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LaGrange College

Course Catalog - Nursing

B.S. in Nursing - B.S. in Nursing

Type: Major

Admission to the BSN Program

Students may declare the intent to pursue a nursing major at any time. However, application for admission to the upper-division program is made during the sophomore year. Nursing studies begin at the junior level with the exception of Nutrition (NURS 3305) which may be completed prior to admission to the nursing program. Admission requirements are as follows:

- A completed Application for Admission to Nursing. An application form is available from the College Admissions office and in the office of the Department of Nursing or it can be filled-out as an on-line document from the nursing webpage at http://www.lagrange.edu/academics/nursing.
- Completion of a sufficient number of credits in Common Core and other required courses is needed to permit an uninterrupted progression in the nursing major.
- All applicants will be administered the Assessment Technologies Institute (ATI) Test of Essential Skills (TEAS) as part of the screening process for admission. The TEAS is an exam of academic preparedness that covers Reading, Math, Science and English Language Usage.
- A grade of C or higher is required in Anatomy and Physiology, Microbiology, Introduction to Psychology, Human Growth and Development and the English Composition courses. A student is allowed one attempt to repeat one of these courses. A subsequent failure in this course or any other of these prerequisite courses will render the student ineligible to enter the nursing program. A limit of five years applies to completion of Anatomy and Physiology, and Microbiology courses.
- A cumulative overall GPA of 2.5 or higher is required at the time of entry into the nursing program, including all courses completed or attempted at any institution.
- An interview with a member of the nursing faculty will be required. Acceptance into the LaGrange College Nursing Program is based upon an Admission Score that ranks applicants based on GPA, TEAS Score, grades in science courses, English and psychological science with preference given to those who have been at LaGrange College since they were first year students.

An applicant who has completed any program of study leading to licensed employment in the health care area (such as registered or practical nursing, emergency medical technician) must present the license in person.

Unlicensed students enrolled in the nursing program may not be employed by any health care agency in the capacity of licensed nursing personnel. They shall not

represent themselves in any practice setting as nursing students unless engaged in planned programmatic learning activities which are part of the nursing curriculum.

In addition to completing the core curriculum requirements, students pursuing a major in Nursing must complete the following major program requirements:

Curriculum for the Traditional Program

Nursing courses are offered in a 4-1-4 semester sequence during the junior and senior years of study. The total BSN curriculum can be completed in four academic years (8 semesters) and includes 46 credit hours in the Common Core, 16 credit hours in other required and elective courses, and 60 credit hours in nursing major courses. Selected courses required for the BSN degree may fulfill certain Common Core Requirements; these and other required non-nursing courses are:

BIOL 2148	Human Anatomy and Physiology*
and BIOL 2149	
MATH 1101	College Algebra*
PSYC 1101	Introduction to Psychology*
PSYC 3302	Human Growth and Development*
ENGL 1101, 1102	Rhetoric and Composition*
BIOL 3320	Microbiology *

**These courses must be completed prior to entering the nursing courses.*

Junior Year

Fall:

NURS 3305 Nutrition and Health (may be completed in advance)

NURS 3311 Health Assessment

NURS 3312 Foundations of Nursing Practice

NURS 3400 Mental Health Nursing

Spring:

NURS 3331 Pharmacology in Nursing

NURS 3330 Maternal and Pediatric Nursing

NURS 3350 Medical Surgical Nursing I

Senior Year

Fall:

NURS 4430 Medical Surgical Nursing II

NURS 4431 Research in Nursing

NURS 4440 Nursing Care: A Community Focus

Spring:

