

**Auburn University at Montgomery**

**College of Nursing and Health Sciences**

**School of Nursing**



**Pre-Nursing**

**Student Handbook**

## **AUBURN UNIVERSITY AT MONTGOMERY SCHOOL OF NURSING**

### **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, evidence-based nursing education in an interprofessional environment. Graduates will be prepared to provide excellent nursing practice through lifelong 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 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: 334-293-5200 Internet: [www.abn.alabama.gov](http://www.abn.alabama.gov)

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# 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, totaling 16 hours. Taking more than 2-3 (6-10 credit hours) pre-nursing courses in the shorter summer semester is not recommended.

The upper-division nursing program is a full-time course of study that takes 2 years (5 semesters) to complete. It 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's 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. Academic Advisors do not have access to student accounts and cannot answer any questions about financial aid.

## AUM 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 in your email account, so please check it daily.

## School of Nursing Information

### Overview

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

During the lower-division pre-nursing years, students will complete coursework in the biophysical and behavioral sciences and the humanities. These foundational courses prepare students for the upper-division nursing curriculum. Once admitted into the upper-division program, students engage in classroom instruction, laboratory practice, and hands-on clinical learning experiences to develop the knowledge and skills required for professional nursing practice.

The Pre-licensure upper-division BSN program is a full-time day program, and students must be available seven days a week to attend all classes, laboratory sessions, and clinical experiences, which often occur on weekends.

The clinical experiences occur in various 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 program.

After successfully completing 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 before 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.

## Pre-nursing 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.

### Pre-nursing academic requirements

Laboratory science courses are strong indicators of a student's potential for success in nursing coursework. Repeated failures or significant difficulty in these courses suggest that similar challenges may arise in nursing studies. Applicants who have received two grades below a 'C' in either Anatomy and Physiology I with lab or Anatomy and Physiology II with lab will be ineligible for admission to the upper-level nursing program.

All pre-nursing coursework must be completed with grades of "C" or higher before entering the nursing program. To be considered for upper-division 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. In addition, students must hold a minimum GPA of 2.75 (unadjusted and unrounded) for pre-nursing math and science courses.

Student will receive their Prenursing Plan of Study from their Prenursing Advisor. GPA calculations are based on the pre-nursing courses on the plan of study. Each course is factored into the pre-nursing GPA calculation, even if a student repeats a course. Repeat to replace and grade forgiveness is not considered for the pre-nursing GPA calculation. The only course that is not calculated into the pre-nursing GPA is UNIV 1000. The following grade table is used:

A = 4
B+ = 3.33
B = 3
C+ = 2.33
C = 2
D+ = 1.33
D = 1
F = 0

\*Example: A student receives an "F" in ENGL 1010 for Spring 2024, but retakes ENGL 1010 in Fall 2024 and receives an "A". The calculation will be: 1<sup>st</sup> attempt – 3 credit hours x 0 = 0 quality points. 2<sup>nd</sup> attempt – 3 credit hours x 4 points = 12 quality points. Both attempts will be calculated in the pre-nursing GPA.

### 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 before 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 with an official ACT composite score of 27 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 Spring semester for Summer admission.
7. Complete all remaining pre-nursing courses with grades of “C” or higher by the end of Summer or Spring 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 coursework 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. Have an unadjusted, unrounded GPA of 2.75 or higher based **solely** upon pre-nursing math and science coursework 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.
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 before class meetings.
  - Gather all necessary materials – pencils, pens, paper, notebooks, etc.
  - Preparation before 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 reading comprehension level.
- 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 that 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 (10am-2pm)
    - Instructional Support Lab
      - PH: (334) 244-3265
      - Location: Goodwyn Hall 202-203
      - Hours: Monday-Thursday (9am-7pm), Friday (closed)

## Dropping a Course

A minimum grade of “C” is required in every pre-nursing course. If a student thinks s/he is unlikely to achieve a grade of “C” in any pre-nursing 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 pre-nursing course, the course must be retaken. Low grades (especially in math and science courses) will significantly 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 Policies

**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 upper-division admission evaluation.** AUM has implemented the following grade adjustment policies for all currently enrolled, fully admitted undergraduate students: Grade Forgiveness and Repeat-to-Replace. Former students are not eligible for Grade Forgiveness or Repeat-to-Replace. Students should note that all grades will remain on their academic transcripts and will be used to determine all academic honors.



