICY STATEMENT**

Bowie State University shall not discriminate against any individual on the basis of race, color, religion, age, ancestry or national origin, sex, sexual orientation, disability, marital status or veteran status. All policies, programs, and activities of Bowie State University are and shall be in conformity with all pertinent Federal and State laws of nondiscrimination, including, but not limited to: Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; the Equal Pay Act of 1963; the Age Discrimination Act; the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990; Federal Executive Order No. 11373; and Article 49B of the Annotated Code of Maryland. This commitment applies in all areas and embraces faculty, staff, and students.

Equal opportunity of access to academic and related programs shall be extended to all persons. Bowie State University shall have as its firm objective equal opportunity in recruitment and hiring, rate of pay, all other promotions, training, retention and dismissals, for all employees and applicants for employment. The University will stress equal access for employees and applicants for employment to all programs and services provided by the University both on and off campus.

The University will also provide equal opportunity and an atmosphere of nondiscrimination with respect to women and members of minority groups in all its operations. In addition, the University shall promote equal opportunity and equal treatment through a positive and continuing Affirmative Action Program. From the Bowie State University Policies and Procedures Manual – Section VI – 1.00. Equal Opportunity Policy Statement.

## **DEPARTMENT OF NURSING PHILOSOPHY**

The nursing curricula are developed and implemented based on the faculty's beliefs about professional nursing education and professional nursing practice, the nature of the client, health, and the environment. We believe that in order to meet the current and future needs of the global communities, a professional nursing education must prepare graduates to provide therapeutic and culturally congruent care in a variety of settings. Professional nursing education encourages the development of caring behaviors, therapeutic communication, social awareness, and collaborative skills that facilitate academic and personal development. The faculty believes that professional nursing education also prepares learners to think critically, to apply clinical reasoning, to adapt to technological changes, make optimal use of educational environments, and to pursue continued education as a goal-directed, lifelong process.

**Professional nursing practice** is dynamic, complex, and integral to the health care system. Through evidence-based practice, nurses use research findings to make clinical decisions that facilitate health promotion, disease prevention, and health restoration to clients across the lifespan. The demonstration of caring behaviors, therapeutic communication, and culturally congruent care are vital in the provision of client-centered care. Professional nursing practice adheres to an established framework of ethical principles, legal regulations, and standards of practice to provide high-quality, safe, and competent care.

**The professional nursing role** utilizes the nursing process, and incorporates research activities, health policies, information technology, and clinical leadership in caring for the client. Thus, lifelong education is crucial to professional growth and development.

**Clients** are the consumers of nursing services. They are comprised of individuals, families, groups, and communities. We believe that the client is continually responding to the internal and external environment, and is capable of achieving optimal health, or a dignified death.

**Health** is a variable state that exists along a continuum of wellness to illness and is defined by the client. Health is influenced by a variety of factors such as spirituality, cultural practices, and environmental stimuli. Health outcomes are determined by the client's ability to cope with environmental factors, and to access the health care system.

**Environment** is the internal and external factors that impact the client's state of health. The environment influences the client, regardless of whether it is perceived or not.

### **Department of Nursing Programs**

**Undergraduate nursing education** is a composition of knowledge in the natural sciences, liberal arts, nursing technology, research, and clinical decision-making. The undergraduate nursing educational process prepares the learner, as a generalist, to practice holistically in a variety of settings within the ethical and legal framework of professional nursing. Graduates are educated to become leaders, advocates, consumers of research, and collaborators as members of the health care team. The following concepts are essential to undergraduate nursing education: caring behaviors, communication, culturally congruent care, evidence-based practice, professional nursing role, and critical thinking.

**Graduate nursing education** builds upon the generalist foundation of undergraduate education to prepare nurses for advanced practice roles. Graduate education provides the student with opportunities to develop expertise and specialized knowledge in the care of clients and populations. The graduate program is organized using core, supporting, and specialty content. Graduate nursing education incorporates evidence-based practice that enables nurses to participate in health policy development, research, health promotion, and management, with emphasis on diverse and vulnerable populations. Advanced practice nursing roles include nurse practitioners, clinical nurse specialists, nurse administrators, and nurse educators. We believe that the advanced practice nursing roles are integral to meeting the current and future health needs of society.

### **VISION**

The Department of Nursing will offer a pathway to excellence in nursing practice. Graduates will be prepared to address the evolving health care needs of local and global communities.

## **MISSION**

The mission of the Department of Nursing is to provide quality academic programs offering learners the foundation upon which to expand their knowledge base and pursue advanced study. The nursing curricula are designed to prepare professional nurses who demonstrate excellence in evidence-based practice, think critically, apply ethical principles and clinical reasoning, demonstrate leadership skills, value diversity and participate in or conduct research which benefits the local and global community. The Department of Nursing is committed to increasing diverse representation in the nursing profession.

## **GOALS**

1. To provide quality programs supportive of the learning needs of diverse learners so that they may accomplish their educational goals.
2. To provide an environment supportive of quality instruction, the use of technology, scholarly endeavors, and critical thinking.
3. To maintain faculty support systems and staff development programs that foster creativity and facilitate the faculty's contributions to higher education and the nursing profession.
4. To maximize opportunities for students and faculty to participate in the internal operations of the University so as to foster optimal communications and ensure maximum involvement in the development and maintenance of programs and services.
5. To engage in cooperative and collaborative relationships with regional communities that will promote health and nursing.

## **PROGRAM OVERVIEW**

### **Bachelor of Science in Nursing**

The Department of Nursing offers a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BS) for students interested in becoming a professional nurse. Students may select from the traditional option or the accelerated option. Second degree and transfer students are eligible to select the accelerated option. Graduates of this program meet the criteria to take the state licensure examination to become registered professional nurses.

Registered Nurses who hold an unencumbered license to practice nursing in the State of a Maryland or Compact State may apply for admission to the Bachelor of Science (BS) with a major in Nursing (RN to BSN) completion program. In the baccalaureate program, RN students expand their knowledge and skills to become professional nurses.

Graduates will be critical thinkers who have the ability to provide nursing care in a variety of healthcare settings, assume leadership roles, and adapt to the changing healthcare environment. The baccalaureate program provides a foundation for graduate education. To complete a BS degree, the student must complete 123 credits for the

Traditional BS Nursing Option, 120 credits for the Accelerated BS Nursing Option and 120 credits for the RN to BSN program option.

### **CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE UNDERGRADUATE NURSING PROGRAM**

The conceptual framework is an extension of the philosophy and objectives of the Department of Nursing. It provides the design for sequencing the curriculum. The design enables faculty and students to comprehend, integrate, and synthesize curriculum content.

The curriculum is designed based on two major organizing themes: pervasive and progressive. The pervasive concepts comprising this framework, as it relates to client-centered care, are caring behaviors and cultural congruency, within an ethical and legal framework. The progressive concepts are reflected in the level objectives, and throughout the curriculum. They include critical thinking, communication, professional nursing role, research and evidence-based practice, and leadership. These progressive concepts indicate the successive levels of skill acquisition expected of nursing students as they progress in the program. Each of these organizing themes is defined and elaborated within the level objectives and courses.

