THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO
COLLEGE OF NURSING

Traditional Bachelor of Science in Nursing With Flexible Option

Advising and Information Session

UTEP College of Nursing – Office of Student Affairs
Phone: (915) 747-8337
Email: nursing@utep.edu
Website: www.utep.edu/nursing
Location: HSN Bldg. Room 200
Follow us on X (Twitter) for program updates: @UTEPNursing

The UTEP Traditional BSN Degree Plan consists of:

- *Core Curriculum and Pre-Professional Courses*
- *Sophomore-level Nursing Courses*
- *Nursing Professional Courses*

- ***Required*** **Pre-Professional Courses GPA**: **3.20**
- **Required Overall GPA**: **3.00**
- **TEAS Requirements: 68% composite, 65% reading, 55% science *Subject to change***

About the BSN:

The UTEP Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program offers students a dynamic course of study that is both theoretical and practical. The program prepares graduates to work in a wide variety of clinical settings and provides the necessary foundation for masters and doctoral degrees in nursing. Graduates of the BSN program will be prepared to take the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN) with the Texas Board of Nursing.

The baccalaureate, master's, and doctoral degrees in nursing program at The University of Texas at El Paso are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, 655 K Street, NW, Suite 750. Washington, DC 20001, (202) 887-6791.

GO MINERS!

ROADMAP

into the UTEP Traditional BSN with Flexible Option

STEP #1: Gain ADMISSION to UTEP as a New Student or Transfer Student

UTEP Core Curriculum + Pre-Professional Courses + Sophomore-Level Nursing Courses

- Approx. 5 – 6 semesters for full-time students (13+ credit hours)
- Get ADVISED and INFORMED before every registration period
- Applicants who have previously attended another nursing program must have a letter submitted from the Dean or Director of the previous school that includes a statement regarding the student's standing. Applicants who have been previously dismissed from a program will not be considered for admission.
- Maintain the following GPAs and TEAS scores (*Subject to change*) for approval into the sophomore-level nursing courses.
  - Overall GPA=3.00+
  - Pre-professional courses GPA=3.20+
  - TEAS composite score of 68%+
  - TEAS reading score of 65%+
  - TEAS science score of 55%+

Sophomore-Level Nursing Courses

- **NURS 2303 Intro to Nursing Practice**
  - **Pre-requisites**: MATH 1320, BIOL 1305-1107, BIOL 2311-2111*
  - Submit and pass Criminal Background Check (CBC) for the TX Board of Nursing during this course
- **NURS 2502 Pathophysiology**
  - **Pre-requisites:** MATH 1320, BIOL 1305-1107, BIOL 2311-2111, CHEM 1307-1107, BIOL 2313-2113*
  - Take and pass TEAS at least 7 days prior to the start of NURS 2502
  - Submit blue card or approved outcome letter and titers for NURS 2407 registration
- **NURS 2407 Pharmacology for Nursing**
  - **Pre-requisites:** MATH 1320, BIOL 1305-1107, BIOL 2311-2111, BIOL 2313-2113, CHEM 1307-1107, MICR 2330*
  - Passing TEAS scores, blue card or approved outcome letter, and titer lab report required for registration
  - Submit proof of first vaccine and health insurance prior to registering for the nursing professional courses

***may be taken concurrently**

Nursing Professional Courses

- Prerequisites: NURS 2303, 2502, 2407, blue card or approved outcome letter from the Texas Board of Nursing, passing TEAS scores, health insurance, and titer lab report with proof of first vaccine completion
- Pass drug screening & complete all compliance requirements (between $500-$600)
- 4 semesters (between 15—24 months)
- Gain approx. 900 hours of clinical experience
- Become fully prepared to take and pass the NCLEX RN licensing exam

The University of Texas at El Paso
College of Nursing Traditional BSN with Flexible Option
Bachelor of Science in Nursing Degree Plan--College Ready
120 credit hours

Minimum GPA requirements: 3.00 overall GPA, 3.20 pre-professional courses (PPC) GPA

University Core Curriculum: Can be taken anytime during semesters 1 - 5

Pre-professional courses (PPC): Math 1320, BIOL 1305-1107, BIOL 2311-2111, CHEM 1307-1107, BIOL 2313-2113, MICR 2330, HSCI 2302, PSYC 1301

