

Rafic Hariri
School of Nursing
(HSON)

Rafic Hariri School of Nursing (HSON)

Officers of the School

Fadlo R. Khuri	President of the University
Mohamed Harajli	Interim Provost, ex-officio
Mohamed H. Sayegh	Executive Vice President for Medicine and Global Strategy and The Raja N. Khuri Dean, Faculty of Medicine and Medical Center
Huda Abu-Saad Huijer	Director of the Rafic Hariri School of Nursing
Samar Noureddine	Assistant Director for Academic Affairs
Moueen Salameh	Registrar, ex-officio
Salim Kanaan	Director of Admissions, ex-officio
Lokman Meho	University Librarian, ex-officio

Faculty

Convener/Chair Division of Master of Science in Nursing Program:	Farhood, Laila
MSN Nursing Administration and Management track coordinator	Clinton, Michael
MSN Adult Gerontology Track Coordinator:	Noureddine, Samar
MSN Psychiatry and Mental Health Track Coordinator:	Farhood, Laila
MSN Community and Public Health Track Coordinator:	Arevian, Mary
Convener/Chair Division of Baccalaureate Program:	Yazbik Dumit, Nuhad
BSN Program Coordinator:	Adra, Marina
Professors:	Abu-Saad Huijer, Huda; Clinton, Michael; Farhood, Laila; Noureddine, Samar
Professor Emeritus:	Makarem, Selwa
Clinical Associate Professor:	Arevian, Mary
Assistant Professors:	Abi Fakr, Lina; Darwish, Hala; Dumit, Nuhad; Fares, Souha; Honein, Gladys
Clinical Assistant Professors:	Adra, Marina; Madi, Dina; Naifeh Khoury, May; Younan Sabbagh, Lina
Clinical Instructors:	Avedissian, Tamar; Dakessian Sailian, Damianos, Danielle; Silva; Gulgulian, Talin; Masalkhi, Hanadi; Massouh, Angela

School Administrative Support

Ghassan Afram
Lynn Berbary
Randa Farha
Marwa Soubra
Aida Farha

Executive Officer
Student Services and Recruitment Officer
Simulation and Clinical Competency Center Coordinator
IT Manager, Faculty of Medicine and School of Nursing
Medical Librarian

Historical Background

The School of Nursing, founded in 1905, was the first nursing school in the Middle East. The five-year Bachelor of Science in Nursing program, established in 1936, was replaced by a four-year program in 1964 leading to the degree of Bachelor of Science in Nursing. Students entering the school as sophomores graduate in three calendar years. The RN-BSN program was reactivated and launched in 2003. The Masters of Science in Nursing (MSN) program was launched in 2003. The Bachelor of Science in Nursing program (BSN) and the MSN program are registered by the Department of Education of New York State, HEGIS codes 1203.00 and 1203.10, respectively. The MSN program is accredited by CCNE, the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, in the USA. The AUB School of Nursing is the first School of Nursing outside the US territories to be accredited by CCNE.

Mission

The mission of the School of Nursing is to promote and maintain the highest educational standards of excellence, integrity, and professionalism in nursing, following the American model of nursing education and practice. The school aims to provide learning opportunities that will enable students to develop into competent nurses, guided by ethical principles, who respect cultural diversity while coordinating and delivering high-quality, compassionate nursing care in Lebanon and the region. The faculty believes education is an interactive process between faculty and students with both taking responsibility for active learning. The baccalaureate program, drawn primarily from the humanities, sciences, and caring disciplines, focuses on the use of nursing theory and research as a basis for practice. The master's program focuses on preparing nurses for advanced nursing practice roles. It is based on the use and generation of research-based knowledge to guide practice. Nursing students at AUB learn to think critically, develop professional attitudes and leadership skills, and appreciate the value of life-long learning and freedom of speech.

Vision

The Rafic Hariri School of Nursing aspires to become the leading school of nursing in Lebanon and the region; nationally and internationally recognized for excellence in education, research, and service.

The school is committed to offering cutting-edge, culturally-relevant and internationally recognized graduate and undergraduate education. Such education would foster life-long learning and scholarship, develop leaders in nursing and health care, and attract a competent and culturally-diverse student body.

