

**Auburn Montgomery**  
**College of Nursing and Health Sciences**  
**School of Nursing**



**Prenursing**  
**Student Handbook**

AUBURN UNIVERSITY AT MONTGOMERY SCHOOL OF NURSING

REVISED 05/23

## **MISSION**

The School of Nursing supports the mission of Auburn University at Montgomery to provide quality and diverse educational opportunities at the undergraduate and graduate levels. Faculty are committed to providing a scientifically, evidenced-based nursing education in an interprofessional environment. Graduates will be prepared to provide excellent nursing practice through life-long learning, leadership, service, scholarship, and outreach for a global society.

## **VISION**

To have national recognition for providing excellence in nursing education, scholarship, and practice through innovative programs that are responsive to current and emerging healthcare needs.

## **VALUES**

1. A Student-Centered experience
2. Citizenship and Community
3. A Standard of Excellence
4. Commitment to Constant Improvement
5. Diversity of People and Perspective with a Culture of Inclusiveness
6. Promotion of Lifelong Learning
7. An Environment of Collaboration

## **Accreditation**

The School of Nursing Undergraduate Baccalaureate, Master of Science in Nursing, and Doctor of Nursing Practice Programs are accredited by:

Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) 655 K Street NW, Suite 750

Washington, DC 20001-1120

Telephone: 202-887-6791

Internet: [www.aacn.nche.edu/accreditation](http://www.aacn.nche.edu/accreditation)

The Baccalaureate Program is approved by the: Alabama Board of Nursing (ABN)

RSA Plaza, Suite 250 770 Washington Avenue

Montgomery, AL 36104

Telephone: 334-293-5201 Internet: [www.abn.alabama.gov](http://www.abn.alabama.gov)

# Table of Contents

|   |    |
|---|----|
| <b>Mission, Vision, Values, and Accreditation</b> ..... | 1  |
| <b>AUM University Information</b> .....                 | 3  |
| • University website .....                              | 3  |
| • University catalog.....                               | 3  |
| • Full/Part Time Student Status .....                   | 3  |
| • Financial Aid.....                                    | 3  |
| • Email .....   | 3  |
| <b>School of Nursing Information</b> .....              | 4  |
| <b>Overview</b> .....                                   | 4  |
| <b>Prenursing Academic Standards</b> .....              | 4  |
| • Academic Honesty.....                                 | 4  |
| • Prenursing academic requirements.....                 | 4  |
| • Tips for Achieving Academic Success .....             | 6  |
| • Dropping a course .....                               | 7  |
| • Grade Adjustment Policy .....                         | 7  |
| • Repeat to Replace Policy .....                        | 7  |
| <b>Prenursing Advising and Registration</b> .....       | 8  |
| • Advising Appointments .....                           | 8  |
| • Alternate PIN.....                                    | 8  |
| • Registering for Courses .....                         | 8  |
| • Transient forms .....                                 | 9  |
| • Prenursing Courses by Subject.....                    | 9  |
| • <i>Prenursing Courses with Prerequisites</i> .....    | 13 |
| <b>Applying for School of Nursing Admission</b> .....   | 14 |
| • Application Process Timeline .....                    | 14 |
| • Eligibility requirements .....                        | 14 |
| • Drug Screening .....                                  | 16 |
| • Background Check.....                                 | 16 |
| • Core Performance Standards.....                       | 16 |
| • Computer proficiency.....                             | 16 |
| • Class/Lab/Clinical schedules.....                     | 18 |
| • Application for RN licensure.....                     | 18 |

# AUM University Information

## University Website

- [www.aum.edu](http://www.aum.edu)
- My AUM account access
- Campus news and events
- Academic calendar

## University Catalog

- Online only - <https://www.aum.edu/academics/catalogs/>
- Includes university policies, admissions, academic integrity, financial aid, course descriptions, degree requirements, etc.

## Full/Part Time Student Status

At the student's discretion, the pre-nursing courses may be completed on a full-time or part-time basis. A minimum course load of 12 credit hours per semester is required to be considered a full-time student at AUM. Most pre-nursing lecture courses are 3 credit hours and lab courses are 1 credit hour.

An average full-time course load in pre-nursing is five courses (including at least one lab science course) during the longer fall or spring semesters, for a total of about 16 hours. Taking more than 2-3 pre-nursing courses in the shorter summer semester (6-10 hours) is not recommended.

The upper division nursing program is a full-time course of study and takes 2 years (5 semesters) to complete. The nursing program requires 35-40 hours per week of class, lab, and clinical time, plus additional time for study and preparation.

## Financial Aid

For any questions regarding your financial aid, please contact the university Financial Aid Office:

Phone Number: (334) 244-3571

Email: [finaid@aum.edu](mailto:finaid@aum.edu)

Location: Taylor Center, Room 111

Each student's financial aid account differs and is confidential. The academic advisor does not have access to student accounts and cannot answer any questions about financial aid.

