

Nursing

Office: Room 4311
Phone: 718.489.5497

Chairperson

Dr. Colleen Carmody

Department Mission

The St. Francis College Department of Nursing educates leaders who are prepared to practice safely within the technologically advanced and dynamic health care environment of the 21st century. St. Francis College nurses, in keeping with the Franciscan values, are educated to be globally-minded, service-driven professionals, delivering the highest quality of evidence-based nursing care with respect to the diversity within our communities of interest. The St. Francis College nursing program fosters students' abilities in therapeutic communication, critical thinking, clinical judgment, interprofessional collaboration, leadership and cultural competency.

Department Nursing Philosophy

The philosophy of the Department of Nursing views nursing as an art and a science consistent with the Franciscan tradition of St. Francis College. Our Philosophy emphasizes teaching through partnership to prepare future nurse leaders. These socially responsible, caring, and engaged citizens will practice safe, patient-centered, evidence-based care across the lifespan within a dynamic and complex healthcare system. This is demonstrated through a commitment to the teaching/learning environment. We believe nursing education should include the traditions of teaching, research, and service to meet the demands of a global society.

Department Nursing Philosophy of Teaching

The departmental philosophy, which was created by the nursing faculty, views nursing as an art and a science consistent with the Franciscan tradition of St. Francis College. Nursing provides care and nurturance within the context of the Franciscan tradition that includes service, equality, aesthetics, freedom, honor, dignity, justice, and truth. The Franciscan education provides a solid foundation for intellectual, spiritual, and professional growth. The nursing program, as part of the college, is committed to intellectual growth along with the development of an ethical and moral code of conduct. The nursing philosophy is an open systems perspective that views individuals, where each person is unique and deserving of respect. Preserving one's individuality and providing the catalyst for maximum growth are primary functions. The energy created by faculty and students provides an enriching experience that responds to societal needs. The climate at St. Francis College stimulates self-motivation to produce nurse leaders who are prepared to reach their highest potential personally and professionally within the broadest definition of

community.

The nine components of the AACN Baccalaureate Essentials form the framework for the nursing curriculum, which is designed to prepare nurses to practice in complex healthcare systems. At the completion of the baccalaureate nursing education, the graduate is prepared for practice in generalist nursing practice and prepared for admission to graduate programs in nursing.

Nursing, as a practice discipline, involves direct service to people. Individuals' strive for integration of their physiological, psychological, spiritual, and sociocultural dimensions, also known as wellness. Despite race, religious affiliation, or disease prognosis, each person has the right to receive quality healthcare. Nursing provides care and nurturance in this endeavor. The concept of health is broad and progresses along a continuum throughout one's lifetime. Nursing focuses on promoting a healthy life progression. The primary goal of nursing is to focus on health promotion, maintenance, and disease prevention among diverse populations.

Nursing is a discipline that evolves through evidence-based practice. Research is vital for the fundamental growth and advancement of a nursing knowledge base. Research and other methods of knowledge acquisition are integral to the improvement of this practice. Independently and in collaboration with various disciplines, professional nursing guides individuals, families, and societies to utilize the complex health care system. People, health, and evidence-based practice are fundamental concepts of the program designed to prepare nurses for the rigors of an increasingly technological and globalized marketplace and society.

Nursing Department Learning Outcomes In accordance with the mission of the Department of Nursing and the undergraduate program goals and the nine essentials from the Executive Summary of AACN (2008), the baccalaureate curriculum for both the pre-licensure students and registered nurse students provides educational opportunities that enable the graduate to successfully complete the program and is able to:

1. apply knowledge from the arts and sciences to the care of individuals and families throughout the health-illness continuum;
2. apply knowledge and skills in leadership, quality improvement, and patient safety to provide quality health care;
3. translate current evidence into clinical decision making and professional nursing care;
4. utilize technology and informatics appropriately in professional nursing settings;
5. apply knowledge of health care policy, finance, and regulatory environments both directly and indirectly to influence the function of the health care system;
6. collaborate and communicate effectively among health professionals to promote quality and safe patient care in a variety of health care settings;
7. apply health promotion and disease prevention at the

- individual and population level to improve health;
8. demonstrate autonomy, integrity, self-assessment, and social justice as part of developing the professional nursing role;
 9. provide culturally competent nursing care to individuals, families, groups, communities and populations across the lifespan across a variety of health care environments.

Program Requirements

Major in Nursing

The department of Nursing now offers two degree programs:

- A flexible RN to BS program created specifically for working nurses. This program is open only to qualified transfer students with a valid New York State R.N. license.

- A four-year, full-time undergraduate program that prepares students to sit for the NCLEX Exam (Pre-Licensure nursing program).

RN to BS Program (BS-NUR)

This program offers a Bachelor of Science degree with a major in nursing to registered nurse candidates who complete the requirements listed. The program requires that students demonstrate knowledge and skills in the liberal arts and sciences including mathematics, natural sciences, social sciences, history, the arts, and basic communication, and information technology.

Flexible scheduling permits full- or part-time study. Please note that the program is designed for nurses who wish to remain employed while continuing their education. Therefore, courses will be offered during the day and evening whenever possible. Students who wish to attend during the day may do so. Students interested in completing the Nursing program on a part-time

basis are advised that they must complete a minimum of 12 credits per year, which may include credits taking during the summer sessions. The program must be completed within a five-year period.

