

Nursing - Associate Degree

10-543-1 Associate Degree (two-year)

Financial Aid Eligible

Campuses: Ashland*, New Richmond*, Rice Lake*, Superior*

* Students in selected health sciences programs will travel to the Shell Lake Health Education Center. Travel requirements are customized to meet individual program course competencies.

Program Overview

Nursing is the dynamic interpersonal goal-directed process that seeks to promote optimal health within the context of individuals, family, community and society. The concept of caring, which is central to nursing, is communicated through both attitude and action. Nursing uses the nursing process, a problem-solving approach to provide holistic care to individuals, families and groups within the healthcare system. Through collaboration with other healthcare professionals, nursing is responsive to the needs of the community across the health-illness continuum.

Special Feature

Graduates of the Nursing - Associate Degree program have the option to transfer, with junior standing, into a baccalaureate nursing program at colleges in the University of Wisconsin System and some private colleges.

Pre-Nursing Admission Requirements

- Complete Online application form
- Complete Accuplacer entrance assessment to determine placement (waiver may apply with acceptable alternative test scores and/or postsecondary degree completion); NOTE: required Accuplacer entrance assessment scores for core Nursing coursework are higher than pre-Nursing scores
- Review and sign Background Check Disclosure
- Review and sign Functional Abilities Disclosure
- Complete admissions meeting with a Northwood Tech counselor

Program-Specific Requirements

Pre-Nursing students must complete the petition process to be eligible for the core Nursing program. (See [Nursing-Associate Degree](#) program web page for detailed information.) In addition to the requirements above, students in this program must:

- Complete one year, or one credit, of high school chemistry or one credit of college-level chemistry with a 2.0 or better
- Complete a Nursing Assistant course with grade of 2.0 or better
- Complete priority petition for admission forms:
 - Have earned a high school diploma or GED certificate; current high school seniors must provide both a current high school transcript and a final (official) transcript with confer date
 - Northwood Tech transcripts to verify course completion (priority admission is given to students who have completed the ADN program-required General Education courses)
 - Review and sign Background Check Disclosure
 - Review and sign the Functional Abilities Disclosure
 - Complete and sign Intent to Enter form
- Prior to attendance in core Nursing coursework, student must:
 - Submit Background Check fee
 - Have an acceptable Wisconsin Caregiver Background Check, National Criminal Background Check, Minnesota Caregiver Background Check (if applicable), and other states if applicable
 - Pass a physical exam, have current immunizations, and demonstrate negative status for tuberculosis (Tb)
 - COVID vaccination---highly recommended

NOTE: Northwood Technical College cannot guarantee clinical placement or ability to progress in the program if a student is not able to meet the clinical site requirements including but not limited to; influenza vaccine, covid vaccine, negative tb skin test or QuantiFERON®-TB Gold In-Tube test (QFT-GIT) or T-SPOT®.TB test (T-Spot), up to date acceptable background check, or any other clinical requirements required by the

clinical site. Northwood Technical College cannot guarantee clinical placement if the clinical site must be changed due to students inability to meet the site specific requirements. Many sites require the student information 4-6 weeks prior to the clinical start date.

- Possess current certification of "BLS Basic Life Support"
- Review and sign Health Sciences Confidentiality Statement
- Participate in a mandatory orientation session

Admission and Program-Specific Requirements for the following are located on the [Nursing - Associate Degree](#) program webpage:

- LPN to ADN
- Nursing - Associate Degree Transfer Student Requirements
- Northwood Tech/UWEC Nursing Alliance

Program Outcomes

ADN Graduates will be able to:

- Integrate professional nursing identity reflecting integrity, responsibility, and nursing
- Communicate comprehensive information using multiple sources in nursing practice
- Integrate theoretical knowledge to support decision making
- Integrate the nursing process into patient care across diverse populations
- Function as a healthcare team member to provide safe and effective care

Career Outlook

Graduates of this program will be qualified for the following position:

- Registered Nurse

Related Program

- Nursing Assistant

The Nursing-Associate Degree program at Northwood Technical College is accredited by the [Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing, Inc. \(ACEN\)](#), 3390 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 1400, Atlanta, GA 30326, phone 404-975-5000. The most recent accreditation decision made by the ACEN Board of Commissioners for the associate degree nursing program is continuing accreditation.