## Email

The university provides each student with an email account through the MyAUM portal. Your AUM email account may be used for both school and personal email. Email is the official means of communication for the university. You will receive *important* university information on your email account, so please be sure to check it daily.

# School of Nursing Information

## Overview

The School of Nursing at Auburn Montgomery is housed within the College of Nursing and Health Sciences. The traditional four-year nursing course of study leads to a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (B.S.N.) degree. The traditional nursing program has two components: pre-nursing (lower division) and nursing (upper division).

During the lower division pre-nursing years of the program students will study biophysical and behavioral sciences, and humanities. These courses provide the foundation required for all students prior to commencing the nursing courses. The upper division nursing component of the program provides classroom, laboratory, and clinical learning experiences.

The Traditional BSN program is a full-time day program and students will need to be available seven days a week in order to attend all classes, laboratory sessions, and clinical experiences which often occur on weekends.

The clinical experiences occur in a variety of health care agencies in and around greater Montgomery and Alabama. Students must have access to personal transportation to access clinical sites as assigned throughout the upper division of the program.

After successful completion of the program, the graduate may apply to the Board of Nursing in any state to take the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN®). All students receive explicit information regarding this examination in advance of completing the program. The graduate is also prepared to pursue the study of nursing at the graduate level.

Be sure to view the College of Nursing and Health Sciences website <https://www.aum.edu/nursingandhealth/> for frequently asked questions, updates to this handbook, and other important information.

## Prenursing Academic Standards

### Academic Honesty

Students should thoroughly review and be familiar with the academic honesty information outlined in the current AUM undergraduate student handbook/catalog on the university website at [www.aum.edu/academics/catalogs](http://www.aum.edu/academics/catalogs). Students are expected to maintain academic honesty and integrity in all work pursued at AUM.

### Prenursing academic requirements

Students are required to maintain a satisfactory GPA to declare the pre-nursing major and to remain in the pre-nursing major.

- When 15 hours of pre-nursing credit have been attempted, a minimum 2.00 GPA (unadjusted and unrounded) calculated on the pre-nursing requirements alone is required to declare and to continue in the pre-nursing major.

- When 30 or more hours of prenursing credit have been attempted, a minimum 2.50 GPA (unadjusted and unrounded) calculated on the prenursing requirements alone is required to declare and to continue in the prenursing major.

Please be aware that the lab science courses are predictive of the ability to succeed in nursing courses. If these courses have been failed repeatedly, or if the courses seem extremely difficult, then nursing studies will also prove to be problematic. A student who has earned two (2) grades below a “C” in Anatomy and Physiology I or in Anatomy and Physiology II is not eligible to declare or to remain in the prenursing major or to apply to the upper division of the nursing program at AUM.

All pre-nursing course work must be completed with grades of “C” or higher prior to entering the nursing program. To be *considered* for nursing admission, students must earn a minimum grade of “C” on each pre-nursing course and hold a minimum GPA of 2.75 (unadjusted and unrounded) on those courses alone at the time of application.

### Eligibility Requirements for the Upper Division Nursing Application

1. Have attended Auburn Montgomery within the last 3 semesters, be currently attending AUM, or have university admission for the semester of application to nursing. Please apply to the university at [www.aum.edu/apply](http://www.aum.edu/apply). There is no fee.
2. Be **fully admitted** to the university and to the pre-nursing major (or be eligible for the pre-nursing major). Applicants for upper division nursing may have also attended other universities to complete the prerequisite coursework for the nursing major and be admitted to AUM prior to applying for the Nursing Program. Students with provisional university admission and those currently on Academic Probation or Suspension cannot be considered for admission to the upper division of the nursing program.
3. Submit an *official* Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS) score directly from ATI Testing to the School of Nursing by date provided. A score of 73% or higher is preferred. Applicants who have an official ACT composite score of 23 or higher on file in the AUM University Admissions Office by date provided are not required to submit a TEAS score.
4. Have successfully completed (grades of “C” or higher) at least three (3) of the five (5) required lab science courses AND have the remaining two (2) of the remaining required lab science courses in progress at the time of application.
5. Have successfully completed an Anatomy and Physiology course within 5 years of upper division entry, or a retake of one is required.
  1. A student who has earned 2 grades below a “C” in either Anatomy & Physiology I or Anatomy and Physiology II is ineligible to apply to the nursing program.
6. Have no more than 22 credit hours of pre-nursing coursework left to complete in Spring and Summer semesters combined for Fall admission **-OR-** Have no more than 18 credit hours of pre-nursing coursework left to complete in the Fall semester for Spring admission.
7. Complete all remaining pre-nursing courses with grades of “C” or higher by the end of Summer or Fall semester, depending on semester the student will be starting the Nursing Program.
8. Have an unadjusted, unrounded GPA of 2.75 or higher based **solely** upon pre-nursing course work at the time of application. Grades are counted every time a course is taken. Grade

adjustments (“grade forgiveness”) and Repeat to Replace adjustments are **NOT** considered. A GPA of 2.75 does not guarantee acceptance.

