Department of Nursing

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The Department 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 Texas Board of Nursing.

The undergraduate program prepares graduates for the practice of professional nursing in diverse health-care settings and with diverse populations. Graduates complete 126 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-RN) for licensure as registered nurses. For persons who are licensed vocational nurses (LVNs), refer to the “Major in Nursing—For Licensed Vocational Nurses” section. For persons who are licensed as registered nurses, RN to B.S.N. (offered totally online—see this section) and RN to M.S.N. program options are available (see the “Graduate School” section of this catalog).

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 Department of Nursing includes classrooms, laboratories, Bivins Nursing Learning Center that includes a simulation lab, and faculty offices. Clinical experience is provided in health-care facilities in Amarillo, Canyon and surrounding rural areas. RN to B.S.N./M.S.N. degree students make arrangements for clinical sites with the program coordinator.

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

Majors in Nursing
- Major in Nursing—Basic and Transfer Students (Major Code: 701)
- Major in Nursing—Licensed Vocational Nurse Degree Completion (Major Code: 713)
- Major in Nursing—Registered Nurse Degree Completion (Major Code: 718)

University Core Curriculum Requirements
Refer to the “University Core Curriculum” section of this catalog.

NOTE: BIOL 2401 and 2402 with concurrent lab, required for nursing majors, meets University Core Curriculum science requirements.

Additional Nursing Requirements
- BIOL 2420 or 2572 with concurrent lab.
- PSYC 2301, 2314, SOCI 1301.
- Basic chemistry course with lab (CHEM 1405 or 1411).

Admission Requirements for the Department of Nursing
- Formal application and admission to WTAMU (application fee required).
- A separate, competitive application process is required for admission into the Department of Nursing. Admission is required prior to 2000-level nursing courses for basic students and LVN degree-completion students, and prior to 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 courses: ENGL 1301 and 1302; approved basic chemistry course with lab; PSYC 2301; BIOL 2401 with lab (four hours); MATH 1314 or 1324; prior to 2000-level nursing courses.
- Minimum grade point average of 2.5 and minimum grade of “C” in biology, chemistry, psychology, sociology and mathematics courses.
- All basic LVN students are required to take the NET admission exam. Applicants scoring a 55 or lower on the reading portion of the NET exam may be required to take additional course work.
- To be considered for admission, the following items must be submitted with the application: application fee, immunization records, all transcripts and background check.
- 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.
- Applications to the Department of Nursing should be submitted by Feb. 1 for fall semester and summer session admission and Sept. 1 for spring semester admission.

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.
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.

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

Licensed Vocational Nurses

(For students who already are licensed vocational nurses.)

Credit for NURS 2471 is given after successful completion of NCLEX-PN and licensure as an LVN.

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

Registered Nurses

Application to the Department of Nursing can be made after completion of approximately 48 hours of core curriculum. The applicant must be a licensed registered nurse in good standing with the Board of Nursing upon admission to the Nursing Program; criminal background checks are required. 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.
- Basic chemistry course with a lab.
- MATH 1314, 1324 or 1332, 2412, 2413.
- POSC 2305, 2306.
- PSYC 2301, 2314.
- SCOM 1315, 1318 or 1321.
- PHED 1111, IDM 1105, IDM 1301, PHIL 2303 or activity PE.
- SOCI 1301.
- Three hours from HUMA 1315, ARTS 1303, 1304, DANC 2303, MUSI 1208, 1209, 1306 or THRE 1310.
- Three hours from ENGL 2321, 2326, 2331, 2332, 2333, 2341, 2343, 2371, HIST 2311, 2372, MCOM 1307, PHIL 1301, 2374 or SPAN 2312.
Progression and Graduation

- A degree plan must be filed with the dean of the College of Nursing and Health Sciences after 60 hours have been completed.
- A minimum grade of “C” must be maintained in all 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. Refer to the “Re-Admission to the Department of Nursing” section of this catalog.
- Students are expected to attend all classes and clinical laboratories.
- Microbiology, nutrition and human development must be completed prior to entering 3000-level nursing courses.
- All 2000-level NURS courses must be successfully completed before taking 3000-level NURS courses (exception: NURS 3310 and 3304 at instructor consent).
- All 3000-level NURS courses must be successfully completed before taking 4000-level NURS courses.
- 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 Department 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 transcripts 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.
- Enrollment in nursing courses offered during summer sessions may be limited, based on available resources and other criteria established by the Department of Nursing.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BSN.NURS (701)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NURS 2472*</td>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 3304*</td>
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<td>NURS 3305</td>
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<td>NURS 3431*</td>
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<td>NURS 3451*</td>
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<td>NURS 3532*</td>
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<td>NURS 3552*</td>
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<td>NURS 4341*</td>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 4351*</td>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 4693*</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL HOURS REQUIRED TO COMPLETE DEGREE**: 120-122

