NURSING (BSN)

Overview Information

Mission
Concordia University’s Nursing Program builds upon scientific preparation and liberal studies to develop clinical competence and reflective compassion. We strive to prepare nurses who practice evidenced-based care, promote health, and provide leadership within health care organizations and the community.

The program was founded on the belief that nursing is a Christian calling. The practice of compassion is emphasized throughout the program, and cultural competence is systematically developed to prepare nurses committed to caring for diverse populations. The program develops student competence and confidence in practice skills and deliberately intertwines pathophysiology, pharmacology, clinical reasoning, and understanding of the human experience of illness to develop strong practice judgment. An intensive clinical preceptorship occurs in the final semester. Key curricular concepts include ethical reasoning and evidence-based care.

Objectives
Graduates of Concordia University-Portland’s Nursing Program will:

1. Use intrapersonal spiritual principles to guide personal and professional nursing responses when engaged in health care delivery that respects spiritual beliefs, cultural and individual differences, and the values of self and others.
2. Collaborate with varied cultures, organizations, and communities promoting mutual projects for health promotion, policy development, and accessibility for the underserved.
3. Communicate effectively by means of therapeutic and collaborative listening, recognizing the value, application, and ethical responsibilities when communicating through multiple technologies using professional language in diverse situations.
4. Engage in leadership roles promoting safety and quality care in health care settings, illustrative of altruism, autonomy, human dignity, integrity, and social justice while working with organizational systems and regulatory environments.
5. Use complex thinking to analyze holistic health needs of individuals, families, groups, communities, and populations across the lifespan in various practice settings implementing evidence-based, patient-centered systems for optimizing health outcomes.

Program Accreditation
The Concordia Nursing Program is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) and fully approved by the Oregon State Board of Nursing (OSBN). Graduates are eligible to sit for the National Council Licensure Examinations (NCLEX-RN) which all nursing candidates in the United States must pass to become Registered Nurses.

Program Delivery Modalities

Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) (non-accelerated)
Concordia University has a fully on-ground Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) curriculum that is completed in two years using a cohort model. Full-time enrollment is required; currently there is not a part-time option.

Accelerated Hybrid Program (ABSN)
Concordia University offers a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) in an accelerated format (hereafter referred to as ABSN) which is completed in sixteen months using a cohort model. The curriculum is a combination of online didactic coursework, and hands-on experiential learning and clinical rotations. Full-time enrollment is required; currently there is not a part-time option.

BSN Freshman Advantage Program
For admission into the BSN Freshman Advantage Program, follow the process outlined in the Admission – Undergraduate section of this catalog. The BSN Freshman Advantage Program admission process also requires the following:

- Submission of two letters of recommendation, preferably from science or math teachers who can attest to your qualifications as a strong candidate for Concordia’s nursing program.
- Submission of an essay on “Why I Want to Become a Nurse” (250-500 words)
- Review of cumulative GPA and ACT or SAT test scores
- Any of the following optional items: additional letters of recommendation; documentation of volunteer experience in health care; academic honors if any; and extra-curricular involvement.

BSN Freshman Advantage Program Benchmarks
Concordia University freshmen, who have been admitted to the BSN Freshman Advantage Program, and who have successfully completed all benchmarks as described below, DO NOT have to apply separately for acceptance into the upper division BSN program.

- Maintain a 3.25 minimum math and science GPA, which includes:
  - College Algebra (MTH 123), Statistics (MTH 231), Chemistry 101, Chemistry 102, Biology 211, Microbiology (BIO 284), Anatomy (BIO 364), and Physiology (BIO 365). This benchmark must be met at the end of the freshman year and at the end of every subsequent semester, until full acceptance into the BSN upper division program.
- Maintain a 3.25 minimum math and science GPA, which includes:
  - College Algebra (MTH 123), Statistics (MTH 231), Chemistry 101, Chemistry 102, Biology 211, Microbiology (BIO 284), Anatomy (BIO 364), and Physiology (BIO 365). This benchmark must be met at the end of the freshman year and at the end of every subsequent semester, until full acceptance into the BSN upper division program.