NURS 4432 Senior Capstone in Nursing

NURS 4433 Medical Surgical Nursing III

NURS 4450 Leadership

Progression

1. A grade of C (75%) or higher is required for successful completion of all nursing courses. Course syllabi and the BSN Student Handbook detail requirements for achieving a passing grade of C or better. A grade of D, F, or WF is a failing grade.
2. A minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0 must be maintained throughout the period of enrollment in nursing courses. A nursing major whose GPA falls below 2.0 will be placed on program probation and has one semester in which to raise the GPA to 2.0 or higher. Failure to achieve a 2.0 in one semester will result in withdrawal from the nursing program. A 2.0 GPA is required for entrance into senior level courses.
3. Students earning a D or F in any nursing course may repeat the course <u>one</u> time. The course may be repeated, and if the student passes, he/she is eligible to continue the nursing program. However, any other failure in that or any other nursing course will result in dismissal from the program.
4. Should a student decide to withdraw from a nursing course at any time with a failing grade that failing grade will be recorded as the final course grade and the student will not be allowed to reenter the nursing program.
5. All Common Core and other required non-nursing courses, with the exception of an interim elective, must be completed prior to beginning the senior level nursing courses.
6. Students who fail a course in the first semester of the program must compete for readmission with the next year's applicant pool.
7. Any student who fails clinically will not be allowed to continue in the nursing program.
8. Students must successfully complete all Junior-level courses before proceeding to Senior-level courses.
9. The faculty of the Nursing program reserve the right to dismiss at any time a student whose health, conduct (academic dishonesty, professional conduct), general attitude, clinical performance, or scholastic standing make it inadvisable to retain the student in the program. Students are expected to display qualities that are desirable in professional persons.

Refer to the BSN Handbook for further details of all nursing major policies.

Progression in BSN Completion Option

In addition to the guidelines above, the following policies apply to progression in the BSN Completion Option:

- A valid Georgia RN license must be maintained throughout enrollment in clinical nursing courses.
- Credit for NURS 3431 (Pharmacology) may be earned through successful completion of a standardized examination. Should a passing score not be achieved on the first attempt the student is required to complete the course.
- All previously earned ADN or Diploma nursing credits will be placed in escrow when the RN student enters the nursing program. Upon satisfactory completion of 6 credit hours of BSN nursing courses, the escrowed credits will be transferred to the student's permanent academic record. Should the RN student not be successful in the initial 6 hours of nursing courses, the previously earned nursing credits will not be applied toward the BSN degree.

Assessment of Learning Objectives in the Major

In order for students and faculty to monitor learning progress and to provide for evaluation of the educational program, periodic assessment measures are used. All assessments are program, course, or College requirements. Students are provided information as to the scheduling and cost of each assessment.

- **Senior Institutional Assessment**. Prior to graduation, students are required to complete a senior institutional assessment that measures students' creative, critical, and communicative abilities. This assessment is designed to determine the extent to which students have achieved the objectives of the College curriculum.
- **Standardized Exams**. ATI achievement exams are administered at intervals throughout the nursing program. These tests are required within selected nursing courses.
- **Assessment in the Major**. Standardized testing through Assessment Technologies Institute (ATI) with course specific tests will be used in each course as a percentage of the course grade. Those students scoring below Level II for each test will be required to remediate using ATI study materials. The RN Comprehensive Predictor Exam will be used in the last semester as a predictor of NCLEX readiness. RN students complete an essay-type Exit examination and a Portfolio.

R.N. to B.S. in Nursing - R.N. to B.S. in Nursing

Type: Major

Admission to the RN-BSN Completion On-Line Option

The BSN Completion Option is open to Registered Nurses who have graduated from an Associate Degree or Diploma program in Nursing and who hold a valid license to practice as a Registered Nurse. Current Georgia RN licensure is required prior to entering a clinical nursing course.

In addition to RN licensure, the general admission requirements above apply to RN applicants, with the following exceptions:

- RN students who enter the nursing sequence on a full-time basis must have completed all Common Core requirements and all required non-nursing courses through the junior level.
- No time limit applies to the completion of anatomy, physiology, or microbiology courses.
- Thirty-six (36) previously earned Associate or Diploma nursing semester credits will be accepted toward the BSN degree, subject to the terms of the Georgia RN-BSN Articulation Agreement (the complete Agreement is available in the office of the Department of Nursing). These 36 semester credit hours represent previously completed nursing courses in Adult Health, Child Health, Maternal Health, and Mental Health and are not intended to equal the actual number of previously earned nursing credits.
- Thirty-Three (33) additional nursing course credits must be earned at the upper division level (3000 and 4000 courses). Four of these credits may be earned through a challenge examination on a one-attempt basis. A minimum of one year of nursing practice experience is required for eligibility for challenge examinations.

