

## The Vision and Mission

The **Vision** of the School of Nursing is to be a force for innovation, learning and discovery in preparing culturally proficient nurses for leadership in health for a global society. The **Mission** of School of Nursing is to enhance health and healing through nursing leadership in teaching, scholarship, practice and service.

The faculty fulfill the mission of the School by:

- Creating and refining systems that support the School's work
- Creating an innovative environment for learning, inquiry, and discovery with diverse populations of patients/clients.
- Enhancing the art and discipline of nursing by developing, disseminating, and utilizing new knowledge, with faculty research focused on human health and healing.

## Undergraduate Program Traditional Pre-Licensure Track

The School of Nursing offers an undergraduate program leading to the Bachelor of Science degree. This program is approved by the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Nursing, and is fully accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE), a national nursing education accrediting body. Completion of requirements qualifies the graduate to take the National Council Licensing Examination in Nursing for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN), a prerequisite to working as a registered nurse.

The undergraduate program provides the knowledge and skills fundamental to professional nursing. Students emerge from this program prepared for graduate study and able to: advocate for the rights of and respect for client, nurse, profession, and environment; think autonomously and with an understanding of complex situations; relate in ways that maintain therapeutic and professional alliances with clients; develop collaborative relationships to benefit the health of society; manage competently and collaboratively the health dynamics of clients in the context of culture, resources environment, and current technologies; and assume professional leadership roles.

The Nursing major builds on General Education requirements and courses that provide the foundation for an approach to nursing science that is humanistic and scientific. Self-paced modules, lectures, seminars, clinical simulation in the laboratory setting, and clinical rotations are used. Community agencies such as senior citizen centers, schools, ambulatory care centers, community hospitals, home care agencies, community, public health, and medical centers are used for clinical practice. Faculty assist students in exploring new areas and in laying the foundation for a critical thinking and problem-solving approach to nursing practice and research.

Students are expected to assume increasing responsibility for their own education by choosing the learning options that best serve their individual abilities, needs, and interests. Under faculty guidance, students provide nursing care to clients of all ages and develop skills in critical thinking, leadership, and research utilization.

### Admissions Requirements

Nursing is a major with limited enrollment. High school students interested in the traditional undergraduate track apply through the University Admissions office. Acceptance to the University does not guarantee admission to the Nursing major. Students will be notified of their acceptance to the nursing major by the University's Undergraduate Admissions Office.

A very limited number of positions for transfer students may become available each year but there is no guarantee as to the semester in which a transfer student would be able to enter the program. However, transfer students are responsible for all prerequisite coursework needed to enter the junior year of Nursing. Transfer applicants must have completed 12 credits of course work and have an overall University GPA of 3 or higher. Student should check the School of Nursing website [www.umass.edu/nursing](http://www.umass.edu/nursing) periodically to learn if transfer opportunities are available. Off-campus transfer applicants to the School of Nursing will be reviewed by the University's Undergraduate Admissions Office and may be considered on a case-by-case basis once qualified on-campus applicants have been accepted. There is no minor in Nursing.

## Graduation Requirements

A minimum of 120 credits is required for graduation. At least 45 credits must be taken in residence (that is, while the student is continuously enrolled in and regularly attending classes at the UMass Amherst campus). Up to 75 transfer credits can apply toward graduation requirements. A minimum of 60 credits in the Nursing major is required.

### The Honors Program at the School of Nursing

The School of Nursing offers a departmental honors track. Together with Commonwealth College, we offer outstanding academic experiences and a supportive community which prepares you for intentional engagement in a diverse world and in issues of social justice. For final projects our students have done amazing work such as: a cultural immersion experience in the Dominica Republic, development of a seminar series on complementary alternative therapy, and health teaching with homeless populations. Would you like to make a difference? Join us.

## Notes on Clinical Experience and Transportation

The School of Nursing provides the best possible clinical experiences for students, utilizing a wide variety of in-patient, outpatient and community sites (with day, evening, weekend, and night shifts used seven days a week). For this reason, public transportation or sharing transportation has not been workable as a means to get to the clinical agencies. Instead, students must provide their own transportation to the clinical sites. For a list of some of the clinical sites used, check our website: [www.umass.edu/nursing](http://www.umass.edu/nursing).

## The Nursing Clinical Simulation Laboratory

The Nursing Clinical Simulation Laboratory is our state of the art clinical simulation area. The laboratory uses lifelike mannequins and real-life clinical scenarios to add to the instructional effectiveness of teaching nursing practice. The School of Nursing is a leader in this innovative teaching methodology. Faculty and students together have developed and implemented many clinical scenarios related to Maternal Child Health, Medical Surgical and Critical Care Nursing. The laboratory simulates a realistic patient environment where students and faculty engage in enjoyable learning experiences with the potential to improve the effectiveness, efficiency and safety of patient care. These simulations challenge and test the student's clinical and decision-making skills, helping them develop as a professional baccalaureate nurse.

## Mandatory Background Checks

Criminal Offender Record Information (CORI) checks are required by many clinical agencies and will be completed by the School of Nursing on all students once they are admitted to the program. Progression in the program and placements in clinical agencies may be contingent upon a satisfactory CORI investigation.

