

Nursing

Vision and Mission Statements

Vision: Dynamic nursing education, for today and for tomorrow, for individuals and the global community.

Mission: The Department of Nursing is committed to providing quality education that prepares resilient professional nurses who are caring and practice holistically to meet the every-changing challenges of the 21st Century through a culture of evidenced-based practice. Faculty will support students, peers, the College and the community in this mission through a collaborative, accepting environment and through relationships fostered by mentoring and role modeling.

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Philosophy

The philosophy of the Baccalaureate Program of the Department of Nursing is reflective of the values and beliefs from which the NMC mission and core values were formulated.

The nursing faculty believe human beings are holistic and integrated. Each human being has dignity, basic rights and responsibilities, individual needs and a unique internal environment. The human interacts within the environment, which encompasses all external factors that affect the human's well being and speaks to physical, social and existential dimensions as well as various settings. The client is the human recipient of care — individual, family, group or community.

Health is viewed as a dynamic state of mental, physical, social and spiritual well being that maximizes the individual's ability to function in his or her environment. Illness is an alteration in the dynamic state of well being that leads to disharmony between the human self and the environment. Health promotion, illness prevention, maintenance and rehabilitation are facilitated by activities or programs directed toward enhancement, stabilization or restoration of a dynamic state of well being.

Nursing is a caring, creative, dynamic and interactive process that uses scientific and humanistic bodies of knowledge to assist the client in attainment of a dynamic state of well being with a focus on human responses to actual or potential health problems. The nursing curriculum focuses on Jean Watson's science of caring* and is based on the following assumptions. Nursing is concerned with promoting health, preventing illness, restoring health, and caring for the sick and dying. The practice of caring is an integral part of nursing and consists of the carative factors, which are those interventions that result in the satisfaction of human needs. The caring philosophy promotes health and human growth and accepts a human not only as he or she is now, but as whom he or she may become. A caring atmosphere is one that offers the development of potential while allowing the client to choose the best action at a given point in time. Caring is demonstrated and practiced interpersonally and uses the systematic nursing process approach.

The curricular framework incorporates a community-based approach that prepares students to build connections between knowledge and action in an increasingly interdependent world. Students develop the attributes of effective nursing professionals and responsible citizens through focused and meaningfully applied learning experiences. Community-based education encompasses the concepts of health promotion, self care, prevention, collaboration and continuity of care within the context of culture and community.

The nursing faculty believe that nursing education uses the science of caring and builds on the application and synthesis of the biophysical, psychosocial, computer and information sciences and the humanities. Learning is a lifelong, continuous process through which humans acquire knowledge that results in changes of behavior, attitudes and/or ways of thinking. The faculty view teaching as an interactive process that uses a system of actions to promote the acquisition, application, integration and synthesis of knowledge. Optimal learning is enhanced by interaction with faculty members who use a variety of instructional strategies and settings. Faculty members serve as teachers, facilitators, resource persons, evaluators and professional role models. Nursing

education facilitates the student in developing interpersonal caring response skills and communication techniques that produce therapeutic interactions within the nurse-client relationship.

Completion of the baccalaureate nursing program prepares the graduate for professional practice as a nurse generalist, pursuit of advanced studies in nursing and enhancement of lifelong learning. The nurse generalist uses critical thinking, nursing theory, research, nursing process, carative factors and clinical skills while assuming responsibility and accountability for providing nursing care to clients in a variety of settings. Additionally, the nurse generalist is able to demonstrate leadership and management skills in organization, change, advocacy, coordination, collaboration and communication. Thus, the nurse generalist promotes the use of lifelong evidence-based and humanistic practice behaviors to change and respond to the health needs and well being of clients in a dynamic and diverse world.

*Jean Watson, Nursing: The Philosophy and Science of Caring, 1985.

Course Requirements

A student must earn a minimum of 127 total semester credit hours to be eligible for a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing. All course requirements as outlined below must be met. Additional degree requirements may be found elsewhere in the catalog.

