

THE SCHOOL OF NURSING AND HEALTH PROFESSIONS

PROGRAMS

Nursing
Health Sciences
Radiologic Technology
Respiratory Care

CONTACTING THE SCHOOL

The School of Nursing and Health Professions is located in AHC 303 and may be reached during business hours by telephone at 859-572-5248. Interested persons are invited to browse the school's web site at www.nku.edu/~nhp.

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Annie Dollins, *assistant chair*
Louise M. Niemer, *director, bachelor of science in nursing program*
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RESPIRATORY CARE FACULTY

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DEGREES OFFERED BY THE SCHOOL OF NURSING AND HEALTH PROFESSIONS

Associate Degrees

Applied Science

Radiologic Technology
Respiratory Care

Bachelor's Degrees

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Traditional Four-Year Nursing Program
Degree Completion Program for Registered Nurses
Accelerated Program for Second Degree Students

Bachelor of Science in Health Science

Graduate Programs (see *Graduate Catalog* for information)

Master of Science in Nursing

Nursing Administration
Primary Care Nurse Practitioner
Nursing Education

SCHOOL ACCREDITATION/AFFILIATIONS

Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology
Committee on Accreditation for Respiratory Care
National League for Nursing Accreditation Commission

SCHOOL-WIDE PRE-MAJOR AND SELECTIVE ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

See individual departments section for specific admission requirements.

SCHOOL-WIDE GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

See individual departments section for specific admission requirements.

STUDENT PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS/ ORGANIZATIONS

Kentucky Association of Nursing Students
Radiologic Technology Student Club
Lambda Beta Society (National Honor Society for Respiratory Care)
Rho Theta, (Sigma Theta Tau International Nursing Honor Society)

SCHOOL POLICIES

The school reserves the right to change the program of study as needed to fulfill state approval and national certification. These include: National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC) 61 Broadway, New York, NY 10006, Kentucky Board of Nursing, Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology (JRCERT), the Committee for Accreditation for Respiratory Care (COARC), and/or University requirements.

BACCALAUREATE DEGREE PROGRAMS IN NURSING Traditional Four-Year Baccalaureate Nursing Degree Program

The curriculum of the baccalaureate degree program (BSN) is based on concepts and theories of nursing, liberal arts, and the sciences. The nursing process is incorporated throughout the curriculum. Carefully planned clinical experiences are an integral part of each nursing course, beginning in the second semester and continuing throughout the four years.

Hospitals and health care agencies in northern Kentucky and greater Cincinnati serve as clinical practice settings during day and evening hours.

Graduates of the program are prepared to function as a provider of care, a manager of care, and a member of the discipline of nursing. They use critical thinking, communication, and technical skills in providing care to individuals and families. Knowledge is specific and factual and can be applied directly to practice.

Graduates are awarded the degree of Bachelor of Science in Nursing and are eligible to apply to take the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN) and to continue their education at the masters and doctoral levels.

Accreditation

The program is approved by the Kentucky Board of Nursing, Suite 300, 312 Whittington Parkway, Louisville, KY 40222-5172; phone 502-329-7000 and is accredited by the National League for Nursing Accreditation Commission (NLNAC), 61 Broadway, New York, NY 10006; phone 212-363-5555.

Applicants please note: The Kentucky Board of Nursing has regulations regarding previous felony and misdemeanor convictions that must be addressed prior to sitting for the licensure examination. Background checks may be required for some clinical placements.

Pre-Major and Selective Admission Requirements

Upon completion of all required developmental coursework, students enrolled in the University may declare the pre-nursing baccalaureate as their major. Students majoring in pre-nursing will be advised by a member of the nursing faculty to help them develop a plan for nursing education at Northern. Pre-nursing students may enroll in courses that fulfill pre-admission requirements and general education and/or in support courses required for the baccalaureate degree nursing program. However, students must be admitted to the nursing program in order to take courses in nursing. Students enrolled in courses as a pre-nursing major should declare (XNRS) as their major.

Admission Requirements

Advanced Standing for Licensed Practical Nurses

Application may be made for advanced standing in the baccalaureate degree program by licensed practical nurses who have been accepted into the program. Credit for NRS 104, NRS 104L, and NRS 196 will be considered.

The licensed practical nurse must have completed a practical nursing program within the past four years or be actively employed as a LPN.

Testing dates for advanced standing may be obtained by contacting the Department. An advanced standing examination may be taken only once. Students can challenge NRS 105.

All students are required to complete the last 30 semester hours of the major at Northern Kentucky University.

Applicants who apply by February 1 are applying to begin his/her first nursing courses the following January. Applicants who apply by October 1 are applying to begin his/her first nursing courses the following August.

Applicants wishing to be *considered* for admission must

1. be admitted to Northern Kentucky University; any restrictions or stipulations must be removed;
2. submit a baccalaureate degree nursing program application (this is in addition to the University application);
3. submit official transcripts indicating completion of high school, or equivalent GED);
4. submit evidence of completion of high school biology and chemistry (or college equivalent) with a grade of *C* or better;
5. meet University pre-college requirements;
6. submit transcripts of all prior college work and nursing courses taken (including practical nursing school), if applicable;
7. achieve a minimum composite of 20 on the American College Test or a college/university grade-point average (GPA) of at least 2.5 for a minimum of 24 semester hours completed at an accredited institution; with a requisite science course with a lab.
8. submit evidence of a cumulative grade-point average (GPA) of at least 2.5 for all college/university courses completed.

Other Relevant Admission Considerations

Post-bachelor's degree applicants must meet requirements 1, 2, 4, 6 and 8 above. A license in practical nursing meets the high school biology requirements.

