



COLLEGE OF NURSING
Dr. MaryAnn Reichenbach, Dean
Room 224, S. Walter Martin Hall

The College of Nursing offers programs that lead to a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree (B.S.N.) and a Master of Science in Nursing degree (M.S.N.).

The baccalaureate program in the College of Nursing is designed to give the student the basic knowledge, skills, and values that build upon the foundation provided by the University Core Curriculum and that are required for professional careers in nursing. Moreover, through a series of sequenced courses, the College of Nursing prepares the student for advanced study in nursing. The curricula adhere to a systemic approach which emphasizes the connections between the concepts of Holism, Caring, Competence, Health, and Teaching/Learning. The College offers a special track for Registered Nurse applicants leading to the B.S.N. or to both the B.S.N. and M.S.N. Please contact the college directly for information about this pathway.

The College's programs stress the importance of critical thinking skills, an appreciation for diverse cultural perspectives, and the application of knowledge to address policy disputes and social problems related to health care. The program leading to the baccalaureate degree in nursing is approved by the Georgia Board of Nursing. This program provides a major measure of eligibility for the national licensing examination in nursing, leading to use of the title Registered Nurse. Applicants who have a conviction for a felony may not be eligible for licensure; it is recommended that these applicants consult with the Dean of the College before seeking entrance to the program. The College of Nursing programs are fully accredited by the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission. The address of the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission is 61 Broadway, New York, NY 10006. Telephone 212 363-5555, Ext 153.

Students may have the opportunity to gain work experience relating to their major, clarify their career goals, and earn money to help finance their education through the VSU Cooperative Education Program. Co-op students are placed, on a competitive basis, in work assignments within health care institutions. Interested students should contact the VSU Office of Cooperative Education, telephone (229) 333-7172.

B.S. DEGREE WITH A MAJOR IN NURSING

Selected Educational Outcomes

1. Synthesize theoretical, empirical, and experiential knowledge gained from the sciences, humanities, and nursing in competent nursing practice.
2. Utilize critical thinking and effective communication to assist individuals, families, and communities to attain and maintain optimal health.
3. Meet the dynamic, holistic health needs of unique and culturally diverse individuals, families, and communities throughout the life cycle.

Examples of Outcomes Measurements

1. Presentation of a senior paper and achievement on a nationally normed competency examination.
2. Senior project presentation and achievement on a nationally normed competency examination.
3. Measurement will occur throughout the program during clinical evaluation and at the end of the program by achievement on a nationally normed competency examination.

Requirements for the Bachelor of Science in Nursing Degree

Core Curriculum, Areas A-E (See VSU Core Curriculum) **42 hours**

Nursing students must take the science requirements noted for Area D.2.b.

Core Curriculum Area F **18 hours**

BIOL 2651, BIOL 2652, BIOL 2900 12 hours

Nursing Elective 3 hours

MATH 2620 * 0-3 hours

Guided electives selected from 3-9 hours

PSYC 2700, SOCI 1101**, PSYC 2500**

* Students are strongly encouraged to take MATH 2620 in area D.2.b of the Core.

** Students are strongly encouraged to take SOCI 1101 and PSYC 2500 in area E of the Core.

Senior College Curriculum **60 hours**

Junior Level 1st semester

NURS 3130 3 hours

NURS 3110, NURS 3120 11 hours

2nd semester

NURS 3200, NURS 3200K 4 hours

NURS 3211, NURS 3221 12 hours

Senior Level 1st semester

NURS 4100	3 hours
NURS 4112, NURS 4122	12 hours
2 nd semester	
NURS 4210	6 hours
NURS 4220	3 hours
NURS 4230	6 hours

Total hours required for the degree 120 semester hours

Special Admission Requirements

1. Minimum cumulative GPA of 2.8 in the 60 semester hours of Core Curriculum courses required for the nursing major. (ONLY required core courses will be used to calculate the GPA.)
2. Successful completion of the Regents' Testing Program.
3. Minimum of "C" in each science course (each science course may be repeated one time only)
4. Documentation of current health and accident insurance.