### **END OF PROGRAM STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES (EPSLOs)**

Upon completion of the Undergraduate Nursing Program, the graduate will be able to:

1. Implement nursing process and caring behaviors with individuals, families, and communities.
2. Utilize critical thinking and clinical reasoning to promote optimal wellness with individuals, families and communities.
3. Utilize communication, technology, and inter-professional collaboration to provide safe and effective care.
4. Integrate culturally congruent care for clients across the life span.
5. Utilize evidence-based findings for clinical decision-making in nursing practice.
6. Apply health policies from legislative and governing bodies into clinical nursing practice while adhering to legal and ethical principles.
7. Demonstrate the ability to address the changing health care needs of diverse populations representing the global community.

### **UNDERGRADUATE CURRICULUM LEVEL CONCEPTS**

Number	Concepts	Sophomore	Junior	Senior
1	Caring Behaviors	Demonstrate caring behaviors in the performance of basic nursing skills.	Integrate caring behaviors in nursing interventions.	Implement nursing process and caring behaviors with individuals, families, and communities.
2	Critical Thinking	Apply critical thinking skills in the performance of basic nursing assessment and practices.	Utilize critical thinking skills to determine priority nursing care needs for individuals and families.	Utilize critical thinking and clinical reasoning to promote optimal wellness with individuals, families and communities.
3	Communication	Apply therapeutic communication techniques in nurse-client interactions.  Demonstrate basic clinical documentation skills.	Implement therapeutic communication skills that incorporate appropriate strategies of care for clients across the lifespan.  Implement effective communications skills with members of the healthcare team.	Utilize communication, technology, and inter-professional collaboration to provide safe and effective nursing care.
4	Culturally Congruent Care	Identify the influence of culture on health beliefs and practices.  Differentiate health beliefs and practices that vary among selected groups.	Recognize the impact of culture on the nurse-patient relationship.  Integrate interventions that respect and are consistent with the cultural beliefs, behaviors, and traditions of the client.	Integrate culturally congruent care concepts for clients across the life span.
5	Research and Evidence-based Practice	Describe how nurses use research. Define evidence-based practice.	Examine the research process. Identify components of research publications.	Utilize critical thinking and clinical reasoning to promote optimal wellness with individuals, families and communities

Number	Concepts	Sophomore	Junior	Senior
6	Ethical and Legal Framework	Describe ethical standards that guide nursing practice.  Describe the purposes and roles of the Maryland government in legislating nursing practice.  Demonstrate adherence to the policies and standards of the BSU Department of Nursing.	Integrate ethical behaviors into nursing care. Implement nursing interventions within the legal scope of practice, as interpreted by the Maryland Nurse Practice Act.	Apply health policies from legislative and governing bodies into clinical nursing practice while adhering to legal and ethical principles.
7	Leadership	Explore the leadership role within the context of group.	Demonstrate accountability and beginning leadership abilities in nursing practice.	Demonstrate the ability to address the changing health care needs of diverse populations representing the global community.

### **UNDERGRADUATE NURSING ADMISSION POLICIES**

The policies in this section of the handbook are applicable to ***baccalaureate students*** enrolled in the nursing program. These policies are consistent with and supplement Bowie State University policies. The *Bowie State University Undergraduate Catalog* is the principal document governing policies and procedures for students. Students are responsible for accessing and reviewing the documents that govern undergraduate students.

#### **BSU Admission Policy**

Applicants who plan to pursue admission to the Department of Nursing must obtain admission to the university through the Office of Admissions. University admission policies can be found on the web site.

#### **Nursing Admission Policy**

The Bowie State University (BSU) Department of Nursing allows admission to the following program options:

- Traditional Program Option
- Accelerated Program Option (on hold)
- RN to BSN Program Option (on hold)

### **Admissions - Traditional Option:**

Admission to the Traditional program option is offered to second semester sophomore and transfer status students at Bowie State University, who have completed the required general education courses to become eligible for admission to the Traditional program option.

The Traditional program option is designed to be completed in four years. The freshman and sophomore year courses consist of general education program pre-requisites at Bowie State University (BSU). Years three and four are comprised of upper division nursing courses.

*Candidates must apply for admission to the program. Application dates and deadlines are announced by the Department of Nursing at the beginning of each fall and spring semester.*

### **Eligibility Requirements:**

***In order to be considered for admission to the Traditional program option, candidates must meet the following requirements:***

- Acceptance to Bowie State University (BSU)
- Cumulative GPA of 2.75 or better
- GPA of 3.0 or better in prerequisite sciences
- Successful completion of all nursing program general education course requirements
- No failure or grade less than a C in any required program admission general education course
- Completion of all required Science courses within 5 years of their admission date to the program
- No more than a total of two (2) withdrawals or audits in any pre-requisite course (*Withdrawals and audits cannot be within the same course*)
- Submission of an application to the Department of Nursing during the Sophomore year (*See nursing website for application dates and deadlines*)
- Transfer applicants must include sealed official transcripts from each institution attended as ONE nursing application packet (*Nursing courses are not transferable to BSU*)
- A personal statement of your goals and objectives (400 words, typed and double-spaced)

***The Department of Nursing will not accept applications until the established application submission dates.***

Admission and information for the Traditional program option are also available on the web site.

**Admissions - Accelerated Option (*on hold*)**

The Accelerated Nursing Option is designed for transfer students who possess an undergraduate degree from any academic discipline.

Candidates are admitted each year and begin their matriculation during the BSU Summer Session I semester.

The Accelerated Nursing Program Option is designed to be completed in eighteen (18) months, consisting of a Summer Session, Fall Session, Winter Session, Spring Session, Summer Session and a Fall Session. Candidates are enrolled continuously each session until program completion and graduation.

***Candidates must apply for admission each spring semester. Application dates and deadlines are announced by the Department of Nursing at the start of each fall semester with graduation in December***

**Eligibility Requirements:**

***In order to be considered for admission to the accelerated program option, candidates must meet the following eligibility requirements:***

- Acceptance to Bowie State University (BSU)
- Transfer credits from a Community College or graduation from an accredited higher education program with a Bachelor's degree from any discipline
- Cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better
- GPA of 3.0 or better in prerequisite science and math courses
- Successful completion of all program admission general education course requirements
- Completion of all required Science courses within 5 years of their admission date to the program
- No failure or grade less than a C in any required program admission general education course
- No more than a total of two (2) withdrawals or audits in any pre-requisite course (*Withdrawals and audits cannot be within the same course*)
- Evidence of success as a full-time student (*12 or more credits in one semester*)
- Submission of an application to the Department of Nursing in the Spring Semester (*See nursing website for application dates and deadlines*).

- *The Department of Nursing will not accept applications until the established application submission dates.*
- Sealed Official transcript documentation confirming a Bachelor's degree from any academic program. Sealed transcript must be submitted with program application as ONE packet. *(Nursing courses are not transferable to BSU)*
- A personal statement of your goals and objectives (400 words, typed and double-spaced)

Admission program information and application for the Accelerated program option are also available on the web site.

### **Admission Requirements & Criteria:**

- Must have successfully completed all general education courses required for the baccalaureate nurse program
- Must have a 3.0 cumulative GPA
- Must have a 3.0 cumulative GPA in science and math courses
- Science courses completed within 5 years of admission date
- Must have evidence of success as a full-time student (12 or more credits in one semester)
- There are a designated number of admissions established each year.