NURS 2303, 2502, 2407: must meet minimum GPA requirements and pre-requisites

1st Semester	2nd Semester	3rd Semester	4th Semester	5th Semester
16 SCH	13 SCH	14 SCH	14 SCH	13 SCH
RWS 1301	HIST 1301	**NURS 2303***	**NURS 2502***	**NURS 2407***
UNIV 1301	RWS 1302	HIST 1302	MICR 2330	HSCI 2302
Math 1320	Component Area Option	CHEM 1307-1107	PSYC 1301	Lang, Phil, Cult
BIOL 1305-1107	BIOL 2311-2111	BIOL 2313-2113	POLS 2310	POLS 2311
Creative Arts				
NSO/AAC advising	AAC advising	AAC/CON Advising	CON advising	CON advising
		CBC Form after Census Day	Blue Card/outcome letter	Health Insurance (nursing@utep.edu)
		TEAS	(submit to nursing@utep.edu	Proof of 1st vaccine
			Titers (compliance office)	(compliance office)
			before registering for N2407)	(submitted before registering
				for Junior 1 semester)

***Pre-requisites for sophomore-level nursing courses **These courses may be taken concurrently**

NURS 2303 [*MATH 1320, BIOL 1305-1107, **BIOL 2311-2111]
NURS 2502 [TEAS,*MATH 1320, BIOL 1305-1107, BIOL 2311-2111, CHEM 1307-1107, **BIOL 2313-2113]
NURS 2407 [TEAS, blue card/outcome letter, titers, *MATH 1320, BIOL 1305-1107, BIOL 2311-2111, BIOL 2313-2113, CHEM 1307-1107,**MICR 2330]
Junior 1 Semester [completion of core, ppc, TEAS, blue card/outcome letter, sophomore-level nursing courses, titers, health insurance, proof of 1st vaccine]

Junior 1 Semester	Junior 2 Semester	Senior 1 Semester	Senior 2 Semester
12 SCH	12 SCH	13 SCH	13 SCH
NURS 3214*	NURS 3300	NURS 4714	NURS 4306
NURS 3301*	NURS 3709	NURS 4608	NURS 4511
NURS 3704*	NURS 3205		NURS 4412
			NURS 4133
Castle Branch, CWO	Compliance requirements	Compliance requirements	Compliance requirements
CPR, physical exam		Graduation clearance	NCLEX Application
Background check			Nursing Jurisprudence Exam
Drug Screen, immunizations			TX BON CBC
Clinical Course Orientation			

TEAS Requirements
Composite score=68%
Reading %=65%
Science %=55%
Deadline: 7 days prior
to starting NURS 2502

Subject to change

Junior 1-Senior 2 are semester labels and do not indicate students' official classification

approved Jan. 2024

College of Nursing
Traditional BSN with Flexible Option Important Information

Having a previous Bachelor's, Master's, and/or Doctoral degree(s) **DOES NOT** guarantee a seat in the nursing courses.
Students are required to meet minimum requirements (pre-requisites/GPAs) to progress through the nursing program.
Students are responsible for transferring all Core and Pre-Professional courses in a timely manner.
Transfer credits must be officially posted on your UTEP transcript to enroll in nursing courses.
The TX Board of Nursing will be conducting a Criminal Background Check for every nursing major eligible to enroll in NURS 2303.
Failure to pass the TEAS exam will result in ineligibility to register for NURS 2502.
Failure to comply and/or pass the CBC will result in ineligibility to register for NURS 2407.
Failure to submit titers lab report by the deadline will result in ineligibility to register for NURS 2407.
Students will be administratively dropped from nursing courses if pre-requisites are not met after final grades post.

Pre-Professional Courses and Pre-requisite Information

Course	Pre-requisite
Math 1320	Course or test; Math 0311 or higher with minimum grade of "C"; may NOT be taken concurrently
BIOL 1305-1107	Math 0311 or higher with a minimum grade of "C"; may NOT be taken concurrently
BIOL 2311-2111	BIOL 1305-1107 with a minimum grade of "C"; may NOT be taken concurrently
BIOL 2313-2113	BIOL 1305-1107 with a minimum grade of "C"; may NOT be taken concurrently
CHEM 1307-1107	Math 0311 or higher; may be taken concurrently
CHEM 1305-1105	Math 1508 or higher; may be taken concurrently
MICR 2330	BIOL 1305-1107 with a minimum grade of "C"; may NOT be taken concurrently
HSCI 2302	BIOL 1305-1107 with a minimum grade of "C"; may NOT be taken concurrently
PSYC 1301	TSI Reading College Ready

UTEP Policies on Repeating Courses

- **Repetition of most courses** (D/F Repeat for all 1000 and 2000 level courses):

  - If a student earns a D or F in a 1000 or 2000 level course the student may "D/F repeat" that course. Students have only one opportunity per course to improve their original grades under the D/F repeat policy.
  - The new grade becomes the grade that counts toward the student's cumulative GPA and credit hours for graduation, even if the repeated course grade is lower than the original grade in the course.
  - The D/F repeat policy will be enacted any time an eligible course is repeated.