Admission

A student is eligible for consideration for admission to the Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) program if s/he fulfills the following AUB admission requirements for graduate studies:

- A bachelor's degree in nursing from AUB or its equivalent degree from another recognized institution, with an undergraduate average of at least 80 in the major field of study (nursing) and a cumulative undergraduate average of at least 75.

Please see the Admissions section of the Graduate Catalogue on page 33 for further details regarding the English Language Proficiency Requirement (ELPR). The table on page 39 of the catalogue shows the English tests scores with corresponding English deficiency course requirements for applicants to the MSN program who do not meet the English Language Proficiency Requirement. In addition, HSON requires the following criteria:

- A license to practice nursing from country of residence.
- Evidence of knowledge and competence in physical assessment skills.
- One year of work experience in nursing.

The program admits both full-time and part-time students, provided the students complete all program requirements within a maximum period of four years. Extension beyond the maximum allowed period of study requires approval of the Graduate Studies Committee of the school. Candidates who fail to meet any of the admission requirements but who, in the opinion of the faculty, demonstrate potential for graduate study are admitted on probation. Students with a cumulative undergraduate average of at least 75 but less than 80 in the major field (nursing) may be conditionally admitted as graduate student on probation. Students admitted on probation must complete 9 credits of graduate level courses within the first two semesters of graduate studies, pass all courses, and attain a minimum cumulative average of 80 to achieve regular status.

MSN Tracks

The School of Nursing offers four tracks:

- MSN in Adult-Gerontology, with an optional minor in nursing education
- MSN in Nursing Administration and Management
- MSN in Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing, with an optional minor in nursing education
- MSN in Community and Public Health, with an optional minor in nursing education

Both thesis and non-thesis options are available for all tracks.

Graduation Requirements

All recommendations for graduation are made by a vote of the faculty, upon the recommendation of the Graduate Studies Committee. To be eligible for graduation from the MSN program, the student must have:

- passed all required courses with a minimum grade of 70 per course
- achieved a cumulative average of at least 80
- having completed the total number of credits required in the track of study passed the comprehensive examination, and
- completed the requirements for the thesis or project

Academic Rules and Regulations

Transfer of Credits

Refer to Transfer of Credits section, under General University Academic Information, on page 53.

Supervision, Courses, and Grades

Every graduate student is assigned an academic advisor to guide and help in planning the student's course of study, as stipulated by the graduate curriculum. Non-nursing courses relevant to the student's area of specialty can be taken as electives with the approval of the advisor. For students working toward a thesis, a thesis advisor who must be a full-time faculty member is assigned. S/he will also serve as chairperson of the thesis committee. The thesis advisor and committee members must be of professorial rank.

Graduate level courses in nursing are numbered 500 and above. The minimum passing grade for a graduate course is 70. However, students are required to maintain a cumulative average of at least 80 in all courses taken for graduate credit. Students who are absent without excuse for more than one third of the number of sessions in any course, or who fail to sit for scheduled examinations, or who fail to fulfill course requirements, will be given the minimum grade for graduate courses, which is 55. Results of tutorial courses, residencies, projects, or theses will be reported as pass (P) or fail (F).

Students admitted with curriculum deficiencies may need to register for prerequisite courses that are undergraduate courses; such courses do not carry any graduate credit. The minimum passing grade for a prerequisite course is 70.

Probation and Dismissal

Refer to Academic Standing of Student Working for a Master's Degree section, under General University Academic Information.

Comprehensive Examination

A student must pass a comprehensive examination after completion of most of the course requirements for the MSN degree. The Graduate Studies Committee of the School of Nursing sets the time of the examination. Students planning to take the comprehensive exam must register N526 (0 credit) in the semester they are planning to sit for the exam. The purpose of the examination is to ascertain the student's knowledge of his/her field of specialization. A student who does not pass the comprehensive examination may take it a second time in the following semester. Students who are unable to pass a program's comprehensive exam twice are dropped from the graduate program. Students who pass the comprehensive exam after one failure will have their initial failure reported as "PR" for progress in the first semester the course was registered in, and the grade of "P" for passing the comprehensive exam will show on their transcript in the second semester the course was registered in. The comprehensive exam is offered twice per year, once in the fall and once in the spring semester.

For more information, refer to Comprehensive Examination section, under General University Academic Information, on page 57.