### **Admissions - RN TO BSN in Nursing Option (on hold)**

Admission to the RN to BSN Nursing option admission is open to candidates possessing an Associate Degree (ADN) or a Diploma in Nursing and an unencumbered active Registered Nurse (RN) license within the State of Maryland or a compact state. The length of the RN to BSN Nursing option is two (2) years full-time, but no longer than three (3) years. The two years consists of the Junior and Senior year.

*Candidates are admitted and matriculate into the RN to BSN program option during the fall or spring semester.*

***Candidates must apply each fall and spring semester. Application dates and deadlines are announced by the Department of Nursing.***

### **Eligibility Requirements:**

***In order to be considered for admission to this nursing RN to BSN program option, candidates must meet the following eligibility requirements:***

In order to be considered for admission to this nursing option, candidates must meet the following requirements:

- Acceptance to Bowie State University BSU)

- Graduation from an accredited higher education program with a minimum of an Associate Degree in Nursing (ADN)
- An active license as a Registered Nurse in the state of Maryland
- Successful completion of all general education courses as required for program matriculation
- No failure or grade less than a C in any required program admission general education course
- Minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale
- Submission of the RN to BSN application (*See website for application dates and deadline information*)
- Sealed official transcripts of each institution attended with the nursing application as ONE packet.
- Three letters of recommendation (*a reference from your immediate supervisor and two from professional colleagues*)
- Submission of the RN to BSN application (*See website for application dates and deadline information*)
- Current CPR certification
- Current Maryland RN licensure
- A personal statement of goals and objectives (*400 words, typed and double-spaced*)
- A completed physical examination/health history (*Form provided in application*)
- Current professional resume
- Student profile sheet (*Form provided in application*)

#### RN to BSN Admission Requirements

- Licensure as a Maryland RN
- Admission to BSU as a degree seeking student
- Minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale
- Successful completion of nursing prerequisite courses with a grade of “C” or higher
- Submission of the completed Department of Nursing application package

### **UNDERGRADUATE NURSING GENERAL POLICIES**

**Academic Honesty and Dishonesty** - Nursing students are expected to conform to a strict standard of academic honesty. In addition to information included in the

Bowie State University Undergraduate Catalog, academic dishonesty includes exhibiting unethical or illegal behaviors including falsification of documents. Students are required to sign the *Academic Honesty and Dishonesty* form, which is placed in the student's academic folder in the nursing department. Students will be recommended for dismissal from the nursing program when academic dishonesty is confirmed.

**Cancellation of Classes** - Cancellation of classes by the University is broadcast over local radio and television stations. When classes are cancelled clinical experiences are also cancelled.

**Class Attendance** - Students are expected to attend and participate in all class sessions. Students are required to notify faculty of absences or delays. Students are responsible for all academic content covered at all times.

**Clock Hours and Credit Hours** – In lecture courses, one credit hour is equal to a fifty (50) minute time period per week. In clinical courses one credit hour is equal to four (4) clock hours of clinical.

**Communication Methods** – The faculty and staff provide program and curriculum information through the use of Bowie email accounts, Blackboard Learning Management System (LMS), announcements in appropriate classes, posting on the Department of Nursing bulletin board, and the Nursing Department web site.

Students are expected to review these electronic sources at least weekly. Technology is an integral part of the nursing curriculum.

**Financial Aid** – Financial assistance at BSU is available through various sources. Opportunities are available to students to receive funds if they meet the specified criteria. Personnel in the Financial Aid Office will assist students in exploring financial assistance for which they may be eligible. The Financial Aid Office is located in Suite 1100 of the Henry Administration Building.

**Governance** – It is expected that students will participate in governance within the Department of Nursing (DON) and in the University. The mechanism for participation in governance of the University is through the BSU Student Government Association. The mechanism for participation in the governance of the department of nursing is through the Student Nurses Association and student representation on the DON Faculty Organization and Undergraduate Curriculum Committee. Input from students regarding the courses and activities of the DON is encouraged and welcomed. It is therefore the responsibility of students to serve as representatives to the Faculty Organization and Undergraduate Curriculum Committee. The Student Nurses Association (SNA) will hold elections annually, in the FALL to select representatives to the Faculty Organization and Undergraduate Curriculum Committee (UCC). The Student Nurses Association shall elect one student representative from each cohort admitted.

**Grading Criteria** – The grading scale for undergraduate students in the Department of Nursing is as follows:

- **A = 92 – 100**
- **B = 83 – 91**
- **C = 75 – 82**
- **D = 68 – 74**
- **F = below 67.5**

Final course grades of 74.5 or higher in all nursing courses will be rounded up to the next whole number. A grade below 75 will result in failure of the nursing course.

**Late Assignments** – Late submission of assignments late will not receive credit unless a specific authorization has been granted by the faculty for health or other reasons. In the event of illness or emergency, students are responsible for making arrangements with the appropriate faculty member.

**Office Hours** – The Department of Nursing Administrative Office is open Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. All faculty maintain office hours, which are listed on course syllabi, in the nursing administrative office, and next to the office door of each faculty member.

**Request for Leave of Absence** – Students may request a leave of absence for personal or family medical emergencies. Students requesting a leave of absence for medical emergencies must have official documentation to support the request. Students are strongly encouraged to make the request in writing 14 days prior to the start of the intended leave. The student must also meet with their advisor regarding this request. The approval for the leave request will be made by the Faculty Organization. Student progression in the nursing program after returning from a leave of absence will be determined by the faculty based on course availability.

**Required Fees** – Throughout the nursing program, students are required to pay for the following items:

- Assessment Technologies Institute (ATI) Examinations
- Clinical Laboratory fees are collected as part of the semester charges and are in addition to any and all charges for tuition, room, board, and other general BSU student fees.

**Unexcused Lateness/Absence** - Students are expected to report to the clinical setting and classrooms on time (specific time as specified by the faculty in the course). Students must provide appropriate notification of lateness or absence to the clinical instructor, preceptor, and/or clinical site.

If a student is late for the clinical experience, the clinical instructor or preceptor has the

right to inform the student that they cannot participate in clinical activities for that day. Lateness will be converted to absences using the following formula:

- Two (2) occurrences of lateness in a 2 credit course = 1 absence
- Two (2) absences may result in failure of the clinical course.

### **UNDERGRADUATE NURSING PROGRESSION POLICY**

**Progression** – Nursing course content is planned in a sequential manner so that each course builds upon previous course content. Students must complete all courses sequentially as outlined in the progression plan according to the nursing program option into which they were admitted. Students must be enrolled into the corresponding clinical nursing courses when enrolled in the didactic course. Students must satisfactorily complete the clinical and didactic courses to progress to the next level. Students who are unsuccessful in one of the courses must retake both the didactic and corresponding clinical course.

***In order to progress in the nursing program, students must earn a grade of “C” or better in the general education courses.***

*Progressive testing with standardized exams will be used to evaluate student competence of completed course materials. Opportunities for online practice prior to each exam will be provided. Two attempts are allowed for each exam. Students must achieve minimal proficiency level in order to progress in the nursing program. Students who are unsuccessful after two attempts but have successfully completed the course must complete 20 hours of remediation.*

***Changing nursing options is not permitted. Students must complete their assigned nursing progression plan within five (5) years from the date of admission into the nursing program.***

**Academic Standing** – All students are required to complete a minimum of **66 CREDITS** in the nursing major according to their progression plan.

