



University  
of Windsor



**NURSING  
EXPERIENCE MAP**

# NURSING



## HIGHLIGHTS AND SKILLS

### PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

**Nursing** - Our program combines equal doses of hands-on learning and academic excellence. Clinical practicum courses start in year one with a 1:8 instructor-student ratio and take place in a variety of healthcare settings throughout the first three years of the program. In fact, the Faculty of Nursing is partnered with more than 250 hospital and community agencies throughout southwestern Ontario. In the final year of their program, students gain independence as they work alongside a preceptor (1:1 ratio), completing a total of 384 hours in both hospital and community settings.

To reinforce student learning in both the classroom and in clinical settings, we have a series of seven experiential learning labs taught throughout the program. These labs are specifically designed to help the learner apply theory to clinical practice through a variety of interactive and simulated activities.

In order to dynamically support student learning, nursing students have access to academic and career advising through the Student Success Coordinator and free counseling services through the Clinical Therapist embedded in the program.

After graduation, students write the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) to be eligible for membership with the College of Nurses of Ontario.

In 2018, 95.8% passed the NCLEX by the end of the year in which they graduated. This is because students receive outstanding instruction from award-winning professors who are dedicated to student success. At an undergraduate level, students are engaged in professional development activities stemming from current research initiatives and best practices in Nursing. The NCLEX is the same exam that American students write. Graduates from the program may choose to pursue employment opportunities in the United States and would not need to write an alternate exam. Other eligibility criteria may be requested and may differ by state.

#### Ontario Course Requirements

Minimum Average of 70% – A minimum 70% average of the top six Grade 12 U or M courses, including ENG4U, SBI4U, SCH4U, ENG4U, and one Grade 12 mathematics required. A minimum grade of 65% in Grade 12U English (ENG4U) is required. A second minimum average of 70% is required in chemistry (SCH4U) and biology (SBI4U).

**This is a very competitive program.** An 80% average is recommended for the top six Grade 12 U or M courses along with a minimum average of 80% in chemistry and biology.

Students admitted into the program in 2018 and 2019 had an 85% average or greater for their top 6 U or M courses.

### FUNCTIONAL KNOWLEDGE

- Appreciating critical biological, social, cultural, ethical, and psychological factors that influence health
- Exercising emotional intelligence to make useful observations, generate insights, and modify behaviour in a professional work setting
- Understanding the structure and organization of the public health-care system in Ontario and Canada
- Understanding and applying contemporary best practices in nursing care
- Critically appraising and evaluating evidence to support nursing interventions
- Critically analyzing health-care systems from an informed perspective; advocating for and implementing change when appropriate
- Understanding and valuing ethical practice
- Collaborating with patients/clients, families, interdisciplinary health professionals to achieve positive health outcomes
- Decision making; considering information from a variety of sources to solve problems and make decisions

## BUILD YOUR SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

Your UWindsor experience is more than attending classes. It is a combination of academics, co-curricular activities, and extracurricular involvement. By making the most of all three elements of your

university experience, you will maximize your opportunities to build your skills, broaden your personal network, and clarify your long term academic and career goals.



#### CURRICULUM

Courses of study specific to each program



#### CO-CURRICULAR

Activities and experiences that complement coursework (Outstanding Scholars, peer mentoring, VIP)



#### EXTRACURRICULAR

Activities falling outside the scope of set curriculum (Part-time job, clubs, volunteering, athletics)

## CAREER PLANNING CYCLE

Intentional career planning will help you prepare for your next step after graduation and beyond. It is a fluid, dynamic, and lifelong process. You can move on or return to an earlier stage in the cycle at any time.



## EXPLORE OPPORTUNITIES USING THIS CHART

Explore a selection of opportunities recommended for students in your program. This chart shows some of your many options – you don’t have to do everything on it or limit yourself to it. Engage in opportunities from each of the three categories to set yourself up for success.

