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School of Nursing

GREGG E. NEWSCHWANDER, Dean
FRANCINE M. PARKER, Associate Dean

THE SCHOOL OF NURSING, established in 1979, offers a program of study leading to the bachelor of science in nursing. The nursing curriculum prepares beginning professional nurse generalists who are capable of functioning as members of the healthcare team in providing care for individuals and groups in diverse settings. The program also provides an educational base for advancement in formal study, research and practice. The facilities and resources of the university are used to provide a broad academic background in the humanities and sciences. Graduates are eligible to make application to the NCLEX-RN examination to become registered nurses.

A pre-professional program in Nursing Science is required of students seeking admission to the professional curriculum. The first two years of course work are designated Pre-Nursing (PNUR). The Professional Curriculum requires five terms including 1-2 summer terms, depending on the semester of admission. The Curriculum includes classroom, laboratory and clinical experiences.

Admission

Freshman eligibility is determined by the Office of Enrollment Services. Admission requirements are stated elsewhere in this Bulletin. High school mathematics, chemistry and biology courses are strongly recommended, along with other college preparatory courses in social science, history, literature and English composition. Students are strongly encouraged to see the academic advisor in the School of Nursing on a regular basis.

Transfers from other institutions must apply through the Office of Enrollment Services. Review of transcripts by the School of Nursing will determine the amount of credit allowed for the pre-nursing requirements. Students planning to transfer from other universities are encouraged to contact the School of Nursing as soon as possible for advisement on transfer of credits. Students must possess the functional ability to perform the skills and behaviors required of a professional nurse. These abilities include but are not limited to:

1. Adequate vision, such as that required to observe changes in physical conditions, to read small print on labels and markings on syringes, and to discern subtle changes in color;
2. Adequate hearing, such as that required to distinguish muted sounds through a stethoscope;
3. Fine motor skills and manual dexterity, such as that required to handle small, delicate equipment;
4. Strength to turn and assist with lifting adults, and to lift and carry children;
5. The mobility to respond quickly in emergency situations;
6. The ability to communicate and interact effectively with others, orally and in writing;
7. The ability to detect odors; and
8. The ability to read independently and to comprehend the written word.

Professional Program

Admission to the professional program occurs in both Fall and Spring. Pre-nursing students must formally apply for admission to the professional program, typically during the sophomore year, and meet the deadlines and requirements for each admission cycle. To be eligible for consideration for an interview and admission, applicants must have completed at least 3 of the 5 required science courses in the pre-nursing curriculum and have no more than 22 hours of pre-nursing coursework outstanding. Criteria considered for admission include unadjusted pre-nursing GPA, science GPA, number of hours completed at Auburn, successful completion (C or better) of all pre-nursing requirements and interview score. While the GPA to be considered for an interview is an overall unadjusted GPA of 2.5 or higher, interviews will be granted based on the overall unadjusted GPA of the pool of applicants and in reality a higher GPA may be required to interview. Applicants will be interviewed only once each academic cycle. If not accepted for admission at the time of their interview, applicants can reapply the next admission cycle by completing a new application. In this case, the applicant’s original interview score will be used. Due to limited enrollment, all students who meet minimum requirements may not be interviewed or admitted.

Application forms will be posted on the School of Nursing website by December 1 for Fall admission and March 1 for Spring admission. The deadline for completing an application is February 1 for fall admission and May 1 for spring admission. Interviews for fall admissions are the first Saturday in March and for spring admission the first or second Saturday in June. Students will be notified of admission decisions in writing by April 1 for fall admission and July 1 for spring admission. Those applicants admitted must successfully complete all pre-nursing courses with a C or higher by the end of summer semester for fall admissions and by the end of fall semester for spring admissions.
Application for RN Licensure

Following completion of the registered nursing program, the graduate will apply for RN Licensure in Alabama or another state. The Alabama Board of Nursing application has the following questions which must be answered by the applicant:

1. Have you ever been arrested or convicted of a criminal offense other than a minor moving traffic violation?
2. Have you within the last five years abused drugs/alcohol or been treated for dependency to alcohol or illegal chemical substances?
3. Have you ever been arrested or convicted for driving under the influence of drugs/alcohol?
4. Have you within the last five years received inpatient or outpatient treatment or been recommended to seek treatment for mental illness?
5. Have you ever had disciplinary action or is action pending against you by any state board of nursing?
6. Have you ever been placed on a state and/or federal abuse registry?
7. Have you ever been court-martialed/disciplined or administratively discharged by the military?

If an applicant has answered yes to any of the above questions, a full explanation with the appropriate court/treatment records must accompany the application. Applicants must disclose misdemeanors and arrests that didn't not result in convictions. Arrests/convictions include checks written on accounts with insufficient funds and DUls.

If the Board later learns of arrests or convictions that have not been disclosed, this will be considered fraud and deceit in procuring a license, and disciplinary action will be forthcoming.