The Nursing-Associate Degree program at Northwood Technical College is approved by the [Wisconsin State Board of Nursing](#). Concerns may also be directed to the Board of Nursing, DSPS, PO Box 8366, Madison, WI 53708 – 8366. Phone number: 608.266.2112 Email: dsps@wi.gov

Required Courses

Number	Course Title	Credits (cr.)
Program Courses		
10543101	Nursing Fundamentals*	2 cr.
10543102	Nursing Skills*	3 cr.
10543103	Nursing Pharmacology*	2 cr.
10543104	Nursing: Intro to Clinical Practice*	2 cr.
10543105	Nursing Health Alterations*	3 cr.
10543106	Nursing Health Promotion*	3 cr.
10543107	Nursing: Clinical Care Across Lifespan*	2 cr.
10543108	Nursing: Intro to Clinical Care Management*	2 cr.
10543109	Nursing: Complex Health Alterations 1*	3 cr.
10543110	Nursing: Mental Health and Community Concepts*	2 cr.
10543111	Nursing: Intermediate Clinical Practice*	3 cr.
10543112	Nursing Advanced Skills*	1 cr.
10543113	Nursing: Complex Health Alterations 2*	3 cr.
10543114	Nursing: Management and Professional Concepts*	2 cr.
10543115	Nursing: Advanced Clinical Practice*	3 cr.
10543116	Nursing Clinical Transition*	2 cr.
Program Courses Total		38 cr.

General Education Courses**

10801136	English Composition 1	3 cr.
10801196	Oral/Interpersonal Communication or	
10801198	Speech	3 cr.
10806177	General Anatomy and Physiology	4 cr.
10806179	Advanced Anatomy and Physiology*	4 cr.
10806197	Microbiology*	4 cr.
10809188	Developmental Psychology	3 cr.
10809196	Introduction to Sociology	3 cr.
10809198	Introduction to Psychology	3 cr.
General Education Courses Total		27 cr.

Elective Courses	5 cr.
TOTAL CREDITS	70 cr.

* Requires a prerequisite and/or corequisite that must be completed with a grade point of 2.0 or better.

** See pages 38-41 for course descriptions.

For all 10543XXX courses, course repeat and failure policies exist within the ADN program that allow for only a certain number of retakes and failures of these classes; please refer to these policies for details.

All courses in the ADN program (core nursing, science, general education, prerequisites, and elective courses) must be completed with a grade of 2.0 or better, including 10806177 General Anatomy & Physiology and 10806179 Advanced Anatomy & Physiology.

Professional Licensure and/or Certification Information

Northwood Tech's Nursing program prepares students to obtain the required licensure to be employed/practice in the state of Wisconsin. The College does not guarantee its curriculum matches the requirements for preparation, examinations, or licensure for other states. To be eligible for testing and/or licensing in the state of Wisconsin, you may be required to obtain a social security number. Please click below to review more details about accreditation and licensure. For more information, visit:

[National Council of State Boards of Nursing \(NCSBN\)](#)
[State of Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services](#)

Course Descriptions

(See pages 38-41 for General Education course descriptions)

10543101

Nursing Fundamentals - Credits: 2

This course focuses on basic nursing concepts to provide evidenced-based care to diverse patient populations across the lifespan. Current and historical issues impacting nursing will be explored within the scope of nursing practice. The nursing process will be introduced as a framework for organizing the care of patients. PREREQUISITE: Admission to Nursing program and COREQUISITE: 10806177 General Anatomy and Physiology.

