

Department of Nursing

The Department of Nursing offers two undergraduate programs of study leading to the associate degree and the baccalaureate degree. Upon completion of the first two years, the student is awarded an Associate of Science in Nursing degree (ASN). After completing two additional years of upper division studies the student is awarded a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree (BSN). For information and admission requirements on ASN and BSN Programs please visit the NGCSU website at www.ngcsu.edu. The department also offers two master's degree programs, Family Nurse Practitioner and Nursing Education. For information on the Master's Degree Programs, contact the Office of Graduate Admissions or review the Graduate Bulletin on the NGCSU website.

ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE IN NURSING DEGREE (A.S.N.)

The purpose of the NGCSU Associate of Science in Nursing degree program is to prepare the graduate to function in the five interrelated roles as developed by the Council of Associate Degree programs of the National League for Nursing. In each of these roles, the graduates base their practice on the problem solving process in rural/urban settings, focusing on clients from culturally diverse settings.

Graduates of the program are eligible to write the NCLEX-RN Examination for licensure as registered nurses and to accept beginning staff positions in hospitals, long-term health agencies, and community-based facilities.

The program, which is approved by the Georgia Board of Nursing and accredited by the National League for Nursing (National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission- 3343 Peachtree Rd, NE, Suite 500, Atlanta, GA 30326, coordinates general academic and nursing courses. A total of 70 semester hours of college credit over a 4-semester period are required. Students are admitted to Nursing 1100 each fall semester. Students may begin the general educational core courses required in the program during any semester. For application requirements and deadlines, consult the Associate Degree in Nursing webpage.

The ASN program is designed for educational mobility. In recognition of the differences in current knowledge and experience, a career mobility LPN-RN curriculum offers LPNs the opportunity for advanced placement. Students may validate the first two semesters of nursing through the LPN-ASN Articulation Model approved by the University System of Georgia by successful completion of the summer bridge courses before placement in sophomore nursing courses.

A variety of clinical agencies are chosen by the nursing faculty at hospitals and some selected community health agencies to provide students with opportunities for diverse and significant learning opportunities. Nursing students are responsible for providing their own transportation to and from campus and the clinical agencies.

Those ASN students wishing to pursue an Army commission must meet the requirements of the military science courses of the Senior Division Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) program established by the Department of the

Army. Completion of ROTC basic course, advanced course, and advanced camp, is required. Opportunities for four year military scholarships leading to a commission as an officer in the U.S. Army exist on this campus. Students should refer to the Department of Military Science section for courses and requirements.

Admission Requirements Associate of Science In Nursing Program

1. All applicants seeking admission to the Associate of Science in Nursing ASN degree program are required to be accepted as regularly admitted students to North Georgia College & State University. Application to the college and the ASN program are two separate processes. Additional requirements are
 - (a) a predicted freshman grade point average of 2.75 or higher, and (b) the TEAS Exam required.
2. Submission of on-line nursing application
3. Transfer students entering the nursing program for the first time must meet all admission requirements pertinent to their applications and the "Transfer Policy" of the Department of Nursing and the university.
4. All applicants seeking admission to the LPN/RN Career Mobility program must meet the following additional requirements:
 - a. pass a medication calculation test with a grade of >90% (test may be repeated once);
 - b. be a graduate of a practical nursing program;
 - c. complete 1000 hours of practice as LPN;
 - d. be licensed as an LPN in the state of Georgia;
 - e. complete a minimum of 31 hours of general education courses, including Anatomy and Physiology (8 hours), Medical Microbiology English Composition, Mathematical Modeling, Area B, and electives from Area E with a grade of B or better;
 - f. follow the LPN-ASN Articulation Model approved by the University System of Georgia to validate Nursing 1100 and 1110;
 - g. successfully pass critical clinical nursing skills required in the first year nursing courses which are validated in Nursing 1090; and
 - h. successfully complete NURS 1020 (Nutrition) and NURS 1130, (pharmacology).
5. The North Georgia College & State University ASN Program has adopted the LPN-ASN articulation model approved by the University System of Georgia. Validation testing may be required for LPN's with less than 2 years experience. Test is called NLN Nursing Acceleration Challenge Exam (1) (NACE). Validation testing will be required for all licensed practical nurses who graduated 2-5 years prior to applying to the NGCSU ASN program with no clinical practice hours, and those who graduated more than 5 years prior to applying, even with 1000 hours of clinical practice in the past two years.
6. Students who withdraw from the nursing program for any reason must apply for readmission. The grade point average must be at least 2.75 to be considered for readmission. Readmission is based on space availability.
7. Nursing licensure in Georgia is regulated by the Georgia Board of Nursing. Students may be admitted to the nursing program by the university and the

