

# NURSING

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(707) 664-2465

Fax: (707) 664-2653

[www.sonoma.edu/nursing](http://www.sonoma.edu/nursing)

## DEPARTMENT CHAIR

Liz Close

## ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Ana Munoz

Eileen O'Brien

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## Faculty

Anita Catlin

Liz Close

Carole Heath

Deborah Kindy

Jeanette Koshar

Deborah A. Roberts

Wendy Smith

Melissa Vandever

Mary Ellen Wilkosz

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## Programs Offered

### ***(Fully Accredited by the National League for Nursing Accreditation Commission)***

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Prelicensure B.S.N.

R.N. to B.S.N.

Master of Science in Nursing

Family Nurse Practitioner

Leadership and Management (concentration in Nursing Administration, Clinical Nurse Leader, or Nursing Education)

Direct Entry Master of Science in Nursing (Entry Level Master's Program)

Post-Master's Certificate, Family Nurse Practitioner

Sonoma State University's mission is reflected in the Department of Nursing's commitment to provide a foundation for lifelong learning and graduate nurses who practice within a broad cultural perspective, affirm intellectual and aesthetic achievements as a part of the human experience, develop professional leadership, foster flexibility and resilience, and contribute to the health and well-being of the world at large. The Department of Nursing recognizes nursing as a nurturing response, based upon a blend of art and science, occurring within a subjective and objective environment with the aim of developing the well-being of both nurse and client (client as individuals, families, communities, and organizations). Consistent with the philosophy and objectives is the consideration of students as unique individuals with

varied ethnic and cultural backgrounds, learning styles, and goals.

The Department of Nursing provides opportunities for learning using a variety of traditional and technology-mediated strategies. Courses may be taught using televideo conferencing technology, interactive and real-time electronic communications via computer for lecture, small group and seminar discussions, self-paced and self-directed independent study, and Internet tools that support lifelong intellectual and professional development.

The Department of Nursing enjoys a collaborative relationship with the health care delivery community within its service area and beyond. Consequently there are many clinical opportunities available. Students are placed in a variety of community-based hospitals and health care agencies. Graduates of both the baccalaureate and master's programs are well prepared for careers in a variety of health care settings and roles in the community.

Sonoma State University's nursing programs are approved by the California State Board of Registered Nursing and accredited by the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission, from which information about tuition, fees, and length of program may be obtained, either in writing or by telephone at National League for Nursing, 350 Hudson Street, New York, NY 10014, (212) 989-9393.

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## Bachelor of Science in Nursing

The undergraduate nursing program provides two entry options to obtain a baccalaureate degree in nursing:

1. A prelicensure program option that prepares the student to become a licensed Registered Nurse (R.N.); and
2. An R.N.-B.S.N. program option for the licensed R.N. with an associate degree or the equivalent.

All graduates of the baccalaureate program are prepared to plan and provide patient care; to teach patients, families, and staff; and to provide leadership in the delivery of health care services. The bachelor of science in nursing program offers students an opportunity to become a liberally educated professional, qualified for certification as a public health nurse, and completely prepared for graduate education in nursing. The prelicensure option also prepares the graduate for the R.N. licensure examination.

Eligible applicants should visit [www.sonoma.edu/nursing](http://www.sonoma.edu/nursing) for further information.

### **Prelicensure B.S.N. Option**

The prelicensure option consists of two components: the pre-nursing curriculum in which the student enrolls in the prerequisite courses for the nursing program; and the prelicensure curriculum, in which the student is admitted on a competitive basis to take the courses required for R.N. licensure and complete requirements for the bachelor of science in nursing degree.

The prerequisite courses may be taken at either Sonoma State

University or another university or community college. For admission to the prelicensure option of the B.S.N. program, SSU students must submit a supplemental application to the Nursing Department between November 1 and February 28. Transfer students must submit an application to SSU **and** a supplemental application to the Nursing Department. Applications are available on the department's website at [www.sonoma.edu/nursing](http://www.sonoma.edu/nursing).

### Admission to Pre-Nursing Status (for the prelicensure option)

Students applying directly from high school must meet the following criteria:

1. Standard SSU admission criteria.
2. High school chemistry and biology with a GPA of 3.00 (B) or better.
3. Overall high school GPA of 3.00 or better.
4. Eligibility Index of 3700 or higher

Community college transfer students must meet the following criteria:

1. Standard SSU transfer criteria.
2. B average in nursing prerequisite science courses.
3. Overall college GPA of 3.00 or higher.

