

School of Nursing

Dean

Susan R. Jacob (1999). Dean of the School of Nursing and Professor of Nursing. B.S.N., West Virginia University; M.S.N., San Jose State University; Ph.D., The University of Tennessee, Memphis.

Mission Statement

The mission of the School of Nursing is to be excellence-driven, Christ-centered, people-focused, and future-directed while preparing qualified individuals for a career in the caring, therapeutic, teaching profession of nursing.

Faculty

Tharon Kirk (1992). Associate Professor of Nursing and Chair of the School of Nursing, Jackson. B.S.N., Duke University; M.S.N., The University of Tennessee, Health Science Center.

Sandra Brown (1972-89; 1991). Associate Professor of Nursing. B.S.N., University of Tennessee College of Nursing, Memphis; M.Ed., University of Memphis; M.S.N., The University of Tennessee, Health Science Center.

Ruth Chastain (1992). Professor of Nursing. Diploma, Norton Memorial Infirmiry School of Nursing; B.S.N., University of North Alabama, Florence; M.S.N., University of Alabama, Birmingham; Ed.D., University of Memphis.

Gail Coleman (1994). Associate Professor of Nursing. Diploma, Baptist Memorial Hospital School of Nursing; B.S.N., Union University; M.S.N., The University of Tennessee, Health Science Center; N.D., Rush University.

Nancy Dayton (1979). Professor of Nursing, Germantown. B.S.N., Duke University; M.S.N., The University of Tennessee, Health Science Center; M.S., Ed.D., University of Memphis.

Cynthia Fish (1994). Assistant Professor of Nursing. A.S.N., B.S.N., Union University; M.S.N., The University of Tennessee, Health Science Center.

Sherry Hickey (1989). Professor of Nursing. B.S.N. and M.N.Sc., University of Arkansas; Ed.D., University of Memphis.

Donna Latham (1974). Georgia Wilson Distinguished Assistant Professor of Nursing. A.A., Union University; B.S.N., Texas Christian University; M.S.N., University of Alabama at Birmingham.

Melanie Matthews (1976). Associate Professor of Nursing. B.S.N., University of Mississippi; M.S.N., The University of Tennessee, Health Science Center; additional study, University of Memphis.

Rosemary McLaughlin (1995). Assistant Professor of Nursing. B.S.N., Harding University; M.S.N., University of Arkansas.

Cathy Parrett (1993) Associate Professor of Nursing and Director of the Master of Science in Nursing Program. B.S. and A.A., University of Tennessee, Martin; M.S.N. University of Tennessee, Knoxville; additional study, Union University; DNSc., The University of Tennessee, Health Science Center.

Carla Sanderson (1982). Professor of Nursing and Provost. Diploma, Baptist Memorial Hospital School of Nursing; B.S.N., Union University; M.S.N., The University of Tennessee, Health Science Center; Ph.D., University of Florida.

Geri Smith (1993). Associate Professor of Nursing, Germantown. B.S., University of Tennessee, Martin; B.S.N., University of Tennessee, Memphis; M.S., University of Memphis; M.S.N., The University of Tennessee, Health Science Center; additional study, University of Memphis.

Charlotte Ward-Larson (1999). Associate Professor of Nursing. Diploma, Baptist Memorial Hospital; B.A., Stephens College; M.S., Texas Women's University; Ph.D., St. Louis University.

Jill Webb (1987). Associate Professor of Nursing. B.S.N., Murray State University; M.S.N., University of Evansville; Ph.D., University of Tennessee, Memphis.

The programs of the School of Nursing are approved by the Tennessee Board of Nursing and accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education. CCNE may be contacted at One Dupont Circle, NW Suite 530, Washington, DC 20036-1120 or 202-887-6791.

The program leads to the Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree (RN to BSN track or Basic BSN track). The RN to BSN track offers a curriculum of study leading to the BSN degree for registered nurses who have graduated from associate degree programs or diploma programs. Details of the RN to BSN track are found in the *Catalogue*, "Adult Studies." The School of Nursing also offers the Basic BSN track, a curriculum of study leading to the BSN degree as the first professional degree in nursing, to students who have completed two years of pre-nursing study. In addition, the School of Nursing offers an LPN to BSN track.

