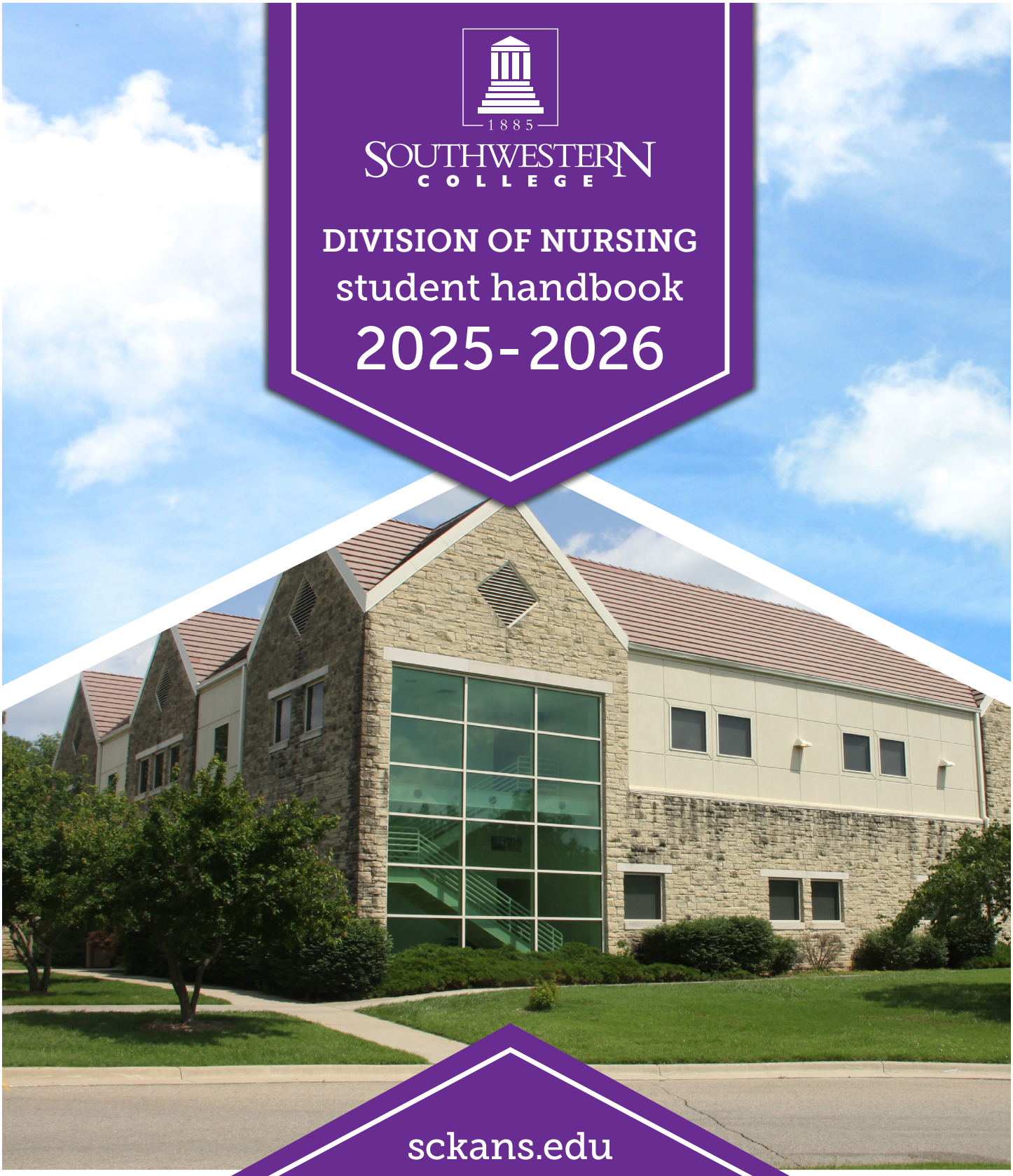


1885

SOUTHWESTERN COLLEGE

DIVISION OF NURSING

student handbook

2025-2026

sckans.edu

TABLE OF CONTENTS

SCHOOL INFORMATION **4**
Welcome from the Division of Nursing! 4
Accreditation and Approvals 5
Vision of Southwestern College 6
Mission of Southwestern College 6
Division of Nursing Mission and Vision Statement 6
Nursing Program Philosophy Statement 6
DIVISION OF NURSING CURRICULUM **7**
BSN Curriculum Framework 7
End of Program Student Learning Outcomes 8
Curriculum Plan of Study 9
Nursing Textbooks 10
Portfolio Guidelines and Review 10
STUDENT SUCCESS AND RETENTION **11**
Nursing Student Support Services 11
Student Support Services 12
DIVISION OF NURSING ADMISSION **13**
BSN Nursing Admission Policy 13
International Student Admission 14
Pre-Enrollment Requirements 14
Transfer Students 15
DIVISION OF NURSING POLICIES **16**
Progression and Graduation Policy 16
Readmission Policy 17
Electronic Social Networking Policy 18
Accommodations for Documented Limitations Policy 18
Academic Integrity Policy 18
Academic Dishonesty Policy 19
Attendance Policy 20
Student Conduct Policy 20
Academic Standards 21
Examinations 22
Integrated Testing Program 23
Technology in the Classroom 23
Health Requirements 24
Dress Code 26
STUDENT INVOLVEMENT **27**

Student Representative Responsibilities (Governance) 27
Jinx Student Nurse Organization 27
Sigma Theta Tau 27
FINANCIAL INFORMATION 28
Tuition and Fees 28
Nursing Special Charges and Fees *(Cost of Attendance)* 28
Refund Policies 28
Nursing Scholarships 28
APPENDIX A 29
Faculty Biographies (Full-Time Faculty) 29
APPENDIX B: Curriculum Organizing Framework 31
APPENDIX C: Testing Accommodations 32
Southwestern College Nursing Department Testing Accommodations Requirements and Plan 32
APPENDIX D: Handbook Acknowledgement 34
Southwestern College Division of Nursing Student Handbook Acknowledgement Form 34

SCHOOL INFORMATION

Welcome from the Division of Nursing!

This handbook serves as your roadmap to success throughout your academic journey at Southwestern College. We take pride in our mission to prepare future nurses who are not only proficient in clinical skills but also possess the qualities of empathy, leadership, and a dedication to improving the lives of others. Our faculty and staff are dedicated to nurturing your growth and development as a nursing professional.



