

# NURSING, UNDERGRADUATE

**Department Chair:** Nicole Lang

**Faculty:** Ann Backes, Jodi Berndt, Carie Braun, Courtney Brevik, Sarah Dingmann, Vicky Grove, Georgia Hogenson, Carrie Hoover, Julie Keller Dornbusch, Nicole Lang, Rachelle Larsen, Nichole Laudenbach, Derek Moore, Holly Palka, Julie Strelow, and Mary Zelenak

The department of nursing offers a four-year program which leads to a Bachelor of Science degree with a major in nursing. The program is accredited by:

Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education  
655 K Street NW  
Suite 750  
Washington DC 20001  
(202) 887-6791

and is approved by the Minnesota Board of Nursing.

The comprehensive nursing curriculum is based on the The Essentials: Core Competencies for Professional Nursing Education and prepares the nurse generalist to practice safely and effectively in all health care environments. The curriculum has a strong emphasis on leadership, diversity, evidence-based practice, and the provision of quality and safe nursing care. As an academic major in a practice discipline, nursing students have opportunities to apply principles and concepts from the liberal arts and nursing science to the provision of lifespan nursing care for individuals, families and communities.

CSB and SJU offers a range of learning environments suited to development of the professional nurse including classroom, simulation laboratory, and clinical experiences. Nursing faculty have high expectations for student professional behavior and continuously strive to develop challenging learning experiences.

Graduates are eligible to take the National Council Licensing Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN). Students who have been convicted of a felony or gross misdemeanor may be ineligible for licensure by the Board of Nursing and should seek clarification of their status prior to applying to the major.

Students must meet the technical standards for safe nursing practice. For representative examples of the technical standards, see the nursing department webpage.

Students in the nursing major may be eligible for membership in the Sigma Kappa Phi Chapter, an international honor society of nursing. Student membership in the Kappa Phi chapter is based on superior academic achievement. An active student nursing club encourages student involvement in professional and social activities.

## Assessment

Continuous improvement of student learning requires conscientious and consistent, student and faculty participation in assessment and evaluation activities. Nursing majors' academic achievement will be assessed using nationally standardized and classroom-based exams, scoring rubrics and performance demonstrations. Some, but not all, assessment activities are also included as part of course grades. Individual data will be given directly to the student; students should seek consultation from their instructor and/or advisor if they have

concerns about individual performance. Only group data will be used for department reports.

## Majors

- Nursing Major (<https://catalog.csbsju.edu/catalog/academic-departments/nursing-undergraduate/nursing-major/>)

## Minors

(None)

### **NRSG 201 Clinical Nursing I: Implementing Primary Prevention (6 Credits)**

This course is an application of evidence-based primary prevention strategies to promote safe and effective wellness outcomes for individuals and groups. Students encounter practice with holistic assessments and technical skills relevant to primary prevention using the ANA Standards of Practice framework. This course includes primary prevention clinical experiences across the lifespan.

**Prerequisites:** NRSG 220 or NRSG 220A or NRSG 220B or NRSG 220C

### **NRSG 220A Conversations in Culture: The Hmong Migration (2 Credits)**

The course is designed to provide students with a comprehensive view of the Hmong culture including social, political, and historical factors that have shaped it and continue to affect it. Students will understand that the Hmong culture is neither static nor monolithic, but rather shaped by gender, class, personal experience, migration patterns, and other factors. An exploration of the Hmong migration patterns will allow students to examine culture change as the Hmong people live and interact in refugee camps, and in the United States and other regions. Students will also be asked to explore their own cultural identity through self-awareness and assessment and articulate how their cultural identity shapes their interactions with those from another culture. **Prerequisite:** Admission to the nursing major.

**Prerequisites:** None

**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Nursing.

**Equivalent courses:** NRSG 220, NRSG 220B, NRSG 220C

### **NRSG 220B Conversations in Culture: The Somali Migration (2 Credits)**

Through an in-depth exploration of the Somali culture, and through exploration of the nursing profession and culturally competent care students will demonstrate an understanding of how constructions of race, gender, and ethnicity shape cultural rules and biases and how these constructions vary across time, cultures, and societies. In addition, students will critically analyze the ways in which these forms of identity raise questions of justice in regard to access and participation in communal life. **Prerequisite:** Admission to the nursing major.