- Must meet the stated expectations for Concordia University student body as describe in the CU student handbook.
- Must be continuously enrolled as a full-time student at Concordia University-Portland during the Fall and Spring semesters.
- Must complete a minimum of 2 years (4 fall and spring semesters) of prerequisite work at Concordia University to complete the Freshman Advantage Program.
- Once a student has begun taking courses at Concordia University-Portland, all remaining Natural Science courses (CHM 101, CHM 102, BIO 211, BIO 284, BIO 364, & BIO 365) must be completed at Concordia University-Portland.
- Must complete an Oregon State Board of Nursing (OSBN) Basic Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) training course prior to the start of the upper division program.

BSN Freshman Advantage Program students are notified in early spring of their sophomore year (junior year for students on the 5 year plan) whether they have satisfactorily met the above criteria and can proceed with the BSN program. Grades for at least four science classes and College Algebra should be available at that time. BSN Freshman Advantage Program students who have not met the BSN Freshman Advantage Program but who have maintained at least a 3.0 cumulative GPA.
GPA and a minimum 3.0 math and science GPA may apply to the BSN program via the Nursing Admit to Major process.

**BSN Admission Requirements**

All requirements must be met as listed in the Admission – Undergraduate section of this catalog. All BSN applicants (accelerated and non-accelerated, excluding Freshman Advantage students) must also meet the following requirements to be eligible to apply to the BSN or ABSN program:

- 3.0 minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) in all classes
  - Must submit official transcripts for every institution of higher education attended
- 3.0 minimum GPA in math and science classes, including:
  - College Algebra (MTH 123), Statistics (MTH 231), Chemistry 101, Chemistry 102, Biology 211, Microbiology (BIO 284), Anatomy (BIO 364), and Physiology (BIO 365).
- Must complete an approved Oregon State Board of Nursing (OSBN) Basic Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) training course prior to the start of the upper division program.

The application process is competitive and qualifying to apply does not guarantee admission into the program.

For each admission cycle (ATM) an applicant can only apply to one program modality (non-accelerated BSN or accelerated ABSN) for admission consideration. Pre-Nursing accelerated students are only eligible to apply to the ABSN program.

Applicants who are not admitted to the nursing program during an admission cycle (ATM) must wait one calendar year before reapplying.

**Pre-Nursing BSN (non-accelerated and non-Freshman Advantage)**

Students studying at Concordia University as non-accelerated Pre-Nursing students, with the exception of students in the BSN Freshman Advantage Program, must meet all BSN Admission Requirements (above) to be eligible for the ATM process. In addition to the above requirements, non-accelerated Pre-Nursing students must also meet the following requirement.

- Must be a Concordia University-Portland student during the entire academic year (Fall and Spring semesters) immediately prior to the start of the upper division program.

Concordia non-accelerated Pre-Nursing students are notified early in the spring semester whether they have satisfactorily met the above criteria and can proceed with the Nursing Admit to Major (ATM) process. The ATM process is a competitive process, and qualifying for the ATM process does not guarantee admission into the upper division BSN program.

**Pre-Nursing Accelerated BSN (ABSN)**

Students applying to Concordia University-Portland as Pre-Nursing students planning to pursue the ABSN program must meet all BSN Admission Requirements (above) to be eligible for the ATM process. In addition to the above requirements, Pre-Nursing-accelerated students must also meet the following requirement.

- Must have completed at least 12 credits of college-level coursework prior to declaring an accelerated Pre-nursing major.

**BSN Admit to Major (ATM) Process**

Applicants who meet the above BSN admission requirements are eligible to participate in the ATM process for either the BSN or ABSN program. All applicants are required to:

- Submit a current résumé (included in application process for transfer students/ABSN cohort-ready students)
- Attend a group Interview with Nursing Faculty and current nursing students.
- Participate in the Kaplan entrance exam. Candidates who have earned a bachelor's degree do not need to sit for this exam.

**BSN Transfer (non-accelerated)**

For admission to Concordia's non-accelerated BSN program, all candidates who are not current CU Pre-Nursing students, must meet the above listed BSN Admission Requirements and must complete the nursing cohort-ready transfer application process. Please see Concordia University's website for application process details and deadlines (https://www.cu-portland.edu/admission/undergraduate/admission-requirements/freshmen-admission-requirements/nursing-students).