In addition to the student handbook, you must also be aware of and remain in compliance with the policies and procedures that are published in the Southwestern College Catalog. Please note that periodic updates also occur to address changes to our programs and academic policies. You are responsible for reading and remaining in compliance with the current policies and information related to your educational program.

We encourage you to take full advantage of this Handbook and the Catalog throughout your educational journey. It is designed to provide you with the information you need to make informed decisions, set academic goals, and thrive as a student in our Division of Nursing.

We look forward to helping you build a strong foundation for your future in nursing and supporting you every step of the way. Welcome to Southwestern Nursing!

Shona Turner, MBA, MSN, RN
Associate Professor
Director of BSN Program

Southwestern College: Where Service and Excellence define your Nursing Journey!

Accreditation and Approvals

Higher Learning Commission
30 North LaSalle Street, Suite 2400
Chicago, IL 60602
(800)621-7440
hlcommission.org
Southwestern College is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. Reaffirmation 2026-27.

Kansas State Board of Nursing (KSBN)
900 SW Jackson St., Suite1051
Topeka, KS 66612-1230
(785)296-4929
www.ksbn.org
IN PROCESS: KSBN is the regulatory agency Southwestern College is seeking approval for the Bachelor of Science in Nursing program.

Southwestern College's Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program is fully approved by the Kansas State Board of Nursing and satisfies the state educational requirements for eligibility to take the NCLEX-RN and obtain licensure in Kansas. Additional requirements, such as background checks or state specific application processes, may apply. Students seeking licensure in other states should consult the respective State Board of Nursing for individual requirements. Information can be found at NCSBN: Licensure Requirements by State
Please contact the Director of Nursing if you have any questions.

Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education
655 K Street NW
Suite 750
Washington DC 20001
(202)887-6791
CCNE Accreditation (aacnnursing.org)

"The baccalaureate degree program in nursing at Southwestern College is pursuing initial accreditation by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education. Applying for accreditation does not guarantee that accreditation will be granted."

The Southwestern College Course Catalog provides a complete list of institutional and programmatic accreditation and approvals. Please refer to Registrar's Office - Southwestern College (sckans.edu) for additional information.

Vision of Southwestern College

Southwestern College in Winfield, Kansas, is a learning community dedicated to

- intellectual growth and career preparation,
- individual development and Christian values,
- lifetime learning and responsible citizenship, and
- leadership through service in a world without boundaries.

Mission of Southwestern College

Southwestern College provides a values-based learning experience that emphasizes intellectual, personal, and spiritual growth. Founded in 1885 by Kansas Methodists and now related to the Great Plains Conference of the United Methodist Church, the college offers both bachelor's and graduate degrees on-ground and online.

Southwestern College:

- Prepares students for careers and for graduate studies with courses that foster critical thinking and effective communication and are characterized by meaningful professor-student interaction.
- Employs emerging technologies that promote learning.
- Strives to live by and teach a sustainable way of life.
- Provides preparation for a wide range of church-related vocations and involvement.
- Offers programs that embrace prior learning and facilitate career progression for working adults, members of the armed services, and persons in transition.
- Affords a residential learning experience abundant with co-curricular activities that build social awareness and interpersonal skills and cultivate an ethos of service and leadership.

Division of Nursing Mission and Vision Statement

The Mission of Southwestern College Division of Nursing is to advance practice through the art and science of nursing by fostering a diverse culture of compassion, respect, and healing. We prepare graduates to demonstrate effective communication, leadership, and collaboration for positive professional relationships.

The Vision of Southwestern College Division of Nursing is to be a beacon of excellence in nursing education and transformative healthcare.

Nursing Program Philosophy Statement

At Southwestern College, our nursing program is rooted in a holistic approach that recognizes the interconnectedness of science, humanities, and arts in the provision of quality patient care. We believe in cultivating nursing professionals who embody excellence, integrity, compassion, and cultural competence, thereby contributing positively to the health and well-being of individuals, families, groups, and communities.

Our program is founded on the following core values:

- **Effective Communication, Leadership, and Collaboration:** We emphasize the development of effective communication, leadership, and collaboration skills to foster positive professional relationships. Our students learn to work as part of an interprofessional team, recognizing the value of diverse perspectives in achieving optimal health outcomes.

- **Integration of Knowledge:** Our curriculum integrates principles and theories from the sciences, humanities, and arts into nursing care. Students are encouraged to critically analyze and apply this interdisciplinary knowledge to meet the diverse needs of individuals, families, and communities across the lifespan and healthcare settings.
- **Utilization of Patient Care Technologies and Information Systems:** Embracing technological advancements is essential for delivering efficient and evidence-based care. We equip our students with the necessary skills to implement patient care technologies, information systems, and communication strategies that support safe, quality nursing practice.
- **Nursing Perspective in Interprofessional Collaboration:** Our students recognize the unique perspective of nursing within the interprofessional team, contributing to the achievement of progressive healthcare outcomes. They understand the value of teamwork, mutual respect, and shared decision-making in providing holistic care.
- **Evidence-Based Practice:** We empower our students to discern and apply evidence-based information to promote health and wellness across various populations. Through critical thinking and research, they become adept at implementing best practices to improve patient outcomes and enhance healthcare delivery.
- **Cultural Congruence and Holistic Care:** Our program emphasizes the importance of culturally congruent, holistic patient-centered care. Students learn to respect and honor the cultural beliefs, values, and preferences of individuals and families, promoting health equity and inclusivity.
- **Professional Identity and Values:** We encourage our students to develop a strong professional identity grounded in ethical principles and values. Integrity, compassion, advocacy, and accountability are foundational to nursing practice, guiding our students as they navigate complex healthcare environments.
- **Systems Thinking and Quality Improvement:** Our curriculum equips students with the skills to examine healthcare systems and promote change for quality improvement. They learn to identify barriers to effective care delivery, advocate for policy changes, and participate in initiatives aimed at enhancing healthcare outcomes.
- **Integrity and Ethical Decision-Making:** We instill in our students a commitment to integrity and ethical decision-making in all aspects of their practice. They are trained to uphold the highest standards of ethical conduct, respecting the dignity and worth of each patient they serve.