The nursing student qualifies as a full participant in the intellectual community of the liberal arts college. Students majoring in nursing share with other students at Union University a basic foundation in the social and physical sciences, as well as in general knowledge. The faculty of the School of Nursing expresses the belief that nursing is a dynamic discipline reflecting change based on an ever-expanding body of knowledge. Through application of principles from the physical and social sciences, nursing is directed toward helping to meet society's health needs. The professional nurse with a BSN degree applies principles from a diverse supporting curriculum to the science of nursing and functions as a care provider, manager, health teacher, advocate, and change agent. All BSN program tracks provide nursing knowledge and clinical experiences which encourage expanded roles, innovation, non-traditional practice opportunities, use of independent nursing judgment in health care planning, and use of the research process and findings. To this end, the BSN student's curriculum provides a professional practice base and preparation for future specialized graduate studies.

In addition to learning alternate ways of organizing and delivering nursing care for hospitalized clients, the BSN student learns to practice in community settings where health promotion and maintenance is the principal concern. The student works with individuals, families, and communities to identify potential physical or environmental health problems into the health care system.

Clinical Agencies Agreements for Nursing Students

The School of Nursing maintains a contractual relationship with many clinical and health care agencies throughout West Tennessee. These consist of hospitals, including Jackson-Madison County General Hospital and Regional Hospital of Jackson, long-term care facilities, public and regional health departments, child-care and developmental facilities, mental health agencies including Western Mental Health Institute, and home health care agencies. Contracts detail responsibility for each party regarding placement, supervision, and evaluation of students while in the clinical agency.

Admission to the Basic BSN Track

1. Applicants to the School of Nursing (SON) should apply in the Fall or early Spring of their sophomore year in college. A minimum of 65 prescribed semester hours must be completed before enrollment in the first nursing class in the Fall Semester. A minimum of a 2.5 GPA is required for acceptance. Applicants will be required to have a "C" grade or better in all prerequisite natural science, social science, math and English courses (with no more than 7 credit hours accepted below a C grade in other prenursing courses). A transfer student may be allowed to take the religion requirements (6 hours of the 65 prescribed semester hours) after admission to the School of Nursing.
2. An applicant must make a minimum Enhanced ACT composite score of 20.
3. Official transcripts must be submitted to Enrollment Services from all institutions of higher learning. Any applicant with Anatomy and Physiology (A&P) course credit that is more than five years old must either take an NLN A&P Achievement Test and achieve a set passing score or retake the A&P courses for credit.
4. Fully completed Health History and Physical Examination Form (obtained in the School of Nursing), must be submitted to the School of Nursing office prior to beginning the first semester. This form must include documentation of current immunizations, including the following: tetanus booster within the past 10 years; Hepatitis B vaccination series; MMR; Varicella (Chicken Pox) immunization or certain history of the disease or vaccination series (Students who are unsure of immunity to Chicken Pox may submit documentation of a Varicella titer); negative screen for tuberculosis (skin test or chest x-ray) within the past 12 months or documentation of compliance with CDC guidelines for tuberculosis screening. The student must update this information annually. Failure to have current health information on file will result in the student being asked to withdraw from clinical nursing courses. The SON follows guidelines of the Southern Regional Education Board Council on Collegiate Education for Nursing Education.
5. An interview with a nursing applicant may be requested. The interview allows the student an opportunity to become acquainted with the School of Nursing and allows the interview committee an opportunity to evaluate the student's potential for nursing education.
6. Each accepted applicant will be notified and given a reasonable length of time to indicate a commitment to attend Union University. The student must submit an acceptance reply accompanied with a \$200.00 non-refundable deposit.
7. The Licensure Application, which is completed prior to graduation, asks the question, "Have you ever been convicted of a violation of the law other than a minor traffic violation?" A reported conviction (and/or any license revocation) does not necessarily mean that the graduate will be denied licensure. Any nursing school applicant who would be affected by this disclosure requirement is recommended

to schedule an appointment with the Dean of the School of Nursing for a confidential discussion of the specific situation and concern.

8. Current health care provider CPR certification must be maintained throughout the nursing program of study.

Admission to the Accelerated BSN Program

The Accelerated Program is an option for qualified recipients of a bachelors degree in another field. See the Adult Studies section for details.

Requirements for Progression in the BSN Program

The student enrolls in the courses in nursing education according to the prescribed sequence. At least a C grade in each clinical nursing course is required for progression in the nursing curriculum. Students who receive a grade of less than C in any clinical course may not proceed to the next clinical course until the failed course has been repeated with a final grade of C or above. Nursing courses may be repeated only once. Permission to progress must be obtained from School of Nursing faculty and will be dependent upon meeting course prerequisites and corequisites. In non-clinical nursing courses, a grade of C or above is required. A student who receives a grade of D or below will be allowed to repeat the non-clinical course the next time it is offered in the scheduled sequence of courses. A student who receives a grade less than C in two nursing courses will not be allowed to progress in the Nursing Program. To progress to the final year of the program, a student must have a minimum GPA of 2.0.

