

Division of Nursing

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Faculty: Alexander, Antognoli, Biehler, Branson, Crabtree, Davenport, Dean, Drinnon, Embrey, Feola, Gillispie, Jemes, Matos, Pool, Reyes, Robinson, Rogers, Shum, Skarke, Smith, Taylor, Waight.

The Division of Nursing offers courses of study leading to the baccalaureate degree in nursing and the master's degree in nursing. Both programs are fully accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, and meet educational standards and requirements for the Board of Nurse Examiners for the state of Texas.

The undergraduate program prepares graduates for the practice of professional nursing in diverse health care settings and with diverse populations. Graduates complete 130 semester hours of the prescribed curriculum for the bachelor of science in nursing degree. Upon successful completion of the program, graduates are eligible to take the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) for licensure as registered nurses. For licensed professional nurses desiring degree completion (B.S.N.), refer to the RN degree completion program. The program is offered online.

The graduate program of study leads to the master of science degree in nursing with role specializations in education, administration and family nurse practitioner.

Located on the WTAMU campus, the Division of Nursing includes classrooms, laboratories, the Bivins Nursing Learning Center and faculty offices. Clinical experience is provided in health care facilities in Amarillo, Canyon and surrounding areas.

Discipline	Course Prefix
Nursing	NURS
NOTE: See the "Academic Courses and Abbreviations" and "Course Descriptions" sections of this catalog for a complete list of courses offered by the University.	

Bachelor of Science in Nursing (B.S.N.) Degree

Majors in Nursing

- Major in Nursing—Basic and Transfer Students
- Major in Nursing—Licensed Vocational Nurse Degree Completion
- Major in Nursing—Registered Nurse Degree Completion

University Core Curriculum Requirements

Refer to the "University Core Curriculum" section of this catalog.

Additional Nursing Requirements

- Eight hours from BIOL 2420 or 2572 with concurrent lab, BIOL 2402 with concurrent lab.
- PSYC 2301, 2314, SOCI 1301.

Admission Requirements for the Division of Nursing

- Formal application and admission to WTAMU (application fee required).
- A separate, competitive application process is required for admission into the Division of Nursing. Admission is required prior to 2000-level nursing courses for basic students and LVN-degree completion students, 3000-level nursing courses for RN-degree completion students. Current license to practice as LVN or RN is required for LVN and RN degree completion students requesting advanced standing (application fee required).
- Completion of the following core curriculum courses: ENGL 1301 and 1302; CHEM 1411 or 1405 with lab (four hours); PSYC 2401; BIOL 2401 with lab (four hours); MATH 1314; and demonstrated computer competency prior to 2000-level nursing courses.
- Minimum grade point average of 2.5 and a minimum grade of "C" in biology, chemistry, psychology and mathematics courses.
- A transfer student must submit copies of all transcripts and if transferring from another school of nursing, recommendation letters from the dean and detailed descriptions of nursing courses. A maximum total of 66 semester hours may be transferred from community colleges attended.
- The required application fee must accompany the application for consideration.
- Applications to the Division of Nursing should be submitted by Feb. 1 for fall semester admission and Sept. 1 for spring semester admission.
- All basic and LVN students are required to take a pre-admission exam.

Students may appeal Admissions Committee decisions, first to the committee and then to the head of the Division of Nursing. Exceptions, resulting in conditional admission, will be considered on an individual basis by the head of the Division of Nursing.

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Advanced Standing

Registered nurses or others with previous experience and education in nursing must be admitted to the Division of Nursing through the same procedure as all students. Advanced standing will be determined after evaluation of transcripts. For further information, refer to “Advanced Placement and Credit by Examination” in this catalog.

Readmission to the Division of Nursing

Students must reapply to the division after withdrawal or failure in any semester. A student who leaves the program for any reason may be permitted to re-enroll based on (1) individual qualifications and (2) available space. Satisfactory scores on comprehensive examinations covering nursing theory and clinical course work previously completed will be required for basic students who have not been enrolled in nursing courses at WTAMU for five or more years.

Major in Nursing—For Basic and Transfer Students (Major Code: 701)

Transfer Students

Senior College

Students transferring from a senior college into the basic nursing program must submit copies of nursing course syllabi. If the transferring courses are not over five years old, courses will be evaluated for transfer on an individual basis. If courses are greater than five years old, see “Returning Basic WTAMU Students and Transferring Basic Students” in this section.