### Admission to the Prelicensure Option (final three years of degree program)

Nursing is an impacted program and therefore requires a supplemental application to the Nursing Department in addition to the application to Sonoma State University. Students applying for admission to the prelicensure option in the B.S.N. program must submit:

1. Transcript verification of completion of GE categories A (Written and Oral Analysis, Fundamentals of Communication, and Critical Thinking) and B (Natural Sciences and Mathematics [Statistics required for Nursing]);
2. Overall GPA of 3.00 or higher;
3. GPA of 3.00 or higher in prerequisite science courses: BIOL 220, 218, 224, and CHEM 105 or equivalent;
4. Results of the Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS);
5. Health care experience (written verification of at least 50 hours of volunteer or paid work in a setting where the role of registered nurses can be readily observed); and
6. Essay (criteria are included in the application packet).

Requirements for the Prelicensure B.S.N. Option	Units
General education	*48
Major requirements	58
Support courses	14
General electives	4
<b>Total units needed for graduation</b>	<b>124</b>

\*3 units of area E will be satisfied upon completion of the nursing major to meet the 51-unit GE requirement.

## Required Courses for the Prelicensure Option, Bachelor of Science in Nursing

### YEAR 1 (Pre-Nursing)

Fall Semester	Spring Semester
BIO 115 (3)	BIO 218 (4)
CHEM 105 (5)	BIO 224 (4)
BIO 220 (4)	Written & Oral Analysis (Speech) GE (3)
ENGL 101 (3)	MATH GE (MATH 165 Statistics required) (4)
GE, A3 Critical Thinking GE (3)	

### YEAR 2

(Admission to the prelicensure option of the B.S.N. program is required from this point forward)

Fall Semester	Spring Semester
NURS 200 (3)	NURS 206 (3)
NURS 203 (2)	NURS 208 (3)
NURS 205 (3)	NURS 210B (4)
NURS 210A (4)	NURS 300 (3)

### YEAR 3

Fall Semester	Spring Semester
NURS 340 (3)	NURS 380 (3)
NURS 342 (3)	NURS 385 (3)
NURS 345 (4)	GE and other degree requirements
PSY 302 (3)	
GE and other degree requirements	

### YEAR 4

Fall Semester	Spring Semester
NURS 404 (3)	NURS 425 (4)
NURS 405 (3)	NURS 450 (3)
NURS 415 (1)	Elective (3)
NURS 440 (3)	GE and other degree requirements
GE and other degree requirements	

### R.N. to B.S.N. Option

Sonoma State University's baccalaureate program also offers an upper-division option designed to articulate with community college Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) programs. The SSU program provides upper-division education for registered nurses fostering expanded practice and function with increased independence in a variety of settings.

R.N.s who have attended a hospital (diploma) program should contact a community college with a R.N. program to obtain equivalent credit for their diploma program (30 ungraded lower-division nursing units) and to complete the community college's general education requirements for an A.A. degree.

## Admission to the R.N. to B.S.N. Option

Applicants must meet the following criteria:

1. Current California licensure as a registered nurse. (Recent ADN graduates who have not yet received California R.N. licensure but who otherwise meet admission requirements will be accepted on a conditional basis pending National Council Licensing Examination (NCLEX) results. Failure to pass NCLEX disqualifies the student from the nursing major – but not from the University – until such time as a passing score is obtained.);
2. Sixty semester units of college-transferable credit: 30 units should meet California State University general education requirements, including areas A (English Composition, Speech, and Critical Thinking) and B4 (Statistics required); 30 units must be credit for lower-division nursing coursework. Applicants may be admitted to SSU and the nursing program without having yet completed Critical Thinking and/or Statistics, but must complete these requirements in their first semester at SSU;
3. Minimum of 3 semester units of college-transferable credit in general chemistry with a grade of C or better; and
4. Human anatomy and physiology within the past 10 years or direct clinical nursing experience within the past two years.

