NORTHERN
STATE UNIVERSITY

Major: Nursing, BSN (Bachelor of Science in Nursing)
2026-2027 4-Year Plan Guide
Major: 60 (*63) credit hours, Total Degree Requirements: 120 credit hours

Students are not limited to this plan; it is meant to be used as a guide for planning purposes in consultation with your advisor. The sample schedule is one possible path to completing your degree within four years. For official program requirements, please refer to the Undergraduate Catalog.

FIRST YEAR

Fall

Prefix + Number + Course Title	Major / General Education Requirements (SGR)	Credits
ENGL 101 English Composition I	Major* + SGR 1	3
PSYC 101 General Psychology	Major* + SGR 3	3
Mathematics Course (MATH 103 or higher)	Major* + SGR 5	3
FYS 101 First Year Seminar	Major	2
CHEM 106/L Chemistry Survey	Major* + SGR 6	3/1
	Total Credit Hours:	**15**

Spring

Prefix + Number + Course Title	Major / General Education Requirements (SGR)	Credits
ENGL 201 English Composition II	Major* + SGR 1	3
CMST 101 Foundations of Communications	Major* + SGR 2	3
BIOL 220/L Anatomy & Physiology I	Major* + SGR 6	3/1
SOC 100 Introduction to Sociology	Major*	3
MICR 231/L General Microbiology	Major*	3/1
	Total Credit Hours:	**17**

SECOND YEAR

Fall

Prefix + Number + Course Title	Major / General Education Requirements (SGR)	Credits
BIOL 230/L Anatomy & Physiology II	Major*	3/1
NURS 285 Medical Terminology	Major*	3
PSYC 221 Lifespan Development	Major*	3
BIOL 315 Nutrition	Major*	3
Arts & Humanities	SGR 4	3
	Total Credit Hours:	**16**

Spring

Prefix + Number + Course Title	Major / General Education Requirements (SGR)	Credits
NURS 327 Pathophysiology	Major	3
NURS 269/L Health Assessment & Application	Major	2/1
NURS 239/L Foundations in Nursing	Major + Human Values Course	2/1
NURS 238 Clinical Practicum: Foundations	Major	2
Civics Requirement	SGR 3	3
	Total Credit Hours:	**14**

*Pre-nursing course

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THIRD YEAR

Fall

Prefix + Number + Course Title	Major / General Education Requirements (SGR)	Credits
NURS 355 Pharmacology	Major	3
NURS 329/L Health & Illness I	Major	4/2
NURS 328 Clinical Practicum I	Major	3
Elective	Elective	3
	Total Credit Hours:	**15**

Spring

Prefix + Number + Course Title	Major / General Education Requirements (SGR)	Credits
NURS 379/L Health & Illness II	Major	4/2
NURS 378 Clinical Practicum II	Major	3
NURS 333 Quality, Safety, & Scholarship in Nursing	Major + Quantitative Course	3
NURS 369 Professional Principles in Nursing	Major + Human Values Course	3
	Total Credit Hours:	**15**

FOURTH YEAR

Fall

Prefix + Number + Course Title	Major / General Education Requirements (SGR)	Credits
NURS 459 Health and Illness III	Major	5
NURS 458 Clinical Practicum III	Major	4
NURS 467 Leadership Principles in Nursing	Major	3
Elective	Elective	3
	Total Credit Hours:	**15**

Spring

Prefix + Number + Course Title	Major / General Education Requirements (SGR)	Credits
NURS 479/L Population-Based Healthcare	Major	2/1
NURS 489 Transition to Professional Nursing	Major	3
NURS 495 Nursing Practicum	Major	4
Arts & Humanities	SGR 4	3
	Total Credit Hours:	**13**

COMMENTS & NOTES

Program Overview:
The Department of Nursing offers two admission pathways: the Standard option every Spring semester and the Fast Path option every Fall semester. Both options are completed in five semesters, with the Fast Path offering a continuous path to graduation, including a summer semester.

Admission Requirements
Students must apply and be accepted to the Nursing major prior to enrolling in most NURS courses (exceptions: NURS 285 and NURS 327). Admission is competitive and based on a holistic review process that considers academics, life experiences, healthcare background, interview performance, and other factors. Meeting minimum criteria does not guarantee admission into the major.

Minimum requirements:

- GPA of 2.7 or higher
- Grade of C or higher in all pre-nursing courses & courses required for completion of the BSN degree
- Students may repeat prerequisite courses, but if a grade of "C" is not earned within 2 attempts, the student will not be eligible for admission

After acceptance into the Nursing major, additional health and safety clearances are required before beginning the program.

Important Notes
Students should always consult with their advisor before completing their schedules. Taking incorrect courses can alter your pathway and impact your ability to progress in the program on schedule. Some course substitutions may be allowed but require authorization and additional documentation.