Pre-Nursing
Enrollment and Application
Information for Fall 2016

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“To-Do” List

*You must complete this To-Do list before attending a group advising session*

- Review this entire presentation.
- Check Campus Connection for holds on your account and take action to remove them [https://www.ndsu.edu/bisonconnection/connect/holds/](https://www.ndsu.edu/bisonconnection/connect/holds/)
- Check on Campus Connection to determine your adviser assignment. (who your advisor is) [https://www.ndsu.edu/bisonconnection/connect/adviser/](https://www.ndsu.edu/bisonconnection/connect/adviser/)
- If you are applying this spring, think about what your “back-up” plan is. What courses do you want to be taking in the event you are not accepted?
- Prepare a list of courses you would like to take in the fall.
- Print and complete a Trial Card. Look up the courses you think you want to take and times they are offered. You may want to consider when NURS 210 and NURS 250 are scheduled as well. [https://www.ndsu.edu/fileadmin/registrar/forms/trialcard.pdf](https://www.ndsu.edu/fileadmin/registrar/forms/trialcard.pdf)
- Pick ONE of the group advising sessions and put a reminder in your phone of the date, time, and location.
- Write down any questions you have and bring them with you.
What to Expect at the Group Advising Session

- You will meet in a group of 6-10 pre-nursing students.
- There will be time for individual advising sessions at the end of the group portion.
- There will be time to ask questions and get advice regarding your course plan and the application process.
- You will be confirming your plan for fall courses.
- You are expected to come prepared to the advising session. If you are not prepared, you may be asked to re-schedule.
Enrollment

- Check Campus Connection to find your enrollment date and time [https://www.ndsu.edu/bisonconnection/connect/appointments/](https://www.ndsu.edu/bisonconnection/connect/appointments/)

- Make it a priority to enroll on your enrollment date

- You will be enrolling in your BACK UP plan for fall.

- You can not enroll in any nursing courses until you find out that you are accepted in late June/early July
Enrollment- Summer Courses

Your enrollment date for summer courses is the same as for fall courses.

▪ Any courses taken in the summer will NOT impact your spring application (for fall admission).
▪ Courses taken in the summer DO have an impact on the fall application (for spring admission).
Enrollment - Nursing Courses

- You are not able to enroll in any nursing courses until you find out that you are accepted in late June/early July.

- If accepted, your courses will be NURS 210 and NURS 250 (2 credits each). You can look up the class times when developing your schedule.

- When accepted to the program, you have a spot in the nursing courses. Nursing courses do not “fill up”

- You will be able to drop your “back up plan” courses in late June/early July with no problem if you are accepted to the program and no longer wish to take them.
Enrollment- Back up plan

- Individualized
- Finish up science courses
- Retake any courses you would like to improve your grade in
  *See slide on retaking courses*
- Work on General Education Requirements
  - Look on Campus Connection for your Academic Requirements report
    [https://www.ndsu.edu/bisonconnection/connect/advisement/](https://www.ndsu.edu/bisonconnection/connect/advisement/)
- Take other required non-nursing courses:
  - HNES 250: Nutrition Science
  - Psyc 250: Developmental Psych OR HDFS 230: Lifespan Development
- Consider a minor: [https://www.ndsu.edu/nursing/prenurs_advise/minors/](https://www.ndsu.edu/nursing/prenurs_advise/minors/)
Nursing Prerequisites

- Engl 120 – College Composition II
- Comm 110 – Fund. Of Public Speaking
- Psyc 111 – Intro to Psychology
- Soc 110 – Intro to Sociology OR Anth 111 – Intro to Anthropology

- Chem 117/117L – Chemical Concepts and Lab
- Chem 260 – Elements of Biochemistry
- Micr 202/202L – Intro to Microbiology and Lab
- Biol 220/220L – Human Anatomy & Physiology I
- Biol 221/221L – Human Anatomy & Physiology II

You must complete the first four courses listed AND at least 8 credits of the science courses listed to be eligible to apply.

If you have more than 8 credits of science completed, we will use your BEST 11 science credits in addition to the first four courses listed when calculating your selective GPA.
How to Search for Classes

- When you decide on the courses you would like to take, it would be helpful to find the class dates/times on Campus Connection.

- Here is a link with directions on how to search for classes: https://www.ndsu.edu/bisonconnection/connect/add/

- We strongly encourage you to plan out your courses and put the courses you want in your enrollment shopping cart on Campus Connection prior to your enrollment date.
  - This will save time and stress.
Admission Requirements

- Be admitted to North Dakota State University
- Have pre-nursing declared as major
- Complete prerequisite courses *See slide 9
- Have a cumulative GPA \( \geq 2.75 \)
- Complete the online nursing application
- Two professional references *Completed electronically
- Official transcripts for all colleges attended on file with Registration and Records
- Completed personal statement/essay (within the nursing application)
- Application fee of $50
- Certified background check (additional $50 fee)
- Provide any additional items as requested

*Additional information will be provided when application is posted*
How is admission determined?

