

Pre-Nursing Scheduling and Timelines

Pre-nursing students, like all Mercer first-year students, are strongly encouraged to create their own "4-Year Plan". This process helps students attain a deeper understanding of the requirements of their degree program, and allows them to take ownership of their goals and plans. Students can consult the basic plan below, and use the *Pre-Nursing Spreadsheet*, which includes tabs for both a 2-year and a 4-year plan.

"4+2" Plans. These plans include the completion of a non-nursing bachelor's degree before matriculating to nursing school. Students who plan to follow this path to nursing can pursue any degree or major they like, as long as they also complete the nursing school prerequisites as they finish their bachelor's degree.

Majors and Minors. To earn a degree from the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, students must fulfill the general education requirements, the requirements for a major, plus the requirements for "additional depth" (a minor, or an additional major). Students should consult the University catalog for the requirements for specific majors and degrees.

Scheduling. Creation of a 4-year plan for 4+2 pre-nursing students depends on the major and minor.

The "2+2" Plan. This path includes the completion of only the prerequisites for admission to the preferred nursing school(s). Students are responsible for identifying their target nursing schools and learning what prerequisites are required.

GBCN Required Coursework. Mercer's Georgia Baptist College of Nursing requires successful completion of the courses shown on the *GBCN Checklist* document. Students should plan to complete 60 hr (reach "junior", or third-year status) before matriculation into the nursing program to facilitate the financial aid process. (Reminder: students who are seeking Special Consideration status at GBCN will need to complete 48 hours or more at the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences to maintain eligibility for the SCP.)

Scheduling. Students participating in the SCP for Nursing should follow the plan shown in the table below. Because no degree or certification is earned from the CLAS for completing the GBCN prerequisites, this path is only suitable for SCP-Nursing participants. **Students participating in the SCP-Nursing who lose eligibility after the first year must declare a major and work towards a degree, or may risk losing eligibility for federal financial aid.**

Note that a CLAS minor can be earned through this program if the student can complete the coursework required alongside their SCP-Nursing coursework.

Year	Fall	Spring	Summer
1	UNV 101 BIO 131 PSY 101 ¹ or another course from list of requirements ² 6-7 hours from required coursework list ²	BIO 132 PSY 101 ¹ or another course from list of requirements ² 9 hours from required coursework list ² <i>Declare SCP-Nursing Participation</i>	GPA CHECK (If either GPA is below 3.0, student loses SCP eligibility and must declare major)
2	BIO 102 or INT 201 PSY 265 6-10 hr from required coursework list ² <i>Study for and take the TEAS before end of December</i>	BIO 102 or INT 201 PSY 245 CPV BIOL325 3-6 hr from required coursework list ² <i>Submit application to GBCN by Jan. 30; If accepted, submit "non-returning" form to registrar by end of semester</i>	

1 PSY 101 must be taken before the end of year 1, as it is the prerequisite for both PSY 265 and PSY 245.

2 See the *GBCN Prerequisite Checklist*

Mercer's Mathematics Placement Policy. To enroll in statistics (STA 126) at the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, a student should be comfortable with the concepts included in college algebra (MAT 095) or higher; this may be demonstrated through credit for MAT 095 or its equivalent, or through a score of 11 or higher on the math placement test. Information about the math placement test can be found online here: <https://aas.mercer.edu/for-students/placement-exams/>.

General Chemistry. Students who are interested in attending one of the nursing programs offered by the University System of Georgia and/or who plan to pursue graduate training in nurse anesthesia should consider adding at least one semester of general chemistry (CHM 111) to their program. To enroll in CHM 111 at Mercer, a student must demonstrate a minimum mathematics competency that is equivalent to pre-calculus (MAT 133) or higher; this competency may be demonstrated through a Math Index (MIDX) of 980 or higher, a score of 15 or higher on the math placement test, or credit for MAT 133 or its equivalent (e.g., the CLEP pre-calculus exam with a score of 50% or higher: <https://clep.collegeboard.org/exam>).

CLEP Credit. Students who find it difficult to schedule their prerequisite coursework may consider taking a CLEP exam instead of taking a class (<https://clep.collegeboard.org/>). However, actual college coursework is always preferable to CLEP credit, and students should not consider seeking CLEP credit for their science courses or upper-level coursework like PSY 245 or PSY 265, as it will probably not be accepted by most nursing schools. An absolute maximum of 18 hr of CLEP credit is accepted by the GBCN.

