The College of Nursing is committed to the advancement of nursing and the promotion of health care through its education, research and service endeavors. To fulfill its commitment to nursing education, the college offers an upper division program that leads to a Bachelor of Science degree with a major in nursing.

**Mission**

The mission of the College of Nursing is congruent with the mission of the University of South Florida. The College is dedicated to being the premier institution for those striving to achieve leadership in nursing. The mission is (1) to provide excellent nursing education, (2) to advance the profession through research, and (3) to contribute to society through practice and service.

**Philosophy**

The College of Nursing is committed to improving the health and well-being of all people by anticipating and responding to changing professional, social, technical and economic demands. Nurses address professional and community needs by assuming multiple collaborative and cooperative relationships and roles.

Nursing is a humanistic profession that enhances the quality of life by promoting health, preventing illness, supporting rehabilitation following illness, and providing care for persons at the end of life. All individuals are entitled to health care and the right to participate in making health care decisions.

Nursing is a continually evolving discipline with a unique body of knowledge. Nursing knowledge is advanced through the application of critical thinking, the development and testing of theories, and the conduct and utilization of nursing research.

Intellectual growth and professional autonomy are fostered through the continuum of educational programs in nursing. The Bachelor Program prepares students to enter professional practice and provides a foundation for graduate education. The Master's Program prepares students for advanced specialty practice, nursing education, and leadership. The Doctoral Program prepares nurse scientists to advance the discipline of nursing through the development and dissemination of knowledge.

The College strives to provide opportunities for students and faculty to engage in common inquiry into the values of society and gives them an understanding of the need to accept and appreciate differences among people. Diverse and pluralistic learning communities foster culturally competent and sensitive practitioners. The College supports community, national and international partnerships in practice, education, and research to enhance the health of all people.

Education is a dynamic, interdependent and collaborative process that occurs through the interaction of faculty and students in a wide variety of learning environments. Faculty design learning environments and resources that employ diverse educational strategies and technologies. Various instructional methods, including web and video conference courses, provide educational access for a geographically dispersed student body. Learning is a life-long process. Students are active and engaged participants in the teaching/learning process that involves the continuous development and refinement of critical thinking.

**Undergraduate Nursing Program**

**General Information**

To fulfill its commitment to nursing education, the college offers an upper division program that leads to a Bachelor of Science degree with a major in nursing. The undergraduate program in nursing is a limited access upper division major at the University of South Florida. The program has two sequences: one for qualified basic students with no previous preparation in nursing and one for qualified registered nurse students who are graduates of an associate degree or diploma programs in nursing. For further information about programs, scholarships, financial aid, faculty, and courses, consult the College of Nursing website at http://www.hsc.usf.edu/nursing.

The program is accredited by the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission, 61 Broadway, New York, NY 10006, (212) 363-5555, ext. 153, the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, One Dupont Circle, NW Suite 530, Washington, DC, 20036, (202) 887-6791, and approved by the Florida State Board of Nursing. Graduates of the basic sequence are eligible to write the qualifying examination for licensure as a registered nurse. Graduates may apply for licensure in Florida or other states and successful undergraduates have the educational background necessary for graduate study in nursing.

**Undergraduate Admission to the College of Nursing**

The College of Nursing encourages applications from qualified applicants of both sexes and from all cultural, racial, religious, ethnic, and age groups. The College of Nursing uses selective criteria for the admission of students. Limitations on enrollments are determined on the basis of availability of sufficient qualified faculty, laboratory and classroom facilities, and clinical teaching resources.

There are two sequences in the undergraduate program, one for qualified students with no previous preparation in nursing (non-licensed students), and one for registered nurses, who are graduates of diploma or associate degree nursing programs.

Please be aware of the immunization, foreign language, and continuous enrollment policies of the university.

In order to be considered for full admission to the college, the applicant must:

1. Submit an application to USF by the appropriate deadline.
2. Submit a College of Nursing application and all supporting materials, including official transcripts, to the College by the appropriate deadline.
3. Complete, prior to enrollment, all state mandated prerequisites with a grade of 'C' or better.
4. Complete, prior to enrollment, all state mandated prerequisites with a grade of 'C' or better.
5. Complete all courses required for admission with not more than two (2) repeated courses and not more than one (1) repeat of any given course.
6. Complete the College Level Academic Skills Test (CLAST) or equivalent and the writing and computation course requirements of 6A-10.30 (Gordon Rule).
7. Provide evidence of health insurance prior to enrollment.
8. Complete, prior to enrollment, the College of Nursing health form.
9. Provide evidence of current licensure in Florida if enrolling in the program as a registered nurse.

**Nursing Advising**

The College of Nursing Office of Student Affairs offers a comprehensive service for all College of Nursing degree programs and advice to non-majors who are interested in being admitted. The service includes Preview USF, Fantastic Friday, registration, academic advising, scholarships, graduation certification, mentorship programs, and referrals to other...
University and community-based services and career-related opportunities. However, the student must remember that he or she is ultimately responsible for meeting all graduation requirements.

