

Department of Nursing

Majors for the Bachelor of Arts Degree

Nursing

Mission of the Department of Nursing

Inspired by the mission of the College, we are dedicated to preparing professional nurse generalists who promote excellence in holistic care. As community leaders, they are critical thinkers, change agents, compassionate and skilled caregivers, as well as lifelong learners. Our graduates serve Montana, our region and the world.

Program Goal

Within the Catholic liberal arts tradition of Carroll College, the Department of Nursing prepares students for careers in professional nursing with emphasis on the dignity and uniqueness of every person as a holistic being.

Student Goal

Students successfully completing nursing as a major program of study critically apply arts, sciences and humanities to enter into the practice of professional nursing with specialized knowledge, skills and attitudes. Completion of the major also lays the foundation for life-long learning and graduate study in nursing.

Curriculum Objectives

A successful graduate of the Department of Nursing will be able to:

1. Integrate knowledge from the sciences, arts and humanities into the practice of professional nursing.
2. Utilize the nursing process to deliver holistic human care to individuals, families, aggregates and communities.
3. Utilize knowledge and skill to practice independently and collaboratively with other disciplines in diverse settings.
4. Integrate moral, ethical and legal principles into professional nursing values.
5. Utilize excellent communication techniques in the practice of nursing.
6. Utilize theory and research to contribute to the improvement of nursing practice.
7. Assume personal accountability for providing high quality nursing care.

- Recognize changing social, political, economic and environmental factors that affect nursing and the health care system.
- Assume responsibility for ongoing personal growth and development as a professional nurse.

Major in Nursing

The nursing program at Carroll College offers a Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in nursing, preparing students to practice as professional nurses or for graduate studies in nursing. Upon graduation, students are eligible to take the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN). The nursing program is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education and is approved by the Montana State Board of Nursing.

Students may enter into courses prerequisite to nursing as a major program of study upon admission to the college, but need to be formally accepted to the nursing major for registration in nursing courses other than NU 101.

Admission to the Nursing Major

Applications for Admission to the nursing major are available from the Department of Nursing and are due May 20 each year for admission into the major the following Fall semester. Students will be notified by June 15 of their acceptance. Students seeking admission into the nursing major must meet the following criteria to be eligible to make application to the Department of Nursing:

- Complete the following pre-requisites with a "C" or better at the time of application: BI 201, BI 202, CH 111, CO 101, ENWR 102, NU 101, PSY 105
- Have an overall college career Grade Point Average of 2.75 or higher on a 4-point scale. (This includes all attempted credits at an accredited college or university.)
- A student can repeat or withdraw from no more than two (2) courses considered pre-requisite to nursing or nursing courses taken either at Carroll or other institutions.
- Complete background check/finger printing.

The Department of Nursing reserves the right to accept for admission into the major the number of students for whom a quality educational program can be provided. If there are more applications than spaces available, the Department will use a priority ranking system based on the following criteria to select students for admission.

- Those students whose post high school academic credits were completed at Carroll will have highest priority over students with any transfer credits.
- Selected GPA for the following Carroll courses: BI 201, BI 202, CH 111, CO 101, ENWR 102, PSY 105. A course from another institution must be accepted at Carroll as an equivalent course to be calculated in this selected GPA.
- Interviews by the Department of Nursing faculty.
- Student essay administered by the Department of Nursing.

Progression in the Nursing Major:

To progress in the nursing major, the student must:

- Have a grade of "C" or better in all nursing courses

and the following co-requisites: BI 214, CH 112, MA 207, PHIL 107 or PHIL 208, SO 101, PSY 203.

- Maintain a CUM Carroll GPA of 2.75 at the end of each semester after admission into the nursing major.
- Pass/Fail grades may be acceptable for courses not co-requisite to nursing courses as long as the student is within the parameters of the guidelines of the Academic Policies as stated in the Carroll College Catalog currently in effect. Nursing courses, other than those designated by the Department, cannot be taken pass/fail.