Community College

Students transferring from a community college into the basic nursing program may transfer selected nursing courses after copies of all course syllabi have been submitted, reviewed and approved. If the transferring courses are not over five years old, courses will be evaluated for transfer on an individual basis. If courses are greater than five years old, see “Returning Basic WTAMU Students and Transferring Basic Students” in this section.

Diploma Nursing Program

Students who have successfully passed courses in a diploma program and are transferring into the basic nursing curriculum must submit copies of nursing course syllabi for review. Courses five years old or less may be accepted in transfer on an individual basis. Challenge examinations for courses without academic credit are required. A fee is charged for each challenge exam. If courses are greater than five years old, see “Returning Basic WTAMU Students and Transferring Basic Students” in this catalog.

Returning Basic WTAMU Students and Transferring Basic Students

Any basic/traditional student, WTAMU or transferring, who has not been enrolled in clinical nursing courses in the past five years, must demonstrate competency by examination prior to being rescheduled into the nursing curriculum. A course-specific exam, which will be a standardized test, will be given. The exam may be taken one time. A fee is charged for each exam. If the student is unsuccessful, the student will be scheduled into that/those clinical course(s) as space is available. For further information, refer to “Advanced Placement and Credit by Examination” in this catalog.

Curriculum Guide (suggested course sequence)			
Major in Nursing—Basic and Transfer Students			
First Year		Second Year	
Semester 1	Semester 2	Semester 1	Semester 2
ENGL 1301*3 hrs. CHEM 1411 or 1405*4 hrs. HIST 1301*3 hrs. MATH 13143 hrs. PHED 1111 or activity1 hr. 14 hrs.	ENGL 1302*3 hrs. BIOL 2401*4 hrs. SCOM 1315 or 13213 hrs. PSYC 2301*3 hrs. NURS 1371*3 hrs. PHED1 hr. 17 hrs.	SOCI 1301**3 hrs. BIOL 2402*4 hrs. PSYC 2314**3 hrs. NURS 24714 hrs. NURS 22712 hrs. NURS 23753 hrs. 19 hrs.	HIST 13023 hrs. BIOL 2420 or 25724-5 hrs. NURS 13223 hrs. NURS 24724 hrs. NURS 23743 hrs. 17-18 hrs.
Third Year		Fourth Year	
Semester 1	Semester 2	Semester 1	Semester 2
Visual/Performing arts3 hrs. POSC 23053 hrs. NURS 33103 hrs. NURS 34314 hrs. NURS 35325 hrs. 18 hrs.	ENGL 2332 or 23333 hrs. POSC 23063 hrs. NURS 34514 hrs. NURS 35525 hrs. NURS 33603 hrs. 18 hrs.	Humanities3 hrs. NURS 43213 hrs. NURS 43223 hrs. NURS 43313 hrs. NURS 43323 hrs. 15 hrs.	NURS 43413 hrs. NURS 43513 hrs. NURS 40936 hrs. 12 hrs.
*Prerequisite to NURS 2471. NURS 1371 is required for all basic and transfer nursing majors. **Must be completed prior to or concurrently with NURS 2471.			

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Major in Nursing—For Licensed Vocational Nurses (Major Code: 713)

Licensed Vocational Nurses

(For students who already are licensed vocational nurses.)

Students must enroll in NURS 1371. Credit for NURS 2471 and 2271 may be earned by challenge examination. The challenge examination must be successfully achieved before entrance into the nursing program.

Curriculum Guide (suggested course sequence)			
Major in Nursing—Licensed Vocational Nurse			
First Year		Second Year	
Semester 1 ENGL 1301*3 hrs. CHEM 1405 or 14114 hrs. HIST 13013 hrs. MATH 1314 or 1324*3 hrs. PHED 1111 or activity1 hr. 14 hrs.	Semester 2 SCOM 1315 or 13213 hrs. ENGL 1302*3 hrs. PSYC 2301*3 hrs. BIOL 2401*4 hrs. PHED activity1 hr. NURS 13713 hrs. 17 hrs.	Semester 1 SOCI 1301*3 hrs. BIOL 2402**4 hrs. PSYC 2314**3 hrs. NURS 24714 hrs. NURS 2271*2 hrs. NURS 23753 hrs. 19 hrs.	Semester 2 BIOL 2420 or 25724-5 hrs. HIST 13023 hrs. NURS 13223 hrs. NURS 24724 hrs. NURS 23743 hrs. 17-18 hrs.
Third Year		Fourth Year	
Semester 1 POSC 23053 hrs. Visual/Performing arts3 hrs. NURS 33103 hrs. NURS 34314 hrs. NURS 35325 hrs. 18 hrs.	Semester 2 ENGL 2332 or 23333 hrs. POSC 23063 hrs. NURS 34514 hrs. NURS 35525 hrs. NURS 33603 hrs. 18 hrs.	Semester 1 NURS 43213 hrs. NURS 43223 hrs. NURS 43313 hrs. NURS 43323 hrs. Humanities3 hrs. 15 hrs.	Semester 2 NURS 43413 hrs. NURS 43513 hrs. NURS 46936 hrs. 12 hrs.
*Prerequisite to NURS 2471. Licensed Vocational Nurses (LVN) need to take NURS 1371. NURS 2471 may be challenged for LVN students. The challenge exam for NURS 2471 must be taken prior to or concurrently with NURS 1371.			
**Must be completed prior to or concurrently with NURS 2471.			