- The goals of the office of Student Affairs are to
  - Help students develop their educational plans
  - Help students select appropriate courses
  - Help students interpret institutional requirements
  - Facilitate student development

**Location/Phone(s):** The Health Science Center for the College of Nursing (MDN) is located near Bruce B. Downs Blvd. and West Holly Drive on the Northwest corner of campus. The College office is in MDN, Room 1033, (813) 974-2191.

**Advising Offices:** To schedule an advising appointment at a location where the College of Nursing offers courses call the College of Nursing Office of Student Affairs, (813) 974-9305; (888) 974-9488.

**Office Hours:** 8 a.m. – 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

**Program Application Requests:** Applications for the nursing programs are available from USF College of Nursing, Office of Student Affairs, MDC Box 22, 12501 Bruce B. Downs Blvd., Tampa, Florida 33612-4766 and at the College of Nursing website: http://www.hsc.usf.edu/nursing.

**Prerequisites (State Mandated Common Prerequisites) for Students Transferring from a Community College:**

- The University and the College of Nursing work closely with the community colleges within the 10 county USF service area. The University’s Liberal Arts requirements and College of Nursing’s prerequisite/support courses may be completed through the A.A. degree at the community college. If a student wishes to transfer without an A.A. degree and has fewer than 60 semester hours of acceptable credit, the student must meet the university’s entering freshman requirements including ACT or SAT test scores, GPA, and course requirements. The A.A. degree satisfies admission requirements only if courses are carefully selected and include the required major prerequisite/support courses.

The College of Nursing requires certain courses within the Liberal Arts requirement for the natural, social and behavioral sciences, and mathematics as listed under the heading "Liberal Arts Requirements." Students must complete the prerequisite courses listed below prior to being admitted to the upper-division major. Students who do not complete these prerequisites can be admitted to the University, but not to the upper-division major. Unless stated otherwise, a grade of "C" is the minimum acceptable grade.

**Required Courses:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mathematics or Statistics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Natural Science</td>
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<td>17-19</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chemistry</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nutrition</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anatomy/Physiology</td>
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<td>6-8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Sciences</td>
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<td>9</td>
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<td>Psychology</td>
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<td>Sociology</td>
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<td>Asian Perspectives</td>
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<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>African, Latin American, Middle Eastern, Asian Perspectives</td>
<td>3</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

3. Students with a Florida community college A.A. degree (other than in nursing) will be considered to have met all of the USF Liberal Arts requirements but also must meet specific college requirements (below).

4. Students must also meet the University requirement for foreign language.

**Preliminary Coursework for Nursing Students**

The student must: 1) earn a grade of "C" or better in each state mandated common prerequisite course, 2) repeat no course more than once, 3) repeat no more than two (2) courses. Courses taken at another institution will be evaluated individually on the basis of content. Students in Florida community colleges can obtain information about equivalent courses from their counselors or by contacting the College of Nursing Office of Student Affairs (813-974-9305).

1. **Mathematics/Quantitative Methods:** completion of at least one course in mathematics that meets the Gordon Rule requirement and one course in statistics.

2. **Natural Sciences:** minimum of 16 semester credits (including anatomy, physiology, and microbiology). Each course (in "a" through "d" below) taken toward meeting the natural sciences requirement must have been completed with a grade of "C" or better. At least one course must include a laboratory or have a corequisite laboratory course.

   a. **Chemistry** - 4 semester credits. Courses should include content in 1) principles of chemistry, 2) structure of matter, 3) atomic and molecular structure, 4) states of matter, 5) chemical formulas and nomenclature, 6) solutions, 7) chemical kinetics and equilibrium, 8) theory and practice of quantitative analysis, 9) organic chemistry. *CHM 2030 (4 credits) or CHM 2045, 2045L can be met with CLEP. *Chemistry sequence for non-science majors.

   b. **Microbiology** - one course. MCB 2030C. The Regents examination in microbiology is acceptable for registered nurse students only.

   c. **Anatomy and Physiology** - 6 semester hours. The Regents examination in anatomy and physiology is acceptable for registered nurse students only.

   d. **Nutrition** - one course. HUN 2201. College of Nursing Challenge Examination or University of Florida correspondence course is acceptable.

3. **Social Sciences:** Each course taken toward meeting this requirement must have been completed with a "C" or better.
Nursing Courses - NON-LICENSED Baccalaureate Sequence

Non-licensed Baccalaureate students meet the following courses in the five semester sequence:

Semester I
- NUR 3064 Physical Examination & Assessment 2
- NUR 3076 Fundamentals of Communication & Psychology-Social Nursing 2
- NUR 3114 Fundamentals of Nursing Practice 2
- NUR 3114L Nursing Fundamentals Clinical 3
- NUR 3125 Pathophysiology for Nursing Practice 3

Semester II
- NUR 3145 Pharmacology in Nursing Practice 3
- NUR 3215 Medical-Surgical Nursing I 3
- NUR 3215L Medical-Surgical Nursing I Clinical 3
- NUR 3525 Psychiatric/Mental Health Nursing 3
- NUR 3525L Psychiatric/Mental Health Nursing Clinical 3

