

MORAVIAN UNIVERSITY

Helen S. Breidegam School of Nursing Policy: Undergraduates in MSN Courses

This policy allows undergraduate nursing students to “double dip” or double count Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) course credits in meeting requirements for the Bachelor of Science (BSN). According to Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) regulations, a graduate degree is composed of at least 30 credits above the baccalaureate level. This policy permits eligible nursing students to enroll in up to four (4), 3-credit graduate (i.e. MSN) courses, with the opportunity to use credits towards both their BSN *and* MSN degrees.

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This policy is intended for pre-licensure BSN students, as well as those who are already RNs completing BSN degree requirements. Graduate courses could be used as nursing electives for RN to BSN students and as free electives for pre-licensure undergraduate students.

In order for undergraduate nursing students to be eligible to take graduate-level courses, the following criteria are required. The undergraduate nursing student is to:

1. Have completed at least 22.75 units towards the bachelor’s degree.
2. Be a high-achieving student with a cumulative Grade Point Average of ≥ 3.5 on a 4.0-point scale.
3. Obtain approval from the academic advisor as well as the Program Directors of the RN to BSN, MSN, and/or NP Programs prior to course registration.
4. Register/Enroll in no more than one graduate course per academic session (sub term, such as Fall 1).
5. Register for a graduate course if space is available, with MSN students having first priority.

MSN Program courses for BSN/MSN “double count” are limited to the following as long as space is available:

- **General Core:**

- NURS 502 Epidemiology and Bioinformatics
- NURS 504: Policy, Quality, and Safety in Health Care
- NURS/MGMT 536: Law, Regulations, and Ethics in Healthcare
- Additional graduate courses will be made available per approval from Academic Advisor and Program Directors

Application to the MSN program

- Students may apply to the MSN program in the final semester of their undergraduate program. If approved, a student may be admitted into one of Moravian University's graduate nursing programs upon completion of baccalaureate degree requirements.
- Graduate courses taken as part of the baccalaureate degree must be free electives and may not be counted towards baccalaureate degree requirements.
- The total number of graduate credits, under no circumstances, can be fewer than 30 graduate credits as part of the MSN, in accordance with PDE regulations, including those taken prior to the awarding of the bachelor's degree. Students must meet or exceed the requirements for the graduate degree in order for the graduate degree to be awarded.
- Students accepted to the MSN programs have priority status in registering for graduate courses.

Tuition and Fees:

- **Traditional Undergraduate** A graduate nursing course taken to complete undergraduate requirements will receive three credits (.75 units) of credit, and the tuition cost will be included in the tuition for fall or spring semester.
 - The tuition for a graduate nursing course completed in the summer, that counts for both the BSN and MSN degree requirements, will be the cost of the MSN nursing course.
- **Degree Completion Tuition - RN to BSN:** A graduate nursing course taken to complete undergraduate requirements will receive three credits of undergraduate credit (.75 units) and the tuition cost will be the cost of the graduate course.