



UNIVERSITY OF PIKEVILLE
ELLIOTT SCHOOL OF NURSING

RN-BSN Program
Admission and Curriculum

Accreditation Statement

The University of Pikeville RN-BSN program is accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN), 3343 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 850, Atlanta, GA 30326; telephone 404-975-5000, www.acenursing.org

Admission Criteria
RN-BSN Program

Students will be accepted into the RN-BSN program at the University of Pikeville after completing an associate degree program or a diploma program with a major in nursing. For admission to the RN to BSN program, the student must meet the following:

Admission Requirements – RN-BSN

1. Official admission to the University of Pikeville including:
 - a.) Official transcripts of high school and all colleges/universities attended.
 - b.) ACT or equivalent test scores.
2. Submit a separate RN-BSN application to the Division of Nursing by the annual deadline of June 1.
3. Be a graduate of a state-approved pre-licensure program for registered nursing.
4. Have earned at least a “C” grade in all courses taken to satisfy the nursing major at the ADN or diploma level.
5. Have a minimum 2.50 cumulative grade point average (GPA). Exceptions may apply for RNs with satisfactory work experience.
6. Have earned at least 26 credit hours of the 52 credit hours of general education core requirements. These 26 hours should include the equivalent MTH pre-requisite to a college level statistics course.
7. All general education core requirements for the major must be at least a “C” grade.
8. Have validation of a current, unrestricted, and unencumbered RN license in Kentucky or a compact state.

Transfer Credit

NOTE: The registrar makes the final determination of transfer credit to be awarded based on policies of the university. These policies are documented in the university catalog.

Nursing Transfer Credit

Lower division nursing transfer credit by escrow: Upon completion of 11 credits with at least a “C” grade in the RN-BSN program at the University of Pikeville, transfer students who hold a current RN license making application to the RN-BSN program may receive up to 40 hours of NUR elective credit for proficiency validated by licensure. These credits are determined by evaluating lower division NUR courses completed at another institution. If a student leaves the RN-BSN program prior to graduation, NUR elective credit is not transferable to another institution and might not be transferred to another major at the University of Pikeville.

Upper division nursing transfer credit: The Dean of the School of Nursing will evaluate upper division nursing courses taken at another institution for transfer equivalency. In consultation with the RN-BSN coordinator, the Dean of Nursing will review the RN-BSN student’s official transcripts, course syllabi, and other relevant criteria prior to making a recommendation to the university Registrar on transfer equivalency of nursing courses at the 300 and 400 level.

Non-nursing Transfer Credit:

The university Registrar reviews and awards transfer credit based on the steps outlined in the university catalog.

Other Forms of Course Credit:

Other forms of course credit are listed in the university catalog and may include advanced placement credit, CLEP credit, work experience credit, and credit by examination. RN-BSN students are encouraged to work closely with their advisor to determine the feasibility of non-nursing or nursing elective credit to be awarded in fulfilling requirements for the BSN degree for RNs.

University Requirements for the Baccalaureate Degree

The University of Pikeville catalog states the general requirements for the baccalaureate degree. The general requirements for a Bachelor of Science degree (BS) for Registered Nurses are listed next, with detail on selected requirements:

1. A minimum of 120 semester hours with a minimum cumulative G.P.A. of 2.00 or higher

Fulfillment of the 120 hours can be earned by successful completion of 30 semester hours in the RN-BSN major (grade of "C" or better in all major courses), 52 semester hours of general education core requirements, and up to 40 hours of NUR semester hours from an associate degree or diploma nursing program. Elective credit may be needed to fulfill the remainder of the required 120 hours.

2. A minimum of 39 semester hours in 300 or 400 level courses

Thirty of the 39 hours at the 300/400 level are RN-BSN required courses. To meet the remaining nine (9) semester hours, one suggestion is to take any remaining general education courses at the 300/400 level. For example, to meet the Humanities requirement, take an ART or ENG at the 300/400 level. Otherwise, you will need to find up to nine additional hours of electives at 300/400 level. NUR electives at the 300 level can partially fulfill these required hours.

