

# Department of Nursing

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## Academic Advisors:

Deborah Franklin (A-K) and Aaron Reynolds (L-Z)  
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## FACULTY

*Associate Professor:* Donna Lister, APRN-BC, FNP, MS (NTT); *Assistant Professors:* Michael Burton, RN, MSN, AORN, CLNC (NTT); Charles "Bill" Douglas, RN, MSN, (NTT); Aja James, RN, MSN, MBA (NTT); Alan Pearson, APRN-BC, FNP, MSN (NTT); Rebecca Rasmusson, MS, APRN-CS, FNP (NTT); Kevin D. Tipton, RN, MSN, CLNC (NTT); Janet Warner, RN, MSN (NTT); *Lab Specialist:* Betsy Hatfield, RN; Lonna Howard, RN, MSN, (NTT).

## DEGREES OFFERED

### Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Pre-Licensure Emphasis (no minor required)  
RN to BSN Emphasis (no minor required)

## DEPARTMENT STATEMENT

The Department of Nursing is made up of academic programs that prepare individuals for professional nursing practice. A Bachelor of Science in Nursing is recommended for students preparing for entry into nursing practice. We offer a learning-centered education that meets the requirements for a baccalaureate degree at Southern Utah University (SUU) and ensures that graduates have the abilities to be successful professional nurses. The purpose of the Department of Nursing is to provide learning opportunities that engage students in a comprehensive program of classroom and experiential learning that emphasizes caring, critical thinking, problem solving, ethical decision making, and communication.

## GOALS

The goals and objectives of the Department of Nursing are:

- **To prepare graduates to successfully enter nursing practice** by offering well-planned and pedagogically sound learning exercises in courses and in research projects that develop skills in analysis, critical thinking, problem solving, and ethical decision making.
- **To develop technically proficient nurses** by offering students hands-on experiences with state-of-the-art health care equipment and providing coursework and clinical practicum opportunities.
- **To support faculty as health care professionals who demonstrate excellence in teaching, scholarly endeavors, practice, and professional community service and who provide leadership in nursing practice** by rewarding good teaching, encouraging participation in clinical practice and professional organizations, recruiting professional and doctoral-prepared faculty.

## PROGRAM OUTCOMES

Upon completion of the SUU Baccalaureate Nursing Program, graduates will be able to do the following:

1. Provide quality professional nursing care based on a synthesis of theoretical and empirical knowledge from nursing, physical and social sciences, arts and humanities, and life experiences.
2. Use evidence as the basis for clinically competent contemporary nursing care.
3. Communicate effectively using various means in a variety of roles and settings.
4. Optimize health care to diverse individuals, families, groups and communities through collaboration with interdisciplinary health care teams.
5. Demonstrate intellectual curiosity, critical thinking, and motivation toward life-long learning.
6. Influence the quality of nursing and health care using leadership skills, management concepts, and a knowledge of the political system.
7. Be legally and ethically accountable for clinical nursing practice.
8. Assume the role of generalist nurse and become a responsible member of the profession.

SUU Department of Nursing reserves the right to terminate any student from the Nursing Program who does not satisfactorily perform in the classroom and/or clinical areas.

## LICENSURE

Applicants who have been convicted of a felony, treated for mental illness or substance abuse should discuss their eligibility status with Utah State Board of Nursing. Acceptance to the SUU nursing program does not assure eligibility to write the licensing examination. The Utah State Board of Nursing makes final decisions on issues of license. Successful completion of the BSN degree entitles the graduate to apply for the Registered Nurse National Examination for licensure (NCLEX-RN).

## DISCLAIMER

The provisions of this document do not constitute a contract, express or implied, between any applicant, student, faculty, or staff member and the SUU Nursing Program.

The Department of Nursing at SUU reserves the right to make changes in the regulations announced in this publication at any time. Changes may be made without advance notice. The practice of adhering to the catalog requirements under which you first matriculate does not apply when applying to the nursing program.

**All pre-nursing and nursing students are advised to seek advisement every semester to remain current and on the right track for application to, progression through, and/or graduation from the nursing program.**

### For Admission Information:

Deborah Franklin, Academic College Advisor,  
SC 304C, College of Science, (A-K)  
351 W University Blvd, Cedar City, UT 84720  
(435)865-8703, [Franklin@suu.edu](mailto:Franklin@suu.edu)

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## Department of Nursing

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Vikki Robertson, Admissions Secretary,  
GC 005, Nursing Department,  
351 W University Blvd, Cedar City, UT 84720  
(435) 586-1906, RobertsonV@suu.edu

You must apply and be accepted to enter the nursing program. Admission to the SUU Baccalaureate Nursing Program is a selective process. Although an outstanding academic record is important, we admit students based on numerous qualities, including leadership, judgment, work and volunteer experiences and potential for success as presented in the application.