Previously earned college credits for the science courses required for the nursing program, i.e., BIO 202-202L, 208-208L, 209-209L, and CHE 115-115L, will be accepted only if completed with a grade of *C* or better within eight years prior to the date of admission to this program.

The American College Test (ACT) is required for those applicants with fewer than 24 semester hours from an accredited institution.

All applicants transferring from a nonaccredited institution are required to take the American College Test (ACT).

A personal interview may be requested by the Nursing Admissions/Readmissions Committee.

NKU School of Nursing and Health Professions Policy:

Student Criminal Background Check

Healthcare agencies are charged with providing care and protecting the safety of vulnerable populations including children and the aged. Agencies utilized for clinical placement require students to undergo criminal background checks and may deny clinical access to those convicted of felonies and certain misdemeanors. Conviction of these offenses may result in a student's denial of admission to, or dismissal from, the School of Nursing and Health Professions.

Applicants are required to submit to criminal background checks as identified by the School of Nursing and Health Professions as a part of the application process. The cost of this and any subsequent screening will be borne by the student. The student is responsible for notifying the School of Nursing and Health Professions of any change in the status of this record. Note that successful completion of a criminal background check does not insure eligibility for certification, licensure, or future employment.

Admitted Students

Students must

1. maintain the GPA originally required for admission;
2. submit a completed health form and immunization record prior to beginning clinical courses;
3. provide proof of CPR certification prior to beginning clinical courses;
4. purchase professional liability insurance through Northern Kentucky University (paid with tuition);
5. purchase appropriate uniforms prior to the first day of clinicals;
6. provide own transportation to clinical agencies;
7. provide proof of health insurance coverage or sign a health insurance waiver.

Transfer Students

Students previously enrolled in another NLNAC accredited program in nursing may be eligible to transfer into the nursing program at Northern.

In addition to the requirements listed above, the following apply to all transfer students:

1. Transfer students are considered on a space-available basis. Eligibility is determined by the Nursing Admission/Readmission/Promotion and Graduation Committee.
2. The following must be submitted:
 - a. A letter from the director of the previous program attended explaining the reasons for withdrawal.
 - b. Official transcripts of all college work attempted.
 - c. Syllabi of all nursing courses taken.
3. An interview may be requested by APG Committee.
4. Students requesting advanced placement in the nursing program may be required to pass a simulated clinical performance and dosage computation examination. In addition, a written theory examination may be required.
5. The last 30 semester hours of the major must be completed at Northern Kentucky University.

Progression

Students wishing to pursue the baccalaureate degree program may take the general education support courses required prior to admission to the program. However, students must be admitted to the baccalaureate degree nursing program in order to take courses in nursing.

Upon matriculation into the baccalaureate degree program, students must take the last 30 semester hours at NKU.

Students are required to complete the nursing program within eight years of the first date of admission to the program.

To continue in the nursing program, students must maintain a grade-point average of at least 2.3 and achieve a grade of C or higher in all required nursing, biology, and chemistry courses.

Students withdrawing from the nursing program for any reason must have an exit interview with the program director and/or faculty advisor, and must complete and sign a withdrawal form.

Students may repeat only one semester of nursing. If a theory component or clinical nursing course component are repeated, both must be repeated concurrently.

Students may repeat only two semesters of science courses.

Readmission

Applications for readmission to the nursing program will be considered on an individual basis. Students must submit an application for readmission to the Admissions, Progression, and Graduation Committee. A letter supporting the request for readmission must be attached to the application. This letter should outline strategies for success in the program.

Students applying for readmission may be required to have an interview with the program director and/or faculty adviser. Application forms are available from the Office of Admissions. Application must be made by February 1 for fall semester and October 1 for spring semester.

To be considered for readmission, a student reapplying to the baccalaureate degree program must have a grade-point average of 2.3 or better and be able to complete the program of study within eight years of the initial entry into the nursing program.

The faculty may state that written, specific conditions be met by the student when recommended for readmission.

A student who did not successfully complete the first semester of the nursing program must apply as a new student and meet all requirements listed under "Admission Requirements."

Students who have been dismissed from the nursing program are not eligible for readmission (see Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Program Student Handbook).

Students readmitted to the program are subject to the requirements of the catalog in effect for all nursing courses at the time of re-entry.

Student Advising

Upon admission to the nursing program, students are assigned to a faculty academic adviser and are required to meet with this adviser at least once each semester. Students are encouraged to maintain regular contact with their adviser so that progress and performance can be discussed and counseling provided as necessary.

Program of Study

Students must fulfill all requirements for the baccalaureate degree program, including required general education courses, support courses, and nursing courses.

General Education Courses (33 semester hours)

ENG 101 College Writing	3
ENG 291 Advanced College Writing	3
SPE 101 Principles of Speech Communications	3
Literature Elective	3
History Elective	3
Social Science Elective	3
Humanities Elective	3

Fine Arts Elective	3
Race and Gender Elective	3
Non Western Elective	3
300-level Elective	3

Support Courses (31 semester hours)

BIO 208/208L Human Anatomy & Physiology I	4
BIO 209/209L Human Anatomy & Physiology II	4
BIO 202-202L Microbiology for the Health Professions	4
BIO 126 Human Nutrition	3
CHE 115/115L Physiological Chemistry	4
PHI 220 Health Care Ethics	3
PSY 220 Life Span Development	3
PSY 100 Into to Psychology	3
STA 205 Introduction to Statistical Methods	3

The sequential progression of the BSN program requires that the above general education and support course requirements be taken as pre-requisites or corequisites to designated nursing courses.