Thesis/Project

For those students enrolled in the MSN with thesis option, s/he must submit a thesis based on original, independent research. The thesis must be in English. An abstract not exceeding 350 words must be submitted with the thesis. Once approval for writing the thesis/project is granted, the student must ensure that the thesis/project conforms to the guidelines outlined in the University Thesis Manual found in the library. It is mandatory to apply the Manual style to the thesis, and theses not conforming to the Manual requirements will not be accepted. The student must submit copies of the thesis to the members of the thesis committee at least two weeks before the thesis defense. These copies should be unbound but be ready for binding.

Students may opt for a 3-credit project; if so, 3 credits of elective course work in a related area should be taken. Students who choose to do a project are assigned an advisor who serves as the project advisor. The master's project committee should be composed of at least two members recommended by the department/program. The project topic proposal and selection of the advisor and project committee members should be approved by the Faculty/school Graduate Studies Committee at least four months before the project defense. Pass (P) or Fail (F) is reported for project defense. If Fail (F) is reported, the student may resubmit the project and defend it after a period of at least three months. Failure on the second attempt results in discontinuation of the graduate work.

For more information, refer to Supervision of Master's Thesis or Project section, under General University Academic Information, on page 57. Refer also to the Graduate Student Handbook of the School of Nursing regarding guidelines for projects and theses.

Master's Thesis Committee

The Thesis Committee should be composed of at least three members approved by the faculty Graduate Studies Committee. The thesis committee should be approved by the department chairperson/director. The student must submit the thesis proposal form signed by the thesis committee members to the department chair, who will forward it to the Graduate Studies Committee for approval. It is advisable that the thesis committee includes one member from outside the School of Nursing (this member can be from an institution outside AUB). All committee members should hold professorial rank. The thesis committee approves the thesis topic and research program and conducts the thesis defense.

For more information, refer to Thesis Proposal section, under General University Academic Information, on page 57.

Thesis/Project Defense

Refer to Thesis Defense and Project Defense section, under General University Academic Information, on page 60.

Deposit of Thesis/Project in the Library

Refer to Thesis Defense and Project Defense section, under General University Academic Information, on page 60.

Specific Requirements for the Master's Degree

Refer to the Admissions section in this catalogue.

Curriculum

Masters of Science in Nursing

Core Course		Lecture Hrs./ Week	Clinical Hrs./ Week	Credit Hrs.
NURS 500	Theories, Concepts and Ethical frameworks for Advanced Nursing Practice	2	0	2
NURS 501	Advanced Nursing Practice: Scope and Roles	2	0	2
NURS 530	Statistical Reasoning and Application in Nursing Research	1	2	2
NURS 502	Advanced Nursing Research	3	0	3
NURS 527	Systems Approach to the Development and Evaluation of Health Care Services	3	0	3
Concentration Courses		Lecture Hrs./ Week	Clinical Hrs./ Week	Credit Hrs.
Adult Gerontology Track				
NURS 503	Advanced Health Assessment	2	3	3
NURS 504	Advanced Pathophysiology	3	0	3
NURS 505A	Advanced Practice in Adult-Gerontology I	2	8	4
NURS 505B	Advanced Practice in Adult-Gerontology II	2	8	4
NURS 506	Advanced Practice in Adult-Gerontology III	0	16	4
PHRM 314	Advanced Pharmacology and Therapeutics	3	0	3
	Electives	-	-	0-3
Nursing Administration and Management Track				
NURS 507	Essentials of Nursing Administration and Management	2	0	2
NURS 508	Advanced Practice in Nursing Administration	0	16	4
NURS 531	Practical Applications of Budgeting in Nursing	1	0	1
NURS 525	Leadership Theories and Application for Nurse Managers	3	0	3
NURS 520	Managing Quality with Teams	3	0	3
NURS 6284 ¹	Digital Tools for Connected Health	3	0	3
MNGT 332	Human Capital Management	3	0	3
	Electives	-	-	0-3

