

College of Nursing

Dean, Joan Shaver, RN, PhD, FAAN
118 College of Nursing (NURS)
(312) 996-7800

<http://www.uic.edu/nursing>

Administration: 133 NURS

Student Services and Academic Advising: Office of Academic Programs, 133 NURS

Departments: Biobehavioral Health Science; Health Systems Science; Women, Children and Family Health Science

Introduction

The College of Nursing is recognized as one of the top colleges of nursing in the country and is internationally renowned for its nursing leadership. Exciting and challenging opportunities are available for capable, dedicated, and caring individuals who will be future leaders in healthcare. The University of Illinois School of Nursing was founded in 1951 and became the College of Nursing in 1959. The College of Nursing is located in close proximity to the Colleges of Applied Health Sciences, Dentistry, Medicine, Pharmacy, and the School of Public Health. The libraries and scientific and clinical resources make up one of the largest medical centers in the world.

The College of Nursing offers programs of study leading to the Bachelor of Science in Nursing; the Master of Science, including joint degree options with a Master of Business Administration, Master of Science in Health Informatics, and a Master of Public Health; and the Doctor of Philosophy and the Doctor of Nursing Practice with entry at the postbaccalaureate or postmaster's level. In addition, the college offers a Graduate Entry Program into the Master of Science. This program is specifically designed for students who hold baccalaureate degrees in other fields and want to pursue a master's degree in Nursing. This is not an accelerated baccalaureate degree, but rather a program for students who want to receive advanced training in any one of UIC's master's specialty programs. The college has three regional sites within the state: Central Illinois (dual location in Urbana and Peoria), Rockford, and Quad Cities. The Bachelor of Science in Nursing program is offered at the Chicago and Urbana sites. The Graduate Entry and PhD programs are offered at the Chicago site. The Master of Science and Doctor of Nursing Practice are offered at all sites. The RN/BSN program is offered online through the Global Campus.

Undergraduate Study in Nursing

The College of Nursing undergraduate program leads to the Bachelor of Science in Nursing. The curriculum is divided into three levels: foundation, middle, and terminal. The foundation level, freshman and sophomore years, includes those lower-division nonnursing courses that represent the basic learning necessary for the completion of the course of study. The middle level, junior year, includes most upper-division courses that prepare the graduate as a nurse generalist. The terminal level, senior year, represents those upper-division, senior-level courses at the end of the nursing program that synthesize previous learning.

The Bachelor of Science in Nursing provides students with the basic nursing preparation and eligibility to apply for the registered nursing licensing examination (NCLEX-RN). For students who are already licensed registered nurses and wish to further their education, the college offers an RN/BSN completion program.

Accreditation

College of Nursing programs are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) and approved by the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation (IDFPR). The college holds membership in the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN).

Admissions

Applications to the BSN program are accepted for fall admission only. Students are admitted to the college in one of three ways: (1) intercollege transfer student, (2) transfer student; or (3) Guaranteed Professional Program Admissions (GPPA) student. The college offers early admission to applicants meeting certain requirements. Information on the application process and deadlines can be found at <http://www.uic.edu/nursing>.

Applications to the RN/BSN program are accepted year-round; information on the application process and deadlines can be found at <http://global.uillinois.edu>.

Admission Requirements

Students applying to the BSN program must meet the following minimum requirements:

1. 2.75/4.00 cumulative transfer grade point average
2. 2.50/4.00 natural science grade point average
3. Completion of all pre-nursing course work (see *Course Requirements—Pre-Nursing Studies*) with a grade of C or higher prior to enrollment. The five natural science courses (human anatomy and physiology I and II, microbiology, general chemistry, organic chemistry, or biochemistry) must have been completed within seven years of enrollment and three of the five natural science courses must be completed prior to the application deadline.

Pre-nursing course work can be completed at UIC through the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences or at another college or university. For information on course equivalencies for various colleges in Illinois, consult the UIC transfer guides at http://www.uic.edu/depts/oar/undergrad/transfer_guides.html.

Students with 3.25/4.00 cumulative transfer grade point average and a 2.80/4.00 natural science grade point average are eligible to apply for early admission. Early admission applicants that are not accepted in the early admission round will be considered again in the regular admissions period.