***(Nursing students must earn a grade of “C” or higher in all nursing courses and maintain a 2.5 grade point average (GPA) in nursing courses to be in good academic standing.)***

### **ASSESSMENT TECHNOLOGIES INSTITUTE (ATI) POLICY**

**Purpose:** *To describe policies and procedures related to ATI testing in all program options of the Undergraduate Program in the Department of Nursing, College of Professional Studies.*

#### **Section I. Overview of ATI**

What is ATI? Assessment Technologies Institute® (ATI) offers an assessment driven review program designed to enhance students' NCLEX-RN® success. ATI is a

comprehensive program that offers multiple assessment and remediation activities, including: assessment indicator for academic success; assessment for critical thinking, learning styles inventory or test-taking anxiety assessment, online tutorial and focused review, online practice assessments, proctored testing in major nursing content areas, intensive NCLEX preparation during the last semester with ATI Capstone and ATI Live Review (3 days). These ATI tools, in combination with the nursing program curriculum content, assist students to prepare for NCLEX-RN®. Data from student testing and remediation are used for program quality improvement and outcome evaluation. ATI information and orientation resources can be accessed from the student's home page. It is highly recommended that students spend time navigating through these orientation materials.

### **Content Mastery Series Assessments**

<b>Course</b>	<b>ATI Assessment</b>
NURS 348 Adult Practice	RN Fundamentals
NURS 308 Pharmacology	RN Pharmacology
NURS 380 Maternal Newborn and Women's Health Nursing	RN Maternal Newborn
NURS 385 Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing	RN Mental Health
NURS 406 Nursing Practice: Community	RN Community Health
NURS 410 Care of Complex Clients	RN Medical Surgical
NURS 415 Nursing Care of the Child and Family	RN Nursing Care of Children
NURS 425 Transition into Professional Nursing	RN Leadership

### **Practice Assessments**

1. Prior to taking the first end-of-course Proctored Assessment (Content Mastery), students are required to complete ATI Tutorials and Practice Assessments A and B without rationales. Tutorials are accessible continuously throughout the semester. Practice Assessment A and B will be scheduled as indicated on the course calendar. Practice assessment A will be accessible for 24 hours. Students must achieve Level 2 on practice assessments in order to pass the course.
2. Students are encouraged to use their required course textbooks, lectures, and ATI materials to prepare for class and remediate.
3. The Practice A Assessment must be completed by week 12 of the semester. Students are expected to complete the Practice A Assessment on their own.
4. After completion of Practice A Assessment, students performing below

Level 2 will complete the Focused Review prior to taking Practice Assessment B in class. Individual faculty will ensure focused review completion and remediation of identified problem areas and/or referral to the Nursing Student Success Center (NSSC), based on assessment results. Documentation of NSSC participation must be provided to the course faculty.

5. The Practice B Assessment must be completed before the end-of-course Proctored Assessment. Individual faculty will ensure focused review completion and remediation of identified problem areas and/or referral to the NSSC, based on assessment results.
6. The ATI Coordinator will schedule the end-of-course Proctored Assessment (Content Mastery Series). The schedule for the end-of-course Proctored Assessment will be emailed to the faculty during the week prior to the beginning of the semester.
7. Focused Reviews following practice examinations are strongly encouraged and necessary preparation for specific end-of-course Proctored Assessments and RN Comprehensive Predictor Examination.

### ***End-of-Course Proctored Assessment Requirements***

1. The specific end-of-course Proctored Assessment (Content Mastery Series) will be given by week 14 for the Fall and Spring semesters and week 8 for the Summer semester. Level 2 is the Institutional Benchmark for passing all specific end-of-course Proctored Assessment (Content Mastery Series). Students who are not successful on the first attempt of the end-of-course proctored Content Mastery exam are highly encouraged to attend a review session and or participate in remediation activity. Review sessions will be based on the NSSC schedule.
2. Students who do not achieve Level 2 on the first attempt of the end-of-course Content Mastery exam will have a second attempt during week 16 for the Fall and Spring semesters, and week 10 for the Summer semester. Students who do not achieve Level 2 on the second end-of-course Content Mastery exam will not progress to the next semester and will receive a grade of “F” in the course. Students will be required to repeat the theory and clinical components of the course as scheduled (effective Spring 2021).

### ***RN Comprehensive Predictor Examination***

1. The RN Comprehensive Predictor Examination, given in NURS 499, is required for all prelicensure students.
2. Students have two opportunities to pass the RN Comprehensive Predictor

Examination.

3. Students are required to achieve a score of 74.0%-74.7%, which indicates a 94%-95% probability for passing the NCLEX-RN® Examination.
4. After the second attempt of the RN Comprehensive Predictor Examination, students who achieve a score of < 74% will:
  - a. Earn an “F” in NURS 499
  - b. Not be eligible to graduate.
  - c. If NURS 499 is the first course failure, the student will be required to re-take NURS 499 in the following semester.
5. If NURS 499 is the second course failure, the student will be dismissed from the program.

### **Test-Taking Protocol for the Department of Nursing**

*The “Test-Taking Protocols” will be read to the students assembled at the time of the Test. If any of the items below are documented by the proctor, the consequences will be enforced to the fullest extent of the University Plagiarism and Academic Honesty and Dishonesty Policies.*

1. Students may only bring a pen or pencil into the testing area. All materials passed out with the tests are collected from each student when the test is submitted.
2. The Proctor does not answer any questions once the tests are passed out.
3. The following items may not be brought into the Test-Taking areas nor accessed at any time during the examination session.
  - Any educational, test preparation or study materials (books or notes of any kind).
  - Cell/mobile/smart phones, smart watches, blue-tooth, fitness bands, pagers, jump drives, cameras or any other electronic devices.
  
  - Coats, sweaters with hoods, jackets with hoods (no hoodies), tablets, or calculators
  - No earplugs
  - No beverages

4. Students are seated every other chair and/or assigned randomized seating. Large classes may be divided up to maintain the integrity of the Test-Taking environment.
5. Test items are randomized, and a different test given every other seat.
6. When possible, two or more proctors are used in the Test-Taking areas to maintain the integrity of the environment.
7. Students must remain in their seats for the duration of the examination. Students who are unable to sit continuously for a two-hour examination related to an emergency circumstance, must be accompanied by a proctor or escort to be permitted back into the test-taking area.
8. Students who leave the test-taking area without a proctor or escort, will not be permitted back into the test-taking area.
9. Students may not engage in disruptive behavior at any time while in the test taking area.
10. Students are suspected of cheating if they display the following behavior (s):
  - Looking on another student's paper
  - Holding their test paper in the air
  - Wandering eyes
  - Sitting idle, looking all around without writing
  - Looking at palms of hands, arms, and desktops in a manner as though they are looking for notes
  - Talking to other students or trying to get their attention
  
  - Picking up items from the floor
  - Attempting to not take the examination with the class for the assigned session
11. Based on the findings of the proctor, students' demonstrating behavior suspicious of cheating may receive one or all of the following

consequences:

- Student may be seated elsewhere.
- An alternative version of the test will be provided for the student to take.
- Students may be asked to leave the test-taking area and forfeit taking the examination based on objective findings indicating that test-taking integrity has been breached.