Nursing Course Requirements (70 semester hours)

NRS 100L Skills Development Lab	2
NRS 196 Fundamental Med-Surg Clinical I	1
NRS 105 Pharmacology	2
NRS 204 Intermediate Medical surgical Nursing I	4
NRS 296 Intermediate Med-Surg Clinical I	4
NRS 205 Holistic Nursing Assessment	2
NRS 205L Nursing Assessment Lab	1
NRS 206 Obstetric Newborn Nursing	3
NRS 297 Obstetric Newborn Nursing Clinical	2
NRS 207 Pediatric Nursing	3
NRS 298 Pediatric Nursing Clinical	2
NRS 304 Intermediate Medical-Surgical Nursing II	3
NRS 305 Psychiatric Nursing	3
NRS 397 Psychiatric Nursing Clinical	2
NRS 306 Advanced Medical-Surgical Nursing	3
NRS 321 Professional Issues	3
NRS 332 Nursing Theory	3
NRS 396 Intermediate Medical-Surgical Clinical II	4
NRS 398 Role Transition Practicum	5
NRS 398L Role Transition Lab/seminar	1
NRS 404 Community and Public Health Nursing	3
NRS 406 Health Care Leadership	4
NRS 421 Health Care Research	3
NRS 496 Community and Public Health Nursing Clinical	4
NRS 498 Nursing Leadership Practicum	4

Bachelor of Science for Registered Nurses

The bachelor's degree program for RN's (RN-BSN) provides career mobility for the registered nurse. A substantial background in the liberal arts is an integral part of preparation for professional nursing. The upper-division curriculum blends scientific and humanistic theories with nursing theories to provide graduates with a foundation for professional nursing practice. Graduates are prepared to function in primary, secondary, and tertiary care settings and in roles that are dependent, interdependent, or independent according to the level of care required. They are able to lead and influence colleagues and co-workers for the enhancement of their knowledge and skills, thereby effecting change to promote quality nursing care for clients in any health care setting. The registered nurse to bachelor's degree program is designed to provide a foundation for higher degree programs in nursing. The online RN-BSN provides career mobility for RN's who need the high flexibility that distance education can provide. The department reserves the right to change the program of study as needed to fulfill national certification, approved by the Kentucky Board of Nursing, and/or University requirements.

Graduates are awarded the Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree.

Student Advising

All students contemplating admission to the Accelerated ABSN Program are advised to contact the director of the program to be advised regarding admission requirements. Students admitted to the ABSN Program are assigned an advisor and are expected to maintain close contact with their advisor throughout the program of study. It is the responsibility of the student to initiate at least one advising session each semester.

Admission Requirements

Admission to the ABSN Program is highly selective. Priority admission will be given to students whose academic record reflects strength in the sciences and math.

1. Graduate of an accredited college or university with a bachelors or higher degree.
2. Admitted to the University as a degree-seeking student with post-baccalaureate status without restrictions.
3. Minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 on a four-point scale.
4. Completion of the following pre-requisite courses with a grade of at least a *C*. Pre-requisites taken at another university are not considered completed until the course has been transferred to Northern Kentucky University and posted on the student's NKU transcript. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**
 - a. One full year of anatomy and physiology with labs (BIO 208, 208L, BIO 209, 209L)
 - b. Chemistry with a lab (CHE 115, 115L; or CHE 120, 120L, CHE 121, 121L.
 - c. Microbiology with lab (BIO 202, 202L)
 - d. Health Care Ethics (PHI 220; PHI 155 will be accepted as an alternative)
 - e. Nutrition (BIO 126)
 - f. Introductory Statistics (STA 205)
 - g. Growth and Development (PSY 220 or EDU 300)
5. The applicant has no grades below *C* within the past four years in any of the pre-requisite courses or any nursing course.
6. A grade of *C* or higher must be achieved in all nursing courses in order to remain in the program. Students earning a grade below *C* will be dismissed from the ABSN program.
 - a. Students that have not yet completed their degree, but wish to pursue a nursing degree after completion of their bachelor's degree in another field, may apply in the semester prior to graduation provided they meet the above criteria. Students must have a letter from their academic advisor indicating that the student will graduate prior to the semester in which they plan to start the ABSN Program.
 - b. Students who have not completed all of the pre-requisites (see below) may apply to the program when they have completed at least two natural science pre-requisite courses with a grade of *C* or better. Students with pre-requisites remaining must submit a plan to complete all pre-requisites prior to the first semester of the accelerated program. Students who have not yet completed all pre-requisites but meet other admission criteria will be accepted into the applicant pool.
 - c. A waiver to the 8-year requirement may be requested if the applicant believes he/she can demonstrate current knowledge related content of the course he/she wishes to have waived (e.g. Registered Dietician currently working as a dietician, educator teaching the course content). All requests for waivers must be made in writing to the Chair of the Admission, Progression and Graduation Committee and must accompany the application for admission with documentation of the course content.

Admission Procedure

1. Apply to the University as a degree-seeking student with post-bachelor status.
2. Declare pre-nursing as your major. (XURS)

3. Send copies of official transcripts from all colleges previously attended to the Office of Admissions, Northern Kentucky University (if applicable).
4. After receiving official notice of admission to the University as a degree-seeking student without restrictions and completion of at least two Natural Science pre-requisite courses with a grade of *C* or higher, complete a separate application for admission to the ABSN Program. On the application, check Accelerated BSN Program.
5. Include with the application your plan for completion of all pre-requisites prior to starting the ABSN Program and any requests for waivers addressed to the chair of the Admission, Progression and Graduation Committee.
6. Mail or hand deliver application to: Attention: Admission Progression and Graduation Committee, Department of Nursing, Northern Kentucky University, 303 Albright Health Center, Highland Heights, KY 41099.