  When a course is D/F repeated, the following procedure occurs:

  1. The original grade is disregarded for the purpose of determining the overall UTEP GPA, it is marked as excluded (E) in the semester that the student originally took the course.
  2. The original grade is not deleted from the student's permanent record.
  3. The second grade is entered on the student's transcript and marked as included (I) in the semester that the course was repeated.

- **Repetition of <u>Pre-Professional Courses</u> in which a grade of "C" was earned:**

  - Repeating a Pre-Professional course in which a grade of "C" was earned **requires approval by the College of Nursing, Office of Student Affairs**. See nursing advisor for details.
  - Departments may restrict the repetition of a course; however, if the course is approved to retake, then a "C Grade Override" will be entered on the student's record.
  - Failure to get departmental approval for a repeated course will result in a withdrawal/drop from the course.
  - All attempts are used in determining the cumulative UTEP GPA.
  - The College of Nursing will use the ***highest grade earned per Pre-Professional course*** in the calculation of the Pre-Professional Courses GPA.

Petition for Declaratory Order (DO)

➔ **If any of the following information applies to your background, you must complete the Declaratory Order while completing the sophomore-level nursing courses.**

➔ **The Texas Board of Nursing strongly advises students petition the Board during the sophomore-level nursing courses BEFORE enrolling into the nursing professional courses of the nursing program if the student has potential eligibility issues.**

Petitions for Declaratory Order (DO) are reviewed on a case-by-case basis and are processed in the order that they are received. In addition, providing incomplete information may result in the Board delaying or denying the approval of the DO. You will receive an Operations outcome letter if the DO is approved. Students who are denied have the option of re-petitioning the Board or may request a hearing before an Administrative Law Judge at the State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH).

Criminal background checks will be completed on all applicants accepted to the program. The following histories will ***disqualify*** an individual from consideration for clinical rotations:

- Felony convictions
- Misdemeanor convictions or felony deferred adjudications involving crimes against persons (physical or sexual abuse, etc.)
- Misdemeanor convictions related to moral turpitude (prostitution, public lewdness/exposure, etc.)
- Felony deferred adjudications for the sale, possession, distribution, or transfer of narcotics or controlled substances, and
- Registered sex offenders

You will need to submit a **Declaratory Order of Eligibility** to the Texas Board of Nursing for any criminal offense including those pending appeal if you have:

- been convicted of a misdemeanor
- been convicted of a felony
- pled non contendere, no contest or guilty
- received deferred adjudication
- been placed on community supervision or court ordered probation
- been sentenced to serve in jail or prison or court ordered confinement
- been granted pretrial diversion
- been arrested or have any pending criminal charges
- been cited or charged with any violation of the law (excluding minor traffic tickets)
- been subject to court martial

Conditions requiring you to complete the Petition for Declaratory Order of Eligibility as outlined above include: Within the last 5 years, a diagnosis, treatment or hospitalization for schizophrenia and/or psychotic disorders, bipolar disorder, paranoid personality disorder, antisocial personality disorder, or borderline personality disorder.

The Declaratory Order of Eligibility form can be found at:

https://www.bon.state.tx.us/forms_declaratory_order.asp

Retaking NURS 2303, NURS 2407, NURS 2502

- Students must submit a course repeat form to the College of Nursing Undergraduate Office of Student Affairs.
- Ten percent (10%) of the total seats in each of the sophomore level courses will be reserved for students meeting the criteria in the next bullet.
- A student will be approved to retake one or more of the sophomore-level courses if:
    - There is space availability.
    - It is the second attempt of the course.
    - Student meets the following GPAs and TEAS (*Subject to change*) scores:
        - Overall GPA=3.00
        - Pre-professional courses (PPC) GPA=3.20
        - TEAS composite score=68%
        - TEAS Reading=65%
        - TEAS Science=55%
    - Student does not exceed the total number of course attempts (failure or withdrawal) of nursing courses.
    - Students not meeting the overall GPA of 3.00 or better, will be considered if it is mathematically possible to raise the overall GPA by retaking the sophomore-level nursing courses and space availability.
    - Non-compliance with Students Opting for Success (SOS) requirements jeopardizes the student's eligibility to retake a sophomore-level nursing course.
- If a student is not selected to repeat for a second attempt, the student may reapply for a future semester.
- If all sections of the course are closed, students may reapply for the course for a future semester.
- Nursing courses may be attempted only twice. A withdrawal from a nursing course after Census Day, which results in a documented "W" on the student transcript, counts as an attempt.
- An unsuccessful attempt of a nursing course is defined as failure in the course (D or F) or withdrawal after Census Day.