- **Grade Forgiveness**

**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 upper-division admission evaluation.** AUM undergraduate students may request a maximum of three undergraduate course grades of D, F, or FA be excluded from their AUM grade point average computation. Grade Forgiveness can only be applied towards grades and credits earned at AUM. Transfer grades and credits are excluded from this policy. Grades and credits resulting from academic violations are also excluded from this policy.

- Guidelines:

- The policy applies to grades of D, F, and FA earned in AUM for-credit courses.
    - All courses for which a grade is awarded will remain on the transcript with a notation that the grade has been excluded from the earned hours and AUM grade point average.
    - If Grade Forgiveness is approved for a required course, the student must repeat the course at AUM before graduation.
    - Where a specific course is required for the core or major, the same course must be repeated to replace the excluded grade. Courses covered by the policy that are needed to meet core area or elective course requirements within a major may be replaced by any course accepted for that requirement (where applicable) if approved by the academic dean.
    - Students may submit a written request for Grade Forgiveness to their academic dean's office at any time before graduation. Grade Forgiveness is not available to students who have graduated.
    - Grades that have been excluded from the GPA calculation through Grade Forgiveness will be factored back into the GPA when determining graduation honors.
    - Grade Forgiveness cannot be used for grades of F earned due to academic violation.
    - Once a request for Grade Forgiveness has been granted and that grade has been excluded from the AUM grade point average calculation, the grade and credit cannot be restored.

- **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 upper-division admission evaluation.** Under the Repeat-to-Replace policy, AUM undergraduate students who retake undergraduate courses and earn a higher grade will have the previous grades excluded from their AUM grade point average. Students are strongly encouraged to consult with an academic advisor to determine the potential impact of repeating a course on their financial aid, VA benefits, insurance, entrance to professional schools, participation in athletics, immigration status, etc.

- Guidelines:

- The policy applies to grades of F or FA earned in AUM for-credit courses.
    - The original and repeated courses remain on the academic transcript. The higher grades for the repeated course will be included in the GPA and earned hours; the lower grade will be excluded from the GPA and earned hours.

- If the student earns the same grade in the repeated course, the grade from the original and repeated course will remain in the calculation of the student's GPA; students will not earn credit for the repeated course.
- Currently enrolled students or those seeking reinstatement are eligible for the repeat-to-replace policy. Repeat-to-Replace is not available to students who have graduated.
- Grades excluded from the GPA calculation through the Repeat-to-Replace policy will be factored back into the GPA when determining graduation honors.
- The Repeat-to-Replace policy cannot be used for grades of F earned due to academic violations.

## Academic Advising

### 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 Mr. Christian Grant.

- Mr. Christian Grant
  - PH: (334) 394-5235
  - Email: [cgrant6@aum.edu](mailto:cgrant6@aum.edu)
  - Location: Central Advising - Taylor Center, room 145

### 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, and university policy *requires* all students to meet with an advisor each semester to obtain the alternate PIN.

### Registering for Courses

Advisors provide each student with 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 to address any questions or concerns.

The registration and drop dates are available on the Academic Calendar, found on Auburn University at Montgomery's website: <https://www.aum.edu/academics/academic-calendar/>. Registration *typically* begins the second week of October for the spring semester and the last week of February 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. However, to be eligible to move to the subsequent course, all prerequisite courses must be successfully completed with a grade of "C" or above or with "Credit" (for credit/noncredit courses).