9. A writing sample is a requirement for admission and a component of the application. Applicants will be provided with a writing prompt and instructions to format the writing sample. The writing sample must be uploaded with the Nursing application.
10. Possess the functional ability to perform the skills and behaviors required of a professional nurse as listed in the current Auburn University at Montgomery Undergraduate Catalog and in the Pre-nursing Student Handbook. (Both may be viewed on the Auburn University at Montgomery website, [www.aum.edu](http://www.aum.edu).)

### Tips for Achieving Academic Success

- Prepare ahead for class meetings
  - Complete homework/reading assignments prior to class meetings.
  - Gather all necessary materials – pencils, pens, paper, notebooks, etc.
  - Preparation prior to class time is **required** for success in upper division (nursing) coursework.
- Use one calendar for all courses, appointments, events, etc.
  - Course syllabi will list test and assignment due dates – record all tests and assignment due dates from all courses on ONE calendar.
  - Add drop dates for the semester (listed on the Academic Calendar on the AUM website under the Academics tab).
  - Include personal appointments/work hours/events on the same calendar.
  - Using a calendar for school assignments is a skill that is extremely helpful for success in upper division (nursing) coursework.
- Maximize reading skills
  - Excellent reading skills are critically important in the nursing major.
  - Read out loud; take notes as you are reading; use context clues to figure out meaning; look up the definition of any word you do not know;
  - Success in Nursing and on the nurse licensure exam is strongly correlated to a high level of reading comprehension.
- Utilize available resources:
  - Course faculty are required to be available to students a certain number of hours per week outside of class time. Each professor will provide a syllabus which should include their office number, email address, and office hours.
  - AUM offers free academic support to students:
    - Warhawk Academic Success Center
      - Tutoring
      - Student Success Advising
      - Personalized Plan for Success
      - Financial Counseling
    - Learning Center
      - PH: (334) 244-3470
      - Location: AUM Library, Room 225
      - Hours: Monday-Thursday (9am-7pm), Friday (11am-2pm)
    - Instructional Support Lab
      - PH: (334) 244-3265

- Location: Goodwyn Hall 202-203
- Hours: Monday-Thursday (9am-7pm)

### **Dropping a Course**

A minimum grade of “C” is required in every prenursing course. If a student thinks s/he is unlikely to achieve a grade of “C” in any prenursing course, then dropping the course by the final drop date is recommended from an academic perspective. *However, verify first that dropping the course will not cause a problem with financial aid, insurance, athletic team, etc.* If a D or F is earned in a prenursing course, the course must be retaken. Low grades (especially in math and science courses) will greatly decrease the possibility of achieving admission to the School of Nursing. The drop dates are listed on the Academic Calendar on the university website <https://www.aum.edu/academics/academic-calendar/>. A course dropped by the final drop date for the semester will have only a grade of “W” (for withdrawn) on the student’s transcript.

### **Grade Adjustment Policy**

*The School of Nursing will count every time a course has been taken for the Upper Division admission evaluation. Grade adjustments are not considered such as Repeat to Replace.* AUM’s Grade Adjustment Policy (GAP) allows currently enrolled, regularly admitted undergraduate students to request that a maximum of three course grades of D/F/FA/U be excluded from the *computation* of their cumulative university GPA. Grades or credit considered as transfer credit, courses earned in a previously awarded baccalaureate degree, or grades that have been assigned as a result of academic misconduct are excluded from this policy. This policy does not offer exemption from academic requirements for Auburn University at Montgomery degrees; adjustment only applies to grades in individual courses. All prenursing courses must be completed with grades of “C” or higher.

### **Repeat to Replace Policy**

*The School of Nursing will count every time a course has been taken for the Upper Division admission GPA evaluation. Adjustments are not considered.* For example, AUM’s Repeat-to-Replace Policy allows currently enrolled, regularly admitted undergraduate students to request that grades of F/FA/U earned in a for-credit course be excluded from the *computation* of their cumulative university GPA and from earned hours after the student has retaken the course at AUM and earned a higher grade. The School of Nursing does not accept the Repeat to Replace Policy.

Grades or credit considered as transfer credit, courses earned in a previously awarded baccalaureate degree, or grades that have been assigned as a result of academic misconduct are excluded from this policy. This policy does not offer exemption from academic requirements for Auburn University at Montgomery degrees; adjustment only applies to grades in individual courses. All pre-nursing courses must be completed with grades of “C” or higher.



