

# NURSING (BS)

## Health and Human Enrichment

The Plymouth State University Nursing program is approved by the New Hampshire Board of Nursing. The Baccalaureate degree program in Nursing at Plymouth State University is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (<http://www.aacnnursing.org/CCNE> (<http://www.aacnnursing.org/CCNE/>)).

## Progression/Readmission Policy

### Nursing Course Grading Policy

Students **must** earn a grade of a B- (minimum numeric score of 80) or higher in all nursing (NR) theory courses and a PASS in all nursing (NR) clinical courses in order to progress in the program.

Nursing Department Grading Criteria for all nursing (NR) theory courses is as follows:

Letter Grade	Numeric Grade
A	94-100
A-	90-93
B+	86-89
B	83-85
B-	80-82
C+	76-79
C	73-75
C-	70-72
D+	66-69
D	63-65
D-	60-62
F	59 and below

### Student Progression

- Students must earn a grade of a B- (minimum numeric score of 80) or higher in all required nursing prerequisite courses and required nursing (NR) courses and a PASS in all nursing (NR) clinical courses in order to progress in the program.
- Students must earn and maintain a minimum grade point average of 2.67 (B-) in both the major GPA and the cumulative GPA in order to progress in the program.
- If a student receives a grade lower than a B- in a prerequisite course, they may retake that course one time to earn a grade of B- or higher. Only one prerequisite course may be retaken in the nursing curriculum. If the student does not earn a B- in a second prerequisite course, they will be dismissed from the Nursing major.
- If a student does not meet the required minimum grade in any nursing (NR) course, the student is dismissed from the Nursing major and may petition, in writing, for readmission if applicable (see Readmission Policy).
- Students must complete the program of all required nursing courses within five years of commencing nursing (NR) courses (barring significant extenuating circumstances such as medical issues, family issues, etc.).

### Readmission

Nursing students requesting readmission to the PSU Nursing Program following dismissal for any reason are required to apply to the

Admissions, Progression, and Retention Committee (APR) to be considered for readmission. Potential readmit students must reapply by submitting a letter to the Committee, formerly requesting readmission to the program, which should address the reasons(s) for their dismissal, and identify a plan(s) for successful completion of the program, should the student be readmitted. The Committee will then require an interview with the potential student to review their proposals and explore the potential for the student's future success in the Program.

If the student is granted readmission to the PSU Nursing Program, certain conditions may apply. If the APR Committee deems it necessary for the readmitted student to audit previously taken courses to support future success, the student will be expected to complete the required audited courses(s) with a grade of at least an 80.00 (passing grade for nursing courses), with all course requirements completed as described in the course syllabus. Readmitted students will be required to agree to all terms of readmission as stated in their readmission letter, prior to readmission. Should the readmitted student fail to achieve a passing grade in any audited courses, including a clinical course, or fail to meet other stipulations for readmission, the student will be permanently excused from the Program.

In addition to the above, the following conditions must be met:

- A course in which the student does not meet the minimum progression grade (B-) must be successfully repeated with a B- or higher **before** enrolling in any subsequent nursing course. Only one course may be retaken one time to earn a B- or higher.
- Students who are granted readmission and subsequently fail to progress in the program will be permanently dismissed from the Nursing Program.
- A student reapplying to the Nursing Program may additionally need to reapply to the University. Please see University readmission policies found in the Academic Catalog.
- Students must enroll in both the theory and clinical components of all courses with identified corequisites as determined by Admission, Progression, and Retention Committee upon readmission.
- Students may reapply to the Nursing program one time.

### Admission to the Nursing Program

Admission to the Nursing program is competitive and is not guaranteed. Students must be admitted to the University and to the Nursing program.

The following criteria must be met in order to be considered for admission into the Nursing Program:

- Overall GPA of 3.0 or greater.
- Completion of high school chemistry and biology.
- Overall GPA of 3.0 or greater in High School science courses.
- Demonstration of math proficiency: courses in Algebra I, II, and Geometry.
- Average to strong writing skills, demonstrated in the application essay.

## Clinical Practicum Nursing Requirements Policy

### 1. Student Fees:

Students incur the costs associated with clinical requirements. Please see the Nursing Student Handbook (<https://>

[www.plymouth.edu/sites/default/files/media/2023-07/nursing-student-handbook-2023.2024.pdf](http://www.plymouth.edu/sites/default/files/media/2023-07/nursing-student-handbook-2023.2024.pdf).

