

# Nursing

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*Professors M. Molewyk Doornbos (chair), C. Feenstra*

*Associate Professors M. Flikkema, C. Rossman*

*Assistant Professors A. Ayoola, J. Baker, R. Boss-Potts, D. Bossenbroek, B. Gordon, M. Larson, D. Slager, M. Vander Wal, G. Zandee*

The Calvin Department of Nursing, in sharing the mission of Calvin, seeks to engage in professional nursing education that promotes lifelong Christian service. Students will be prepared to be entry-level professional nurses. The objectives of the nursing curriculum are to assist the student to acquire the knowledge, the competencies and abilities, and the commitments necessary to practice as a Christian professional nurse. The context for nursing education includes the learning community of the college as well as the health care community, the professional nursing community, and the world community in which Christian service takes place. Health promotion and health protection with individuals, families and communities will be the major focus of the program. Challenging practicum experiences will occur in a variety of settings such as communities, clinics, schools, hospitals, and rehabilitation centers. Graduates of the program will receive a BSN and be prepared to take the National Council Licensing Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN). Satisfactory scores on the NCLEX-RN will enable a student to become a Registered Nurse (RN). The Department of Nursing is approved by the Michigan State Board of Nursing and accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE).

## THE NURSING PROGRAM

The two-year pre-nursing curriculum requires nine courses in the natural and social sciences that provide the foundation for professional nursing. These courses include Biology 141, 205, 206, 207, Chemistry 115, Health Education 254, Psychology 151, 201, and Sociology 151. In addition, twelve to fourteen liberal arts courses are required. Foreign language is a component of the liberal arts core. Students are required to have either two years of high school foreign language with grades of C or better or one year of college level foreign

language. If a student needs to take a foreign language at Calvin, it should be taken during the first or second year.

The upper division nursing major is a two-year sequence normally taken in the junior and senior years. It consists of thirteen courses distributed over four semesters with 12 semester hours of course work required each semester. While students taking only nursing major courses are considered full-time during those four semesters, elective courses may also be taken during these semesters.

Those interested in nursing should indicate this at the time they begin their studies at Calvin. They will then be assigned to an academic advisor from the nursing department.

### Early Admission

A high school graduate interested in nursing is eligible for early admission to the nursing major at Calvin College. The student must meet the following criteria:

A composite ACT of equal to or greater than 28 or

An SAT critical reading plus math score of equal to or greater than 1260

In order to maintain early admission status, a student, at the Calvin College Department of Nursing application deadline, must have:

A 3.5 GPA in the nursing prerequisite courses at Calvin

A 3.3 cumulative GPA at Calvin  
Completed admission requirements (i.e. criminal background check, disciplinary check, drug screen, fingerprint check) as specified in the Calvin catalog of the year of the student's admission to Calvin.

### Regular Admission Process

Application to the upper division nursing major normally occurs during the second semester of the sophomore year. Applications are due on January 15th for the class beginning the following September. Applicants who submit after the deadline will be considered on a space available basis only. Application forms are available in the Nursing Department office or on the departmental web site.

In order to apply to the nursing program, students must have the following:

- At least sophomore standing (greater than or equal to 27 hours) at the application due date.
- Completed six nursing prerequisite courses at the application due date.
- a minimum overall cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.5 at the application due date.
- A minimum pre-nursing GPA (GPA acquired from the nine pre-nursing courses) of 2.5 at the application due date.

e. A minimum grade of C on each of the prerequisite courses at the application due date.

f. No more than one repeat per required nursing pre-requisite course.

**Students should also take note of the following policies:**

a. Prerequisite natural science courses must have been completed within the last seven years.

b. Preference will be given to applicants who have completed or will complete all nine nursing prerequisite courses at Calvin.

c. Preference will be given to applicants who have completed more than six prerequisite courses at the time of application.

d. Consideration will be given to applicants who have made repeated applications to the nursing major.

e. Applicants who submit applications after the due date will be considered on a space available basis.

f. Prerequisite courses in progress must be completed by the end of Calvin College's second summer session with a minimum grade of a C.

g. Enrollment in the upper division nursing major is also contingent upon successful completion of a criminal background check, fingerprint check, and drug screen.

It is important to note that completion of the pre-nursing courses and achievement of the minimum criteria does not guarantee admission into the nursing major. Enrollment in the final two years is limited and thus the admission process is selective.

### Transfer Students

Students who have transferred to Calvin from some other college or university will be considered Calvin students (rather than as transfer students) if they will have completed two semesters of full time academic work at Calvin by the time they begin the upper division major.