Continuation in the program is also contingent upon compliance with ethical and professional standards of conduct. Students who remove school or hospital property without permission will be subject to immediate disciplinary action. Graduation requirements follow the guidelines of Union University.

Readmission to the BSN Program

A student who wishes to reenter the nursing program should submit a letter to the Dean of the School of Nursing requesting readmission to the School of Nursing well in advance of the semester in which they wish to enroll. Their request for readmission will be considered along with other applicants to the program.

A student who receives a final grade less than C in two Nursing courses will not be readmitted to the Nursing Program but will be advised to seek another major. Withdrawal from a nursing course does not guarantee readmission

Students readmitted to the program may be asked to repeat courses in which they previously earned a C in consideration of the length of absence or change in curriculum.

Uniforms

Students must purchase appropriate uniforms. The School of Nursing will provide necessary forms for ordering the uniforms.

Insurance

Students will be charged for the school's group policy liability insurance when participating in a nursing course that requires clinical experience.

Degree Requirements for the Bachelor of Science in Nursing, initial RN licensure tracks:

- A. Non-nursing courses required for both tracks
 1. CLU 111, 112; ENG 111, 112; CHE 105; PSY 213, 219; PEWS 100; CHR 111, 112; BIO 211; SOC 211—Curriculum Model Year 1.
 2. ENG 201, 202; BIO 221, 222; HIS 101, 102; MAT 114; ART 210; BIO 300; PEWS Activity Elective—Curriculum Model Year 2.

- B. Basic BSN Track
 1. NUR 302, 306, 308, 309, 310, 318, 410, 423, Upper level Elective—Curriculum Model Year 3.
 2. NUR 330, 418, 419, 421, 425, 430, 440, 499—Curriculum Model Year 4.
- C. Licensed Practical Nurse to BSN Track
 1. NUR 322 (Transition course) after successful challenge of NUR 302 & 308 or (if unsuccessful in challenge) enrollment in NUR 302 & 308.
 2. NUR 303, 309, 310, 318*, 410, 423, Elective, Upper level Elective—Curriculum Model Year 3.
 3. NUR 330, 418*, 419, 421, 425, 430, 440, 499—Curriculum Model Year 4.

*NUR 318 and 418 are available for challenge by testing for the LPN.

Assessment of Majors

Nursing majors are required to take standardized nursing tests at specific points throughout the program of study. As a part of NUR 499, students will take the HESI Comprehensive Exam to evaluate readiness to take the NCLEX licensure exam. Successful completion of 499 includes scoring at least the current national passing standard. During NUR 440, Community Health Nursing, the comprehensive baccalaureate standardized test is given which measures baccalaureate level knowledge. Student assessments include, but are not limited to, communication skills, therapeutic nursing interventions and critical thinking skills. Basic Nursing students are expected to take the NCLEX-RN after completion of the program of nursing to become registered nurses.

Course Offerings in Nursing (NUR)

() Hours Credit: F-Fall; W-Winter; S-Spring; Su-Summer

200. Survey of Professional Nursing (3) As Needed

202 An exploratory course for the student interested in the nursing profession. Students will be introduced to the broad scope of nursing roles, settings and specialities.

302. Foundations of Pharmacology (2) F

A study of arithmetic dosages and solutions and introduction to basic drug classifications and principles of pharmacology. Legal and ethical responsibilities of the professional nurse for the well or ill person are emphasized.

303. Introduction to Professional Nursing (3) F

Prerequisite: Admission to Basic BSN track.

The philosophy of nursing and the four main concepts of person, environment, health, and nursing; the basic concepts in health promotion and health maintenance are emphasized as are the concepts related to wholistic care of individuals and families in the community.

308. Foundations for Nursing Practice (6) F

Prerequisite: Admission to Basic BSN track.

This course focuses on the nursing interventions and skills necessary for basic nursing practice in the care of individuals of all age groups in diverse settings. Introduction of the nursing process provides a basis for development of decision-making and critical thinking skills in the formation of nursing diagnosis.

309. Skills Practicum (1) S

Prerequisite: NUR 308.

A practical hands-on experience in nursing skills. Students work with faculty to perform specific clinical skills using scientific principles basic to nursing knowledge and application.

310. Health Assessment (3) F

Prerequisite: Admission to the School of Nursing or by permission of the faculty.