¹ NURS 6284 is offered on line by the University of Colorado in Denver

Psychiatric Mental Health Track				
NURS 503A	Advanced Health Assessment for Mental Health	1	0	1
NURS 504	Advanced Pathophysiology	3	0	3
NURS 512	Advanced Psychiatric and Mental Health Assessment	1	3	2
PHRM 314	Advanced Pharmacology and Therapeutics	3	0	3
NURS 516	Psychopathology and Human Behavior	3	0	3
NURS 517	Models of Treatment-Psychotherapy (Bio-behavioral Nursing Interventions)	1	6	3
NURS 518	Group and Family Psychotherapy	1	6	3
NURS 519	Clinical Residency in Acute Psychiatric Care	0	16	4
Community and Public Health Track				
NURS 503	Advanced Health Assessment	2	3	3
NURS 504	Advanced Pathophysiology	3	0	3
PHRM 314	Advanced Pharmacology and Therapeutics	3	0	3
EPHD 301	Principles of Epidemiology for Health Professionals	2	0	2
NURS 522	Principles and Practice of Community Health Nursing	2	3	3
NURS 523	Advanced Community Assessment	2	3	3
NURS 524	Clinical Residency in Community Health Care	0	16	4
	Electives	-	-	0-3
Minor in Education				
EDU 318	Test Construction in Education	3	0	3
EDU 326	Theory and Design of Curriculum	3	0	3
NURS 509	Role development in Nursing Education	3	0	3
Thesis/Project				
NURS 599	Thesis	-	-	6
NURS 598	Project	-	-	3
	Elective	-	-	3
NURS 526	Comprehensive Exam	-	-	0

Students may take elective course work in any major that helps them with their studies. For students doing a minor in nursing education, the elective must be in education.

The School of Nursing also offers special topic courses ranging from 1 to 3 credits that cover nursing issues of interest to students in the various tracks. These courses can be counted toward the elective credits.

Course Descriptions

- NURS 500 Theories, Concepts and Ethical Frameworks
for Advanced Nursing Practice 2.0; 2 cr.**
- This course introduces students at an advanced level to conceptual resources for advanced nursing practice. The course is organized around four themes: conceptions of science and nursing knowledge; antecedents and applications of theories relevant to nursing practice; healthcare ethics; and, nursing and politics. The course focuses on the application of conceptual models to current and future nursing practice.
- NURS 501 Advanced Nursing Practice: Scope and Roles 2.0; 2 Cr.**
- This course provides the student with knowledge related to the advanced practice roles and competencies. Students develop a vision and structure for Advanced Nursing Practice that includes the Consensus Model for Advanced Practice Registered Nurse, regulation, credentialing, and emerging professional issues. The course concentrates on the foundations and philosophy of care in different specialties and health care settings.
- NURS 502 Advanced Nursing Research 3.0; 3 cr.**
- This course focuses on complex research designs, interpretation of research findings, and development of research proposals. The interrelationship of theoretical frameworks, quantitative/qualitative design, sample selection, data collection instruments, and assessment of data quality are analyzed in terms of clinical nursing research problems.
- NURS 503 Advanced Health Assessment 2.3; 3 cr.**
- This course focuses on the advanced comprehensive assessment of individuals using a case based approach. Students are provided with advanced knowledge and skills in clinical interview, focused history taking, psychosocial and physical assessment, and diagnostic reasoning.
- NURS 503A Advanced Health Assessment for Mental Health 1.0; 1 cr.**
- This theory course focuses on the comprehensive health assessment of clients using a bio-psycho-social approach. Mental health students will build on their knowledge and skills in clinical interviewing, focused history taking, and critical analysis of client data to identify actual and potential health problems. The focus will be on the differential diagnosis of various case presentations with organic and psychological etiologies.
- NURS 504 Advanced Pathophysiology 3.0; 3 cr.**
- This is a course in advanced pathophysiology related to acute and chronic illnesses experienced by adults. Emphasis is placed on pathophysiologic nursing phenomena experienced across diseases, their manifestations and assessment measures. Case studies are used to illustrate application to advanced nursing practice.
- NURS 505A Advanced Practice in Adult-Gerontology I 2.8;4 cr.**
- This course builds on N504 & N503 and includes a theory and a clinical component. Emphasis is on further refinement and extension of pathophysiological concepts and assessment skills in the management of clients with a spectrum of health problems. Health promotion and risk reduction strategies are also addressed. *Prerequisites: NURS 503 and NURS 504.*

NURS 505B Advanced Practice in Adult-Gerontology II 2.8; 4 cr.

This course addresses advanced nursing practice in adult care and includes a theory and a clinical component. Emphasis is on further refinement and extension of pathophysiological concepts and assessment skills in the management of adults and older adults with acute and critical care conditions. *Prerequisites: NURS 503 and NURS 504.*

NURS 506 Advanced Practice in Adult-Gerontology III 0.16; 4 cr.

