

SAINT JOSEPH'S COLLEGE OF MAINE

RN to Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Founded in 1912 by the Sisters of Mercy, Saint Joseph's College of Maine is located on 350 acres along Sebago Lake in Standish, Maine. Saint Joseph's College is accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, Inc., and the nursing programs are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education. Saint Joseph's has been educating adult learners since 1976, based on a Catholic, liberal arts heritage with an educational mission for people of all faiths and ages.

Saint Joseph's College and The College Network™ have partnered to provide learners with a unique way to earn their Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree. Using The College Network's Comprehensive Learning Module™ program and personal academic support, learners can earn up to 30 college credits for general education and elective courses by passing end-of-course college equivalency exams—saving time and money. Comprehensive Learning Modules are available online and enable learners to complete coursework at an independent pace.

Saint Joseph's online RN to Bachelor of Science in Nursing program accepts more courses in transfer credit than most programs. Through a combination of transfer credit, Saint Joseph's College online courses, and credit from equivalency examinations, nurses can efficiently fulfill the requirements for this degree. The curriculum develops a student's ability to think critically and provide safe, effective, culturally sensitive and holistic, evidence-based care. These courses, blended with content and professional experience, allow for immediate application in work settings.



SAINT JOSEPH'S
ONLINE



- CCNE-accredited program
- Regionally accredited
- Convenient online learning format
- No campus-based classes to attend
- Self-paced learning format



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Degree Requirements (128 credit hours total)

Students must complete all 200- and 300-level nursing courses before enrolling in 400-level courses. Students who receive less than a C+ grade (78%) in a nursing course, or less than a C- (70%) in related science, sociology, or psychology courses, may not progress to subsequent courses until a passing grade is achieved. However, students may only take a required nursing or science course or challenge twice. Students who receive less than a C+ grade two times for the same nursing course, receive less than a C- twice for the same required science course, or who have not received an acceptable transfer grade, will be required to withdraw from the nursing major.

Program Progression

The RN to Bachelor of Science in Nursing program is divided into two phases, with a minimum of 128 semester hours required for program completion.

Phase I

Learners may complete up to 30 of their general education credits using The College Network's Comprehensive Learning Modules in Phase I before progressing to Phase II, or they may choose a "dual progress" format. This means that students can complete their pre-requisite coursework with The College Network while they complete online nursing coursework through Saint Joseph's College.

Phase II

During Phase II, learners complete 33 online credit hours with Saint Joseph's College, with 21 of those in nursing. Upon successful completion of the program, students are awarded a BSN from Saint Joseph's College.

Curriculum Required Beyond RN Preparation:

General Education Courses (33 credit hours)

- Nutrition
- Statistics
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Ecology
- Theology
- Philosophy
- English
- History
- Humanities Electives

Diploma Nurses may also have to complete courses in:

- English Comp I & II
- Natural Sciences: Microbiology
- Anatomy & Physiology
- Chemistry
- Ecology
- Ethics
- Other Electives