12. Neither the computer, nor the test-taking booklet should be changed.

**Advisement** – All students must meet with their advisor to prepare for registration each semester and in a proactive manner throughout the semester. Advisement sessions are used for planning student progression, discussing personal and professional issues and concerns, and obtaining assistance that may be needed. Students are encouraged to make an appointment for advisement.

**Academic Warning** – Students earning a grade less than “C” in a nursing course at midterm must meet with the course faculty member to develop a written plan of action to assist the student to improve academic standing. The plan of action will be documented on the progress report form. This document is placed in the student’s Department of Nursing record and the student receives a copy. Students will receive a mid-semester grade.

**Dismissal from the Program** – When a student is recommended for dismissal from the nursing program, the Department Chairperson will provide written notification of dismissal. Students dismissed for academic reasons may apply for admission to the nursing program after one academic year. Students will be recommended for dismissal from the undergraduate nursing program under the following conditions:

1. Earning a grade lower than “C” in two different nursing courses or in one repeated nursing course.
2. Failure to meet the requirements for progression.
3. Earning a grade of “W” or an “AU” in three (3) nursing courses.
4. Exhibiting conduct that is unprofessional, incompetent, unethical, or illegal in the clinical/practicum settings as outlined by the American Nurses’ Association Code for Nurses, DON Academic Honesty and Dishonesty document, and the clinical agency compliance, policy.

5. Cheating on examinations, plagiarism, or improper documentation or falsification of clinical activities as outlined in the BSU Undergraduate Catalog and the DON Academic Honesty and Dishonesty document.
6. Performance in an unsafe manner while providing care to a client which will result in the student being removed from the clinical area immediately.
7. If any student presents to the clinical area chemically impaired by drugs or alcohol, the student will be immediately removed from the clinical area.
8. Demonstration of non-professional or unsafe behavior may result in immediate removal from the clinical area.

**Grade Appeal** – Students should follow the procedures outlined in the BSU Undergraduate Catalog for grade appeals.

**Grievance Policy** – Students should attempt to resolve all grievance issues at the lowest level of the Department of Nursing chain of command. The issue(s) should be discussed with the faculty member first. In the event that the issue needs further review, the chain of command within the DON must be followed (See Undergraduate Nursing Student Handbook). If there is no resolution within the DON, then sources outside the Department may become involved. The grievance process pertains to all matters except grades. The time frame for initiating a grievance is within five (5) business days of the event. The process must be followed in the sequence listed below.

**Graduation Requirements** – Graduation requirements for the Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing (BS) degree are:

1. Successful completion of all general education and prerequisite course requirements.
2. Successful completion of the English Proficiency Examination for students admitted to BSU prior to Fall 2017.
3. Completion of all nursing course requirements and electives as specified by the DON.
4. Completion of a minimum of 120 credit hours with a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale and a minimum grade of “C” in all Nursing courses. Refer to the Undergraduate Catalog for a discussion of quality points and grade point averages.

5. Successful completion of the Department of Nursing Comprehensive Exit Examination during the final semester of study.
6. Submission of the Application for Graduation.
7. Clearance of all financial obligations by the Business Office.

**Application for Graduation** – Students who anticipate meeting all requirements for graduation must apply for graduation by the deadline date as posted by the University Registrar on the BSU website. The University establishes graduation fees and set deadline dates. The Office of the Registrar can assist students in matters related to this issue.

**Exit Survey** – Graduating students will participate in an exit survey during their final semester of study. The survey is designed to obtain information about your experiences in the nursing program.

**The Bowie State University Department of Nursing follows the NCLEX guidelines below:**

*Students may not disclose or discuss with anyone, including instructors, information about the items or answers seen in your examination (this includes posting or discussing questions on the internet and social media websites). Students may not reconstruct exam items using your memory of your exam or the memory of others. Students may not seek help from any other party in answering items (in person, by phone, text or by email) during your examination.*

*Students may not remove examination items and/or responses (in any format) or notes about the examination from the test-taking area. Students may not copy or reconstruct exam items during or following your examination for any reason.*

*If any of the above behavior is witnessed, or any irregular behavior that is in violation of maintaining the integrity of the test-taking process and or environment, a note may be dropped in a designated box for confidentiality.*

Reference

NCLEX rules. (2016). Retrieved December 8, 2016, from <https://www.ncsbn.org/1268.htm> In-line Citation: (“NCLEX rules,” 2016).

### **NCLEX-RN Examination Requirements**

<Nursing faculty develop and administer course examinations based on the NCLEX-RN Blueprint to assist students with preparing to pass the NCLEX-RN the first time the student takes the examination. The Assessment Technologies Institute (ATI) Content Mastery Series examinations administered throughout the curriculum and the non-proctored examinations are an excellent resource to prepare for successful completion of the Content Mastery Examinations.

The web addresses below provide information about the NCLEX-RN Test Blueprint and the Detailed Testing Blueprint. Students are encouraged to review the information provided throughout their matriculation.

[https://www.ncsbn.org/2019\\_RN\\_TestPlan-English.pdf](https://www.ncsbn.org/2019_RN_TestPlan-English.pdf)

Clearance to take the NCLEX-RN Examination is provided by the Department Chairperson. The following criteria must be met in order to receive clearance to take the examination.

Application to take the examination within eight (8) weeks of meeting the requirements for graduation and completing the program.

A plan to pay for all fees required to register for the examination (Criminal Background Check, Maryland Board of Nursing Registration, Pearson Vue Examination fee – total of approximately \$375).

In preparation for the NCLEX-RN® Exam, students must complete a commercial NCLEX-RN® review course.

### **Clinical Policies**

Students are expected to abide by the policies of the healthcare facility and the Department of Nursing. The clinical nursing faculty must know the location for all students during the entire clinical period. Students are not to leave the grounds of the healthcare facility without approval. This includes lunch breaks and early dismissals.

Clinical courses must be taken concurrently with the corresponding theory course. All undergraduate students must achieve a grade of “C” or above in the theory course and clinical course in order to progress to the next level in nursing.

### **Lateness/Absence**

Students are expected to report to the clinical setting on time (specific time as defined by the faculty in the course). Students must provide appropriate notification of lateness or absence to the clinical instructor, preceptor, and/or clinical site. If a student is late, the clinical instructor or preceptor has the right to inform the student that they cannot participate in clinical activities for that day. Lateness will be converted to absences. The following formula will be used to convert lateness to absences:

- *Two (2) occurrences of lateness in a 2-credit course = 1 absence*
- Two (2) absences may result in failure of the clinical course

### **Insurance**

All students are required to provide evidence of health insurance coverage. Full-time students may purchase health insurance through the University.

All students are required to be covered by professional student liability insurance. The University purchases insurance on the student's behalf. Fees for the liability insurance are included in the student's tuition bill. **Registered Nurse** students are also encouraged to independently purchase professional liability insurance.

Students may purchase liability insurance from any company of their choice.