If a student registers for a subsequent course and does not achieve at least a "C" in the prerequisite course or drops 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. Remember 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 transient students. However, students are

highly encouraged to complete pre-nursing courses at AUM, as it will best prepare them for the nursing courses. 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 ([cgrant6@aum.edu](mailto:cgrant6@aum.edu)).

## **Prenursing Courses by Subject**

### **Success Course**

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

## **AREA I**

### **English**

1010. English Composition I (3). Pr. English Place Conversion 3 or Undergraduate level [ENGL 1011](#) or English Placement Test 32 or Undergraduate (Quarters) level [EH 090](#) Minimum Grade of S or Undergraduate (Quarters) level [EH 090](#) Minimum Grade of CR or ACT English 18 or HS GPA - No SAT/ACT 2.8 or SAT Verbal 450 or EVIDENCE-BASED READ/WRIT SCORE 450 or (Undergraduate level [ENGL 0100](#) Minimum Grade of CR and Undergraduate level [ENGL 0101](#) Minimum Grade of CR) or Undergraduate level [ENGL 0103](#) Minimum Grade of CR

1020. English Composition II (3). Pr. English Placement Conversion Test min. score of 4 or English Placement Test min. score of 51, or min grade of C in ENGL 1010 or HONR 1757. The essentials of composition and rhetoric, with study of research skills.

## **AREA II**

### **Literature**

To meet graduation requirements, at least one Literature course is required. Literature courses have prerequisites, as shown in the *Undergraduate Catalog* (<https://www.aum.edu/academics/catalogs/>).

Students may choose from the following literature courses:

- ENGL 2530 OR ENGL 2540 Survey of English Literature I or II
- ENGL 2570 OR ENGL 2580 Survey of American Literature I or II
- ENGL 2600 OR ENGL 2610 Survey of World Literature I or II
- ENGL 2670 OR ENGL 2680 African American Literature I or II

**\*\*A course sequence in Literature or History is required for graduation (e.g., American Literature I and II). Contact your advisor if you have 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 at the following link: <https://www.aum.edu/academics/core-curriculum/>. A course on an elective list that is being used to meet another requirement cannot count as your Area II elective course.

For example, if you have taken MUSI 2110 Music Appreciation (from the Area II list) to meet the Fine Arts requirement, that course **cannot** be used as an Area II elective. PHIL 2100 Applied Ethics is already required in the prenursing curriculum and cannot be used as an Area II elective.

### **Fine Arts Elective**

At least one fine arts course is required to meet graduation requirements. Students may choose from one of the courses below:

- MUSI 2110 Music Appreciation
- THEA 2040 Theatre Appreciation
- VISU 1000 Introduction to the Visual Arts
- VISU 2030 Art History I
- VISU 2040 Art History II
- VISU 2600 Introduction to World Architecture
- COMM 2120 Film Appreciation
- ENGL 1030 Creative Writing Appreciation

**\*\*Students may not use the Fine Arts elective for an Area II elective course. However, students may choose an additional fine arts course to fulfill the Area II elective.**

### **Applied Ethics**

**2100. Applied Ethics (3).** A study of controversial social and moral problems such as abortion, euthanasia, capital punishment, and sexual morality.

## **AREA III**

### **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 must be taken in the same semester.

- **1010. Cellular and Molecular Basis of Life (3).** Integrated principles of biology, beginning with the structure and function of the cell following reproduction, heredity and evolution. This course and BIOL 1011 satisfy a 4-hour core Area III laboratory requirement. Intended for majors or to fulfill a required prerequisite.
- **1011. Cellular and Molecular Basis of Life Laboratory (1). Co-req. BIOL 1010.** Laboratory exercises are designed to support the concepts and principles of introductory BIOL 1010. Inquiry and the scientific method are emphasized. This lab and BIOL 1010 satisfy a core curriculum requirement in the natural sciences. This lab must be taken with or after successful completion of BIOL 1010.
- **1500. Introduction to Chemistry (3). Co-req. PSCI 1501.** An introductory descriptive course in chemistry that examines the scientific method, the nature of atoms and compounds, solutions and chemical reactions. Discussion of acids, bases

and oxidation included.

