

NURSING

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Programs Offered

(Fully Accredited by the National League for Nursing Accreditation Commission)

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Prelicensure B.S.N.

Post-Licensure B.S.N.

Master of Science in Nursing

Family Nurse Practitioner

Leadership and Management (concentration in Nursing Administration, Clinical Nurse Leader, or Nursing Education)

Direct Entry Master of Science in Nursing (Entry Level Master's Program)

Post-Master's Certificate, Family Nurse Practitioner

Sonoma State University's mission is reflected in the Department of Nursing's commitment to provide a foundation for lifelong learning and graduate nurses who practice within a broad cultural perspective, affirm intellectual and aesthetic achievements as a part of the human experience, develop professional leadership, foster flexibility and resilience, and contribute to the health and well-being of the world at large. The Department of Nursing recognizes nursing as a nurturing response, based upon a blend of art and science, occurring within a subjective and objective environment with the aim of developing the well-being of both nurse and client (client as individuals, families, communities, and organizations). Consistent with the philosophy and objectives is the consideration of students as unique individuals with varied ethnic and cultural backgrounds, learning styles, and goals.

The Department of Nursing provides opportunities for learning using a variety of traditional and technology-mediated strategies. Courses may be taught using televideo conferencing technology, interactive and real-time electronic communications via computer for lecture, small group and seminar discussions, self-paced and self-directed independent study, and Internet tools that support lifelong intellectual and professional development.

The Department of Nursing enjoys a collaborative relationship with the health care delivery community within its service area and beyond. Consequently there are many clinical opportunities available. Students are placed in a variety of community-based hospitals and health care agencies. Graduates of both the baccalaureate and master's programs are well prepared for careers in a variety of health care settings and roles in the community.

Sonoma State University's nursing programs are approved by the California State Board of Registered Nursing and accredited by the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission, from which information about tuition, fees, and length of program may be obtained, either in writing or by telephone at National League for Nursing, 350 Hudson Street, New York, NY 10014, (212) 989-9393.

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

The undergraduate nursing program provides two program options to obtain a baccalaureate degree in nursing:

1. A prelicensure program option that prepares the student to become a licensed Registered Nurse (R.N.); and
2. An post-licensure program option for the licensed R.N. with an associate degree or the equivalent.

All graduates of the baccalaureate program are prepared to plan and provide patient care; to teach patients, families, and staff; and to provide leadership in the delivery of health care services. The bachelor of science in nursing program offers students an opportunity to become a liberally educated professional, qualified for certification as a public health nurse, and completely prepared for graduate education in nursing. The prelicensure program option also prepares the graduate for the R.N. licensure examination.

Eligible applicants should visit www.sonoma.edu/nursing for further information.

Prelicensure B.S.N. Program

The prelicensure program consists of two components: the pre-nursing curriculum in which the student enrolls in the prerequisite courses for the nursing program and required GE; and the prelicensure curriculum ("nursing program"), in which the student is admitted on a competitive basis to take the courses required for R.N. licensure and complete requirements for the bachelor of science in nursing degree (B.S.N.).

The prerequisite and lower division courses may be taken at either Sonoma State University or another university or community college. For admission to the prelicensure option of the B.S.N. program, SSU students must submit a supplemental application to the Nursing Department between November 1 and February 28. Transfer students must submit an application to SSU **and** a supplemental application to the Nursing Department. Applications are available on the department's website at www.sonoma.edu/nursing.

Admission to Pre-Nursing Status (for the prelicensure option)

Students applying directly from high school must meet the following criteria:

1. Standard SSU admission criteria;
2. High school chemistry and biology with a grade of B or better in all semesters;
3. Overall high school GPA of 3.5 or better; and
4. Eligibility Index of 4000 or higher.

Community college transfer students must meet the following criteria:

1. Standard SSU transfer criteria;
2. B or better in all nursing prerequisite science courses; and
3. Overall college GPA of 3.00 or higher.