### HIGH-IMPACT PRACTICE (HIP)

A HIP is an enriching educational experience that can be life-changing and often includes learning outside of the classroom while encouraging meaningful interaction and collaboration, such as:

- Co-op, internship or field experiences
- Research with faculty
- Culminating senior experience
- Capstone courses
- Service-learning
- Learning communities
- Study abroad



## ACADEMICS

*Your coursework*





- Take required courses including Professional Nursing I and II, Writing for the Professional Nurse, Human Anatomy & Physiology I and II, and Holistic Health Assessment
- Consider visiting the **Nursing Student Support Centre** for information about program advising, counselling, and clinical placements
- Meet with the **Student Success Coordinator** for program advising and information about individualized academic support services
- Visit the **Clinical Learning Centre** to meet peer mentors and spend time practicing health assessment skills

## MIDDLE YEARS

- Take required and option courses as outlined on the **BScN Collaborative Nursing Course Sequence Guide**
- Meet with the **Student Success Coordinator** for program advising, to review degree requirements, and information about individualized academic support services
- Gain an abundance of field experience through clinical courses 
- Begin thinking about your future nursing career including graduate school options
- Ask about opportunities to work with a faculty member on a research project or publication 



## FINAL YEAR





- Complete all required courses to fulfill degree requirements including “**Transition to Professional Practice**” as a capstone theory course, which highlights the transition from student to professional 
- Meet with the **Student Success Coordinator** for program advising, to review degree requirements, and information about individualized academic support services
- Ask about opportunities to work with a faculty member on a research project or publication 
- Apply to graduate through **UWinsite Student Portal**
- Begin studying for **National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX)**
- Explore professional development opportunities through **Continuing Education**





## EXPERIENCE

*Ways to get involved*



- Complete required hours for **Clinical Practicum Courses**; begin learning in **Experiential Learning Labs** 
- Become acquainted with the **Nursing Student Handbook** and **Clinical Placement Policies**
- Investigate research opportunities such as the **Outstanding Scholars** program 
- Attend extra-curricular nursing workshops such as the **Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI)** Open School events
- Become active in **Nursing Society**; consider running for class representative or other position
- Participate in the **Bystander Initiative** workshop on campus
- Apply for a co-curricular experience such as **VIP-Community Service Learning**
- Join an association such as the **Registered Nursing Association of Ontario** and the **Canadian Nursing Students Association**

- Complete required hours for **Clinical Practicum Courses**; practice in the **Clinical Learning Centre** and learn in the **Nursing Simulation Lab** 
- Investigate opportunities to work as a peer mentor in the **Clinical Learning Centre** or peer tutor for nursing theory courses 
- Participate in **Nursing Society** events such as the annual provincial **Nursing Games** and charity fundraisers
- Seek leadership roles in **Nursing Society** or other campus clubs/programs
- Volunteer on a **Faculty of Nursing Committee** (Appointments or Curriculum Committees)
- Participate in extra-curricular events such as the **UWill Discover Undergraduate Research Conference** and **Science Rendezvous** 
- Apply for student exchange opportunities in locations such as Sweden or Australia 
- Consider an **Ignite: Work Study** position

- Complete required hours for **Clinical Practicum Courses** in hospital and community settings; learn in the **Nursing Simulation Lab** 
- Refine skills in the **Clinical Learning Centre** with a peer mentor
- Investigate opportunities to peer tutor for nursing theory courses 
- Participate in **Nursing Society** events such as the annual provincial **Nursing Games** and charity fundraisers
- Conduct field research with a faculty member 
- Volunteer on a **Faculty of Nursing Committee** (Appointments or Curriculum Committees)
- Explore the employment portal for the **New Graduate Guarantee Initiative (NGGI)**
- Apply to the **Tau Upsilon Chapter of Sigma International Honor Society of Nursing**
- Become a tutor for **Students Offering Support (SOS)** 

## CAREER

*Plan ahead for what’s next*



- Complete required hours for **Clinical Practicum Courses**; begin learning in **Experiential Learning Labs** 
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- Investigate research opportunities such as the **Outstanding Scholars** program
- Attend extra-curricular nursing workshops such as the **Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI)** Open School events
- Become active in **Nursing Society**; consider running for class representative or other position
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- Apply for a co-curricular experience such as the **VIP-Community Service Learning**
- Join an association such as the **Registered Nursing Association of Ontario** and the **Canadian Nursing Students Association**

- Research career fields and occupations with the help of a **CDEL** career advisor
- Attend the **annual job fair** in January and **Nursing Career Fair** in March to build professional network and find future employment
- Explore opportunities to meet potential employers by participating in industry networking events
- Attend **CDEL’s** Using Social Media to Leverage Your Career workshop
- Create a **LinkedIn** profile and have it critiqued
- Take part in informational interviews and use sources like **LinkedIn** and **Ten Thousand Coffees** and to meet people in your targeted profession
- Search job postings to learn what skills, knowledge, and credentials you will need for potential careers