This is a practicum in which students apply content learned in NURS 503, 504, 505A and 505B, and use concepts learned in NURS 501 and PHRM 314, in the advanced management of adult clients with various illnesses. Interdisciplinary collaboration, research utilization, educational activities and case management are emphasized in a specialty area of practice. *Prerequisites: NURS 505A, NURS 505B and PHRM 314.*

NURS 507 Essentials of Nursing Administration and Management 2.0; 2 cr.

This course introduces management concepts and techniques. It focuses on three core topics: roles and responsibilities of managers; leading organizational effectiveness; and strategic planning. The focus is on using management models and concepts to work towards improved organizational effectiveness. Case studies of organizational problems provide the basis for group practical work.

NURS 508 Advanced Practice in Nursing Administration 0.16; 4 cr.

This practicum focuses on developing advanced management and administrative nursing skills in hospitals and primary health care settings. *Prerequisite: NURS 507.*

NURS 509 Role Development in Nursing Education 3.0; 3 cr.

This course addresses principles of teaching and learning, instructional methods, test construction and use, as well as curriculum and program development as applied to nursing. The course enables students to apply educational theory and research in various settings such as schools of nursing and staff development centers.

NURS 512 Advanced Psychiatric and Mental Health Assessment 1.3; 2 cr.

This course focuses on the advanced comprehensive mental health assessment of individuals using a case based approach. Students are provided with advanced knowledge and skills in clinical interview, focused history taking, mental status examination and diagnostic reasoning. The student performs comprehensive assessment and D.S.M. IV diagnosis on adult populations.

NURS 516 Psychopathology and Human Behavior 3.0; 3 cr.

This theory course examines the effects and/or sequels of alterations in selected bio-behavioral processes in the adult human suffering from illnesses with critical onsets and long-term unstable conditions. It focuses on the study of the brain and behavior and the neurological, physiological and biochemical foundations of cognition, mood and affect. Students will be exposed to advanced assessment skills, selected theories and research to identify complex psychiatric disorders and interventions utilizing case studies.

NURS 525 Leadership Theories and Applications for Nurse Managers 3.0; 3 cr.

The aim of this course is to promote familiarity with critical thinking about, and applications of evidence-based theories of leadership in nursing settings. The course encourages a reflective and analytical approach to cultivating effective personal leadership behaviors. The course introduces the full spectrum leadership model, examines its transformational leadership components in depth, and explores similarities and differences between transformational leadership and related leadership theories.

NURS 527 Systems Approach to the Development and Evaluation of Health Care Services 3.0; 3 cr.

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the development and implementation of health service programs/projects intended to improve health care, practice, and health system's outcomes. The course addresses assessment of contemporary issues affecting health such as those of the epidemiology of diseases, healthcare policies, socio-cultural, geo-political, and economic. It focuses on the theory and practice of planning from a system's perspective and introduces conceptual approaches and techniques of program evaluation. Students will prepare a project plan as part of the course

NURS 526 Comprehensive Exam 0 cr.**NURS 530 Statistical Reasoning and Application in Nursing Research 1.2; 2 cr.**

This class introduces students to the basic concepts and applications of statistics for nursing research and how to carry these applications using SPSS. The primary objective of the course is to provide students with the skills necessary to understand basic statistical analyses and carry out those analyses using SPSS. Descriptive, bivariate and linear multiple regression are covered.

NURS 531 Practical Applications of Budgeting in Nursing 1.0; 1 cr.

This course focuses on practical applications of concepts in budgeting and basic financial management. Participants will learn to develop a budget and evaluate the financial status of a department or operating unit and determine what, if any, corrective actions need to be taken. The course presents various analytical methods in management decision making, including variance analysis, and break-even analysis.

NURS 598 Project 3 cr.

Special projects directed toward acquiring skills needed in the development of programs relevant to nursing care within the student's area of interest. Projects vary depending on the track of study.

NURS 599 Thesis 6 cr.**NURS 6284 Digital Tools for Connected Health 3.0;3 cr.**

The focus is on the design and application of e-health principles to the delivery of health care. Evidence-based support for e-health are examined within a context of the legal, ethical, social and public policy challenges of health care delivery system.

NURS 6284 is offered on line by the University of Colorado in Denver.