**Prerequisites:** None

**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Nursing.

**Equivalent courses:** NRSG 220, NRSG 220A, NRSG 220C

**NRS 220C Conversations in Culture: The Hispanic Migration (2 Credits)**

The course is designed to provide students with a comprehensive view of the Hispanic culture including social, political, and historical factors that have shaped it and continue to affect it. Students will understand that the Hispanic culture is neither static nor monolithic, but rather shaped by gender, class, personal experience, migration patterns, and other factors. An exploration of the Hispanic migration patterns will allow students to examine culture change as the Hispanic people live and interact in refugee camps, and in the United States and other regions. Students will also be asked to explore their own cultural identity through self-awareness and assessment and articulate how their cultural identity shapes their interactions with those from another culture. Prerequisite: Admission to the nursing major.

**Prerequisites:** None

**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Nursing.

**Equivalent courses:** NRS 220, NRS 220A, NRS 220B

**NRS 256 Introduction to Professional Nursing Practice and Leadership (2 Credits)**

This course is an introduction to foundational and transformational leadership concepts of nursing focused on primary prevention to promote quality and safe nursing care and function effectively in interprofessional partnerships. Students are introduced to the values, standards, and code of ethics for nurses through a framework of health and wellness, motivating behavior change, and individual and community-based health education strategies. Selected leadership concepts, research and evidence-based practice, systems-based practice, health literacy, and information technologies are included. The development and beginning application of these concepts will occur in Clinical Nursing I. Prerequisites: Acceptance to NRS major

**Prerequisites:** NRS 220 or NRS 220A or NRS 220B or NRS 220C

**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Nursing.

**NRS 271 Individual Learning Project (1-4 Credits)**

Supervised reading or research at the lower-division level. Permission of department chair required. Consult department for applicability towards major requirements. Not available to first-year students.

**Prerequisites:** None

**Restrictions:** Students with a class of First Year may not enroll.

**NRS 301 Clinical Nursing II: Implementing Secondary Prevention (8 Credits)**

In the context of secondary prevention across the lifespan, this course provides the application of quality and safe, culturally relevant patient centered nursing care in acute care environments. The emphasis of this course will be on the utilization of clinical reasoning models, inter/intra disciplinary collaboration, and crisis communication. This course will provide clinical experiences for application of concepts taught in all concurrent and previous courses.

**Prerequisites:** (NRS 201 and NRS 256) or (NRS 201 and NRS 240 and NRS 255)

**Corequisites:** NRS 301L

**NRS 301L Clinical Nursing III: Implementing Secondary Prevention Lab (0 Credits)**

**Prerequisites:** NRS 201 and NRS 256

**Corequisites:** NRS 301

**NRS 302 Clinical Nursing III: Implementing Tertiary Prevention (8 Credits)**

In the context of tertiary prevention across the lifespan, the emphasis of this course will be on the application of quality and safe, culturally relevant family-centered nursing care through the utilization of family assessment and transitional and end-of-life care models in chronic physical and mental illness situations. This course will provide clinical experiences for application of concepts taught in all concurrent and previous courses.

**Prerequisites:** NRS 301 and NRS 314

**NRS 303 Clinical Nursing IV: Community/Population Capstone (8 Credits)**

In the context of integrating levels of prevention across the lifespan, individuals, families and populations to affect change in the community. This course will provide clinical experiences for application of concepts taught in all concurrent and previous courses.

**Prerequisites:** NRS 220B, 302, 315, and 344 as well as Learning Foundations (LF), Theological Encounter (TE), and Cultural and Social Difference: identity (CI).

