



R.N./B.S.N. Completion Program

Drexel University College of Nursing and Health Professions is a global leader in the preparation of exemplary nurse clinicians and researchers. Students are active, lifelong learners guided by faculty mentors using a combination of the best educational and research practices. Cutting-edge technology supports interdisciplinary and community-focused learning and research opportunities designed to enhance nursing practice, build nursing knowledge, and ultimately improve health outcomes of patients, families, and communities across the continuum of care.

The Bachelor of Science in Nursing program continues the education of registered nurses to prepare them for the rapidly changing health care environment. Students are educated as generalists to meet the needs of vulnerable populations through the mastery of new and emerging roles for the professional nurse. Students have the opportunity to develop the skills needed to be flexible, lifelong learners in a relevant, rigorous, and learner-friendly environment.

Core courses prepare the graduate for population-based cases and today's health care environment. Support courses, electives, and study in an area of the student's choosing build on foundational educational experiences to facilitate the examination of critical issues from a variety of perspectives.

The curriculum is built on the belief that nursing education must be responsive to the rapidly changing health care system and to students' needs. The milieu established for all educational experiences, and for the structure and format of classes, was designed to support an education that is meaningful and enriching.

Baccalaureate Program Outcomes

Like their counterparts in the traditional baccalaureate nursing program, graduates of the accelerated program emerge with a set of skills that will serve them well in their chosen profession. Our graduates:

- Utilize the growing compendium of knowledge and information sources from nursing and other disciplines to learn, teach, heal the sick, and conserve health.
- Contribute to the profession by sharing knowledge and skills with clients, peers, and other professionals in a variety of methods.
- Utilize multiple technologies that access and manage information to guide professional practice.
- Participate in culturally sensitive health promotion activities that contribute to the community's health and wellness.
- Participate in ongoing educational activities related to personal growth, professional practice, and community service.
- Apply knowledge and skills appropriate to their selected areas of career clinical practice.
- Develop personal potential for leadership in a changing health care environment.
- Integrate ethical concepts and principles, The Code of Ethics for Nurses, and professional standards into practice within professional, academic, and community settings.
- Utilize critical-thinking skills to improve the health outcomes of patients, families, and communities across the continuum of care.

A B.S.N. is awarded at the completion of the program. Qualified students are encouraged to submatriculate in the M.S.N. program (R.N./B.S.N./M.S.N. option) while enrolled in the B.S.N. program.

Admission Requirements

- R.N. licensure (provisional acceptance will generally be offered pending successful completion of the NCLEX-RN examination)
- Official college transcripts
- College grade point average of 2.5 or better
- High school degree or equivalent

To be eligible for admission to the R.N./B.S.N.

Completion program, students must have completed 60 hours of college prerequisites, as follows, with a grade of C or better. Forty-seven upper-level nursing credits must be completed at Drexel. Students may transfer in up to 90 semester credits. Remaining credits will be evaluated on an individual basis. To graduate, students must have completed 121 semester credits or 180 quarter credits.

The 60 required hours include:

Requirement	Semester Hours
English (includes one semester of composition)	6
Humanities (studio courses not acceptable)	3
Anatomy and Physiology	8
Microbiology	4
Sociology	3
Growth and Development	3
Psychology	3
Nursing	30

Please note that these requirements are expressed as semester hours. Upon admission to Drexel University, semester hours accepted for transfer will be converted to quarter hours. The quarter hour equivalents can be viewed in the curriculum plan on page 3 of this booklet.

Graduates of National League for Nursing (NLN)-accredited associate or diploma nursing programs who meet the criteria of the Pennsylvania Nursing Articulation Model will receive credit for 45 quarter hours of nursing, which may be applied toward the program entrance requirements. CLEP (College-Level Examination Program) and Excelsior College subject examinations may qualify for credit in lieu of college courses.

The CLEP Subject Examinations measure achievement in specific subject areas. A free booklet, CLEP Colleges, lists all CLEP test centers, which can supply information about testing schedules. CLEP Colleges is available by writing or calling CLEP, P.O. Box 6600, Princeton, NJ 08541-6600; 1-800-257-9558; www.collegeboard.com/clep.