**The following company provides insurance policies for nursing students:**

NSO (Nursing Service Organization) Malpractice Insurance

159 E. County Line RD

Hartford, PA 19040

Phone: 1-800-247-1500 Fax: 1-800-739-8818 Email: [service@nso.com](mailto:service@nso.com)

**Health Requirements**

1. The DON requires submission of the following information prior to enrolling in clinical nursing courses: Immunization – Documentation of vaccination or immunity required
  - Tdap: Td within 10 years of completion of DTP series, and thereafter
  - MMR: MMR Titer or MMR Vaccinations #1 and # 2 if you are non-immune
  - Hepatitis B: Hepatitis B Series – 3doses
  - Varicella: Varicella Titer or Varicella Vaccination if you are non-immune
  - TB (PPD/CXR): Current Documentation of negative PPD (2 step) or documentation of a normal Chest X-ray within the last five years.
  - Influenza (seasonal)
2. Physical Examination

Note: Physical Examinations can be completed at the BSU Henry Wise Wellness Center. For more information or to schedule an appointment call (301) 8604171.
3. CPR for Health Care Providers
4. Health Insurance
5. Criminal Background Clearance and Drug Screens

- All students are required to complete a criminal background clearance and drug screens.
- Information for completing criminal background clearance through Castlebranch (CBbridges) the online application will be provided in the Department of Nursing.
- Urine drug screen is required by healthcare facilities through Castlebranch. Information for online application and payment will be provided by the Department of Nursing.

### **Professional Documentation for Clinical Agency Compliance**

Prior to beginning the clinical experience all students are required to submit and maintain a copy of:

1. Documentation of current CPR certification (American Heart Association BLS – Health Care Provider course)
2. All students who are Registered Nurses are required to maintain a current Maryland nursing license that substantiates their legal standing for the practice of nursing and current nurse liability insurance.
3. Student Nurse Liability Insurance may also be required for traditional and accelerated nursing students.

***All of the above documentation must be submitted to the course and/or clinical faculty by the date assigned. The deadline will be strictly enforced; there is no grace period. Students will be notified in writing if they do not meet the above requirements. Students will not be allowed to attend clinical if the above requirements have not been met (these will be counted as absences/see absence policy).***

**Clinical Course Policies** – The following policies apply to the BS clinical courses:

1. Students must pass a medication administration dosage exam prior to start of clinical in the junior and senior year nursing courses.
2. Clinical site assignments for students are made at the discretion of the course faculty member.
3. If the student is placed in an agency where he/she is employed, the clinical assignment will not be on the unit where he/she is employed.
4. Students are responsible for their own transportation to clinical sites. The DON uses a variety of healthcare agencies for clinical

placements. These agencies are located in the Baltimore-Washington metropolitan area.

## **Uniforms**

All students must purchase the designated BSU nursing student uniform (pants with tops or dress, and lab coat) with BSU patch, in the semester before beginning clinical. The BSU patch must be sewn on the left sleeve at the shoulder line. The following guidelines must be followed.

1. Identification badge with student's name must be worn at all times and the BSU photo ID must be in student's possession at all times.
2. Hair must be worn above the uniform collar. If hair length is below the collar, it must be worn pinned up or tied back.
3. Full length white lab coats or washable white or navy blue sweaters may be worn in the clinical area. Students are expected to remove their sweater or lab coat when providing direct client care.
4. Fingernails must be without polish and no longer than  $\frac{1}{4}$  of an inch. Polished, designer and artificial nails are not permitted.
5. Jewelry is limited to one pair of stud earrings, wedding rings, and watch.
6. Students must maintain appropriate personal hygiene; strongly scented perfumes and colognes are not permitted.
7. All white leather shoes with closed toe and closed low heel are required.
8. Lab coats must be worn when not in uniform during visits to the clinical areas when care will not be given. Name pins and the DON patch must be worn on the lab coats and students must introduce themselves to staff.
9. Blue jeans may NOT be worn under lab coats.
10. Lab coats must be white and full length.
11. Lab coats must be worn in the nursing lab during simulation activities and when practicing skills.

## **Women**

1. All skirts or dresses must be at an appropriate length for bending and stretching activities. Students will be dismissed from clinical if the

instructor considers the uniform to be inappropriate.

2. Pantsuits may be worn.
3. White stockings or panty hose are to be worn with dresses.
4. White knee-high stockings may be worn with pants.

Men

1. White pants and top.
2. Pants must be fitted and at an appropriate length.
3. White socks must be worn with pants.

***Failure to adhere to these uniform requirements may result in dismissal from the clinical area and will be reflected in the clinical evaluation.***

Uniforms During Community Health and Psychiatric Mental Health Experience  
Nursing students must adhere to the course-specific uniform policy.  
Information regarding the policies will be given to students by course faculty.

Equipment Required for Clinical Experiences

1. A watch with a sweep second hand
2. A stethoscope with bell and diaphragm
3. Black ink pen
4. Penlight
5. Other equipment as specified in the course syllabus.

**Accidents During Clinical Experience**

If a nursing student is injured during the clinical experience, he/she should report immediately to the faculty and charge nurse on the unit. Students may be required to go to Employee Health or the Emergency Department depending on the severity of the injury and the policies of the agency.

**Fees for these visits may not be covered by the agency and students are required to maintain their own health insurance.**

**Reporting of Illness/Absence**

1. It is the responsibility of the student to follow the course instructor's procedure to report absence due to illness.
2. When the student is hospitalized, the DON must be notified immediately.
3. Students who have experienced a hospitalization or extensive illness (3 days) must submit to the course faculty in writing, an official statement from the health care provider permitting return to clinical practicum.

### **Pregnancy**

1. A student who is pregnant may continue to participate in clinical experiences as long as her health status is satisfactory and she is able to complete her clinical assignments.
2. Students who are pregnant should consult with the faculty member in advance of their clinical assignment. Some agency regulations determine assignments during pregnancy.
3. For the safety of the student who is pregnant, she must not enter areas where radioisotopes or x-ray therapy is being administered.
4. Students who deliver during the semester must present in writing an official statement of health clearance from the health care provider permitting return to clinical practicum.

### **Standard Precautions**

Students are required to implement Standard Precautions in all clinical settings where they may come into contact with blood and other body fluids. Standard Precautions should be used when in contact with human tissues, cerebrospinal, synovial, pleural, peritoneal, pericardial, and amniotic fluids. Students who are exposed to body fluids while in the clinical/practicum setting should notify the preceptor, responsible faculty, and the appropriate supervisory person in the agency. The student should follow-up with procedures available for employees of the clinical facility. This includes the right to request patient testing, individual counseling, and obtaining follow-up information for health care.

#### ***Procedures for Handling Blood and Body fluids:***

1. Handle all blood and body fluids following Standard Precautions.
2. Wash hands and other skin surfaces before and immediately after contact with body fluids.

3. Wear protective barriers appropriate for the procedure being performed when anticipating exposure to body fluids.
4. Use gowns for splashes, goggles and masks for splatters, and gloves when handling fluids.
5. Do not recap or manipulate needles or sharps in any way. Place them immediately in puncture resistant containers after use.
6. Refrain from direct client care if you have exudative lesions.