3. Successful completion of a general studies core curriculum, ranging from 52-56 semester hours (note: RN-BSN requires minimum of 52 hours)

See the list of General Education Required Courses that total 52-53 semester hours. These courses can be taken at any institution as long as there is a transfer equivalency at the University of Pikeville. There are two routes to find the list of equivalent courses; either one gets to the same place:

a. <http://www.upike.edu/Admissions/Transfer-Students>

1. Go to box labeled "Resources"
2. Click "Transfer Equivalency" to find equivalent courses from KCTCS or other colleges

b. <http://www.upike.edu/Academics/Registrar-s-Office>

1. Go to left toolbar - click "Transfer Equivalency Information"

4. Thirty of the last 36 semester hours prior to graduation must be courses taken at the university.

The RN-BSN courses equal 30 credit hours. If you transfer courses to meet university general education requirements, please plan your course sequence with the RN-BSN coordinator to ensure that 30 of your last 36 hours are taken at the University of Pikeville.

5. At least 50 percent of the semester hours required in the major and a total of 25 percent of the credit hours toward a degree must be earned at the university. This translates to at least 15 of the 30 semester hours in the BSN major and 30 of the 120 hours toward the BSN degree must be earned at the university.

6. Successful completion of institutional and departmental assessment requirements.

NOTE: Any exception will be determined on an individual basis by the School of Nursing Admissions Committee and/or the RN-BSN Committee. If you are a current UPIKE student, a Registration Permissions Form must be submitted to register off-campus for a non-University course. This form must be completed by the student and approved by the advisor, Nursing Dean and Registrar.

CURRICULUM
Total Credit Hours for the
Bachelor of Science for Registered Nurses (BSN):

Fulfillment of the 120 hours for the RN-BSN major can be earned as stated in the university Catalog:

- I. Core requirements.....52 hours**

- II. Nursing Core Requirements for RN-BSN.....30 hours**
 - NUR 302: Advanced Concepts in Nursing Practice – 5 credits
 - NUR 304: Health Assessment for Registered Nurses – 3 credits
 - NUR 306: Pharmacology in Nursing Practice – 3 credits
 - NUR 308: Scholarship and Inquiry for Evidence-Based Practice – 3 credits
 - REL 370: Healthcare Ethics – 3 credits
 - NUR 401: Population Based Nursing Care – 5 credits (3 credits lecture; 2 credits practicum)
 - NUR 403: Organizational and Systems Leadership – 3 credits
 - NUR 405: Nursing Synthesis and Capstone – 5 credits (3 credits seminar; 2 credits practicum)

III. NUR Elective Credit.....36-40 hours*

* Upon completion of 11 credits with at least a “C” grade in the RN-BSN program at the University of Pikeville, transfer students who hold a current RN license making application to the RN-BSN program may receive up to 40 hours of NUR elective credit for proficiency validated by licensure. These credits are determined by evaluating lower division NUR courses completed at another institution. If a student leaves the RN-BSN program prior to graduation, NUR elective credit is not transferable to another institution and might not be transferred to another major at the University of Pikeville.

IV. Electives as needed to meet the minimum requirements of 120 semester hours or other requirements for a baccalaureate degree.

CURRICULUM
General Education Courses for RN-BSN major
Minimum of 52 Credit Hours

Intellectual and Practical Skills (15 hours)

Course	Title	Credit
(Choose One): • MTH 105 • MTH 113	Contemporary Math Precalculus Algebra	3 3
(Choose One): • CS 101 or higher • BUS 215 • EDU 205 • FMA 170	Computer Literacy Computer Applications for Business Technology in EDU Digital Imaging	3 3 3 3
ENG 111 <u>and</u> ENG 112	English Composition I & II	6
COM 225	Fundamentals of Public Speaking	3

Personal and Social Responsibility (2-5 hours)

NUR 401: (required in RN-BSN program)	Population-based Nursing Care	5
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Knowledge of Physical & Natural World (8 hours)

Lab Science: Choose two for BS degree option • BIO 171 • BIO 172 • BIO 273	Anatomy & Physiology I Anatomy & Physiology II Clinical Microbiology	4 4 4
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Knowledge of Human Cultures & Societies (27 hours)