## 2. Clinical Requirements & Background Review:

Please see the Nursing Student Handbook (<https://www.plymouth.edu/sites/default/files/media/2023-07/nursing-student-handbook-2023.2024.pdf>).

## Completion Requirements

- The nursing courses are completed in sequence in a cohort model. A maximum of 57 transfer credits may be applied to the degree.
- Credits in the major: 89 semester hours, which includes 66 credits of nursing (NR) courses.
- 120 credit hours are required to complete the BS in Nursing, with a grade of a B- (minimum numeric score of 80) or higher in all nursing (NR) theory courses and a PASS in all nursing (NR) clinical courses.
- Students must earn and maintain a minimum grade point average of 2.67 (B-) in both the major and the cumulative GPA in order to progress in the program.
- Once students begin their nursing courses at PSU [courses with the designation of NR preceding the course number], they have five years to complete their degree. This includes the degree requirements/ completion of the degree.

## Degree Requirements

Course	Title	Credits
<b>Major Requirements</b>		
BI 2110 & BI 2130	Human Anatomy and Physiology I and Human Anatomy and Physiology Laboratory I	4
BI 2120 & BI 2140	Human Anatomy and Physiology II and Human Anatomy and Physiology Laboratory II	4
BI 2340	Microbiology for Nurses	4
MA 2300	Statistics I (QRCO)	3
PS 2015	Introduction to General Psychology	4
PS 2055	Lifespan Developmental Psychology	4
NR 2100	Foundations of Professional Nursing	3
NR 2550	Health Assessment	3
NR 2750	Pathophysiology	4
NR 3020	Introduction to Patient-Centered Care (DICO)	3
NR 3035	Nursing Care of Children	2
NR 3052	Clinical Applications of Patient-Centered Care	4
NR 3070	Health and Wellness of Older Adults (WECO)	3
NR 3095	Evidence-Based Practice in Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing	2
NR 3135	Clinical Applications of Pediatric Wellness and Illness	1
NR 3150	Pharmacology	4
NR 3550	Clinical Application of Health and Wellness for the Older Adult and Chronic Illnesses	2
NR 3700	Clinical Evidence-Based Practice in Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing	1
NR 4000	Evidence-Based Practice in Medical Surgical Nursing	4
NR 4015	Maternal and Newborn Care	2
NR 4020	Global Health and Population-Based Health Care (GACO)	3

NR 4060	Research Process and Evidence-Based Practice (QRCO,WRCO)	3
NR 4100	Clinical Evidence-Based Practice in Medical Surgical Nursing	3
NR 4150	Clinical Application Maternal Newborn Care	1
NR 4500	Nursing Leadership for Acute Care Nursing (INCO)	3
NR 4600	Leadership, Collaboration & Quality Health Care Systems (TECO)	3
General Education ( <a href="https://coursecatalog.plymouth.edu/general-education/">https://coursecatalog.plymouth.edu/general-education/</a> )		
EN 1400	Composition	4
IS 1115	Tackling a Wicked Problem	4
CTDI ( <a href="https://coursecatalog.plymouth.edu/general-education/#CTDI">https://coursecatalog.plymouth.edu/general-education/#CTDI</a> )	Creative Thought Direction	3-4
PPDI ( <a href="https://coursecatalog.plymouth.edu/general-education/#PPDI">https://coursecatalog.plymouth.edu/general-education/#PPDI</a> )	Past and Present Direction	3-4
SSDI ( <a href="https://coursecatalog.plymouth.edu/general-education/#SSDI">https://coursecatalog.plymouth.edu/general-education/#SSDI</a> )	Self and Society Direction	3-4
Directions (choose from CTDI, PPDI, SSDI) ( <a href="https://coursecatalog.plymouth.edu/general-education/">https://coursecatalog.plymouth.edu/general-education/</a> ) <sup>1</sup>		4-8
IS 4220	Signature Project (INCO,INCP)	4
Electives		0-8
Choose either Pre-licensure or RN-BSN Option		13-15
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>120</b>

<sup>1</sup> Directions should total 16-17 credits because SIDI is waived for BS Nursing.

