

# BOISE STATE UNIVERSITY

## Department of Nursing

As a premier school of nursing, Boise State University is recognized throughout the Northwest for excellence in undergraduate and graduate nursing education and a commitment to service. Our mission/vision is strongly committed to building an academic community of excellence that values diversity. Our program prepares students to become leaders in nursing, ready to provide caring, holistic and quality nursing services to diverse populations. In addition, students will have opportunities for international exchange and access to faculty who have a background in international research and travel.

### Mission

The Department of Nursing, an integral unit of the College of Health Sciences, provides effective and efficient service to the community through a quality multi-faceted nursing educational program. Our mission is to foster intellectual development and excellence in nursing education through teaching, learning, scholarship and service.

### Philosophy of Nursing

Nursing is the art, science, and discipline of caring for people through the promotion, maintenance, and restoration of health and wholeness across the life span. The essence of nursing involves communication, critical thinking, collaboration, caring, education, advocacy, ethical behavior, and a commitment to life-long learning. Nurses contribute collaboratively and independently to quality client care, education, research, and responsible resource stewardship. Nurses practice in a variety of roles and settings where nursing roles are determined by education and appropriate competencies.

### Department of Nursing Curriculum Statement

The curriculum is organized to facilitate student learning. The beginning courses provide a foundation for the nursing major. Course content and learning experiences progress from the individual to the family and community, from simple to complex, from faculty-directed to student-directed learning, and from theory to application. Our faculty design and facilitate experiences to guide students to integrate theoretical concepts with practice, foster a spirit of inquiry, and expand critical thinking in nursing. This design enables students to acquire attitudes, cognition, and the essential skills needed to develop behaviors that comprise the professional nursing role.

Three integral components are interwoven across the nursing curriculum: Engagement, Experiential Education, and Global Worldview.



## - Bachelors of Science, Nursing -

### Why get a Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing?

There are many ways to obtain the education required to prepare for licensure as a registered nurse; a diploma through a hospital (not offered in Idaho), an associate degree, or a baccalaureate degree. We hope you choose to begin your career in nursing with a baccalaureate degree. If however you choose to obtain an associate degree in nursing as your entry level degree, please continue on with your education to complete your baccalaureate degree. Baccalaureate prepared nurses are prepared to practice in all health care settings. Completion of your baccalaureate degree will not only bring you personal satisfaction, it will also open professional doors you will find closed to associate degree graduates.

### The First Step for a Career in Professional Nursing

The Bachelor of Science degree in nursing is the first step for a career in professional nursing. The American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN), American Organization of Nurse Executives (AONE), American Nurses Association (ANA) and other leading nursing organizations recognize the BS degree as the minimum educational requirement for professional nursing practice. While you can begin practice as an RN with an associate degree or hospital diploma, the BS degree is essential for nurses seeking to move up the career ladder and provide a higher level of quality care. The BS prepared nurse is the only basic nursing graduate prepared to practice in all health care settings -- critical care, ambulatory care, public health, leadership, and mental health -- and thus has the greatest employment flexibility of any entry-level RN. The BS curriculum includes a broad spectrum of scientific, critical-thinking, humanistic, communication, and leadership skills, including specific courses on community health nursing not typically included in diploma or associate-degree programs.

[http://www.aacn.nche.edu/Education/nurse\\_ed/career.htm](http://www.aacn.nche.edu/Education/nurse_ed/career.htm)

### Hallmarks of a Baccalaureate Education

Hallmarks of a baccalaureate education include, but are not limited to:

- A liberal education, with a focus on professional values, core competencies, core knowledge and role development (American Association of Colleges of Nursing, 1998)
- Positive attitudes towards life-long learning
- Pathways for advancement for registered nurses/licensed practical nurses to obtain baccalaureate education
- A foundation for graduate education
- A grounding in professional theory
- Emphasis on evidence-based practice and research
- An emphasis on teaching/learning in person/client care
- Skills and knowledge to meet the needs of diverse populations
- Faculty roles of advisor, resource person, facilitator, and professional role model  
Student roles of peer mentor and future professional mentor

### Providing a Solid Base

A baccalaureate degree in nursing provides students with a solid base in the humanities and sciences through pre-requisite classes. At Boise State University, these courses are in the first 3 semesters and are taken before a student is actually accepted into the nursing program. In the 5 semesters of nursing school, the curriculum focuses on the science of nursing where students receive education in the classroom as well as in health care facilities in the Treasure Valley area. The nursing program is based on five integral concepts: Clinical Reasoning and Critical Inquiry, Communication, Experiential Learning, Global Worldview, and Professionalism and Leadership. Course content includes nursing leadership, health promotion, family health, mental health, environmental health, adult and pediatric care, medical and surgical care, psychiatric care, and public/community health, management. Students learn theory, as well as clinical skills.