History: HIS 221/221 <u>or</u> HIS 225/226	American History I & II <u>or</u> World Civ. I & II	6
Social Science: Choose two (2) disciplines • COM 105, COM 303, or COM 305 • ECN 201 or ECN 202 • PLS 223 • PSY 110 • SOC 119 or 221	Intro/Interpers. COM; Mass Media in Society Principles of Macro- or Micro-economics U.S. Government & Politics General Psychology Intro to SOC or Cont. Social Problems	6
Humanities: Choose three (3) disciplines • ART • EDU or ENG (200 level or higher) • FMA • EDU 322 or HUM • MUS 115-118, MUS 210/315/316/317 • PHI • THR 101/230/360	Any ART course Literature for Children or ENG Any Film & Media Arts (exclude FMA 170) Arts & HUM in Element. School <u>or</u> any HUM Selected Music courses Any Philosophy course Selected Theatre courses	9
Religious Studies: • REL 213 or REL 214 • REL 370 (required in RN-BSN program)	Old or New Testament Health care Ethics	6

Note:

1. Statistics course (equivalent of SSC 285 or MTH 200) is pre-requisite to NUR 308.
2. Nine hours at the 300-400 level are required in addition to the 30 hours in the major. You may use an elective or one of the general education courses if at the 300/400 level to meet this requirement.

CURRICULUM
The RN-BSN Curriculum

The RN-BSN curriculum is 30 credit hours, or eight courses. The course delivery format is a combination of being fully online and hybrid (combination of online work and campus meetings).

Three RN-BSN courses are fully online (NUR 306, REL 370, NUR 403); four courses are hybrid with a Saturday class meeting once a month (NUR 302, NUR 304, NUR 308, NUR 401); and one summer course is hybrid with two class meetings (NUR 405). The practicum hours in NUR 401 and NUR 405 are independently arranged by the RN-BSN student, pending final approval from the instructor.

The RN-BSN program can be completed in a full-time or part-time option at a minimum of 12 months or a maximum of 24 months, including summer(s). The length and semester credit load depends on the general education courses that remain and student preference. All BSN requirements must be completed within five years of starting the RN-BSN program. In all cases, your advisor will work closely with you to design a curricular option to fit your needs and help you graduate on time.

A. Sample Curricular Options

Option I: Full-time (3 term/12 month option)

This option is geared for the RN-BSN student who has completed all course requirements except the 30 hours of RN-BSN courses and two non-nursing courses.

Fall Semester: 14 credits

NUR 302: Advanced Concepts in Nursing Practice	5 credits	Hybrid: Online work with class meetings over 1 semester
NUR 304: Health Assessment for Registered Nurses	3 credits	Hybrid: Online work with class meetings on same day as NUR 302 over ½ semester
NUR 306: Pharmacology in Nursing Practice	3 credits	Fully online over ½ semester
SSC 285: Statistics for Social Sciences (recommended) or MTH 200: Elementary Probability & Statistics	3 credits	Pre-req to NUR 308. Take at UPIKE or have transfer equivalent

Spring Semester: 14 credits

NUR 308: Scholarship and Inquiry for Evidence Based Practice	3 credits	Hybrid: Online work with class meetings on same day as NUR 401 over partial semester
REL 370: Healthcare Ethics	3 credits	Fully online
NUR 401: Population-based Nursing Care	5 credits	Hybrid: 3 credits with online work & class meetings; 2 credits practicum over 1 semester
General Education I (300-400 level if needed)	3 credits	Online, hybrid or traditional

Summer Term: 8 credits

NUR 403: Organizational and Systems Leadership	3 credits	Summer I (4 weeks): Fully online
NUR 405: Nursing Synthesis and Capstone* *Seminar hours reduced by portfolio submission	5 credits	Summer III (9 weeks): Hybrid: 3 credits seminar and 2 credits practicum

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Option II: Part-time (5 term/2-year option)

This option is geared for the RN-BSN student who has completed most of the course requirements except the 30 hours of RN-BSN courses and a few non-nursing courses. This student may wish to take a lighter credit load each semester because of work and family obligations.