If a student does not meet the above criteria, he or she is not eligible to continue in the nursing major. Students may petition the Department of Nursing for exceptions to the above criteria if there are extenuating circumstances.

Access to Clinical Experiences

Clinical experience begins in the 100-level nursing courses and occurs in diverse community settings, varying from Helena's hospitals to public health, assisted-living, long-term care, home-visits, and psychiatric and school settings. Each nursing course at Carroll provides quality, personalized learning experiences.

Students are expected to purchase uniforms, lab coats, name tags, and other items needed for clinical experience. Prior to beginning 200-level courses, nursing students must show proof of current Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation certification for health care professionals and freedom from communicable tuberculosis and immunity to hepatitis B, poliomyelitis, varicella, rubella, and mumps.

Professional nursing is one of the professions regulated by the state legislative bodies to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public. The laws are designed to prevent incompetent persons from practicing the profession by establishing minimum standards to be met for licensure.

As part of their educational program, student nurses are entrusted with the responsibility of providing certain kinds of nursing care to clients. It is the responsibility of the clinical instructor to determine that the student nurse has demonstrated reasonable competence to render nursing interventions without risk to the client. If the clinical instructor's evaluation of the student nurse's behavior or health status indicates that he or she is likely to provide unsafe nursing care, the clinical instructor has the legal responsibility to deny the student nurse access to clinical learning experience.

Professional liability insurance coverage is required for students engaged in clinical experiences and is included in registration fees.

CCSNA

The Carroll College Student Nurses' Association is the college chapter for the state and national Student Nurses' Association. CCSNA brings students together to help further the growth of nursing, providing opportunities for education, experience, service and fellowship.

Suggested Course Schedule

Freshman

Fall Semester

BI 201	Anatomy & Physiology + Lab	4
LAS 101	Alpha Seminar	3
PSY 105	General Psychology	3

Spring Semester

BI 202	Anatomy & Physiology + Lab	4
CH 111	Essentials of Chemistry + Lab	4
PSY 203	Developmental Psychology (or fall semester of sophomore year)	3

Required courses for Freshman Year, may be taken Fall or Spring:

NU 101	Intro Professional Nursing	2
ENWR 102	College Composition	4
CO 101	Basic Communication	3

+ CORE – One course needed in each of the following areas: Fine Arts, History, Literature, Philosophy (in addition to PHIL 107), and Theology (in addition to TH 101). Of these courses, will need one course designated as Global Diversity and one course designated as Writing Intensive outside the nursing major.

WI - Writing Course for the major

ND - Satisfies National Diversity

Additional courses that may be taken Fall or Spring of Freshman Year:

PHIL 107	Ethics	3
SO 101	Intro to Sociology	3
TH 101	Theological Foundations	3

Sophomore**Fall Semester**

CH 112	Organic and Biochemistry	3
TH 101	Theological Foundations	3
NU 201	Fundamentals & Health Promotion +Lab	4
NU 202	Assessment & Health Promotion + Lab	4

Spring Semester

BI 214	Microbiology	4
NU 301	Care of the Family	4
or NU 302	Psychosocial Health	4
NU 208	Nutrition	3
*CORE		3

Additional required courses, may be taken either Fall or Spring:

PHIL 107	Ethics	3
or PHIL 208	Bioethics	3
SO 101	Intro to Soc	3

Junior**Fall Semester**

NU 301	Care of the Family	4
or NU302	Psychosocial Health	4
NU 308	Pathophysiology & Pharmacology	3
MA 207	Statistics	3
*CORE		3
*CORE		3

Spring Semester

NU 304	Illness Across the Lifespan I	4
NU 305	Clinical Nursing Care I	4
NU 307	Nursing Research	3
*CORE		3
*CORE		3

Senior

NU 404	Illness Across the Lifespan II	4
NU 413	Clinical Nursing Care II	3
*NU 406	Nursing Management (WI)	4
NU 414	Community Health Nursing (ND)	4
NU 417	Capstone Clinical	4
NU 420	Prof Role: Leader	3
*CORE		3

Total Credits=122