## Pre-licensure BS in Nursing Option

This option is designed for those seeking to earn a BSN and be eligible to take the NCLEX-RN upon successful completion of the program. Pre-licensure students must earn a minimum grade of B- in all prerequisite courses. Students must earn a grade of a B- (minimum numeric score of 80) or higher in all nursing (NR) theory courses and a **pass** in all nursing (NR) clinical courses in order to progress in the program. Students must earn and maintain a minimum grade point average of 2.67 (B-) in both the major and the cumulative GPA in order to progress in the program.

Course	Title	Credits
NR 2300	Biochemistry for Nurses	3
NR 3077	Clinical Applications of Community Based Care	1
NR 4082	Leadership and Quality Improvement in Clinical Settings	6
NR 4310	NCLEX-RN Success I	1
NR 4360	NCLEX-RN Success II	2
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>13</b>

## RN-BSN BS in Nursing Option

Students with an earned Associate Degree in Nursing and licensure as an Registered Nurse may apply to PSU to earn a BS in Nursing. Once admitted, students must earn a grade of a B- (minimum numeric score of 80) or higher in all nursing (NR) theory courses and a **pass** in the nursing (NR) clinical course to progress in the program. Students must earn and maintain a minimum grade point average of 2.67 (B-) in both the major and the cumulative GPA to progress in the program.

Course	Title	Credits
PBH 2000	Foundations of Public Health	4
Business Course (Choose one course):		3-4
BU 2240	Business Statistics (QRCO)	
BUS 1200	Business Law and Ethics (DICO)	
BUS 1300	Digital Information Technologies (TECO)	
BUS 1400	Principles of Economics (GACO)	
BUS 2000	Financial & Managerial Accounting	
Social Issues Course (Choose one course):		3-4
AN 3605	Forensic Anthropology	
ESP 3550	Environment and Health (WECO)	
HE 3700	Drug Behavior (WECO)	
HE 4100	Women's Health Issues (WECO)	
PO 3255	Model United Nations (GACO,INCO)	
PY 3325	Medical Ethics (INCO,WECO)	
SW 3500	Health and Society (GACO,WECO)	
NR 4083	Clinical Applications of Leadership	3
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>13-15</b>

## Recommended Course Sequence

Check all course descriptions for prerequisites before planning course schedule. Course sequence is suggested but not required.

To complete the bachelor's degree in 4 years, you must successfully complete a minimum of 15 credits each semester or have a plan to make up credits over the course of the 4 years. For example, if you take 14 credits one semester, you need to take 16 credits in another semester. Credits completed must count toward your program requirements (major, option, minor, certificate, general education or free electives).

Course	Title	Credits
<b>Year One</b>		
<b>Fall</b>		
BI 2110	Human Anatomy and Physiology I	3
BI 2130	Human Anatomy and Physiology Laboratory I	1
IS 1115	Tackling a Wicked Problem	4
PS 2015	Introduction to General Psychology	4
Directions (choose from CTDI, PPDI, SSDI) ( <a href="https://coursecatalog.plymouth.edu/general-education/">https://coursecatalog.plymouth.edu/general-education/</a> )		3-4
Directions (choose from CTDI, PPDI, SSDI) ( <a href="https://coursecatalog.plymouth.edu/general-education/">https://coursecatalog.plymouth.edu/general-education/</a> )		3-4
<b>Credits</b>		<b>18-20</b>
<b>Spring</b>		
BI 2120	Human Anatomy and Physiology II	3

BI 2140	Human Anatomy and Physiology Laboratory II	1
MA 2300	Statistics I (QRCO)	3
EN 1400	Composition	4
Directions (choose from CTDI, PPDI, SSDI) ( <a href="https://coursecatalog.plymouth.edu/general-education/">https://coursecatalog.plymouth.edu/general-education/</a> )		3-4

**Credits 14-15**

### Year Two

#### Fall

PS 2055	Lifespan Developmental Psychology	4
NR 2100	Foundations of Professional Nursing	3
NR 2300	Biochemistry for Nurses	3
Directions (choose from CTDI, PPDI, SSDI) ( <a href="https://coursecatalog.plymouth.edu/general-education/">https://coursecatalog.plymouth.edu/general-education/</a> )		3-4

