THE STUDY OF NURSING prepares and educates students to become professional nurse leaders who can meet the health care needs of diverse populations in an ever-changing and highly technical environment. Students learn important critical thinking skills vital to professional judgment and ethical/moral decision making, and a unified holistic approach to providing thoughtful, compassionate and competent professional care to patients.

Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN)

The Xavier Advantage:

► Study with expert, experienced nursing faculty with specialties ranging from epidemiology and natural health to gerontology and occupational health.

► Be prepared to serve diverse populations by developing cultural competence through such innovative programs as the Hispanic Focus.

► Benefit from state-of-the-art clinical simulation laboratories that provide a simulated learning environment; and take advantage of valuable internships and practicum experiences.

► Choose to become certified as a holistic nurse: The School of Nursing is one of only 13 nursing schools in the nation with an endorsement from the American Holistic Nurses’ Certification Corporation.

Xavier nursing graduates go on to:

► Community health, school and occupational health programs
► Hospitals, home care, rehabilitation services and hospice
► Government, insurance and marketing
► Graduate programs for clinical nurse leaders, advanced nurse practitioners or educators

Learn more  www.xavier.edu/nursing
Ask us  xuadmit@xavier.edu
Visit campus  www.xavier.edu/visit
THE PROGRAM

The School of Nursing offers the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree, which students can complete in four years. Following successful completion, students are qualified to sit for the registered nurse licensure examination (NCLEX-RN). Once students receive their RN license, graduates of Xavier’s BSN program are eligible to sit for the holistic nurse certification examination (HN).

Important admission information: The School of Nursing has a limited number of spaces each year in the undergraduate nursing class. Admission is competitive. In fact, because the nursing major is so popular, and available spaces are limited, the school may place interested students on a waitlist for enrollment in the program. It is advisable to apply early and indicate nursing as the intended major. For more information on admission requirements, visit www.xavier.edu/undergraduate-admission/admission-process.

The outstanding nursing faculty has many years of experience in nursing and education. Faculty doctoral areas of study include nursing, epidemiology and natural health. Many faculty members hold specialized certificates in clinical nurse leader, community health, family nursing, gerontology and occupational health. Faculty members challenge students, but they also provide them with support and personal attention. Most courses, especially in the clinical courses, have eight or fewer students each section, enabling regular interaction.

The School of Nursing is located in the Cohen Center, which houses several academic departments, classrooms, lounge areas and a computer lab. State-of-the-art clinical simulation laboratories supplement the student’s clinical experiences by providing a creative high-tech learning environment. Using human patient simulators, students practice critical thinking and develop problem-solving skills and self-confidence by participating in challenging simulation scenarios.

BSN-MSN Honors Program: Students enrolled in the BSN program have the opportunity to complete a Master of Science in Nursing within five years. Students may apply for admission to the BSN-MSN Honors program in the fall semester of senior year. Accepted students begin two graduate courses in spring semester of senior year.

INTERNSHIPS & PRACTICUM

Students are in practicum placements from six to 12 hours per week, depending on the semester, and totaling 900 clinical contact hours at the end of the four-year program. A variety of hospitals and community-based health care agencies are used for practicum experiences. Xavier maintains agency agreements with more than 30 agencies in the Greater Cincinnati area.

Many hospitals offer internship/educational experiences in the summer to students who have completed their junior year. The internship can provide up to an additional 400 clinical contact hours and is designed to provide students with additional socialization into the nursing profession and clinical nursing practice in one of the following areas: medical-surgical nursing, psychiatric care, emergency care, critical care, obstetrics, pediatrics and perioperative care. Xavier students are encouraged to participate in these experiences. Internships approved by the School of Nursing may be substituted for the nursing elective (three semester hours).

OUTCOMES

By the year 2020, there will be an estimated shortage of 800,000 nurses nationwide, according to the Bureau of Health Professions. Among the factors driving the demand for nurses are a rapidly growing population with complex health care needs and an accelerated pace of medical advances.

Xavier’s rigorous BSN program prepares students for success on the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX-RN) and holistic certification examination. Xavier nursing graduates find meaningful, challenging and rewarding positions in the field of nursing throughout the nation.