In addition, all students will be required to have a background check and drug test upon admission. If the results of either requirement indicate that a student would not be eligible for placement at the College's practicum agencies, the student's admission will be rescinded.

RN/BSN Program

In addition to meeting the admission requirements listed above, students applying to the RN/BSN program must have a current RN license. Students who apply for admission directly from a nonbaccalaureate nursing program must take the NCLEX-RN licensure examination at the first opportunity after graduation and present the RN license to the College prior to enrollment. Failure to pass the NCLEX-RN examination will result in cancellation of admission.

Students who have graduated from a state-approved associate's degree in nursing (ADN) program and who hold a current license as registered professional nurse will receive 33 semester hours of proficiency credit. The credit will be awarded upon successful completion of NUSC 210 and NUSC 242 in the RN/BSN program.

Freshman Admissions

The College of Nursing does not admit freshmen to the BSN program as there are two years of college level prerequisite courses required. Those seeking admission to UIC as freshmen should first apply to the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and designate their major as undeclared. Students can list Pre-Nursing as their educational goal. Those seeking admission to the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC) as freshmen should apply to either the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences or the College of Applied Health Sciences, both of which provide an advising track for students interested in several health professions. More information on admission to UIUC can be found at <http://illinois.edu>.

Guaranteed Professional Program Admissions (GPPA)

The Guaranteed Professional Program Admissions (GPPA) gives academically talented freshmen applicants the opportunity to be admitted to UIC with admission guaranteed to the College of Nursing BSN program if undergraduate course and performance criteria are met. For more information, please see the Guaranteed Professional Program Admissions section of this catalog.

Degree Requirements

To earn the Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree from UIC, students need to complete the degree requirements of the University and college that are in effect at the time of initial registration. It is essential for each student to become familiar with the degree requirements stated in this catalog and to keep up-to-date with published changes. If requirements change, continuing students and those whose attendance at UIC has been interrupted for no more than two years may elect to complete the new graduation requirements or may continue to fulfill those requirements in effect at the time of initial registration. Students who return to UIC after an absence of more than two years are responsible for meeting the requirements of the University and college in effect at the time of reenrollment. If courses originally required are no longer offered, the college has the prerogative of specifying substitutes.

Note: The college retains the right to change educational policy and graduation requirements at any time. This may affect currently enrolled students' standing.

Semester Hour Requirement

The College of Nursing semester hour requirement is 120 semester hours. UIC students complete the first two years of the program in Pre-Nursing Studies through the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. If admitted to the College of Nursing, students complete the final two years in the Nursing curriculum. Please see *Preprofessional Studies* in the *College of Liberal Arts and Sciences* section of the catalog for more information on Pre-Nursing.

Degree Program	Degree Conferred	Total Hours
Nursing	BS in Nursing	120

BS in Nursing—Degree Requirements

BS in Nursing Degree Requirements	Hours
Pre-Nursing Studies	57
Course Requirements in the College of Nursing	61
Nursing Electives/Selectives	2–5
Total Hours—BS in Nursing	120

Course Requirements—Pre-Nursing Studies

Courses	Hours
ENGL 160—Academic Writing I: Writing for Academic and Public Contexts	3
ENGL 161—Academic Writing II: Writing for Inquiry and Research	3
BIOS 350—General Microbiology ^a	3
CHEM 112—General College Chemistry I ^b	5
CHEM 130—Survey of Organic and Biochemistry ^b	5
KN 251—Human Physiological Anatomy I	5
KN 252—Human Physiological Anatomy II	5
NUSC 250—Human Development across the Life Span	3
HN 196—Nutrition	3
Exploring World Cultures course ^c	3
Understanding the Creative Arts course ^c	3
Understanding the Individual and Society course ^{cd}	3
Understanding the Past course ^c	3
Understanding U.S. Society course ^{cd}	3
One 3-semester-hour, 200-level, upper-division course in any General Education category ^e	3
LAS electives	Varies
Total—Pre-Nursing Studies	57

^a BIOS 100 is a prerequisite for this course.

^b This course is approved for the Analyzing the Natural World General Education category.

