Academic Policies

Individualized Majors

Associate’s Degrees
The Associate of Science Individualized Major allows associate’s degree seeking students to pursue approval for an individualized major during the admission process. See the A.S. Individualized Major admission requirements for more details.

Bachelor’s Degrees
Bachelor’s degree seeking students may choose to develop an individualized major designed to meet their needs and interests. Any such program should have a coherent organizing principle that differs significantly from those underlying standard majors. The program must be developed in consultation with a Student Success Advisor and a faculty advocate. The application must be submitted and approved before the student completes 94 credits toward their degree. Students wishing to consider such a possibility must first discuss it with their Student Success Advisor. The student and Student Success Advisor will then request a faculty advocate. If the faculty advocate accepts the request, the student and faculty advocate will collaborate to develop the curriculum, course of study, and learning outcomes. Any such programs must meet all of the following conditions:

1. The proposal must define a coherent purpose or organizing principle based on the student’s needs and interests in accordance with the Degree Requirements for a Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science degree. The proposal should identify coursework that will allow the student to achieve those goals.

2. Coursework must be no fewer than 30 and no more than 60 credits from at least two academic majors or disciplines and must differ significantly from all other existing majors. The proposal must make a clear, explicit, and convincing case for the theoretical and/or practical interconnectedness between the departmental disciplines. The proposals must also specify why existing programs of study will not meet the students’ goals.

3. When two disciplines or fields are included, the proposal must show why the need met by the proposed individualized major cannot be met by any other single major, double major (two stand-alone majors), or multi-disciplinary major.

4. The proposal must contain junior level (300) courses from at least two standard disciplines or fields. In at least one of these disciplines or fields, work at the senior level (400) must be selected.

5. The proposed major must show how all other requirements for majors are met (e.g., the speaking, writing, and computing competencies). The requirements of the major must include the required upper division hours.

6. The proposal must include a culminating experience at the senior level (400), focused upon the organizing principles of the major and in the form of a senior seminar, internship, or directed study.

7. All general education provisions of the curriculum must be observed.

The following procedures shall be observed in preparing and obtaining approval for Individualized Majors:

1. The student obtains application forms and instructions in the Office of the Registrar or on their website.

2. The student and the Student Success Advisor review the student’s plan and seek a willing faculty sponsor.

3. The student and faculty sponsor create a plan with the proposed major’s curriculum, course of study, and learning outcomes.

4. The student and Student Success Advisor will jointly prepare the application, expressing the organizing principle and listing the courses that will make up the major.
5. If nine (9) or more credits are to be taken from any single program, the program director of that program must approve the proposal before review.

6. A review committee composed of the faculty advocate, the Registrar, and at least one of the overseeing divisional deans will evaluate the proposal. The divisional dean is responsible for forming this committee and calling the meeting. (If the proposal follows a previously approved program, the Registrar will approve it and place it on file.)

7. The student submits the application to the Registrar. All proposals must be submitted and approved before the student’s final term. When the proposal has been approved the student, and SSA will be notified.

8. Programs that are rejected may be reviewed through the academic petition process.

9. An approved program may subsequently be amended with the approval of the divisional dean(s) and the Registrar.

Admission Categories

Provisional Acceptance

Students entering Bethel with a cumulative high school or college GPA below 2.0 (on a 4.0 scale) are provisionally admitted. In addition, students entering with below 45 transfer credits are provisionally admitted.

- The college GPA will be used to determine provisional acceptance if 12 or more college credits have been completed in A-F letter-graded courses;
- The high school GPA will be used if fewer than 12 college credits have been completed in A-F letter-graded courses.

Students admitted provisionally with fewer than 45 transfer credits and below a 2.0 cumulative college GPA will not be allowed to proceed beyond 3 courses of coursework taken for a letter grade (A - F) until all Foundations of Academic Readiness (FAR) requirements are met. These students should work with their Student Success Advisor in order to fulfill the FAR requirements at the beginning of their course of study.

Course Descriptions

Courses added or adjusted in Spring 2023

NURS 305 • Practicum I: Fundamentals of Nursing Practice

1 Credit

Provision of holistic care for individuals in various health/illness states. Utilization of beginning critical thinking skills to implement the nursing process in healthcare settings.

Corequisites: NURS 310, NURS 326. Total fees: $325 ($195 Nursing Central Resource Fee, $40 Malpractice Fee, $60 Criminal Background Check fee, and $30 Clinical Fee). Special Notes: This course is offered for students in the Post-Baccalaureate Nursing program.