GENERAL EDUCATION:	65 Credit Hours
ARTS AND HUMANITIES:	15 credit hours
HU 150 The World of Ideas: Critical Reasoning and Rhetoric	3 hours
HU 210 Introduction to Ethics	3 hours
HU 220 The World of Ideas: The Arts	3 hours
HU 255 The World of Ideas: Historical Perspectives	3 hours
HU 270 The World of Ideas: Human Connection	3 hours
COMMUNICATIONS:	9 credit hours
CM 101 English Composition	3 hours
CM 230 or 245 Language and Culture in Health Care	3 hours
CM 320 Health Care Collaboration & Leadership	3 hours
SOCIAL SCIENCES:	18 credit hours
SS 101 Introduction to Psychology	3 hours
SS 235 The Sociology of Culture	3 hours
SS 215 Life-Span Psychology	3 hours
SS 360 Introduction to Statistics	3 hours
SS 370 Principles of Research	3 hours
SS 465 Capstone: The Educated Citizen	3 hours
NATURAL & APPLIED SCIENCES:	23 credit hours
SC 103 College Chemistry - including lab	3 hours
SC 225, 226 Human Anatomy & Physiology I & II - including labs	8 hours
SC 240 Principles & Concepts of Nutrition	3 hours
SC 265 Introduction to Pharmacology	3 hours
SC 280 Microbiology	3 hours
SC 315 Pathophysiology	3 hours
PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION:	62 credit hours
NS 100 Introduction to Community-Based Nursing	4 hours
NS 202 Health Assessment Across the Lifespan	3 hours

NS 220	Community-Based Care with Adults	7 hours
NS 240	Community-Based Care with Families	6 hours
NS 245	Public Health Science I	1 hour
NS 340	Community-Based Care Across the Life Span	9 hours
NS 345	Public Health Science II	2 hours
NS 350	Advanced Concepts in Community-Based Nursing	9 hours
NS 445	Nursing the Global Society	3 hours
NS 450	Community-Based Care: Complex Concepts Across the Life Span	9 hours
NS 460	Community-Based Care: Complexity of Aging	4 hours
NS 470	Senior Synthesis	1 hour
NS 470P	Senior Preceptor Practicum	2 hours
NS ____	Non-clinical nursing elective	2 hours

Math Competency: Following acceptance to the College, nursing student's math competency will be assessed via a math exam. Students who do not achieve the designated competency score on any area in the exam are required to take a module in that specific area in the Mathematical Concepts course. Successful completion of the modules must be documented prior to enrollment in the first nursing course.

Curriculum Structure

The following plan represents one option for full-time, never-before-nurses to progress from admission to graduation. However, the college recognizes that a majority of students do not elect to progress in this fashion due to other commitments. A 5-year plan in the Bachelor of Science Degree program is also available. Academic advisors/college liaisons are assigned to facilitate an individualized completion plan for academic requirements. Actual course availability in any given semester/session is dependent upon college practices.

Year One:

FIRST SEMESTER:

CM 101	English Composition	3 hours
HU 150	The World of Ideas: Critical Reasoning & Rhetoric	3 hours
SC 225	Anatomy & Physiology I	4 hours
SS 101	Introduction to Psychology	3 hours
SC 103	College Chemistry	3 hours
Total Hours		16 hours

SECOND SEMESTER:

NS 100	Introduction to Community-Based Nursing	4 hours
SC 226	Anatomy & Physiology II	4 hours
CM 230/245	Language and Culture in Healthcare	3 hours
SC 280	Microbiology	3 hours
HU 220	The World of Ideas: The Arts	3 hours
Total Hours		17 hours

Year Two:

THIRD SEMESTER:

SC 315	Pathophysiology	3 hours
NS 220	Community-Based Care with Adults	7 hours
NS 202	Health Assessment Across the Lifespan	3 hours
SS 215	Lifespan Psychology	3 hours
Total Hours		16 hours

FOURTH SEMESTER:

NS 240	Community-Based Care with Families	6 hours
SC 265	Intro to Pharmacology	3 hours

SC 240	Principles and Concepts of Nutrition	3 hours
SS 235	The Sociology of Culture	3 hours
NS 245	Public Health Science I	1 hour
Total Hours		16 hours

Year Three:

FIFTH SEMESTER:

NS __	Non-clinical elective	2 hour
NS 340	Community-Based Care Across Life Span	9 hours
SS 360	Statistics	3 hours
CM 320	Health Care Collaboration and Leadership	3 hours
Total Hours		17 hours

SIXTH SEMESTER:

NS 350	Advanced Concepts in Community-Based Nursing	9 hours
SS 370	Principles of Research	3 hours
HU 210	Introduction to Ethics	3 hours
NS 345	Public Health Science II	2 hours
Total Hours		17 hours

Year Four:

SEVENTH SEMESTER:

NS 445	Nursing the Global Society	3 hours
NS 450	Community-Based Care: Complex Concepts Across the Life Span	9 hours
HU 255	The World of Ideas: Historical Perspectives	3 hours
Total Hours		15 hours

EIGHTH SEMESTER:

HU 270	World of Ideas: Human Connection	3 hours
NS 460	Community-Based Care: Complexity of Aging	4 hours
NS 470	Senior Synthesis	1 hour
NS 470P	Senior Preceptor Practicum	2 hours
SS 465	Capstone: The Educated Citizen	3 hours
Total Hours		13 hours

Program Total: 127 credits

A typical full-time student (first year student) following the above outlined pattern of enrollment can expect to complete the program in eight regular semesters or four years.

Clinical Facilities

The following facilities are used for major clinical experiences in the BSN program:

- Nebraska Methodist Hospital, Omaha, Nebraska
- Children’s Hospital, Omaha, Nebraska
- Douglas County Hospital, Omaha, Nebraska
- Visiting Nurse Association, Omaha, Nebraska
- Thomas Fitzgerald Veterans Home, Omaha, Nebraska
- University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, Nebraska
- Salvation Army – Renaissance Center, Omaha, Nebraska
- Alegent Health System, Omaha, Nebraska
- Jenny Edmundson Hospital, Council Bluffs, IA

RN – BSN Curriculum

RN Student Guidelines

Admission criteria in addition to College admission requirements:

- a. Applicants must provide proof of current unencumbered licensure as a registered nurse.
- b. Official transcripts documenting graduation from a state approved associate degree or diploma nursing program.

Transcript evaluation and validation of prior learning:

- a. The College Registrar will evaluate previous transcripts. The RN can validate nursing course outcomes through portfolio guidelines.
- b. Pre-requisite courses must be completed at a regionally accredited college or university with a grade of "C-" or above earned:

English composition	3 credits
Ethics	3 credits
Humanities (Arts, History, Human Connection)	9 credits
Psychology	3 credits
Life Span Psychology	3 credits
The Sociology of Culture	3 credits
Statistics	3 credits

The RN-BSN online program can be completed in a full-time or part-time study with the following courses:

HU 150/152	Critical Reasoning & Rhetoric or Portfolio	1-3 hours
NS 543	Advanced Health Assessment	3 hours
SC 315	Pathophysiology	3 hours
SS 370	Principles of Research	3 hours
CM 230/245	Language and Culture in Healthcare	3 hours
NS 430	RN Professional Seminar	3 hours
NS 476	Community Health Nursing	3 hours
NS 476C	Community Health Nursing Practicum	3 hours
NS 446	Collaborative Nursing Leadership in a Global Society	3 hours
SS 465	Capstone: The Educated Citizen	3 hours
NS 480	Complexity in Nursing	3 hours

In the RN-BSN online program, background checks and drug screening will be required based on clinical agency request during any practicum.

Note: If Critical Reasoning and Rhetoric credit is transferred, or if a Bachelor's or Graduate degree was previously earned by the student, then Portfolio Introduction (1 credit) needs to be taken.

LPN Advanced Placement

LPN Student Guidelines

Admission criteria in addition to College admission requirements:

- a. Applicants must provide proof of current unencumbered licensure as a licensed practical nurse.
- b. Official transcripts documenting graduation from a state-approved technical or vocational program.

Transcript evaluation and validation of prior learning:

- a. The College Registrar will evaluate previous transcripts.
- b. Upon successful completion of the LPN Transition Course (lecture and clinical practicum validation), the LPN will be awarded credit for the following courses:

NS 100/NS 100C	Introduction to Community-Based Nursing	4 hours
NS 220/NS 220C	Community-Based Care with Adults	7 hours
Total		11 Credits

- c. Two credit hours will be given for the LPN Transition Course.
- d. Upon successful completion of the LPN Transition Course and all required courses in the first three semesters, the LPN will be ready for enrollment in NS 240. The LPN student follows the curriculum structure of the Bachelor of Science in Nursing.

