

# NURSING

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

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*\*Faculty Early Retirement Program*

## Programs Offered

***(Fully Accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing)***

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Pre-Licensure B.S.N.

Post-Licensure B.S.N.

Master of Science in Nursing

Family Nurse Practitioner

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 Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing, from which information about tuition, fees, and length of program may be obtained, either in writing or by telephone at Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing 3343 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 850, Atlanta, GA 30326.

## Bachelor of Science in Nursing

*(See page 215 for sample four-year programs.)*

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

1. A pre-licensure program option that prepares the student to become a licensed Registered Nurse (R.N.); and
2. An post-licensure 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 pre-licensure program 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.

## Pre-Licensure B.S.N. Program

The pre-licensure program consists of two components: the pre-nursing curriculum in which the student enrolls in the prerequisite courses for the nursing program and required GE; and the pre-licensure curriculum ("nursing program"), 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 (B.S.N.).

The prerequisite and lower division 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 December 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 grade of B or better in all semesters;
3. Overall high school GPA of 3.5 or better; and
4. Eligibility Index of 3800 or higher.
5. Students who do not meet the criteria listed above will automatically be listed as “undeclared” if a second major choice is not selected.

**Admission to the Pre-Licensure Program / Nursing Major  
(final two 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 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. Grade of B 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); and
5. Essay (criteria are included in the application packet).

Requirements for the Pre-Licensure B.S.N.	Units
General education	*50
Major requirements	57
Support courses	10
General electives	3
<b>Total units needed for graduation</b>	<b>120</b>

\*3 units of area E will be satisfied upon completion of the nursing major to meet the 50-unit GE requirement.

Community college transfer students must meet the following criteria:

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

**Post-Licensure Program**

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

R.N.s who have attended a hospital (diploma) program should contact a community college with an 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./A.S. degree.

**Admission to the Post-Licensure B.S.N. Program**

Applicants must meet the following minimum criteria. Under impacted stats additional criteria may apply. See SSU Nursing website for details.

1. Current California licensure as a Registered Nurse. (Recent A.D.N. 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;
3. Minimum of 3 semester units of college-transferable credit in 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 Post-Licensure B.S.N. Program Units**

General Education and Nursing Prerequisites	54
Upper-Division GE at SSU	6
Major Requirements	
Lower-division nursing prerequisites and nursing at community college or university	16
Upper-division at SSU (Up to 20 units of Upper Division nursing for NCLEX based on transcript review) E.O. 1084	44

**Total units needed for graduation 120**

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

Post-Licensure and Pre-Licensure B.S.N. applicants should consult the SSU Nursing Website for detailed current information related to the program of study.

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

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-R.N., 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. Only two courses in the nursing major may be repeated once.

## **Master of Science in Nursing- Family Nurse Practitioner**

*(See page 215-216 for a sample four-year program.)*

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

SSU offers specialization as a family nurse practitioner (F.N.P.), with emphasis on advanced clinical primary care practice.

The department website ([www.sonoma.edu/nursing](http://www.sonoma.edu/nursing)) contains in-depth information about the graduate program curriculum.

### **Application Procedures**

The standard CSU application form must be submitted for admission to SSU. In addition, applicants must:

1. Meet the minimum admissions requirements;
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.

### **A.D.N.-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 an option in preparation for admission to the master's program. This option provides an individualized plan of study considering the student's background and the family nurse practitioner program.

A.D.N.-M.S.N. Pathways Program Admissions Procedure: In addition to the standard California State University application, a A.D.N.-M.S.N. supplemental 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 A.D.N.-M.S.N. Pathways Program allows a candidate to apply to the M.S.N. F.N.P. 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 and demonstrate the major learning outcomes of the graduate program and the nursing specialty option.

### **Family Nurse Practitioner Program**

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 assessment, 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 A.D.N.-M.S.N. 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 in college career;
5. Completion of course(s) in community health nursing; and
6. One year full-time experience as a R.N. required.

### **Curriculum Features**

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 concurrently with the clinical sequences includes advanced health assessment and 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.

The M.S.N. F.N.P. curriculum is 46 units, students progress from basic advanced practice skills to more complex skills. Each semester has a clinical skills component.