Admission to the Prelicensure Program (final two years of degree program)

Nursing is an impacted program and therefore requires a supplemental application to the Nursing Department in addition to the application to Sonoma State University. Students applying for admission to the prelicensure program must submit:

1. Transcript verification of completion of GE categories A (Written and Oral Analysis, Fundamentals of Communication, and Critical Thinking) and B (Natural Sciences and Mathematics [Statistics required for Nursing]);
2. Overall GPA of 3.00 or higher;
3. Grade of B or higher in prerequisite science courses: BIOL 220, 218, 224, and CHEM 105 or equivalent;
4. Results of the Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS); and
5. Essay (criteria are included in the application packet).

Requirements for the Prelicensure B.S.N.	Units
General education	*50
Major requirements	57
Support courses	10
General electives	3
Total units needed for graduation	120

*3 units of area E will be satisfied upon completion of the nursing major to meet the 50-unit GE requirement.

Required Courses for the Prelicensure Option, Bachelor of Science in Nursing (B.S.N.)

FRESHMAN YEAR: 30 Units

Fall Semester (15 Units)	Spring Semester (15 Units)
BIOL 115 (3)	BIOL 220 (4)
CHEM 105 (5)	MATH 165 (4)
GE A2 (4)	GE C1 (4)
GE D2 (3)	GE D3 (3)

SOPHOMORE YEAR: 29 Units

Fall Semester (15 Units)	Spring Semester (14 Units)
BIOL 224 (4)	BIOL 240 (4)
GE C2 (4)	PSY 302 (UD GE) (3)
GE D1 (3)	GE C3 (4)
GE A3 (4)	GE D4 (3)

SUMMER

CNA Certification, if outstanding, to be completed in Summer

JUNIOR YEAR: 30 Units

Fall Semester (15 Units)	Spring Semester (15 Units)
NURS 301 (9)	NURS 302 (6)
NURS 303 (6)	NURS 304 (6)
	NURS 310 (3)

SENIOR YEAR: 30 Units

Fall Semester (15 Units)	Spring Semester (15 Units)
NURS 407 (6)	NURS 410 (5)
NURS 409 (6)	NURS 412 (5)
GE D5 (3)	NURS 414 (5)

TOTAL UNITS: 120

Note: 3 of the 9 required units of UD GE is waived for the nursing major

Post-Licensure Program

Sonoma State University's baccalaureate program also offers an upper-division option designed to articulate with community college Associate Degree Nursing (A.D.N.) programs. The SSU program provides upper-division education for registered nurses fostering expanded, evidence-based practice and function with increased independence and leadership in a variety of settings.

R.N.s who have attended a hospital (diploma) program should contact a community college with an R.N. program to obtain equivalent credit for their diploma program (30 ungraded lower-division nursing units) and to complete the community college's general education requirements for an A.A./A.S. degree.

Admission to the Post-Licensure B.S.N. Program

Applicants must meet the following minimum criteria:

1. Current California licensure as a Registered Nurse. (Recent A.D.N. graduates who have not yet received California R.N. licensure but who otherwise meet admission requirements will be accepted on a conditional basis pending National Council Licensing Examination (NCLEX) results. Failure to pass NCLEX disqualifies the student from the nursing major – but not from the University – until such time as a passing score is obtained.);
2. Sixty semester units of college-transferable credit: 30 units should meet California State University general education requirements, including areas A (English Composition, Speech, and Critical Thinking) and B4 (Statistics required); 30 units must be credit for lower-division nursing coursework;
3. Minimum of 3 semester units of college-transferable credit in chemistry with a grade of C or better; and
4. Human anatomy and physiology within the past 10 years or direct clinical nursing experience within the past two years.

Requirements for the Post-Licensure B.S.N. Program	Units
General Education (39 units may be transferred* from a community college or university)	39
Upper-Division GE at SSU	6

Major Requirements

Lower-division nursing at community college or university (20 of the 44 units of upper-division nursing coursework below may also be awarded for prior learning)	31
Upper-division at SSU (20 units awarded for prior learning)	44
General electives and prerequisite sciences	4

Total units needed for graduation 120

*3 units of area E will be satisfied upon completion of the nursing major to meet the 48-unit GE requirement (for transfer students).