**Attributes:** CSD: Systems (CS)

**NRS 303C Immersion - Belize (0 Credits)**

**Prerequisites:** None

**Attributes:** Global Engagement (GL)

**NRS 303D Immersion - Local (0 Credits)**

**Prerequisites:** None

**Attributes:** Global Engagement (GL)

**NRS 303H IMMERSION-ST LUCIA (0 Credits)**

**Prerequisites:** None

**Attributes:** Global Engagement (GL)

**NRS 303I IMMERSION-ZAMBIA (0 Credits)**

**Prerequisites:** None

**Attributes:** Global Engagement (GL)

**NRS 303J IMMERSION-COSTA RICA (0 Credits)**

**Prerequisites:** None

**Attributes:** Global Engagement (GL)

**NRS 312 Informatics (3 Credits)**

This course provides a foundation for the use of information systems and technology to support and improve healthcare systems. The student will be introduced to core informatic principles and information literacy skills in order to evaluate information systems used in healthcare organizations and be positioned to provide the leadership for improvement in those systems. Students will demonstrate knowledge of standards and principles for selecting and evaluating information systems and patient care technology, and related ethical, regulatory, and legal issues.

**Prerequisites:** None

**Restrictions:** Enrollment limited to students with the MSN - BSN Direct Entry 4+1 attribute.

**Equivalent courses:** NRS 402, NRS 502

**NRS 314 Integrated Pathophysiology and Pharmacology I (4 Credits)**

This is part one of a two-course sequence that builds upon scientific knowledge. The course focuses on foundational pathophysiology, psychopathology and pharmacology concepts.

**Prerequisites:** NRS 201 and NRS 256

**NRS 315 Integrated Pathophysiology and Pharmacology II (2 Credits)**

This is part two of a two-course sequence that builds upon scientific knowledge. The course focuses on foundational pathophysiology, psychopathology and pharmacology concepts.

**Prerequisites:** NRS 314

**NRSG 317 Global Perspectives (3 Credits)**

This course emphasizes the tools necessary for advanced practice nurses to interpret epidemiologic data and use biostatistics to explore population health issues both local and globally. Concepts key to the evaluation of population health such as descriptive epidemiology, study design, measures of excess risk, causal inference, screening, measurement error, confounding, confidence intervals, hypothesis testing, p-values, and sample size calculation are included in this course. Analysis of the determinants of health and system issues across settings both locally and globally encourages students to identify common inequalities and priority policy interventions for improving population health. Prerequisite: Approved application to take graduate courses for credit.

**Prerequisites:** None

**Restrictions:** Enrollment limited to students with the MSN - BSN Direct Entry 4+1 attribute.

**Equivalent courses:** NRSG 413, NRSG 513

**NRSG 318 Ethics, Healthcare Policy and Advocacy (3 Credits)**

This course explores the ethical and legal issues for advanced nursing practice and the role of the APRN in healthcare policy and patient advocacy. Ethical foundations are the framework that serves as the structure and support for all aspects of nursing practice. Focus will be on ethical and legal challenges from within and outside of the discipline of nursing to advanced nursing practice, education, and administration in healthcare. Advanced practice nurses should have specialized knowledge and skills of research, medical, legal and business ethics, health care reform and policy relevant to evidence-based practice in order to advocate for a reduction in health care disparities.

**Prerequisites:** Learning Foundations(LF), Cultural and Social Difference: Identity (CI). CI course may be taken prior to or concurrently with Focus Course. You must be part of the Master Of Nursing Program to take NRSG 318.

**Restrictions:** Enrollment limited to students with the MSN - BSN Direct Entry 4+1 attribute.

**Equivalent courses:** NRSG 390, NRSG 414, NRSG 514

**Attributes:** Human Experience (HE), Thematic Focus - Truth

**NRSG 319 Health Care Systems and Organizational Leadership (3 Credits)**

Course Description: This course prepares the advanced practice nurse leaders to demonstrate understanding of the health care system, delivery models and work flow, and the environment in which health care leaders and providers function, within 4 levels of analysis: Customers, staff, systems, and community/environment (HLA1). Graduates will also learn to facilitate improvements in health care through application of health economics theory.