DIVISION OF NURSING CURRICULUM

BSN Curriculum Framework

At Southwestern College, we are proud to be a part of the re-envisioning of nursing education. The baccalaureate nursing program framework is based on a concept-based curriculum and competency-based education.

The concept-based curriculum creates a setting for students to explore a higher level of cognitive thinking and provide holistic solutions for their communities. These concepts are divided into three groups: Health Care Recipient Concepts, Health and Illness Concepts, and Professional Nursing and Health Care Concepts. Within these groups, concepts are highlighted in themes for students to develop a deeper understanding of the principles and expand their knowledge building across the lifespan. Exemplars are used with each concept to provide active and focused application of the information. The concept-based curriculum ensures graduate readiness as a nurse generalist to explore next level opportunities.

The competency-based education is based on the 2021 Essentials: Core Competencies for Professional Nursing Education. The American Association of Colleges of Nursing define this as "a system of instruction, assessment, feedback, self-reflection, and academic reporting that is based on students demonstrating that they have learned the knowledge, attitudes, motivations, self-perceptions, and skills expected of them as they progress through their education." Students are assessed throughout the development of the competency. Students take charge of their own learning, outcomes and the timeframe to accomplish the competency. This furthers the Southwestern nursing graduate as practice ready.

The Southwestern College of Nursing's focus is to graduate practice-ready generalist nurses prepared for a lifetime of continuous learning and growth.

End of Program Student Learning Outcomes

The Southwestern College Nursing program at Southwestern College prepares the graduate to:

1. Demonstrate effective communication, leadership, and collaboration techniques to produce positive professional relationships in the provision of care.
2. Apply principles and theories from the sciences, humanities, and arts to the nursing care of individuals, groups, and diverse populations.
3. Implement patient care technologies, information systems, and communication strategies that support safe, quality nursing practice.
4. Recognize the nursing perspective as it relates to the interprofessional team achievement of progressive health care outcomes.
5. Discern and apply evidence-based information to promote the health of individuals, families, groups and communities.
6. Provide culturally congruent, holistic patient-centered care to individuals and families across the health continuum, across the lifespan, and across healthcare settings.
7. Generate a professional identity and incorporate professional values in practice.
8. Examine systems that influence healthcare in promoting change for quality improvement.
   Apply integrity and ethical decision-making in the provision of competent, compassionate care, respecting the dignity and worth of each patient.

Curriculum Plan of Study

Total Credit hours – 124 (Gen Ed requirements: Art/Humanities/Other Cultures)