Post-Licensure B.S.N. applicants should consult the SSU Nursing Website for detailed current information related to the program of study.

Required Nursing Major Courses for the Post-Licensure B.S.N. Program

SENIOR YEAR: 32 Units

Fall Semester (15 Units)	Spring Semester (17 Units)
NURS 312 ABCD (4)	NURS 410 (5)
NURS 313 ABCD (4)	NURS 412 (5)
NURS 310 (3)	NURS 416 (3)
UD GE C1 (4)	UD GE C2 (4)

TOTAL UNITS: 120

Note: 3 of the 9 required units of UD GE is waived for the nursing major

L.V.N. 30-Unit Option

The L.V.N. 30-unit option includes only those nursing courses required for R.N. licensure and qualifies L.V.N.s to take the NCLEX-R.N., but does not earn a B.S.N.. To be admitted to the L.V.N. 30-unit option an L.V.N. must have completed 4 units of physiology and 4 units of microbiology with a grade of B or better. Admission to this option is ONLY on an “as space is available” basis. Contact the department for further details.

Contact Millie Adkins, ISU-California L.V.N.-B.S.N. Program Coordinator, for more information, (800) 496-9613, madkins5@isugw.indstate.edu.

L.V.N.s interested in an L.V.N.-B.S.N. program are encouraged to contact the Indiana State University L.V.N.-B.S.N. program offered in California through a state approved partnership with SSU. Students will be graduates of Indiana State University.

Undergraduate Nursing Progression and Retention

Should a student not attain a minimum grade of C (a C- is not acceptable) in a required nursing course, the student will not be permitted to continue in the nursing major. The student may petition the faculty to repeat the course. If approval is granted, the student must receive a grade of C or better in the course when repeated. If a minimum grade of C is not attained, the student will not be eligible to continue in, or graduate from, the B.S.N. program.

Master of Science in Nursing

The goal of the graduate curriculum is to provide advanced professional education to nurses with a B.S.N. or equivalent. The graduate degree in nursing is designed to respond to society's needs for professional nurses who influence the structure of emerging patterns of health care practice and delivery. Specialization in an area of nursing practice or function enables graduates to effectively address current and future societal health needs. Graduates support the development and refinement of nursing science by assuming advanced clinical and leadership roles within the profession and by participating in research and other scholarly activities.

The curriculum includes a core of instruction with an emphasis on theoretical and conceptual foundations of nursing practice, research, professional issues, and leadership. One option offers specialization as a family nurse practitioner (F.N.P.), with emphasis on advanced clinical primary care practice. A second option, nursing leadership and management (L&M), prepares nurses for executive leadership functions and responsibilities in current and emerging health care systems and offers concentrations in nursing administration, clinical nurse leader, or education.

The Department of Nursing also offers a direct entry master of science in nursing program designed specifically for the student with a baccalaureate degree in a discipline other than nursing who wishes to become a registered nurse with a graduate focus in the clinical nurse leader concentration of the leadership and management option.

The department website (www.sonoma.edu/nursing) contains in-depth information about the graduate program offerings.

Application Procedures

The standard CSU application form must be submitted for admission to SSU. In addition, applicants must:

1. Meet the minimum admissions requirements for the chosen option (F.N.P. or L&M);
2. Submit a supplemental Nursing Department application form; and
3. Submit three letters of recommendation (on departmental forms).

Application packets are available on the Nursing Department website, www.sonoma.edu/nursing. Applicants who have received their B.S.N. from SSU also need to submit a standard CSU application and supplemental nursing application to apply for graduate standing at SSU.

ASN-M.S.N. Option (for registered nurses with a bachelor's degree in a discipline other than nursing)

Admission to the Department of Nursing's master of science program requires the foundation and skills equivalent to a bachelor of science degree in nursing. For those registered nurses who hold a baccalaureate degree in a field other than nursing, the department offers an option in preparation for admission to the master's program. This option provides an individualized plan of study considering the student's background and chosen master's option (family nurse practitioner or leadership and management)

A.D.N.-M.S.N. Program Admissions Procedure: In addition to the standard California State University application, a A.D.N.-M.S.N. application must be submitted. Applications are available on the department website, www.sonoma.edu/nursing.