Saint Joseph's College BSN Program Course Descriptions

<p>NU 300 – Professional Transitions for RNs (3 credits)</p> <p>This course introduces RN students to the RN-BSN program and is designed to help students transition from their roles as practicing nurses to nurses pursuing higher degrees. Students draw on their previous experiences as professional nurses. Examination of historical and theoretical developments of the profession in the context of contemporary practice are explored. The role of the professional nurse in influencing public policy is introduced. Students use professional nursing literature, both printed and electronic media resources, to identify evidence-based practice strategies and are encouraged to analyze their self-care strategies for a balanced life.</p>	<p>NU 309 - Nursing Research (3 credits)</p> <p>The focus of this course is to introduce the student to research as it relates to the growing body of scientific nursing knowledge, nursing practice, and consequent improvement in healthcare. Emphasis is placed on developing skills in information searching and analysis of research design and data collection. The research process is compared to the nursing process, and the role of the professional nurse as researcher is examined throughout the course.</p> <p>Prerequisite: MA 205</p>
<p>NU 311 – Pharmacology (3 credits)</p> <p>This course focuses on the principles of pharmacology including drug classifications and the effects on the body. Pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic components of drug actions will be reviewed. Utilizing the nursing process, emphasis is placed on the nursing implications that relate to medication administration, actions, side effects, interactions, and contraindications of medications. Social, economic, developmental, cultural, ethical, and legal considerations that pertain to drug administration will also be investigated.</p>	<p>NU 312 – Pathophysiology (3 credits)</p> <p>This course is designed to examine alterations in functions affecting individuals across the lifespan. The student will explore pathophysiological concepts utilizing biology, microbiology, and physiological sciences as a basis for the student approach. The scientific approach will provide a further understanding of the mechanisms of disease, and students will incorporate critical thinking skills with practical application. The course provides a comprehensive nursing approach to common alterations in body systems.</p> <p>Prerequisite: Completion of an undergraduate biology course or challenge</p>
<p>NU 313 – Evidence Based Practice for Family Care & Health Promotion (3 credits)</p> <p>This course explores current practice relative to care of the family in relationship to the concepts of health promotion/illness prevention. Recent history as well as current delineation of what is encompassed in the concept of family today will be explored. A review of basic evidence-based practice (EBP) and application of EBP to family care will be discussed. Theories and models of care related to the family will also be discovered. The process of developing a family health promotion plan using the 5 step nursing process will be conducted. Finally, families together, as a nation, will be explored with a look at genomics, social issues, and society's role in health promotion will be explored.</p> <p>Prerequisites: NU 300, NU 309</p>	<p>NU 405T - Community Nursing Theory (3 credits)</p> <p>Develops knowledge and skills in the theory and practice of nursing in the community. Students apply public health theory while working with groups, communities and families. Students complete a community assessment and health promotion project, visit families in home care settings and participate in occupational or school nursing.</p> <p>Prerequisites: All NU 300 level courses</p>
<p>NU 406T - Nursing Leadership and Management Theory (3 credits)</p> <p>Facilitates student synthesis of curricula and Roy Adaptation Model concepts into a framework for professional nursing. Leadership and management theory provides the student with focus from which to explore professional issues and concerns. Students demonstrate integration and synthesis of knowledge from the sciences, humanities and nursing in classroom discussions and clinical settings with emphasis on moral, ethical, legal and political implications for nursing practice. Clinical experiences provide opportunities to practice basic management skills and leadership behaviors.</p> <p>Prerequisites: All NU 300 level courses and PH 200</p>	<p>NU 407P – Evidence Based Practice Clinical Capstone (3 credits)</p> <p>The student is guided through continued exploration, integration and synthesis of major concepts presented throughout previous courses in the context of clinical application. The course has two distinct but integrated foci. The first is the development and evaluation of programs to promote health in communities and their residents through the use of strategies that are based upon assessment and research evidence. The second focus is exploration and analysis of how leadership and management skills are utilized to assist in goal attainment. The student will adopt the leadership role in proposing, implementing and evaluating a formal program for clients of a selected community agency.</p> <p>This course includes a 135-hour clinical to be completed locally and overseen by a preceptor and by a Saint Joseph faculty advisor. This should be a nursing project focusing on health promotion and leadership skills, working with community organizations.</p> <p>Prerequisites: NU 405, NU 406</p>
<p>NU421 – Approved Electives (3 credits)</p> <p>This approved elective provides the opportunity for students to extend their nursing knowledge through a nursing or appropriately related course.</p> <p>Prerequisites: All required courses for the major through the 300 level courses.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">GRADUATE & PROFESSIONAL STUDIES SAINT JOSEPH'S COLLEGE OF MAINE</p>

Admission Requirements

1. Students may apply for and be granted provisional admission status at any time during the year.
2. All applicants must be graduates of an accredited public or private high school; must have passed a GED examination or provide proof of completion of a GED equivalent; or must have completed a state-approved high school diploma through home schooling.
3. Students must have completed high school with an average grade of a C or better, have a standard 2.0 or better for GED students, or show college credit with a cumulative grade point of 2.0 or better for admission to an undergraduate degree program. Students are provisionally accepted and required to take specific introductory course work and complete it with a grade of 2.5 or better, prior to consideration of formal acceptance.
4. Applicants must hold a valid United States unencumbered RN license and possess the functional abilities to perform the skills and behaviors required of a professional nurse.
5. All applicants must submit official transcripts from all undergraduate programs. For transfer consideration, course descriptions may be required.

The College Network™

Since 1992, The College Network™ has provided educational solutions that help individuals advance their education and training with college degrees and professional certificates from highly acclaimed universities. As one of the nation's leading eLearning companies and a partner with some of the nation's foremost institutions of higher learning, The College Network has helped hundreds of thousands of adults continue their education.

For questions regarding the admissions process, call (877) CLM-LEARN to speak with a representative from The College Network.

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