Progression

1. Students admitted to the ABSN Program are subject to the program requirements of the catalog in effect at the time of entry.
2. Upon matriculation into the ABSN Program, students must take the last 30 semester hours at NKU.
3. The program of study must be completed within two years of the first date of entering the program.
4. Students are expected to progress sequentially through the nursing program.
5. In order to be eligible to enroll in a succeeding nursing course, the student is required to meet all program requirements and academic standards.
6. A grade of *C* or higher must be achieved in all nursing courses.
7. Critical skills: Students are required to show ability to perform certain basic nursing skills during each semester. Failure to demonstrate continued ability to perform these skills will provide a basis for failure of the clinical component.
8. Students must concurrently take and pass nursing courses that are co-requisites.
9. Failed nursing courses (grade below a *C*) may not be repeated in the accelerated program.

Readmission

Students who fail a nursing course in the accelerated program (grade below a *C*) are not eligible for readmission to the accelerated program. Students may apply for admission to the traditional baccalaureate program.

Applicants please note: The Kentucky Board of Nursing has regulations regarding previous convictions that must be addressed prior to sitting for the licensure examination. All felony and misdemeanor convictions must be reported when applying for licensure.

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN HEALTH SCIENCE

The Bachelor of Science in Health Science (BHS) degree is an interdisciplinary program that provides an opportunity for health professionals to enhance their knowledge and skills, improving the possibility for career mobility. This degree program is designed for those individuals who have earned an associate degree or are completing their professional coursework in a clinically-based approved allied health discipline and want to expand their education. Because a strong background in liberal arts is an integral part of preparation for advanced careers, the curriculum is flexible and broad-based, with electives in psychology, sociology, aging, management, communication, advanced imaging, and respiratory care. In addition to promoting the "team concept" in health care, the curriculum prepares graduates for a variety of positions at health related organizations, including administration, management, and advanced clinical prac-

tice. The upper division courses blend technical and humanistic theories to provide graduates with a foundation for advanced positions in the respective discipline. Through enhanced knowledge and skills, graduates will be able to lead and influence colleagues and co-workers in the advancement of their professions.

Program Admission:

Prior to enrolling in major courses, students must be accepted to NKU and to the health science program. This is a two-part process that requires submission of both the University and Program applications. Students currently enrolled in a second year of the RAD or RSP program at NKU are eligible to declare the major in Health Science and have a double major, RAD or RSP and HSCI or ZHSC.

Academic Requirements:

To be eligible for admission to the Health Science Program, students must meet the following criteria:

1. Possess an earned associate degree in a clinically-based, health care discipline.*
2. Be currently registered in their discipline.
3. Possess a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale.
4. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of anatomy and physiology with a grade of "C" or better in Human Anatomy & Physiology I and II.

*Students enrolled in the second year of the RAD or RSP program at NKU may be conditionally accepted; documentation of certification must be submitted no later than 6 months after completing the associate degree.

Admission Process: Interested students must:

1. Be admitted to Northern Kentucky University; students may complete the application process online at www.nku.edu, declaring the appropriate major, HSCI for on-campus courses or ZHSC for the online program. Current students may declare the major by downloading the change of major form from the Registrar's page on the NKU website and forwarding that form to the program director.
2. Submit the following documents to the Office of Admissions:
 - a. Official transcript verifying completion of an appropriate associate degree.*
 - b. Official transcripts of all postsecondary work completed.
3. Submit a Health Science Program application to the School of Nursing and Health Professions; this form may be downloaded from the NKU website. Deadline for submission of applications and transfer transcripts:

August 1 for fall semester
December 1 for spring semester
May 1 for summer term
4. Submit a copy of the card verifying current registration (e.g. RT(R) or RRC) with the appropriate agency to the Health Science Program.

*Students entering the University with a certificate of program completion in either radiologic technology or respiratory care must complete the associate degree requirements for either the Radiologic Technology Program or the Respiratory Care Program at NKU and should contact the director of the relevant program for specific details.

Academic Requirements

To be eligible for admission to the Health Science program, students must meet the following criteria:

1. Possess a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale.
2. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of anatomy and physiology with a grade of C or better in Human Anatomy and

Physiology I and II.

Transfer Students

Graduates of associate degree programs in a clinically-based health care discipline must:

1. Be admitted to Northern Kentucky University.
2. Be registered in their discipline.
3. Submit a copy of the card certifying registration with the appropriate certification body to the School of Nursing and Health Professions.
4. Submit the following documents to the Office of Admissions:
 - a. Official transcripts verifying completion of an appropriate associate degree.
 - b. Official transcripts of all postsecondary work completed.

*Graduates of certificate programs must complete an associate degree program and should contact the relevant program director for more information.

Criminal Background Check:

Students planning to complete clinical practica as electives must submit to criminal background checks as previously described in the introduction to the School of Nursing and Health Professions.

Advanced Standing:

Healthcare practitioners who have completed professional coursework, earning a certificate, and subsequently passing the national board exam in either radiologic technology or respiratory care will be eligible for advanced placement and may receive credit for professional courses in the appropriate discipline. Students may need to complete additional courses to fulfill University graduation requirements.

Student Advising:

Upon admission to the Health Science program, students are assigned to a faculty advisor who will assist in developing an appropriate course of study. Students are encouraged to contact their advisor each semester to discuss progress, performance and career goals. An additional per credit hour fee is added to the tuition for online courses.

Expenses:

In addition to usual university tuition, fees, and textbooks, students completing advanced clinical practica may be responsible for costs related to updating immunizations, CPR certification, professional liability insurance, and criminal background checks.

Course of Study

The Health Science program includes 30 hours of interdisciplinary and discipline-specific coursework and completion of the NKU bachelor degree requirements in general education and 300/400 level coursework.

For students enrolled in the second year of the RAD or RSP program at NKU, a limited number of upper-level courses may be completed. Advanced-level courses may have discipline-specific pre-requisites that restrict students from enrolling; pre-requisites and co-requisites are listed in the course descriptions of the *University Catalog*.