Applicants to the School of Nursing need to be aware that they may be denied permission to take the RN licensing examination by the Alabama Board of Nursing if they are not of good moral character. A past record of behavior such as a felony conviction, abuse of drugs or alcohol, or theft of drugs may be grounds for denial of licensure. See Section 610-X-8-.01 of the Alabama Board of Nursing Administrative Code.

Academic Regulations

Advanced placement credit in pre-nursing courses is granted according to university policies stated elsewhere in the Bulletin. No advanced standing is allowed in the natural sciences by the School of Nursing. Proficiency examinations or Advanced Placement (CEEB), with accepted score, may be used for advanced placement.

An overall GPA of 2.0 must be maintained for progression through the professional program. Pre-nursing students who do not attain an overall GPA of at least 2.5 at the end of their freshman year should consider alternative fields of study.

A minimum grade of C is required in pre-nursing courses. Transfer credit will not be granted for courses in which a grade less than C is earned.

In the professional program, a minimum grade of C, or Satisfactory in all courses, must be achieved. Because the professional nursing curriculum is designed for progressive development of nursing knowledge and skills, students who earn an Unsatisfactory or grade less than C in a professional program course are not allowed to progress to the next clinical course. The course in which the student earns a grade less than C or Unsatisfactory may be repeated one time only. Students who earn a grade less than C or Unsatisfactory in two or more professional program courses or whose GPA falls below a 2.0 will be dropped from the professional program and are not eligible for readmission. Transfer credit is not generally allowed for courses in the professional program.

The Professional Program

Facilities

The School of Nursing is housed in Miller Hall, where an auditorium, The Attilio Corte Assessment laboratory, faculty offices and the Dean's suite are located. Classes are held in buildings across campus. Facilities for clinical nursing experiences include East Alabama Medical Center and other hospitals in the area, Mental Health Centers, clinics, nursing homes, physicians' offices, Public Health Departments, public schools and industrial sites. Students are responsible for complying with policies and procedures required by agencies in which clinical work is done.

Expenses

Students accepted into the professional program should expect to incur additional expenses including a professional fee associated with the clinical courses. Uniforms, equipment, transportation to clinical sites, smart phone devices with the capability of retrieving required information, laptop with designated specifications, standardized exams and software, NCLEX reviews, a health examination and liability and health insurance coverage are among the requirements. Students are required to have a drug screening test and are
required to undergo a background check. The costs of such requirements will be the responsibility of the students. Detailed information is furnished by the dean’s office at the time of admission.

Accreditation
The School of Nursing operates with full approval of the Alabama Board of Nursing and is fully accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, One Dupont Circle NW, Suite 530, Washington, DC 20036-1120, (202) 887-6791, http://www.aacn.nche.edu/ccne-accreditation.

Program
• Nursing - Traditional (p. 6)

Program
• Nursing - MSN (p. 5)
Nursing - MSN

Program Degrees:
• Nursing - MSN (p. 6)
• Primary Care Practitioner Option - MSN (p. 6)
• Nursing Education Option - MSN (p. 6)

The School of Nursing offers a MSN program jointly with Auburn University Montgomery. Graduates are ready to lead in educator and advanced practice nurse roles in health-related services to diverse populations. The MSN Program currently has four program options: Nurse Educator (33 credit/semester hours), Primary Care Nurse Practitioner (43 credit/semester hours), Nursing Informatics (30 credit/semesters hours), and Nursing Health System Leader/Nurse Educator (Dual) (45 credit/semester hours). All formal program options share a 24-credit/semester hour core and then courses specific to each program option. The program is offered via a hybrid format where a few on campus course meetings may be held over the semester. Courses meetings may be held either at AU or AUM depending on the pre-published schedule for that particular semester. The program does not require a thesis. Students are required to complete a capstone paper, generally a plan for an evidence-based intervention either in the educational setting or in the primary care practice setting.

Admission to all formal program options is competitive and all qualified applicants may not be admitted. Schools of Nursing Admission Minimum Requirements include:

• A bachelor of science in nursing from an accredited college or university
• Good academic standing from the last university attended
• Overall GPA of 3.0
• Unencumbered RN License. Students completing a BSN Program during the semester of application must request a waiver from the admission committee in order for the application to be considered.
• Three Professional References
• 500-word Professional Goal Statement. This statement will include: reasons for pursuing this degree and program option, past experiences, career goals and past achievements.
• Successful completion of undergraduate statistics course.

Applicants may be asked by the School of Nursing for additional information and may be required to interview with the Director of the MSN Program, the MSN admission committee, and/or graduate faculty.

Full-time admission is available in the summer semester only and part-time admission is available, summer, fall, and spring if space it available. It is unlikely due to scheduling of courses and pre-requisites that students admitted part-time can move to full-time status. Courses are offered only one time per each academic year so changing programs of study from full to part-time may impact planned graduation dates. Application deadlines are: (1) Summer Semester- March 1, (2) Fall Semester-June 1, and (3) Spring Semester-October 1. The application is completed online and may be found on the Auburn University Graduate School webpage.