Fall Semester: 8 credits

NUR 302: Advanced Concepts in Nursing Practice	5 credits	Hybrid: Online work with class meetings over 1 semester
SSC 285: Statistics for Social Sciences (recommended) or MTH 200: Elementary Probability & Statistics	3 credits	Pre-req to NUR 308. Take at UPIKE or have transfer equivalent

Spring Semester: 9 credits

NUR 308: Scholarship and Inquiry for Evidence Based Practice	3 credits	Hybrid: Online work with class meetings over partial semester
REL 370: Healthcare Ethics	3 credits	Fully online
General Education I (300-400 level if needed)	3 credits	Online, hybrid or traditional

Fall Semester: 9 credits

NUR 304: Health Assessment for Registered Nurses	3 credits	Hybrid: Online work with class meetings over ½ semester
NUR 306: Pharmacology in Nursing Practice	3 credits	Fully online over ½ semester
General Education II (300-400 level if needed)	3 credits	Online, hybrid or traditional

Spring Semester: 8 credits

NUR 401: Population Based Nursing Care	5 credits	Hybrid: 3 credits with online work & class meetings; 2 credits practicum over 1 semester
General Education III (300-400 level if needed)	3 credits	Online, hybrid or traditional

Summer Term: 8 credits

NUR 403: Organizational and Systems Leadership	3 credits	Summer I (4 weeks): Fully online
NUR 405: Nursing Synthesis and Capstone* *Seminar hours reduced by portfolio submission	5 credits	Summer III (9 weeks): Hybrid: 3 credits seminar and 2 credits practicum

CURRICULUM

Option III: Part-time (6 term/2-year option)

This option is geared for the RN-BSN student who is admitted with the minimum 26 credit hours of general education requirements and minimal amount of nursing escrow credit. The student can finish all baccalaureate requirements in a two-year period over 24 months, although the semester load is higher compared to other options. It is recommended to take the Humanities block of general education at 300-400 level when possible so to meet two baccalaureate degree requirements with one course.

Fall Semester: 11-14 credits

NUR 302: Advanced Concepts in Nursing Practice	5 credits	Hybrid: Online work with class meetings over 1 semester
SSC 285: Statistics for Social Sciences (recommended) or MTH 200: Elementary Probability & Statistics	3 credits	Pre-req to NUR 308. Take at UPIKE or have transfer equivalent
General Education Course I	3 credits	Online, hybrid or traditional
General Education Course II	3 credits	

Spring Semester: 12 credits

NUR 308: Scholarship and Inquiry for Evidence Based Practice	3 credits	Hybrid: Online work with class meetings over partial semester
REL 370: Healthcare Ethics	3 credits	Fully online
General Education III (300-400 level if needed)	3 credits	Online, hybrid or traditional
General Education IV	3 credits	

Summer Term: 6 credits

General Education V	3 credits	Online, hybrid or traditional in Summer I or II (4-5 weeks) or Summer III (9 weeks)
General Education VI (at 300-400 level if needed)	3 credits	

Fall Semester: 12 credits

NUR 304: Health Assessment for Registered Nurses	3 credits	Hybrid: Online work with class meetings over ½ semester
NUR 306: Pharmacology in Nursing Practice	3 credits	Fully online over ½ semester
General Education VII	3 credits	Online, hybrid or traditional
General Education VIII	3 credits	

Spring Semester: 8 credits

NUR 401: Population Based Nursing Care	5 credits	Hybrid: 3 credits with online work & class meetings; 2 credits practicum over 1 semester
General Education IX (at 300-400 level)	3 credits	Online, hybrid or traditional

Summer Term: 8 credits

NUR 403: Organizational and Systems Leadership	3 credits	Summer I (4 weeks): Fully online
NUR 405: Nursing Synthesis and Capstone* *Seminar hours reduced by portfolio submission	5 credits	Summer III (9 weeks): Hybrid: 3 credits seminar and 2 credits practicum

RN-BSN Course Descriptions

Credit Hour Definition:

One credit hour = 1 (50 minute) clock hour of lecture/seminar or 3 clock hours of practicum.

NUR 302: Advanced Concepts in Nursing Practice (5)

This course focuses on concepts to advance the practice and discipline of nursing at the baccalaureate level. The student will explore and apply concepts such as writing in the discipline, information literacy, evidence-based literature, clinical reasoning, and theories from other disciplines that inform nursing practice, multiple dimensions of patient centered care and quality and safety initiatives in health care.

