

## Second Bachelor's Degree Track

The Second Bachelor's Track is a course of study designed for individuals with a non-nursing Bachelors degree who are interested in pursuing professional nursing. This is an outstanding full time fast paced program that requires significant dedication and commitment. Students spend 4-5 days per week in the classroom and in clinical sites. Preparation for class and clinical is critical to succeed in this program. Outside employment is discouraged.

The program builds on the students' previous education, experience, and required pre-requisites. Lectures, case studies, group projects, seminars, clinical practice, simulated laboratory, independent study, multi media, web enhanced courses and self-paced modules provide the foundation for an approach to nursing that is humanistic and scientific. Clinical practice is arranged under faculty direction with the cooperation of community agencies and health care facilities such as senior citizen centers, schools, ambulatory care centers, community hospitals, and medical centers as well as clients' homes.

Completion of the program prepares the graduate for entry level professional practice, to take the NCLEX® licensure exam and to gain the academic foundation for graduate study in nursing. Students who satisfactorily complete the 59 residence credits will be awarded a Bachelor of Science Degree with a major in Nursing. This 17-month Track begins each January.

### Vision, Mission and Goals

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 the School of Nursing is to enhance health and healing through nursing leadership in teaching, scholarship, practice and service.

The **teaching goals** of the faculty are to ensure:

- A flexible learning environment that is interactive, collaborative, and inclusive.
- A comprehensive, cohesive curriculum for all programs which reflects the School's Mission.

- Accreditation criteria and professional standards adopted by the School of Nursing.
- A comprehensive student, course, and program.

Prepare students for:

- Leadership in a changing and diverse socio-political world.
- Successful completion of all licensing and credentialing requirements at the undergraduate level.
- A career as professionals who are caring, compassionate, competent, and culturally proficient in the provision of nursing care.

Students completing the seventeen month program are prepared and able to:

1. Develop and sustain therapeutic and collaborative relationships that enhance health and healing.
2. Use assessment, communication, and technical skills to design, manage, and coordinate nursing care of clients in the context of environment.
3. Use critical thinking in creative problem solving and decision-making to provide competent nursing care to clients in the context of resources, current technologies, and outcome-based practice models.
4. Provide culturally competent nursing care to clients with diverse backgrounds.
5. Provide safe, competent nursing care to clients using the essential processes to promote, maintain and restore health and prevent illness within the context of environment.
6. Design, manage and coordinate nursing care of clients in collaboration with the interdisciplinary health care team using knowledge of health care systems and policy and global health care concerns.
7. Advocate for client, nurse, and profession incorporating ethical theory and professional values of altruism, human dignity, integrity, and social justice.
8. Assume the role of the professional nurse, valuing lifelong learning, continued professional growth, and commitment to excellence.

## Application Deadline

Application deadline for the class that starts January 2009 is September 1<sup>st</sup> 2008. The application deadline for the class that starts January 2010 will be April 15<sup>th</sup> 2009. The applicant is responsible for verifying that the School of Nursing office has received all application materials. To confirm receipt of application materials call (413) 545-0484.

## Admission Requirements

1. A bachelor's degree in a field other than nursing from an accredited institution.
2. Official Transcripts (translations required if Foreign) must be submitted to the School of Nursing.
3. C or better in the following 6 pre-requisite courses:
  - Human Nutrition
  - Microbiology w/Lab
  - Anatomy and Physiology I and II (can also be taken as Anatomy *and* Physiology, as long as there are two semesters of coursework in anatomy and physiology).
  - Statistics
  - Human Growth and Development Throughout the Lifespan
4. Overall GPA in the six pre-requisite courses of B or better (3.0). Up to two courses can be in progress during the application review process.
5. Students for which English is not their first language must take the TOEFL Exam and have a score of at least 600 on the paper test, or 250 on computer test.
6. International students must complete the International Students Application at their website [www.umass.edu/admissions/applying/international](http://www.umass.edu/admissions/applying/international)
7. Two professional letters of reference.
8. The submission of an application essay.
9. CORI (Criminal Offender Record Information) 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 and clinical placements in the nursing program may be contingent upon a satisfactory CORI investigation. In addition to graduation, the Board of Registration in Nursing requires that students meet standards of 'good moral character'. For further information, see their website at [www.state.ma.us/reg/boards/rn](http://www.state.ma.us/reg/boards/rn) under Rules and Regulations: Determination of Good Moral Character.