10543102

Nursing Skills - Credits: 3

This course focuses on development of evidence-based clinical skills and physical assessment across the lifespan. Content includes mathematic calculations and conversions related to clinical skills. In addition the course includes techniques related to obtaining a health history and basic physical assessment skills using a body systems approach. PREREQUISITE: Admission to Nursing program or current LPN license and COREQUISITE: 10806177 General Anatomy and Physiology.

10543103

Nursing Pharmacology - Credits: 2

This course introduces the principles of pharmacology, including drug classifications and their effects on the body. Emphasis is on the use of the components of the nursing process when administering medications. PREREQUISITE: Admission to the Nursing program and COREQUISITE: 10806177 General Anatomy and Physiology.

10543104

Nursing: Intro to Clinical Practice - Credits: 2

This introductory clinical course emphasizes basic nursing skills and application of the nursing process in meeting the needs of diverse clients across the lifespan. Emphasis is placed on performing basic nursing skills, the formation of nurse-client relationships, communication, data collection, documentation, and medication administration. COREQUISITES: 10543101 Nursing Fundamentals, 10543102 Nursing Skills, and 10543103 Nursing Pharmacology, 10801136 English Composition 1, 10809188 Developmental Psychology, and 10806177 General Anatomy and Physiology.

10543105

Nursing Health Alterations - Credits: 3

This course elaborates upon the basic concepts of health and illness as presented in Nursing Fundamentals. It applies theories of nursing in the care of patients through the lifespan, utilizing problem solving and critical thinking. This course will provide an opportunity to study conditions affecting different body systems and apply evidence-based nursing interventions. It will also introduce concepts of leadership and management. PREREQUISITES: 10543101 Nursing Fundamentals, 10543102 Nursing Skills, 10543103 Nursing Pharmacology, 10543104 Nursing: Introduction to Clinical Practice, and 10806177 General Anatomy and Physiology.

10543106

Nursing Health Promotion - Credits: 3

This course focuses on topics related to health promotion for individuals and families throughout the lifespan. We will cover nursing care of the developing family, which includes reproductive issues, pregnancy, labor and delivery, postpartum, the newborn, and the child. Recognizing the spectrum of healthy families we will discern patterns associated with adaptive and maladaptive behaviors applying mental health principles. An emphasis is placed on teaching and supporting healthy lifestyles choices for individuals of all ages. Nutrition, exercise, stress management,

empowerment, and risk reduction practices are highlighted. Study of the family will cover dynamics, functions, discipline styles, and stages of development. PREREQUISITES: 10543101 Nursing Fundamentals, 10543102 Nursing Skills, 10543103 Nursing Pharmacology, 10543104 Nursing: Introduction to Clinical Practice, 10806177 General Anatomy and Physiology, and 10809188 Developmental Psychology and COREQUISITE: 10806179 Advanced Anatomy and Physiology.

10543107

Nursing: Clinical Care Across Lifespan - Credits: 2

This clinical experience applies nursing concepts and therapeutic interventions to patients across the lifespan. It also provides an introduction to concepts of teaching and learning. Extending care to include the family is emphasized. COREQUISITE: 10543106 Nursing Health Promotion.

10543108

Nursing: Intro to Clinical Care Management - Credits: 2

This clinical experience applies nursing concepts and therapeutic nursing interventions to groups of patients across the lifespan. It also provides an introduction to leadership, management, and team building. COREQUISITES: 10543105 Nursing Health Alterations, 10806179 Advanced Anatomy and Physiology, and 10801196 Oral/Interpersonal Communication.

10543109

Nursing: Complex Health Alterations 1 - Credits: 3

Complex Health Alterations 1 prepares the learner to provide and evaluate care for patients across the lifespan with alterations in cardiovascular, respiratory, endocrine, and hematologic systems as well as patients with fluid/electrolyte and acid-base imbalance, and alterations in comfort. PREREQUISITES: 10543105 Nursing Health Alterations, 10543106 Nursing Health Promotion, 10543107 Nursing: Clinical Care Across the Lifespan, 10543108 Nursing: Introduction to Clinical Care Management, 10806179 Advanced Anatomy and Physiology, and COREQUISITE: 10806197 Microbiology.