Curriculum Outlines for Full-time and Part-time Options for On-line RN-BSN

Full-Time Curriculum

Fall	**Interim (January)**	**Spring**
Health Assessment for RNs (4)	Any course offered by LaGrange College	Evidence-Based Practice [Research] (3)
Transition to Professional Nursing (3)		Community Health (4)
Theories and Policy Perspectives (3)		Leadership in Nursing (5)
**Pharmacology (4)		Capstone: Global Health Care Issues, Trends and Informatics (4)
** Course may be challenged by exam		

Part-Time Curriculum

Fall I	**Interim (January)**	**Spring I**
Transition to Professional Nursing (3)	Any course offered by LaGrange College and could be taken either Interim term for the part-time student.	Pharmacology (4) **
Theories and Policy Perspectives (3)		Health Assessment for RNs (4)

** Course may be challenged by exam

Fall II
Community Health (4)

Evidence-Based Practice [Research] (3)

Spring II
Leadership in Nursing (5)

Capstone: Global Health Care Issues, Trends and Informatics (4)

Matriculation Requirements

- An accepted student must possess a level of physical and emotional health sufficient to enable him/her to meet nursing program requirements and the standards of professional nursing practice.
- Prior to beginning the first clinical nursing course, a medical examination is required which documents the student's level of health and immunization including current documentation of the Hepatitis B series and TB skin test.
- Students are required to provide a current 11 panel urine drug screen and a criminal background check after acceptance. (Drug Screen Criteria to include: Marijuana, Cocaine, Amphetamines, Opiates, Oxycodone, Phencyclidine (PCP), Barbiturates, Benzodiazepine, Methadone, Propoxyphene, and Methaqualone)
- Professional liability insurance (purchased on a group basis through the College) and basic cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) for healthcare professionals certification is required prior to beginning the first nursing course and must be continued throughout all clinical nursing courses.

NURS 3305 - Nutrition and Health

An introduction to nutrition concepts and current dietary trends, focusing on health promotion. Nutrients are explored with regard to sources, dietary requirements, and health implications.

Grade Basis: AL
Credit hours: 2.0
Lecture hours: 2.0

Restrictions:

- Summer, Fall, Spring (On-line course)

NURS 3311 - Health Assessment

This course provides the framework for preparing students to perform comprehensive health assessments on patients. Emphasis is placed on taking a thorough nursing history, performing physiological, psychological, sociological, cultural, and spiritual assessments, as well as identification of stressors and health risks. Laboratory experiences provide an opportunity to practice assessment skills. (3 hr. class, 3 hrs. lab per week)

Grade Basis: AL
Credit hours: 4.0
Lecture hours: 4.0

Restrictions:

- Fall
- Corequisite: NURS 3400, NURS 3312, NURS 3305
- Admission to the BSN program

NURS 3312 - Foundations of Nursing Practice

This course provides an introduction to the professional roles of the nurse in micro- and macrosystems, as well as profession-related and patient care concepts. The nursing process provides a decision-making framework to assist students in developing effective clinical judgment skills. Emphasis is placed on the knowledge and skills needed to provide safe, quality care while developing in the role of a professional nurse. The student is given an opportunity to demonstrate these skills in a clinical and laboratory setting. (3 hrs. class 2 hrs. lab/clinical per week)

Grade Basis: AL
Credit hours: 5.0
Lecture hours: 3.0
Lab hours: 2.0

Restrictions:

- Fall
- Corequisite: NURS 3305, NURS 3310, NURS 3311, NURS 3400
- Admission to the BSN program

NURS 3330 - Maternal and Pediatric Nursing

This course provides an introduction to the professional roles of the nurse in micro- and macrosystems, as well as profession-related and patient-related and patient care concepts. The nursing process provides a decision-making framework to assist students in developing effective clinical judgment skills. Emphasis is placed on the knowledge and skills needed to provide safe, quality care while developing in the role of

a professional nurse. The student is given an opportunity to demonstrate theses skills in a clinical laboratory setting. (5 hr. class, 2 hrs. lab/clinical per week)