nursing department, but the approval to admit an applicant to the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nursing (NCLEX-RN) or to grant a license rests with the state board. An applicant who has been indicted or convicted of an offense other than a minor traffic violation, who is under investigation for possible violation of the Nurse Practice Act, or who has been issued a license which has been encumbered (denied, revoked, suspended, surrendered, restricted or placed on probation) by any state board may be permitted to take the licensing examination at the discretion of the Georgia Board of Nursing. The license may not be issued until the matter is resolved to the satisfaction of the board. If charges are substantiated, the license may be denied or sanctioned despite the applicant's meeting all other criteria for licensure. Graduates must also have a valid social security number to be eligible for licensure.

8. Refer to the Nursing/ASN webpage for all other requirements.

Information Concerning Application for Admission

Submit online North Georgia College & State University application. NGCSU website: www.ngcsu.edu/enrollment/admissions/apply

If presently enrolled with NGCSU, applicants are to apply to nursing.

All applicants for nursing are to submit online application. NGCSU/Nursing website: www.ngcsu.edu/academic/sciences/nursing.

Applicants are encouraged to apply early fall semester both to the university and to the Department of Nursing to assure placement in the summer LPN/RN Career Mobility Program or subsequent fall nursing courses, assuming admission requirements are met. All application information must be completed prior to published deadlines for consideration for summer or fall admission. North Georgia College & State University acceptance must be current for the year in which the student plans to enroll in nursing.

The Department of Nursing's ASN admissions committee will review the academic records of those applicants prior to the fall for which admission is requested. The admissions committee will select those applicants who demonstrate a reasonable probability of successful completion of the academic program. Factors which indicate the probability of success include (a) grade point average, (b) SAT scores (for recent high school graduates), (c) previous coursework completed, and (d) TEAS Exam score.

In all cases, a minimum GPA of 2.75 on a 4-point scale and successful completion of any developmental studies courses are required for admission to the nursing program. The number of students accepted each year is based on the projected availability of faculty and clinical space for that year. Acceptance into the ASN Program is provisional based on maintaining a minimum 2.75 GPA and submitting all required documentation by the communicated deadlines.

When the applicant is accepted, information is sent regarding uniforms, professional liability insurance, clinical requirements and National Student Nurses' Association, and clinical requirements. A letter of intent to enroll is required from the student within a requested time frame. Students must submit a health examination form showing evidence of being able to participate in the ASN Program, signed by a licensed health care provider. Applicants must also meet immunization

requirements, complete a background check and other screenings that are required to attend clinical. Current American Heart Basic Life Support course for health care providers certification is required of all nursing students.

Assessment Technologies Institute (ATI) is an assessment service utilized throughout the ASN Program to assist in preparing the student for the NCLEX-RN exam. ASN students are required to pay all fees associated with the AIT process along with their initial fees the first semester that they are enrolled in the ASN program. Fees cover secured test(s), study guides and access to unsecured tests and are determined by the number of semesters that a student is in the ASN program. ATI fees are not refundable.

Students from other R.N. programs may transfer to the Department of Nursing after meeting the requirements for regularly admitted students to the university and the department and the Department of Nursing "Transfer Policy." Placement in the nursing curriculum will be determined by the head of the Department of Nursing based on space available.