Semester III
- NUR 3829 Ethical Legal Aspects of Nursing/Health Care 3
- NUR 4216 Medical-Surgical Nursing II 4
- NUR 4216L Medical-Surgical Nursing II Clinical 5

Semester IV
- NUR 4355 Child & Adolescent Health Nursing 3
- NUR 4421 Women's Health Nursing 2
- NUR 4636 Community/Public Health: Population Focus Nursing 3
- NUR 4635L Integrated Nursing Clinical: Community/Public Health, Children & Adolescent, and Women's Health 7

Semester V
- NUR 4165 Nursing Inquiry 3
- NUR 4838 Leadership and Management in Professional Nursing Practice 3
- NUR 4948L Preceptorship 5
- Nursing Elective 3

Students in the nursing major are required to complete upper level liberal arts exit credits. Planning with an advisor is recommended to ensure that all university graduation requirements are met.

Nursing Courses - Registered Nurse Sequence

Registered nurse students are required to take the following courses:

- NUR 3806 Educational Transitions for RN 3
- NUR 3064 Physical Examination & Assessment 2
- NUR 3064L Clinical Experiences in Health Assessment - RN 1
- NUR 3125 Pathophysiology for Nursing Practice 3
- NUR 3145 Pharmacology in Nursing Practice 3
- NUR 4636 Community/Public Health: Population Focus Nursing 3
- NUR 4636L Community/Public Health Nursing Clinical for the RN 3
- NUR 4838 Leadership and Management in Professional Nursing Practice 3
- NUR 3829 Ethical Legal Aspects Nursing/Health Care 3
- NUR 4165 Nursing Inquiry 3
- Nursing Elective 3

In addition to the requirements listed, the RN student must also meet all university graduation requirements as listed in the catalog.

Conditional Admission Policy for Registered Nurses

RN students may be admitted conditionally to the College of Nursing. Students may enroll in the appropriate sequence of selected courses while completing the prerequisite requirements. An academic advisor will assist students with selecting the courses.

Undergraduate Program Objectives

Upon Graduation, Graduates Will . . .

1. Use concepts, principles, theories, and models from the natural and social sciences; the arts and humanities; and the art and science of nursing to guide clinical practice.
2. Use critical thinking and clinical judgment as the basis for nursing practice in providing and coordinating care for individuals, families, and communities across the lifespan in health promotion, disease prevention, health restoration and rehabilitation.

3. Demonstrate understanding of the research process by integrating clinical data and research findings into nursing practice.

4. Interact with other health care professionals, clients and consumers as advocate, teacher, collaborator, communicator, manager, and professional leader to plan, provide, and evaluate essential health services for culturally diverse and vulnerable populations.

5. Examine the impact of health care policy on the health care delivery system within a variety of settings.

6. Practice within the ethical/legal parameters of professional nursing.

7. Demonstrate the potential for leadership within the profession and health care delivery system.

8. Demonstrate accountable behavior in the professional nursing role.

CLEP Examinations

In accordance with University policies, College Level Examination Program (CLEP) general and subject examinations may be taken in several areas and according to the University or community college policies related to CLEP. The CLEP general examinations apply toward the distribution requirements at USF, and successful performance results in credit for any or all of the required areas. In addition, credit may be earned for a number of College of Nursing support courses, including: English Composition ENC 1101, 1102; General Chemistry CHM 2030 or CHM 2045, 2045L. Additional information may be obtained from the Office of Evaluation and Testing, University of South Florida, (974-2741, SVC 2054).

Excelsior and College of Nursing Examinations

Successful completion of the following examination(s) can be used to fulfill course requirements as designated below:

Registered nurses who are graduates of diploma programs may receive up to 26 semester general elective credits through successful completion of the Excelsior (formerly Regents) examinations in nursing.

Registered nurses who are graduates of Florida associate degree programs will receive up to 26 semester upper level credits for their previous nursing education. Registered nurse students should contact the Office of Student Affairs for advisement prior to enrollment. Graduates of other associate degree nursing programs may receive up to 26 credits after individual evaluation of their transcripts.

Registered nurse students may earn up to 6 semester credits and fulfill the college's requirement in anatomy and physiology through successful completion of the Excelsior examination in anatomy and physiology, and up to 3 credits in microbiology through successful completion of the Excelsior examination in microbiology. Excelsior examination information may be obtained from the Office of Student Affairs, College of Nursing.

Degree Requirements

Students will be certified for the Bachelor of Science degree with a major in nursing upon completion of 124 semester hours composed of Liberal Arts requirements, science support courses (natural, social/behavioral), required nursing courses, and upper level electives or exit requirements.

A minimum grade of "C" or better must be attained in each course in the major and cumulative grade point ratio of 2.0 or better must be maintained throughout the program. At least 40 semester hours must be upper level work (courses numbered 3000 or above).