



St. Joseph School of Nursing  
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St. Joseph School of Nursing

Associate of Science in Nursing Program



*Advance Professionally . . .*

**St. Joseph School of Nursing is accredited by the Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges (ACCSC), [www.accsc.org](http://www.accsc.org).**

**The Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges (ACCSC) is a recognized accrediting agency by the U.S. Department of Education.**

**The program has been granted full approval from the New Hampshire Postsecondary Education Commission and the New Hampshire Board of Nursing.**

**The School reserves the right to revise the admission standards, tuition, fees, curriculum and policies in all school publications. Whenever possible, advance written notification of any revisions will be posted.**

**September 2009**

## **Overview**

St. Joseph School of Nursing, established in 1908, offers a program leading to an Associate of Science in nursing degree and eligibility to take the licensing examination in New Hampshire or to seek licensure in other states. The program of education includes organized instruction in the scientific, cultural, spiritual and social aspects of nursing with correlated learning experiences. The school offers a 5 semester program in Nashua with an specialized course of study for licensed practical nurses. Nursing career mobility opportunities are also provided.

## **Philosophy**

The philosophy of St. Joseph School of Nursing ASN Program is consistent with the philosophy and mission of St. Joseph Hospital. The ASN Program strives to provide excellence in nursing education with respect to the diversity of the student population. The following concepts are defined according to faculty beliefs:

The faculty recognizes the individual as a unique composite of body and soul created by God to give witness to the abiding presence and healing ministry of Jesus. Deserving of dignity and self worth, each individual has specific self-care requisites encountered throughout the lifespan.

Society is recognized as a group of individuals with specific and/or collective activities, interests and needs. Environment encompasses the family, community and society in which the totality of surrounding conditions and circumstances affect growth, development and health.

Health is a state of bio-psycho-social, spiritual and cultural well being. It is defined by the individual and is not merely the absence of disease or the presence of disability. Health is the focus of the discipline of nursing.

The role of the nurse is a provider of care, manager of care and a member of the profession. Nursing interactions occur in a variety of settings that are designed to promote, protect and improve the health of the individual and society.

Nursing education is based on a unique body of knowledge designed to meet the healthcare needs of individuals, community and society. The nursing curriculum progresses from the simple to the complex and integrates Orem's self-care concepts. Opportunities are provided for the student to acquire knowledge, skills and self-direction in order to function effectively in the role of the registered nurse. Nursing education provides the student with theoretical and clinical foundations upon which additional nursing education may be built for the purpose of career mobility.

## **Admission Requirements**

Students desiring admission to the St. Joseph School of Nursing ASN Program must meet the following criteria:

### **Educational**

1. Have a high school diploma or GED. All students must have courses of study related to math, science, reading, and writing skills as part of their secondary school education.

Students with foreign diplomas are required to obtain an official translated copy of their high school transcript. This may be obtained from the:

Center for Educational Documentation  
PO Box 231126  
Boston, MA 02123  
Tel: (617) 338-7171  
Fax: (617) 338-7101

ESL applicants born outside of the United States must complete the internet-based TOEFL.

2. Successful completion of the TEAS ® pre-entrance exam.
3. Proficiency Math Exam score of 85% or above
4. Completion of an essay
5. Official transcripts from an accredited school or college showing successful completion of a 4-credit Microbiology course and a 3-credit Sociology course with a grade of “C” or better (2.0)

### **Personal**

1. Good physical and mental health with acceptable levels of:
  - manual dexterity and motor coordination
  - visual acuity\* with color vision
  - hearing capacity\*
  - speech patterns to effectively communicate verbally
  - ability to comprehend through all modes of communication
  - ability to cope with personal stresses
2. Three acceptable letters of reference
3. Completion of a Criminal History Background Check\*\*

\*acceptable if corrected \*\*without felony conviction

## General Information

A total of 33 credits may be applied toward the 68 credits needed for graduation. Transfer credits must be from an accredited school or college and must meet the general course descriptions offered by St. Joseph School of Nursing. Credit will be given for courses upon approval of the Director.

## Graduation Requirements

Students will be awarded an Associate of Science in Nursing degree and a school pin after meeting the following requirements:

1. Successful completion of all courses, achieving a grade of at least 78% (C+) for all nursing courses and a grade of at least 75% (C) for all non-nursing courses.
2. Maintain satisfactory clinical performance in all areas.
3. Make up all necessary clinical time.
4. Complete all records and return all school property.
5. Meet all financial obligations.
6. Be approved for graduation by the faculty.

Graduates are eligible to take the National Council's Licensing Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN).