Students desiring to transfer to Calvin for the upper division major, who have completed course work judged by the department to be equivalent to the nine required pre-nursing courses, will be considered for admission to the nursing program after qualified students from Calvin have been accepted into the program.

Applicants for admission, who are graduates of Calvin, will be given equal consideration for admission with current Calvin students.

### Transportation

Classroom and laboratory experiences take place on the Calvin campus. Practicum experiences during the final two years occur at a variety of sites in the greater Grand Rapids area. Students are responsible for their own transportation to those settings. While students may be able to carpool with others for some practicum experiences, there will be occasions throughout the junior and senior years when personal transportation will be necessary.

### Costs

Nursing students will be charged Calvin tuition. In addition, a fee will be assessed for each nursing practicum course. The fee for 2009-2010 will be \$900.00 per practicum course. Students normally take one practicum course in each semester of the two-year upper division major. This additional fee is considered when financial aid awards are made.

Prior to beginning the nursing practicum courses, students will need to buy uniforms, name tags, a stethoscope, a blood pressure cuff, and complete a professional rescuer's CPR course. Additional costs will be incurred for health related items such as immunizations and titers as required by the practicum agencies.

### Additional Requirement

Students will participate in a departmental program entitled Promoting All Student Success (PASS). As a component of PASS, students will take a series of standardized tests during the four semesters of the upper division nursing major. These tests are designed to prepare students to take the NCLEX-RN upon graduation. Each test must be passed at the prescribed level. In the event a student does not achieve the necessary score, she/he will be required to join the PASS remediation group. The department will issue the required "Certification of Completion" to the State Board of Nursing upon completion of all required courses and completion of all PASS program requirements.

### Required Courses

<i>*First Year</i>	<i>Semester hours</i>
Biology 141, 207	8
Chemistry 115	4
Psychology 151	3
Sociology 151	3
English 101	3
Foundations of information technology	1
Developing a Christian mind (interim)	3
Mathematics 143	4
Arts core	3
Physical education core	1
<i>*Second year</i>	<i>Semester hours</i>
Biology 205, 206	8
Psychology 201	3
Health education 254	3
Philosophical foundations core	3
Literature core	3
Biblical/theological foundations core	3
History of the west and the world core	4
Rhetoric in culture core	3
Physical education core	1
Interim elective	3

\*Note:

Students are required to have either two years of high school foreign language with grades of C or better or one year of college level foreign language. If a student needs to take a foreign language at Calvin, it should be taken during the first or second year.

### *Nursing Courses*

<i>Third Year</i>	<i>Semester hours</i>
Nursing 307	4
Nursing 308	4
Nursing 309	4
Nursing 327	4
Nursing 328	4
Nursing 329	4
Electives	0-8
Interim elective	3
<i>Fourth Year</i>	<i>Semester hours</i>
Nursing 357	4
Nursing 358	4
Nursing 359	4
Nursing 377	4
Nursing 378	1
Nursing 379	4
Nursing 380	3
Electives	0-8

Note:

The formal requirements for a Calvin bachelor's degree include the following: Successful completion of 124 semester hours, completion of three interim courses of three credit hours or more, completion of the designated program of study and the designated core, and a minimum grade point average of 2.0 both overall and in the program of concentration.

### **COURSES**

**307 Theory: Community Based and Mental Health Nursing (4).** F In this theory course, students will explore the theoretical foundations of the discipline of nursing, basic concepts of community based nursing, and mental health promotion and protection of individuals across the lifespan in the context of their families and communities. Prerequisites: limited to students who have been admitted to the upper division nursing major.

**308 Strategies: Community Based and Mental Health Nursing (4).** F This course provides students with the opportunity to develop strategies for health promotion and health protection for use in community based nursing and mental health nursing. Students will develop basic competency in health assessment, communication, technical skills, nursing informatics, the nursing process, and critical thinking. Students will be introduced to basic principles of pharmacology as well

as the various categories of psychotropic drugs. Prerequisites: limited to students who have been admitted to the upper division nursing major.

**309 Practicum: Community Based and Mental Health Nursing (4).** F This practicum course provides the student with an introduction to community based nursing as well as the opportunity to implement strategies to promote and protect the mental health of persons across the lifespan. Students will assume basic roles of the professional nurse and utilize skills of assessment, communication, critical thinking, and nursing process to design and provide empirically based nursing care to individuals in a variety of acute care and community-based settings. Prerequisites: limited to students who have been admitted to the upper division nursing major.