Lapse in Enrollment

Students who experience a lapse in enrollment of more than one semester, have completed the sophomore-level or advanced-level professional nursing courses, and have not been dismissed from the nursing program, will be required to meet with the Success & Retention Coordinator and the Undergraduate Compliance Coordinator to review the requirements for reinstatement. Lapses in enrollment will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis to determine a course of action. Returning to the nursing program in the semester the student left is not guaranteed and is at the discretion of the College of Nursing Director of Student Affairs and the Associate Dean for Undergraduate Education. This applies to semesters that include either the sophomore or advanced-level professional nursing courses.

A remediation plan will be developed based on individual student issues. Eligibility for registration will require successful completion of the remediation plan prior to the start of the semester.

Academic Dismissal

- Academic dismissal from the undergraduate nursing program occurs after any two nursing course (sophomore or advanced level) failures (D or F) or two unsuccessful attempts of the same course. A withdrawal after census day counts as an attempt.
- Students may also be dismissed as a result of unprofessional conduct.
    - Acts that violate standards of professional conduct include, but are not limited to, academic dishonesty, felonious criminal activity, falsification of patient information, HIPAA violations, bullying, acts of verbal, written, or physical violence or threats, insubordination, and harassment toward other students, faculty, or peers while in any setting as a UTEP student.
- Students may be dismissed for unsafe practice in the clinical setting.
- If a student does not meet the academic criteria for progression in the program, the student will be dismissed from the program and will no longer be eligible to continue in the major.
- There is no appeal process for dismissals.
    - A formal letter of academic dismissal will be sent to the student by the Associate Dean for Undergraduate Education.
- It is highly recommended for students to meet with the College of Nursing Undergraduate Office of Student Affairs to review academic options.

EPCC/UTEP TRANSFER GUIDE

Core Curriculum

Courses indicated with an asterisk * dual fulfill for some Pre-professional course requirements.

Communication	
Select 6 semester credit hours from:	
UTEP	**EPCC**
COMM 1611	No equivalent
ESOL 1311, ESOL 1312	No equivalent
RWS 1301	ENGL 1301
RWS 1302	ENGL 1302
RWS 1601	No equivalent

Life & Physical Sciences*	
Select 6 credit hours from:	
UTEP	**EPCC**
BIOL 1305-1107	BIOL 1306-1106
BIOL 2311-2111	BIOL 2401
BIOL 2313-2113	BIOL 2402
CHEM 1307-1107	CHEM 1306-1106
CHEM 1305-1105	CHEM 1311-1111
MICR 2330	BIOL 2420

Language, Philosophy, & Culture	
Select 3 credit hours from:	
UTEP	**EPCC**
ENGL 2311	ENGL 2322
ENGL 2312	ENGL 2323
ENGL 2313	ENGL 2342
ENGL 2314	ENGL 2372
ENGL 2318	ENGL 2372
FREN 2322	No equivalent
HIST 2301	HIST 2321
HIST 2302	HIST 2322
PHIL 1301	PHIL 1301
PHIL 2306	PHIL 2306
RS 1301	PHIL 1304
SPAN 2340	No equivalent
WS 2300	WMST 1370
WS 2350	No equivalent

Important:

1. All courses used to satisfy the core curriculum must be completed with a grade of "C" or better. This also applies to courses transferred from another institution.
2. **It is highly recommended that POLS be completed at EPCC then transferred to UTEP or both be completed at UTEP.**
3. **No subsitutions** will be allowed in the Core Curriculum.

Mathematics (3 credit hours)*	
UTEP	**EPCC**
Math 1320	Math 1324

Social & Behavioral Sciences (3 credit hours)*	
UTEP	**EPCC**
PSYC 1301	PSYC 2301

Creative Arts	
Select 3 credit hours from:	
UTEP	**EPCC**
Art 1300	ARTS 1301
ARTH 1305	ARTS 1303
ARTH 1306	ARTS 1304
DANC 1304	DANC 2303
FILM 1390	COMM 2366
MUSL 1321	MUSI 1307
MUSL 1324	MUSI 1306
MUSL 1327	MUSI 1310
THEA 1313	DRAM 1310

American History (6 credit hours)	
UTEP	**EPCC**
HIST 1301	HIST 1301
HIST 1302	HIST 1302

Government/Political Science (6 credit hours)	
UTEP	**EPCC**
POLS 2310	GOVT 2305
POLS 2311	GOVT 2306

Component Area Option (6 credit hours)	
UTEP	**EPCC**
BUSN 1301	BUSG 1301
COMM 1301	SPCH 1315
COMM 1302	SPCH 1321
CS 1310	COSC 1301
CS 1320	No equivalent
SCI 1301	No equivalent
UNIV 1301	EDUC 1300

Pre-Professional Courses

Pre-Professional Courses	
UTEP	**EPCC**
Math 1320	Math 1324
BIOL 1305-1107	BIOL 1306-1106
BIOL 2311-2111	BIOL 2401
BIOL 2313-2113	BIOL 2402
MICR 2330	BIOL 2420
HSCI 2302	HECO 1322
PSYC 1301	PSYC 2301
Select 4 credit hours from:	
CHEM 1307-1107	CHEM 1306-1106
CHEM 1305-1105	CHEM 1311-1111

Financial Aid

Financial aid enrollment is based on a student's enrollment during the fall, spring and summer semesters. However, financial aid will not cover payment if a student is not enrolled in courses listed on their degree plan or is making a third attempt of a previously passed course.