## Prenursing Advising and Registration

### Advising Appointments

All individual prenursing student appointments are scheduled through **AdvisorTrac**. Students may schedule individual appointments as needed for any academic concerns and to receive the alternate pin for registration. Pre-nursing advising appointments will need to be scheduled with Ms. Tangerla Jones.

- Ms. Tangerla Jones
  - PH: (334) 244-3216
  - Email: [tjones23@aum.edu](mailto:tjones23@aum.edu)
  - Location: Central Advising - Taylor Center, room 125

### Alternate Personal Identification Number (PIN)

An alternate PIN (Personal Identification Number) is required to access the Webster Registration System through which students register for classes and make changes to their schedules. This number changes every semester. University policy requires all students to meet with an advisor each semester to obtain the alternate PIN.

\*\*\*\*\* *PLEASE NOTE: It is the student's responsibility to keep up with their alternate PIN. We suggest storing it in your phone.*

### Registering for Courses

Advisors provide each student a suggested plan of study to follow when registering for classes. After meeting with an advisor, students are responsible for registering themselves through the Webster Registration System. Students are encouraged to email their advisor *as often as necessary* to address any questions or concerns.

The registration dates and drop dates are available on the Academic Calendar, found on the Auburn Montgomery website <https://www.aum.edu/academics/academic-calendar/>. Registration *typically* begins the first week of November for the spring semester and the first week of April for the summer and fall semesters.

The Webster Registration System will usually allow registration for a subsequent course if a student is currently enrolled in the prerequisite, but all prerequisite courses must be successfully completed with a grade of "C" or above, or with "Credit" (for credit/noncredit courses) to be eligible to move to the subsequent course.

If a student has registered for a subsequent course and did not achieve at least a "C" in the prerequisite course or dropped the prerequisite course, the student is responsible for changing her/his schedule, retaking the prerequisite course, and achieving a "C" or above before moving on to the higher level, more difficult course. Be sure to check your grades on Webster at the end of each semester.

Half term courses (7 – 8 week sections) are *not* recommended for the first semester of attendance. Online courses are *not* recommended in the freshman year. To help determine if online courses are for you, please take the questionnaire "Are You Ready for Online Learning?" on the website <https://aumwebapp.aum.edu/Orientation/OnlineLearning.aspx>.

## Transient Forms

Prenursing students may take some courses at other schools if necessary (such as enrolling in a course or two if returning home for the summer) as a transient student. A transient form is a document requesting that another accredited institution allow a current AUM student to attend their school and transfer the credit back to AUM. Please contact your advisor to obtain the necessary transient form ([tjones23@aum.edu](mailto:tjones23@aum.edu)).

Transient forms are provided solely at the discretion of the department head of the student's major and the dean of the college in which the major is housed. Transient forms are not allowed for the Anatomy and Physiology courses, as students will be best prepared for the Nursing part of our program by taking those courses at Auburn Montgomery.

## Prenursing Courses by Subject

### Success Course

New freshmen, returning freshmen, transfer students with fewer than 24 credit hours, and transfer students with GPA below 2.20 are required to take UNIV 1000 University Success Course during their first year of attendance at AUM (preferably the pre-nursing university success course).

### English

ENGL 1010 English Composition I and ENGL 1020 English Composition II are required for Nursing and for graduation. Students are placed into their initial English course at AUM based on their ACT (or SAT) Math subscore as shown in the *Prenursing Courses with Prerequisites* table below.

Students who score below 18 on the English portion of the ACT must pass ENGL 0103 Introduction to Composition & lab prior to taking ENGL 1010 English Composition I. ENGL 0103 is a credit/noncredit course and will not affect the GPA.

Students without ACT (or SAT) scores must take an English placement test OR they may register for ENGL 0103 Intro to Composition & lab without taking the placement test if a review of the basics of writing is desired. Information regarding placement testing is on the AUM website at [www.aum.edu/admissions](http://www.aum.edu/admissions). Please call (334) 244-3384 with questions.

### Literature

At least one Literature course is required to meet graduation requirements. Literature courses have prerequisites as shown in the *Prenursing Courses with Prerequisites* table below. Students may choose from ENGL 2530 English Literature I, ENGL 2540 English Literature II, ENGL 2570 American Literature I, ENGL 2580 American Literature II, ENGL 2600 Literature of the Western World I, or ENGL 2610 Literature of the Western World II.

A course SEQUENCE in Literature or History is required for graduation (e.g. both American Literature I and II). Contact your advisor for questions concerning this requirement.

### Area II elective OR 2<sup>nd</sup> Literature

If a History sequence is taken, students may choose an elective from the approved Area II list on the STARS website [http://stars.troy.edu/approved\\_courses/aum\\_area.html](http://stars.troy.edu/approved_courses/aum_area.html). A course on an elective list that is being used to meet another requirement cannot count as your elective course.