Opportunities for BSN graduates include:
- Practicing nursing in community health, school and occupational health programs, hospitals, home care, rehabilitation services, hospice and the armed forces, as well as working in government, insurance, marketing, sales, research or counseling.
- Advancing to graduate programs to become clinical nurse leaders, advanced nurse practitioners and/or educators. Clinical nurse leaders are advanced generalists, while advanced practice nurses are specialists in a variety of areas including nursing midwifery, neonatal nursing and nurse anesthetist. Many advanced practice nurses engage in health policy formation activities at the local, state, national and international level.
- Pursuing doctoral study in nursing and contributing through rigorous research to the body of knowledge required to provide health care, as well as practicing in health care settings and/or teaching nursing in institutions of higher education.

Nursing students incur expenses related to a range of items required for participation in practicum experiences including the cost for liability insurance through Xavier University. Students are also responsible for providing their own transportation to and from all practicum experiences. Since practicum courses are limited to eight, students often carpool to their practicum experiences.

THE HISPANIC FOCUS

The Hispanic Focus is a unique elective course of study within the four-year bachelor degree program in nursing, offering interdisciplinary courses and selected nursing assignments intended to enhance the student’s understanding of, and nursing practice with, Hispanic peoples. It is open to all undergraduate nursing students and is designed to meet the health care needs of the increasing Hispanic population in Greater Cincinnati. Learn more at www.xavier.edu/nursing/Hispanic-Focus.cfm.

THE SCHOOL OF NURSING

The School of Nursing prepares professional nurses to meet the health care needs of diverse populations in an ever-changing highly technical health care environment. Xavier nursing graduates are widely recognized as holistic leaders in health care
Xavier offers various graduate degree program opportunities, including:

- **Master of Science in Nursing (MSN):** With concentrations in administration, clinical nurse leader, education, family nurse practitioner, forensics, health care law, informatics and school nursing. The Direct Entry as Second Degree (MIDAS) program is a 20-month, full-time program of study designed for individuals who have an undergraduate degree in a field other than nursing and who desire to be licensed registered nurses.

- **Post-Master’s Certificate programs:** Clinical Nurse Leader and Family Nurse Practitioner.

- **MSN/MBA:** A nursing administration and business dual-degree program with the Williams College of Business.

- **MSN/MEd:** A nursing education and education dual-degree program with the School of Education.

- **MSN/MSCJ:** A nursing forensics and criminal justice dual-degree program with the Department of Criminal Justice.

Xavier’s BSN and Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) programs are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE), the premier accrediting agency for baccalaureate and graduate nursing programs.

The School of Nursing recently received renewed endorsement from the American Holistic Nurses’ Certification Corporation of all its programs including, for the first time, the MSN degree. Xavier is one of only 13 nursing schools in the nation to have this endorsement, which will be up for renewal in 2016. Endorsement entitles all undergraduate and pre- and post-licensure graduate nursing students to take the holistic nursing examination and be certified as holistic nurses.

### CORE CURRICULUM

The foundation of Xavier’s success is its commitment to its Jesuit heritage. The Core Curriculum embodies Xavier’s mission and philosophy of education and serves as a valuable foundation for all undergraduate students. Within the Core, the four-course Ethics/Religion and Society (E/RS) Focus fosters students’ understanding of socially significant issues through study of the humanities, especially literature, philosophy and theology, as well as the social and natural sciences. Along with courses in their major, Xavier students also take Core courses in: cultural diversity, English composition, fine arts, foreign language, history, literature, mathematics, philosophy, science, social science and theology.

### ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

#### Core Curriculum:
Minimum 64 credit hours

#### Major in nursing:
62 credit hours in major courses. A minimum of 132 credit hours is required for the degree. Freshmen enrolled in the Xavier nursing program must have a cumulative grade point average of 2.70 to begin sophomore-level nursing courses. Students also must maintain a cumulative 2.70 grade point average from their sophomore year through their senior year to remain in the program. It is important for a prospective nursing student to know that a past felony or misdemeanor conviction related to drugs may disqualify him/her from taking the state licensure examination (as outlined in Section 4723.28 of the Ohio Revised Code).