Special Retention Requirements

1. Documentation (due the first day of class) of a current physical examination by a medical physician or nurse practitioner that must include but is not limited to the following:
 - a. Hepatitis B vaccination
 - b. Yearly PPD tuberculin test
2. Only one nursing course may be repeated. Failure to achieve a grade of "C" or better in a repeated nursing course or in any subsequent nursing course constitutes dismissal from the program.
3. A minimum grade of "C" must be maintained in all nursing courses.
4. Documentation of current certification in CPR for health professionals (American Red Cross or American Health); due the first day of classes.
5. Documentation of current malpractice insurance with minimum coverage of \$1,000,000/\$3,000,000 (due the first day of class).

6. Regular activities that must be able to be performed to be retained in the nursing program:
 - a. stand for long periods of time;
 - b. work at a fast pace for long periods of time;
 - c. lift heavy objects (25 lbs. or more) three or more times each day;
 - d. speak clearly and distinctly;
 - e. work alternating shifts of 8 to 12 hours on days, evenings, or nights;
 - f. respond appropriately to stressful situations (physically, emotionally, and mentally) and in emergency situations;
 - g. communicate effectively with physicians, patients, staff, and patient families;
 - h. write clearly and neatly in patient's charts and other legal documents;
 - i. hear a nurse call bell;
 - j. hear telephone and have the ability to accurately take orders over the telephone;
 - k. hear sounds with stethoscope to assess blood pressure, heart rate, lung, vascular, and abdominal sounds;
 - l. hear a patient calling for help;
 - m. hear beepers, alarms, et cetera requiring a rapid response;
 - n. read very fine or small print on medication containers;
 - o. see nurse call or emergency lights;
 - p. visually assess patients appropriately;
 - q. read and interpret physician's orders;
 - r. read monitors and other equipment accurately;
 - s. demonstrate manual dexterity to don sterile gloves and gown;
 - t. demonstrate manual dexterity to prepare medications aseptically whether orally, I.M., S.C. or I.V.
 - u. demonstrate manual dexterity to use sterile techniques when performing activities such as insertion of catheters, IVs, et cetera; and
 - v. demonstrate ability to utilize equipment and instruments needed to carry out patient care.

Special Graduation Requirements

1. Must have earned at least a "C" in all nursing courses, with a maximum of one failure.
2. Satisfactory completion of courses required for the nursing major.
3. Successful achievement of the program objectives.

The College of Nursing offers an innovative program for R.N. students, the R.N. Preference Pathway, which allows R.N. students to pursue the B.S.N. degree and complete the degree requirements in one academic year. Please contact the college directly for information about this pathway.

Requirements for the Bachelor of Science in Nursing Degree–R.N.-B.S.N. Pathway

Core Curriculum, Areas A-E (See VSU Core Curriculum) **42 hours**
 Nursing students must take the science requirements noted for Area D.2.b.

Core Curriculum Area F **18 hours**
 BIOL 2651, BIOL 2652, BIOL 2900 12 hours
 Nursing Elective 3 hours
 MATH 2620 * 0-3 hours
 Guided electives selected from 3-9 hours
 PSYC 2700, SOCI 1101**, PSYC 2500**

- * Students are strongly encouraged to take MATH 2620 in area D.2.b of the Core.
- ** Students are strongly encouraged to take SOCI 1101 and PSYC 2500 in area E of the Core.

Senior College Curriculum **60 hours**

1st semester
 NURS 3120 5 hours
 NURS 3150 3 hours
 NURS 4060 4 hours
 NURS 4400 3 hours

2nd semester
 NURS 4100 3 hours
 NURS 4220 3 hours
 NURS 4230 6 hours
 NURS 4250 3 hours
 Guided Elective 3 hours

Students meeting the requirements of the Georgia R.N. Articulation Agreement may receive a minimum of 27 semester hours of NURS credit to complete the total number of 120 hours required for the B.S. N. degree 27 hours

Total hours required for the degree **120 semester hours**