Grade Basis: AL
Credit hours: 7.0
Lecture hours: 5.0
Lab hours: 2.0

Prerequisites:

- NURS 3311 - Health Assessment
- NURS 3312 - Foundations of Nursing Practice
- NURS 3400 - Mental Health Nursing

Restrictions:

- Spring
- Corequisite: NURS 3331, NURS 3350

NURS 3331 - Pharmacology in Nursing

This course provides an introduction to the principles of pharmacology, including: pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics, medication interactions and potential adverse medication reactions. Emphasis is placed on drug classifications and nursing care related to the safe administration of medication to patients across the life span. (4 hrs. class per week)

Grade Basis: AL
Credit hours: 4.0
Lecture hours: 4.0

Prerequisites:

- NURS 3311 - Health Assessment
- NURS 3312 - Foundations of Nursing Practice
- NURS 3400 - Mental Health Nursing

Restrictions:

- Spring
- Corequisite:NURS 3330, NURS 3350

NURS 3350 - Medical Surgical Nursing I

This course focuses on the care of adult patients with health alterations that require medical and/or surgical intervention. Emphasis is placed on the care of patients with alterations in selected body functions. Concepts of patient centered care, cultural sensitivity, informatics, safe practice, and professionalism are integrated throughout

the course. Clinical experiences provide the student an opportunity to apply theoretical concepts and implement safe patient care to adults in a variety of settings. (3 hrs. class, 6 hrs. lab/clinical per week)

Grade Basis: AL
Credit hours: 5.0
Lecture hours: 5.0

Prerequisites:

- NURS 3311 - Health Assessment
- NURS 3312 - Foundations of Nursing Practice
- NURS 3400 - Mental Health Nursing

Restrictions:

- Spring
- Corequisite: NURS 3331, NURS 3330

NURS 3400 - Mental Health Nursing

This course focuses on the care of patients across the lifespan experiencing cognitive, mental and behavioral disorders. Emphasis is placed on management of patients facing physical, sociocultural, intellectual, spiritual, and emotional and psychological stressors as well as promoting and maintaining the mental health of individuals and families. Concepts of crisis intervention, therapeutic communication, anger management, and coping skills are integrated throughout the course. The community as a site for care and support services is addressed. Clinical experiences provide the student an opportunity to apply theoretical concepts and implement safe patient care to patients in selected mental health settings. (6 hrs. class, 2 hrs. clinical per week)

Grade Basis: AL
Credit hours: 4.0
Lecture hours: 4.0

Restrictions:

- Fall
- Corequisite: NURS 3311, NURS 3312, NURS 3305
- Admission to BSN program

NURS 3411 - Health Assessment for RNs

This course provides the practicing nurse with theory and skills needed to successfully conduct a comprehensive health history and head-to-toe assessment on persons throughout the lifespan, with emphasis on building knowledge and skill in data acquisition.

Grade Basis: L

Credit hours: 4.0
Lecture hours: 4.0

NURS 3413 - Transition to Professional Nursing

A course focusing on the transition from technical to professional nursing. It addresses the scope and standards of professional nursing practice, the theoretical basis of practice, the ethical and legal components of practice, information management and application of patient care technology, and inter professional communication and collaboration for improving patient health outcomes.

Grade Basis: L
Credit hours: 3.0
Lecture hours: 3.0

NURS 3431 - Pharmacology

The purpose of this course is to examine pharmacotherapeutic agents used in the treatment of illness and the promotion, maintenance and restoration of wellness in diverse individuals across the lifespan. It focuses on drug classification, concepts and principles of pharmacology with special consideration for the nursing role in developing a comprehensive approach to the clinical application of drug therapy through the use of the nursing process. Nursing implications relative to the utilization of drug therapy are examined. Safety and legal implications of drug administration are discussed. This course may be challenged by Exam.