Admission Status: Initial status will be "conditionally classified" while the student is fulfilling requirements for B.S.N. equivalency and other graduate admissions criteria. Completion of the A.D.N.-M.S.N. results in fall matriculation in the M.S.N. program.

Culminating Experience

Degree requirements include completing a culminating experience during the final semester of study. The experience provides an opportunity for the student to synthesize and demonstrate the major learning outcomes of the graduate program and the nursing specialty option.

Family Nurse Practitioner Specialty Option

The purpose of the family nurse practitioner specialty option is to prepare registered nurses with a bachelor's degree in nursing for advanced clinical practice with an emphasis on promoting individual and family wellness. The F.N.P. specialty focuses upon the theoretical and scientific bases for the diagnosis and management of common illness as well as health teaching, counseling, and preventive services. Emphasis is placed upon advanced clinical skills that include history-taking, physical examination, health screening, management of common illnesses, and techniques of prevention and risk reduction. Graduates may work in clinics, health maintenance organizations, schools, and medical practices as primary health care providers.

Admission Requirements

1. B.S.N. degree (R.N.s with a bachelor's in an area other than nursing, please see previous section on A.D.N.-M.S.N. option);
2. GPA of 3.00 in the last two years (60 units) of undergraduate or post-graduate study;
3. Current California licensure as a registered nurse;
4. Completion of a course in statistics; completion of a course in physiology/pathophysiology within the last seven years; (See the department website at www.sonoma.edu/nursing for details.);
5. Completion of course(s) in community health nursing required for Public Health Nursing Certificate upon completion of M.S.N.; and
6. Full-time experience as a R.N. preferred.

Curriculum Features

Students have a three-semester clinical preceptorship with a primary care provider. Students and faculty share responsibility for finding an acceptable preceptor. Content includes health needs and risks of all family members, family theories, and legal and professional issues pertinent to nurse practitioners. Content taken concurrently with the clinical sequences includes health risk assessment of individuals and families, pathophysiological concepts in diagnosis and treatment of common illness, pharmacology, and practice issues pertinent to nurse practitioners.

Students complete a comprehensive exam for the culminating experience that serves as evidence of successful integration of the diverse content areas in the curriculum.

The SSU family nurse practitioner specialty option meets criteria specified in Section 1484, Title 16, of the *California Administrative Code* and is approved by the California State Board of Registered Nursing.

Accelerated F.N.P. Option

Registered nurses with a B.S. who are nurse practitioners may progress more rapidly through the program using a series of challenge examinations. A maximum of 12 semester units from prior coursework and challenge examinations may be counted toward the M.S.N. degree. A total of 28 units must be taken in residence at SSU. Students are evaluated individually to determine which courses have been met by prior course work and which courses may be challenged. By using this option, it is possible for eligible students to receive credit for some of the didactic courses and for most of the clinical experience required for F.N.P. preparation.

Post-Master's Family Nurse Practitioner Certificate Option

The certificate option is a 31-unit course of study designed for registered nurses who hold a master's degree in nursing who wish to become family nurse practitioners. Application is through the Department of Nursing (no university application is required).

Curriculum for Full-Time Progression for Master of Science in Nursing – Family Nurse Practitioner

The sequence below is for full-time students. A part-time sequence that can be completed in six semesters is also available on the Nursing Department Website.

YEAR 1

Fall Semester (13 Units)	Spring Semester (12 Units)
NURS 501 (3)	NURS 540B (4)
NURS 540 (2)	NURS 550B (5)
NURS 549 (3)	NURS 505 (3)
NURS 550A (2)	
NURS 552 (3)	

YEAR 2

Fall Semester (9 Units)	Spring Semester (6 Units)
NURS 500A (3)	NURS 500B (3)
NURS 504 (2)	NURS 510 (3)
NURS 550C (4)	Culminating Experience

TOTAL UNITS: 40

Leadership and Management Specialty Option: Nursing Administration, Clinical Nurse Leader, and Nursing Education Concentrations