Detailed descriptions of CLEP examinations, sample questions, and suggested resources for preparation are included in CLEP Official Study Guide, available at most

bookstores or from College Board Publications, Department N98, Box 886, New York, NY 10101-0886; 800-323-7155; www.collegeboard.com.

The Excelsior College Examinations program offers a series of college-level examinations throughout the nation. Study guides are available for each Excelsior College exam. Each study guide contains a content outline, sample questions, and suggested readings. To obtain a guide, registration materials, and a list of fees, call 888-RCEXAMS; www.excelsior.edu.

R.N./B.S.N./M.S.N. Program

The R.N./B.S.N./M.S.N. program is an accelerated program designed for graduates of associate degree and diploma nursing programs who are committed to earning the Master of Science in Nursing degree. New students should complete the application process for the R.N./B.S.N. Completion program. When the R.N./B.S.N. student is close to completing the B.S.N. degree, an appointment should be scheduled with the R.N./B.S.N. academic advisor to discuss the M.S.N. application process. *Note: This completion option is not available in the Women's Care Nurse Practitioner track — an M.S.N. completion program offered in collaboration with Planned Parenthood Federation of America.*

Although the graduate application form must be completed, the application fee is waived. The applicant must meet the admission requirements for the M.S.N. program. The GRE or MAT exams are waived with the exception of the Nurse Anesthesia program. A satisfactory GRE or MAT score is required for entry to the Nurse Anesthesia program.

After acceptance to the M.S.N. program, the R.N./B.S.N. student is permitted to take graduate courses to fulfill the open electives and replace either NURS 460: Global Health OR NURS 462: Science, Technology, and Health. The student must complete the remaining non-nursing requirements and the remaining upper-division nursing courses. *Note: The student will not have the option of taking NURS 464: Senior Concentration in Nursing. The student must take NURS 465: Senior Thesis.*

The student is not permitted to take graduate-level courses until accepted to the M.S.N. program. Please note that applicants will remain undergraduate students until all required credit hours for the B.S.N. program have been completed.

If, after completing two or more M.S.N. courses, a student decides not to finish the program, the University awards the B.S.N., provided that the student has completed the required 121 semester credits or 180 quarter credits. All students who have applied to and entered the R.N./B.S.N./M.S.N. program work closely with the academic advisor to ensure proper progression.

Curriculum

The College of Nursing and Health Professions faculty uses a variety of teaching and learning methods to facilitate the achievement of a student's personal objectives. Most courses incorporate online assignments as well as a variety of innovative, active learning assignments. Courses are offered in day and evening sessions in several stimulating educational formats.

In addition, courses are offered in an online format. Students can complete class work at home with just a few scheduled live chats/virtual classes. This is a popular option for busy professionals.

Students may complete the program on a full-time or part-time basis. Admission can occur in the fall, winter, or spring.

B.S.N. Program Highlights

- Clinically current faculty — faculty are engaged in practice
- Emphasis on information access and management
- A full-time M.S.N.-prepared academic advisor to serve the student
- Depth in clinical content area with a choice of clinical concentration
- An urban educational environment rich in diversity
- Flexible scheduling for clinical experiences and online courses
- A wide range of clinical opportunities
- In accordance with the Pennsylvania Articulation Model, students are awarded 45 quarter hours in nursing
- Students can opt to complete this program entirely online
- Students learn to use a personal digital assistant (PDA) to assist with patient care delivery

R.N./B.S.N. Curriculum Plan (180 total quarter credits)

First Tier	Quarter Hours
English 101	3
English 102	3
English 103	3
Humanities	3
Sociology	3
Psychology	3
Growth and Development	3
Anatomy	6
Physiology	6
Microbiology	6
Electives	6
Nursing (validated transfer credits)	45

Second Tier	Quarter Hours
Introduction to Computers	4
Statistics	4
Economics	4
Ethics	4
Social Science Elective	4
Science Elective	6
Advanced Physiology, Pathophysiology, or Pharmacology	5
Electives	12

Level One Courses	Quarter Hours
NURS 325 Critical Issues Shaping Professional Nursing	3
NURS 340 Transformational Leadership/Management in Nursing	3
NURS 346 Health Assessment and Promotion for Diverse and Vulnerable Populations	6
NURS 404 Nursing Informatics	3

