

Bachelor of Science in Comprehensive Nursing (BSC. N.) Information Sheet

Brief History/Introduction of the Department:

The nursing profession, with roots dating back to 300 AD in the Roman Empire, has undergone significant evolution. In the Middle Ages, advancements influenced by the Catholic Church laid the foundation for modern nursing practices. By the 10th and 11th centuries, nursing expanded within religious institutions, providing diverse medical services. Florence Nightingale's work in the 1850s transformed nursing through improved hygiene standards. The establishment of the first nursing school in London in 1860 was a pivotal moment for formal nurse training. In the 20th century, world wars drove the growth of nursing education, fostering specializations¹.

The history of nursing in Ethiopia is marked by key milestones, such as the establishment of Menelik II Hospital in 1909 and advancements under Emperor Menelik II and Emperor Haile Selassie I. Post-World War II, nursing education expanded through new schools and training programs. The Ethiopian Nurses Association, established in 1952 and affiliated with the International Council of Nurses in 1957, played a crucial role in setting nursing standards. Despite challenges, Ethiopian nurses now form the largest healthcare workforce, actively contributing to healthcare services. The profession continues to evolve with the growth of education programs, introduction of graduate studies, and a rising impact on national healthcare policies².

Name of the Program: Bachelor of Science in Comprehensive Nursing (BSC N) program.

Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs)

Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs) **define** the core competencies and professional standards that students must master before graduation. They include:

- ★ **PLO1:** Apply concepts and models of disease prevention, health promotion, and public health in all health-care settings and across the lifespan.
- ★ **PLO2:** Analyze, interpret, use, and document health and health-related indicators and patient data accurately.
- ★ **PLO3:** Conduct comprehensive patient assessments using the nursing process and relevant assessment tools to identify holistic health needs.
- ★ **PLO4:** Diagnose actual and potential health problems and determine client responses to health conditions.

¹ <https://www.news-medical.net/health/History-of-Nursing.aspx>

² Ali A. The history of nursing in Ethiopia. *Nurs Hist Rev.* 2011;19:158-60. doi: 10.1891/1062-8061.19.158. PMID: 21329150.

- ★ **PLO5:** Plan and implement appropriate independent, dependent, and collaborative nursing interventions.
- ★ **PLO6:** Perform basic and advanced nursing procedures safely, correctly, and according to current standards of practice.
- ★ **PLO7:** Guide, counsel, teach, and communicate therapeutically with clients, families, and communities based on their needs.
- ★ **PLO8:** Work collaboratively and effectively with multidisciplinary health-care teams and participate in leadership and health-care management roles.
- ★ **PLO9:** Apply professional, ethical, and legal standards; utilize informatics, technology, and quality-improvement measures to ensure safe and effective patient care.
- ★ **PLO10:** Maintain personal effectiveness, engage in continuous professional development, use evidence-based practice, update nursing care standards, and serve as a nurse educator.
- ★ **PLO11:** Display compassion, respect, and professionalism in all interactions.
- ★ **PLO12:** Apply ethics and principles to make sound decisions related to nursing care delivery.
- ★ **PLO13:** Demonstrate empathy, cultural sensitivity, and respect for all clients regardless of age or condition.

What is Interesting About the Program?

The interesting aspect of the program is its emphasis on hands-on clinical experience throughout the course of four years, blending general education with specialized nursing coursework. Students have the opportunity to work directly with patients in diverse clinical settings, allowing them to apply theoretical knowledge in real-world healthcare scenarios.

Staff Profile of the Department:

The nursing department is staffed by a dedicated team of experienced nursing professionals, clinical specialists, researchers, and adjunct faculty members. The faculty members bring a wealth of clinical experience and academic expertise to the program, ensuring that students receive a comprehensive education.

Admission Requirements:

Admission requirements will be as per the Bahir Dar University Senate Legislation.

The University shall admit:

- ★ Students who have completed Ethiopian high school education and satisfy its entrance qualification assessments.
- ★ Applicants with foreign high school education of equivalent level to the Ethiopian high school education, as determined by the Ministry of Education, and who satisfy entrance requirements

- ★ Considering the extensive practical attachments of the program, students with major disabilities (vision, mobility and hearing-related problems or those who cannot effectively use both hands) shall not be admitted. A student must submit the Medical certificate that helps to exclude the above disabilities.
- ★ Prospective students are required to demonstrate a commitment or passion to the nursing profession.

Facilities:

The department is equipped with state-of-the-art simulation labs that replicate real healthcare environments, modern classrooms with technology-enhanced learning resources, and strong partnerships with various level healthcare institutions for clinical placements. These facilities provide students with hands-on learning experiences and opportunities to develop their clinical skills in a safe and supportive environment.