I completed MATH 1320 with a "C". Can I take STAT 1380 and have it covered by Financial Aid?

No. Financial Aid will allow you to repeat a previously passed course. However, STAT 1380 would not be a second attempt at MATH 1320 because MATH 1320 is a different course.

Students wishing to change majors after beginning a course of study may do so one time before completing 90 credit hours without adversely affecting the maximum timeframe component of Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP). Any previously completed credits that do not contribute to the new degree program will be removed from the maximum timeframe calculation. **Additional changes of major may cause the student to exceed the maximum timeframe and lose eligibility for financial aid.**

I want to take additional courses to be full-time for Financial Aid. These courses are not on my BSN degree plan. Can I change my major to ensure the courses are covered by another major?

We do not recommend changing your major to cover ineligible courses as it may cause you to exceed the maximum timeframe and lose eligibility for financial aid. You should only change your major if it is a realistic option toward a degree.

Military Student Success Center (MSSC)

MSSC will not certify previously passed courses or courses not listed on the degree plan. Students may be dropped for non-payment of ineligible courses.

Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS)

The ATI TEAS exam is used to evaluate *entry level* skills and abilities of nursing program applicants.

What is the ATI-TEAS?

The TEAS is an internet-based, multiple-choice, exam that assesses a student's abilities in four essential subject areas:

Reading (approx. 45 questions, 55 minutes) – section includes questions regarding key ideas and details (15), craft and structure (9), Integration of knowledge & ideas (15).

Math (approx. 38 items, 57 minutes) – section includes questions regarding numbers and algebra (18), and measurement and data (16). ***A calculator is embedded in the exam.***

Science (approx. 50 items, 60 minutes) – section includes questions regarding human anatomy & physiology (18), biology (9), chemistry (8), and scientific reasoning (9).

English and Language Usage (approx. 37 items, 37 minutes) – section includes questions regarding conventions of standard English (12), knowledge of language (11), using language and vocabulary to express ideas in writing (10).

PLEASE SCHEDULE 4 HOURS TO TAKE THE EXAM.

Your final scores will be shown *immediately* on the screen following the exam.

How do I register?

Step 1: Determine if you need to take the exam

All students who are eligible to take the sophomore level courses at UTEP must take the TEAS before registering for NURS 2502 and 2407.

Step 2: Payment Procedures

Make sure you have a credit card ready and go to **http://www.atitesting.com**

Phone registration is also available by calling **(800) 667-7531**.

THE TEST FEE IS $127 PLUS TAX (SUBJECT TO CHANGE),

NON-REFUNDABLE, AND NON-TRANSFERABLE

Step 3: Register for a test session

1. Select TEAS in the top main menu and click "Register for the TEAS".
2. Determine whether you want to take your TEAS in person or online. UTEP is listed under "University of Texas El Paso TEAS"
3. Choose the test session that is most convenient for you and select "register".
   Click "check out" on the bottom right hand-corner.
   Next, you must create a user name and password (or use the one you already have, if so).
4. Once you've logged in, fill in the account information and then use your credit card to pay.

MAKE SURE TO ENTER YOUR UTEP ID DURING REGISTRATION

Where do I take the TEAS exam at UTEP?

Step 4: On the day of the test

- Report to the **UTEP Student Testing Center, below**.
- Please arrive 15 minutes early for check-in. If you arrive late, you will not be admitted.
- Present your identification: you will be required to present an acceptable form of identification (such as an original, current and valid ID used by a city/state/federal government agency).
- Electronic devices (cell phones, tablets, MP3 players) are not allowed. However, two #2 pencils are allowed.

NO ID—NO TEST

UTEP STUDENT TESTING

UTEP Library– 4th Floor, Room 401

915-747-5009

Personal calculators or any other electronic devices such as phones, laptops, etc., are not allowed in the UTEP Testing Center.

A calculator will be provided during the TEAS exam (embedded within the exam).

What are the rules for the TEAS at UTEP?

1. **A passing TEAS score is valid for five years.**
2. **There is a waiting period of 14 days between attempts when using an online ATI proctoring option. The ATI proctoring option also requires a waiting period of 3 business days for final score availability. Please plan accordingly.**
3. **ATI TEAS may be taken up to four times in a 12-month period. If the student does not pass one or more of the required TEAS scores, the student must retake the entire test to obtain the required scores.**
4. **The three required TEAS scores (composite, reading, science) will be accepted from the same attempt. Students cannot mix and match from multiple attempts.**

What do my results mean and how does UTEP get my scores?