Level Two Courses	Quarter Hours
NURS 330 Research Basis of Nursing	4
NURS 337 Genetics in Nursing and Health	3
NURS 370 Issues in Aging and Longevity	4
NURS 375 Nurses Building a Healthy Community: Theory and Practice	6

Level Three Courses		Quarter Hours
NURS 460	Global Health and Policy Issues	6
NURS 462	Science, Technology, and Health: A Nursing Perspective	6
NURS 464	Senior Concentration in Nursing	3
or		
NURS 465	Senior Thesis in Nursing	

Course Descriptions

NURS 325

Critical Issues Shaping Professional Nursing

During the last decade the health care system has undergone dramatic shifts, driven by changing economic, demographic, and technological forces. This course explores the impact of these forces on health care delivery, and the concerns relating to ethical, legal, and social issues that influence nursing practice. The readiness and flexibility of the profession to adapt to a changing society will be explored, as well as the new opportunities that these qualities open for career development. Concepts necessary for succeeding in the nursing profession will be studied. **3 credits**

NURS 330

Research Basis of Nursing

This course will introduce the student to the theoretical and research bases on which practice is built. Students will examine the knowledge that guides nursing interventions and critique published research reports. The importance of reviewing the nursing literature in order to maintain currency in practice will be addressed. Ethical issues as they relate to research, theory, and practice will be discussed. **4 credits**

NURS 337

Genetics in Nursing and Health Care

This course will explore genetic concepts and principles as they pertain to human variation in health and disease. Theoretical research and literature on selected disorders including immunity and cancer will be reviewed and discussed with emphasis on clinical application. Multidisciplinary approaches to intervention will be discussed from a nursing perspective. Political, social, and ethical issues raised by recent advances such as genetic engineering, gene therapy, reproductive technology, and the Human Genome Project will be analyzed. Clinical application of moral, ethical, and legal issues will be integrated throughout the course. **3 credits**

NURS 340

Transformational Leadership/Management in Nursing

This course will focus on the professional nurse's role in applying the principles of leadership, management, and ethics in health care organizations across the continuum of care. The course will provide opportunities in problem solving, critical thinking, and constructive communication through the use of teaching/learning strategies that emphasize the leadership and management roles of the nurse. The course will also emphasize the role of the professional nurse in efficient patient care management in complex health care settings. The emerging role of the nurse entrepreneur and alternative roles for future professional practitioners will also be explored. **3 credits**

NURS 346

Health Assessment and Promotion for Diverse and Vulnerable Populations

This course is designed to assist professional nurses in developing interviewing skills, physical assessment techniques, and preventative health interventions when working with diverse and vulnerable populations. The importance of therapeutic communication skills in performing a health assessment is emphasized. The patterns of healthy individuals will be examined and used as a reference point for health assessment, health maintenance, and health education. Cultural and socioeconomic aspects of health behavior and health assessment will be integrated throughout the course along with utilizing objectives outlined in Healthy People 2010. The skills to perform a systematic review of health status and physical assessment will be evaluated through clinical validation. **6 credits**

NURS 370

Issues in Aging and Longevity

This course focuses on current issues in promoting longevity with healthy aging, at both regional and national levels coming from a multidimensional view. Current theories on aging from a biologic, psychologic, and sociologic perspective are introduced and discussed. The impact of cultural beliefs and traditions on the older adult is explored. Relationship challenges such as intimacy and sexuality are discussed. Special emphasis is also placed on the multidisciplinary aspects of older adults who are vulnerable and marginalized. The multidisciplinary needs of populations, such as older adults who are socially isolated, HIV+, incarcerated, homeless, institutionalized, mentally impaired, and/or neglected and abused are explored. In this course students will visit and interact with older adults in one nontraditional setting, such as a prison or an open senior AA meeting. The field experience will be shared with other students in a panel presentation format. **4 credits**