### PRE-LICENSURE (BSN) OPTION

#### Application Procedure

The selective admission process for pre-licensure (BSN) students is twice per year. Admission packets and deadlines are available from the Nursing Department and College of Science Academic Advisor or on the department website. **Minimum requirements to apply for admission include, but are not limited to, the following:**

- Completed admission packet for pre-licensure (BSN) option.
- Acceptance to SUU with all transcripts transferred to SUU (a \$35.00 non-refundable application fee & official transcripts are required).
- Completion of **ALL** pre-requisites; including Core Course Requirements, Knowledge Area Requirements, & Required Support Courses.
- Undergraduate cumulative GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale. If you have a baccalaureate or higher degree, consult with an admissions advisor.
- A 3.0 on all required support courses with no course grade less than a C (C- is not acceptable).
- Completed "Nursing Department Advisement Sheet" signed by applicant and advisor. **Consult with Deb Franklin or Aaron Reynolds (College of Science Advisors [franklin@suu.edu](mailto:franklin@suu.edu) or [reynolds@suu.edu](mailto:reynolds@suu.edu)) prior to submitting your application.**
- \$20.00 non-refundable nursing application fee.
- Copy of Utah Nursing License (for LPN applicants only).

**\*Students who are finishing prerequisite courses during the semester they apply to the Nursing Program should hand-deliver their grade report to the Nursing Department as soon as grades are posted.**

#### Step 1:

Submit an application to SUU (if not already enrolled) and have all transcripts transferred to SUU. (A \$35.00 non-refundable application fee is required).

#### Step 2:

Submit a Nursing *Application for Admission and Nursing Advisement Sheet*, and any other required documentation to the Department of Nursing. There is a \$20.00 non-refundable nursing application fee.

#### Step 3:

Hand-deliver your grade report to the Nursing Department before the deadline (as per the nursing advisor or on website).

Please note that meeting the above requirements does not guarantee admission. From the applicants who meet minimum requirements, those who appear to be best qualified will be admitted.

We want to emphasize that in addition to grades and test scores, the Admissions and Advancement Committee uses other factors in their evaluation of who will be successful in nursing school.

The goal of the Admissions and Advancement Committee is to select the most capable students. GPA and course grades are carefully scrutinized and are an important part of the application process.

The demands on a baccalaureate-prepared nurse are such that it is not for everyone. We consider how the applicant balances current outside activities and responsibilities with schoolwork to be an indicator of ability to deal with the rigors of life as a nurse. Commitment to community service, ethical behavior, compassion, leadership ability and communication skills are important characteristics of nurses. The application package assists us in evaluating these qualities. We expect applicants to be courteous, respectful, truthful, and professional at all times.

Applicants are notified of the committee decision by mail. All decisions by the Admissions and Advancement Committee are final and may not be appealed.

If the applicant pool exceeds the maximum number of positions available for the specified semester, several students will be considered as alternates for admission. If accepted applicants decline their acceptance or are not admitted for medical or other reasons, alternates will be notified of acceptance. The Nursing Program does not keep a waiting list from semester to semester.

**Interested applicants not accepted to the program must reapply the following semester.** Applications will not be forwarded. Applications from individuals who have applied in the past are given no special consideration and are reviewed as a member of the current applicant pool. Applications from individuals who were considered acceptable but there were no spaces available for admission in the past are given consideration; however, they are reviewed as a member of the current applicant pool.

Individuals who reapply must be currently admitted to SUU. This means that they are listed as students in good standing with the University regardless of whether or not they are currently enrolled in any classes.

As with other professional programs, it is suggested that each applicant develop an alternate academic plan should he/she not be admitted into the nursing program. This could include either another major at SUU or another nursing program.

### RN TO BSN OPTION

#### Application Procedure

The selective admission process for RN to BSN students is once a year. Admission packets and deadlines are available from the Nursing Department and College of Science Academic Advisor or on the department website. **Minimum requirements to apply for admission include, but are not limited to, the following:**

- Completed admission packet for RN-BSN option.
- Acceptance to SUU with all transcripts transferred to SUU (a \$35.00 non-refundable application fee & official transcripts are required).
- Completion of **ALL** pre-requisites; including Core Course Requirements, Knowledge Area Requirements, & Required Support Courses.
- Undergraduate cumulative GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale. If you have a baccalaureate or higher degree, consult with an admissions advisor.
- Completed Admission Information Sheet.
- Completed "Nursing Department Advisement Sheet" signed by applicant and advisor. **Consult with Deb Franklin or Aaron Reynolds (College of Science Advisors [franklin@suu.edu](mailto:franklin@suu.edu) or [reynolds@suu.edu](mailto:reynolds@suu.edu)) prior to submitting your application.**
- \$20.00 non-refundable nursing application fee.
- Copy of Utah Registered Nursing License.

Applicants are notified of the committee decision by mail. All decisions by the Admissions and Advancement Committee are final and may not be appealed.

Students who are denied admission are responsible for completing and submitting a new application each admission cycle. Applications will not be forwarded. Applications from individuals who have applied in the past are given no special consideration and are reviewed as a member of the current applicant pool. Applications from individuals who were considered acceptable but there were no spaces available for admission in the past are given consideration but are reviewed as a member of the current applicant pool. Individuals who reapply must be currently admitted to SUU.

## DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

<b>Nursing, Bachelor of Science Pre-Licensure Emphasis</b> <i>(RN to BSN students have same requirements as pre-licensure students)</i>	
Course Number and Title	Credits
<b>General Education Core (23 hours) (see Chapter 14)</b> <i>Some General Education courses will be completed with the Required Support Course selection.</i>	
Core Course Requirements	20
Knowledge Areas Requirements (Recommended COMM 1310)	3
<b>Required Support Courses (38 hours)</b> <i>[consult catalog for required prerequisites]</i>	
BIOL 2420/2425 Human Physiology/Lab	4
BIOL 2060/2065 General Microbiology/Lab	4
BIOL 2320/2325 Human Anatomy/Lab	4
BIOL 2170 Introduction to Pathophysiology	3
CHEM 1110/1115 Elementary Chemistry & Lab	4
CHEM 1120/1125 Elementary Organic Bio-Chemistry & Lab	6
FLHD 1500 Human Development Through the Lifespan	3
MATH 1040 Statistics	4
NFS 1020 Human Nutrition	3
PSY 1010 Introduction to Psychology	3
<b>Advanced Standing Requirements (60 hours)</b>	
NURS 3120 Introduction to Health Assessment	3
NURS 3130 Fundamentals of Nursing Practice	4
NURS 3135 Level One Nursing Lab	4
NURS 3140 Foundations of Professional Nursing	3
NURS 3220 Pharmacology & Therapeutic Interventions	3
NURS 3230 Care of Adults	4
NURS 3235 Level Two Nursing Lab	4
NURS 3240 Concepts in Mental Health Nursing	2
NURS 4360 Nursing Theory & Research (Level Two)	3
NURS 3260 Health Promotion & Education (Level Three)	3
NURS 4330 Care of the Family	3
NURS 4335 Care of the Family Clinical Lab	3
NURS 4340 Concepts in Geriatric Nursing	2
NURS 4350 Community Health Nursing	2
NURS 4355 Community Health Nursing Lab	2
NURS 4430 High Acuity Nursing	3
NURS 4435 High Acuity Nursing Lab	2
NURS 4440 Contemporary Issues in Nursing	3

NURS 4550 Leadership & Management in Nursing	3
NURS 4555 Leadership & Management in Nursing Lab	4
<b>Total Credits, B.S. degree</b>	<b>121</b>

**TO GRADUATE WITH A BACCALAUREATE DEGREE, the RN-BSN student** needs a minimum of 120 credits with 40 of those credits being upper division courses. This means that 10 credit hours of non-nursing coursework in the upper division category (3000-4000 level) must be taken. No more than five credits may be taken from any knowledge area, as defined in the General Education catalog requirements. A list of suggested courses is available from the Department of Nursing.

<b>Nursing, Bachelor of Science RN to BSN Emphasis</b>	
An Associate of Science (AS) degree from a Utah State Institution satisfies General Education requirements if your degree includes: American Institutions Requirement (see page 111) and MATH 1040 (Statistics). Otherwise these courses must be taken. All other degree types will be evaluated on an individual basis. Some or all of the General Education classes below may need to be completed before students can graduate.	
Course Number and Title	Credits
<b>General Education (see Chapter 14)</b> <i>[consult catalog for required prerequisites]</i>	
Core Course Requirements: <b>ENGLISH</b>	
ENGL 1010 Introduction to Academic Writing	3
ENGL 2010 Intermediate Writing: Selected Topics	3
Core Course Requirements: <b>QUANTITATIVE LITERACY, INFORMATION LITERACY, and COMPUTER LITERACY</b>	
MATH 1040 Statistics	4
LM 1010 Information Literacy (co-requisite UNIV 1000)	1
CSIS 1000 Intro to Computer Apps and the Internet	3
Core Course Requirements: <b>AMERICAN INSTITUTIONS</b>	
<b>Select one from Chapter 14</b>	
Knowledge Areas Requirement: <b>FINE ARTS, INTERDISCIPLINARY, HUMANITIES, SOCIAL and BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES, LIFE SCIENCE, and PHYSICAL SCIENCE</b>	3
<b>Select from Chapter 14</b>	
<b>19</b>	
<b>Advanced Standing Requirements (30 hours)</b>	
NURS 3121 Health Assessment for Registered Nurses	3
NURS 3141 Professional Nursing Foundations	3
NURS 3260 Health Promotion & Education	3
NURS 4340 Concepts in Geriatric Nursing	2
NURS 4351 Community Health Nursing for the RN to BSN	3
NURS 4356 Community Health Nursing Lab for the RN to BSN	1
NURS 4360 Nursing Theory & Research	3
NURS 4431 High Acuity Nursing for the RN to BSN	3
NURS 4436 High Acuity Nursing Lab for the RN to BSN	1
NURS 4440 Contemporary Issues in Nursing	3
NURS 4551 Leadership & Management for the RN to BSN	4
NURS 4556 Leadership & Management Lab for the RN to BSN	1
<b>Upper Division Credit Requirement (10 hours)</b>	
Select no more than 5 upper division credits in a single discipline	10
<b>Total Credits, B.S. degree (not including transfer credits)</b>	<b>76</b>