Semester 1	Semester 2
(3) ENG 110 College Writing 1 (4) BIOL 102 Essentials of Biology (3) MATH 110 College Algebra (1) FYE 110 First Year Experience (3) General Education 14 TOTAL Credits	(3) ENG 120 College Writing II (3) HSCI155 Healthcare Ethics (2) HSCI 200 Medical Terminology (3) MATH 215 Introduction to Statistics and Probability (3) COMM 102 Elements of Oral Communication (4) CHEM 102 Essentials of Chemistry 18 TOTAL Credits
Semester 3	**Semester 4**
(4) BIOL 241 Human Anatomy and Physiology 1 (5) BIOL 334 Microbiology (3) SOCS 102 Sociology (3) PSYC 112 General Psychology (3) General Education 18 TOTAL Credits	(5) BIOL 242 Human Anatomy and Physiology 2 (3) BIOL 231 Principles of Nutrition (3) BIOL 280 Pathophysiology (3) PSYC252 Developmental Psychology 14 TOTAL Credits
Semester 5	**Semester 6**
(3) NUR 301 Introduction to Nursing Concepts (2) NUR 302 Promoting Self Care and Wellbeing (3) NUR 303 Assessment & Health Promotion (7) NUR 306 Foundations of Nursing Practice 15 TOTAL Credits	(3) NUR 311 Community Health (6) NUR 312 Health and Illness Concepts 1 (2) NUR 314 Evidence-Based Practice (2) NUR 315 Pharmacology 1 (4) NUR 316 Special Populations 17 TOTAL Credits
Semester 7	**Semester 8**
(3) NUR 401 Transcultural Nursing (6) NUR 402 Health & Illness Concepts 2 (2) NUR 405 Pharmacology 2 (4) NUR 406 Special Populations 15 TOTAL Credits	(2) NUR 411 Capstone (3) NUR 412 Health & Illness Concepts 3 (3) NUR 416 Special Populations (5) NUR 421 Concept Synthesis 13 TOTAL Credits

Gen Ed requirements: Art/Humanities

(Appendix B: Curriculum Organizing Framework)

Nursing Textbooks

A supporting resource bundle of textbooks/eBooks will be available for purchase. See Course Syllabus for specific textbooks. These resources will also be available as internal library copies and will not be available for outside checkout.

ATI (Assessment Technologies Institute) is an educational resource that is used throughout the nursing program to enhance your learning experience. With a range of interactive tools, practice exams, and study materials, this framework supports active learning and provides personalized feedback to help monitor progress.

Login to your student account and click on My ATI tab. You will access all the ATI products under the Learn tab and your exams will be found under the Assessment tab. The following links are provided as an orientation guide.

- Student Orientation Options
- Student Quick Guide
- Student Orientation Recording

All resources aim to reinforce concepts, provide self-assessment opportunities, and prepare you for success in the classroom and beyond. Embrace the interactive learning experience, utilize the resources, and engage with ATI to excel in this course.

Please Note: Students MUST keep their nursing textbooks/eBooks until graduation, as these are used in several courses and will provide valuable resource material throughout the program.

Portfolio Guidelines and Review

Students are expected to keep a portfolio of work completed throughout the nursing program. The purposes of the portfolio are to provide:

- An opportunity for students to assess their own learning;
- A record of interaction between student and faculty, including feedback from faculty;
- An assessment of student progress toward meeting course and program outcomes; and
- An assessment of the nursing program. As an important aspect of the program's overall assessment plan, student portfolios are assessed, in aggregate, to determine the extent to which groups of graduates (not individual students) achieve program outcomes.

The student's portfolio is housed in Blackboard electronic format, and so will be referred to as an e-portfolio. Students should save and/or scan a copy of all graded work required in the e-portfolio. Students are authorized to work only with their own e-portfolio; access by a student to another student's e-portfolio can occur only through the permission of the owner of the e-portfolio. Students must keep their electronic portfolio and password confidential. While e-portfolios remain the property of the student, faculty will be able to access the materials from the e-portfolio per an electronic link provided by the student. When faculty

collect data from the e-portfolios for assessment purposes, the data are reported in aggregate form only; individual students are not identified.

Faculty will specify which work is to be included in the portfolio for each course.

E-portfolio materials should reflect faculty written feedback. Therefore, all materials kept in e-portfolio are placed there after they have been evaluated, and all work must contain faculty comments and evaluation. Students are responsible for scanning or saving copies to ensure that e-portfolios are updated every semester. Student e-portfolios must be complete each semester prior to final grades being released.

Submission of finalized portfolio and written analysis:
At the end of the senior year (during NUR 411, Capstone) students will evaluate their growth/change in relation to the student outcomes of the nursing curriculum and will address their progress toward meeting program outcomes in a formal, written analysis.