- **1501. Introduction to Chemistry Laboratory (1). Co-req. PSCI 1500.** Experiments to accompany lecture material in PSCI 1500.

## Mathematics

Students without a current ACT or SAT score (within the last five years) can take the ALEKS math placement test to determine eligibility or begin with the math course recommended by their Academic Advisor. Students with previous AP credit or credits from specific 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) before 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. 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.

- **MATH 1050. College Algebra (3). Undergraduate level [MATH 0703](#) Minimum Grade of A# or Undergraduate level [MATH 0050](#) Minimum Grade of CR or Undergraduate level [MATH 0800](#) Minimum Grade of C# or Undergraduate level [MATH 0803](#) Minimum Grade of C# or Undergraduate level [MATH 0902](#) Minimum Grade of C# or Undergraduate level [MATH 0903](#) Minimum Grade of C# or Undergraduate level [MATH 1020](#) Minimum Grade of B or Undergraduate level [MATH C1020](#) Minimum Grade of B or Undergraduate level [MATH 2670](#) Minimum Grade of B or Undergraduate level [STAT 1070](#) Minimum Grade of B or Undergraduate level [STAT C1070](#) Minimum Grade of B or ACT Math 22 or Math Placement Level 4 or SAT Mathematics 520 or New SAT Mathematics 550 or ALEKS Math Placement 046.** Primarily for students who will not continue to Calculus I. Main topics include a basic review, polynomial, rational, inverse, exponential, and logarithmic functions and their applications in business and science, inequalities, and systems of equations.
- **STAT 1070. Elementary Statistics (3). [MATH 0800](#) Minimum Grade of C# or Undergraduate level [STAT 0070](#) Minimum Grade of CR or Undergraduate level [MATH 0803](#) Minimum Grade of C# or Undergraduate level [MATH 0703](#) Minimum Grade of C# or Undergraduate level [MATH 0902](#) Minimum Grade of C# or Undergraduate level [MATH 0903](#) Minimum Grade of C# or Undergraduate level [MATH 1050](#) Minimum Grade of C or Undergraduate level [MATH 1120](#) Minimum Grade of C or ACT Math 22 or SAT Mathematics 520 or New SAT Mathematics 550 or Math Placement Level 4 or ALEKS Math Placement 46.** Basic concepts and principles in statistics. Topics include probability, frequency distributions and sampling, hypothesis testing, correlation and regression. A maximum of 3 hours' credit for QMTD 2740, BIOL/MATH 2200, STAT 2670 and MATH 2680 may be applied towards graduation requirements for Math and Computer Science Majors.

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.

## AREA IV

### History

To meet graduation requirements, at least one History course is required. History courses have prerequisites, as shown in the *Undergraduate Catalog* (<https://www.aum.edu/academics/catalogs/>).

Students may choose from the following history courses:

- HIST 1010 OR HIST 1020 World History I or II
- HIST 1080 OR HIST 1090 U.S History I or II

**\*\*A course sequence in Literature or History is required for graduation (e.g. both U.S History I and II). Contact your advisor if you have questions concerning this requirement.**

### Area IV Elective OR 2<sup>nd</sup> History

Students may choose an elective from the approved Area IV list at the following link: <https://www.aum.edu/academics/core-curriculum/>. 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 1000 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.

### Psychology

- **1000. General Introductory Psychology (3).** A survey of the scientific study of behavior and mental processes. Offered every term.
- **2780. Human Growth and Development (3). Pr. PSYC 1000.** A study of behavioral, emotional and social changes across the lifespan, from conception and infancy, through the childhood, juvenile, adolescent, adult and elderly years. Offered every term.