For example, if you have taken MUSI 2110 Music Appreciation (from the Area II list) to meet the Fine Arts requirement, then that course **cannot** be used as an Area II elective. Additionally, PHIL 2100 Applied Ethics is already required in the prenursing curriculum and cannot be used as an Area II elective. A course sequence in Literature or History is required for graduation. Contact your advisor for questions concerning this requirement.

## Sciences

The 3-hour lecture and 1-hour lab portions of the lab science courses are considered “co-requisites” and must be taken together in the same semester. The lecture and lab may be on different days and/or have different teachers, but both portions of the course are required to be taken in the same semester.

BIOL 1010/1011 Cells, Molecules, and Life & Lab (formerly called Principles of Biology): should be taken as soon as possible and has math and English prerequisites as shown in the table below. This course fulfills a core lab science graduation requirement.

Introduction to Chemistry and Lab (PSCI 1500 & 1501) has no prerequisite, may be taken any semester of prenursing study, and fulfills a core lab science graduation requirement. At AUM this course is taught through the Physical Science department.

Microbiology and Lab (BIOL 3010 & 3011) has prerequisites as shown in the *Prenursing Courses with Prerequisites* table below. This course meets a nursing requirement but does NOT meet a core lab science graduation requirement.

Anatomy and Physiology courses (A&P) should be taken within a year of Upper Division entry, *preferably at AUM* to be best prepared for our nursing program. If a student’s A&P credit was earned more than 5 years prior to Upper Division entry, a retake of one A&P course is *required*. In this situation, A&P II is the recommended choice. A student who has earned two (2) grades below a “C” in Anatomy and Physiology I or in Anatomy and Physiology II is not eligible to declare or to remain in the prenursing major or to apply to the upper division of the nursing program at AUM.

BIOL 2100 & 2101 Anatomy and Physiology I and Lab has prerequisites as shown in the table below. A&P I/lab should be taken in the longer fall or spring semester to best absorb this important material. This course meets a nursing requirement and also fulfills a core lab science graduation requirement.

BIOL 2110 & 2111 Anatomy and Physiology II and Lab has prerequisites as shown in the table below. A&P II/lab should be taken in the longer fall or spring semester to best absorb this important material. This course meets a nursing requirement but does NOT meet a core lab science graduation requirement.

## Mathematics

MATH 1050 College Algebra or higher is required for consideration to the upper-division nursing program.

MATH 2670 Elementary Statistics is required for Nursing and has prerequisites as shown in the table below.

Students are placed into their initial math course at AUM based on their ACT (or SAT) Math subscore. Students with an ACT Math subscore of 17 or lower will enroll in MATH 0703 Elementary Algebra or MATH 0902 Elementary & Intermediate Algebra.

Student without a current ACT or SAT test score (within the last five years) will be required to take the ALEKS math placement test to determine math course eligibility. Students with previous AP credit or credits from certain college-level mathematics courses may be exempt from placement testing pending review of their college transcripts.

Students wishing to test into a higher math placement can enroll in a summer Math Boot Camp (which includes ALEKS placement testing) prior to their first semester at no charge. This FREE course is available as a 3-week summer boot camp in conjunction with New Student Orientation or as an online self-study program. Please refer to the website [www.aum.edu/mathbootcamp](http://www.aum.edu/mathbootcamp) for more information.

Please take the math placement test (if needed) as soon as possible. It is highly recommended to begin the math requirement immediately if MATH 0703 and/or MATH 0803 are required. Allow a minimum of 3 semesters to complete Statistics in case remediation or retakes are necessary. Please see the website [www.aum.edu/admissions](http://www.aum.edu/admissions) (click on Placement Testing) or contact the Math Department with questions about math placement testing (334) 244-3677.

## History

At least one History course is required to meet graduation requirements. Choose from HIST 1010 World History I, HIST 1020 World History II, HIST 1060 Western Civilization I, HIST 1070 Western Civilization II, HIST 2010 United States History I, or HIST 2020 United States History II. Only one history course is required, and History II does **not** have a prerequisite of History I. A course SEQUENCE in Literature or History is required for graduation (e.g. both World History I and II). Contact your advisor for questions concerning this requirement.

## Area IV Elective

Students may choose an elective from the approved Area IV list on the STARS website [http://stars.troy.edu/approved\\_courses/aum\\_area.html](http://stars.troy.edu/approved_courses/aum_area.html). A course on an elective list that is being used to meet another requirement cannot count as your elective course. For example, if you have taken HIST 1010 (from the Area IV list) to meet the History requirement, then that course **cannot** be used as an Area IV elective. Additionally, PSYC 2110 Intro. To Psychology and PSYC 2780 Human Growth and Development is already required in the prenursing curriculum and **cannot** be used as an Area IV elective. A course sequence in Literature or History is **required** for graduation. Contact your advisor for questions concerning this requirement.