- Official TEAS exam **results are available *immediately after the exam*** on the computer screen—a copy of the scores will not be issued, but your official results are available by logging into the ATI website: **www.atitesting.com**.
- Students can view and print a copy of their test scores anytime at the above website using the username and password that was created to register for the TEAS.
- If you entered in your correct UTEP ID number when registering, the UTEP College of Nursing will *usually* have immediate access to view your TEAS scores, as well. If you did not provide your UTEP ID number during registration, you may be required to submit your ATI Individual Performance Profile to nursing@utep.edu for score confirmation.
- The UTEP College of Nursing requires nursing majors to have the minimum required scores (see below) to be eligible to register for NURS 2502 and 2407.

***MINIMUM SCORE SUBJECT TO CHANGE ***

TEAS Proctored Assessment	Scores
Composite	68.0%
Reading	65.0%
Science	55.0%

How can I transfer my score?

To send your score to another school *or* to transfer your score to UTEP:

1. Visit http://www.utep.edu/nursing/academic-programs/undergraduate/traditional-bsn/how-to-apply.html
2. Look for "ATI TEAS EXAM".
3. Click on the "TEAS Transcript" link.
4. LOG IN to the ATI website, then simply select your TEAS transcript to add to your cart and purchase.

There is a $30 charge to transfer the score and it is typically received at UTEP within 48 hours.

IMPORTANT:

If you are transferring your score to UTEP, please ensure the UTEP College of Nursing receives your score(s) by verifying with a UTEP nursing academic advisor: http://www.utep.edu/nursing/resources/academic-advising.html

How do I study for the TEAS?

- Examinees can purchase an **ATI-TEAS VI Study Guide** at:

  ATI TEAS Study Manual - For Students | ATI (atitesting.com)

- Students may also purchase **TEAS online practice assessments** for a fee through the ATI website.
- The **ATI TEAS Exam Prep (Pocket Prep) app** is available for **iPhone and/or Android** phones in your App Store.

UTEP BSN Frequently Asked Questions

(FAQ)

Is the undergraduate UTEP College of Nursing program accredited?
Yes. The nursing program is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) and approved by the Texas Board of Nursing.

As a nursing major, where do I get advised?
Students with 0-29 credit hours will be required to get advised in the Academic Advising Center. Students with 30+ credit hours will be required to attend an information and advising session at the College of Nursing (HSN room 200). Students must call (915) 747-8337 or visit the **Office of Student Affairs in HSN room 200** to sign up for a session. Advising is mandatory every semester until a student reaches the nursing professional courses.

Do you accept nursing courses from other nursing programs?
No. All nursing courses must be taken at UTEP.

If I was dismissed from another nursing program, can I apply to the Traditional BSN with Flexible Option at UTEP?
No. Students dismissed from another nursing program may not apply to the UTEP Traditional BSN with Flexible Option.

Can I have someone in the CON Office of Student Affairs review my transcript(s)?
No. The College of Nursing does not offer transcript evaluation. However, after your credits have been officially evaluated by the Office of Admissions, the College of Nursing will create a degree evaluation for you when you sign up for an information and advising session.

How can I determine what credits will transfer to UTEP?
Visit the Office of Admissions online transfer credit equivalency feature where students can have access to transfer equivalencies from various institutions in order to help them determine what transfer credit they can expect to receive upon entry to UTEP. The equivalencies listed are the most current articulations established and may be subject to change.

Do the University Core Curriculum and Pre-professional courses expire?
The pre-professional courses and the University Core Curriculum do not expire.

Can I take the core-curriculum and pre-professional courses at EPCC?
Yes. The University Core Curriculum and the pre-professional courses may be taken at EPCC. However, students will be required to attend UTEP when taking the sophomore-level and the nursing professional courses.

Can I take the core-curriculum and pre-professional courses online?
Yes. UTEP offers many of the core and pre-professional requirements online. In addition, students are permitted to choose online courses with UT institutions as an option to expand their educational opportunities. You may click here to visit the University of Texas System Online Consortium.

Does the University Core Curriculum have to be taken in a specific order?
No, students may complete the University Core Curriculum in any order if all course requirements are completed before starting the nursing professional courses.

Can I complete the pre-professional courses in any order?
To be eligible to register for the sophomore-level nursing courses, students must adhere to the required sequence of pre-professional courses for each nursing course.