Grade Basis: L
Credit hours: 4.0
Lecture hours: 4.0

NURS 3440 - Theories and Policy Perspective

A course designed to enhance knowledge of the relationship between health care policy and professional nursing. This course will explore the broader context of health care including how patient care services are organized and financed, and how reimbursement is structured. Regulatory agencies define boundaries of nursing practice and students need to understand the scope and role of these agencies. There will be discussion of how health care issues are identified, how health care policy is both developed and changed, and how that process can be influenced through the efforts of nurses, other health care professionals, and lay and special advocacy groups. Students are introduced to theories of nursing with an emphasis on developing an understanding of how they are used in evidence-based practice.

Grade Basis: L
Credit hours: 3.0
Lecture hours: 3.0

NURS 4430 - Medical Surgical Nursing II

This course focuses on the care of adult patients with complex medical/surgical health problems. Emphasis is placed on helping patients and their families cope with alterations in body functions. Concepts of pharmacology, health promotion and education, evidence based practice, and interdisciplinary collaboration will be integrated throughout the course. Clinical experiences provide the student an opportunity to apply theoretical concepts and implement safe care to patients and selected groups in a variety of settings. (5 hrs. class, 3 hrs. lab/clinical per week)

Grade Basis: AL
Credit hours: 8.0
Lecture hours: 5.0
Lab hours: 3.0

Restrictions:

- Fall
- Corequisite: NURS 4431, NURS 4440
- All junior level nursing courses

NURS 4431 - Research in Nursing

This course is designed to assist students in developing a sense of inquiry as well as an increased understanding of research strategies. The course will introduce students to the research process with exploration of research designs, sampling strategies, and data analysis methods. Evaluation of research findings and use of nursing research as the basis for evidence-based practice will be emphasized. (3 hrs. class per week)

Grade Basis: AL
Credit hours: 3.0
Lecture hours: 3.0

Restrictions:

- Fall
- All junior level nursing courses

NURS 4432 - Senior Capstone/ NCLEX Synthesis

A seminar to assist students in synthesizing learning related to the roles and practices of professional nurses, exploring the health care system and the legal-ethical, sociopolitical, cultural, and professional issues influencing contemporary nursing. A research project is completed and presented from a proposal developed in NURS 4431. (4hrs. class per week)

Grade Basis: AL
Credit hours: 4.0

Lecture hours: 4.0

Restrictions:

- Spring
- Corequisite: NURS 4450, NURS 4460
- All junior level nursing & senior fall courses

NURS 4433 - Medical Surgical Nursing III

This course focuses on advanced concepts of nursing care as they relate to patients across the lifespan with complex, multisystem alterations in health. Emphasis is placed on implementing time management and organizational skills while managing the care of patients with multiple needs and collaborating with the interdisciplinary team. Complex clinical skills, as well as priority setting, clinical judgment, and tenets of legal and ethical practice, are integrated throughout the course.(4 hrs. class per week)

Grade Basis: AL
Credit hours: 4.0
Lecture hours: 4.0

Restrictions:

- Spring
- Corequisite: NURS 4432, NURS 4450
- All junior level nursing & senior fall courses

NURS 4440 - Nursing Care: A Community Focus

This course is intended to introduce students to nursing care of individuals, families, aggregates, communities, and populations. Principles and practices of community health are discussed. Emphasis is placed on assessing factors that influence the health of populations and the use of evidence-based practices in the delivery of spiritually and culturally appropriate health promotion and disease prevention interventions. The role of the nurse as advocate for social justice is explored.(3 hrs. class, 3 hrs. lab/clinical per week)

Grade Basis: AL
Credit hours: 4.0
Lecture hours: 3.0
Lab hours: 1.0

Restrictions:

- Fall
- Corequisite: NURS 4430, NURS 4431
- All junior level nursing courses

NURS 4441 - Community Health

This course is directed toward the nursing care of aggregate systems within a community. Topics include community health nursing roles and basic concepts of community health. The course addresses the implementation of population-focused care through the nursing process, collaboration, and interdisciplinary skills. It includes the importance of health promotion, along with disease and injury prevention, throughout the lifespan and the assistance of individuals, families, groups, communities, and populations to prepare for and minimize consequences of emergencies, including mass casualty disasters, infectious and communicable disease, and bioterrorism. The course includes a practicum where the student integrates concepts from theory within a health care environment. Theory and practicum are designed to build on the student's professional experience and to prepare him or her for population-focused practice in community public health settings where he or she can meet the health needs of the community. The practicum is overseen by the instructor and developed and designed in collaboration with the student.