Academic Standards For Progression

A student must meet the following requirements in order to progress in the nursing program:

1. achieve a grade of 2.0 (C) or higher in each required nursing course and a grade of 3.0 (B) or higher, Anatomy/Physiology and Microbiology before proceeding to the next nursing course;
2. repeat a non-clinical nursing course before graduation if a grade less than a (C) is earned;
3. repeat at most one clinical nursing course while progressing through the nursing program;
4. maintain satisfactory performance in the clinical area. An unsatisfactory evaluation in the nursing clinical laboratory means an automatic grade of 0.0 (F) in the course;
5. receive a 75 test average or above as defined in course syllabus on unit and final examinations/tests in order to pass each nursing course;
6. maintain an overall grade point average of 2.0 (C) or higher for all courses required in the curriculum of the Associate of Science in nursing degree program;
7. complete prior to the beginning of the second year English Composition I, Math Modeling, and Anatomy/Physiology I and II with a C or better.
8. students entering their final semester of the ASN program must have completed all core courses required for the ASN Degree (Areas A, B, C, D and E) prior to enrolling in the final nursing course or be enrolled concurrently;
9. pass all components of the Regents' Skills Test before enrollment in the last clinical nursing course;
10. complete 20 hours at NGCSU to be eligible for graduation;
11. adhere to all policies at NGCSU, the Department of Nursing and clinical agencies;
12. achieve a grade of 90 on a drug calculation competency exam given during NURS 1110 in order to progress to 2nd-year nursing courses (the test may

- be repeated one time);
13. the student will begin a program of testing each term as part of the course requirements and must be successful in the exit exam at the end of the final term of study.
 14. Failure in two (2) clinical nursing courses will result in dismissal from the nursing program.
 15. Meet other standards as outlined in the ASN Handbook and adhere to all policies of NGCSU, Nursing Department and clinical agencies.

A.S.N. Degree Requirements

This program is designed to satisfy the present educational requirements to enable graduates to take the licensure examination in nursing. However, the licensing board may change these requirements prior to the completion of the course of study. While reasonable efforts will be made to enable graduates to satisfy additional requirements, no assurances can be made that the university will be able to offer these additional courses or, if taken, that such courses will entitle the graduate to take the licensure examination.

Core Curriculum Requirements	37 hours
Area A Essential Skills	6 hours
ENGL 1101	3 hours
MATH 1101	3 hours
Area B no exceptions	4 hours
Area C Humanities / Fine Arts	3 hours
Fine Arts or Philosophy	3 hours
Area D Science, Math, Technology	3 hours
MATH 2400 or MATH 1113	3 hours
Area E Social Science	9 hours
HIST 1112	3 hours
HIST 2111/2112/POLS 1101	3 hours
SOC1 1101 or PSYC 1101	3 hours
Area F Nursing Major	12 hours
BIOL 2250 and BIOL 2251	8 hours
BIOL 2280	4 hours
First year :	NURS 1100, 1110, 1020, 1130
Second year:	NURS 2110, 2130, 2140, and 2160 (33 hours)

Other Requirements

Regents' Skills Test or exemption (must be taken during the first semester)
 U.S. and Georgia Constitution & History requirement

Nursing Electives:

NURS 1001

NURS 1200

NURS 1205

NURS 1210

NURS 1220

**The LPN/RN Career Mobility Program includes NURS 1090, NURS 1020 and NURS 1130.

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING (B.S.N.)

The purpose of NGCSU's baccalaureate nursing program is to prepare the RN to practice as a professional nurse in primary, secondary, and tertiary care settings caring with individuals of various ages, families, and communities as clients, with an emphasis on the rural community. The BSN program is approved by the Georgia Board of Nursing and accredited by the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC).

The B.S.N. program is designed to coordinate upper-division general academic and nursing courses. A total of 57 hours of college credit beyond the associate degree is required. Academic and nursing courses are offered on the NGCSU campus. Three to four semesters are required to complete the baccalaureate nursing program, depending on previous course credits, student preference and availability of faculty. All graduates of the major must pass the clinical component of Nursing 4410, and 4600 as well as NURS 3330 performance exam. An accelerated nursing program featuring classes one day per week is available on the NGCSU campus. All classes are also offered on-line. Students are required to have basic computer skills before enrolling for the online courses.

BSN faculty assists students in selecting clinical experiences in primary, secondary, and tertiary health care settings that reflect the individual course objectives. Baccalaureate nursing students are responsible for providing their own transportation to and from campus and the clinical setting.