### Requirements for the R.N. to B.S.N. Option

General Education (39 units may be transferred* from a community college or university)	39
Upper-Division GE at SSU	6

### Major Requirements

Lower-division nursing at community college or university (13 of the 44 units of upper-division nursing coursework below may also be awarded for community college nursing coursework)	30
Upper-division at SSU	44
General electives and prerequisite sciences	5

**Total units needed for graduation** 124

\*3 units of area E will be satisfied upon completion of the nursing major to meet the 48-unit GE requirement (for transfer students).

## Required Nursing Major Courses for the R.N.-B.S.N. Option and Sample Two-Year Program

The sequence below is for full-time students. A part-time sequence that can be completed in six semesters is available from the Nursing Department and on the website.

YEAR 1	
Fall Semester	Spring Semester
NURS 305 (3)	NURS 300 (3)
NURS 312 (4)	NURS 313 (4)
NURS 404 (3)	NURS 348 (6)
PSY 302 (3)	NURS 405 (3)
	NURS 415 (1)
	NURS 440 (3)
YEAR 2	
Fall Semester	
NURS 425 (4)	
NURS 450 (3)	
NURS 388 (7)	
Upper-Division GE in residence (3)	

### L.V.N. 30-Unit Option

L.V.N.s interested in an L.V.N.-B.S.N. program are encouraged to contact the Indiana State University L.V.N.-B.S.N. program offered in California through a state approved partnership with SSU. Students will be graduates of Indiana State University.

Contact Millie Adkins, ISU-California L.V.N.-B.S.N. Program Coordinator, for more information, (800) 496-9613, madkins5@isugw.indstate.edu.

The L.V.N. 30-unit option includes only those nursing courses required for R.N. licensure and qualifies L.V.N.s to take the NCLEX-RN, but does not earn a B.S.N. To be admitted to the L.V.N. 30-unit option an L.V.N. must have completed 4 units of physiology and 4 units of microbiology with a grade of B or better. Admission to this option is ONLY on an “as space is available” basis. Contact the department for further details.

### Undergraduate Nursing Progression and Retention

Should a student not attain a minimum grade of C (a C- is not acceptable) in a required nursing course, the student will not be permitted to continue in the nursing major. The student may petition the faculty to repeat the course. If approval is granted, the student must receive a grade of C or better in the course when repeated. If a minimum grade of C is not attained, the student will not be eligible to continue in, or graduate from, the B.S.N. program.

### Master of Science in Nursing

The goal of the graduate curriculum is to provide advanced professional education to nurses with a B.S.N. or equivalent. The gradu-

ate degree in nursing is designed to respond to society's needs for professional nurses who influence the structure of emerging patterns of health care practice and delivery. Specialization in an area of nursing practice or function enables graduates to effectively address current and future societal health needs. Graduates support the development and refinement of nursing science by assuming advanced clinical and leadership roles within the profession and by participating in research and other scholarly activities.

The curriculum includes a core of instruction with an emphasis on theoretical and conceptual foundations of nursing practice, research, professional issues, and leadership. One option offers specialization as a family nurse practitioner (F.N.P.), with emphasis on advanced clinical primary care practice. A second option, nursing leadership and management (L&M), prepares nurses for executive leadership functions and responsibilities in current and emerging health care systems and offers concentrations in nursing administration, clinical nurse leader, or education.

The Department of Nursing also offers a direct entry master of science in nursing program designed specifically for the student with a baccalaureate degree in a discipline other than nursing who wishes to become a registered nurse with a graduate focus in the clinical nurse leader concentration of the leadership and management option. The department website ([www.sonoma.edu/nursing](http://www.sonoma.edu/nursing)) contains in-depth information about this program.

### **Application Procedures**

The standard CSU application form must be submitted (available from the SSU Office of Admissions and Records). In addition, applicants must:

1. Meet the minimum admissions requirements for the chosen option (FNP or L&M);
2. Submit a supplemental Nursing Department application form; and
3. Submit three letters of recommendation (on departmental forms).

Application packets are available on the Nursing Department website, [www.sonoma.edu/nursing](http://www.sonoma.edu/nursing). Applicants who have received their B.S.N. from SSU also need to submit a standard CSU application and supplemental nursing application to apply for graduate standing at SSU.