NURS 306 • Practicum II: Adult Nursing

3 Credits

Provision of holistic care for adults and older adults in various health/illness states. Application of clinical judgment, liberal arts knowledge, and professional communication in adult acute care settings. Integration of evidence-based and culturally sensitive care with a Christian worldview consideration.

Corequisites: NURS 305, NURS 310, NURS 326. Corequisites: NURS 311, NURS 350, NURS 351. Special Notes: This course is offered for students in the Post-Baccalaureate Nursing program.

NURS 307 • Practicum III: Mental Health Nursing

1 Credit

Provision of holistic care for individuals with mental health needs. Application of critical thinking skills, liberal arts knowledge, and professional communication in mental health settings. Integration of evidence-based and culturally sensitive care with a Christian worldview consideration.

Corequisites: NURS 305, NURS 310, NURS 326. Corequisites: NURS 331, NURS 332. Special Notes: This course is offered for students in the Post-Baccalaureate Nursing program.

NURS 310 • Skills I: Health Assessment & Fundamentals of Nursing Practice

4 Credits

Development of beginning nursing skills to promote health and manage illness, within the context of the nursing process. This course is a laboratory course.

Corequisites: NURS 305, NURS 326. Total fees: $670 ($140 lab fee, $480 ATI Resource Fee, $50 Online Test fee). Special Notes: This course is offered for students in the Post-Baccalaureate Nursing program.

NURS 311 • Skills II: Adult Nursing

2 Credits

Development of nursing skills to promote health and manage illness for adults and older adults, within the context of the nursing process. This course is a laboratory course.

Corequisites: NURS 305, NURS 310, NURS 326. Corequisites: NURS 306, NURS 350, NURS 351. Total fees: $190 ($140 Lab Fee, $50 Online Testing Fee). Special Notes: This course is offered for students in the Post-Baccalaureate Nursing program.

NURS 326 • Pharmacology for Nursing

2 Credits

Exploration of the principles of pharmacotherapy to promote health and manage illness from a patient-centered perspective for diverse populations across the lifespan.

Corequisites: NURS 305, NURS 310. Special Notes: This course is offered for students in the Post-Baccalaureate Nursing program.

NURS 331 • Mental Health Nursing

2 Credits

Exploration of the nursing care of adults experiencing mental health issues within the context of families and communities. Application of the ethical, legal, and evidence-based practice considerations associated with mental health nursing.

Corequisites: NURS 305, NURS 310, NURS 326. Corequisites: NURS 306, NURS 351. Special Notes: This course is offered for students in the Post-Baccalaureate Nursing program.

NURS 350 • Adult Nursing I

3 Credits

Examination of the nursing care related to adults and older adults experiencing selected acute, chronic, and/or potential health issues. Application of theoretical frameworks and evidence-based practice considerations to holistic nursing care.

Corequisites: NURS 305, NURS 310, NURS 326. Corequisites: NURS 305, NURS 311, NURS 351, $480 Nursing ATI Resource Fee. Special Notes: This course is offered for students in the Post-Baccalaureate Nursing program.

NURS 351 • Adult Nursing II

3 Credits

Examination of the nursing care of adults and older adults experiencing selected acute, chronic, and/or potential health issues. Application of theoretical frameworks and evidence-based practice considerations to holistic nursing care. This course is a continuation of NURS 350.

Corequisites: NURS 305, NURS 310, NURS 326. Corequisites: NURS 306, NURS 311, NURS 350. Special Notes: This course is offered for students in the Post-Baccalaureate Nursing program.

NURS 433 • Pediatric Nursing

2 Credits

Examination of the nursing care of pediatric patients and families. Application of theoretical frameworks and evidence-based practice considerations to holistic nursing care.

Corequisites: NURS 305, NURS 307, NURS 331, NURS 341, NURS 342, NURS 350, NURS 351, NURS 438. $50 Online Testing Fee. Special Notes: This course is offered for students in the Post-Baccalaureate Nursing program.

NURS 437 • Maternity Nursing

2 Credits

Examination of the nursing care of maternity patients and families. Application of theoretical frameworks and evidence-based practice considerations to holistic nursing care.
Prerequisites: NURS 306, NURS 307, NURS 311, NURS 331, NURS 350, NURS 351. Corequisites: NURS 439. $485 ATI Resource Fee. Special Notes: This course is offered only for students in the Post-Baccalaureate Nursing program.

