DEPARTMENT OF NURSING

Mission: Providing quality undergraduate and graduate nursing programs that promote academic excellence while integrating the values of truth, virtue, and service.

The Prelicensure Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program offers a faith-based curriculum that provides a solid foundation in liberal education and nursing science, the cornerstone for the practice and education of nurses. Throughout the program, graduates are prepared to take the National Council Licensing Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN). Upon successful completion of NCLEX-RN and the BSN degree, the graduate will apply for and be issued a California nursing license [pending Board of Registered Nursing (BRN)]. The graduate RN may then enter professional positions in a variety of healthcare settings with patients of all ages and diverse populations. Baccalaureate graduates are prepared to practice as a generalist across the lifespan and may work as a RN in a variety of community-based and acute care settings.

Students will be admitted to Pre-nursing Lower Division coursework and will apply in year two for progression to Upper Division Nursing Courses.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Critical Thinking/Clinical Reasoning/Clinical Judgment: Use a systematic approach in assessing, planning, testing, and evaluating innovative and evidence-based solutions to patient care problems across a variety of healthcare settings.

2. Integration of Faith and Learning: Develop and articulate an understanding of a Biblical worldview in integrating values of truth, virtue, and service in personal and professional life and in providing Christ-centered leadership and service.

3. Ethical Practice: Demonstrate behaviors that integrate altruism, autonomy, integrity, social justice, and respect for diversity and human dignity across the lifespan.


5. Communication: Use communication theories and techniques to promote communication and collaborative relationships with intra-professional healthcare team members, individuals, families, groups, and communities.


7. Cultural Competency and Citizenship: Apply cultural competence theory in the care of diverse individuals, families, groups, communities, and populations across the lifespan and across the continuum of healthcare environments.

8. Information and Technology Competency: Demonstrate technology skills in locating, retrieving, applying, and evaluating the integrity of information while using information responsibly and ethically.

9. Leadership and Patient Safety: Apply leadership concepts, skills, decision making, and problem solving in the provision and oversight of nursing practice, and in advocating for equitable health care.

Admission Requirements

Requirements for entrance to the BSN Program are:

- A minimum preferred cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.
- Minimum grade of ‘B’ (2.7) on science prerequisite requirements, no lower than a ‘C’ (2.0) in each course.
- Completion of the Supplemental Application for Admission, Prelicensure Program.
- Official transcripts from each college/university, school of nursing attended.
- A 250 word Statement of Purpose
- Evidence of all required immunizations and report of a current physical exam (within one year of program application).
- Clear criminal background check (contracted by University).
- A copy of a basic life support certification (BLS).
- An interview and a writing sample with the Admissions Committee.
- Screening exam - the Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS) - preferred score of 75%.

Attendance Policy

Regular attendance in nursing classes, clinical, laboratory and simulation experience is mandatory. Any student who fails to make up a clinical laboratory experience or clinical agency absence, on a date/time as scheduled by faculty, will receive an unsatisfactory clinical grade. An automatic failing grade for the nursing course will ensue.

Course Repetition

Students enrolled in the Prelicensure BSN Program cannot repeat any more than 2 nursing major courses related to course failure or withdrawal. Additionally, students may not repeat any pre-requisite or nursing course more than once. Any deviation from this policy requires Program Committee approval with a petition submitted to the Program Director.

Continuation in the Program

Nursing students are required to demonstrate increasing competence and professional skills as well as maintain compliance with ethical standards and legal mandates. Progression in the program is granted based on satisfactory performance in theory courses and clinical practicums. If satisfactory performance is not maintained, the student(s) may be placed Probation or dismissed from the program. When dismissal is considered, reasonable efforts will be made to obtain evaluations from clinical site(s) and to include those evaluations in the decision process.

In order to assess student performance, clinical performance evaluations may be obtained from clinical sites, clinical and simulation lab faculty, and others involved in the student’s clinical experience. These evaluations are reviewed by the Nursing Program Director and/or Assistant Directors. If evaluations indicate that a student’s clinical and/or professional behaviors are unprofessional or unsafe, putting the patient
or any individual at physical or psychological risk, or exposing, or creating future likelihood of exposing the patient(s) or individual(s) to significant risk of harm, the student will be dismissed immediately from the program. The student retains access to and all rights pertaining to the university and Department appeal process.

Re-admission to Program
If a student applies for re-admission after withdrawing, being dismissed, or taking a leave of absence from the program, the return of the student is subject to all currently existing academic regulations and program requirements in effect at the time of the re-admission. An additional letter from the student must be included with the application, which 1) addresses the causes for dismissal, 2) states the reasons for requesting re-admittance, and 3) includes any other information deemed relevant by the applicant. Additional information or documentation may be required, if applicable. The application will be considered with the current applicant pool at the time the re-application is submitted.