**Prerequisites:** None

**Restrictions:** Enrollment limited to students with the MSN - BSN Direct Entry 4+1 attribute.

**Equivalent courses:** NRSG 415, NRSG 515

**NRSG 336 Practicum I (MS) (1 Credit)**

Course Description: The focus of this course will be the development of the student as a master's prepared nurse leader. Students will work directly with a faculty mentor and specific inter- and intra-professional team leaders in various integrative-practice activities with the goal of achieving program outcomes. Students are required to pursue leadership, practice and education experiences that address graduate program outcomes and the Master's Essentials. These leadership practice experiences will lead to development of practice at the advanced level in practice, leadership, and education. Prerequisites: Approved application to take graduate courses for credit.

**Prerequisites:** None

**Equivalent courses:** NRSG 420

**NRSG 344 Transforming Nursing Practice through Leadership and Technology (4 Credits)**

This course advances foundational and transformational leadership concepts and communication technologies and informatics processes to promote quality and safe nursing care. Students will develop a professional identity within the context of systems-based secondary and tertiary prevention.

**Prerequisites:** NRSG 256 and NRSG 301

**Equivalent courses:** NRSG 341, NRSG 342

**NRSG 356 Leadership: Designer, Manager, and Coordinator of Care (4 Credits)**

This course focuses on the development of professional knowledge and skills to effectively integrate designer, manager, and coordinator of care roles in professional nursing practice. Students will articulate their leadership role as an entry level professional nurse.

**Prerequisites:** NRSG 256 and NRSG 344

**Equivalent courses:** NRSG 374

**NRSG 371 Individual Learning Project (1-4 Credits)**

Supervised reading or research at the upper-division level. Permission of department chair and completion and/or concurrent registration of 12 credits within the department required. Consult department for applicability towards major requirements. Not available to first-year students.

**Prerequisites:** None

**Restrictions:** Students with a class of First Year may not enroll.

**NRSG 374 Transforming population health care through leadership and system-based principles (4 Credits)**

This course is grounded in global citizenship and transformational leadership principles which are essential for the safe, effective, and equitable care of populations. Students will use foundational public health knowledge and policy analysis and development to advocate for improved health of populations

**Prerequisites:** NRSG 256 and NRSG 344

**Equivalent courses:** NRSG 343, NRSG 355

**NRSG 390 Healthcare Ethics (4 Credits)**

This course directs students to re-think ethics in today's system of healthcare, where the best possibilities for ethical healthcare in this century lie beyond traditional and mainstream thought. Students will question assumptions guided by the major principles of healthcare ethics and reflect deeply on clinical cases across healthcare disciplines from the perspective of professional and consumer.

**Prerequisites:** Learning Foundations(LF), Cultural and Social Difference: Identity (CI). CI course may be taken concurrently with Focus Course.

**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Nursing. Students with the 2023-2024 Registration Cohort, 2024-2025 Registration Cohort or 2025-2026 Registration Cohort attributes may not enroll.

**Equivalent courses:** NRSG 318, NRSG 414, NRSG 514

**Attributes:** Human Experience (HE), Thematic Focus - Truth

**NRSG 395 Provider of Care/Leadership Capstone (5 Credits)**

Utilizing knowledge and skills acquired in both nursing and liberal arts courses, this course emphasizes the integration of the full baccalaureate professional nurse role as provider, designer, and coordinator of care, and member of a profession. This course will require application of concepts taught in all concurrent and previous courses. These experiences will occur in a variety of health care settings.

**Prerequisites:** NRSG 201 and NRSG 301 and NRSG 302

**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Nursing. Students with the 2023-2024 Registration Cohort, 2024-2025 Registration Cohort or 2025-2026 Registration Cohort attributes may not enroll.

**Attributes:** Experiential Engagement (EX)

**NRSG 397 Internship (1-16 Credits)**

This course provides clinical based learning opportunities to encourage application of theory and research-based knowledge in clinical practice. Students will engage in experiences to enhance the development of their professional nursing role.