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### Critical Academic Requirements

- **60 Hours**
  - Math: NRS 2472, 2472 (222) Foundations to Professional Nursing Practice II
  - NRS 3304* (204) Elementary Biostatistics in Health Care Research
  - NRS 3305 Research in Nursing
  - NRS 3431* (261) Professional Nursing III: Adult/Geriatric Acute Care and Mental Health
  - NRS 3451* (261) Professional Nursing IV: Maternal Child Acute Care and Mental Health
  - NRS 3532* (222) Professional Practice III: Geriatric Acute Care and Mental Health
  - NRS 3552* (222) Professional Practice IV: Maternal Child Acute Care and Mental Health
  - NRS 4321* (222) Professional Nursing with Groups/Populations
  - NRS 4322* (222) Professional Practice with Groups/Populations
  - NRS 4331* (222) Professional Nursing in Complex Situations
  - NRS 4332* (222) Professional Practice in Complex Situations
  - NRS 4341* (222) Leadership and Management in Professional Nursing Practice
  - NRS 4351* (222) Preparation for Professional Nursing Practice
  - NRS 4693* (222) Clinical Internship for Professional Nursing Practice

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**TOTAL HOURS REQUIRED TO COMPLETE DEGREE**: 120-122

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### Note

- This is NOT a degree plan. Upon completion of 60 hours, apply for a degree plan in the office of the dean of the College of Nursing and Health Sciences located in Old Main, Room 313A, or call 651-3500.
# Bachelor of Science in Nursing Degree

**BSN.NURS.LVN (713)**

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<tr>
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<th>Credit Hours</th>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 2472*</td>
<td>Foundations to Professional Nursing Practice II</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 3304*</td>
<td>Elementary Biostatistics in Health Care Research</td>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 3360</td>
<td>Research in Nursing</td>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 3431*</td>
<td>Professional Nursing III: Adult/Gerian Acute Care and Mental Health</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 3451*</td>
<td>Professional Nursing IV: Maternal Child Acute Care and Mental Health</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 3532*</td>
<td>Professional Practice IV: Gerian Acute Care and Mental Health</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 3552*</td>
<td>Professional Practice IV: Maternal Child Acute Care and Mental Health</td>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 4321*</td>
<td>Professional Nursing with Groups/Populations</td>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 4322*</td>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 4693*</td>
<td>Clinical Internship for Professional Nursing Practice</td>
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**TOTAL HOURS REQUIRED TO COMPLETE DEGREE**

120-122

*Core curriculum courses should be taken during the first two years of enrollment. For a list of core courses with descriptions see [www.ufl.edu](http://www.ufl.edu).*

**Prerequisite for NURS 2471.**

****Prerequisite for NURS 2472.

******Or an equivalent course (second year, second semester) in French or German.

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# Department of Nursing

**Degree Checklist 2008-2009**

### Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN)

**BSN, NURS.RN (718)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>HRS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NURS 3345*--70</td>
<td>Pharmacotherapeutics Applied to Pathophysiology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 3304*--70</td>
<td>Elementary Biostatistics in Health Care Research</td>
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### Second Semester In-Residence (Online) Nursing Courses (12 Hours)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NURS 3366*--70</td>
<td>Research in Nursing</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 3355*--70</td>
<td>Cultural Competence for Health Promotion</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 4625*--70</td>
<td>Nursing Decisions for Populations</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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### Third Semester In-Residence (Online) Nursing Courses (12 Hours)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NURS 4335*--70</td>
<td>Issues in Health Care Delivery</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 4345*--70</td>
<td>Professional Nursing Leadership/Management</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 4365*--70</td>
<td>Practice of Professional Nursing</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ELECTIVE (brought in from RN school)</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

**TOTAL HOURS REQUIRED TO COMPLETE DEGREE** 125-128

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**Notes:**
- Core curriculum courses should be taken during the first two years of enrollment. For a list of core courses with descriptions, see www.wisnu.edu/anim.
- * Indicates prerequisites—see catalog for more information.
- ** Indicates prerequisite for NURS 2472.
- *** Indicates prerequisite for NURS 2472.
- **** Or an equivalent course (second year, second semester) in French or German.

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Revised 9/06

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