**Accelerated BSN (ABSN)**

For admission to Concordia’s ABSN program, all candidates must meet the above listed BSN Admission Requirements and go through the ATM process. All General Education courses, with the exception of 6 credits of HUM and/or REL, plus physical education, and all Nursing prerequisites must be completed prior to the start of the ABSN program. No more than 6 credits of nursing prerequisite coursework may be in progress at the time of application.

There are three cohort starts each year the ABSN program: January, late April/early May, and August. Contact Concordia's Office of Online Admission for more details and an admissions process timeline.

**Nursing Program Compliance Requirements**

Once accepted to the nursing program (BSN or ABSN) the following requirements must be met prior to the start of Nursing courses:

- Background check
- Drug Screen (UDS)
- Completion of an approved Oregon State Board of Nursing (OSBN) Basic Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) training course prior to the start of the BSN upper division program
- Completion of CPR Certification-Basic Life Support for Health Care Professionals from American Heart Association (https://cpr.heart.org/AHAECCE/CPRAndECC/Training/HealthcareProfessional/UCM_473185_Healthcare-Professional.jsp).
- Immunizations:
  - Annual Flu
  - MMR
  - Tdap
  - Hepatitis B
  - Varicella
  - Tuberculosis Test
- Physical exam
- Proof of health insurance
- Proof of liability insurance

Transfer Policies

Nursing Transfer Guides
Concordia University provides Nursing-specific transfer guides for local schools on the Concordia University website. Students should follow these guides, in addition to consultation with a CU Transfer Admission Counselor. Any courses not outlined on the transfer guides will be evaluated for content equivalency.

Transfer Biology Prerequisites
Students seeking admission to the BSN or ABSN program at CU and who will transfer in the course equivalents for all three higher-level nursing prerequisite biology courses (BIO 284, BIO 364, and BIO 365), may fulfill BIO 211 with any 100-level or higher human biology coursework with a lab; the course must be/have been taken for a letter grade.

Post-Baccalaureate Biology & Chemistry Prerequisites
Students, who have completed a baccalaureate degree prior to seeking admission to the BSN or ABSN program at CU, may fulfill BIO 211 with one year of 100-level or higher human biology coursework with a lab; the course must be/have been taken for a letter grade.

Similarly, for the post-baccalaureate student, CHM 101 & CHM 102 may be fulfilled with 1 year of 100-level or higher chemistry coursework with a lab.

Latency Policy
Transfer credits will be accepted which meet the following criteria:

• Math coursework – 10 year or younger
• Science coursework – 7 years or younger

Note: Latency is counted from the year (regardless of month or term) the student is admitted to CU – not the cohort start – and goes back to the year the coursework was completed.

Graduation Requirements
All requirements must be met as listed in the Graduation Information section of this catalog. The BSN program has no additional requirements.

Curricular Requirements

Bachelor of Science in Nursing Major Requirements (92 credits)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nursing Prerequisites (33 credits)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIO 211 GENERAL BIOLOGY I</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIO 284 MICROBIOLOGY</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIO 364 HUMAN ANATOMY &amp; PHYSIOLOGY I</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIO 365 HUMAN ANATOMY &amp; PHYSIOLOGY II</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>CHM 101 CHEMISTRY FOR LIFE</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHM 102 PRINCIPLES OF ORGANIC &amp; BIOCHEMISTRY</td>
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<td>PSY 321 HUMAN GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT</td>
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<tr>
<td>MTH 123 COLLEGE ALGEBRA</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>MTH 231 RESEARCH &amp; STATISTICAL TECHNIQUES</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESS 462 NUTRITION</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nursing Core (59 credits)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NUR 350 FUNDAMENTALS OF NURSING AND CARING FOR PERSONS WITH CHRONIC CONDITIONS</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>NUR 350L FUNDAMENTALS OF NURSING AND CARING FOR PERSONS WITH CHRONIC CONDITIONS LAB</td>
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<tr>
<th>Important Curricular Notes:</th>
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- **General Education Helps**
  - Nursing students should take PSY 201 to fulfill the Social Science requirement if the PSY 321 requirement (under Nursing Prerequisites above) is unmet upon entering the program.
  - Nursing students may register for REL 401N or HUM 351N in place of the similarly numbered courses in the General Education Requirements listed below.