- If you are considering applying to graduate or professional school, be aware of early application deadlines
- Meet with **CDEL** to prepare application documents like a resumé, cover letter, CV, or personal statement for jobs and education programs you are applying to
- Attend **CDEL’s workshops** on interview skills and job search strategies
- Attend lunch and learn sessions from area employers to learn more about local and cross-border nursing
- Attend the annual job fair in January and the **Nursing Career Fair** to build professional network and find future employment
- Explore opportunities to meet potential employers by participating in industry networking events
- Use **InterviewStream** to practice your interview skills online
- Set up an in person mock interview with a career advisor for professional school or job applications
- Compose a portfolio of relevant academic and work experience

# LIFE AFTER GRADUATION



The Nursing program at the University of Windsor has given me more than just a nursing degree. After graduation, I feel motivated to continually provide safe, compassionate, and outstanding care for all of my patients and their families. Throughout the program, I've been inspired to be an effective leader and knowledgeable care provider. I look forward to being a change agent in my community and engage in future learning opportunities that will build upon this strong foundation. I am UWindsor PROUD!"

*Elizabeth Dillon RN, BScN [2019]*

344 **NUMBER OF GRADUATES (2018)**

99.1% **EMPLOYMENT RATE OF GRADUATES**

*2 years following degree completion (OUGS Nursing, 2017)*

## CAREER TRACKS\*

Acute care nurse  
Case manager  
Clinic nurse  
Community care nurse

Health-care administrator  
Health and safety coordinator  
Hospice nurse  
Mental health nurse

Nursing anesthetist  
Nurse educator/professor  
Nurse practitioner  
Nurse scientist/researcher

Occupational health nurse  
Oncology nurse  
Public health nurse  
Travel nurse

Graduates who have combined nursing degrees with other degrees and experience can become health-care lawyers, software designers, nurse executives, policy analysts, or health-care project managers. The possibilities are endless.

*\* Additional education and/or training required for some of the above careers.*



## COMMON SECTORS FOR GRADUATES

- **Nursing Service:** Direct & indirect care
- **Academia:** Teaching, research
- **Consulting**
- **Entrepreneurship**
- **Government:** Health policy
- **Health-care administration**
- **Insurance companies**
- **Sales:** Pharmaceuticals, medical devices

## CAREER-READINESS COMPETENCIES



**CRITICAL THINKING AND PROBLEM SOLVING**



**PROFESSIONALISM AND WORK ETHIC**



**TEAMWORK AND COLLABORATION**



**COMMUNICATION**





## CAMPUS RESOURCES

- Research scholarships and bursaries through the **Student Awards and Financial Aid Office**
- Visit **Leddy Library** and the **Writing Support Desk** for help with academic assignments
- Learn about our **Bounce Back** program designed to support students struggling to find both personal and academic success in their post-secondary experience
- Build leadership skills and find leadership opportunities at the **Leadership Hub**
- Experience international service learning on an **Alternative Spring Break** team
- Get advice and support about your academic status by making an appointment with **Academic Advising**
- Seek out assistance with academic accommodation from **Student Accessibility Services**
- Discover ways to get involved on campus through the **Student Success and Leadership Centre**
- Look into the **Ignite: Work Study** program for on-campus employment opportunities
- Get assistance developing your career plan and job search skills from **Career Development and Experiential Learning**
- Consult with the **EPICentre** if you are interested in starting your own business
- Broaden your cultural awareness through the **International Student Centre** and **Student Exchange Office**
- Find support for Indigenous learners and broaden your understanding of Indigenous culture by visiting **Turtle Island**
- Tend to your health and wellness with support from **Student Health Services** and **Lancer Recreation**
- Receive confidential mental health counselling delivered by trained professionals at the **Student Counselling Centre**
- Seek personal support or learn more about sexual violence education through the **Sexual Misconduct Response and Prevention Office**
- Explore professional development opportunities through **Continuing Education**

*We've got you covered!*

### GET IN TOUCH

#### STUDENT RECRUITMENT

Phone: 519-973-7014  
Toll-Free: 1-800-864-2860  
[ask.uwindsor.ca](mailto:ask.uwindsor.ca)

#### FACULTY OF NURSING

Phone: 519-253-3000, Ext. 2258  
Email: [nurse@uwindsor.ca](mailto:nurse@uwindsor.ca)

#### CAREER DEVELOPMENT AND EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

Phone: 519-253-3000, Ext. 3895  
Email: [careerservices@uwindsor.ca](mailto:careerservices@uwindsor.ca)