Students must have an earned associate degree in a clinically-based discipline, as this serves as an embedded minor and fulfills the minor requirement for the University. Students who submit documentation of certification/registry with a national credentialing organization may be eligible to earn advanced standing. Additional courses may need to be completed to attain the minimum 128 semester hours required by the University for a bachelor's degree.

The Bachelor of Science in Health Science degree is awarded after completion of all Health Science and University requirements.

General Education Requirements (50 semester hours):
ENG 101 College Writing

ENG 291 Advanced College Writing	3
CMST 101 Public Speaking	3
STA 205 Introduction to Statistical Methods <i>or</i> STA 212 Statistics for Business Applications	3
BIO 208 and L* Human Anatomy & Physiology I and Lab	4
BIO 209 and L* Human Anatomy & Physiology II and Lab	4
HIS XXX General Education Elective	3
ENG 2XX General Education Literature Elective	3
Humanities Electives*	6
Fine Arts Elective	3
Behavioral Science Electives*	6
Social Science Elective	3
Non-western Elective	3
Race/Gender Elective	3

Semester Total 14

Semester 2

BHS 410 Healthcare Management	3
BHS 490 Seminar	1
LDR 382 Organizational Change	3
Gerontology Elective	3
Electives	6
Semester Total	16

*Students who have not fulfilled their bachelor's degree general studies requirements prior to their last year will have additional courses to complete.

* Students are encouraged to complete PSY 100, SOC 100, and PHI 155 or 220 to meet pre-requisite requirements for upper level electives in the Health Science core.

Core Curriculum (30) semester hours)

BHS/NRS 105 Pharmacology	2
BHS 410 Healthcare Management	3
BHS 460 Advanced Patient Care	3
BHS 490 Seminar	1
LDR 382 Organizational Change	3
BHS 421 Research	3
<i>Career Focused REquirement (choose 1)</i>	3
RAD 310 ⁽¹⁾ Advanced Radiographic Anatomy	
RSP 441 ⁽²⁾ Disease Management I	
INF 335 Introduction to Health Informatics	
<i>Gerontology Requirement (choose 1)</i>	3
BHS/NRS 413 Aging in Today's Society	
SOC 342 Sociology of Aging	
HSR 306 Introduction to Gerontology	
<i>Electives: (choose 3)</i>	9
RAD 450 ⁽¹⁾ Advanced Imaging Pathology	
RAD 470 ⁽¹⁾ Advanced Imaging	
RAD 496 ⁽¹⁾ Advanced Imaging Practicum (may be repeated)	
RSP 442 ⁽²⁾ Disease Management II	
RSP 451 ⁽²⁾ Polysomnography I	
RSP 452 ⁽²⁾ Polysomnography II	
RSP 496 ⁽²⁾ Clinical Practicum VI	
HSR 314 Death, Dying & Grief	
LDR 315 Personnel Management	
LDR 308 Leadership in Organizations	
PHI 302 Ethics & Science	
PSY 333 Abnormal Psychology	
PSY 405 Counseling Psychology	
PSY 465 Health Psychology	
SOC 355 Sociology of the Environment	
CMST 220 Interpersonal Communication <i>or</i>	
CMST 303 Organizational Communication	

⁽¹⁾ open to RAD students only

⁽²⁾ open to RSP students only

Suggested Sequence of Courses for Health Science Core*

Semester I	
Career-focused requirement	3
BHS/NRS 105 Pharmacology	2
BHS 460 Advanced Patient Care	3
BHS/NRS 421 Healthcare Research	3
Elective	3

Policies and Requirements

1. Students admitted to the program are subject to the program requirements of the catalog in effect at the time of admission.
2. Students admitted to the program are subject to University requirements and must complete the general education requirements in the catalog of record (usually the catalog in effect when admitted to the University). As this is a new program, students admitted to the University prior to Fall 2006 must change to the 2006/2007 Catalog when they declare the Health Science major, this may affect general education requirements.
3. Students may complete general education courses concurrently with core courses, but must be aware that some of these courses may be pre-requisites for upper division electives.
4. Students must earn a grade of C or better in all required Health Science major courses.
5. Upper division health Science courses completed at another institution will be evaluated for transfer credit on an individual basis.
6. Prior to the first day of any clinical course, students must provide proof of:
 - Current ARRT, ARDMS, NMTCB, or NBRC registration
 - Current CPR certification
 - Completed Health Form documenting immunizations
 - Student liability insurance purchased through the University.
7. A minimum of 128 semester hours are required for graduation; the last 30 must be completed at Northern Kentucky University.
8. At least 45 semester hours of upper division coursework 300/400 level must be completed prior to graduation.

POLYSOMNOGRAPHY OPTION

The Polysomnography option is currently available to registered respiratory therapists. The polysomnography technologist is a multi-skilled professional who works under the general supervision of a physician or designee to provide comprehensive evaluation and treatment of sleep disorders. The polysomnographic technologist records and analyzes the related data, reporting their technical findings to the physician to aid in rendering a medical decision. The learning concentration of the program is geared toward the specialties of sleep, medicine, respiratory, neurology and behavioral sciences. This program consists of on-campus didactic instruction and lab, as well as off-campus: clinical application can be completed at our affiliated health care institutions.

This program falls under the admissions policies and practices of Health Science program. Completion of these three courses will meet the requirement for the electives for the Health Science degree.

RSP 451 Polysomnography I	3
RSP 452 Polysomnography II	3
RSP 498 Clinical Practice VI	3

This program option is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs as a Polysomnography Speciality Option to the Advanced level Respiratory Therapy Program and is designed to prepare students to sit for the Board of Registered Polysomnographic Technologist examination.

Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs, 361 Park Street, Clearwater, FL 33756, 727-210-2350, www.caa-hep.org.

RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM

The curriculum of the associate degree program in radiologic technology is a 22-month program that prepares students for entry-level work in the radiology specialty of radiography (diagnostic x-ray). Graduates are competent in routine radiographic and fluoroscopic diagnostic procedures as well as in selected specialized procedures.

Education for the radiography student is an integrated plan of classroom, laboratory, and clinical education. Courses include patient care, human structure and function, radiation biology and protection, principles and techniques of diagnostic imaging, radiation physics, and image evaluation. In addition to their regular classroom coursework, students spend an average of 20 hours per week practicing their skills at one of the following clinical sites:

St. Elizabeth Medical Center—South Unit
 St. Elizabeth Medical Center—Grant County
 St. Luke Hospital East
 St. Luke Hospital West
 The Jewish Hospital
 Mercy Hospital Anderson
 Mercy Clermont Hospital
 Dearborn County Hospital

Additional affiliations are maintained with orthopedic offices to provide experience in this type of setting. Other opportunities are also available for elective rotations during the second year of the program. Although most courses are taught during the day, some are scheduled in late afternoon or evening during the second year of the program.

Graduates receive the degree of Associate of Applied Science in radiologic technology and are eligible to sit for the examination of the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists. Upon passing the examination, graduates may use the designation R.T.(R) and are also eligible to apply for an operator's license in the applicable state of employment.

The NKU Radiologic Technology Program is accredited by the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology (<http://www.jrcert.org>)

Pre-Major and Selective Admission Requirements

Admission to the radiologic technology program is accomplished through a selective admissions process that includes an academic screening, criminal background check and hospital observation; verification of immunizations is required of accepted students. The Radiologic Technology Admissions Committee determines academic eligibility and ranks the applicants.

Approximately twenty-eight students are accepted into each class. Names of other candidates meeting the admission criteria are placed on a waiting list and are accepted for the current year if vacancies occur prior to the start of the Introduction to Radiography course in July. Preference is given to students who have completed all admission requirements prior to 15 February.

ACADEMIC SCREENING

Academic criteria have been established to ensure that students meet the minimum requirements needed to be successful in the program. Numerical values are assigned to the GPA, completion of requisite coursework, total number of credit hours completed, and hospital observation. Students must meet the following admission requirements prior to starting the program:

- a. Satisfactory completion of:
 - BIO 208 and 208L Human Anatomy & Physiology I
 - PHY 110 Introduction to Physics
 - ENG 101 College Writing
 - General Education Math elective

- b. A minimum GPA in all college work attempted on a 4.00 basis, using the following sliding scale:

16-29 semester hours	2.50 GPA
30-45 semester hours	2.40 GPA
46 or more semester hours	2.30 GPA
- c. Please note that students completing BIO 208, BIO 209, and PHY 110 after summer 2007 are required to earn a grade of C or better. Successful completion of other required general education courses will result in additional points that contribute to the ranking.

Hospital Observation

All candidates making formal application to the program are required to observe in a radiology department for a minimum of four hours. Observations may be completed at one of the program's affiliate hospitals or, for those candidates from out of the area, at a hospital near their home. Candidates are responsible for completing an "Observation Worksheet" and submitting it as part of the application.

Technical Standards

Candidates eligible for the Radiologic Technology Program must be able to meet the following technical standards. These standards specify the skills necessary for successful completion of the program and subsequent employment as a radiologic technologist (radiographer).*

1. Sufficient visual acuity to:
 - * assess skin tone changes detectable in cyanotic or flushed skin
 - * detect color shades/tones such as shades of gray seen on radiographs
 - * evaluate radiographs for quality, and
 - * read printed words in textbooks and on medical equipment
 2. Sufficient hearing to communicate with patients and other members of the health care team, monitor patients via audio monitors, hear background sounds during equipment operations, and respond to the audible sounds of the equipment.
 3. Sufficient gross and fine motor coordination to manipulate equipment and accessories, lift a minimum of 30 pounds, and to stoop, bend or promptly assist patients who become unstable.
 4. Satisfactory physical strength and endurance to move immobile patients to or from a stretcher or wheelchair to the x-ray table, work with arms extended overhead (approximately 80" from the floor), carry 30 pounds while walking, and stand in place for long periods of time.
 5. Satisfactory verbal, reading, and writing skills to:
 - * explain radiologic procedures and direct patients during those procedures and
 - * Communicate in English for effective prompt interaction with patients, fellow students, faculty, and hospital personnel.
 6. Satisfactory intellectual and emotional functions to:
 - * ensure patient safety,
 - * exercise independent judgment and discretion in the performance of assigned responsibilities,
 - * measure, calculate, reason, and evaluate as required for direct patient care,
 - * handle stressful situations related to procedural standards and patient care situations.
 7. Must be physically free of illegal drugs and alcohol.
- * Students with disabilities should declare the disability and provide verification to the Office of Disability Services so reasonable accommodations can be made.

Admitted students must:

1. carry professional liability insurance (available through Northern Kentucky University and paid with tuition);
2. purchase appropriate professional uniforms;

3. provide own transportation to the hospital or clinic;
 4. declare radiologic technology (RADA) as a major by the first day of the fall semester;
 5. be immunized against hepatitis B and other communicable diseases;
 6. provide documentation of immunizations and annual testing for tuberculosis;
 7. maintain annual CPR certification.
- Submission of immunization and TB records is required for continuation in the program.

Drug Screening

Clinical sites may perform random drug screening at their discretion.