**In addition to graduation, the Board of Registration in Nursing requires that graduates sitting for the NCLEX-RN licensure exam meet standards of 'good moral character.' For further information, see "Rules and Regulations: Determination of Good Moral Character on their Web site: [www.mass.gov/dpl/boards/rn](http://www.mass.gov/dpl/boards/rn)**

### For further information, contact:

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Amherst, MA 01003-9304  
Phone: (413) 545-5096 / Fax: (413) 577-2550  
Web: [www.umass.edu/nursing](http://www.umass.edu/nursing)

### Monthly Information Sessions

Look to the prospective student section of our website [www.umass.edu/nursing](http://www.umass.edu/nursing) to find out when and where a School of Nursing Information Session is being held and to RSVP.

**University of Massachusetts Amherst School of Nursing**  
**Traditional Prelicensure Course of Study**

*The undergraduate program is constantly being revised in response to rapid advances in scientific technology, new trends in health care delivery, and greater public awareness of health needs. Refer to the website for the most up to date information: [www.umass.edu/nursing](http://www.umass.edu/nursing)*

**First Two Years Pre-Clinical Course of Study (64 credits)**

<b>Course/credit</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Course Title</b>	<b>GedEd Desig.</b>
CHEM 110 (or 111)*	4	General Chemistry	PS
PSYCH 100*	3	Introductory Psychology	SB
ENGLWRIT 112*	3	College Writing	CW
NURSING 100*	3	Perspectives In Nursing	
Gen Ed	3		BS/PS/SI
NUTRITION* 130 or 230	3	Human Nutrition	
KIN 297A* and KIN 297L (lab)	3 and 1	Anatomy & Physiology I Anatomy & Physiology I Lab	
STATISTICS*	3	Stats 111, Stats 140, Psych 240, Soc 212, ResEc 212 (211) or Educ 276	R2
GEN ED	3		AT/AL/I
GEN ED	3		SB or I
KIN 297C* and KIN 297D (lab)	3 and 1	Anatomy & Physiology II Anatomy & Physiology II Lab	
PSYCH 380*	3	Abnormal Psychology	
NURSING 210*	3	Human Growth Development throughout the Lifespan	
GEN ED	3		HS
ELECTIVE	3		
MICRO 255*	4	+Introduction to Medical Microbiology	BS
NURSING 301*	3	+Pathophysiology	
NURSING 312*	3	+Cultural Diversity in Health & Illness	I/U
GEN ED	3		AL
GEN ED	3		AL/AT/HS/SB/ I
Nursing 150	1	Faculty Seminar for First Year Nursing Students (this course is for Nursing RAP students and has limited enrollment)	

\*Students must earn a grade of C or better in each of the asterisked prerequisite courses. The minimum cumulative GPA is 2.5 to progress in the program. +Introduction to Medical Microbiology, Pathophysiology, Cultural Diversity in Health and Illness are only available to students during the semester immediately **prior** to entering the Upper Division Nursing clinical courses. *Students are strongly encouraged to take a foreign language, preferably Spanish.* Students must also add a diversity component ("U" for United States and "G" for Global) to two of their General Education Courses. \*\* Nursing 312 fulfills a U.S .Diversity and Interdisciplinary general education requirement.

## Traditional Prelicensure Course of Study

### Upper Division Course Requirements (56 credits)

All upper level nursing courses must be completed with a grade of C or higher for graduation as a Nursing major.

Course Offerings	Course Title	Credits
<b>Junior Level 1</b>	<b><i>Semester Total</i></b>	<b><i>16 credits</i></b>
NURSING 315	Health and Physical Assessment of Individuals and Families	3 credits
NURSING 316	Community Health Nursing I: Principles of Nursing Care	3 credits
NURSING 332	Pharmacology in Nursing	3 credits
NURSING 397A	Writing in Nursing	3 credits
NURSING 398E	Clinical Practicum I: Principles of Nursing Care	4 credits
<b>Junior Level 2</b>	<b><i>Semester Total</i></b>	<b><i>15 credits</i></b>
NURSING 325	Community Health Nursing IIC: Maternal-Newborn	2 credits
NURSING 398I	Clinical Practicum IIC: Maternal-Newborn	2 credits
NURSING 326	Community Health Nursing IIA: Parent-Child	2 credits
NURSING 398F	Clinical Practicum IIA: Parent-Child	2 credits
NURSING 327	Community Health Nursing IIB: Mental Health	2 credits
NURSING 398G	Clinical Practicum IIB: Mental Health	2 credits
NURSING 420	Introduction to Research in Nursing	3 credits
<b>Senior Level 3</b>	<b><i>Semester Total</i></b>	<b><i>13 credits</i></b>
NURSING 432	Community Health Nursing IIIB: Restorative	3 credits
NURSING 433	Community Health Nursing IV: Restorative II	3 credits
NURSING 489	Clinical Practicum IIIA: Community Based Care	3 credits
NURSING 498C	Clinical Practicum IIIB: Restorative Nursing	4 credits
<b>Senior Level 4</b>	<b><i>Semester Total</i></b>	<b><i>12 credits</i></b>
NURSING 438	Professional Role in Nursing	3 credits
NURSING 498E	Clinical Nursing Practicum IVB: Internship	4 credits
NURSING 439	Community Health Nursing IV: Community	3 credits
NURSING 498D	Clinical Practicum IVA: Community Intervention	2 credits

Other Nursing courses, such as Special Topics, Independent Study, honors or thesis are offered as well.