**Credits 13-14**

#### Spring

BI 2340	Microbiology for Nurses	4
NR 2750	Pathophysiology	4
NR 2550	Health Assessment	3
Elective		3

**Credits 14**

### Year Three

#### Fall

NR 3020	Introduction to Patient-Centered Care (DICO)	3
NR 3150	Pharmacology	4
NR 3052	Clinical Applications of Patient-Centered Care	4
NR 3095	Evidence-Based Practice in Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing	2
NR 3700	Clinical Evidence-Based Practice in Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing	1

**Credits 14**

#### Spring

NR 3035	Nursing Care of Children	2
NR 3135	Clinical Applications of Pediatric Wellness and Illness	1
NR 3077	Clinical Applications of Community Based Care	1
NR 4020	Global Health and Population-Based Health Care (GACO)	3
NR 3070	Health and Wellness of Older Adults (WECO)	3
NR 3550	Clinical Application of Health and Wellness for the Older Adult and Chronic Illnesses	2
NR 4600	Leadership, Collaboration & Quality Health Care Systems (TECO)	3
Elective or INCP		3

**Credits 18**

### Year Four

#### Fall

NR 4000	Evidence-Based Practice in Medical Surgical Nursing	4
NR 4015	Maternal and Newborn Care	2

NR 4100	Clinical Evidence-Based Practice in Medical Surgical Nursing	3
NR 4150	Clinical Application Maternal Newborn Care	1
NR 4310	NCLEX-RN Success I	1
Elective		3
<b>Credits</b>		<b>14</b>
<b>Spring</b>		
NR 4500	Nursing Leadership for Acute Care Nursing (INCO)	3
NR 4060	Research Process and Evidence-Based Practice (QRCO,WRCO)	3
NR 4360	NCLEX-RN Success II	2
NR 4082	Leadership and Quality Improvement in Clinical Settings	6
<b>Credits</b>		<b>14</b>
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>120</b>

## Learning Outcomes

At the end of the baccalaureate nursing curriculum, graduates will...

- Demonstrate accountability for practicing nursing within established moral, legal, ethical, regulatory, and humanistic principles.
- Demonstrate an awareness of and responsiveness to the larger context and system of health care and the ability to effectively call on system resources to provide care that is of optimal quality and value.
- Use information and technology to communicate, manage knowledge, mitigate error, and support decision-making.
- Identify, evaluate, and use the best current evidence coupled with clinical expertise and consideration of patients' preferences, experience and values to make practice decisions.
- Function effectively within nursing and interdisciplinary teams, fostering open communication, mutual respect, shared decision making, team learning, and development.
- Minimize risk of harm to patients and providers through both individual performance and system effectiveness.
- Use data to monitor outcomes and care processes and use improvement methods to design and test changes to continuously improve the quality and safety of health care.
- Influence the behavior of individuals or groups of individuals within their environment in a way that will facilitate the establishment and acquisition/achievement of shared goals.
- Deliver holistic nursing care and advocate for health promotion and disease prevention strategies at the individual, family, community, and global levels.
- Demonstrate effective communication skills with clients that foster mutual respect and shared decision making to enhance patient satisfaction and health outcomes.

## Career Pathways

• Students with college degrees in nursing (as opposed to basic technical or practical training) will be prepared for a wide variety of professional opportunities in the field. 100% of our graduates in the last 3 years have been hired upon graduation.

• Nurses are highly in demand in many different sectors of the health services industry. As you earn more advanced degrees in nursing, you will get increasingly specialized training and may be eligible for higher-paying

jobs. All nurses need to take the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX) in order to become Registered Nurses (RNs).

Most BS degrees will require students to successfully complete courses such as:

- Microbiology
- Nutrition
- Human anatomy & physiology
- Chemistry
- Statistics
- Variety of clinical experiences in different healthcare settings
  - Nursing care of women & children
  - Nursing care of the adults & elderly
  - Mental health nursing
  - Community and Public Health

BS graduates may go on to have successful careers in specialized fields such as:

- Emergency room care
- Home healthcare
- Mental health
- Critical care
- Oncology
- Geriatrics
- Pediatrics
- Obstetrics
- International healthcare settings
- Military healthcare