Prerequisite: RN status and admission to the RN-BSN program

NUR 304: Health Assessment for Registered Nurses (3)

This course provides an opportunity to enhance skill in health assessment of persons and families including genetic, developmental, psychological and environmental parameters. Assessment models will be analyzed for use with diverse populations. Clinical emphasis will be placed on health assessment of clients across the lifespan and laboratory simulation experience. *Prerequisite: RN status and admission to the RN-BSN program*

NUR 306: Pharmacology in Nursing Practice (3)

This course will examine the clinical application of drugs as they relate to clients across the lifespan who are experiencing acute and chronic health problems. Emphasis will be placed on gerontological implications of pharmacology. *Prerequisite: RN status and admission to the RN-BSN program*

NUR 308: Scholarship and Inquiry for Evidence-Based Practice (3)

This course is designed to develop the knowledge and skills required to translate current evidence into practice. Emphasis will be placed on an overview of qualitative and quantitative research processes, models to apply evidence to clinical practice, nurse-sensitive quality indicators, information literacy to search, locate and evaluate sources of information and dissemination of findings. *Pre-requisite: MTH 200 or SOC 285 and NUR 302*

REL 370: Health care Ethics (3)*

An exploration of ethical issues that arise from health care. This course will take a critical comparative approach from an interprofessional perspective and will include ethical theories, ethical and clinical reasoning, case studies, and contemporary controversies. This course provides students entering the health care field with a framework for making ethical decisions in a clinical environment. *Prerequisite: ENG 112 or 115 and 8 hours of Biology*

NUR 390 Special Topics (1-3)

This elective is the study of selected topics of interest in the field of nursing. The topic may differ each time the course is offered and may be proposed by the instructor or students. This course may be taken for credit any number of times, provided that a different topic is studied each time. *Prerequisite: Eight (8) hours of nursing or admission to the RN-BSN program of study.*

NUR 401: Population-based Nursing Care (5) **

This course will introduce the concept of population health and the application of health promotion, disease, and injury prevention across the lifespan at the local, national and global population level. Special emphasis will be placed on health disparity among diverse populations, genetics, epidemiology, clinical judgment during disaster and population-focused interventions. The role of policy development and regulation in healthcare will be analyzed. Three hours lecture (3 credits) and six hours practicum (2 credits) per week. *Prerequisite: NUR 302; Co-requisite: NUR 308.*

NUR 403: Organizational and Systems Leadership (3)

This course will examine leadership skills at the microsystem level in health care organizations including decision-making, delegation, care coordination and change and conflict resolution. Awareness will be developed of complex organizational systems and related mission and vision statements. Knowledge will be enhanced on an organization's quality improvement process, standards for a safe environment, and implications of health care economics. *Prerequisites: NUR 304, NUR 306, NUR 308, NUR 401, REL 370 and 40 credit hours of general education core requirements. Co-requisite: NUR 405.*

NUR 405: Nursing Synthesis and Capstone (5) ***

This capstone course will provide the RN the opportunity to integrate the knowledge, skills and attitudes of baccalaureate-generalist nursing practice. The focus of seminar will be on professionalism, evidenced-based practice and dissemination of knowledge synthesized within the practicum. The practicum emphasis will provide the RN an opportunity to explore a nursing practice role of interest. Individualized practicum experience with a RN preceptor is subject to approval by course faculty. Three hour seminar (3 credits) and six hour practicum (2 credits) per week. *Prerequisites: NUR 304, NUR 306, NUR 308, NUR 401, REL 370 and 40 credit hours of general education core requirements. Co-requisite: NUR 403.*

**REL 370 meets 3 credit hours of the 6-hour REL general education requirement for a baccalaureate degree.*

*** NUR 401 meets the learning outcomes for the PED general education requirement for a baccalaureate degree.*

**** Students may have their NUR 405 seminar hours reduced by portfolio submission. Portfolios are maintained, submitted, and evaluated throughout the RN-BSN program, with final evaluation in NUR 405.*