## - Masters Program in Population Health -

### Nursing Education

Nursing education is transforming to address the need for professional nurses who will practice at the most advanced level. American Association of Colleges of Nursing (2004, 2006) recommends that nurses practicing at the highest level should receive preparation that includes expansion of scientific knowledge, knowledge of complex health care systems and a focus on population health. In order to meet the demands for advanced nursing practice in Idaho, Boise State University Department of Nursing has implemented a Master's Program focused on Population Health Nursing.

### What is Population Health?

Population Health Nursing is the practice of advanced nursing skills and knowledge to assist and partner with populations in promoting health, preventing disease and addressing health inequities. This practice is guided by the population's identified determinants of health and results in outcomes ranging from relevant policymaking with improved health status to optimal well being.

### Program Highlights

The Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) and Master of Nursing (MN) programs are designed to prepare graduates with advanced knowledge and skills in the nursing care of populations. The areas of graduates' in-depth competencies include:

- Population Health
- Leadership
- Health Care Finance
- Research Methods and Applications
- Population Assessment
- Epidemiology, Statistics, Biostatistics

Graduates have the ability to apply theories and frameworks from nursing and related disciplines to design, plan, implement, and evaluate population health programs. BSU nursing graduate students work with communities to determine assets and needs while applying evidence-based practice. Their expertise can be utilized in settings ranging from the community to acute care to education. Our graduates impact the health of populations through education, health policy and system changes.

### Nursing is a Dynamic Practice Discipline

BSU Master prepared nurses will use their expertise to improve health care across Idaho and other regions. Examples of projects already being developed include:

- Health policy development to improve physical education in Idaho schools
- Development of community strategies to increase the use of mammography across the Treasure Valley
- Assessment of the health needs of Somali Bantu to improve health care access
- Development of innovative strategies to improve clinical education opportunities for nursing students



## Student Testimonials



**Melissa Gorozpe**  
Department of Nursing  
7th Semester

My name is Melissa Gorozpe. Currently I am a 7th semester student in the Boise State Nursing Program. I am looking forward to graduating with my baccalaureate degree in nursing in Spring 2009. My experience here at Boise State University has been very special to me. I have learned so much from my peers, my professors, and believe it or not from myself. Since being in the nursing program I have spoken about the career of nursing at the annual event "Mirando Adelante". Throughout my studies I have worked toward increasing the number of Latino nursing students. I believe it is important to have bicultural and bilingual nurses. Currently I work as a nurse and I use ability to speak Spanish and English consistently. I can not stress enough that "Si Se Puede/ It can be done".



**Annabeth Elliott**  
Department of Nursing  
Masters Student

The program has changed my perspective of accountability and responsibility. I feel more politically and socially responsible - as well as motivated to be a leader among my colleagues. I ferret out the facts and truth more and think deeply about global and social issues. I feel obligated to keep up on career events and attend forums about city planning and vulnerable populations, such as the homeless and minority populations."

## 2008- 2009 Fees

### Bachelor of Science, Nursing

	Course Fees	Books & Equipment	Professional Fee	Uniforms & Equipment	Total Per Semester
Semester 1	\$2,835	\$300			\$3,135
Semester 2	\$2,835	\$300			\$3,135
Semester 3	\$2,835	\$300			\$3,135
Semester 4	\$2,835	\$1,000	\$425	\$300	\$4,560
Semester 5	\$2,835	\$200	\$425		\$3,460
Semester 6	\$2,835	\$150	\$425		\$3,410
Semester 7	\$2,835	\$75	\$425		\$3,335
Semester 8	\$2,835	\$75	\$425		\$3,335
Grand Total for BS Degree = \$27,505					

### Master of Science, Nursing

Part-Time Program <8 Credits	Credits	Course Fees Resident	Course Fees Non-Res	Professional Fees	Books	Total Per Semester
Semester 1	7	\$1,995	\$2,520	\$250	\$300	\$2,545 / \$3,070
Semester 2	6	\$1,710	\$2,160	\$250	\$300	\$2,260 / \$2,710
Semester 3	7	\$1,995	\$2,520	\$250	\$300	\$2,545 / \$3,070
Semester 4	7	\$1,995	\$2,520	\$250	\$300	\$2,545 / \$3,070
Semester 5	6	\$1,710	\$2,160	\$250	\$300	\$2,260 / \$2,710
Semester 6	6	\$1,710	\$2,160	\$250	\$300	\$2,260 / \$2,710
Grand Total for MS/MSN Degree = \$14,415 (Resident)    \$17,340 (Non-Resident)						

Part-Time Resident graduate per-credit fee = \$285

Part-Time Nonresident graduate per-credit fee = \$360



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