Major in Nursing—For Registered Nurses (Major Code: 718)

Registered Nurses

Before applying to the Division of Nursing, 57 hours of core curriculum and prerequisite semester hours must be completed. Credit for previous nursing course work and practice knowledge will be held in escrow until successful completion of the final course in the RN degree completion program. See the curriculum guide for RN degree completion.

Core Curriculum and Additional Nursing Requirements (63/64 credit hours)

- BIOL 2420 or 2572, 2401, 2402.
- CHEM 1405 or 1411.
- Demonstrated computer competency .
- ENGL 1301, 1302; ENGL 2332 or 2333.
- HIST 1301, 1302.
- MATH 1314.
- POSC 2305, 2306.
- PSYC 2301, 2314.
- SCOM 1315 or 1321.
- PHED 1111 plus one hour from 1102 through 1275.
- SOCI 1301.
- Three hours from HUMA 1315, ARTS 1303, 1304, MUSI 1306 or THRE 1310.
- Three hours from ENGL 2371, HIST 2372, PHIL 1301 or SPAN 2312.

Curriculum Guide (suggested course sequence)		
Major in Nursing—Registered Nurse		
Remaining Nursing Requirements		
Semester 1	Semester 2	Semester 3
NURS 33253 hrs.	NURS 33603 hrs.	NURS 43353 hrs.
NURS 33353 hrs.	NURS 33553 hrs.	NURS 43453 hrs.
NURS 33453 hrs.	NURS 46256 hrs.	NURS 43653 hrs.
NURS 33043 hrs. 12 hrs.	12 hrs.	Elective3 hrs. 12 hrs.

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Progression and Graduation

- A degree plan must be filed with the dean of the College of Agriculture, Nursing and Natural Sciences after 60 hours have been completed.
- A minimum grade of “C” must be maintained in all nursing, biology, chemistry, sociology, psychology and mathematics courses.
- A grade of “C” or above is required to pass a nursing course and progress through the curriculum on schedule. Progression will be determined on an individual basis for a student who earns a grade of “D” or below in a nursing course.
- Students are expected to attend all classes and clinical laboratories.
- Microbiology, nutrition and child psychology must be completed prior to entering 3000-level nursing courses.
- Students must pass a comprehensive exam after completion of all 2000-level nursing courses before progressing to 3000-level nursing courses and after completion of all 3000-level nursing courses before progressing to 4000-level nursing courses. Students who fail a leveling comprehensive examination twice will be required to repeat identified course work on a space-available basis.
- Only 70 hours in the nursing major may be counted toward the B.S.N. degree.
- Of the final 30 hours toward a degree, 24 hours must be residence credit. (CLEP, Challenge and correspondence courses are not resident credit courses.) No more than 66 hours may be transferred from a junior college.
- Students must comply with all rules and policies as set forth in the *Division of Nursing Handbook* and in the *West Texas A&M University Code of Student Life*.
- Basic senior students must pass a comprehensive nursing examination prior to graduation. Students who do not pass the comprehensive exam must complete an individualized plan of study, which may include enrollment in additional courses before graduation.
- Students who withdraw before the 12th class day (fourth class day for summer sessions) will have no record of the semester on their transcript except a notation “Student withdrew without earning credit (date).” If a student withdraws before the end of the eighth week of a semester, the third week of a summer session or the mid-point of a specially scheduled course, the grade “X” (drop/withdraw passing) will be recorded on the transcript. If a student withdraws after that time a grade of pass (“X”) or fail (“F”) is assigned for all courses that semester.

For information about the master of science in nursing (M.S.N.) degree, refer to the “Graduate School” section of this catalog.