
College of Nursing

Academic Offering

2001-2002

A vertical grey rectangle containing the word "Nursing" written vertically in white text.

School/Department	Major/Emphasis	Degree**
NURSING	NURSING	BSN

**Degree Abbreviation: (BSN) Bachelor of Science in Nursing

College of Nursing

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Anderson, Bender, Bowman, Brock, Butts, Cadenhead, Cater, Chatham, Copeland, Coyne, Cuellar, Daggett, Dalgo*, Decoux*, Douglas, Dubuisson, Farmer, Ferguson*, Fooladi, Harbaugh, Harris, Harrison, Hartman, Haspelagh, Hilton, Hobson, Janes, Johnson, Lauterbach, Lee, Lewis*, Lundy, Martin*, Masters, Mignor, Porter, Rachel*, Reinert, Richeson, Rogers, Sheridan*, Smith, Turner, Walker, Walley*
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Mission

The College of Nursing provides educational programs to prepare professional practitioners in the discipline of nursing for diverse populations; promotes service activities to the community, the nursing profession, and The University; and fosters research and scholarly activities to expand nursing knowledge and practice. The curricula prepare the beginning generalist in professional nursing and the advanced practitioner for leadership in health care systems.

The faculty envision the College of Nursing as an academic entity in which a diversified body of undergraduate and graduate students are prepared as expert nursing professionals who are able to think critically and provide leadership at various levels in their fields of practice. The College is viewed as a center for the development of new knowledge and improved forms of practice for nursing.

The faculty envision that the College of Nursing of The University of Southern Mississippi will be distinguished as

1. a statewide and regional center for nursing education, practice expertise, and leadership;
2. a center of academic excellence grounded in the most innovative nursing education and the most advanced research;
3. a provider of regional health initiatives to promote and maintain the health and health care of citizens; and
4. a center of doctoral education in nursing for the state.

Organization and Administration

The College of Nursing offers programs at three sites—Hattiesburg, the Gulf Coast, and Meridian. The Dean of the College of Nursing is responsible for the implementation of programs on all sites. The Assistant Deans for undergraduate and graduate programs facilitate the implementation of these curriculum. There are coordinators at Meridian and the Gulf Coast campuses who coordinate scheduling and student admission and advisement at these sites.

History

Following a year of planning and curriculum development, the first students were admitted to the School of Nursing in September 1967. The School of Nursing received National League for Nursing accreditation in 1969. The first Bachelor of Science degrees with Nursing as a major were conferred in May 1969. The degree title was changed to Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) April 1991. The School became the College of Nursing in November 1997.

Accreditation

The College of Nursing program is accredited by the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission and approved by the Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning and the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE).

Baccalaureate Program

The Baccalaureate Program offers broad preparation in general education, as well as education for the professional practice of nursing in a variety of settings. Courses in the liberal arts and humanities, the sciences, and the professional component are selected to prepare the student to effectively assume the role of citizen and professional practitioner. Part-time studies are available; however, full-time students will be given priority for class space.

Successful completion of the nursing program leads to the awarding of the Bachelor of Science in Nursing Degree and permits the student to make application to take the National Council Licensure Examination for RN licensure. Applicants who have been convicted or have charges pending against them for a felony or misdemeanor in any state may be denied permission to take the licensure examination by the State Board of Nursing.

Admission

All students entering the College of Nursing directly from high school and all students transferring to the College are subject to the admission procedures and standards of the University. Admission to The University of Southern Mississippi as a pre-nursing student does not ensure progression to the upper division nursing major.

Students having completed at least 75% of the prerequisite nursing courses may make application to the College of Nursing for progression to the Nursing major. Application forms may be obtained through the Office of Student Services, Room 116, Harkins Hall. The deadline for return of completed applications is as follows:

Fall term admission—March 1

Spring term admission—October 1

In addition to filing an application, the following minimum requirements must be met for consideration for admission to the College of Nursing:

1. An Enhanced ACT of 21 or above; a corresponding score on the ACT taken prior to October 1989 or the SAT is acceptable (not applicable to RN-BSN students).
2. An overall grade point average of 2.5 on courses prerequisite to the nursing major
3. A minimum of a C in each prerequisite course applicable to the nursing curriculum
4. Certification as a Nursing Assistant through an approved program

Note: Only one natural science course may be repeated one time.

The number of students admitted each semester will vary according to the resources available. Mississippi residents and students who have completed the nursing prerequisites at USM will receive priority in admission to the College of Nursing.

Academic Probation/Dismissal

The following policies apply to all students admitted to the College of Nursing:

1. A student may repeat only one nursing course one time depending on availability of space in the course.
2. The student who receives a second grade below a C in a nursing course is dropped from the program. Notification of dismissal will be sent to the student. The student may appeal the dismissal to the Admissions, Progression, Retention, and Recruitment Committee.
3. The inability to function safely in a clinical setting is cause for dismissal from the nursing program. (See current policies on safe clinical practice.)
4. Students who violate codes of moral/ethical conduct will be dismissed from the nursing program. (See current policies on professional integrity and impaired student nurse policy.)

Readmission

Students who have previously enrolled in nursing courses, have a break in attendance of one or more terms, and leave in good standing must file an application for readmission to the College of Nursing. The deadline for return of completed applications is as follows:

Fall term readmission—March 1

Spring term readmission—October 1

Students are subject to the curriculum plan of study as outlined in the *Undergraduate Bulletin* of the year of readmission. Students must also meet the readmission policies of the University.

Student Advisement

Each student admitted to the program will be assigned an adviser. The adviser will assist the student in planning a program of study toward the degree, approve the schedule each semester, provide counsel, and sign the application for degree.

Expenses

The general fees and expenses are the same for nursing students as for other University students. Additional expenses incurred by nursing students such as uniforms, books, insurance, student nurse organization fees, etc., are estimated as follows:

3rd Year	4th Year
\$1,200.00	\$600.00

Travel: Students are responsible for arranging transportation to off-campus hospitals and other agencies that constitute part of the program.

Insurance

Students enrolled in courses in the upper division nursing major of the nursing program are required to purchase professional and personal liability insurance through the University; a fee will be charged at the time of registration. Automobile liability insurance is required.

Health Requirements

A physical examination and selected immunizations (MMR, tetanus) are required for admission to the upper-division nursing major. A TB skin test is required yearly for the remainder of the time required to complete the program. Hepatitis vaccinations are encouraged. (See the *College of Nursing Handbook* for specific requirements.)

Registered Nurse Students*

Registered nurse students must complete the same Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree prerequisites as all other degree candidates in the College of Nursing. The prerequisites may be taken at The University of Southern Mississippi or at another accredited college or university. (See University *Bulletin* for limitation of transfer credits.)

For registered nurse students, the NCLEX RN licensure exam will be used to validate previously earned nursing credit. At the successful completion of NSG 403, students will register for NSG 307, 361, 362, and 363. A Mississippi License is required for admission to this program.

For further information write or call

College of Nursing
The University of Southern Mississippi
Box 5095
Hattiesburg, MS 39406-5095
(601) 266-5639

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* Registered nurse student is a student who (1) is a graduate from either an associate degree program in nursing or a diploma nursing program; (2) is registered to practice nursing in Mississippi; and (3) is admitted to and enrolled in The University of Southern Mississippi with the nursing major.