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Area IV elective OR 2<sup>nd</sup> History**

If a Literature sequence is taken, students may choose a **second** elective from the approved Area IV list on the STARS website [http://stars.troy.edu/approved\\_courses/aum\\_area.html](http://stars.troy.edu/approved_courses/aum_area.html). A course on an elective list that is being used to meet another requirement **cannot** count as your elective course. A course sequence in Literature or History is **required** for graduation. Contact your advisor for questions concerning this requirement.

## **Fine Arts**

A Fine Arts course from the following list is required to meet graduation requirements: THEA 2040 Theatre Appreciation, MUSI 2110 Music Appreciation, VISU 1000 Introduction to Art, VISU 2030 Art History I, VISU 2040 Art History II, or VISU 2600 Introduction to World Architecture. These courses have no prerequisites, no courses that follow them, and may be taken during any prenursing semester.

## **Applied Ethics**

PHIL 2100 Applied Ethics is taught through the Philosophy department and has no prerequisite, no course following it, and may be taken in any prenursing semester. Content is focused on health care topics. Many students find this course more difficult than others. This course meets a core Area II graduation requirement.

## **Psychology**

PSYC 2110 General Introductory Psychology has no prerequisite and may be taken in the freshman year. This course meets a core Area IV graduation requirement. Only one course follows it, PSYC 2780 Human Growth and Development.

**PSYC 2780 Human Growth and Development** is a requirement for Area IV. PSYC 2110 General Introductory Psychology is a prerequisite for this course.

## Prenursing Courses with Prerequisites

Each prenursing course must be completed with a grade of “C” or higher or the course must be retaken.

### Auburn Montgomery School of Nursing Pre-nursing Plan of Study

**SUCCESS COURSE** (1 course, 3 hours) – Required for all freshmen and for transfer students with fewer than 24 credit hours who have not successfully completed a similar course

- 1.) UNIV 1000 University Success Course

**AREA 1** (2 courses, 6 hours)

- 1.) ENGL 1010 English Composition I
- 2.) ENGL 1020 English Composition II

**AREA II** (4 courses, 12 hours)

- 1.) Literature (Choose at least one):
  - ENGL 2530 or 2540 English Literature I or II
  - ENGL 2570 or 2580 American Literature I or II
  - ENGL 2600 or 2610 World Literature I or II
- 2.) 2<sup>nd</sup> Literature to complete a sequence **OR** Area II elective (if History sequence is chosen) \*♦  
(choose elective from approved list [stars.troy.edu/approved\\_courses.html](http://stars.troy.edu/approved_courses.html))
- 3.) Fine Arts (choose one):
  - VISU 1000 Introduction to Art
  - VISU 2030 or 2040 Art History I or II
  - VISU 2600 Intro to World Architecture
  - MUSI 2110 Music Appreciation
  - THEA 2040 Theatre Appreciation
- 4.) PHIL 2100 Applied Ethics

**AREA III** (3 courses, 11 hours)

- 1.) MATH 1050 College Algebra
- 2.) BIOL 1010/1011 Cells, Molecules, and Life/Lab (formerly called Principles of Biology I/Lab)
- 3.) PSCI 1500/1501 Introduction to Chemistry/Lab

**AREA IV** (4 courses, 12 hours)

- 1.) PSYC 1000 General Psychology
- 2.) History (Choose at least one):
  - HIST 1010/1020 World History I or II
  - HIST 1060/1070 Western Civilization I or II
  - HIST 2010/2020 American History I or II
- 3.) PSYC 2780 Human Growth and Development
- 4.) 2<sup>nd</sup> History to complete a sequence **OR** 2<sup>nd</sup> Area IV elective (if Literature sequence is chosen )  
\*♦ (choose elective from approved list [stars.troy.edu/approved\\_courses.html](http://stars.troy.edu/approved_courses.html))

**AREA V** (4 courses, 15 hours)

- 1.) BIOL 2100/2101 Human Anatomy & Physiology I /Lab
- 2.) BIOL 2110/2111 Human Anatomy & Physiology II /Lab
- 3.) BIOL 3010/3011 General Microbiology /lab
- 4.) STAT 2670 Elementary Statistics
  - Area II and Area IV electives must be chosen from the AGSC approved list [stars.troy.edu/approved\\_courses.html](http://stars.troy.edu/approved_courses.html)
  - Either the Area II elective must complete a sequence in Literature or one of the Area IV electives must complete a sequence in History

**Applying for School of Nursing Admission**

The nursing program is a professional, limited-access program and acceptance into the nursing program is not automatic for prenursing majors. Acceptance into the nursing program is not guaranteed even if an applicant meets all of the eligibility requirements. Applications routinely outnumber the spots available and the most qualified applicants will be offered admission.

A School of Nursing application, which is separate from the general university application, is required to be considered for admission to the nursing program. The School of Nursing application is available on the university website [www.conhs.aum.edu](http://www.conhs.aum.edu) from January through March 15th for fall admission and from August through October 15<sup>th</sup> for spring admission.