***The Department of Nursing reserves the right to update and change the above policies at any time. A copy of the policies is posted on the department's web site. It is the students' responsibility to stay current and informed of the changes. If any changes occur, students will be notified and they will be able to view the changes on the department's web site. Significant changes made to the policies will require students to sign and date an acknowledgement form. All new nursing students are to read the policies and sign and date the acknowledgement form attached. This must be submitted on your first day of class.***

## **UNDERGRADUATE NURSING PROGRAM DIRECTORY**

### **Chair**

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**[Department of Nursing Website](#)**

## APPENDIX A – PROGRAMS OF STUDY

### Traditional Program of Study – Effective Spring 2021

TRADITIONAL – YEAR ONE (GENERAL EDUCATION PREREQUISITES)			
SEMESTER 1		SEMESTER 2	
Courses	Credits	Courses	Credits
<b>FRSE 101 - Freshman Seminar</b>	3	<b>SOCI 101 - Intro to Sociology</b>	3
<b>ENGL 101 - Expository Writing</b>	3	<b>ENGL 102 - Argument &amp; Research</b>	3
<b>PSYC 101 - General Psychology</b>	3	<b>PHIL 103 - Principles of Reasoning</b>	3
<b>BIOL 102 - Intro to Biology</b>	4	<b>CHEM 107 - General Chemistry w Lab</b>	4
<b>MATH 125 - College Algebra or MATH 141 - Pre-Calc I</b>	3	<b>BIOL 311 - Human Anatomy &amp; Physiology I</b>	4
<i>Total</i>	16	<i>Total</i>	17
TRADITIONAL – YEAR 2			
SEMESTER 3		SEMESTER 4 (ADMITTED TO NURSING PROGRAM)	
Courses	Credits	Courses	Credits
<b>COMM 101 or 103</b> <i>Oral Communications</i>	3	<b>COSC 110</b> <i>Computer Literacy/Applications</i>	3
<b>HIST 114 or 115</b> <i>African American History</i>	3	<b>MATH 155 - Intro to Probability &amp; Statistics or PSYC 204 - Elementary Statistics</b>	3
<b>NURS 215</b> <i>Nutrition in Health &amp; Disease</i>	3	<b>NURS 301</b> <i>Professional Nursing Perspectives</i>	2
<b>BIOL 310</b> <i>Microbiology II</i>	4	<b>NURS 302</b> <i>Health Assessment</i>	3
<b>BIOL 312</b> <i>Human Anatomy &amp; Physiology II</i>	4	<b>NURS 303/304</b> <i>Foundations of Nursing Practice (3 hours Lecture/8 hours Clinical)</i>	3/2
<i>Total</i>	17	<i>Total</i>	16
TRADITIONAL - YEAR 3			
SEMESTER 5		SEMESTER 6	
Courses	Credits	Courses	Credits
<b>SOWK 300</b> <i>Human Behavior I</i>	3	<b>NURS 385/386</b> <i>Psychiatric/Mental Health (3 hours Lecture/8 hours Clinical)</i>	3/2
<b>NURS 308</b> <i>Pharmacology</i>	3	<b>NURS 400</b> <i>Introduction to Nursing Research</i>	3
<b>NURS 315</b> <i>Pathophysiology</i>	3	<b>NURS 410/411</b> <i>Care of Complex Clients (3 hours Lecture/8 hours Clinical)</i>	3/2
<b>NURS 348/349</b> <i>Adult Practice (3 hours Lecture/8 hours Clinical)</i>	3/2	<b>IDIS 460</b> <i>Transcultural Health and Wellness</i>	3
<b>NURS 368</b> <i>Gerontological Nursing</i>	2		
<i>Total</i>	16	<i>Total</i>	16
TRADITIONAL - YEAR 4			
SEMESTER 7		SEMESTER 8	
Courses	Credits	Courses	Credits
<b>NURS 380/381</b> <i>Maternal/Newborn &amp; Women's Health (3 hours Lecture/8 hours Clinical)</i>	3/2	<b>NURS 406/409</b> <i>Nursing Practice: Community (3 hours Lecture/8 hours Clinical)</i>	3/2
<b>NURS 415/416</b> <i>Nursing Care of the Child and Family (3 hours Lecture/8 hours Clinical)</i>	3/2	<b>NURS 425/412</b> <i>Transition into Professional Nursing Practice (3 hours Lecture/8 hours Clinical)</i>	3/2
<b>Nursing Electives:</b> <b>IDIS 450 - Alternatives in Health and Wellness or IDIS 470 - Ethical Issues in Health Care</b>	3	<b>NURS 499</b> <i>Nursing Comprehensive Exit Exam</i>	2
<i>Total</i>	13	<i>Total</i>	12
<b>56 General Education Credits   67 Nursing Credits (with NURS ELECTIVES)   TOTAL 123 Credits</b>			

Note: As of 2020, students may be admitted in the Fall or in the Spring into the Nursing Program. The Department of Nursing [academic advisors](#) can provide additional information. Successful completion of the general education courses in Semesters 1, 2, and 3 are required for nursing admission eligibility. Applications are accepted as announced on the Department of Nursing website ([www.bowiestate.edu/nursing](http://www.bowiestate.edu/nursing)). Candidates who are selected for admission to the Traditional program option are immediately scheduled for Semester 4 matriculation.

**Accelerated Program Option – ON HOLD Effective Spring 2021**

ACCELERATED – GENERAL EDUCATION PREREQUISITES					
Courses	Credits	Courses	Credits	Courses	Credits
<b>BIOL 102</b> <i>Intro to Biology</i>	4	<b>COSC 110</b> <i>Computer Literacy/Applications</i>	3	<b>MATH 155</b> <i>Intro to Probability &amp; Statistics</i> or <b>PSYC 204</b> <i>Elementary Statistics</i>	3
<b>BIOL 310</b> <i>Microbiology II</i>	4	<b>ENGL 101</b> <i>Expository Writing</i>	3	<b>PHIL 103</b> <i>Principles of Reasoning</i>	3
<b>BIOL 311</b> <i>Human Anatomy &amp; Physiology I</i>	4	<b>ENGL 102</b> <i>Argument &amp; Research</i>	3	<b>PSYC 101</b> <i>General Psychology</i>	3
<b>BIOL 312</b> <i>Human Anatomy &amp; Physiology II</i>	4	<b>HIST 114 or 115</b> <i>African American History</i>	3	<b>SOCI 101</b> <i>Intro to Sociology</i>	3
<b>CHEM 107</b> <i>General Chemistry w/ Lab</i>	4	<b>NURS 215</b> <i>Nutrition in Health &amp; Disease</i>	3	<b>SOWK 300</b> <i>Human Behavior I</i>	3
<b>COMM 101 or COMM 103</b> <i>Oral Communications</i>	3	<b>MATH 125</b> <i>College Algebra</i> or <b>MATH 141</b> <i>Pre-Calculus I</i>	3		
				<b>Total Prerequisites</b>	<b>56</b>
ACCELERATED - YEAR 1 (Nursing Courses)					
SEMESTER 1 (SUMMER)		SEMESTER 2 (FALL)		SEMESTER 3 (SPRING)	
Courses	Credits	Courses	Credits	Courses	Credits
<b>NURS 301</b> <i>Professional Nursing Perspectives</i>	2	<b>NURS 308</b> <i>Pharmacology</i>	3	<b>NURS 385/386</b> <i>Psychiatric/Mental Health Nursing</i>	3/2
<b>NURS 302</b> <i>Health Assessment</i>	3	<b>NURS 315</b> <i>Pathophysiology</i>	3	<b>NURS 400</b> <i>Introduction to Nursing Research</i>	3
<b>NURS 303/304</b> <i>Foundation of Nursing Practice II</i>  <i>(3 hours Lecture/8 hours Clinical)</i>	3/2	<b>NURS 348/349</b> <i>Adult Practice</i>  <i>(3 hours Lecture/8 hours Clinical)</i>	3/2	<b>NURS 410/411</b> <i>Care of Complex Clients</i>  <i>(3 hours Lecture/8 hours Clinical)</i>	3/2
		<b>NURS 368</b> <i>Gerontological Nursing</i>	2	<b>IDIS 460</b> <i>Transcultural Health &amp; Wellness</i>	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>
ACCELERATED - YEAR 2					
SEMESTER 4 (SUMMER)			SEMESTER 5 (FALL)		
Courses	Credits	Courses	Credits	Courses	Credits
<b>NURS 380/381</b> <i>Maternal- Newborn &amp; Women's Health</i>  <i>(3 hours Lecture/8 hours Clinical)</i>	3/2	<b>NURS 406/409</b> <i>Nursing Practice: Community</i>  <i>(3 hours Lecture/8 hours Clinical)</i>	3/2		
<b>NURS 415/416</b> <i>Nursing Care of the Child and Family</i>  <i>(3 hours Lecture/8 hours Clinical)</i>	3/2	<b>NURS 425/412</b> <i>Transition into Professional Nursing Practice</i>  <i>(3 hours Lecture/8 hours Clinical)</i>	3/2		
		<b>NURS 499</b> <i>Nursing Comprehensive Exam</i>	2		
		<b>Nursing Electives:</b> <b>IDIS 450</b> <i>Alternatives in Health and Wellness</i> or <b>IDIS 470</b> <i>Ethical Issues in Health Care</i>	3		
<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>		
<b>38 General Education Credits   64 Nursing Credits (with NURS Electives)   18 Transfer credits</b>					
<b>TOTAL 120 Credits</b>					

