

## **HENDERSON STATE UNIVERSITY**

### **Department of Nursing**

#### **Pre-Nursing Handbook**

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### **Introduction**

**Welcome to the Department of Nursing!** On behalf of the administration, faculty, and staff, we want to express our sincere desire to help you achieve your goal of becoming a registered nurse. You have chosen a career serving humanity and society, one that can be expected to offer substantive opportunities, if you are willing to meet the academic and professional challenges of professional nursing.

The study of nursing is a rigorous endeavor requiring expert skill in critical thinking and the mastery of a substantive body of knowledge. We hold our students to rigorous expectations, without apology, because the safety of the patient is at stake.

We hold for ourselves, a parallel expectation for instructional excellence and compassion. We know that when the dignity of the student is respected, the learning environment is conducive to best learning outcomes, and the student is much more likely to affirm the dignity of both patients entrusted to their care and colleagues with whom they practice. We also believe/support the American Nurses Association (ANA) Code for Nurses. (See Appendix A).

The four-year (8-semester) program leading to the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree is designed to:

1. Prepare a professional nurse generalist
2. Provide educational mobility and opportunity to the individual who seeks professional and personal development.
3. Prepare a professional nurse to be a resource for nursing and health care in the community.
4. Prepare professional nurses who use **current** research for the improvement of nursing and health care.
5. Provide a foundation for advanced study of nursing toward specialized professional practice.

**We wish you the best as you begin your career preparation at Henderson State University.** As a student enrolled in pre-nursing, you **are a part of the Department of Nursing as well as the total university community.** To prepare for entrance into the nursing major, there are requirements and relevant information that you will need to know. This handbook provides you with that

information. Please retain this book until you are admitted to the nursing program.

Students admitted to the University declaring a major in nursing become Nursing majors. Students become Nursing Students upon completing prerequisite non-nursing courses and after being admitted into the nursing program. Upon completion of the prescribed curriculum, the Nursing Student is eligible for the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree and has the foundation for graduate study in nursing.

You will be assigned a Nursing advisor as you enter the university or when you go through university orientation. It is expected that you will be in contact with the advisor on a regular basis as you proceed through the pre-nursing semesters. If you do not know who your advisor is, please contact the Dept. of Nursing at (870) 230-5015.

A minimum course grade of “C” must be earned in all non-nursing and nursing (or equivalents) courses required for the BSN degree. A minimum grade point average of 2.50 is required for consideration for admission and progression in the Nursing Program.

Professional nurses need to know how to communicate and network within the profession. The HSU **Nursing Student Association promotes** professional communication, networking, and contacts that will serve you throughout your professional lifetime. Each student is expected to become an active member of the HSU Nursing Student Association from the time they are a freshman until graduation. It is an opportunity to become involved in local, state, and national nursing issues.

### **Performance Standards for Admission to and Progression in the Professional Program of Study**

Professional nurses must have the knowledge and ability to completely assess the biological, psychological, intellectual, social, and spiritual dimensions of the clients. After acceptance, but before beginning the nursing classes in the fall, students must provide documentation of current certification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) for healthcare providers (Must be American Heart Association). This requires the ability to successfully complete both the written and practical tests for certification. In addition, students admitted to the HSU Department of Nursing must meet the following abilities and expectations during their enrollment in the program.

- 1. Critical Thinking.** Student nurses must be able to analyze data, explore interpretations, generate hypotheses, select actions and evaluate outcomes related to nursing care of clients. In addition, applicants must be able to problem solve.

**2. Psychomotor.** Student nurses must be able to perform the following:

- a. assess clients through auscultation, percussion, palpation, and other diagnostic maneuvers;
- b. manipulate equipment necessary to assist the client to desired treatment;
- c. lift and move clients to provide safe care and emergency treatment;
- d. perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR);
- e. perform independently ;
- f. possess cognitive abilities to measure , calculate dosages, reason, analyze, and synthesize.

**3. Communication.** Student nurses must be able to perform the following:

- a. receive, translate, and import information by oral and written means according to standards of the English language and safe nursing practice;
- b. speak, hear, visually observe clients and interpret non-verbal behavior;
- c. effectively communicate verbally and in writing with all health care providers.

**4. Behavioral/Social Attributes:** Students are required to have social skills and emotional health sufficient to provide safe, therapeutic care. The ability to function in stressful environments and meet physically and mentally stressful demands is essential.