Malpractice Insurance
Each student must have basic malpractice insurance before the beginning of the third year and fourth year prior to enrollment in any Nursing clinical course.

Programs
- Nursing B.S.N. (https://catalog.vanguard.edu/college/nursing/nursing-bsn/)
- Nursing M.S.N. (https://catalog.vanguard.edu/college/nursing/nursing-msn/)
- Nursing Program – RN to BSN (https://catalog.vanguard.edu/college/nursing/nursing-rn-bsn/)
- Post-Master’s Clinical Nurse Specialist Certificate (https://catalog.vanguard.edu/college/nursing/post-masters-clinical-nurse-specialist-certificate/)

Courses
NRS-302A Fundamentals of Nursing Theory and Practice 2 Credits
This course introduces the student to the history and theories of professional nursing practice. The roles of the nurse as provider of care; designer, manager and coordinator of care; and member of the profession are explored. Basic nursing skills are introduced with an emphasis on patient activities of daily living, therapeutic communication, patient safety, and documentation. The associated lab (45 hours) allows the student to practice fundamental skills in a simulated patient care environment.
Terms Typically Offered: Fall.

NRS-302B Fundamentals of Nursing Theory and Practice 2 Credits
This course builds upon evidence-based concepts, knowledge, and skills introduced in NRS 302 A. Using the nursing process, the student will assess alterations in health and illness, and intervene with appropriate nursing care. The lab portion of the course (45 hours) provides the opportunity for the student to master fundamental nursing care and basic nursing skills in a simulated patient care environment.
Terms Typically Offered: Spring.

NRS-350 Nurs Care/Adult & Older Adult I 6 Credits
This course focuses on evidence-based concepts, clinical experiences, and applying the nursing process in the provision of optimal care for the adult and older adult patient. An emphasis is placed on the care of the adult and older adult with acute and chronic health problems across a variety of practice settings. Students will have opportunity to learn and practice skills associated with moderately complex health needs. Concurrent clinical experiences (135 hours) will be spent in simulated, community-based, and acute care environments.
Terms Typically Offered: Fall.

NRS-355 Physical Assessment 3 Credits
This course provides the opportunity to learn and practice skills necessary to perform a complete and age appropriate health assessment. Emphasis is placed on assessing physical, emotional, spiritual, social, and cultural needs of the patient. The nursing process will be used in prioritizing patient health care needs. The integration of disease prevention, health promotion, and risk assessment is introduced. Course format consists of 2 hours of lecture and 3 hours of lab per week in a simulated patient care environment.
Terms Typically Offered: Fall.

NRS-360 Psyc & Mental Health Nursing 4 Credits
This course provides evidence-based concepts and clinical experiences related to providing care for the client with psychiatric and mental health disorders. Relevant nursing and interdisciplinary theories will be integrated into the nursing care of diverse individuals, families, groups, and communities with mental illness. Holistic approaches to care and therapeutic communication will be explored. Concurrent clinical experiences (90 hours) will be spent in simulated, community-based, and acute care settings.
Terms Typically Offered: Fall.

NRS-365A Integr Pathophys/Pharmacology 2 Credits
This course presents pathophysiology, using a systems approach, as applied to current nursing practice. Pharmacological principles such as pharmacokinetics, pharmacotherapeutics, contraindications, adverse effects and drug interactions, and nursing implications will be presented. Major drug classifications will be explored in conjunction with the pathophysiological process.
Terms Typically Offered: Fall.

NRS-365B Integr Pathophys/Pharmacology 2 Credits
This course builds upon content learned in NRS 365 A. Using a system’s approach, a continuation of pathophysiological principles is provided and applied to current nursing practice. Pharmacological principles and the major drug classifications will be further explored in conjunction with the pathophysiological process.
Terms Typically Offered: Spring.

NRS-370 Nurs Care/Adult & Older Adult II 6 Credits
This course provides classroom and clinical experiences in optimally caring for the adult and older adult patient, while building upon evidence-based concepts learned in NRS 350 Nursing Care of the Adult I. The nursing process will be applied to clients experiencing acute and chronic medical-surgical disease processes. Focuses on concepts related to the physical, emotional, spiritual, social, and cultural needs of the patient and family. Concurrent clinical experiences (135 hours) will be spent in simulated, community-based, and acute care environments.
Terms Typically Offered: Spring.
### NRS-375 Maternity/Women's Health 4 Credits
This course provides evidence-based concepts and clinical experiences in the care and management of women's health and illness across the lifespan. Focus is on family-centered care, teamwork and collaboration, patient safety, and quality improvement in caring for women and their newborns. Concurrent clinical experiences (90 hours) will be spent in simulated, community-based, and acute care environments.

Terms Typically Offered: Spring.