STUDENT SUCCESS AND RETENTION

Nursing Student Support Services

Nursing education demands a rigorous and intense program of study. Resources and support are in place for student assistance. Students are encouraged to explore these areas for early intervention.

Within the Division of Nursing, faculty provide regular feedback to students regarding areas for growth or remediation. Students are referred to their academic advisor for counsel regarding issues affecting student academic progress. Some students may be in need of specific enrichment or remediation assistance. Such students are identified by faculty, based upon one or more of the following:

- Conditional admission to the nursing program
- Test scores
- Clinical performance
- Scores on written work
- Attendance

Candidates for enrichment activities will be required to address areas of concern in order to develop a plan that will facilitate their success in the program. This plan will be directed at addressing individual weakness areas and will involve some or all of the following activities:

- enrolling in additional coursework
- completing additional assignments
- meeting one-on-one with assigned faculty member
- additional class times

All enrichment activities must be satisfactorily completed, according to course policies outlined in each course syllabus, in order to progress in the program.

As part of the program's learning support strategies, ATI testing and remediation may be implemented. Certain courses include ATI practice and proctored exams. The following policies apply in each course requiring ATI exams.

- Practice exams will be taken in specific content areas and must be passed with a 90% or greater prior to taking the proctored exam in that content area**.** Practice exams may be taken as many times as needed to achieve 90%. **(Please note: students are responsible for organizing their time in order to achieve the practice test requirement prior to the date the proctored exam is scheduled).**
    - Students MUST wait a minimum of 24 hours to retake the ATI practice exam. You will NOT receive credit for your exam score if you retake it in less than 24 hours. If you fail to score a 90% or greater on the ATI practice exam in accordance with the 24 hour wait rule, you will not be allowed to take the ATI Proctored exam as scheduled and must meet with the instructor to discuss the ATI Proctored exam.
    - You also must have completed the ATI practice exams greater than 24 hours prior to taking the ATI exam.
    - Students must achieve the benchmark for the proctored ATI exam. If not, students will then be expected to build and complete the online Focused Review for that exam. Students will be scheduled for a retake and must achieve the benchmark. If not, then students will satisfactorily complete a remediation packet under the supervision of the enrichment instructor.

Student Support Services

Student Support Services facilitates the academic success of Southwestern students by offering supplemental instructive support, such as providing peer tutoring, computer assisted learning, workshops/seminars, and supplemental learning.

Deets Library

Deets Library offers a comprehensive range of quality physical and digital resources for students, faculty and researchers. The historic Southwestern building houses an extensive collection of materials, including current print resources to support our nursing program, as well as a study space designed for student success. Our digital library provides seamless access to the most respected database collections, scholarly journals, and eBooks to ensure that patrons can find current and relevant information in their fields. Library staff is available to offer guidance and personalized support, fostering an environment of learning and innovation.

Quantitative Literacy Center

QLC offers quantitative learning techniques, projects, and collaborations, as well as math tutoring, for students, faculty, staff, and constituents.

DIVISION OF NURSING ADMISSION

BSN Nursing Admission Policy

Southwestern Nursing admission is a competitive process. Admission materials for PRIORITY consideration into the pre-licensure BSN degree program should be submitted prior to March 1st for fall semester. Applications will be accepted up to May 1st as space in the cohort is available.