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

The certificate option is a 36-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).

### 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.

### Prelicensure Bachelor of Science in Nursing (B.S.N.) Curriculum Plan

#### Freshman Year : 30 Units

<i>Fall Semester (15 Units)</i>	<i>Spring Semester (15 Units)</i>
BIOL 115 (3)	BIOL 220 (4)
CHEM 105 (5)	MATH 165 (4)
GE A2 (4)	GE C1 (4)
GE D2 (3)	GE D3 (3)

#### Sophomore Year : 29-30 Units

<i>Fall Semester (15 Units)</i>	<i>Spring Semester (14-15 Units)</i>
BIOL 224 (4)	BIOL 240 (4)
GE C2 (4)	PSY 302 (UD GE) (3)
GE D1 (3-4)	GE C3 (4)
GE A3 (4)	GE D4 (3-4)

#### Junior Year : 30 Units

<i>Fall Semester (15 Units)</i>	<i>Spring Semester (15 Units)</i>
NURS 301 (9)	NURS 302 (4)
NURS 303 (6)	NURS 304 (6)
	NURS 310 (3)

#### Senior Year : 30 Units

<i>Fall Semester (15 Units)</i>	<i>Spring Semester (15 Units)</i>
NURS 407 (6)	NURS 410 (5)
NURS 409 (6)	NURS 412 (5)
GE D5 (3-4)	NURS 414 (5)

**TOTAL UNITS: 120**

*Note: 3 of the 9 required units of UD GE is satisfied upon completion of the nursing program.*

### Post-Licensure B.S.N. Program Curriculum Plan

#### Senior Year : 32 Units

<i>Fall Semester (15 Units)</i>	<i>Spring Semester (17 Units)</i>
NURS 310 (3)	NURS 410 (5)
NURS 312 (4)	NURS 412 (5)
NURS 313 (4)	NURS 416 (3)
UD GE C1 (4)	UD GE C2 (4)

**TOTAL UNITS: 120**

*Note: 3 of the 9 required units of UD GE is satisfied upon completion of the nursing program.*

### FNP Masters Full-time Curriculum Plan

The sequence below is for full-time students. A part-time sequence that can be completed in six semesters follows below.

#### YEAR 1: 21 Units

<i>Fall Semester (11 Units)</i>	<i>Spring Semester (10 Units)</i>
N 501 (4)	N 540A (3)
N 509 (4)	N 550A (4)
N 549 (3)	N 552 (3)

#### YEAR 2: 25 Units

<i>Fall Semester (11 Units)</i>	<i>Spring Semester (14 Units)</i>
N 540B (3)	N 550C (4)
N 550B (4)	N 562 (4)
N 560 (4)	N 564 (4)
	N 566 (2)

**TOTAL UNITS: 46**

## **FNP Masters Part-time Curriculum Plan**

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### **YEAR 1: 16 Units**

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#### *Fall Semester (8 Units)*

N 501 (4)

N 560 (4)

#### *Spring Semester (8 Units)*

N 509 (4)

N 564 (4)

### **YEAR 2: 16-17 Units**

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#### *Fall Semester (6-7 Units)*

N 549 (3)

Optional Elective (3-4)

#### *Spring Semester (10 Units)*

N 540A (3)

N 552 (3)

### **YEAR 3: 17 Units**

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#### *Fall Semester (7 Units)*

N 540B (3)

N 550B (4)

#### *Spring Semester (10 Units)*

N 562 (4)

N 550C (4)

N 566 (2)

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**TOTAL UNITS: 46**

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## **FNP Post Masters Certificate Curriculum Plan**

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### **YEAR 1: 21 Units**

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#### *Fall Semester (11 Units)*

N 501 (4)

N 509 (4)

N 549 (3)

#### *Spring Semester (10 Units)*

N 540A (3)

N 550A (4)

N 552 (3)

### **YEAR 2: 15 Units**

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#### *Fall Semester (7 Units)*

N 540B (3)

N 550B (4)

#### *Spring Semester (8 Units)*

N 550C (4)

N 562 (4)

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**TOTAL UNITS: 36**

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