## AREA IV

- **3010. Microbiology (3). Pr. Min. Grade of C in BIOL 1010 and BIOL 1011 or BIOL 1017 and BIOL 1018; and BIOL 2100, CHEM 1100, or PSCI 1500. Co-req. BIOL 3011.** Microbial morphology, growth and control, physiology, genetics, concepts of pathogenesis, immunology, and epidemiology, environmental and industrial microbiology. Biology majors cannot receive major credit for both BIOL 2010 and BIOL 3010.
- **3011. Microbiology Laboratory (1). Co-req. BIOL 3010.** Laboratory techniques that reinforce concepts relative to the concepts presented in BIOL 3010. Biology majors cannot receive major credit for both BIOL 2011 and BIOL 3011.

### **Anatomy and Physiology courses (A&P)**

Anatomy and Physiology (A&P) courses 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 before Upper-Division entry, a retake of one A&P course is required. In this situation, A&P II is the recommended choice. Applicants who have received two grades below a 'C' in either Anatomy and Physiology I with lab or Anatomy and Physiology II with lab will be ineligible for admission to the upper-level nursing program.

- **2100. Human Anatomy and Physiology (3). Pr. Min. grade of C BIOL 1010 and BIOL 1011 or BIOL 1017 and BIOL 1018. Co-req. BIOL 2101.** A study of the structure and function of the tissues, and integumentary, skeletal, articular, muscular, nervous, and sensory systems.
- **2101. Human Anatomy and Physiology Laboratory (1). Pr. Min. grade of C in BIOL 1010 and BIOL 1011 or BIOL 1017 and BIOL 1018. Co-req. BIOL 2100.** Lab exercises are designed to study human anatomy and physiology using dissections, microscopy, models, computer simulations, and graphic illustrations. Lab must be taken concurrently with BIOL 2100.
- **2110. Human Anatomy and Physiology II (3). Pr. Min. grade of C in BIOL 2100. Co-req. BIOL 2111.** A study of the structure and function of the cardiovascular, lymphatic, respiratory, digestive, urinary, endocrine and reproductive systems.
- **2111. Human Anatomy and Physiology II Laboratory (1). Pr. Min. grade of C in BIOL 2101. Co-req. BIOL 2110.** Lab exercises are designed to study human anatomy and physiology using dissections, microscopy, models, computer simulations, and graphic illustrations. Lab must be taken concurrently with BIOL 2110.





## Pre-Licensure Plan of Study

**Success Course** (1 course; 3 credit hours) – Required for all freshman students and transfer students with fewer than 24 credit hours who have not successfully completed a similar course.

1. UNIV 1000 University Success Course

### **Area I (2 courses; 6 credit hours)**

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

### **Area II (4 courses; 12 credit hours)**

1. Literature Course (Choose at least one)
  - ENGL 2530 OR ENGL 2540 Survey of English Literature I or II
  - ENGL 2570 OR ENGL 2580 Survey of American Literature I or II
  - ENGL 2600 OR ENGL 2610 Survey of World Literature I or II
  - ENGL 2570 OR ENGL 2580 African American Literature I or II
2. 2<sup>nd</sup> Literature to complete a sequence OR Area II elective (if History sequence is chosen) – choose an elective from the approved list in AREA II: <https://www.aum.edu/academics/core-curriculum/#slo-2>
3. Fine Arts course (choose one):
  - MUSI 2110 Music Appreciation
  - THEA 2040 Theatre Appreciation
  - VISU 1000 Introduction to the Visual Arts
  - VISU 2030 Art History I
  - VISU 2040 Art History II
  - VISU 2600 Introduction to World Architecture
  - COMM 2120 Film Appreciation
  - ENGL 1030 Creative Writing Appreciation
4. PHIL 2100 Applied Ethics