Once a student is accepted into the program, his or her transcripts will be evaluated for transfer credits. A total of up to 92 credits completed with grades of C or higher may be transferred, including up to 25 pre-licensure credits in nursing. Graduates of foreign nursing schools who have received certification from the Commission on Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools (CGFNS) will be awarded 25 credits in nursing upon submission of the CGFNS certificate. All students must complete a minimum of 30 credits in residence at St. Francis College.

Students are encouraged to consult the Department of Nursing Student Handbook for further information.

RN to BS Program (BS-NUR)

| Courses | Credits | Prerequisite(s) | Co-Requisite(s) |
|---|------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| General Education Program (see page 15) | 34 | | |
| First Year College | | | |
| • ITML - Take IT 1001 Computer Tools | | | |
| • FH - Take HS 1001 Health Issues | | | |
| Bodies of Knowledge* | | | |
| • NPW - Take CHE 1101 Chemistry and Life I (4 cr) | | | |
| • SEH - Take PSY 1100 General Psychology | | | |
| *Choices made in consultation with Nursing Dept. Academic Advisor | | | |
| Nursing credits transferred | 25 | | |
| NUR 3001 Nursing Informatics | 3 | | |
| NUR 3311 Geriatric Nursing | 3 | | |
| NUR 3321 Physical Assessment | 4 | | |
| NUR 3322 Nursing Issues | 3 | | |
| NUR 3336 Nursing Pathophysiology | 3 | BIO 1140, BIO 1141 and CHE 1101 | |
| NUR 3423 Nursing Leadership and Management | 3 | | |
| NUR 3501 Nursing Seminar I ¹ | 1 | | |
| NUR 4323 Professional Nursing Bridge (Clinical) | 4 | { NUR 3221 | NUR 4324 |
| NUR 4324 Professional Nursing Bridge (Lecture) | 3 | { NUR 3222 | NUR 4323 |
| NUR 4421 Community/Public Health (Clinical) | 4 | { COM 1000 | NUR 4422 |
| NUR 4422 Community/Public Health (Lecture) | 3 | { NUR 4324 | NUR 4421 |
| NUR 4444 End of Life Care | 3 | NUR 4324 | NUR 4323 |
| NUR 4502 Nursing Seminar II ¹ | 1 | | |
| NUR 4600 Nursing Research | 3 | { WRI 1500 | |
| BIO 1140 Anatomy and Physiology for Health Science I | 4 | { MAT 2301 | |
| BIO 1141 Anatomy and Physiology for Health Science II | 4 | BIO 1140 | |
| BIO 3300 Microbiology for Health-Related Sciences | 4 | BIO 1141 | |
| BIO 4450 Pharmacology | 3 | BIO 1202, BIO, 1141 | |
| MAT 2301 Statistics | 3 | MAT 1104 or higher | |
| WRI 1500 Advanced Composition | 3 | WRI 1100 | |
| Liberal Arts ² (for specific academic subjects, see page 15) | 12 | | |
| Total credits required | 133 | | |

¹ The successful completion of NUR 3501 and NUR 4502 satisfies the College's Comprehensive Examination/Thesis requirement.

² Students pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree must complete 1/2 of their degree credits (i.e. minimum 60 credits) from courses in the Liberal Arts category. For specific academic subjects, see page 15.



Traditional BS Program (BS-RN)

The traditional BS program offers a Bachelor of Science degree with a major in nursing to qualified high school graduates and transfer students interested in preparing for the NCLEX Exam. This pre-licensure nursing program is open to applicants with good moral character and demonstrated academic ability who are interested in **full-time study**.

In addition to the nursing curriculum, students gain valuable knowledge and skills in liberal arts and sciences through courses focused on mathematics, natural sciences, social sciences, writing, and oral communication.

Admission decisions are based on a comprehensive evaluation of an applicant's previous academic work, recommendations, and relevant information about personal and professional experience. Decisions are made on a competitive basis; meeting minimum admission criteria does not guarantee admission.

Applicants are expected to meet the following criteria:

- Eligibility for a Registered Nurse license in New York State.
- A completed application for admission (available in the Nursing department office).
- Three reference letters submitted on letterhead from teachers, advisors, or employers who have known the applicant for at least six months.

- A minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.0.
- A minimum grade of *B* in all science and math courses.
- Minimum SAT score of 1000 (old SAT) or 1050 (new SAT), ACT score of 22, or TEAS score of 75%.
- An interview to discuss the applicant's goals and experience.

Once a student is accepted into the traditional BS program, an annual physical exam, background check, and drug test are required for placement in clinical coursework.

Failure to achieve a *C* in a nursing course may interrupt progression if that course is a prerequisite to a subsequent nursing course. A student who fails to achieve a *C* in a clinical nursing course may not progress in the nursing sequence. He or she must repeat the nursing course the next time it is offered.

A student is eligible to repeat only one nursing course during the entire program. The possibility of repeating a second nursing course may be evaluated on an individual basis. The student must achieve at least a *B* when a nursing course is repeated. Failure of a concurrent or subsequent nursing course will result in academic dismissal.

For planning purposes, students are encouraged to seek advisement in the Nursing department prior to applying for admission.