**327 Theory: Pregnant Women, Infants, Children, and Adolescents (4).** S. This theory course will focus on health promotion and

health protection concepts for pregnant women, infants, children, and adolescents in the context of their families and communities. Topics will include primary, secondary, and tertiary health protection and health promotion from the perspective of community based care. Prerequisites: Nursing 307, 308, and 309.

**328 Strategies: Pregnant Women, Infants, Children, and Adolescents (4).** S. This course provides students with opportunities to develop health promotion and health protection strategies in caring for pregnant women, infants, children, and adolescents. Students will develop knowledge and skills in health and cultural assessment, communication, nutrition, pharmacology, psychomotor activities, and nursing informatics systems related to care of pregnant women, infants, children, and adolescents. Prerequisites: Nursing 307, 308, and 309.

**329 Practicum: Pregnant Women, Infants, Children, and Adolescents (4).** S. The student will utilize the nursing process to promote and protect the health of pregnant women, infants, children, and adolescents in the context of their families and communities. Students will spend six weeks with pregnant women and infants and six weeks with children and adolescents in both acute care settings and a variety of community settings. Students will have opportunities to apply knowledge of health promotion and primary, secondary, and tertiary health protection strategies. The focus of the course is on engagement in clinical decision making skills and problem solving in working with these clients. Prerequisites: Nursing 307, 308, and 309.

**357 Theory: Young, Middle, and Older Adults (4).** F. This course will focus on the concepts of health promotion and health protection for young, middle, and older adults in the context of their families and communities. Topics will include primary, secondary, and tertiary health protection and health promotion including community based care and role development. The student will learn about partnerships with adults to actively promote health as well as protecting health during times of acute and chronic illness. Prerequisites: Nursing 327, 328, and 329.

**358 Strategies: Young, Middle, and Older Adults (4).** F. This course provides the stu-

dent with opportunities to develop health promotion and primary, secondary, and tertiary health protection strategies in care delivery for adults. Students will develop knowledge and skills in health and cultural assessment of adults, pharmacology, communication, nutrition, psychomotor activities, and nursing informatics systems related to care of adult clients. Prerequisites: Nursing 327, 328, and 329.

**359 Practicum: Young, Middle, and Older Adults (4).** F. The student will utilize the nursing process to promote and protect the health of adults in the context of their families and communities. Students care for young, middle, and older adults in acute care settings and visit a variety of community settings. Students will have opportunities to apply knowledge of health promotion and primary, secondary, and tertiary health protection theory and strategies. The focus of the course is on engagement in clinical decision making skills and problem solving with adult clients. Prerequisites: Nursing 327, 328, and 329.

**377 Theory: Community Focused Nursing and Leadership/Management (4).** S. This theory course is focused on health promotion/health protection for the community as client and leadership/management principles that are used by the professional nurse. Prerequisites: Nursing 357, 358, and 359.

**378 Strategies: Synthesis of Nursing Care across the Lifespan (1).** S. In this nursing laboratory course, students will synthesize techniques of health promotion and health protection for and with individuals, families, and groups across the lifespan in complex health situations. Students will focus on critical thinking and decision making principles in nursing practice. The course will include multifaceted, laboratory simulations that require students to analyze and synthesize assessment data and design care with other health care professionals. Students will integrate their knowledge of the Christian perspective, core virtues, and diversity into the care that they design. Prerequisites: Nursing 357, 358, and 359.

**379 Practicum: Community Focused Nursing and Leadership/Management (4).** S. This course will afford students the opportunity to partner with communities as well as interdisci-

iplinary groups of health care providers for the purpose of promoting and protecting health. Partnerships with communities offer opportunities for the student to assist the community to develop the best health care possible for diverse cultural groups. Partnerships with interdisciplinary staff members allow for principles of management and leadership to be integrated into nursing practice. Prerequisites: Nursing 357, 358, and 359.

**380 Critical Reflections (3).** S. (capstone course). This reflective course will lead the student into inquiry about the relationship between Christian faith and the discipline of nursing. It will consider how the Reformed Christian worldview informs the metaparadigm of nursing as well as current issues fac-

ing the profession. Prerequisites: Nursing 357, 358, and 359.

**385, Nursing Internship (Curricular Practical Training-CPT) (0).** This course is an optional independent study course, in which students will participate in off-campus internships in acute or long term care settings during summer months or during the academic year to compliment their formal learning experiences. They will work a minimum of 80 hours over the summer, or during a semester. Prerequisites: Nursing 307, 308, and 309, GPA of 2.5 or higher. Application for approval of activities must be confirmed by the department's internship coordinator prior to the internship.