

Pathway to
Nursing School
B.S. in Biology

INTRODUCTION

Many students enter the B.S. in Biology program with a desire to enter the nursing profession. The B.S. in Biology program offers all prerequisite courses typically required by nursing programs as either major requirements or electives. Our B.S. degree also prepares graduates to consider advanced degrees or specialization in the nursing field later in their career. Graduates commonly pursue accelerated nursing programs and master's in nursing programs, which are advantageous for many reasons.

TYPICAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSION TO NURSING SCHOOLS:

Listed below are some of the common prerequisites of nursing programs, but it is important that you explore the specific requirements of the programs you are interested in attending.

- One year of General Biology courses with 2 semesters of labs.
- One year of General Chemistry and one year of Organic Chemistry and Biochemistry.
- One year of Anatomy and Physiology.
- Completion of advanced biology courses, including Genetics, Cell Biology, and Microbiology
- Completion of the following coursework in psychology - Introduction to Psychology, Human Growth and Development, and Abnormal Psychology.
- A cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher (including a 3.0 GPA for all science courses).
- A minimum composite score on the Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS).
- Letters of recommendation from faculty.

GRADUATES TYPICALLY PURSUE ONE OF TWO PATHWAYS INTO NURSING:

THE ACCELERATED B.S. IN NURSING (ASBN) PATHWAY:

ASBN programs typically utilize online coursework with on-site clinical study through a network of hospitals, where clinical experience is obtained, and are often completed in 12 or 16 months. The advantage of ASBN programs is that they traditionally require only one year of additional study and students essentially receive a second B.S. degree.

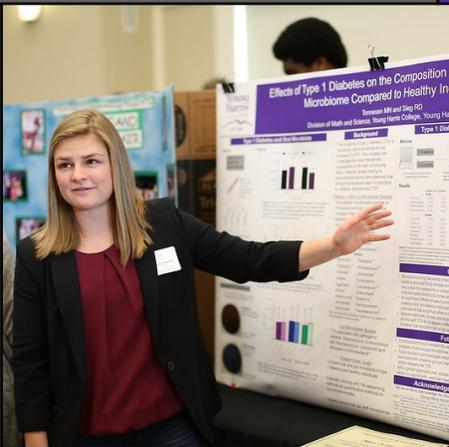
THE ENTRY-LEVEL MASTERS IN NURSING (ELMSN) PATHWAY:

An ELMSN program is a graduate program for students who want to eventually become nurse practitioners or attain a higher leadership role in nursing, potentially as nursing administrators, family nurse practitioners, or acute care nurse practitioners. Nurses with MSNs often have excellent starting salaries. ELMSN requirements include a B.S. degree, as well as course requirements similar to those for ASBN programs. ELMSNs are usually 5 semester programs with clinical experience included in the training process.

TYPICAL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ADMISSION TO NURSING SCHOOLS:

Listed below are additional courses that may be required by some programs or will enhance the nursing school application. While not required for admission, they may fulfill ASBN or ELMSN coursework and better prepare students for these programs. Note that admission can be competitive.

- Pharmacology, Immunology, and Virology
- Additional coursework in psychology, sociology, behavioral sciences, and social sciences. Some programs specifically require Introduction to Sociology.
- Proficiency in a foreign language
- Leadership experiences and service, such as volunteering in the healthcare field.
- Work experiences in the healthcare field.



For more information on opportunities within the B.S. in Biology program, visit www.yhc.edu/academics/math-science/biology.

YOU CAN GO ANYWHERE FROM HERE

MAPPING YOUR JOURNEY FROM BIOLOGY TO NURSING SCHOOL

Freshman (1st) Year

Recommended Courses:

BIOL 1107 Introductory Biology I
BIOL 1108 Introductory Biology II
CHEM 1211 General Chemistry I
CHEM 1212 General Chemistry II
PSYC 1101 Introduction to Psychology

Spring: Find volunteer or paid positions to work during the summer in the healthcare field.

Summer: Begin collecting relevant experience related to the medical field via volunteering and service at medical and healthcare facilities. Gaining experience early on is important for leveraging this experience to gain additional opportunities later.

Sophomore (2nd) Year

Recommended Courses:

CHEM 2211 Organic Chemistry I
CHEM 2212 Organic Chemistry II
STAT 2000 Elementary Statistics
SOC 1100 Introduction to Sociology
Additional coursework in Psychology¹

Spring: Apply to summer internship and fellowship programs. Deadlines are often in January and February, and applications often require a letter of recommendation from a faculty member.

Summer: Participate in a summer internship or fellowship. Students can also continue volunteering and working in the medical field.

Junior (3rd) Year

Recommended Courses:

BIOL 3101 Genetics
BIOL 3102 Cell Biology
BIOL 3501 Microbiology
BIOL 1111 Human Anatomy and Physiology I
BIOL 1112 Human Anatomy and Physiology II
Additional coursework in Psychology¹
Additional BIOL coursework as offered²

Spring: Complete TEAS entrance exam in spring prior to submission of application. Research admission requirements of ABSN and ELMSN programs. Apply to summer internship and fellowship programs.

Summer: Complete or retake TEAS entrance exam if not yet done. Begin preparing nursing school application for submission in the fall. Solicit recommendation letters from faculty for application. Students can also continue shadowing and volunteering.

Senior (4th) Year

Recommended Courses:

BIOL 4990/4991 Senior Research Capstone OR Senior Capstone
Additional coursework in Psychology¹
Additional BIOL coursework as offered²

Fall: Submit application to nursing program for admission in the fall of the following year. Consider retaking courses, if needed, to meet minimum GPA requirements for programs.

Spring: Revise and resubmit application to nursing program admission in the spring of the following year if necessary and available. Consider internships and entry-level positions to enhance application for the following year if needed.

¹Recommended courses are Human Growth and Development and Abnormal Psychology.

²Many BIOL 3000+ courses are offered once every two years. Students should enroll in any relevant course when offered during the junior and senior years.

The Biology Department at YHC offers 3 B.S. programs in biology, environmental science, and environmental education and leadership. Graduates have pursued careers in medicine, nursing, physical therapy, veterinary sciences, physician assistant, wildlife biology, ecology, zoology, environmental health and more. For more information, contact the department chair, Dr. Johnathan Davis (jgdavis@yhc.edu).