**Prerequisites:** None

**Attributes:** Experiential Engagement (EX)

**What is a professional licensure disclosure?**

A professional licensure disclosure is a requirement by the U.S. Department of Education for all colleges and universities to communicate publicly and directly to prospective and current students about academic programs that will or will not fulfill educational requirements for specific professional licensure that is required for employment in that field; and academic programs that meet or do not meet the education requirements for licensure for each state and U.S. territory regardless of the delivery mode of the program. The regulations are published in the Code of Federal Regulations, CFR §668.43, section (a)(5)(v) and section (c).

**Does This Program Meet Requirements for Licensure in My State?**

Our program is approved by the Board of Nursing in Minnesota. If you plan to work in a state other than Minnesota after graduation, we encourage you to review licensure information for that state or territory. Each state has a Board [CB1] of Nursing and this is where you can find the requirements for working as an RN in that state.

**Licensure is individual.** Only licensure boards or agencies can determine whether a program has met requirements. These boards and agencies make that determination after someone graduates or completes the program and applies for a license. After you graduate, you may need to provide a verification of graduation form to the Nursing Department

Undergraduate Chair. It will be important that you notify the Nursing Department Undergraduate Chair of your intent to be licensed outside of Minnesota so that appropriate paperwork can be completed. Some states require a signed affidavit.

**Additional requirements.** Completing a program is typically only one part of the professional licensure requirements. Most states require that individuals meet additional requirements to qualify for licensure, including but not limited to successful passage of the national licensure exam (NCLEX). Other licensure requirements typically include, but are not limited to, fees and completion of a federal background study.

**Potential Changes in Requirements**

Students who plan to pursue licensure outside of Minnesota should be aware that state licensure requirements are subject to changes. While a program may originally meet the educational requirements for licensure, changes in requirements could impact the program's ability to meet any new educational requirements. Students should always check with their state licensure board to confirm licensure requirements.

**Relocating During the Course of a Program**

Prospective and current students should keep in mind that licensing and authorization requirements vary by state and that relocating during the course of a program to another state could impact whether that student can continue in the course, meet the eligibility requirements of that state, and/or receive federal financial aid funding. If a student is considering relocating, they should contact their program to check for authorization and licensure eligibility requirements.

**Professional Licensure Requirements**

The nursing curriculum at the College of Saint Benedict and Saint John's University has been designed to meet the licensure requirements in Minnesota as well as preparing students to take the National Council Licensure Examination—Registered Nurse (NCLEX—RN).

**States/territories where CSB/SJU pre-licensure nursing curriculum meets state educational requirements for initial professional licensure or certification as of July 1, 2025**

States		
Alabama	Kansas	North Dakota
Alaska	Kentucky	Northern Mariana Islands
American Samoa	Louisiana	Ohio
Arizona	Maine	Oklahoma
Arkansas	Maryland	Oregon
California - Except Public Health	Massachusetts	Pennsylvania
Colorado	Michigan	Rhode Island
Connecticut	Minnesota	South Carolina
Delaware	Mississippi	South Dakota
District of Columbia	Missouri	Tennessee
Florida	Montana	Texas
Georgia	Nebraska	Utah
Guam	Nevada	Vermont
Hawaii	New Hampshire	Virginia
Idaho	New Jersey	Virgin Islands

Illinois	New Mexico	Washington
Indiana	New York	West Virginia
Iowa	North Carolina	Wisconsin
		Wyoming

**The states/jurisdictions where CSB/SJU pre-licensure nursing curriculum does not meet state educational requirements for initial licensure as of July 1, 2025:**

#### States

California - Public  
Health Only

Licensure and certification are post-graduation processes and cannot be completed without a posted degree. To assist students who now live or may one day live outside of Minnesota, St. Ben's provides the following information resources:

- It is important that you understand the regulations for your state **before** enrolling in your academic program. Please check the licensing requirements (<https://www.careeronestop.org/toolkit/training/find-licenses.aspx>) for the state where you will seek employment.
- NC-SARA has provided a Professional Licensure Directory (<https://publish.smartsheet.com/6e3fb27658f443588ff16ad36ccf5a94/>) with contact information for all 50 states and 3 territories for the following professional areas: Counseling, Nursing, Psychology, Social work, and Teacher Education