^c Students should consult the General Education section of the catalog for a list of approved courses in this category.

^d For the Understanding the Individual and Society requirement, PSCH 100—Introduction to Psychology is recommended; for the Understanding U.S. Society requirement, SOC 100—Introduction to Sociology is recommended.

^e This requirement may be completed after admission to the BSN program.

General Education Core

General Education at UIC is designed to serve as a foundation for lifelong learning. As outlined in the *Pre-Nursing Studies* course list, College of Nursing students meet the University's General Education Core requirement of a minimum of 24 semester hours in the General Education Core with at least one course from each of the following categories:

- I. Analyzing the Natural World
- II. Understanding the Individual and Society
- III. Understanding the Past
- IV. Understanding the Creative Arts
- V. Exploring World Cultures
- VI. Understanding U.S. Society

For a description and a list of courses for each General Education Core category, students should consult the *General Education* section of the catalog.

General Education Proficiencies—University Writing Requirement

As noted in the *Pre-Nursing Studies* course list, College of Nursing students meet the requirement by achieving a passing grade in English 160 and 161.

Course Requirements in the College of Nursing: BSN

Required Courses	Hours
NUSC 202—Concepts and Processes of Professional Nursing	3
NUSC 210—Health Assessment	3
NUSC 215—Pathophysiology and Applied Pharmacology I	4
NUSC 217—Pathophysiology and Applied Pharmacology II	3
NUSC 225—Introduction to Clinical Concepts and Processes	6
NUSC 322—Introduction to Nursing Research and Statistics for Evidence-Based Practice	4
NUSC 335—Clinical Concepts and Processes in Adult Health	6
NUSC 345—Clinical Concepts and Processes in Women's and Family Health	5
NUSC 355—Clinical Concepts and Processes in Children's and Family Health	5
NUSC 365—Clinical Concepts and Processes in Mental Health	5
NUSC 375—Concepts and Processes in Older Adult Health	3
NUSC 385—Clinical Concepts and Processes in Population-Focused Nursing	5
NUSC 390—Nursing Leadership and Management in Healthcare	6
NUSC 397—Issues in Nursing Practice	3
Nursing Electives	2
Total—Required Nursing Courses	63

Course Requirements in the College of Nursing: RN/BSN

Required Courses	Hours
NUSC 210—Health Assessment	3
NUSC 242—Concepts and Processes for Contemporary Nursing Practice	4
NUSC 322—Introduction to Nursing Research and Statistics for Evidence-Based Practice	4
NUSC 385—Clinical Concepts and Processes in Population-Focused Nursing	5
NUSC 390—Nursing Leadership and Management in Healthcare	6
NUSC 397—Issues in Nursing Practice	3
Nursing Electives	5
Total Hours—Required Nursing Courses	30

Other Requirements

Grade Point Average (GPA) Requirement

All students are required to satisfactorily complete with a minimum grade of C all required LAS and nursing courses and maintain a cumulative and nursing grade point average of 2.00/4.00.

Graduation Declaration/Filing to Graduate

Students declare their intent to graduate online using *Student Self-Service*. The deadline for submission to the Pending Degree List is the end of the third week (fall and spring) or second week (Summer Session 2) of the term in which graduation is sought. Failure to submit the request at this time may delay the awarding of the degree. A final review will be made following the close of the term. If a student has satisfactorily completed all the degree requirements, the student's name will be placed on the official degree list.

Enrollment Residence Requirement

At a minimum, the last 30 semester hours of university work must be taken at the University of Illinois at

Chicago. Concurrent attendance at the University of Illinois at Chicago and another collegiate institution or enrollment during the summer at another institution, when approved by the student's college, does not interrupt the UIC enrollment residence requirement for graduation.

College Policies

Academic Load

To be considered full-time, a student must be enrolled in a minimum of 12 semester hours fall and spring terms. During the regular academic year, an academic course load exceeding 18 semester hours must be approved in the College Office of Academic Programs.

Academic Probation and Dismissal Rules

Probation Rules

A cumulative grade point average is calculated. When the nursing or cumulative grade point average is below 2.00/4.00, the student is placed on probation.