The Nursing Leadership and Management Specialty option includes the core graduate nursing curriculum and selection of one of three areas of concentration: nursing administration, nursing education, or clinical nurse leader. The core curriculum grounds the master's-prepared nurse in research and evidence-based practice, health policy, health care organization and financing, ethics, professional role development, and the theoretical foundations of nursing practice. The selected area of concentration builds on the core curriculum as follows:

- **Nursing Administration:** This concentration emphasizes systems analysis, organizational development, leadership, continuous quality improvement, economics and financial management, information systems, human resource/outcomes management, managed care and integrated delivery systems, marketing and sales strategies, and negotiation strategy. Graduates are prepared to assume nursing leadership positions in a variety of health care services delivery venues.
- **Nursing Education:** Competencies highlighted in this concentration include facilitating learner development and socialization, assessment and evaluation in didactic and clinical environments, curriculum development, instructional design and delivery in higher education, and educational program evaluation. Graduates are prepared to teach in community college or university nursing programs or provide professional education in health care organizations.

- **Clinical Nurse Leader:** The clinical nurse leader concentration prepares students with advanced clinical skills in physical assessment, pathophysiology and pharmacology, outcomes management, patient advocacy, education, information management, microsystems analysis, and team management. Graduates are prepared at an advanced generalist level in patient care delivery and the associated environment and improving patient care from a systems perspective.

Admission Requirements

1. B.S.N. degree (R.N.s with a baccalaureate degree in an area other than nursing, please see section on A.D.N.-M.S.N. program);
2. GPA of 3.00 in the last two years (60 units) of undergraduate or post-graduate study;
3. Current California licensure as a registered nurse;
4. Completion of a course in statistics; and
5. Completion of courses(s) in community/public health nursing.

Curriculum

The nursing administration, nursing education, and clinical nurse leader concentrations are managed in class cohorts and admission may not be made to each concentration every year. Check the Department of Nursing Website for the status of admissions to your desired concentration. Students enroll in an average of 8 units per semester. Courses are taught in a variety of formats including the traditional classroom, teleconference, and Internet.

The first year of study focuses on the acquisition of a theoretical base in nursing, the health care delivery system, advanced practice issues, and ethics. The second year incorporates nursing administration, clinical nursing leadership, nursing education theories, financial management, quality management, and human resources. Students analyze and evaluate organizational and management theories in relation to the provision of health care and nursing care delivery systems. A final semester residency program provides for application of theoretical knowledge with a mentor in a health care agency selected by the student in consultation with faculty. Students tailor their plan of study and select the focus for their residency based on their professional background and career goals. Students complete a culminating experience that serves as evidence of successful integration of the diverse content areas in the curriculum.

M.S.N. - Leadership and Management Curriculum

Core courses required for all students.

	<i>Units</i>
NURS 500A Scholarly Inquiry I	3
NURS 500B Scholarly Inquiry II	3
NURS 504 Policy & Politics of Health Care	2
NURS 505 Ethics in Healthcare	3
NURS 506 Systems Management in Health Care	4
NURS 515A Financial Management in Health Care Organization	4

Total units 19

Concentrations

Students take 13 units in their concentration

Administration Concentration (13 units)

	Units
NURS 515B Financial Management II	4
NURS 530 Nursing Leadership Theory	4
NURS 535 Residency	5

Education Concentration (13 units)

NURS 522A Instructional Process in Higher Education I	4
NURS 522B Instructional Process in Higher Education II	4
NURS 535 Residency	5

Clinical Nurse Leader Concentration (13 units)

NURS 509 Adv. Assess. & Clinical Decision-Making	3
NURS 516 Pathophys & Pharm Issues in Nursing	3
NURS 535 Residency	5
NURS 536 CNL Professional Role Development	2