What are the pre-requisites of the sophomore-level nursing courses?
NURS 2303 [MATH 1320, BIOL 1305-1107, BIOL 2311-2111 (may be taken concurrently)]
NURS 2502 [TEAS, MATH 1320, BIOL 1305-1107, BIOL 2311-2111, CHEM 1307-1107, BIOL 2313-2113 (may be taken concurrently)]
NURS 2407 [TEAS, blue card or outcome letter from the TX BON, complete titer lab report, MATH 1320, BIOL 1305-1107, BIOL 2311-2111, CHEM 1307-1107, BIOL 2313-2113, MICR 2330 (may be taken concurrently)]

Am I eligible to register for the sophomore-level nursing courses if I am a transfer student that has completed the University Core Curriculum and pre-professional courses, and I don't have an established UTEP GPA?
Transfer students are eligible to register for NURS 2303 if they have a previous institution overall GPA of at least 3.00, a pre-professional courses GPA of 3.20 or better and be admitted as a nursing major.

Transfer students will be required to submit valid TEAS scores to be eligible to register for NURS 2502. At that point, CON Office of Student Affairs will provide students with a link to submit their criminal background check (CBC) form.

Transfer students will be eligible to register for NURS 2407 when they submit their blue card or outcome letter from the Texas Board of Nursing to the UTEP College of Nursing Office of Student Affairs, and their titer lab report to the CON Compliance Officer.

Transfer students will be given registration overrides for the above courses if requirements are met and seats are open.

Once I establish my UTEP overall GPA, will you continue to use my transfer overall GPA?
When a student establishes an overall GPA at UTEP, the CON Office of Student Affairs will only use the UTEP overall GPA for progression in the nursing courses.

There is a non-contributing course on my degree evaluation. What does that mean?
These course(s) are not a part of your approved degree plan and will not count towards financial aid eligibility. Click here for more information on non-contributing courses.

Can I repeat pre-professional courses for higher grades?
Course failure: If a student earns a D or F in a 1000 or 2000 level course the student may "D/F repeat" that course. Students have only one opportunity per course to improve their original grades under the D/F repeat policy. The new grade becomes the grade that counts toward the student's cumulative GPA and credit hours for graduation, even if the repeated course grade is lower than the original grade in the course. The D/F repeat policy will be enacted any time an eligible course is repeated.

Course previously passed: If a student earns a "C" or better in a pre-professional course and wishes to retake for a higher grade, they must get approval from the Nursing Office of Student Affairs. If they choose to repeat a "passed" course, both grades for the course will be posted on the transcript and will be used in the calculation of the cumulative GPA. Please see a nursing advisor for instructions on how to get permission to retake any pre-professional course at UTEP.

Please follow these guidelines for re-taking courses at UTEP:

- For MATH 1320, BIOL 1305-1107, BIOL 2311-2111, BIOL 2313-2113, CHEM 1307-1107, CHEM 1305-1105, and MICR 2330: can only be re-taken at UTEP if a student has a current grade of "C". Grades of "B" cannot be re-taken at UTEP. Limit of 2 attempts.
- Students must have a minimum overall GPA of 3.00 and a minimum PPC GPA of 2.90 to be eligible to retake a pre-professional science course in which a C was earned.
- For HSCI 2302 and PSYC 1301, "B"s or "C"s are currently allowed to be re-taken at UTEP. Limit of 2 attempts.

The College of Nursing will accept *transferred* course grades (for example from EPCC) for re-takes, as well.

Please note that the College of Nursing will use the *highest grade earned* per pre-professional course in the calculation of the pre-professional courses (PPC) GPA.

Do I get credit for my work or life experience?
No. UTEP does not award university credit for non-academic professional certificate or life experience.

Can I use graduate-level coursework for the BSN degree?
No. Graduate-level coursework is not transferable as undergraduate credit.

Can I enter directly into the nursing professional courses?
No. You must first complete the university core curriculum, the pre-professional courses, the sophomore-level nursing courses, meet all GPA and TEAS requirements, show proof of health insurance, submit a copy of your blue card/outcome letter to the CON Office of Student Affairs, and submit a complete titer lab report and proof of your first vaccine to the CON Compliance Officer.

When should I submit the criminal background check form (CBC)?
Students will be required to submit their criminal background check (CBC) form while enrolled in NURS 2303. After Census Day, all students in NURS 2303 will receive an email from the CON Office of Student Affairs with instructions on submitting the CBC form.

When can I schedule my fingerprint appointment with Identogo?
Students can schedule their fingerprint appointment after the Texas Board of Nursing sends them an email with the link to schedule the appointment with Identogo. The estimated time to receive the email is up to 2-3 weeks. If the student does not receive an email from Identogo after 3 weeks, the student should contact the CON Office of Student Affairs at nursing@utep.edu or HSN room 200.

What happens after I complete my fingerprints with Identogo?
Students will be mailed a blue card (postcard) if their CBC came back with no findings. If any incidents (criminal activities) are found, then the student will receive an initial outcome letter with instructions on the documents needed for further review from the Texas Board of Nursing. The CON Office of Student Affairs will need a copy of the blue card or outcome letter from the student.