The use of the nursing model in developing skills and knowledge related to history taking, assessing the health status of an apparently healthy individual, and recognizing deviations from the normal. Communication technique is further developed by emphasis on student interviewing skills. Emphasis will be on functional health patterns throughout the life span.

318. Nursing Care of Childbearing Families (5) S

Prerequisites: 302, 305, 308, 310. Corequisite: 410, 423.

Promotive and preventive health care for members of childbearing families along the wellness-illness continuum. Emphasis is placed on the developmental aspect of families and on high-risk families.

322. LPN Transition Course (1) W, Su

Prerequisite: Successful challenge of NUR 302 & 308.

This course transitions the licensed practical nurse to the role of the professional nurse and the nursing process as taught in the baccalaureate program. It prepares students to meet program outcomes and includes validation of nursing knowledge and skills.

330. Introduction to Research in Nursing (3) F

Prerequisite: MAT 114; Admission to the School of Nursing.

The role of the professional nurse in critiquing and in utilizing nursing research literature. Critical thinking skills and the steps of scientific inquiry are applied to develop a research project.

345. Case Management (3) As Needed

Case management as a model for organizing health care for persons of all ages and cultures. Emphasis is placed on defining the changing role of the R.N. case manager. A nursing process approach is used to explore the skills of problem solving, interpersonal communication, critical thinking, organization, negotiation, networking and creativity. The certification process is also discussed.

350. Philosophical and Ethical Foundations in Health Care (3) TBA

A study of the foundations of philosophy and ethics with emphasis on developing the student's ability to perform philosophical inquiry and generate philosophical arguments related to ethical issues and concerns in health care.

353. Health Promotion (3) As Needed

Focuses on in-depth, scientifically accurate information for all dimensions of wellness and helps students identify realistic options for a healthy lifestyle and emphasizes the importance of making healthier choices. The course assesses and utilizes the tools for integrating these changes into everyday lives and uses the nursing process as a guide for enabling persons to achieve and maintain optimal health and wellness.

355. Spiritual Care in Nursing (3) On Demand

An examination of Christian values as a basis for providing spiritual care to clients and exploration of the role of the professional nurse in its provision. Resources will include the Bible, nursing literature, clergy, community and personal spiritual resources.

410. Pharmacotherapeutics in Nursing Practice (3) S

Prerequisite: NUR 301, 305, 310.

The biochemical and psychological effects of drugs on the wholistic person in a multicultural society. Nursing process with different classifications of drugs is emphasized. Historical, economic, legal, and ethical issues are identified.

418. Nursing Care of Childrearing Families (5) F

Prerequisite: NUR 318, 410, 423.

Promotive and preventive health care for members of childrearing families along the wellness-illness continuum. Emphasis is placed on the developmental aspect of children from infancy to adolescence and on children with special problems.

419. Issues in Professional Nursing (3) F, S

The nurses's role in change through evaluation of historical and current issues impacting the profession and health care delivery systems. Students explore the role of nursing theory in the continued development of professional nursing. Consideration is given to the legal, ethical, social, economic, political, moral and scholarly obligations of the professional nurse.

421. Nursing Care of Adults in Health and Illness I (6) F

Prerequisites: NUR 318, 410, 423.

Professional nursing practice and further development in nursing process application with adults from multicultural backgrounds along the wellness-illness continuum. There will be emphasis on integration of pathophysiology and psychosocial dynamics with complex illnesses and human response patterns in the acute care setting. Use of critical thinking, decision making, and research will be incorporated into the teaching, caring, and collaborative role of the nurse.

423. Mental Health-Psychiatric Nursing (5) S

Prerequisites: NUR 305/308, 310.

The focus of this course is on individuals, families, and community groups at any position on the health continuum. Through selected clinical experiences the student will utilize the nursing process in applying mental health concepts in a variety of settings.

Intervention modes are observed or practiced in one-to-one, small group, family, and milieu settings. Emphasis is placed on use of therapeutic communication and the social, political, and economic context of practice is considered.

425. Nursing Care of Adults in Health and Illness II (6) S

Prerequisites: NUR 421. Prerequisite or Corequisite: NUR 420 and 430.

A continuation of NUR 421. There will be additional development of the role of the professional nurse as a health teacher and advocate.

430. Leadership and Management in Nursing (4) S

Prerequisites: NUR 330, 418, 421.

A study of health care organizational structures and the professional nurse's role as a patient advocate, leader, manager, and change agent. Emphasis is on the application of the theoretical principles of leadership and management in the context of the health care delivery system. Use of the research process is identified as a management tool to test alternative solutions on which to base decision-making.