- **BSN/ABSN**
  - Prior to acceptance into the BSN/ABSN program, all Nursing prerequisite courses, electives, and General Education Requirements must be met, except 6 credits of REL and/or HUM and physical education, which may be taken concurrently with the Nursing program. Note, however, that it is strongly recommended that the Nursing student complete all non-nursing coursework prior to the program start.

General Education Requirements – B.S.

- **Freshman Student**
- **Transfer Student**

Freshman Student (35)
Click on course number to see description and credit amount

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Freshman Foundation (15)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WR 121 ENGLISH COMPOSITION</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>HUM 152 HOW THE WEST CAME TO BE</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>ESS 260 HEALTH AND FITNESS FOR LIFE WITH LAB</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>MTH 110 MATH FOR LIFE</td>
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Nursing (BSN)  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LDR 198</td>
<td>CONCORDIA COMMITMENT</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCI 110</td>
<td>INTRODUCTION TO SCIENCE</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>or Lab Science</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Spiritual Formation (6)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>REL 221</td>
<td>HISTORY AND LITERATURE OF THE NEW TESTAMENT</td>
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<tr>
<td>or REL 221</td>
<td>HISTORY AND LITERATURE OF THE NEW TESTAMENT</td>
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<tr>
<td>REL 401</td>
<td>FAITH FOR LIFE</td>
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<td><strong>Intercultural Experiences (5)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>HUM 351</td>
<td>CHALLENGES OF GLOBAL DIVERSITY</td>
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<tr>
<td>REL 371</td>
<td>WORLD RELIGIONS</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Studies in Arts &amp; Sciences (9)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Social Science</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>WR 121</td>
<td>ENGLISH COMPOSITION</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Humanities</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Ex: Lit, World History, Music History</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Physical Education</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>MTH 110</td>
<td>MATH FOR LIFE</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>or above (excluding MTH 231)</td>
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<tr>
<td>SCI 110</td>
<td>INTRODUCTION TO SCIENCE</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>or Lab Science</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Spiritual Formation (6)</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REL 211</td>
<td>HISTORY AND LITERATURE OF THE OLD TESTAMENT</td>
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<tr>
<td>or REL 221</td>
<td>HISTORY AND LITERATURE OF THE NEW TESTAMENT</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REL 401</td>
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<tr>
<td>Writing above WR 121</td>
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Total Credits: 35

**Transfer Student (31 credits)**  
Click on course number to see description and credit amount

**Transfer Foundation (14 credits)**  
WR 121 ENGLISH COMPOSITION 3

**Humanities**  
Ex: Lit, World History, Music History 3

**Physical Education**  
MTH 110 MATH FOR LIFE 3

**Spiritual Formation (6 credits)**  
REL 211 HISTORY AND LITERATURE OF THE OLD TESTAMENT 3

**Intercultural Experiences (5 credits)**  
HUM 351 CHALLENGES OF GLOBAL DIVERSITY 3

**Studies in Arts & Sciences (6 credits)**  
Social Science 3

**Elective Requirements**  
A minimum of 124 semester credits must be successfully completed in order to graduate from Concordia University with a bachelor’s degree. After fulfilling all General Education and major requirements, the student must complete enough Elective credits to bring the total number of credits to 124 or more.

**Note:**  
HUM 351 and REL 401 are courses that must be completed at Concordia.

The student should be aware of the prerequisite courses needed for each major course. In many cases these prerequisites should be taken to satisfy the General Education requirements, especially in the Math and Science areas.

The student is responsible for completing the graduation requirements listed for the chosen major, including General Education and Elective credits, and other requirements as stated by the program. The student is also responsible for meeting the residency requirement by completing, at Concordia University, a minimum of 30 of the last 45 semester credits toward the degree. While it is the intent of the University to meet students’ needs, it may not be possible to provide every class option needed by every student every term.

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