A student not currently on academic probation will be placed on academic probation at the end of any term in which the student earns less than a 2.00/4.00 in nursing, nonnursing, or cumulative grade point average.

A student currently on academic probation will be continued on academic probation when:

1. The student meets the grade point average required by the conditions of his or her probation but does not raise the cumulative UIC grade point average to at least 2.00/4.00; or
2. The student meets the grade point average required by the conditions of his or her probation but does not raise the combined average of the student's transfer and UIC course work to at least 2.00/4.00.

The Admissions and Academic Standards Committee-Baccalaureate determines the conditions of probation. In addition to specifying the grade point average, the committee may require the completion of specific courses, may limit the number or hours for which the student registers, and may exclude the student from taking certain courses while on probation.

Dismissal Rules

1. A student on academic probation will be dismissed in any term in which the student fails to meet the grade point average required by the probation and in which the cumulative grade point average in courses taken at UIC is less than 2.00/4.00.
2. A student on academic probation will be dismissed in any term in which the student fails to meet the grade point average required by the probation and in which the combined transfer and UIC grade point average is less than 2.00/4.00.
3. A student who fails to make progress toward a degree may be dismissed. Examples include failure to complete required courses, accumulation of an excessive number of Incomplete grades, failure to earn credit in any semester, failure to maintain a C average in nursing.
4. Students may not earn more than one grade below C in nursing courses during the entire academic program, in either the same or two different nursing courses. When a student receives a second grade below C in a nursing course, the student will be dismissed from the college, withdrawn for academic failure.
5. Students dismissed from the college will also be dismissed from the University.

Change of Course Schedule— Dropping Courses

Undergraduate students may drop courses using *Student Self-Service* through the end of the second week of classes for fall and spring semesters, the first Wednesday of Summer Session 1, or the first Friday of Summer Session 2. During weeks 3 through 10 of the fall and spring semesters (first Thursday through the second Wednesday of Summer Session 1 or weeks 2 through 5 of Summer Session 2) students may drop courses with the permission of their major college. If the drop occurs between 0 and 2 weeks in fall and spring, there will be no notation on the transcript. If the drop occurs during weeks 3 through 10 in fall and spring (first Thursday through the second Wednesday of Summer Session 1 or weeks 2 through 5 of Summer Session 2), a W is noted on the transcript. Undergraduate students may drop a maximum of 4 UIC individual courses that result in a W notation on their transcript during their entire undergraduate degree program.

College of Nursing students who wish to make changes to their registration must first meet with their academic advisor.

Class Attendance

Classroom

Attendance at all classroom sessions is expected. Students are expected to prepare for each class by completing the required readings and other assignments (e.g., viewing videotapes, listening to audiotapes).

Discussion Groups

Discussion groups are a critical component of many courses. Attendance and participation are expected. Attendance will be taken during discussion group times to assure participation. If the student is unable to attend discussion group due to an accident, illness, or injury, the student must contact the course coordinator to make up any work that is missed.

Laboratory Sessions

Attendance at all laboratory sessions is expected. In the event that a student misses a laboratory session due to illness or personal emergency, the student will make arrangements to complete the session and the assigned exercise. Failure to do so will result in the student's grade being lowered, and the student may not be able to progress to the next lab session until the make-up is completed.

Practicum Sessions

Practicum attendance is expected. Students must be prepared for the practicum experience. If a faculty member determines that the student is not prepared to participate fully in the practicum experience, the faculty member may ask the student to leave or not to participate in certain activities. The student's performance for the day will be considered unsatisfactory and will influence the practicum evaluation. If written assignments are required, a grade of zero will be given. Students should refer to the course syllabi for policies regarding absence or late practicum assignments. In the event of illness or a personal emergency, students must notify the practicum instructor per the instructions in the course syllabus.

Students must attend all practicum orientations for their assigned agency. If students are not present, they may not be allowed to continue in the course. Opportunities for making up excused or unexcused absences are not available. Any absence may affect the grade. Absences of more than 15% of the total practicum hours may result in the student's need to repeat the course before progressing in the program.