### **M.S.N. Pathways Option (for registered nurses with a bachelor's degree in a discipline other than nursing)**

Admission to the Department of Nursing's master of science program requires the foundation and skills equivalent to a bachelor of science degree in nursing. For those registered nurses who hold a baccalaureate degree in a field other than nursing, the department offers a Pathways option in preparation for admission to the master's program. This option provides an individualized plan of study considering the student's background and chosen master's option (family nurse practitioner or leadership and management)

Pathways Program Admissions Procedure: In addition to the

standard California State University application, a M.S.N. Pathways application must be submitted. Applications are available on the department website, [www.sonoma.edu/nursing](http://www.sonoma.edu/nursing).

Admission Status: Initial status will be "conditionally classified" while the student is fulfilling requirements for B.S.N. equivalency and other graduate admissions criteria. Completion of the Pathways option permits the student to be considered in the applicant pool but does not guarantee admission to the graduate nursing program.

### ***Culminating Experience***

Degree requirements include completing a culminating experience during the final semester of study. The experience provides an opportunity for the student to synthesize the major learning outcomes of the graduate program and the nursing specialty option.

### **Family Nurse Practitioner Specialty Option**

The purpose of the family nurse practitioner specialty option is to prepare registered nurses with a bachelor's degree in nursing for advanced clinical practice with an emphasis on promoting individual and family wellness. The F.N.P. specialty focuses upon the theoretical and scientific bases for the diagnosis and management of common illness as well as health teaching, counseling, and preventive services. Emphasis is placed upon advanced clinical skills that include history-taking, physical examination, health screening, management of common illnesses, and techniques of prevention and risk reduction. Graduates may work in clinics, health maintenance organizations, schools, and medical practices as primary health care providers.

### ***Admission Requirements***

1. B.S.N. degree (R.N.s with a bachelor's in an area other than nursing, please see previous section on M.S.N. Pathways option);
2. GPA of 3.00 in the last two years (60 units) of undergraduate or post-graduate study;
3. Current California licensure as a registered nurse;
4. Completion of a course in statistics; completion of a course in physiology/pathophysiology within the last seven years; completion of a physical assessment course in the summer prior to beginning the F.N.P. specialty courses (students may challenge the physiology requirement by taking the National League for Nursing test. See the department website at [www.sonoma.edu/nursing](http://www.sonoma.edu/nursing) for details.);
5. Completion of course(s) in community health nursing required for Public Health Nursing Certificate; and
6. Full-time experience as a R.N. preferred.

### ***Curriculum Features***

Students have a three-semester clinical preceptorship with a primary care provider. Students and faculty share responsibility for finding an acceptable preceptor. Content includes health needs and risks of all family members, family theories, and legal and professional issues pertinent to nurse practitioners. Content taken concur-

rently with the clinical sequences includes health risk assessment of individuals and families, pathophysiological concepts in diagnosis and treatment of common illness, pharmacology, and practice issues pertinent to nurse practitioners.

Students complete a comprehensive exam for the culminating experience that serves as evidence of successful integration of the diverse content areas in the curriculum.

The SSU family nurse practitioner specialty option meets criteria specified in Section 1484, Title 16, of the *California Administrative Code* and is approved by the California State Board of Registered Nursing.

#### **Accelerated F.N.P. Option**

Registered nurses with a B.S. who are nurse practitioners may progress more rapidly through the program using a series of challenge examinations. A maximum of 12 semester units from prior coursework and challenge examinations may be counted toward the M.S.N. degree. A total of 28 units must be taken in residence at SSU. Students are evaluated individually to determine which courses have been met by prior course work and which courses may be challenged. By using this option, it is possible for eligible students to receive credit for some of the didactic courses and for most of the clinical experience required for F.N.P. preparation.

#### **Post-Master's Family Nurse Practitioner Certificate Option**

The certificate option is a 31-unit course of study designed for registered nurses who hold a master's degree in nursing who wish to become family nurse practitioners. Application is through the Department of Nursing (no university application is required).

### **Curriculum for Full-Time Progression for Master of Science in Nursing – Family Nurse Practitioner**

The sequence below is for full-time students. A part-time sequence that can be completed in six semesters is also available from the Nursing Department and on the website.