Professional Profile:

Graduate professionals are expected to give quality patient care by applying ethical and legal principles and also counselling and teaching of patient with regard to existing health problem of the community. Besides to this they have to involve in teaching and learning process, conduct research, take leadership and managerial role and contribute for the development of profession. Generally, they are expected to provide curative, preventive and rehabilitative services at primary, secondary and tertiary level of health care system.

Graduate Profile:

Upon completion of the B.Sc. nursing program, the graduates will be able to accomplish the following core competencies:

1. Apply the concepts and models of disease prevention and health promotion in health care service provision
2. Analyze, interpret and use health and health-related indicators
3. Apply methods of nutritional assessment, interpret results and provide nutritional counselling and education
4. Apply principles of public emergency and disaster management
5. Provide basic holistic care for individuals, families, and communities at large of allage groups in a variety of health care settings, using the nursing process as a framework
6. Conduct complete patent assessment using nursing process/other relevant tools to identify holistic health needs and the response of the client

7. Use critical thinking to analyze and interpret health data collected, by using the functional health pattern (Gordon's) /other recent evidence, to establish priorities and make the appropriate decision
8. Diagnose the client's health needs and responses to the actual or potential health conditions
9. Plan appropriate independent and collaborative nursing interventions
10. Identify and manage client problems, responses, potential complications, and collaborative problems of clients
11. Perform basic nursing procedures correctly and independently
12. Perform advanced nursing procedures, assist advanced diagnostic and therapeutic procedures using the latest evidence
13. Perform preventive, promotive, curative, and rehabilitative care for clients
14. Record, document and report patient and health related data
15. Work collaboratively and effectively with other health workers in the care of clients in all health care settings and community health care team
16. Guide, counsel, and teach clients based on their need in all health settings including the community
17. Perform activities in prevention (including counselling), control, and management of emerging and re-emerging communicable and non-communicable diseases
18. Diagnose and manage communicable and non-communicable diseases
19. Provide comprehensive maternal and child health care services
20. Assess and manage clients with special needs
21. Provide comprehensive mental health nursing care
22. Manage common emergency and acute health problems
23. Apply professional, ethical, and legal standards and codes in nursing practice
24. Implement quality improvement measures and maintain a safe patient environment
25. Practice effective therapeutic communication
26. Apply informatics and technology for health data management and patient care
27. Utilize evidences for patient health care services
28. Maintain and practice updated nursing care standards
29. Exercise leadership and involve in the management of the health care system
30. Provide community health nursing services
31. Maintain personal effectiveness and engage in continuous professional development
32. Be nurse educator

Employment Opportunities:

Graduates of the BSC in Comprehensive Nursing program have access to a wide range of employment opportunities in various healthcare settings, including hospitals, clinics, long-term care facilities, community health organizations, schools, research institutions, and government agencies. They can pursue roles as staff nurses, nurse educators, nurse administrators, nurse researchers, nurse practitioners, clinical nurse specialists, case managers, and more.

Careers in the Program:

After graduation, BSC. Comprehensive Nursing program graduates can pursue diverse career paths in the nursing profession. Some common career options include:

- ★ **Staff Nurse:** Providing direct patient care in hospitals, clinics, or other healthcare settings.
- ★ **Educator/Instructor:** Teaching and mentoring future generations of nurses in academic, research or clinical settings.
- ★ **Management/Administration:** Overseeing nursing departments, managing healthcare facilities, and ensuring quality patient care.
- ★ **Researcher:** Conducting research studies to advance nursing science and improve patient care outcomes.
- ★ **Nurse Practitioner:** Providing primary and specialized healthcare services to patients across the lifespan.
- ★ **Clinical Nurse Specialist:** Offering expert clinical guidance, education, and support to healthcare teams in specialized areas of nursing practice.
- ★ **Governmental and Non-governmental** organizations.

Overall, the BSC in Comprehensive Nursing program prepares graduates for dynamic and rewarding careers in the nursing profession, where they can make a meaningful impact on the health and well-being of individuals, families, and communities.

Multiple Future area of Educational Specialization

I. Nursing (MSC & PhD)

- ★ Medical Nurse, Surgical Nurse, Paediatric & Child Health Nurse, Adult Health Nurse, Critical Care Nurse, Operating room Nurse, Psychiatric Nurse, Oncology Nurse, Geriatric Nurse, Maternity Nurse etc.
- ★ PhD in Nursing, Doctor of Nurse Practitioner (DNP) etc.

II. Public Health (MPH & PhD)

- ★ Epidemiology, Biostatistics, Health system, Reproductive Health, Health Education & promotion, Nutrition & Dietetics etc...