ACE – Accelerated Community-Based Education for Nursing

Fifteen-Month BSN Program

This program offers an accelerated format for those possessing a degree in a non-nursing field and meeting prerequisites. Any associate's, bachelors' or higher degree is acceptable. Students attend class full-time for 15 months — the last six weeks of which are spent in a one-on-one preceptorship.

General Education Requirements

Before enrolling in the ACE Program, students must have completed the following general education courses, totaling 49-52 hours:

English Composition	Medical Terminology
Humanities electives	Psychology
Life-Span Psychology	Chemistry - including lab
Anatomy & Physiology I & II - including labs	Nutrition
Microbiology	Research
Ethics	Critical Reasoning & Rhetoric (Associate Degree applicants)
Statistics	
The Sociology of Culture	

General education courses may be completed at NMC prior to matriculation or transferred from accredited institutions. Various course validation options are available for the above general education courses.

Course Requirements

During the 15-month program, students will complete 74 credit hours of required coursework:

NS 100	Introduction to Community-Based Nursing	4 hours
SC 265	Introduction to Pharmacology	3 hours
SC 315	Pathophysiology	3 hours
CM 230/245	Language & Culture in Health Care	3 hours
NS 202	Health Assessment Across the Lifespan	3 hours
NS 220	Community-Based Care with Adults	7 hours
NS 240	Community-Based Care with Families	6 hours
NS 245	Public Health Science I	1 hour
NS 340	Community-Based Care across Life Span	9 hours
NS 345	Public Health Science II	2 hours
NS 350	Advanced Concepts in Community-Based Nursing	9 hours

NS ____	Non-clinical nursing elective	2 hours
NS 450	Community-Based Care: Complex Concepts Across the Life Span	9 hours
NS 446	Collaborative Nursing Leadership in a Global Society	3 hours
NS 460	Community-Based Care: Complexity of Aging	4 hours
NS 470	Senior Synthesis	1 hour
NS 470P	Senior Preceptor Practicum	2 hours
SS 465	Capstone: The Educated Citizen	3 hours

ACE students following the recommended pattern of enrollment and completing all required general education courses prior to beginning the program can expect to complete the program in 15 months.

Online Master of Science Degree Nursing

Philosophy

The philosophy of the Master of Science Program of the Department of Nursing is reflective of the values and beliefs from which the NMC mission and core values were formulated.

Nursing faculty believe that human beings are holistic and integrated. Each human being has dignity, basic rights and responsibilities, individual needs, and a unique internal environment. The human interacts within the environment that encompasses all the external factors that affect the human's well being and includes the physical, psychosocial, and existential dimensions. The client is the human recipient of care whether as an individual, family, group, or community.

Health is viewed as a dynamic state of mental, physical, social, and spiritual well being that maximizes the human's ability to function in his or her environment. Illness is an alteration in the dynamic state of well being that leads to disharmony between the human self and the environment. Health promotion, maintenance, rehabilitation, and restoration are facilitated by activities directed toward enhancement and stabilization of a dynamic state of well being.

Nursing is a caring, creative, dynamic, and interactive process that uses scientific and humanistic bodies of knowledge to assist the client in attainment of a dynamic state of well being. Nursing is concerned with promoting health, preventing illness, restoring health, and caring for the sick and dying. The practice of caring is an integral part of nursing and consists of the carative factors, which are those interventions that result in the satisfaction of human needs. The caring philosophy promotes health and human growth. A caring atmosphere is one that offers the opportunity for development of potential while allowing the client to choose the best action at a given point in time. Caring is demonstrated and practiced interpersonally and uses the systematic nursing process approach.