YEAR 1	
<i>Fall Semester (13 Units)</i>	<i>Spring Semester (12 Units)</i>
NURS 501 (3)	NURS 540B (4)
NURS 540 (2)	NURS 550B (5)
NURS 549 (3)	NURS 505 (3)
NURS 550A (2)	
NURS 552 (3)	
YEAR 2	
<i>Fall Semester (9 Units)</i>	<i>Spring Semester (6 Units)</i>
NURS 500A (3)	NURS 500B (3)
NURS 504 (2)	NURS 510 (3)
NURS 550C (4)	Culminating Experience
<b>TOTAL UNITS:: 40</b>	

### **Leadership and Management Specialty Option: Nursing Administration, Clinical Nurse Leader, and Nursing Education Concentrations**

The Nursing Leadership and Management Specialty option includes the core graduate nursing curriculum and selection of one of three areas of concentration: nursing administration, nursing education, or clinical nurse leader. The core curriculum grounds the master's-prepared nurse in research and evidence-based practice, health policy, health care organization and financing, ethics, professional role development, and the theoretical foundations of nursing practice. The selected area of concentration builds on the core curriculum as follows:

- **Nursing Administration:** This concentration emphasizes systems analysis, organizational development, leadership, continuous quality improvement, economics and financial management, information systems, human resource/outcomes management, managed care and integrated delivery systems, marketing and sales strategies, and negotiation strategy. Graduates are prepared to assume nursing leadership positions in a variety of health care services delivery venues.
- **Nursing Education:** Competencies highlighted in this concentration include facilitating learner development and socialization, assessment and evaluation in didactic and clinical environments, curriculum development, instructional design and delivery in higher education, and educational program evaluation. Graduates are prepared to teach in community college or university nursing programs or provide professional education in health care organizations.
- **Clinical Nurse Leader:** The clinical nurse leader concentration prepares students with advanced clinical skills in physical assessment, pathophysiology and pharmacology, outcomes management, patient advocacy, education, information management, microsystems analysis, and team management. Graduates are prepared at an advanced generalist level in patient care delivery and the associated environment and improving patient care from a systems perspective.

#### **Admission Requirements**

1. B.S.N. degree (R.N.s with a baccalaureate degree in an area other than nursing, please see section on M.S.N. Pathways program);
2. GPA of 3.00 in the last two years (60 units) of undergraduate or post-graduate study;
3. Current California licensure as a registered nurse;
4. Completion of a course in statistics; and
5. Completion of courses(s) in community health nursing.

#### **Curriculum**

The nursing administration, nursing education, and clinical nurse leader concentrations are managed in class cohorts and admission may not be made to each concentration every year. Check with the

department on the status of admissions to your desired concentration. Students enroll in an average of 8 units per semester. Courses are taught in a variety of formats including the traditional classroom, teleconference, and Internet.

The first year of study focuses on the acquisition of a theoretical base in nursing, the health care delivery system, advanced practice issues, and ethics. The second year incorporates nursing administration, clinical nursing leadership, nursing education theories, financial management, quality management, and human resources. Students analyze and evaluate organizational and management theories in relation to the provision of health care and nursing care delivery systems. A final semester residency program provides for application of theoretical knowledge with a mentor in a health care agency selected by the student in consultation with faculty. Students tailor their plan of study and select the focus for their residency based on their professional background and career goals. Students complete a culminating experience that serves as evidence of successful integration of the diverse content areas in the curriculum.

### **M.S.N. - Leadership and Management Curriculum**

Core courses required for all students.

	<i>Units</i>
NURS 500A Scholarly Inquiry I	3
NURS 500B Scholarly Inquiry II	3
NURS 504 Policy & Politics of Health Care	2
NURS 505 Ethics in Healthcare	3
NURS 506 Systems Management in Health Care	4
NURS 515A Financial Management in Health Care Organization	4
<b>Total units</b>	<b>19</b>

### **Concentrations**

**Students take 13 units in their concentration**

<i>Administration Concentration (13 units)</i>	<i>Units</i>
NURS 515B Financial Management II	4
NURS 530 Nursing Leadership Theory	4
NURS 535 Residency	5
<i>Education Concentration (13 units)</i>	
NURS 522A Instructional Process in Higher Education I	4
NURS 522B Instructional Process in Higher Education II	4
NURS 535 Residency	5
<i>Clinical Nurse Leader Concentration (13 units)</i>	
NURS 509 Adv. Assess. & Clinical Decision-Making	3
NURS 516 Pathophys & Pharm Issues in Nursing	3
NURS 535 Residency	5
NURS 536 CNL Professional Role Development	2
<b>Total units in L&amp;M concentration courses</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Total units for the degree</b>	<b>32</b>