NURS 375**Nurses Building a Healthy Community: Theory and Practice**

This course focuses on the professional role of the community/public health nurse working collaboratively with aggregates, community partners, and health officials within the community as part of an interdisciplinary team in order to promote a healthier community. An introduction to conceptual frameworks that guide community-based, population-focused practice and research is included in both the classroom and the clinical portions of the course. The student uses skills in community assessment, program planning, and nursing interventions to help identified populations within the community attain and maintain their optimum level of health. Selected measures for evaluating the outcomes of community health nursing programs are discussed as well as those that may be broader in scope. **6 credits**

NURS 404**Nursing Informatics**

This course is designed to examine computer technology and tools of the Internet with a focus on the use of cyber technology and selected computer applications. The automation of data management through information systems, expert systems, and telecommunications and the impact of these technologies on nursing administration, education, practice, and research are addressed in the context of health care informatics. Actual problem-solving and mini-design projects on how computerization and automation can improve the efficiency of nursing care delivery will be emphasized. **3 credits**

NURS 460**Global Health and Policy Issues**

This course is an intensive overview of global health issues. Emphasis will be placed on understanding of health policy development related to global health issues and health care systems, and its effects on selected populations. Other dimensions include the role of the World Health Organization, women's rights across the globe, emerging infections, violence, export of pharmaceuticals and tobacco to other countries, and the state of health care in other nations. Student interest and faculty expertise will determine the specific project foci for each quarter. **6 credits**

NURS 462**Science, Technology, and Health: A Nursing Perspective**

This course is an overview of the latest discoveries and trends in science and technology that have implications for the broader health of mankind. The course is further designed so nurses can be exposed to current scientific findings in biology, environmental science, chemistry, engineering, informatics, and other disciplines so that they can ascertain how these findings might have application to nursing practice and nursing science. Students will explore the ethical implications of advances in science and technology and examine and critique the relevance of these findings to diverse populations. Finally, students will discuss what a nursing scientist is and how nurses can study the phenomena of nursing and advance discovery and improve health through the development of nursing science. This course will also be designated as a writing intensive course. **6 credits**

NURS 464**Senior Concentration in Nursing**

In NURS 464, the student, with faculty supervision, selects a clinical area of practice for an in-depth 60-hour clinical experience. Students may elect clinical sites that may complement their own clinical area of expertise or they may select a new clinical area to explore. Whatever site is selected, the student will be immersed in the current clinical literature of the clinical discipline to demonstrate competent and safe nursing practice and increase knowledge and skill development. **3 credits**

NURS 465**Senior Thesis in Nursing**

In NURS 465, the student, with faculty supervision, plans a project that will be implemented this quarter. This project will integrate the academic and practical knowledge the student has acquired in their nursing curriculum. Examples of projects include the following: developing/implementing a teaching tool or a teaching plan, evaluating data specific to management patterns that promote effective nursing care, synthesizing the literature related to a particular topic, or writing a substantive paper for publication. Students will develop objectives relevant to the project, critique the literature, and present a plan for implementation. **3 credits**

Faculty

Gloria F. Donnelly, Ph.D., R.N., FAAN, *Professor and Dean, CNHP*

Mary Ellen Glasgow, Ph.D., R.N., CS, *Associate Professor and Associate Dean, Undergraduate Programs*

Patricia Dunphy Suplee, Ph.D., CS, RNC, *Assistant Professor and Director of Baccalaureate Nursing Programs*

Marcia Gardner, M.A., R.N., CPNP, CPN, *Assistant Professor and Associate Director of Baccalaureate Nursing Programs*

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Regina Wright, R.N., M.S.N., CEN, *Clinical Assistant Professor*

For More Information

For more information on the R.N./B.S.N. Completion program or any other nursing program in the College of Nursing and Health Professions, contact:

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Apply online at www.drexel.edu/apply

Accreditation

The B.S. in Nursing program, the Accelerated Career Entry B.S.N. option, the R.N./B.S.N. Completion program, and M.S.N. program are accredited by the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission, 61 Broadway, New York, NY 10006, 1-800-669-1656; and the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, One Dupont Circle N.W., Suite 530, Washington, DC, 20036; 202-887-6791.

The Nurse Anesthesia Master of Science in Nursing program is accredited by the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs, 222 South Prospect Avenue, Suite 304, Park Ridge, IL 60068, 847-692-7050.