Petition Procedure

Students may petition the college's director of academic programs for exceptions to certain college regulations, but should do so only after consulting with their advisor, whose recommendations must appear on the petition. Petition forms may be obtained in the Office of Academic Programs. Petition forms must be accompanied by a full explanation of the circumstances and any appropriate supporting documents. Petitions should be filed within thirty (30) days of the time an individual knows, or reasonably should have known, that an occurrence has affected his or her status. Petitions can take 4–6 weeks to be reviewed and a decision made.

Registration Approval

The College of Nursing has a mandatory advising policy. Before registering for courses each semester, students must meet with their advisor to discuss their degree plan and to clear their advising hold.

Repeat Policy for Standard Graded Courses

If a student does not receive a C grade or higher in a nursing course, the student is required to repeat the course. A student may repeat a nursing course or its equivalent only once. If a grade of C or higher is not earned at the end of the second registration in a nursing course or its equivalent, the student will be dismissed from the college.

A nonclinical nursing course in which a grade below C is received must be repeated the first term the course is offered again.

A clinical nursing course in which a grade below C is received must be repeated the first term in which space is available and prior to enrolling in any other clinical course.

The original grade for the course and the grade for each repeat will appear on the transcript. The original grade will be calculated into the grade point average, unless the student initiates a request for *Repeating a Course with Grade Point Average Recalculation* as described below. Only one registration for the course counts toward the total number of credits required for graduation. A course cannot be repeated after receiving credit in a course for which the repeat course is a prerequisite.

Repeating a Course with Grade Point Average Recalculation

Important Note: Grade point average recalculation for a repeated course is not automatic. The student must initiate a request in the college Office of Academic Programs as outlined below.

For the grade point average recalculation policy to apply, a student must declare to his or her college the intent to repeat a course for a change of grade before reenrolling in the course. The course must be repeated within three semesters of the receipt of the original grade, and it must be taken at UIC. Only one registration for the course counts toward the total number of credits required for graduation.

Undergraduate students are allowed grade point average recalculation in up to four repeated courses. Under the course repeat policy, all courses taken and their grades appear on the transcript in the semester in which they were taken. Under the grade point average recalculation policy, the grade earned the first time the course is taken will be dropped from the calculation of the cumulative GPA and the grade(s) earned when the course is repeated will be used in the calculation. This rule holds, even if the second grade is lower than the first. If a course is repeated more than once, the first grade is not counted in the GPA, but all other grades for that course are calculated in the cumulative GPA.

More information on the University repeat policy for standard graded courses can be found in the *University Degree Requirements, Graduation, and Commencement* section of this catalog.

Transferring

Intercollege Transfer Students

See previous section on *Admissions*.

Transfer Students from Other Colleges and Universities

See previous section on *Admissions*.

Requirements for All Students

Accommodation

Students requesting an accommodation for disabilities should contact the Disability Resource Center at (312) 413-2183 (voice) or (312) 413-0123 (TTY only) or http://www.uic.edu/depts/oa/disability_resources/index.html.

The Disability Resource Center will evaluate the student's request and make recommendations to the College of Nursing. The college will determine if the recommendations can be met. No accommodations can be made until the student's situation is evaluated by the Disability Resource Center.

Alcohol and Controlled Substances

The use of alcohol and illegal use of controlled substances, including alcohol can seriously injure the health of students, impair their performance of their responsibilities, and endanger the safety and well-being of fellow students and members of the general public. Students who are engaged in clinical work at a practicum site may be required to submit to random tests for illegal use of controlled substances as provided by the law or regulations of the contracting agency. Just cause for student disciplinary action includes, but is not limited to, use or unauthorized possession of intoxicants, controlled or illegal substances, or materials dangerous to public health and safety. It is not acceptable to use alcohol or illegal drugs prior to or during class or clinical. Immediate disciplinary action will be taken.

Background Check and Drug Testing

All students will be required to have a background check and drug test upon admission. If the results of either requirement indicate that the student would not be eligible for placement at the College's practicum agencies, the student's admission will be rescinded. Students may be required to repeat either requirement should the practicum agency require more frequent testing. If at any time during the period of enrollment, the student's background check or drug test results preclude placement in a practicum agency, the student will be required to withdraw from the program. Students at time of application for licensure will be required to submit to fingerprinting and be reviewed for eligibility by the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation (IDFPR).