### NRS-380 Nursing Faithfully Elective 2 Credits
This course offers an introduction to Christian nursing in the context of the mission of Vanguard University. Topics will include the history of Christian nursing, application of Christian values to healthcare, and the provision of spiritual care to patients and their families. Local field activities will facilitate the opportunity to minister to diverse populations.

### NRS-385 Specialty Residency Elective 1-4 Credits
This variable unit course provides additional clinical experience for the student in a nursing specialty area. The student will work under the supervision of a registered nurse preceptor in providing direct patient care. Clinical hours are determined by the number of selected units for the course. Course may be repeated once for a maximum of 8 units.

Terms Typically Offered: Summer.

### NRS-400 Nursing Care/Crit Ill Adult/Older Adult 6 Credits
This course provides evidence-based concepts and clinical experiences in caring for the critically and emergently ill adult and older adult. The nursing process will be applied in the care of patients with multi-system organ disease, complex disease states, and trauma. The student will examine the role of the nurse as a member of the interdisciplinary team and aspects of caring for patients at end-of-life. Concurrent clinical experiences (135 hours) will be spent in simulated and acute care settings.

Prerequisite: Must complete NRS-370

### NRS-420 Nurs Care/Child/Adolescent 4 Credits
This course provides evidence-based concepts and clinical experiences in caring for the infant, child, and adolescent experiencing acute and chronic illness. Issues of child abuse and neglect will be explored. The nursing process is integrated in providing age-appropriate care and advocating for infants, children, adolescents, and families. Focuses on collaboration with the child, family, and other members of the health care team in promoting health and adaptation to illness. Concurrent clinical experiences (90 hours) will be spent in simulated, community-based, and acute care environments.

Prerequisite: NRS-370

Terms Typically Offered: Fall.

### NRS-460 Leadership & Management 3 Credits
This course explores theories of leadership/management. Emphasizes the importance of accountability, advocacy, communication, inter-professional collaboration in the leadership role, as well as the importance of promoting optimal patient care outcomes. Clinical experiences (45 hours) are with a nurse leader and assignments will be based on concepts presented in the lecture portion of the course.

Prerequisite: NRS-370

Terms Typically Offered: Fall.

### NRS-465 Nursing Resrch/Evidence-Based Practice 3 Credits
This course examines sources of evidence, scientific inquiry, and data collection processes related to nursing research, theory development, and evidence-based practice. Students will critically appraise quantitative and qualitative research and learn how these findings are relevant to ensuring optimal patient care outcomes. The course also includes an introduction to data entry and analysis and the role that informatics plays in nursing research.

Terms Typically Offered: Spring.

### NRS-468 Comm Health Nurs/Clin Studies 5 Credits
This course provides evidence-based concepts and clinical experiences in the provision of nursing care to individuals, families, and populations in the community setting. Issues such as child abuse and family violence will be explored. Ninety (90) hours of clinical practice in public/community health settings are required to successfully complete this course. The remainder of the required child abuse content for the Public Health Nurse certificate (PHN) is included (5 hours). Two additional hours of child abuse content are covered in NRS 455 Nursing Care of the Child and Adolescent. This course qualifies the BSN graduate for Public Health Nursing certification.

Terms Typically Offered: Spring.

### NRS-475 Clinical Nurs Preceptorship 4 Credits
This capstone course focuses on the clinical application of evidence-based concepts of nursing and related coursework in the care of selected populations. A one-unit weekly seminar will provide the opportunity for guided discussions and debriefing with faculty and peers. This clinical experience (135 hours) will further expose students to the complexities of multiple nursing roles.

Terms Typically Offered: Spring.

### NRS-478 Nursing Faithfully 2 Credits
This course offers an introduction to Christian nursing in the context of the mission of Vanguard University. Topics will include the history of Christian nursing, application of Christian values to healthcare, and the provision of spiritual care to patients and their families. Local field activities will facilitate the opportunity to minister to diverse populations.

Terms Typically Offered: Spring.

### NURS-235 Statistics for Health Professn 3 Credits
Limited to those enrolled in Health Sciences. Meets statistics prerequisite for NURS 405. This course introduces the conceptual background of statistical techniques and reasoning with an emphasis on application relevant to identifying outcomes. Provides a framework for understanding and applying commonly used data analysis techniques in health science research. Includes selecting, applying, and interpreting univariate and bivariate statistical methods in answering research questions from a health science perspective.

### NURS-305 Nursing Theory/Profesnl Pract 3 Credits
This course assists students with their transition into the role of a professional BSN prepared nurse. Special emphasis will be placed on the philosophy of baccalaureate nursing education and critical thinking skills. Discussion and comparison of concepts will be applied to the practice of professional nursing. Integration of theory into subsequent course work and professional practice will be explored. This course is offered seated and online.
NURS-310 Information Tech in Nursing  3 Credits
Students will be introduced to computer applications in nursing and health care. They will develop computer literacy skills in the areas of information processing, computer technology, and issues related to privacy and confidentiality. Students are expected to share their findings with class members in presentation format. Computer laboratory experience will include an investigation of computer applications within nursing, focusing specifically on their use in nursing administration, research, clinical practice and education. This course is offered seated and online.