## Selection Procedure

Applicants are ranked according to the strength of their qualifications including undergraduate GPA in their first degree, GPA in pre-requisite courses, essay, and TOEFL for students for whom English is not their first language. The number of students admitted is limited to approximately 40 per admission cycle. Students will be notified by mail of their admission status approximately six weeks after the deadline date.

## Accreditation

The Nursing Program is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE), a national nursing education accrediting body and approved by the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Nursing.

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 their Web site at [www.state.ma.us/reg/boards/rn](http://www.state.ma.us/reg/boards/rn) for Rules and Regulations: Determination of Good Moral Character.

## Cost Information

The Second Bachelor of Science Degree Program in Nursing is offered through the Division of Continuing and Professional Education under the auspices of the School of Nursing. For further information on their registration procedure, please visit their Web site at [www.umassulearn.net](http://www.umassulearn.net) For application and projected cost information please see the School of Nursing Web Site at [www.umass.edu/nursing](http://www.umass.edu/nursing). The cost of the program is reviewed annually and tuition is adjusted with each new class.

## Internship

The internship is an important component of the program for facilitating transition from student to professional nurse roles. This experience approximates the responsibility in a beginning level staff position offered under faculty guidance and a professional nurse preceptor mentor. The Internship requires thirty-two hours a week in a clinical setting, providing the student with an opportunity to synthesize concepts and theory from previous coursework and to apply this knowledge in clinical practice. A seminar is offered concurrent, in which students critique their clinical experiences.

## Plan of Study ~ Subject to Change

This program starts with Wintersession in January, and includes the two summer semesters. There are at least two days per week of clinical experience in each of the first three semesters that can occur on weekends and on day, evening and night shifts. The Second Bachelor's Program is a full time commitment with little room to accommodate personal schedules. The student may be required to rearrange other responsibilities to meet the demands of the program. Each class credit is equal to one hour per week. Each clinical hour equals 42 hours per semester, which is 24-30 hours per week plus study time. The coursework is followed by a one semester internship and seminar. Program is 59 credits.

Course	Course Name	Credits
<b><u>SEMESTER I Wintersession</u></b>		
ORIENTATION – one day in January before class starts		
N100	Perspectives in Nursing	3
<b><u>SEMESTER II (Spring)</u></b>		
N315	Health & Physical Assessment of Individuals & Families	3
N332	Pharmacology in Nursing	3
N301	Pathophysiology	3
N406	Nursing Process: Clients with Common Health Disruptions	3
N407	Clinical Practice I	4
<b><u>SEMESTER III (Summer)</u></b>		
N325	Community Health Nursing IIC: Maternal Newborn	2
N326	Community Health Nursing IIA: Parent Child Health	2
N327	Community Health Nursing IIB: Mental Health	2
N398F	Clinical Nursing Practicum IIA: Parent Child	2
N398G	Clinical Nursing Practicum IIB: Mental Health	2
N398I	Clinical Nursing Practicum IIC: Maternal Newborn	2
<b><u>SEMESTER IV (Fall)</u></b>		
N420	Introduction to Nursing Research	3
N436	Comprehensive Nursing I	3
N437	Clinical Practice III	4
N439	Community Health Nursing IV: Community	3
N498	Clinical Practicum: Community	3
<b><u>SEMESTER V (Spring)</u></b>		
N438	Professional Role	3
N498	Internship	9

## Notes on Clinical Experience/Transportation

The School of Nursing provides the best possible clinical experience for students. Day, evening, weekend, and night shifts are used seven days a week. Students must provide their own transportation to the clinical and community sites utilized in the program. Check our website for a list of some clinical sites used [www.umass.edu/nursing](http://www.umass.edu/nursing). The clinical sites vary each semester, depending on the availability of faculty and sites.

## Departmental Honors and Commonwealth College

The Departmental Honors program at the School of Nursing is designed to provide additional intellectual challenge and rigor for our most academically talented students. Through honors enrichment courses designed to complement the nursing and general education curricula, the student will develop an appreciation of the interdisciplinary nature of health care and the connection between theory and practice in the profession of nursing. Following coursework, students will work closely with a faculty mentor to complete a capstone experience on a topic of interest.

*The Second Bachelor's Track is revised in response to rapid advances in scientific technology, new trends in health care delivery, and evidence from nursing research. Refer to the School of Nursing's website for the most up-to-date information: [www.umass.edu/nursing](http://www.umass.edu/nursing)*



## For additional information, contact:

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