Transfer Students

Applicants who have withdrawn from another collegiate program in radiologic technology must submit an official transcript from that institution, as well as other program documents (i.e., course descriptions and/or syllabi) as requested by the NKU radiologic technology program. Transfer students must make an appointment with a program adviser to discuss transfer placement and will be considered for admission to the NKU program on an individual basis.

Advanced Standing

Students who possess a high school diploma or a GED, have graduated from an accredited post-secondary vocational or hospital-based program in radiologic technology, and have passed the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) national exam will be awarded 37 semester hours toward completion of NKU professional course requirements in radiologic technology.

Students admitted into the associate degree program under the advanced standing policy will be held accountable for meeting all prevailing University and program requirements for graduation.

Student Advising

Each student majoring in radiologic technology is assigned to a faculty advisor who will assist in developing an appropriate course of study. The student is expected to maintain frequent contact with the faculty advisor to discuss progress, performance, and career goals.

Students who are currently enrolled at NKU and who plan to apply to the Radiologic Technology Program are urged to declare pre-radiologic technology (XRAD) as their major to insure that they are appropriately advised. Pre-RAD majors may consult with their academic advisor on all issues related to course scheduling, the selective advising holds, and must be advised prior to registering for classes.

Associate of Applied Science in Radiologic Technology

In addition to the 14 semester hours of coursework required for admission to the program, students must complete 67 semester hours of coursework for the major. The professional component includes 54 semester hours of coursework. Of that number, 14 semester hours are earned in clinical practica at the affiliate hospitals and 40 hours earned in didactic coursework at the University.

First Professional Year

Summer—Second Five-Week Session	
RAD 200 Introduction to Radiography	<u>6</u>
Total	6
Fall	
RAD 202 Medical Terminology for Health Professions	1
RAD 208 Radiographic Procedures	3
RAD 208L Radiographic Positioning Laboratory I	1
RAD 214 Analysis of Radiographic Quality	3
RAD 214L Analysis of Radiographic Quality Laboratory	1
RAD 286 Radiographic Practicum I	3

SPE 101 Principles of Speech Communication	<u>3</u>
Total	15
Spring	
RAD 209 Radiographic Procedures II	3
RAD 209L Radiographic Positioning Laboratory II	1
RAD 216 Physical Principles of Radiographic Equipment	4
RAD 296 Radiographic Practicum II	3
Humanities Elective	3
Total	14
Second Professional Year	
Summer	
RAD 376 Radiographic Practicum III	2
BIO 209 & 209L Human Anatomy & Physiology II	<u>4</u>
Total	6
Fall	
BHS 291 Writing in the Health Science	3
RAD 303 Radiographic Procedures III	3
RAD 340 Radiation Biology & Protection	3
RAD 386 Radiographic Practicum IV	3
Behavioral/Social Science Elective	<u>3</u>
Total	15
Spring	
RAD 334 Specialized Medical Imaging	3
RAD 350 Clinical Pathology for Radiographers	3
RAD 360 Quality Assurance	2
RAD 394 Radiography Seminar	1
RAD 396 Radiographic Practicum V	3
Total	<u>12</u>
Program Total	68

RESPIRATORY CARE

Respiratory care is the allied health profession devoted to the diagnosis, treatment, and rehabilitation of patients with diseases of the respiratory system. Respiratory therapists must have a thorough understanding of normal pulmonary anatomy and physiology and of the pathology and treatment of various breathing-related disorders. They work in adult and pediatric hospitals, in some nursing homes, and for a growing number of home-care companies. With the authorization of a physician, they give aerosolized medications and various special breathing treatments to patients with acute or chronic pulmonary disease. Respiratory therapists are life-support specialists, setting up artificial ventilators for patients of all ages who cannot breathe for themselves. When a cardiac arrest occurs in the hospital, therapists provide cardiopulmonary resuscitation and manual ventilation. With sophisticated equipment, they measure effectiveness of breathing and levels of oxygen and carbon dioxide in the blood. Following recognized protocols or physician's orders, they institute therapies to reduce the work of breathing and to improve ventilation and oxygenation.

The program at NKU is 5 semesters long, including summer sessions. Besides didactic, lab, and clinical training in basic respiratory care, the first year includes courses in microbiology and anatomy/physiology. The summer and the second year focus on more advanced or specialized modalities of respiratory care plus the general education courses necessary to develop an informed, broadly educated health care professional. To provide experience with patients, the program has clinical affiliations with hospitals in the northern Kentucky and greater Cincinnati area. Successful completion of the program leads to the degree of Associate of Applied Science and to eligibility for the C.R.T. and R.R.T. credentialing examinations given by the National Board for Respiratory Care. After passing the C.R.T. exam, the graduate is eligible for a Kentucky Mandatory Certificate or for licensure in another state.

Pre-Major and Selective Admission Requirements

The applicant must follow the standard procedures for admission to the University as outlined in the Admission section of this catalog. In addition, the applicant must do the following:

The Respiratory Care Program admits students each fall through a selective admissions process. The admission process is described below. Once an applicant has regular admission to NKU they will be considered for the professional RSP courses provided these criteria are met:

- Complete a program application form;
- Complete a hospital observation;
- Possess a GPA of 2.3/4.0 or higher on previous college course-work;
- Completion of the following courses with a C or higher: ENG 101, SPE 101, CHE 115 and;
- Completion of a criminal background check

Applications completed prior to February 15 are given priority. Conditional acceptance into the program can be given to students enrolled in any prerequisite courses by the priority application date of February 15. Successful completion of these courses must be documented at the end of the term for final program admission. Students will be notified of their admission status in writing.