10543110

Nursing: Mental Health and Community Concepts - Credits: 2

This course will cover topics related to the delivery of community and mental health care. Specific health needs of individuals, families, and groups will be addressed across the lifespan. Attention will be given to diverse and at-risk populations. Mental health concepts will concentrate on adaptive/maladaptive behaviors and specific mental health disorders. Community resources will be examined in relation to specific types of support offered to racial, ethnic, economically diverse individuals and groups. PREREQUISITES: 10543105 Nursing Health Alterations, 10543106 Nursing Health Promotion, 10543107 Nursing: Clinical Care Across the Lifespan, 10543108 Nursing: Introduction to Clinical Care Management, 10806179 Advanced Anatomy and Physiology, and COREQUISITE: 10809198 Introduction to Psychology.

10543111

Nursing: Intermediate Clinical Practice - Credits: 3

This intermediate level clinical course develops the RN role when working with clients with complex health care needs. A focus of the course is developing skills needed for managing multiple clients across the lifespan and priorities. Using the nursing process, students will gain experience in adapting nursing practice to meet the needs of clients with diverse needs and backgrounds. COREQUISITES: 10543109 Nursing Complex Health Alterations 1, 10543110 Nursing: Mental

Health and Community Concepts, and 10543112 Nursing Advanced Skills, 10809198 Introduction to Psychology, and 10806197 Microbiology.

10543112

Nursing Advanced Skills - Credits: 1

This course focuses on the development of advanced clinical skills across the lifespan. Content includes advanced intravenous skills, blood product administration, chest tube systems, basic electrocardiogram interpretation and nasogastric/feeding tube insertion. PREREQUISITES: 10543105 Nursing Health Alterations, 10543106 Nursing Health Promotion, 10543107 Nursing: Clinical Care Across the Lifespan, 10543108 Nursing: Introduction to Clinical Care Management, and 10806179 Advanced Anatomy and Physiology.

10543113

Nursing: Complex Health Alterations 2 - Credits: 3

Complex Health Alterations 2 prepares the learner to provide and evaluate care for patients across the lifespan with alterations in the immune, neuro-sensory, musculoskeletal, gastrointestinal, hepatobiliary, renal/urinary, reproductive systems and shock, burns and trauma. The learner will also focus on management of care for patients with high-risk perinatal conditions and high-risk newborns. PREREQUISITES: 10543109 Nursing Complex Health Alterations 1, 10543110 Nursing: Mental Health and Community Concepts, 10543111 Nursing: Intermediate Clinical Practice, 10543112 Nursing Advanced Skills, and 10806197 Microbiology.

10543114

Nursing: Management and Professional Concepts - Credits: 2

This course covers nursing management and professional issues related to the role of the registered nurse. Emphasis is placed on preparing for practice as a registered nurse. PREREQUISITES: 10543109 Nursing: Complex Health Alterations 1, 10543110 Nursing: Mental Health and Community Concepts, 10543111 Nursing: Intermediate Clinical Practice, and 10543112 Nursing Advanced Skills.

10543115

Nursing: Advanced Clinical Practice - Credits: 3

This advanced clinical course requires the student to integrate concepts from all previous courses in the management of groups of clients facing complex health alterations. Students will have the opportunity to further develop critical thinking skills using the nursing process in making clinical decisions. Continuity of care through interdisciplinary collaboration is emphasized. COREQUISITES: 10543113 Nursing Complex Health Alterations 2, and 10809196 Introduction to Sociology.

10543116

Nursing Clinical Transition - Credits: 2

This clinical experience integrates all knowledge learned in the previous courses in transitioning to the role of the graduate nurse. The course promotes relatively independent clinical decisions, delegation, and works collaboratively with others to achieve client and organizational outcomes. Continued professional development is fostered. PREREQUISITES: 10543113 Nursing Complex Health Alterations 2, 10543114 Nursing Management and Professional Concepts, and 10543115 Nursing Advanced Clinical Practice.