Core Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NURS 7346</td>
<td>Advanced Theoretical Foundations of Nursing</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 7356</td>
<td>Quality, Safety, and Prevention Using Technology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 7366</td>
<td>Evidence-Based Practice I</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 7246</td>
<td>Advanced Pharmacology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 7256</td>
<td>Healthcare Policy and Ethics for the Nurse Leader</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 7376</td>
<td>Evidence-Based Practice II</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 7236</td>
<td>Advanced Pathophysiology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 7116</td>
<td>Advanced Physical Assessment/Applied Clinical Concepts I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 7946</td>
<td>Evidence-Based Practice</td>
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</table>

Nurse Educator Specific Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NURS 7326</td>
<td>Curriculum Development and Evaluation</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIED 8500</td>
<td>The Professoriate</td>
<td>3</td>
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</table>
NURS 7816 Nursing Education Practicum 3

**Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Specific Courses**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NURS 7226</td>
<td>Roles and Issues of the Primary Care Practitioner</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 7336</td>
<td>Diagnostic Reasoning and Clinical Management</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 7446</td>
<td>Primary Care I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 7556</td>
<td>Primary Care II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 7926</td>
<td>Primary Care Practicum</td>
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**Nursing - MSN**

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**Primary Care Practitioner Option - MSN**

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**Nursing Education Option**

**Nurse Educator Specific Courses**

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<tr>
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<td>Nursing Education Practicum</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3 Credits in @6000-8999 (Electives) 3

Total Hours 12

* Suggested course: EDLD 8510 or course from list of approved courses.

**Curriculum in Nursing - Traditional**

**Freshman**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Spring</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 1020 Principles of Biology</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&amp; BIOL 1021 Principles of Biology Laboratory</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 1120 Pre-Calculus Algebra</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Science Core¹</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Core Fine Arts</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Total Hours 12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹ Suggested course: ENGL 1120 or course from list of approved courses.
Sophomore

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Fall Hours</th>
<th>Spring Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 1100 English Composition I</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NTRI 2000 Nutrition And Health</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Hours: 16</td>
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<td>16</td>
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</tbody>
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Fall Admissions

Junior

Fall

NURS 3110 Theoretical Concepts of Professional Nursing Practice        3
NURS 3130 Evidence Based Skills, Assessment, and Health Promotion      4
NURS 3141 Concepts and Evidence Based Skills for Professional Clinical Practice 3
NURS 3123 Nursing Pathophysiology                                       3

Spring

NURS 3210 Clinical Pharmacology                                         3
NURS 3230 Professional Nursing Concepts: Acute Care Across the Lifespan 6
NURS 3231 Professional Nursing Concepts: Acute Care Across the Lifespan - Clinical 4
NURS 3730 Professional Nursing Concepts: Mental Health Across the Lifespan 2
NURS 3731 Professional Nursing Concepts: Mental Health Across the Lifespan - Clinical 2
NURS 4810 Professional Nursing Leadership in Microsystems              2

Summer

NURS 3330 Professional Nursing Concepts in the Childbearing Family and Reproductive Health 4
NURS 3331 Professional Nursing Concepts in the Childbearing Family and Reproductive Health - Clinical 2

Senior

Fall

NURS 4230 Professional Nursing Concepts: Chronic and Complex Conditions 5
NURS 4910 Professional Nursing Leadership in Complex Systems            3
### Spring Admission

#### Junior

**Spring**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NURS 3110 Theoretical Concepts of Professional Nursing Practice</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 3130 Evidence Based Skills, Assessment, and Health Promotion</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 3141 Concepts and Evidence Based Skills for Professional Clinical Practice</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 3123 Nursing Pathophysiology</td>
<td>3</td>
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</table>

#### Junior

**Summer**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NURS 3210 Clinical Pharmacology</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 3230 Professional Nursing Concepts: Acute Care Across the Lifespan</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 3231 Professional Nursing Concepts: Acute Care Across the Lifespan - Clinical</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 3730 Professional Nursing Concepts: Mental Health Across the Lifespan</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 3731 Professional Nursing Concepts: Mental Health Across the Lifespan - Clinical</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 4810 Professional Nursing Leadership in Microsystems</td>
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</table>

#### Senior

**Spring**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NURS 4230 Professional Nursing Concepts: Chronic and Complex Conditions</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 4231 Professional Nursing Concepts: Chronic and Complex Conditions - Clinical</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 4290 Evidence Based Practice</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NURS 4910 Professional Nursing Leadership in Complex Systems</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 4911 Leadership Practicum</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 4920 Transitions to Professional Nursing</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 4921 Nursing Practice Preceptorship</td>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 4930 Community Assessment Project</td>
<td>1</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
TOTAL HOURS - 125-127

Curriculum guides for the junior and senior year vary according to semester of admission to professional program.

1 Students must choose between PSYCH 2010 or SOCY 1000 for at least 3 hrs if their social science credit.

2 Must have History sequence and one Literature course OR a Literature sequence and one History course.

3 Students who have AP or transfer credit for US History must complete one of the following: ECON 2020, ECON 2030, or POLI 1050, or POLI 1090 as a social science.

**Students must make a "C" or better in all PNUR and NURS courses**
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