Those baccalaureate nursing students seeking an Army commission must meet the requirements of the military science courses of the Senior Division Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) program established by the Department of the Army. Completion of ROTC basic course, advanced course, and advanced camp is required. Students should refer to the Department of Military Science section for courses and requirements.

Admission Requirements - B.S.N. Program

1. All applicants seeking admission to the Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree program must be accepted to North Georgia College & State University prior to acceptance into the nursing program. Applications are available on the website for nursing and are submitted on-line. All applications for the nursing program are due by February 1.

2. Successful completion of an Associate of Science in Nursing degree or a diploma in nursing is required.
3. The usual core courses required at the associate degree level should be successfully completed before enrolling in BSN program, including completion of Regents' Skills Test and satisfaction of U.S. & Georgia History Constitution requirements.
4. Following acceptance to NGCSU, applicants must contact the Department of Nursing to initiate the admission process for nursing classes.
5. Applicants must have a 2.5 overall grade point average for admission to the BSN program.
6. Applicants must have a grade of C or above in each course in Anatomy and Physiology and in Medical Microbiology, either taken at NGCSU or accepted for transfer.
7. The North Georgia College & State University BSN program has adopted the RN-BSN articulation model approved by the University System of Georgia. Validation testing will be required of all associate degree or diploma graduates who graduated from non-NLN accredited schools outside the state of Georgia, who graduated more than four years ago, and have less than 1,000 clinical practice hours. Contact the Department of Nursing for additional information.
8. Students are held accountable for mastery of all psychomotor skills representative of technical education. The Department of Nursing will provide students with a list of selected skills and evaluation criteria.
9. References should be listed on the application to the nursing program (one reference from an employer and one from a former professor are preferred).
10. Applicants must appear for an interview if requested. Faculty has the prerogative to request a student interview.
11. Students who meet all admission requirements other than passing NCLEX scores may be admitted to the program and allowed to enroll in the following non-clinical nursing courses: 3110, 3150, 3330, 3580, and/or 3410, 3200, 3210.
12. Students seeking readmission to the BSN program must request readmission in writing to the BSN Coordinator at least one semester in advance of enrollment and must have a 2.5 institutional grade point average in order to be eligible for readmission. Readmission is based on availability and discretion of faculty.
13. Students must make a C or above in Area A and Area D courses.
14. Students must meet the clinical requirements before taking a clinical course and complete RN licensure by the end of the fall semester after admission to the BSN program or NURS 3110. Clinical requirements for the spring NURS 4410 are due by November 1 and for the fall NURS 4410 by April 1 of the previous semesters. Should a student not have the required clinical requirements submitted on time, the student will be withdrawn from NURS 4410.

Information Concerning Application For Admission

Applicants who have never been enrolled at North Georgia College & State University are to apply directly to the Office of Admissions for admission to NGCSU. North Georgia College & State University graduates must seek readmission to the university. Following acceptance to NGCSU, applicants must contact the Department of Nursing to initiate the admission process for baccalaureate nursing classes.

Applicants who are accepted to North Georgia College & State University are to apply on-line directly to the Department of Nursing for admission to the BSN program.

The application deadline is February 1 of each year. NGCSU acceptance must be current for the year in which the student plans to enroll in nursing.

Those students needing to complete the four subtests of the National League for Nursing Profile II should write for applications from the Office of Testing, North Georgia College & State University.

After the applicant is accepted and has indicated by letter of intent to enroll, additional information will be sent to the applicant concerning professional health and liability insurance and clinical requirements.

Students must submit a current health examination form showing evidence of good health signed by a health care provider. Additional clinical requirements must be met prior to clinical experiences in selected agencies.

Completion of a current American Heart Association Basic Life Support course for health care providers is required as well as proof of professional liability insurance. A copy of the student's Georgia RN license is required to be on file before beginning any clinical courses.

Enrollment in the baccalaureate nursing class is limited. Enrollment is determined by the availability of nursing faculty, laboratory space and clinical facilities.