Do I need to take an admission examination to take the sophomore-level nursing courses?
Yes. Students are required to take the ATI-TEAS exam as one of the pre-requisites to register for NURS 2502 and NURS 2407. This examination may be taken up to four times in a 12-month period. Required TEAS scores (*Subject to change*): 68% composite, 65% reading, 55% science.

What are titers?
A titer is a laboratory test that measures the presence and amount of antibodies in blood.

When will I need to start my titers blood test?
While in NURS 2502, the CON Compliance Officer will provide students with information and deadlines for submitting a titer lab report. Registration overrides for NURS 2407 will be entered when the student submits the complete titer report to the CON Compliance Officer.

When will I need to show proof of health insurance and start my compliance requirements?
While in NURS 2407, the CON Office of Student Affairs will need a copy of the student's current and active health insurance. Registration overrides for the nursing professional courses will be entered when a student submits the proof of health insurance to the CON Office of Student Affairs. If a student is instructed to begin any vaccine series (MMR, Varicella, or Hepatitis B"), registration overrides for nursing professional courses will be entered only after the affected student has submitted record(s) of their first vaccine(s) dose(s) to the CON Compliance Officer.

Why do I need health insurance to continue in the nursing program?
Health insurance is required by our clinical partners and is necessary to cover any emergency room visits to the clinical sites.

What if I fail a nursing course? Can I take the course the following semester?
All students have a maximum of 2 attempts to take a nursing course. Students may submit a nursing course repeat form to the College of Nursing Office of Student Affairs. Repeating a course in the following semester is not guaranteed, and depends on space availability, meeting the minimum overall and PPC GPAs, and TEAS scores.

When are the sophomore-level nursing courses and the nursing professional courses offered?
All nursing courses are offered three times a year (Fall, Spring, Summer) for the Traditional BSN with Flexible Option and the RN to BSN options.

How long does it take to complete the nursing professional courses?
The nursing professional courses are completed in 4 semesters in a lock-step sequence.

What is a passing grade in nursing courses?
Students must pass nursing courses at a minimum of 75%. Per the College of Nursing policy, achieving less than 75% in the didactic portion of the course results in a course failure. There is no rounding of grades and fractional points will be dropped upon final course grade. For example, if you earn a 74.999 your final grade is 74.

What is required for an RN license?
To obtain an RN license, the individual must have graduated from a nursing program approved by a state board of nursing, meet all the requirements to sit for the licensure examination (including no felony convictions), and successfully pass the examination.

How do you specialize?
The decision to specialize and advance professionally is a commitment that generally requires a master's degree in nursing. Click here to access the Master of Science in Nursing & Post-graduate APRN Certifications website.

Where can I go for more information?
You may visit our website at https://www.utep.edu/nursing/or you may sign up for an **Advising and Information Session** by calling (915) 747-8337.

COLLEGE OF NURSING

Sophomore-Level and Professional Nursing Courses Check List

In addition to completing or transferring the pre-requisite courses and maintaining at least a 3.00 Overall GPA and 3.20 Pre-professional (PPC) GPA, below are questions to help you check off important steps for progression in the Nursing Sophomore-Level and Professional Courses.

If you have any questions on these steps, please reach out to nursing@utep.edu or a CON Advisor.

NURS 2502 Pathophysiology

Have I taken and passed the TEAS exam with at least (*Scores subject to change*) a 68% Composite, 65% Reading, and 55% Science scores at least 7 days before the first day of class? _____

Have I emailed a CON Advisor or nursing@utep.edu to check my TEAS scores? _____

NURS 2407 Pharmacology for Nursing

Have I submitted my Criminal Background Check (CBC) Form to the CON Office of Student Affairs? ____

After waiting at least three weeks, have I received an email from Identogo? ____

After receiving an email from Identogo, have I scheduled a fingerprinting appointment? ____

After completing my fingerprinting appointment and waiting at least three weeks, have I received my Blue Card or Outcome Letter from the TX Board of Nursing in the mail? ___

Have I submitted my Blue Card or Outcome Letter to nursing@utep.edu with my full name, student ID number, and request for NURS 2407 registration? _____

Have I completed my Titers? _____

Have I submitted my Titer Lab Report to CON Compliance Coordinator, Mr. Pete Rodriguez for review? ___

Professional NURS Courses Junior 1 Semester- NURS 3214, 3301, 3704

Have I submitted my proof of health insurance to nursing@utep.edu or a CON Advisor with my full name, student ID number, and request for Professional NURS courses registration? _____

Have I submitted my proof of first vaccine to CON Compliance Coordinator, Mr. Pete Rodriguez? ___