The study and practice of nursing requires strong emotional, intellectual, and physical capabilities. It is important for prospective nursing students to have a realistic view of the demanding curriculum before they decide to pursue the degree. Prospective students are encouraged to contact the Department of Nursing if they have questions about their ability to function in the clinical settings.

### BSN in Nursing Degree (Effective May, 2008)

Freshman				Sophomore					
Fall	Hrs.	Spring	Hrs.	Fall	Hrs.	Spring	Hrs.	May Interim	Hrs.
GEN 1031 Henderson Seminar	1	COM 2013 Oral Comm	3	NSG 2561 Nsg as a Profession	1	PHI 3113 Ethics	3	NSG 2573 Basic	[3]
CHM 1034/1014 Gen Chem + Lab	4	CHM 1044 Organic & Biochem	4	PSC1013 Am Gov/HIS 2053/2063 A&P II or BIO2144/3314	3	ENG Masters/World Lit	3	Skills for Health	
Math General Ed Core	3	A&P I or BIO3064 A&P	4	Physiology BIO 2124/3094	4	HPR 1011 Life Fitness	1	Care Providers	
ENG 1463 Freshman English A	3	ENG 1473 Freshman Eng B	3	Microbiology	4	SOC 1013 Intro to Sociology	3	1/2 Lab	
Elective <sup>1</sup>	4	PSY 1013 Gen Psychology	3	HIS 1013/1023 West Civ	3	FCS 2103 Nutrition	3	NSG 2573L Basic	[0]
				HPR Phys Educ. Elective	1	Fine Arts/Humanities Core	3	Skills Lab	
								(Course waived if C.N.A.)	
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>[3]</b>

The Above is a Suggested Course Sequence - Courses May be Taken in Alternate Sequence According to HSU Catalog Guidelines

Junior				Senior			
Fall - J1	Hrs.	Spring - J2	Hrs.	Fall - S1	Hrs.	Spring - S2	Hrs.
NSG3586 Basc Cncpts Nsg 2/4 Lab	6	NSG3626 Adult Health I 4/2 Lab	6	NSG4656 Adlt Health II 3/3 Lab	6	NSG4709 Adult Hlth III 3/6 Lab	9
NSG3586L Basic Concepts Lab	0	NSG3626L Adult Health Lab	0	NSG4656L Adlt Health II Lab	0	NSG4709L Adult Hlth III Lab	0
NSG3594 Psych Mntl Hlth Nsg 3/1 Lab	4	NSG3636 Family/Chld Nsg 3/3 Lab	6	NSG4662 Gerontologic Nsg	2	NSG4714 Comm Bsd Nsg 3/1 Lab	4
NSG3594L Psych Mental Health Lab	0	NSG3636L Family/Chld Nsg Lab	0	NSG4672 Disaster Nsg & Emergency Preparedness	2	NSG4714L Comm Bsd Nsg Lab	0
NSG3603 Healthcare Research for Evidence-Based Practice	3	NSG3643 Transcultural Health <sup>2</sup> ENG 3313 Review Composition <sup>3</sup>	3 [3]	NSG4683 Pall Care Nsg 2/1 Lab	3	NSG4722 Leadership Principles	2
NSG3612 Nsg & Healthcare Delivery Theories	2			NSG4683L Pall Care Nsg Lab	0		
				NSG4692 Hlth Promo & Wellness	2		
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>15</b>

<sup>1</sup> BIO 1013 & 1014 General Biology must be taken if taking HSU BIO 3064 A&P or BIO 2124 Micro as it is prerequisite for these courses

<sup>2</sup> Meets HSU non-western course requirement

<sup>3</sup> Can be waived depending on Rising Junior Exam scores

Core Program Hours	120
Electives/Optional Courses	4[6]
<b>Max Total Hours</b>	<b>124[130]</b>

## HSU Nursing Curriculum Sequence (For Students Admitted Fall 2007 and Before)

**All courses must be completed with a grade of "C" or better and with a GPA of 2.5**

**"\*\*" indicates courses needed for progression in each subsequent year of the nursing program**

### FALL

### SPRING

### \*PRE-NURSING REQUIREMENTS

*BIO 1013 Intro Biology + Lab	4	*BIO 3064 Human Anat & Physio	4
*CHM 1034/1014 Gen Chem + Lab	4	*CHM 1044 Gen Org & Bio Chem	4
*MTH 1243 College Algebra <b>OR</b>		*ENG 1473 Freshman English B	3
MTH 1033 Math for the Liberal Arts	3		
*ENG 1463 Freshman English A	3		
*GEN 1031 Henderson Seminar	1		

