

## Contact

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## Admission Requirements\*

(In years as established by the college)

A high school diploma with the following specific courses:

- 4 English
- 2 Algebra I & II
- 1 Geometry
- 2 Lab Science (*biology & chemistry*)
- 2 History/Social Studies
- Academic electives (*to equal at least 17 total credits*)

*To ensure current mathematical skills, students should take a mathematics course during their senior year of high school.*

## Major Requirements

- |            |                              |
|------------|------------------------------|
| 63 credits | Nursing                      |
| 21 credits | Humanities & Social Sciences |
| 30 credits | Sciences & Mathematics       |
| 9 credits  | Electives                    |

*123 Minimum total credit hours required for graduation*

## College of Natural Sciences, Forestry & Agriculture

### Program Description

The School of Nursing curriculum provides study in liberal arts, sciences and the nursing major. The goal of the program, accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, is to prepare a professional generalist practitioner of nursing who can assist individuals, families and groups to achieve and maintain optimal health. Since health care is changing so rapidly, the program strives to produce nurses who are critical thinkers, decision makers and change agents. At the completion of the program, graduates are qualified to take the Registered Nurse licensing exam.

The University of Maine School of Nursing has excellent faculty who are adept practitioners as well as competent teachers and researchers. Through their mentorship, students learn not only the skills to be a nurse, but also what it means to be a member of the profession with all the inherent responsibilities and accountabilities.

### \*Additional Requirements for Admission

To be considered for admission to the Nursing Program, current high school students should have a combined Critical Reading and Mathematics SAT score of 1050 or higher or 23 on the ACT; and a cumulative high school grade point average of 3.0. In addition, for students to be admitted directly to the Nursing major, they must take a strong college prep curriculum in English, biology, chemistry and mathematics and grades in those courses should be in the A/B range. Students with lower SAT scores must demonstrate a higher overall grade point average and earn mostly A's in college preparatory biology, chemistry, English and math. Qualified applicants who apply to nursing as a major but do not meet these admission criteria may be admitted to a "pre-nursing" program. Students in pre-nursing will enroll in the same combination of nursing and science courses as the first-year nursing majors, but in a slightly different sequence. This will lengthen the academic program by one semester, but will not add any additional credits to the program of study. Pre-nursing students will be advised by the School of Nursing and will be subject to all the academic policies and procedures of the School. Pre-nursing students must earn a 2.75 cumulative grade point average by the end of the first two semesters with no grade below a C in nursing and required science courses to transfer to the nursing major. Students who do not meet the criteria to transfer to the Nursing major after two semesters will be directed to another program at the University.

### Transfers to the School of Nursing

Students transferring to the Nursing program from another institution must complete a minimum of 30 credits in the following areas with a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.5: Biology or Anatomy and Physiology, English Composition, Math and/or Statistics and Social Sciences. External transfer applicants will be reviewed for fall admission only and no applicant will be admitted after April 1st.

RN applicants who want to obtain their BSN will be admitted for either the spring or fall semester. To be considered for admission, applicants should have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.75 including a 2.75 grade point average in math and science courses and a 3.0 average in the nursing major.

## Career Opportunities

The future of health care depends on well educated and well informed nurses who can function in a variety of settings. To name just a few of the options—employment opportunities exist in hospitals, long-term care facilities, schools, community and state agencies, industry and rural health clinics. The future of nursing is bright and exciting—a career for today and for tomorrow.

Bachelor of Science in Nursing graduates may wish to further their education as nurse practitioners, clinical nurse specialists, nurse administrators, nurse educators, certified nurse midwives and nurse anesthetists.

## General Education Requirements\*

ENG 101	College Composition
18 credits	Human Values & Social Context area ( <i>a single course may satisfy more than 1 sub-category, but a total of 18 credits must be completed</i> ) Western Cultural Tradition Social Context & Institutions Cultural Diversity & International Perspectives Population & the Environment Artistic & Creative Expression
2 courses	Designated Writing Intensive ( <i>1 must be within the major</i> )
2 courses	Biological or Physical Sciences ( <i>must include at least 1 laboratory course</i> )
1 course	Ethics ( <i>emphasis on discussion of ethical issues in 1 course or series of courses</i> )
6 credits	Mathematics ( <i>including statistics &amp; some computer science, only 3 credits in computer science can count toward this requirement</i> )
1 capstone	An approved experience in which the student integrates the components of his or her undergraduate training to perform at a professional level. The capstone experience is usually completed during the senior year in consultation with the student's academic advisor.

*\*All UMaine students must complete these general education requirements, which are counted in the total credit hours required for graduation and may be contained in the Major Requirements previously listed.*

## Graduate Study

The School of Nursing offers several options for graduate study: 1) the Baccalaureate of Science in Nursing (B.S.N.) to Master of Science in Nursing (M.S.N.) 2) the Certificate of Advanced Study (C.A.S.) for those with a prior M.S.N.; the Registered Nurse (R.N.) accelerated B.S.N./M.S.N.; and individualized plans of study leading to an M.S.N. The individualized M.S.N. may be appropriate, for example, for the nurse practitioner who seeks a graduate degree, or the experienced nurse who seeks graduate education in nursing and plans to teach or have a primarily administrative role.

The graduate program began with a curriculum designed for the rural family nurse practitioner, but has expanded to include additional possibilities in nursing for those who seek other roles. The clinical focus option is the family nurse practitioner. Initiated in 1992, this flexible program offers a schedule for full-time and part-time study.

The Master of Science in Nursing degree is awarded after successful completion of 35 to 48 credit hours; credit requirements are dependent upon the student's program of study and goals for certification. Degree requirements may include a thesis or scholarly project option for 4-6 credits. A full-time student can expect to complete degree requirements in two years; part-time students usually complete the program in three years.

Prerequisites for admission to the B.S.N. to M.S.N. tract include: minimum grade of B in a baccalaureate level health assessment course; minimum grade of B in a statistics course; satisfactory GRE or MAT scores; minimum GPA of 3.0; current licensure as a registered nurse in Maine.

### Academic Programs 2008-2009

Please refer to the web site (<http://factsheets.umaine.edu/>) for the most updated version of the fact sheets.

This fact sheet is intended for informational purposes only and is subject to change.