**Application Process Timeline**

| <b>Application to Upper Division Nursing</b> |                       |                         |
|--|-----------------------|-------------------------|
|  | <i>Fall Admission</i> | <i>Spring Admission</i> |
| <i>Application Availability</i>              | First week of January | First week of August    |
| <i>Submission Deadline</i>                   | March 15              | October 15              |
| <i>TEAS score Due Date</i>                   | March 1               | October 1               |
| <i>Admittance Notification</i>               | End of April          | End of November         |

**Eligibility requirements**

Eligibility requirements for applying to the School of Nursing include (but are not limited to):

1. Have attended Auburn Montgomery within the last 3 semesters, be currently attending AUM, or have university admission for Fall 2023. Please apply to the university at [www.aum.edu/apply](http://www.aum.edu/apply). There is no fee.

2. Be **fully admitted** to the university and to the pre-nursing major (or be eligible for the pre-nursing major). Students with provisional university admission and those currently on Academic Probation or Suspension cannot be considered for admission to the upper division of the nursing program.
3. Submit an **official** Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS) score **directly** from ATI Testing to the School of Nursing by date provided. A score of 73% or higher is preferred. Applicants who have an official ACT composite score of 23 or higher on file in the AUM University Admissions Office **by** date provided are not required to submit a TEAS score. The TEAS is a standardized exam on basic academic knowledge in reading, mathematics, science, and English that is used to assess the readiness of a student to adjust to a nursing program. Students who have completed their science requirements tend to be better prepared to take the TEAS Examination.
4. Have successfully completed (grades of “C” or higher) at least three (3) of the five (5) required lab science courses AND have the remaining two (2) of the remaining required lab science courses in progress at the time of application.
5. Have successfully completed an Anatomy and Physiology course within 5 years of upper division entry, or a retake of one is required. Anatomy and Physiology II is recommended.
  - a. A student who has earned 2 grades below a “C” in either Anatomy & Physiology I or Anatomy and Physiology II is ineligible to apply to the nursing program.
6. Have no more than **22 credit hours** of pre-nursing coursework left to complete in Spring and Summer semesters combined for Fall admission **-OR-** Have no more than 18 credit hours of pre-nursing coursework left to complete in the Fall semester for Spring admission.
7. Complete all remaining pre-nursing courses with grades of “C” or higher by the end of Summer or Fall semester (based on semester starting the Nursing Program).
8. 8.. Have an unadjusted, unrounded GPA of 2.75 or higher based **solely** upon pre-nursing course work at the time of application. Grades are counted every time a course is taken. Grade adjustments (“grade forgiveness”) and Repeat to Replace adjustments are **NOT** considered. A GPA of 2.75 does not guarantee acceptance.
9. A writing sample is a requirement for admission and a component of the application. You will be provided with a writing prompt and instructions to format the writing sample. The writing sample must be uploaded with the School of Nursing application.
10. Possess the functional ability to perform the skills and behaviors required of a professional nurse as listed in the current Auburn University at Montgomery Undergraduate Catalog and in the Pre-nursing Student Handbook. (Both may be viewed on the Auburn University at Montgomery website, [www.aum.edu](http://www.aum.edu).)

All pre-nursing course work must be completed prior to entering the nursing program with grades of “C” or higher, and the pre-nursing GPA must remain at 2.75 or above (unadjusted and unrounded) to achieve final acceptance.



Students who are not selected for entry to the School of Nursing, may reapply during the next application period. A new School of Nursing application must be submitted each time a student applies to the program.

### **Drug Screening**

AUM School of Nursing is required to abide by the substance abuse control policies of the healthcare agencies used for clinicals. ALL nursing students are required to pass a pre-admission urine drug screening according to current laboratory protocols prior to entering the nursing program. Additional drug screenings will be required if a student exhibits behaviors indicative of substance use or abuse after admission.

A positive pre-admission drug screen may result in denial of admission to the School of Nursing. If a student is taking a drug on the screen for a valid medical reason, a letter from the prescribing doctor stating the reasons for the medication and the expected duration of treatment must be sent to the Dean of the College of Nursing and Health Sciences.

### **Background Check**

Students selected for admission to the nursing program are offered admission pending an acceptable background check.

### **Core Performance Standards**

Students admitted to the AUM School of Nursing must be able to meet the Core Performance Standards for Admission and Progression when entering into clinical courses. The School of Nursing will provide reasonable accommodations to a qualified nursing student with a disability. However, it must be noted that nursing is a physically and mentally demanding profession. All students must be able to continually meet core performance standards and functional abilities established to ensure that the objectives of the program are met and safe, competent patient care is provided. The following Core Performance Standards will be used by Center for Disability Services, and students, along with faculty, to determine whether or not accommodation(s) can be made reasonably. It is the responsibility of students to request accommodations in a timely manner and students are encouraged to contact the AUM Center for Disability Services for determination of reasonable accommodations. Students may not receive any accommodations unless the student has been approved for those accommodations by the AUM Center for Disability Services.

