

NURSING

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Mission

Inspired by the mission of our College, we are dedicated to preparing professional nurses 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.

Goals

The Department of Nursing prepares its graduates to enter into the practice of professional nursing with a framework of knowledge integrated from the sciences, arts and humanities. Emphasis is placed on the delivery of holistic nursing care which recognizes the dignity and uniqueness of every person. Completion of the major provides the foundation for life-long learning and graduate study in nursing.

The Faculty of the Department of Nursing seeks distinction in teaching, nursing scholarship and clinical expertise, for planning, directing and evaluating the curriculum.

Expected Outcomes

A graduate of the Department of Nursing will pass the NCLEX-RN licensure examination and enter into the profession of nursing with the following abilities:

1. Integrate knowledge from the sciences, arts and humanities into nursing practice.
2. Utilize the nursing process to deliver holistic human care to individuals, families, aggregates and communities.

- Utilize knowledge and skill to practice independently and collaboratively with other disciplines in diverse settings.
- Integrate moral, ethical and legal principles into nursing practice.
- Demonstrate excellence in communication.
- Utilize theory and research and evidence-based practice to optimize health and well-being.
- Assume personal accountability for upholding the standards of nursing practice.
- Influence changing social, political, economic and environmental factors that affect nursing and the health care system.
- Assume responsibility for personal and professional development.

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 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 freedom from communicable tuberculosis and immunity to hepatitis B, poliomyelitis, varicella, rubeola, rubella and mumps. Students must also show proof of current CPR, including two-rescuer and use of masks and AED. Students must update TB test and CPR certification annually.

Professional nursing is regulated in Montana by the Board of Nursing to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public. As part of their educational program, student nurses are entrusted with the responsibility of providing certain kinds of nursing care to clients/patients. 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/patient. 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.

Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI)

STTI is the Honor Society of Nursing, whose vision is to create a global community of nurses who lead using scholarship, knowledge and technology to improve the health of the world's people. Nursing programs at Carroll College and the Montana State University College of Nursing form the STTI chapter for Montana, called Zeta Upsilon. Membership is by invitation to nursing students in the spring of their senior year who demonstrate excellence in scholarship, and to nurse leaders exhibiting exceptional achievements in nursing. An induction ceremony is held at either Carroll College or MSU-Bozeman each spring.

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	3
	(or fall semester of sophomore year)	
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
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
NU 430	Cardiac Nursing (elective)	1
*CORE		3

Total Credits=122

+ 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

(Students will need to purchase lab coat, scrubs, nametag and stethoscope in NU 101/201/202)