Students from other Bachelor of Science in Nursing programs may transfer to NGCSU's Department of Nursing after meeting the requirements for regularly admitted students to the university and the Department of Nursing. Applicants need a copy of all nursing course materials and a letter from the director explaining their status upon withdrawal from the nursing program. Placement in the nursing curriculum will be determined by the BSN faculty.

Academic Standards for Progression

A student must meet the following requirements in order to progress in the nursing program:

1. maintain an overall grade point average of 2.0 (C) or higher;
2. achieve a grade point average of 2.0 or higher in each nursing course before proceeding to the next nursing course;
3. achieve a grade point average of 2.0 or higher in the chemistry, physics, or biology sequence (Area D) science courses as required for graduation and MATH 2400 or MATH 1113;
4. pass all summative laboratory/clinical components of each nursing course. An F (fail) evaluation on nursing laboratory/clinical course components means

- an automatic grade of 0.0 (F) in the course;
5. repeat only one nursing course while progressing through the nursing program;
 6. earn satisfactory grades in elective courses so that these courses will not interfere with progress in the curriculum (e.g., the institutional GPA falls below 2.0 or the student does not have enough hours to graduate);
 7. complete 30 hours at NGCSU to be eligible for graduation; and
 8. adhere to all policies of NGCSU, Department of Nursing and clinical agencies.

B.S.N. DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

Core Curriculum Requirements

60 hours

All baccalaureate degree programs at NGCSU have as a requirement the satisfactory completion of at least 60 semester credit hours comprising the six areas of the core curriculum. A complete description of Areas A-E of the core curriculum can be found on page 105. Individual degree programs may specify exceptions and/or particular courses which must be taken within each Area A-E of the core curriculum. Those exceptions and/or course requirements and Area F of the core curriculum are shown below.

A student is required to complete the BSN degree within four years of admission to the first BSN course (NURS 3110).

Area A	no exceptions
Area B	no exceptions
Area C	no exceptions
Area D	Nursing majors must complete CHEM 1151, 1151L and 1152, 1152L or, BIOL 1107K, and 1108K or PHYS 1111, 1111L and 1112, 1112L or BIOL 1010, 1010L and 1260 and 1260L; and Math 2400 or Math 1113 in Area D.
Area E	no exceptions

Area F. Nursing Major

18 hours

BIOL 2250 and BIOL 2251	8 hours
BIOL 2280	4 hours
CSCI 1100	2 hours
CSCI 1150	1 hour
or FLAN 1001 (if required)	3 hours

***Guided Electives**

3 hours from one of the following:

SOC1 1101	3 hours
PSYC 1101	3 hours

*if taken in another area, hours should be taken in an additional guided elective not previously taken.

Other Requirements:

Regents' Skills Test or exemption (must be taken during the first semester)

U.S. and Georgia Constitution & History requirement

Courses in Nursing Science

NURS 1100, 1110, 1020, 1130, 2110, 2130, 2140, 2160	33 hours
NURS 3110, 3200, 3210, 3330, 3410, 4410, 4520, 4600	32 hours
Other Requirement-Electives	
NURS 3000, 3150, 3580, 4010 (Choose 1)	2 hours
or one course from the Gerontology Certificate courses NURS/GERO 3081, 3181, 3381, 3481 or NURS 3500, NURS 3250 or	3 hours
SPAN 1200 or SOCI 3100	3 hours

* Students enrolling in on-line courses are required to have basic computer skills.

Gerontology Certificate Program

The Gerontology Certificate Program at North Georgia College & State University is designed to enable students at the undergraduate and graduate level, non-degree students, and residents of the community to obtain a certificate in 2-3 semesters of course work. Students will complete a total of fifteen (15) semester hours of graduate level, or upper level undergraduate, courses to meet the requirements of the certificate program. Twelve (12) of the hours must arise from the four foundational courses: Survey of Aging, Biology of Aging, Sociology of Aging, Psychology of Aging.

Additionally, students will need to select either a supervised practicum experience (GERO 3581) or participate in a Research Experience (GERO 3681) with a faculty member working in any area of Gerontology. Both the practicum and research experience must be approved by a faculty member in the Gerontology program.

**FOR COURSES OFFERED IN
THE DEPARTMENT OF NURSING
SEE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS
Pages 249-394**