### **Computer Proficiency in the Nursing Program**

The Auburn Montgomery School of Nursing does not require a college credit computer course, but computer proficiency is expected of nursing students. The School of Nursing defines computer proficiency as: “The ability to operate a computer and related technology and to understand basic computer language. This includes a functional level of knowledge and skills related specifically to the following Microsoft Office programs: Word, Excel, and PowerPoint. Additionally, students must be able to navigate the internet, Blackboard, and the university email system.” Specific computer requirements will be made available to all who are invited to enter the Nursing Program.

| <b>CORE PERFORMANCE STANDARDS</b> |  |   |
|-----------------------------------|--|---|
| <b>Issue</b>                      | <b>Standard</b>  | <b>Examples of Nursing Activities</b>   |
| Critical Thinking                 | Ability to critically think for effective clinical reasoning and clinical judgment consistent with the level of educational preparation.   | Competent assessment of patients in a timely manner. Correct interpretation of assessment data, identification of necessary nursing interventions, development of appropriate nursing care plans, evaluation of the effectiveness of interventions and revision of planned interventions. |
| Cognitive                         | Ongoing capacity to learn new information and skills to provide safe and effective nursing care. This includes the ability to comprehend, measure, calculate, analyze and evaluate diverse forms of information. | Gain knowledge of new skills and rationales for nursing care in a timely manner. Discover and adopt new methods of providing nursing care to reflect the constantly changing health care environment.   |
| Interpersonal                     | Interpersonal abilities sufficient to interact with individuals, families, and groups from a variety of social, emotional, cultural and intellectual backgrounds.  | Establish rapport and relate effectively with patients, their families, and colleagues. Work effectively with these individuals during times of physical and emotional stress. Provide care with consideration for social and cultural needs of patients and their families.              |
| Communication                     | Communication abilities sufficient for interaction with others in verbal and written form to include professional interactions.  | Follow verbal and written instructions. Clearly communicate with other health care providers through appropriate documentation of nursing interventions provided and patient responses. Provide effective patient teaching. Professional consultation with other health care providers.   |
| Mobility                          | Physical abilities sufficient to move oneself from room to room, along hallways, and in small or confined spaces. The ability to meet the physical demands of providing nursing care.                            | Lifting, moving, carrying, pushing, pulling, and supporting patients, equipment and other objects independently. Standing, bending, walking, and sitting while working directly with patients and colleagues, and documenting care.   |

|                    |   |  |
|--------------------|---|--|
| Motor Skills       | Gross and fine motor abilities sufficient to provide safe and effective nursing care. | Perform vital signs, BLS, and physical assessment. Use equipment, hand IVs and tube feedings, draw up and give medications to include injections. Document legibly in writing or accurate type.  |
| Tactile            | Tactile dexterity sufficient for physical assessment.                                 | Perform palpation, functions of physical examination and/or those related to therapeutic intervention, i.e. insertion of a catheter, giving injections.  |
| Visual             | Visual ability sufficient for observation and assessment necessary in nursing care.   | Reading charts, flow sheets, monitors, thermometers. Assessment of patient skin color, pupil size and movement, wound healing. Accurately prepare and administer medications.  |
| Hearing            | Auditory ability sufficient to monitor and assess health needs.                       | Auscultation of blood pressure, breath sounds, bowel sounds. Hearing alarms, call bells, cries for help by patients, families, and co-workers. Understanding mechanically reproduced voices.   |
| Personal Behaviors | Personal behaviors consistent with the American Nurses' Association Code for Nurses.  | Demonstrate personal responsibility, accountability, integrity and honesty. Demonstrates respect for self and others through verbal and nonverbal behaviors. Avoids behavior inconsistent with professional standards such as chemical dependency and abuse, harm toward self or others, or engaging in or supporting criminal behavior. |

*Adapted from Core Performance Standards Required for Nursing, Board of Directors of the Southern Council on College Education for Nursing (SCCEN)*

### **Class/Lab/Clinical schedules**

In nursing courses, the actual days and times of the class meetings, labs, and clinicals will be set by the School of Nursing and personal schedules, daycare schedule, and work schedules cannot be accommodated. Please be aware that clinicals may be scheduled on weekdays, weekends, or evenings/nights. Students are encouraged to minimize work hours while completing the nursing program.

### **Application for RN licensure**

Following successful completion of the registered nursing program, the graduate may apply for RN licensure in any state. Please contact the board of nursing for the state in which you would like to practice for information and requirements for taking the licensure exam in that state. In Alabama, please see [www.abn.alabama.gov](http://www.abn.alabama.gov).