Citizenship

Undocumented students are eligible to sit for licensure at time of graduation. However, the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation (IDFPR) requires resolution of the citizenship status within two years from date of initial licensure.

CPR Certification

Students must hold current CPR certification prior to enrolling in their first practicum course. Certification must be at the level of professional or healthcare worker rescuer, which includes the use of the AED, one and two man rescues for all ages, cricoid pressure, and the use of external

inhalation devices. Students who do not provide this documentation will not be allowed to participate in practicum experiences.

Immunization

Students must complete Parts I, II, and III on the University of Illinois Medical Immunization Form and the UIC College of Nursing Mandatory Medical Student Immunization Form. Students must document proof of immunity against measles, mumps, German measles, polio, diphtheria/tetanus, hepatitis B, sz and chicken pox. Annual testing for tuberculosis is also required. Students should retain a copy of their immunization record and make it available for verification at the first day of class for each practicum course. Students who do not provide this documentation will not be allowed to participate in practicum experiences. Students are required to keep all immunizations current throughout their enrollment.

Transportation

Each student is responsible for his or her own transportation to all practicum sites. These sites may be located some distance from the College of Nursing and public transportation may not always be available. Therefore, students need a car. Students without a car will need to find alternative methods of transportation.

Academic Advising

Advising Policy

Prior to admission to the College of Nursing, advice on acceptance of transfer credit is available in the College Office of Academic Programs. Following admission, students are assigned an advisor who will assist them with course and career planning. Mandatory advising is required each term.

Academic Honors

College Honors

At commencement, students are awarded College Honors for academic distinction. College Honors shall be awarded to the top 15% of students based on their nursing grade point average. Students will be awarded with an Honor Cord. Graduation with College Honors benefits students when they are being considered for job placement, graduate school, and other competitive opportunities.

Dean's List

Outstanding academic achievement in the College of Nursing is recognized by inclusion on the Dean's List. Eligibility is based on a 3.35/4.00 term grade point average with a program of 12 semester hours of letter grades in a semester.

Sigma Theta Tau

The College of Nursing has the Alpha Lambda chapter of Sigma Theta Tau, the International Honor Society in Nursing. The purposes of the society are to recognize achievement of superior scholarship and the development of leadership qualities, foster high professional standards, encourage creative work, and strengthen the commitment by individuals to the ideals and purposes of the profession of nursing. Seniors and graduate students are eligible for membership.

Sample Curricula

BSN

Junior Year

Fall Semester	Hours
NUSC 202—Concepts and Processes of Professional Nursing	3
NUSC 210—Health Assessment	3
NUSC 215—Pathophysiology and Applied Pharmacology I	4
NUSC 225—Introduction to Clinical Concepts and Processes	6
Total Hours	16

Spring Semester	Hours
NUSC 217—Pathophysiology and Applied Pharmacology II	3
Two courses from NUSC 335, 345, 355, 365	10–11
NUSC 375—Concepts and Processes in Older Adult Health	3
Total Hours	16–17

Senior Year

Fall Semester	Hours
Two courses from NUSC 335, 345, 355, 365, 385	10–11
NUSC 322 – Introduction to Nursing Research and Statistics for Evidence-Based Practice	4
Total Hours	14–15

Spring Semester	Hours
NUSC 365 or 385	5
NUSC 390—Nursing Leadership and Management in Healthcare	6
NUSC 397—Issues in Nursing Practice	3
Nursing Elective	2
Total Hours	16

RN/BSN

Courses are eight weeks in length:	Hours
NUSC 210—Health Assessment	4
NUSC 242—Concepts and Processes for Contemporary Nursing Practice	3
NUSC 385—Clinical Concepts and Processes in Population-Focused Nursing	5
NUSC 310—Exploring Complementary/Alternative Practices	2
NUSC 322—Introduction to Nursing Research and Statistics for Evidence-Based Practice	4
NUSC 316—Nursing Informatics	3
NUSC 390—Nursing Leadership and Management in Healthcare	6
NUSC 397—Issues in Nursing Practice	3
Total Hours	30