**Pre-Nursing Requirements must be completed and the grades verified as a "C" or better with a cumulative GPA of 2.5 before entry into Level 1 Nursing Courses.**

### LEVEL - 1

*NSG 2012 Intro Prof'l Nursing	2	*NSG 2032 Found. of Prof'l Nsg	2
*NSG 2022 Nsg Health Assessment	2	*NSG 2063 Found. Lab	3
*NSG 2261 Health Assessm. Lab	1	*NSG 2111 Pharmacotherapeut. I	1
*BIO 2124/3094 Microbiology	4	*NSG 2053 Pathophysiology	3
*BIO 2144/3314 Physiology	4	*NSG 4233 Nursing Research	3

### LEVEL - 2

*NSG 3073 Adult Hlth Nursing I	3	*NSG 3133 Adult Hlth Nursing II	3
*NSG 3082 Psych & Ment Hlth I	2	*NSG 3142 Psych & Ment Hlth II	2
*NSG 3093 Nsg Childb'g Family	3 **	*NSG 3161 Pharmacother. III	1
*NSG 3151 Pharmacother. II	1	*NSG 3122 Adult Clinical	2
*NSG 3272 Adult Clinical	2	*NSG 3282 Psych & MH Clinical	2
*NSG 3102 Childbearing Clinical	2		

NSG 3173 BSN Transitions (RNS) 3

### LEVEL - 3

*NSG 4183 Comm Nsg Pub Health	3	NSG 4223 Nursing Leadership	3
*NSG 4193 Child Health Nursing	3***	NSG 4241 Capstone Seminar	1
*NSG 4201 Comm Health Policy	1	NSG 4254 Leadership Cl. Lab	4
*NSG 4292 Comm Clinical Lab	2		
*NSG 4212 Child Health Cl. Lab	2		

### REQUIRED NON-NURSING LIBERAL ARTS CORE COURSES

+PSY 1013 Gen Psychology	3	ART 2033 Humanities Art <b>OR</b>	
+PSY 2263 Developmental Psych	3	MUS 2033 Humanities Mus. <b>OR</b>	
SOC 1013 Intro to Sociology	3	THA 2033 Humanities Th. Arts	3
HIS 1013/1023 Western Civ to/ from 1660	3	ENG Masters/World Lit Elective	3
COM 2013 Oral Communications	3	HPR 1011 Life Fitness	1
PSC 1013 American Nat. Gov. <b>OR</b>		Nonwestern Culture Elective	3
HIS 2053/2063 U.S. History to/ Since 1865	3	HPR Phys. Ed. Elective	1
		PHI 2013/2083/3043/3053/3113	3

Nursing Curriculum Committee: SPRING, 1994/1995; FALL, 2000  
 Nursing Faculty approved: 4-4-94/10-20-95/3-30-01/11-3-03/2-21-05  
 U.A.C. Ratified: 3-5-02/5-10-05

\*\* Effective Fall 2006

\*\*\* Effective Fall 2007

+ Must be completed prior to Level 2

## **Applying to the Nursing Program**

Admission to the nursing program is competitive. A new class begins each fall. The admission policy/procedure (See Appendix B) and applications may be obtained from the Department of Nursing office or the Department of Nursing web page. The deadline for applications is February 15 of each year.

Students may apply and be admitted to the Nursing Program before they have finished all of the required prerequisite courses, but they must be able to complete the requirements prior to the start of the fall semester. You may also be required to take Intro to Biology and General Chemistry prior to A & P and Gen Organic & Bio Chemistry.

Students must be accepted to the University before they will be considered for acceptance into the nursing program.

There are more students applying each year to the Nursing Program than there are spaces available. It is important that students interested in the Nursing Program meet the prerequisite requirements, but it is also important to maintain good grades.

### **Early Registration Procedures for each semester**

1. Pick up an HSU Course Schedule at the Registrar's office in Womack or in the Department of Nursing. Schedules are usually available two to three weeks prior to early registration dates. It is also available on the HSU website.
2. Stop by your advisor's office and sign up for an advising appointment, noting the time and place of the meeting. Most advisors begin scheduling appointments about 1-2 weeks prior to the start of pre-registration.
3. Plan out a "draft" of your schedule using the form available from the Department of Nursing, the schedule of courses, and your curriculum sequence sheet.
4. Come to your appointment ready to discuss your academic plans and progress. Be sure to bring your planned schedule.

