

**COLLEGE OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS  
SCHOOL OF NURSING  
BSN ACADEMIC POLICIES**

**THE POLICIES AND INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS HANDBOOK ARE FOR THE NURSING STUDENTS ADMITTED TO THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING IN THE 2011-2012 ACADEMIC YEAR. THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING (BSN) PROGRAM RESERVES THE RIGHT TO WITHDRAW OR CHANGE POLICIES LISTED IN THIS HANDBOOK. CHANGES WILL BECOME EFFECTIVE WHENEVER THE PROPER AUTHORITIES SO DETERMINE. NURSING STUDENTS AFFECTED WILL BE NOTIFIED.**

**DEFINITION OF TERMS**

**PREREQUISITE** (PR): Defined as a course that **must** be satisfactorily completed **prior** to admission into a specified course.

**PREREQUISITE (PR) OR CONCURRENT** (CC): Defined as a course that must be satisfactorily completed **prior to**, or taken **concurrently with**, a specified course.

**SATISFACTORY COMPLETION:** For required non-nursing courses and/or nursing courses this is defined as a grade of "C" or higher.

1. The School of Nursing reserves the right to require withdrawal from nursing of any student whose health, academic record, clinical performance, or behavior in nursing is judged unsatisfactory or potentially unsafe.
2. In order to progress and remain in the nursing program, students must maintain an **cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.3 or higher**. A student whose overall GPA falls below 2.3 will be given a maximum of one (1) semester (fall or spring) to raise the overall (GPA) to 2.3 or higher. During this period, classes taken during summer school would count toward the GPA, but the term would not be counted as the one semester. If the GPA remains below 2.3 at the end of the one semester probationary period, the student will be **dismissed** from the School of Nursing.  
**Example 1: A student's GPA falls below 2.3 at the end of the fall semester.** That student may take classes in both the spring and summer terms to raise his/her GPA which **must** be a 2.3 or higher at the end of the last summer term.  
**Example 2: A student's GPA falls below 2.3 at the end of the spring semester.** That student may take classes in summer school and fall to raise his/her GPA which **must** be a 2.3 or higher at the end of the fall semester.
3. **All basic nursing students must complete the required freshman classes with a "C" or higher and maintain a 2.3 or higher cumulative grade point average to progress into the sophomore year. Students who do not satisfactorily complete these requirements, according to their program plan, will be withdrawn from the Bachelor of Science in Nursing Program. Students unable to progress into the sophomore level must reapply for admission.**
4. All required nursing and required non-nursing courses must be completed with a "C" or higher. Students who earn a grade of less than "C" in a required non-nursing course **must** repeat that course. **All freshman and sophomore non-nursing courses must be completed with a "C" or higher before progressing into junior level nursing courses.** Each nursing course must be completed with a grade of "C" or higher to be considered satisfactory. **If a student earns a grade of less than "C" in a nursing course, that course must be repeated. A petition to repeat the course must be submitted to the chairman of the Admission, Progression and Graduation Committee within 2 weeks of receiving the failing grade. Repeating any nursing course is on a space available basis. Students may repeat only one required nursing course in which a grade of less than "C" is earned. Students receiving a second D or F in a required nursing course will be withdrawn**

- from the program.**
5. All students who receive a grade of less than "C" in a nursing or required non-nursing course may not progress into nursing courses for which that course is prerequisite.
  6. A passing grade earned by CLEP or departmental challenge exams in non-nursing courses will be accepted.
  7. **Students who are deemed “unsafe” or “irresponsible” in clinical practice will be dismissed from the program.**
  8. Students who find it necessary for any reason to withdraw from a nursing course must abide by the BSN Program withdrawal policy as stated in this handbook.
  9. No more than nine (9) hours of electives may be taken on a credit/non-credit basis.
  10. The grading scale is standard throughout all nursing courses. Students must obtain a “C” average on course exams in order to pass the course. If students obtain less than a “C” average on exams, the final grade of “D” or “F” will be derived solely from the exam grades; and grades from other work will not be considered. The grades will be based on the weight of each exam.
  11. All required nursing courses in the undergraduate program, Basic and RN Option, must be completed within five (5) years prior to graduation from the program. The five-year period starts from the time the first nursing course is taken.
  12. **All prerequisites for nursing courses are strictly enforced.** Students will be denied permission to enroll in any course for which they do not have the prerequisite or concurrent courses.
  13. **Credits and grades from developmental courses are not calculated toward graduation requirements.**
  14. All students will be required to take nationally normed exams throughout the curriculum and to make satisfactory scores on such exams. Please see NCLEX Success Program; Policy for HESI exams in this handbook.

**IN ORDER TO GRADUATE, THE MARSHALL UNIVERSITY GRADE POINT AVERAGE MUST BE A 2.0. UNIVERSITY POLICIES AND THE STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT ARE PUBLISHED IN THE MARSHALL UNIVERSITY STUDENT HANDBOOK. THESE POLICIES WILL BE ADHERED TO BY STUDENTS IN THE SCHOOL OF NURSING. THIS INFORMATION CAN BE ACCESSED VIA MARSHALL UNIVERSITY’S WEBSITE.**

Approved SON 04/22/02  
Revised 05/15/02  
Revised 02/27/06