Grade Basis: L
Credit hours: 4.0
Lecture hours: 4.0

NURS 4444 - Evidenced Based Practice/Research

A course that focuses on professional nursing practice that is grounded in the translation of current evidence into practice. It is designed to assist students in developing a sense of inquiry, including the research process, designs, sampling strategies, data and analysis methods, protection of human subjects and patients, and the dissemination of nursing knowledge to improve patient outcomes. Interim Course [month of January]- Students have the opportunity to take any course offered during the interim period, but Nursing will be offering online course.

Grade Basis: L
Credit hours: 3.0
Lecture hours: 3.0

NURS 4450 - Leadership

This course focuses on the knowledge and skills needed to be a nursing leader who can function as a contributing member of the interprofessional team. The development of transformational leadership skills and management techniques needed to coordinate the provision of safe, quality patient patient-centered care are highlighted. Emphasis is placed on professional behaviors, communication that supports information exchange, collaboration and conflict mediation, ethical comportment and establishment and provision of evidenced based practice. Students will develop the skills of delegation and conflict management. Legal and ethical issues are discussed with a focus on personal accountability and responsibility. Students will be given the opportunity to work one-on-one with a professional nurse in their preceptorship to provide care for a caseload

of patients where they can demonstrate professional behaviors, communication skills, collaboration with healthcare team members and ability to use conflict mediation skills and ethical comportment.(2 hrs. class per week, 180 total hours of clinical practice per student)

Grade Basis: AL
Credit hours: 6.0
Lecture hours: 6.0

Restrictions:

- Spring
- Corequisite: NURS 4432, NURS 4433
- All junior level nursing & senior fall courses

NURS 4460 - Leadership in Nursing

This course focuses on nursing leadership including developing and refining knowledge, skills, and attitudes in working within organizational and community arenas. It also focuses on the actual provision of care and/or supervising care provided by other licensed and non-licensed assistive personnel. This course examines nursing leadership and management through use of a systems approach with a focus on quality and safety of client care. Leadership models, behavior, and strategic planning will be discussed at various organizational levels. Focus is on use of outcome data to evaluate nursing care delivery systems and to proposed quality improvement initiatives. The examination of current practice issues, social justice/diversity issues, and the process of personal/professional development will be included. Leadership and management roles assumed in clinical practice and increasing autonomy in patient care are guided through preceptorial experiences.

Grade Basis: L
Credit hours: 5.0
Lecture hours: 5.0

NURS 4461 - Capstone: Global Health Care Issues, Trends, and Informatics

This course provides an introduction to the concepts and issues related to global health promotion. Special consideration will be given to infectious and communicable diseases, environmental issues, nutrition, and vulnerable populations. International health organizations and governmental policy will also be analyzed. Informatics in healthcare will include how computer-based information systems are designed, developed, and implemented. With innovations in healthcare technology, unique opportunities and challenges for the end-user will be considered and carefully addressed. This course will provide students with a thorough understanding of confidentiality issues surrounding information management. Additionally, participants will gain an understanding of the impact information management systems have on the

healthcare team, delivery of care, efficiency and productivity, patient safety, and health outcomes.

Grade Basis: L
Credit hours: 3.0
Lecture hours: 3.0

NURS 4495 - Independent Study in Nursing

For students meeting requirements, the opportunity to pursue special interests beyond those in the formal course of study.

Grade Basis: AL
Lecture hours: 1.0

Restrictions:

- On demand
- Completion of 2/3 nursing major courses, 3.0 GPA, and permission

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