### **AREA III (4 course; 14 credit hours)**

1. MATH 1050 Applied Algebra
2. STAT 1070 Introduction to Elementary Statistics
3. BIOL 1010/1011 Cells, Molecules, and Life with lab
4. PSCI 1500/1501 Introduction to Chemistry with lab

### **AREA IV (4 courses; 12 hours)**

1. PSYC 1000 General Introductory Psychology
2. PSYC 2780 Human Growth Development
3. History Course (Choose at least one)
  - HIST 1010 OR HIST 1020 World History I or II

- HIST 1080 OR HIST 1090 U.S History I or II
- 4. 2<sup>nd</sup> History to complete a sequence OR Area IV elective (if Literature sequence is chosen) – choose an elective from the approved list in AREA II: <https://www.aum.edu/academics/core-curriculum/#slo-2>

**AREA V (3 courses; 12 credit hours)**

1. BIOL 3010/3011 General Microbiology with lab
2. BIOL 2100/2101 Human Anatomy and Physiology I with lab
3. BIOL 2110/2111 Human Anatomy and Physiology II with lab

- ❖ Area II and Area IV electives must be chosen from the approved list at the following link: <https://www.aum.edu/academics/core-curriculum/#slo-2>
- ❖ Either the AREA II elective must complete a sequence in Literature OR one of the AREA IV electives must complete a sequence in History.
- ❖ Each pre-nursing prerequisite will need to be completed with grades of 'C' or higher.
- ❖ The School of Nursing will count every time a course has been taken for the Upper-Division admission GPA evaluation. Grade Adjustments (Grade Forgiveness, Repeat-to-Replace, etc) are not considered for admission.

## Applying for the School of Nursing Admission

The Nursing Program is a professional, limited-access program with a competitive admissions process. Acceptance is not automatic for pre-nursing majors, and meeting the minimum eligibility requirements does not guarantee admission. Due to the high volume of applications and limited available spots, only the most qualified applicants will be selected for admission.

A School of Nursing application, separate from the general university application, must 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 December 1st through February 28th for Summer admission and from February 1st through April 15th for Fall admission.

### Application Process Timeline

Application to Upper Division Nursing		
	<i>Fall Admission</i>	<i>Summer Admission</i>
<i>Application Availability</i>	First week of February	First week of December
<i>Submission Deadline</i>	April 15	February 28
<i>TEAS score Due Date</i>	April 15	February 28
<i>Admittance Notification</i>	End of May	End of March

### 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 the date provided. A score of 73% or higher is preferred. Applicants with an official ACT composite score of 27 or higher on file in the AUM University Admissions Office by the 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.
  - 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 Spring semester for Summer admission.
7. Complete all remaining pre-nursing courses with grades of “C” or higher by the end of the Summer or Spring semester, depending on which semester the student will start 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. Have an unadjusted, unrounded GPA of 2.75 or higher based **solely** upon pre-nursing math and science 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.
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 coursework must be completed before entering the upper-division 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 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 upper-division nursing students are required to pass a pre-admission urine drug screening according to current laboratory protocols before 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 the upper-division nursing program are offered full admission pending an acceptable background check. Students who are conditionally accepted will receive additional information regarding the background check.

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

The Auburn Montgomery School of Nursing does not require a college-credit computer course;

however, computer proficiency is expected of all nursing students. The School of Nursing defines computer proficiency as the ability to operate a computer and related technologies, as well as an understanding of basic computer terminology. Students are expected to possess functional knowledge and skills in Microsoft Office programs, including Word, Excel, and PowerPoint. In addition, they must be proficient in navigating the internet, Canvas, and the university's email system. Specific computer requirements will be provided to all students invited to enter the Nursing Program.

### **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 continually meet core performance standards and functional abilities established to ensure that the program's objectives are met and safe, competent patient care is provided. The following Core Performance Standards will be used by the Center for Disability Services and students and 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 the 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.

<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. 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).