440. Community Health Nursing (5) S

Pre/Corequisite: BIO 300 and all other nursing courses.

A culminating experience in population-focused health care in diverse settings. Health needs are addressed using nursing theory and research with knowledge from the humanities, biological and social sciences. The nursing process provides the framework for critical thinking and decision-making regarding the holistic health needs of aggregates and communities.

452. Intercultural Issues (3) As Needed

A study of culturally appropriate and wholistic professional nursing care of persons in this pluralistic global society. Emphasis is placed on sensitivity to and respect for cultural diversity, communication, critical thinking, research and theories of intercultural nursing, cultural assessment, and strategic planning for competent nursing care which will result in positive health care outcomes for intercultural populations.

499. Senior Seminar (1) S

Prerequisite: NUR 430. Corequisites: NUR 420, 425, 440.

This course focuses on concept synthesis in order to prepare the new graduate for entry into the nursing profession. Emphasis is placed on critical thinking skills needed by the generalist to address health care dilemmas.

180-280-380-480. Study Abroad Programs (1-4) As Needed

All courses and their application must be defined and approved prior to travel.

195-6-7. Special Studies (1-4)

Lower-level group studies which do not appear in the regular departmental offerings.

395-6-7. Special Studies (1-4)

Upper-level group studies which do not appear in the regular departmental offerings.

495-6-7. Independent Study (1-4)

Individual research under the guidance of a faculty member(s).

School of Nursing Sponsored Organizations

The **Baptist Student Nursing Fellowship** is open to all nursing and pre-nursing students. It provides Christian fellowship, professional educational programs, and service activities; it encourages nursing practice evolving from a personal commitment to Jesus Christ. Meetings are monthly.

The **National Student Nurses Association (NSNA)** is the largest health professional student organization in the United States and the only one for nursing students. All basic BSN students are encouraged to participate. The organization provides opportunity for contributing to nursing education, to provide programs of professional interest and to aid in the development of the whole person, thereby providing for the highest quality health care. The chapter meets monthly; members may also attend state and national meetings. In addition, RN to BSN students are strongly encouraged to hold membership in Tennessee Nurses Association (TNA).

Nu Lambda is a chapter of **Sigma Theta Tau International**, the Nursing Honor Society. Its purposes are to recognize superior achievement, to develop leadership qualities, to foster high professional standards, to encourage creative work, and to strengthen commitment to the ideals and purposes of the profession. Membership is by invitation to students who have completed one-half of the upper division nursing curriculum, achieved a 3.0 GPA, and rank in the highest 35 percent of their class. After graduation, students continue their membership in the society as alumni.

School of Nursing Student Awards

The **Academic Excellence Medal** is awarded to the graduating senior with the highest average in the major provided the average is not less than 3.5. Before Awards Day, the student must have completed at least 15 credit hours in the major at Union University, exclusive of pass/fail courses.

The **Fannie J. Watt, R.N., Psychiatric Nursing** is to be presented to the basic nursing student who has demonstrated the greatest potential for effective practice in a psychiatric setting.

The **Fannie J. Watt, R.N., Professional Nursing** is presented to the graduating RN-BSN student at each program site who has shown sensitivity to the psycho-social needs of patients and has shown potential for making a serious contribution to nursing.

The **Nursing Faculty** is presented to the outstanding graduating nursing student (either basic or RN-BSN) who has demonstrated an above average level of theoretical knowledge in the classroom and a high degree of skill in the clinical setting. This student shows promise of achievement in nursing.

The **Terry Robinson Nursing** is presented to the student who has evidenced an extraordinary degree of motivation toward nursing with a quiet, steady and courageous persistence toward their goal.

The **Emily Saffel Nursing** is established in memory of Emily Saffel. Emily was born with a congenital heart defect that was resistant to treatment, and she only survived 2 1/2 weeks. Her only contact with God's world was in the caring voices and touch of her parents, grandparents, doctors, and nurses. This award is to recognize characteristics of the kind of nursing that her family hopes she received during her brief life.

The **Wilson Nursing** was established by Miss Georgia Wilson to be presented to the member of the BSN (basic) graduating class who is deemed by the nursing faculty to have been the most outstanding in clinical nursing.

School of Nursing Scholarships

The School of Nursing offers several types of scholarships which are awarded on different bases such as academics and financial need. Applications for nursing scholarships may be obtained in the School of Nursing office. Completed applications should be submitted no later than April 15 for consideration of the award for the following academic year.