Admission is competitive and based on the following factors:

- Selective GPA from prerequisite courses
  - Review the Selective GPA Calculation slide (slide 13)
- Number of credits taken in the North Dakota University System (max points given to those who have 27 or more credits taken)
- Essay scores
- References
- Evidence of:
  - Outstanding leadership
  - Exceptional community service
  - Membership in a group underrepresented in nursing
Selective GPA Calculation

This is how the admissions committee will calculate your GPA:

- They will use your grades from: Engl 120, Comm 110, Soc 110 or Anth 111, and Psyc 111
- AS WELL AS your best 11 science credits.
- Calculate it on your own here: http://gpacalculator.net/college-gpa-calculator/
  - Input the number of credits the course is and your grade.
- We don’t use “+’s” or “-’s”
Application Process- Checklist

Use this checklist when completing your application:

- Read all application instructions thoroughly!
- Ensure you are admitted to NDSU and have pre-nursing declared as your major
- Complete Online Application (on nursing website).
  - Attach essay and resume to application
- Two completed professional references.
  - When you submit your application, your references will receive an email with a link to an electronic reference form.
- Application fee of $50 paid online through NDSU Marketplace.
  - Link provided within application
- Certified Background Check completion
  - Link provided within application. There is a $50 fee, this is separate from the application fee.
- Ensure all transcripts from schools other than NDSU are on file with Registration and Records
  - They do not need to be sent directly to the nursing department
Application Process

- Application and instructions for completion will be posted on the nursing website
  - [https://www.ndsu.edu/nursing/bsn_track/application_to_bsn_track/](https://www.ndsu.edu/nursing/bsn_track/application_to_bsn_track/)

- You will also receive an email when the application is posted.

- Please thoroughly read the application instructions prior to beginning the application

- Make sure all materials are submitted by **APRIL 20th**

- Contact Jane in the nursing office if you have questions regarding your application submission 701-231-7395
Application Process-Essay

- You will be asked to write an essay as part of your online application.
- The questions are different every year and are posted within the nursing application.
- The essays are graded by nursing professors on the admissions committee. They’re looking for your ability to answer the questions and your ability to write a GOOD paper (grammar, spelling, sentence structure, etc).
Application Process-Essay

TIPS:

- Utilize the Center for Writers!!
  https://www.ndsu.edu/cfwriters/

- Answer the questions specifically. Use examples when possible.

- Relate any experience you have to the questions and your ability to succeed in the nursing program (ex: captain of HS basketball team, server at a restaurant, nurse aide, etc..)

- Pre-nursing advisors and faculty are not able to review any essays
Application Process - References

- Who should I ask to be a reference for me?
  - Think about who knows you well and your ability to succeed in the program
  - They should be professional, not personal, references.
  - Past teachers, coaches, counselors, managers, professors, etc.
  - No relatives or friends
  - References do not have to be in the healthcare field
Application Process- Bismarck Site

- NDSU School of Nursing has two locations: Fargo and Bismarck

- On your application, you can choose to apply to “Fargo” “Bismarck” or “Either”

- By selecting “Either” you will first be evaluated for admission at your preferred site and if not accepted, you will be evaluated for admission at the other site.

- By selecting “Either” you must be okay with attending all class and clinical in Bismarck for the entire duration of the program (3 years).

- There is not an option to transfer between the sites once accepted into the program.
What should I do if I’m not accepted?

- Make an appointment to meet with your academic advisor.
- We are available in the summer and are more than willing to meet with you.
- You should be enrolled in your back up plan for fall.
- You have options:
  - You can reapply in the fall (for spring admission)
  - You can retake courses in the fall or spring and reapply next spring (for fall admission) *See slide on retaking courses
  - There are other routes to earning a BSN that we can discuss
Retaking Courses

- Some students choose to retake courses to improve their selective GPA.
- You are limited to THREE retakes of prerequisite courses.
- Choose wisely and discuss with your advisor before doing so.
- Courses taken at NDSU must be retaken at NDSU for the retaken grade to count.
Declaring a Minor

If you choose a minor, declare it by completing the “Major/Minor/Adviser Change Form” on Bison Connection https://www.ndsu.edu/bisonconnection/forms/

Common minors include (but are not limited to):

- Human Development and Family Science
- Psychology
- Strategic (Health) Communication
- Wellness
- Gerontology
- Sociology

More information on each minor can be found here:
https://www.ndsu.edu/nursing/prenurs_advise/minors/
Thank you!

We appreciate you taking the time to review this presentation.

We hope it gave you answers to some of your questions and made you feel more prepared for enrollment and the application process.

See you at group advising!

-Keshia & Amanda-