All students are advised that by Arkansas law, the application process to take the exam for licensure requires a state and a FBI criminal background check. The Arkansas Board of Nursing may prohibit a graduate from taking the NCLEX if, in their judgment, a candidate's criminal history indicates the candidate would pose a safety risk to the public.

The Henderson State University Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) Program is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE). Persons interested in expressing comments and/or concerns about the HSU BSN program may contact the responsible accrediting agency at the following (all communications must be in writing and signed by the author):

CCNE  
One Dupont Circle  
Suite 530  
Washington, DC 20036  
Tel: 1-202-887-6791

**Important Information (More detailed information may be found in the HSU Catalog)**

**Department of Nursing Office:** Foster Hall, Room 201A, Mrs. Cathy Reynolds, Secretary, Phone (870) 230-5015.

**Chair:** Dr. Barbara Landrum, Foster Hall, Room 201B.

Counseling Center – established to aid student in becoming maximally effective as students and as persons.

Disability Services – a comprehensive program designed to promote retention and academic success in college. Provides supplemental academic, technological, and personal support for students with disabilities or for first-generation college students with economic needs.

Financial Aid Office: Womack Hall 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor,

Registrars Office: Womack Hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, (870) 230-5135

Student Success and Retention Office – works in coordination with all areas of Student Services and the university as a whole to help HSU students achieve success.

Students Health Center – provides primary healthcare for illnesses and minor injuries, counseling, and health promotion. Services are provided by registered nurses, an advanced practice nurse and a counselor. The Student Health Center is located on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of Mooney Hall. (870) 230-5102 and the fax number is (870) 230-5064.

Appendix A

**AMERICAN NURSES ASSOCIATION  
CODE FOR NURSES**

1. The nurse, in all professional relationships, practices with compassion and respect for the inherent dignity, worth, and uniqueness every individual, unrestricted by consideration of social or economic status, personal attributes, or the nature of health problems.
2. The nurse's primary commitment is to the patient, whether an individual, family, group, or community.
3. The nurse promotes, advocates for, and strives to protect the health, safety, and rights of the patient.
4. The nurse is responsible and accountable for individual nursing practice and determines the appropriate delegation of tasks consistent with the nurse's obligation to provide optimum patient care.
5. The nurse owes the same duties to self as to others, including the responsibility to preserve integrity and safety, to maintain competence, and to continue personal and professional growth.
6. The nurse participates in establishing, maintaining, and improving health care environments and conditions of employment conducive to the provision of quality health care and consistent with the values of the profession through individual and collective action.
7. The nurse participates in the advancement of the profession through contributions to practice, education, administration, and knowledge development.
8. The nurse collaborates with other health professionals and the public in promoting community, national, and international efforts to meet health needs.
9. The profession of nursing, as represented by association and their members, is responsible for articulating nursing values, for maintaining the integrity of the profession and its practice, and for shaping social policy.

*American Nurses Association, 2001*  
<http://www.nursingworld.org/ethics/encode.htm>

## Appendix B

### **Admission Policy/Requirements**

Admission to the BSN program is limited. The HSU Department of Nursing faculty will determine final approval, for admission. Requirements for admission into the professional program of study are as follows:

1. Overall minimum grade point average (GPA) of 2.5.
2. Students will be ranked according to GPA for admission to the program. Further priority will be given to HSU students and students that have not had to repeat courses.
3. Applications for admission must be submitted by February 15 each year for consideration for the following fall class. Late applications will be considered on a space-available basis. Incomplete applications will not be considered.
4. All prerequisite courses must be successfully completed by the end of the summer semester prior to beginning the professional program of study.
5. Developmental Psychology and Microbiology must be completed prior to entering the Level II nursing courses.
6. Students transferring from another nursing program must be eligible to return to that program to be considered for admission. (The director of the nursing program from which the student is transferring must provide a letter of good standing.)
7. CPR certification, Health Care Provider level, is required and must have an expiration date during the summer months of May through August.
8. The completed Hepatitis B vaccine series must be verified or if begun, must submit a signed statement agreeing to completion of the series.
9. Negative Tuberculin skin test or x-ray is required. TB skin test is required annually and must have an expiration date during the summer months of May through August.
10. Some clinical agencies require students to complete a negative drug screening and criminal background check before students can be placed in the agency. To complete appropriate clinical experiences, students will have to comply with these requirements.
11. If admitted to the nursing program, there is a \$57.00 fee to secure a place in the class and for processing the application and requirements.