Students who want to major in respiratory care but do not yet meet the above criteria should declare Pre-Respiratory Care (X-RSP) as their major, apply for acceptance into the program, and follow the advice of their RC faculty advisor. Many students take pre-requisites, general education, and science requirements before starting the professional RSP course sequence. Students must also fulfill the immunization requirements listed on the Respiratory Care Program Immunization Form and described in the *Respiratory Care Program Student Handbook* before they are given hospital clinical assignments, a required part of the curriculum.

Advanced Placement for Certification School Graduates

The Respiratory Care Program recognizes learning which can be validated by testing or academic records. Certification school graduates who are accepted into the Advanced Placement Program will be granted credit hours for previous academic work in respiratory care depending upon the applicant’s academic and clinical background.

Admission Requirements for Advanced Placement

To be considered for Advanced Placement; the applicant must:

1. have graduated from a certification program accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs upon recommendation by the Committee on Accreditation for Respiratory Care
2. have worked at least one year as a graduate respiratory care technician or have passed the NBRC Entry Level Examination. Exception may be made to this policy upon demonstration of outstanding academic and clinical ability and interest in the field of respiratory care as determined by the Respiratory Care faculty
3. be interviewed by the Respiratory Care Program Director
4. submit three references (two from respiratory care instructors, one from a respiratory care employer)
5. have a minimum grade point average of 2.7 for his/her work in the certification program, or have passed the NBRC Entry Level Examination
6. meet the requirements for admission to Northern Kentucky University.

Interested applicants should arrange a personal interview with the Respiratory Care Program Director and complete a checklist for advanced placement. The curriculum will be determined on an individual basis and will be based on previous academic and clinical work in respiratory care as well as anticipated career goals.

Technical Standards

Candidates eligible for the Respiratory Care Program must be able to meet the following technical standards. These standards specify skills

necessary for successful completion of the program and subsequent employment as a respiratory care practitioner.*

Issue	Standard	Some Examples of Necessary Activities (not all inclusive)
Critical Thinking	Critical Thinking ability sufficient for clinical judgment.	Identify cause-effect relationship in clinical situations, develop respiratory care plans.
Communication	Communication abilities sufficient for interaction with others in verbal and written form.	Explain treatment procedures, initiate health teaching, document and interpret therapeutic procedures and patient/client responses.
Interpersonal	Interpersonal abilities sufficient to interact with individuals, families, and groups from a variety of social, emotional, cultural and, intellectual backgrounds	Establish rapport with patients/clients and colleagues and groups from a variety of social, emotional, cultural, and intellectual backgrounds.
Mobility	Physical abilities sufficient to move from room to room and maneuver in small spaces.	Move around in patient’s rooms, work spaces, and treatment areas; administer cardio-pulmonary procedures.
Motor Skills	Gross and fine motor abilities sufficient to provide safe and effective respiratory care.	Calibrate and use equipment; position patients/clients.
Hearing	Auditory ability sufficient to monitor and assess health needs.	Hear monitor alarms, emergency signals, and auscultatory sounds.
Visual	Visual ability sufficient for observation and assessment necessary in respiratory care.	Observe patient/client responses; able to differentiate color.
Tactile	tactile ability sufficient for physical assessment.	Perform palpation, functions of physical examination and/or those related to therapeutic intervention (e.g., insertion of a catheter).

*Students with disabilities should declare the disability and provide verification to the Office of Disability Services so reasonable accommodations can be made.

Progression

Computer Literacy

Students will demonstrate computer literacy by completing the following activities as part of the program's computer competency requirement:

1. use word-processing software such as WordPerfect or Microsoft Word for research papers;
2. do medical literature database searches using MedLine and/or CINAHL;
3. complete computer-assisted instruction assignments;
4. complete computerized clinical simulations;
5. gather information for research papers from the internet;
6. send and receive electronic mail.

Assessment of Major

In the fifth term, as part of RSP 480 Respiratory Care Seminar, students as a group must take the Entry Level and Written Registry Self-Assessment Examinations from the National Board for Respiratory Care. The examinations (1) give students the opportunity to demonstrate a synthesis of knowledge about respiratory care, (2) help students prepare for the actual Entry Level and Registry examination, and (3) provide group examination performance information for program self-evaluation as required for accreditation.

Associate of Applied Science in Respiratory Care*Pre-Requisites*

CHE 115/115L Physiological Chemistry	4
ENG 101 College Writing	3
SPE 101 Principles of Speech	<u>3</u>
Total	10

1st Semester, Fall

BIO 202 Microbiology for Health Professionals	4
BIO 202L Microbiology for Health Professionals Lab	0
BIO 208 Human Anatomy and Physiology I	4

BIO 208L Human Anatomy and Physiology Lab	0
RSP 201 Fundamentals of Respiratory Care	4
RSP 202 Medical Terminology for Health Professions	2
RSP 286 Clinical Practicum I	<u>2</u>
Total	15

2nd Semester, Spring

NRS 105 Pharmacology	2
BIO 209/209L Human Anatomy and Physiology II	4
RSP 230 Respiratory Physiology	3
RSP 220 Ventilatory Support	3
RSP 220L Respiratory Laboratory II	1
RSP 296 Clinical Practicum II	<u>2</u>
Total	15

3rd Semester, Summer

RSP 310/310L Artificial Ventilation	4
RSP 386 Clinical Practicum III	<u>3</u>
Total	7

4th Semester, Fall

RSP 331 Cardiopulmonary Diagnostics	2
RSP 350 Chest Disease	3
RSP 362 Prenatal-Pediatric Respiratory Care	3
RSP 396 Clinical Practicum IV	<u>3</u>
Math Elective	3
Total	14

5th Semester, Spring

RSP 340 Pulmonary Rehabilitation	1
RSP 480 Respiratory Care Seminar	3
RSP 486 Clinical Practicum V	3
General Education Requirement	6
Total	<u>13</u>
Program Total	74