Note: Applicants must have a degree to be eligible to apply for admission to the Accelerated program option. General education prerequisite courses are also required for program admission eligibility. The Department of Nursing [academic advisors](#) can provide additional information. **The Accelerated program option is currently on hold.**

**RN to BSN – ON HOLD Effective Spring 2021**

<b>RN to BSN – PRE-REQUISITES</b>			
<b>SEMESTER 1</b>		<b>SEMESTER 2</b>	
Courses	Credits	Courses	Credits
<b>ENGL 101</b> <i>Expository Writing</i>	3	<b>SOWK 300</b> <i>Human Behavior I</i>	3
<b>ENGL 102</b> <i>Argument &amp; Research</i>	3	<b>MATH 125 College Algebra or</b> <b>MATH 141 Pre-Calculus I</b>	3
<b>COMM 101 or 103</b> <i>Oral Communications</i>	3	<b>BIOL 310</b> <i>Microbiology II</i>	4
<b>PHIL 103</b> <i>Principles of Logic and Reasoning</i>	3	<b>CHEM 107</b> <i>General Chemistry w/Lab</i>	4
<b>SOCI 101</b> <i>Introduction to Sociology</i>	3	<b>BIOL 311/312</b> <i>Human Anatomy &amp; Physiology I &amp; II</i>	8
<b>COSC 110</b> <i>Computer Literacy</i>	3		
<b>PSYC 101</b> <i>General Psychology</i>	3		
<i>Total</i>	21	<i>Total</i>	22
<b>RN to BSN – YEAR 1</b>			
<b>SEMESTER 3 – ADMITTED TO THE NURSING PROGRAM</b>		<b>SEMESTER 4</b>	
Courses	Credits	Courses	Credits
<b>HIST 114 or 115</b> <i>African-American History</i>	3	<b>NURS 315</b> <i>Pathophysiology</i>	3
<b>MATH 155 - Intro to Probability &amp; Statistics or</b> <b>PSYC 204 - Elementary Statistics</b>	3	<b>NURS 368</b> <i>Gerontological Nursing</i>	2
<b>NURS 215</b> <i>Nutrition in Health &amp; Disease</i>	3	<b>NURS 400</b> <i>Intro to Nursing Research</i>	3
<b>NURS 350</b> <i>Nursing Practice: Concepts</i>	3	<b>Humanities Elective*</b>	3
<b>NURS 302</b> <i>Health Assessment</i>	3		
<i>Total</i>	15	<i>Total</i>	11
<b>RN to BSN - YEAR 2</b>			
<b>SEMESTER 5</b>		<b>SEMESTER 6</b>	
Courses	Credits	Courses	Credits
<b>NURS 401</b> <i>Concepts in Family Health</i>	3	<b>NURS 425/412</b> <i>Transition into Professional Nursing Practice</i>  <i>(3 hours Lecture/8 hours Clinical)</i>	3/2
<b>NURS 406/409</b> <i>Nursing Practice: Community</i>  <i>(3 hours Lecture/8 hours Clinical)</i>	3/2	<b>IDIS 460</b> <i>Transcultural Health &amp; Wellness</i>	3
<b>IDIS 450 or IDIS 470</b>	3	<b>Nursing Electives:</b> <b>IDIS 450 Alternatives in Health and Wellness or</b> <b>IDIS 470 Ethical Issues in Health Care</b>	3
<i>Total</i>	11	<i>Total</i>	11
<b>30 Matriculation Model Credits</b> <b>52 General Education Credits</b> <b>39 Nursing Credits w/Nursing Electives</b> <b>TOTAL 121 Credits</b>			

Note: The Department of Nursing [academic advisors](#) can provide additional information.

\*Humanities Elective: Choose from Art, Music (except applied courses), Philosophy, Foreign Language, Literature, Theatre, and Communications

## **APPENDIX B - STUDENT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

### **Student Acknowledgment of the Baccalaureate Nursing Student Policies**

*Academic Semester:* Fall: \_\_\_\_\_ Spring: \_\_\_\_\_ Summer: \_\_\_\_\_

This is to verify that I have read and understand the Policies and Procedures associated with the nursing program at Bowie State University. It is also my understanding that the Policies and Procedures are subject to change with notice to the students of any changes.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## **APPENDIX C - ACADEMIC HONESTY AND DISHONESTY**

### **Academic Honesty and Dishonesty**

*Nursing students are expected to conform to a strict standard of academic honesty. In addition to the Bowie State University Undergraduate Catalog, academic dishonesty includes exhibiting unethical or illegal behaviors including falsification of documents. Students are required to sign the Academic Honesty and Dishonesty form, which is placed in the student's academic folder in the Nursing Department. Students will be recommended for dismissal from the nursing program when academic dishonesty is confirmed. The Plagiarism checker is used for all written assignments submitted to the Safe Assign or Turnitin instruments. Please refer to the BSU Undergraduate Catalog for additional policies about academic dishonesty and the department of nursing handbook.*

## **APPENDIX D - ACCREDITATION**

The Baccalaureate Nursing Program is approved by the Maryland Board of Nursing and accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN).

### **Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN)**

3390 Peachtree Road, NE, Suite 1400

Atlanta, Georgia 30326

Phone: (404) 975-5000

### **Disclaimer**

*The information in this handbook is subject to change. Students will be notified of any changes through and addendum by faculty and require the student's signature at the time of the change(s).*

### **Department Address**

Bowie State University

Department of Nursing

Center for Natural Science, Mathematics and Nursing

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14000 Jericho Park Road Bowie, Maryland 20715

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*BSU email, Blackboard announcement and the DON web site.*