### **Direct Entry Master of Science in Nursing Program**

The Department of Nursing also offers an entry-level master of science in nursing program titled "Direct Entry Master of Science in Nursing" (DEMSN) designed specifically for the student with a baccalaureate degree in a discipline other than nursing who wishes to become a registered nurse with a graduate focus as a Clinical Nurse Leader. The Clinical Nurse Leader is a generalist clinician, systems analyst, outcomes manager, information manager, educator, advocate, and team manager. For additional information about the role see the American Association of Colleges of Nursing web site <http://www.aacn.nche.edu/CNL/>. The SSU program is an intensive five-semester program during which pre-licensure and graduate courses are taught concurrently each semester. Important features of the program are::

1. Eighteen continuous months of study;
2. Extensive use of online education strategies;
3. Simultaneous integration of undergraduate and graduate nursing curricula; and
4. Curriculum designed to prepare Clinical Nurse Leaders.

DEMSN graduates are awarded a master of science degree in nursing and are eligible for the R.N. licensing exam (NCLEX) at the end of the program. Graduates are immediately employable as staff nurses and have the opportunity to continue a variety of educational pursuits of individual interest as well as market opportunity.

#### **Admission Requirements**

Baccalaureate or higher degree in a discipline other than nursing. Minimum 3.00 GPA in the last 60 units of undergraduate or post-graduate study.

Minimum 3.00 GPA in college level, nursing major prerequisite courses:

- Integrated chemistry (5 units)
- Human Anatomy (4 units, lab)
- Human Physiology (4 units, lab)
- Microbiology (4 units, lab)
- Statistics (3 units)
- Human Growth and Development [across the lifespan] (3 units)

Students are also required to have completed a certified nursing assistant (CNA) course prior to beginning the program.

#### **DEMSN Clinical Nurse Leader Curriculum**

The DEMSN curriculum is presented in five continuous semesters/sessions. Each semester consists of coursework and clinical experience. The didactic portion of the curriculum is delivered primarily online through the Internet using up-to-date distributive education strategies and technology. Clinical experiences occur in a variety of local hospitals, clinics, and other health care delivery systems.

The highly motivated, flexible, self-directed learner is likely to be successful in this program.

## Curriculum for Direct Entry Master of Science in Nursing - Clinical Nurse Leader

### YEAR 1

<i>Spring Semester</i>	<i>Units</i>
NURS 200 Nursing in Health and Illness	3
NURS 203 Basic Pharmacology for Nurses	2
NURS 208 Nursing Applications of Pathophysiology	3
NURS 210A Clinical Practicum I	4
NURS 506 Systems Management in Health Care	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>

### *Summer Session*

NURS 206 Psychiatric/Mental Health Nursing	3
NURS 210B Clinical Practicum II	4
NURS 502 Pathophysiologic Basis of Nursing Care	3
NURS 509 Advanced Assessment	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>13</b>

### *Fall Semester*

NURS 380 Care of Individuals and Families with Complex Needs	3
NURS 385 Clinical Practicum Care of Individuals & Families with Complex Needs	3
NURS 507 Community Health Nursing Theory	3
NURS 515A Financial Management	3
NURS 500A Scholarly Inquiry I	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>

### YEAR 2

<i>Spring Semester</i>	
NURS 340 Women's Health in the Expanding Family	2
NURS 342 Child Health in the Expanding Family	2
NURS 345 Clinical Practicum with Expanding Families	3
NURS 500B Scholarly Inquiry II	3
NURS 514 Community Health Nursing Practicum	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>13</b>

### *Summer Session*

NURS 504 Policy and Politics of Health Care	2
NURS 505 Ethics in Health Care	3
NURS 525 Clinical Residency	3
NURS 526 CNL Professional Role Development	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>

**Total units required 67**

### *Graduate Nursing Progression and Retention*

Should a graduate nursing student not attain a minimum grade of B- (a C+ is not acceptable) in a required graduate nursing course, the student will not be permitted to continue in the program. The student may petition the faculty to repeat the course. If approval is granted, the student must receive a grade of B- or better in the course when repeated. If a minimum grade of B- is not attained, the student will not be eligible to continue in, or graduate from, the M.S.N. program.