Learning is a life long, continuous process through which humans acquire knowledge that results in changes of behavior, attitudes, and/or ways of thinking. The nursing faculty believe that nursing education is built on the application and synthesis of the biophysical sciences, psychosocial sciences, the humanities, and the science of caring. Teaching is an interactive process that uses a system of actions to promote acquisition, application, integration, and synthesis of knowledge. The faculty serve as teachers, facilitators, resource persons, evaluators, and professional role models. Graduate education plays a strategic role in the ongoing development of the skilled professional who will contribute to the health, business, political, and social structures of the global community.

Completion of the Master of Science Nursing Program provides the graduate with a strong theoretical and practical base to improve healthcare through a culture of evidence-based practice. This education will prepare the graduate with a firm background in critical thinking and decision making skills. The master's prepared nurse will have the necessary skills to practice independently and interdependently and to build interdisciplinary collegial relationships. The graduate will participate in the creative development of partnerships with communities to deliver services to a variety of populations. There will be consideration for the health care needs of populations at risk and the growing number of those clients who are underserved. The graduate will be able to use creativity and flexibility in order to deal with roles less clearly defined as well as to manage and carry out the changing and challenging advanced nursing roles. This graduate will function in an increasingly

complex health care system that includes responding to global, technological, and environmental issues. The graduate will be able to analyze, synthesize, and utilize knowledge to better understand health care policy, financing, and ethical decision making. The graduate will be prepared in the professional role to foster leadership in the delivery of culturally sensitive health care.

Course Requirements

A student must earn a minimum of 39 total semester credit hours to be eligible for the Master of Science in Nursing Degree. All course requirements as outlined below must be met. This program is online and an on-site intensive experience is required at NMC during the summer terms.

Nurse Educator Track

First Semester Spring

NS 500	Developing Your Ad Nursing Role	3
NS 506	Theories for Nursing	3

First Summer

NS 516	Teaching/Learning	3
NS 510	Advanced Statistics	2

Second Semester Fall

NS 518	Instructional Methods	3
NS 514	Research and Evidence-Based Practice	3

Third Semester Spring

NS 508	Issue in Advanced Nursing Roles	3
NS 543 or 545	Elective	3

Second Summer

NS 521	Informatics & Technology for Nursing Education	1
NS 542	Clinical Concepts	3

Fourth Semester Fall

NS 523	Curriculum/Program Development & Evaluation	4
NS 592	Capstone I	2

Fifth Semester Spring

NS 524	Practicum	4
NS 594	Capstone II	2
PROGRAM TOTAL HOURS		39

Nurse Executive Track

First Semester Spring

NS 500	Developing Your Ad Nursing Role	3
NS 506	Theories for Nursing	3

First Summer

NS 550	Organizational Behavior & Structure	3
NS 510	Advanced Statistics	2

Second Semester Fall

NS 552	Role of the Nurse Executive I: Leading an Organization	3
NS 514	Research and Evidence-Based Practice	3

Third Semester Spring

NS 508	Issues in Advanced Nursing Roles	3
NS 554	Role of the Nurse Executive II: Human Resource	3

	Management	
Second Summer		
NS ____	Elective	1
NS 542	Clinical Concepts	3
Fourth Semester Fall		
NS 558	Role of the Nurse Executive III: Financial Mgt & Economics	4
NS 592	Capstone I	2
Fifth Semester Spring		
NS 559	Practicum: Management, Improvement, & Evaluation in Health Care Organizations	4
NS 594	Capstone II	2
	PROGRAM TOTAL HOURS	39

Online Post-Master's Certificate

Curriculum Structure

The following plan represents progression for the online post-master's certificate as a nurse educator/nurse executive. There are a total of 14 credit hours to complete.

Nurse Educator

Summer		
NS 516	Teaching-Learning Principles	3
Fall		
NS 518	Instructional Methods (7 1/2weeks)	3
NS 523	Curriculum/Program Development & Evaluation	4
Spring		
NS 524	Practicum in Nursing Education (includes developing a course online)	4
	PROGRAM TOTAL HOURS	14

Nurse Executive

Summer		
NS 550	Organizational Behavior & Structure.	3
Fall		
NS 552	Leading an Organization	3
NS 558	Financial Management & Economics	4
Spring		
NS 559	Practicum: Management, Improvement & Evaluation in Health Care Organizations	4
	PROGRAM TOTAL HOURS	14