NURS 438 • Practicum IV: Pediatric Nursing 1 Credit
Provision of holistic care for pediatric patients and families. Application of clinical judgment skills, liberal arts knowledge, and professional communication to provide care in pediatric settings. Integration of evidence-based and culturally sensitive care with a Christian worldview consideration.
Prerequisites: NURS 306, NURS 307, NURS 311, NURS 331, NURS 350, NURS 351. Corequisites: NURS 439. Total fees: $80 ($40 Malpractice Fee, $40 Nursing Lab Fee). Special Notes: This course is offered for students in the Post-Baccalaureate Nursing program.

NURS 439 • Practicum V: Maternity Nursing 1 Credit
Provision of holistic care for maternity patients and families. Application of clinical judgment skills, liberal arts knowledge, and professional communication to provide care in maternity settings. Integration of evidence-based and culturally sensitive care with a Christian worldview consideration.
Prerequisites: NURS 306, NURS 307, NURS 311, NURS 331, NURS 350, NURS 351. Corequisites: NURS 437. $30 Clinical Site Placement Fee. Special Notes: This course is offered for students in the Post-Baccalaureate Nursing program.

NURS 450 • Leadership Development 3 Credits
Application of the leadership role in preparation to enter the professional nursing workforce. Integration of critical thinking, evidence, leadership and management principles, and professional standards in professional practice.
Prerequisites: NURS 405, NURS 433, NURS 437, NURS 438, NURS 439, NURS 440, NURS 446, PSYC 335. Corequisites: NURS 447, NURS 460. Special Notes: This course is offered for students in the Post-Baccalaureate Nursing program.

NURS 460 • Skills III: Nursing Synthesis 3 Credits
A focus on the transition from the student role to the role of the professional nurse. Synthesis of critical thinking, leadership skills, evidence, and professional standards to manage care in complex clinical situations. This course is a laboratory course.
Prerequisites: NURS 405, NURS 433, NURS 437, NURS 438, NURS 439, NURS 440, NURS 446. Corequisites: NURS 447, NURS 450. Total fees: $190 ($140 Lab Fee, and $50 Online Testing Fee). Special Notes: This course is offered for students in the Post-Baccalaureate Nursing program.

SOWK • Social Work

SOWK 420 • Social Work Experience I 2 Credits
Field practicum in which students perform the role of a professional social worker under supervision of a qualified field instructor. Weekly field seminar supports integration of theory with social work practice. Minimum of 135 hours in the field. A structured learning contract applies social work knowledge, values, and skills.
Prerequisites: SOWK 300, SOWK 320, SOWK 325. Special Notes: Students must complete 400 field hours between SOWK 420 and SOWK 425 and each course must contribute at least 135 hours toward the total.

SOWK 430 • Social Work Practice III 3 Credits
Application of generalist social work theory to integrated practice within client systems. Emphasis on families/groups and on the planned change process. Application of critical thinking, research-informed practice and culture competence. Evaluation of assessment and intervention strategies applicable to a specific population.
Prerequisites: SOWK 300, SOWK 320, SOWK 325, SOWK 330, SOWK 335.

General Education

Foundations of Academic Readiness (FAR)
The Foundations of Academic Readiness (FAR) curriculum consists of courses for students whose cumulative GPA shows that additional preparation is needed in order to increase the probability of success in CAPS programs.

The Foundations of Academic Readiness (FAR) curriculum is required for all new students who are admitted to CAPS with a cumulative high school or college GPA below 2.5 and with fewer than 45 transfer credits. Likewise, FAR curriculum will be required for all new students admitted to CAPS with a combined GED score below 451 and with fewer than 45 transfer credits.

Based on GPA or GED, a test-out option may also be available as outlined below:

Fewer than 45 credits
- GPA Below 2.0, or GED Below 401: FAR curriculum required.
  Test-out option not available
- GPA 2.0 to less than 2.5, or GED score 401-450: FAR curriculum required. Test-out option available.
- GPA 2.5 and above, or GED of 451 and above: FAR curriculum not required

45 credits or more:
- FAR curriculum not required

The FAR curriculum consists of 3 courses for a total of 9 credits. Foundational courses are considered remedial credit and do not apply to degree, certificate, or license requirements. Financial Aid is available for students who are required to enroll in the FAR classes.

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