Terms Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, and Summer.

NURS-315 Writing/Crit Analy/Hlth Issues  4 Credits
This course focuses on critical thinking and research writing relevant to learning and practice in nursing. Includes self-assessment, collaborative learning, problem solving approaches, and clinical decision making. Applies critical analysis to health-related issues. Proper APA format will be emphasized and required for all written work. This course is offered in seated and online formats.

NURS-316 Writing/Critical Analysis/Health-Related 4 Credits
In this course, students engage in critical thinking and research writing relevant to learning and practice in nursing. The class emphasizes scholarly reading, analytical skills, writing, revising and editing, collaborative learning and the use of digital media in the research of health-related topics. Proper APA format will be emphasized and required for all written work.

NURS-320 Ethical Iss/Leg Aspects/Nurs  4 Credits
This course introduces students to the analysis of ethical issues and dilemmas arising in nursing practice and healthcare systems. Emphasis is placed on values clarification, models for ethical decision making, consideration of relevant legal aspects, and related documents such as the Nursing Code of Ethics that guide professional practice. Woven throughout the ethical discussions is reference to the importance of Christian values and a Christian worldview in identifying and solving ethical issues that arise out of the practice of nursing. This course is offered in seated and online formats.

NURS-325 Multi-Dimensional Assmt/Lab  4 Credits
The purpose of this course is to provide the student with the opportunity to be equipped with skills necessary to do a multi-dimensional health assessment of their identified client. Emphasis is placed on the concepts of bio-psycho-social, spiritual, cultural, and community health care needs in performing the holistic examination of the individual. Additional emphasis will include the client’s health care needs, levels of prevention and growth and development of the individual across the lifespan. This course is offered in seated and online formats.

NURS-327 Health Assessment  4 Credits
The purpose of this course is to provide the student with the opportunity to be equipped with skills necessary to do a multi-dimensional health assessment of their identified client. Emphasis is placed on the concepts of bio-psycho-social, spiritual, cultural, and community health care needs in performing the holistic examination of the individual. Additional emphasis will include the client’s health care needs, levels of prevention and growth and development of the individual across the lifespan. This course is offered in seated and online formats.

NURS-405 Nursing Research and Seminar  3 Credits
This course explores the historical, philosophical, and ethical aspects of nursing research. The relationship between nursing research and professional accountability is explored. An emphasis is placed on the principles and methods of research process with emphasis on evaluating research to determine significance and applicability to nursing practice. Students will apply concepts to a research project. This course is offered in seated and online formats.

Prerequisite: MUST COMPLETE: STATISTICS COURSE

NURS-410 Principles of Pathophysiology  4 Credits
This course presents knowledge of pathophysiology, using a systems approach, as applied to current nursing practice. Selected major health problems, their pathophysiology and medical treatment are discussed. Topics from various scientific and clinical areas will be explored and coordinated with other courses in the nursing program. This course is offered in seated and online formats.

NURS-415 Sociocult Cnxtn/Diversity/Nurs  4 Credits
This course examines how cultural, socioeconomic, religious, racial, generational, and lifestyle differences are experienced by members of society, and how these variables are related to health and disease. Also included is a concerted understanding of how cultural and social practices impact health both positively and negatively. This course is designed to help the student integrate diversity knowledge within the community health setting. This course is offered in seated and online formats.

NURS-420 Community Health Nurs/Clinical  5 Credits
This course, through both classroom and clinical experience in community settings, will help the student develop skills in providing nursing care to individuals, families, and/or communities. Issues such as Child Abuse and family violence will be discussed. Ninety hours of clinical practice in public/community health settings are required to successfully complete this course. The Child Abuse content for the Public Health Nurse certificate (PHN) is included (7 hours). This course is offered in seated and online formats. *Note: There may be additional clinical/health requirements or updates that need to be submitted prior to beginning this course. All clinical/health requirements are to be uploaded in an immunization tracker system (contracted by the university).

NURS-425 Edctn Theory/Proc/Tchg in Nurs  3 Credits
This course explores education theory and skills in clinical teaching situations with emphasis on individuals, families, and groups. Content includes theories and principles of learning, teaching strategies and methodologies, teaching resources, assessment and evaluation of instruction. This course is offered in seated and online formats.

NURS-430 Ldrshp/Mngt in Professnl Nurs  4 Credits
This course explores theories of leadership/management, concepts of power, motivation, decision-making, change, budgeting and management skills related to the professional nursing role in the healthcare system. This course is offered in seated and online formats.

NURS-470 Special Topic:  1-4 Credits
Study of a special topic in Nursing. May be repeated for credit.