Total units in L&M concentration courses 13

Total units for the degree 32

Direct Entry Master of Science in Nursing Program

The Department of Nursing also offers an entry-level master of science in nursing program titled "Direct Entry Master of Science in Nursing" (DEMSN) designed specifically for the student with a baccalaureate degree in a discipline other than nursing who wishes to become a registered nurse with a graduate focus as a Clinical Nurse Leader. The Clinical Nurse Leader is a generalist clinician, systems analyst, outcomes manager, information manager, educator, advocate, and team manager. For additional information about the role see the American Association of Colleges of Nursing web site <http://www.aacn.nche.edu/CNL/>. The SSU program is an intensive five-semester program during which prelicensure and graduate courses are taught concurrently each semester. Important features of the program are:

1. Eighteen continuous months of study;
2. Extensive use of online education strategies;
3. Simultaneous integration of undergraduate and graduate nursing curricula; and
4. Curriculum designed to prepare Clinical Nurse Leaders.

DEMSN graduates are awarded a master of science degree in nursing and are eligible for the R.N. licensing exam (NCLEX) at the end of the program. Graduates are immediately employable as staff nurses and have the opportunity to continue a variety of educational pursuits of individual interest as well as market opportunity.

Admission Requirements

Baccalaureate or higher degree in a discipline other than nursing. Minimum 3.00 GPA in the last 60 units of undergraduate or post-graduate study.

Minimum 3.00 GPA in college level, nursing major prerequisite courses:

- Integrated chemistry (5 units)
- Human Anatomy (4 units, lab)
- Human Physiology (4 units, lab)
- Microbiology (4 units, lab)
- Statistics (3 units)
- Human Growth and Development [across the lifespan] (3 units)

Students are also required to have completed a certified nursing assistant (CNA) course prior to beginning the program.

DEMSN Clinical Nurse Leader Curriculum

The DEMSN program is offered in a cohort model that admits students to the Spring Semester of even numbered years. Check the Department of Nursing Website for the status of program admission.

The DEMSN curriculum is presented in five continuous semesters/sessions. Each semester consists of coursework and clinical experience. The didactic portion of the curriculum is delivered primarily online through the Internet using up-to-date distributive education strategies and technology. Clinical experiences occur in a variety of local hospitals, clinics, and other health care delivery systems.

The highly motivated, flexible, self-directed learner is likely to be successful in this program.

Graduate Nursing Progression and Retention

Should a graduate nursing student not attain a minimum grade of B- (a C+ is not acceptable) in a required graduate nursing course, the student will not be permitted to continue in the program. The student may petition the faculty to repeat the course. If approval is granted, the student must receive a grade of B- or better in the course when repeated. If a minimum grade of B- is not attained, the student will not be eligible to continue in, or graduate from, the M.S.N. program.

Curriculum for Direct Entry Master of Science in Nursing - Clinical Nurse Leader

YEAR 1

<i>Spring Semester</i>	<i>Units</i>
NURS 200 Nursing in Health and Illness	3
NURS 203 Basic Pharmacology for Nurses	2
NURS 208 Nursing Applications of Pathophysiology	3
NURS 210A Clinical Practicum I	4
NURS 506 Systems Management in Health Care	4
Total	16

<i>Summer Session</i>	
NURS 206 Psychiatric/Mental Health Nursing	3
NURS 210B Clinical Practicum II	4
NURS 502 Pathophysiologic Basis of Nursing Care	3
NURS 509 Advanced Assessment	3
Total	13

<i>Fall Semester</i>	
NURS 380 Care of Individuals and Families with Complex Needs	3
NURS 385 Clinical Practicum Care of Individuals & Families with Complex Needs	3
NURS 507 Community Health Nursing Theory	3
NURS 515A Financial Management	3
NURS 500A Scholarly Inquiry I	3
Total	15

YEAR 2

<i>Spring Semester</i>	
NURS 340 Women's Health in the Expanding Family	2
NURS 342 Child Health in the Expanding Family	2
NURS 345 Clinical Practicum with Expanding Families	3
NURS 500B Scholarly Inquiry II	3
NURS 514 Community Health Nursing Practicum	3
Total	13

<i>Summer Session</i>	
NURS 504 Policy and Politics of Health Care	2
NURS 505 Ethics in Health Care	3
NURS 525 Clinical Residency	3
NURS 526 CNL Professional Role Development	2
Total	10

Total units required 67