Licensed graduates are eligible to become members of state and national nursing organizations.

## Curriculum

### Year One

<b>Fall Semester</b>	<u>Theory</u>	<u>Lab</u>	<u>Clinical</u>	<u>Credits</u>
BIO 101 Anatomy and Physiology I	45	30		4.00
ENG 101 English Composition	45			3.00
NSG 101 Nursing I	105	30	45	<u>9.00</u>
				16.00

### Spring Semester

BIO 102 Anatomy and Physiology II	45	30		4.00
PSY 101 Psychology	45			3.00
NSG 102 Nursing II	75	30	135	9.00
PHI 101 Ethics	15			<u>1.00</u>
				17.00

### Summer Semester

NSG 200 *LPN to RN Transitions	30			<u>2.00</u>
				2.00
PHM 201 Pharmacology	30			2.00
NSG 203 Mental Health Nursing	30		90	<u>4.00</u>
				6.00

### Year Two

<b>Fall Semester</b>	<u>Theory</u>	<u>Clinical</u>	<u>Credits</u>
NSG 201 Nursing III	60	90	6.00
NSG 204 Nursing Care of the Childbearing Family Part A: Maternal/Neonate	45	45	4.00
NSG 206 Gerontological Nursing	30	45	3.00
PSY 201 Life Span Development	45		<u>3.00</u>
			16.00

### Spring Semester

NSG 202 Nursing IV	45	90	5.00
NSG 205 Nursing Care of the Childbearing Family Part B: Nursing Care of Children	45	45	4.00
NSG 207 Management RN	45	45	<u>4.00</u>
			13.00

Total Program Hours: 1,500 hours

Total Program Credits: 68 credits (excluding LPN to RN Transitions)

15 Class Hours = 1 Credit

30 Lab Hours = 1 Credit

45 Clinical Hours = 1 Credit

\* LPN to RN Transition Students Only

## **Program Objectives**

The graduate of St. Joseph School of Nursing ASN program is prepared to:

1. Fulfill the role of the registered nurse as evidenced by successful completion of the National Council Licensure Examination and as defined by States' Nurse Practice Acts.
2. Evaluate the bio-psycho-social, spiritual, and cultural needs of the individual utilizing Orem's Self-Care Theory.
3. Design a plan of care integrating the nursing process and self-care requisites to meet each individual's health and educational needs throughout the life span continuum.
4. Provide holistic care to individuals in various healthcare settings to promote, protect, and improve health.
5. Collaborate with members of the interdisciplinary team in the implementation of the healthcare regime.
6. Participate in wellness promotion, disease management and the rehabilitation of the individual, family and community.
7. Adhere to the ethical, legal, and regulatory standards of professional nursing practice

## **Facilities & Faculty**

The School of Nursing features an 80-seat auditorium, multiple classrooms, a complete nursing laboratory, a media center, and computer resources.

Clinical experience is provided through St. Joseph Hospital, a member of Covenant Health Systems. The hospital was founded by the Sisters of Charity of Montreal, known as the "Grey Nuns". Additional clinical experiences are offered through cooperating agencies.

All faculty have graduate degrees, constantly improve their own skills and level of education, and are thoroughly involved with the ever-changing aspects of nursing and allied health fields.

## **Cultural & Social Activities**

Students may participate in numerous functions offered by the school and coordinated by class organizations. Students also have full access to the social and cultural opportunities offered in the greater Nashua area, including a modern library, theater, and a varied schedule of concerts, exhibitions, movies, and cultural events. Nashua is less than an hour from Boston, the White Mountains and New Hampshire's seacoast, allowing students to experience all that New England has to offer.

## **Religious Activities**

St. Joseph School of Nursing is built on a foundation of religious philosophy, and every effort is made to meet the religious needs of the students. The hospital chapel is always open. In addition, the hospital's pastoral care staff is ready to help any student in a time of personal crisis.

## **Non-Discrimination Policy**

The St Joseph School of Nursing, in compliance with all state and federal laws, endorses the principle of equal educational and employment opportunities for all people regardless of race, color, gender, religion, ancestry, national origin, age, marital status or disability in its educational programs, scholarship policies and other activities it operates.

## **LPN to RN Transition Students**

In addition to meeting criteria for entry into the ASN program, the advanced placement applicant must also:

1. Have graduated from an accredited school of practical nursing
2. Be a practicing LPN with a minimum of one year experience
3. Hold a current license in the State of New Hampshire
4. Provide a statement of clinical proficiency from recent employer
5. Successfully complete the LPN to RN Transition Course with a grade of C+ (78) or above.