

# NORTHWEST

missouri / state / university / maryville

## BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING COMPLETION PROGRAM

College of Arts and Sciences

### REGISTERED NURSE TO BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING COMPLETION PROGRAM

#### PROGRAM ADVISOR

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For more information and frequently asked questions about Northwest's BSN Completion Program, visit [www.nwmissouri.edu/academics/health/nursing.htm](http://www.nwmissouri.edu/academics/health/nursing.htm).



### WHY GET A BSN?

Nursing is one of the fastest growing job sectors in the United States, with an expected 587,000 new jobs created between 2006 and 2016 (U.S. Bureau of Labor and Statistics). The Missouri Economic Research and Information Council projects an increase of 24.33% in the number of RNs needed in Northwest Missouri. What does this mean for you? According to the U.S. Department of Labor, "Generally, RNs with at least a bachelor's degree will have better job prospects than those without a bachelor's." Northwest Missouri State University is partnering with community colleges to make it more convenient for you to complete your bachelor's degree, enabling you to take advantage of this fast-growing sector and fulfilling a critical need.

### FLEXIBILITY

This program is designed to allow ease for the working professional to complete the required coursework. All major courses are offered in an online format.

### THE PROGRAM

The curriculum leading to the Bachelor of Science in Nursing allows registered nurses to complete a BSN degree. As a liberal arts degree, the program requires 42 hours of General Education requirements and 6 hours of Institutional requirements, as well as upper-division nursing courses.

Admission to this RN-to-BSN Completion Program requires:

- a minimum GPA of 2.50 among all undergraduate courses
- a current unencumbered RN license

The number of hours in the program will vary depending on the student's previous coursework. Students interested in course equivalencies and articulation agreements should go to [www.nwmissouri.edu/admissions/transfer/equivalencies.htm](http://www.nwmissouri.edu/admissions/transfer/equivalencies.htm). The degree requires a minimum of 124 academic semester hours, including at least 40 hours in courses numbered above 300 level and 30 hours of courses taken at Northwest. Northwest transfer guidelines require that transfer credit only be accepted from regionally accredited institutions. However, students who complete their RN license while attending a non-regionally accredited institution may receive up to 30 hours of credit based on their NLN exam scores.

### MAJOR

#### DEGREE COMPLETION PROGRAM IN NURSING

*BSN – no minor required*

**General Education Courses (42 hours)**  
*as outlined in the Northwest Undergraduate Catalog*

**Directed General Education Courses taken as part of 42 required hours**

Math 17-114 General Statistics (3)  
Bio 04-102/103 General Biology/  
Lab (4)  
Chem 24-112/113 General  
Chemistry/Lab (4)  
Phil 39-276 Introduction to Ethics:  
Bio-Medical (3)  
Soc 35-101 General Sociology (3)  
Psych 08-103 General Psychology  
(3)

**Institutional Requirements (6 hours)**  
*refer to the Northwest Undergraduate Catalog for a complete listing of these courses*

Multicultural/Diversity Course (3)  
Information Technology Course (3)

**Collateral Courses\* (12 hours)**

Human Anatomy and Physiology (8)  
Bio 04-140 General Microbiology (4)

**Required Courses (38 hours)**

Nur 01-301 Theories & Models of  
Nursing (3)  
Nur 01-311 Health Care Delivery  
Systems (3)  
Nur 01-371 Pathophysiology (3)  
Nur 01-381 Intermediate  
Pharmacology (3)  
Nur 01-401 Leadership & Management  
in Nursing (5)  
Nur 01-411 Health Assessment (5)  
Nur 01-421 Community Nursing (5)  
Nur 01-431 Family & Child Nursing (5)  
Nur 01-481 Research Methods in  
Nursing (3)  
PE 22-552 Health Promotion (3)

**Electives (choose one course, 3 hours)**

Nur 01-452 Gerontological Nursing (3)  
Nur 01-454 Informatics in Nursing (3)  
PE 22-554 Human Sexuality (3)

**Additional hours as needed to total at least 124 hours (23-24)**

\* may be taken at the community college

## COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

### NURSING / 01

The following nursing courses are taken only by students in the BSN Completion Program, and are offered online through Northwest Missouri State University.

#### **301 Theories & Models of Nursing (3 hours)**

A theoretical foundation that focuses on critical thinking skills and their application to the professional nurse. Emphasis is placed on exploration of various nursing theories as a framework to more effectively promote health and sound nursing decisions. Prerequisite: admission to the RN-to-BSN Program. Three hours of lecture per week.

#### **311 Health Care Delivery Systems (3 hours)**

The structure and function of health care delivery systems. Emphasis is placed on policy, while exploring issues in health-care access, insurance, technology and budgeting. The course seeks to enhance the effectiveness of health care services. Prerequisite: Grade of "C" or better in Nur 01-301 (may be taken concurrently).

#### **371 Pathophysiology (3 hours)**

An introduction to the physiology of diseases, including impacts on tissues, physiology and mental health. Prerequisite: Grade of "C" or better in Nur 01-301.

#### **381 Intermediate Pharmacology (3 hours)**

Further consideration of drug therapeutics for the advanced-practice nurse. Important classes of drugs are emphasized, along with their impact on physiology and biochemistry. Drug interactions are also explored. Prerequisite: Grade of "C" or better in Nur 01-301.

#### **401 Leadership and Management in Nursing (5 hours)**

Effective leadership and management for the BSN-level nurse. Emphasis is placed on resource management through utilization of critical thinking, problem solving, and decision making abilities. The course also explores the impacts of theory, practice, and environment (both internal and external) on leadership and management. Three hours of lecture and six hours of clinical experience per week. Prerequisites: Grades of "C" or better in Nur 01-301 and in Nur 01-311.

#### **411 Health Assessment (5 hours)**

A systematic approach to the holistic assessment of individuals and groups at all ages. Emphasis is placed on analysis and synthesis of data in order to identify and differentiate between normal and abnormal states of health. Students will apply knowledge and skills to clinical field experiences. Three hours of lecture and six hours of clinical experience per week. Prerequisites: Grades of "C" or better in Nur 01-371 and in 01-381.

#### **421 Community Nursing (5 hours)**

Application of nursing concepts to the community environment. Emphasis is placed on identification of resources that facilitates health promotion and illness prevention. This course also explores community epidemiology in relation to the environment. Students will apply knowledge and skills to clinical practice. Three hours of lecture and six hours of clinical experience per week. Prerequisites: Grades of "C" or better in Nur 01-371 and in 01-381.

#### **431 Family & Child Nursing (5 hours)**

Application of nursing concepts to the family, especially children. The course also includes the dynamics of family structure, member functions, communication and coping. Three hours of lecture and six hours of clinical experience per week. Prerequisite: Grade of "C" or better in Nur 01-411.

#### **452 Gerontological Nursing (3 hours)**

Special nursing considerations relating to the aged population, including physical and psychological changes. Prerequisite: Grade of "C" or better in Nur 01-401.

#### **454 Informatics in Nursing (3 hours)**

The uses of computer technology in the nursing profession, focussing on data management, organization and the development of metadata. Prerequisites: Grade of "C" or better in Nur 01-401 and in a computer course.

#### **481 Research Methods in Nursing (3 hours)**

An introduction to the critical evaluation of nursing reports, including evidence-based nursing. Emphasis is placed on statistical validity and limitations, as well as the critique of methods, conclusions and assumptions. The ability to apply conclusions to new situations is also developed. Prerequisites: Grades of "C" or better in Nur 01-401, in 01-421 and in a statistics course.