1. Accepted to Southwestern College
2. Complete an application for admission to the Department of Nursing.
3. Submit a Resume. Include healthcare and leadership experience.
4. Submission of official transcripts demonstrating cumulative grade point average of at least 2.75 for all college work completed, as applicable.
5. Cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 prior to starting BSN course work in the required science classes and statistics, with no individual required science/math course grade lower than 2.0. The required science/statistic classes or their equivalents are as follows:
    a. Essentials of Biology
    b. Essentials of Chemistry
    c. Human Anatomy and Physiology 1 & 2
    d. Microbiology
    e. Pathophysiology
    f. Statistics and Probability
7. Of the following support courses completed, a grade of "C" or better is required:
    a. College Writing 1 & 2
    b. Elements of Oral Communication
    c. General Psychology
    d. Developmental Psychology
    e. Sociology
    f. Principles of Nutrition
    g. Ethical Reasoning
    h. Medical Terminology
    i. College Algebra
    j. General Education Courses
8. ATI Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS) with an overall baseline score of 60% or above.
9. Personal interview with the faculty. Identifying attributes: strong communication demonstration of empathy, personal integrity, accountability and critical thinking.
10. Two Letters of Reference- Personal/Coach (Examples of character and leadership) and Teacher/Professor (overall academic performance and potential for success in Nursing).
11. Submit a 500-600 word essay in APA format:
    a. What inspired you to pursue nursing, and how do you see yourself contributing to the profession in the future?
    b. The American Association of Colleges of Nursing emphasizes the importance of healthcare equity and cultural competence in the preparation of future nurses. In your own words, define healthcare equity and explain why it is essential in nursing practice. Then, reflect on a personal experience- whether in healthcare, academics, athletics, work or community- where you interacted with someone from a different background than your own. How did that experience shape your understanding of cultural competence and prepare you to provide equitable care to diverse patient populations?

Applications will be scored based on the overall criteria. PRIORITY selected and non-selected applicants will be notified in writing no later than April 15.

International Student Admission

Applicants from countries where English is not the first language will need to have test results forwarded to Southwestern.
Applicants must demonstrate one of the following:

1. English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL):
    - TOEFL PBT- 60
    - TOEFL iBT - 70
2. International English Language Testing Service (IELTS) with a score of 5.5 or higher.
3. The Chinese Government English Exam with a score of a minimum of 4 for undergraduate admission.
4. Duolingo English Test (DET) with a score 90 or higher.

Entering freshmen must have graduated from a secondary institution in their home country and must provide official transcripts of all high school credit. Transfer students must provide official college transcripts and record of any degree awarded. All foreign credentials not listed in English should have an accompanying literal translation.

Pre-Enrollment Requirements

Once accepted into the Southwestern College pre-licensure BSN degree program, the following requirements must be met prior to starting the program:

1. Completion of a successful background check
2. Completion of a negative illicit drug and alcohol screening
3. Completion of health requirements listed in the BSN Student Handbook
4. Submission of a current American Heart Association Healthcare Provider Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) certification, including automated external defibrillator (AED)
5. Completion of OSHA and HIPAA training through CastleBranch.
6. Submission of all required documents into CastleBranch compliance tracker.

After the student is admitted to the nursing program, the following must be met prior to August 1st

- At least 60 college credit hours must be completed prior to beginning the nursing program. Students may request an exception to this policy; any exceptions will be addressed individually and approved by the program director.
- Criteria set forth in the nursing Division's Health Requirement Policy must be met.
- Professional liability insurance must be purchased through the Division of nursing after acceptance into the program; and
- A criminal background check and drug screening must be conducted, at the student's expense, in accordance with a procedure developed by the Division of nursing.

Transfer Students

Students seeking admission to the nursing program after completing nursing course work at another nursing program will first complete the steps outlined in the program's admission policy. Transfer of nursing coursework taken at another educational institution will be evaluated on an individual basis. Placement in the nursing program will be determined after such evaluation. Students requesting admission after attending another nursing program must submit recommendations from the dean, director, or chairperson of that program, and at least one faculty member.

The following will assist faculty and students in preparing a plan of study focusing on individual student qualifications and learning needs.

Students may earn credit for nursing course work taken at another institution by:

- Enrolling in the course and meeting course requirements.
- Transferring credit for courses successfully completed at the previous institution. Credit for transfer courses must be approved by the Nursing Faculty Committee.

Process:

- The student submits the catalog description and course syllabus for each nursing course to be considered. Courses must have been taken at a state approved program and students must have received a grade of "C" or better.
- Faculty responsible for the course for which credit is being requested will review the syllabus. Course content and outcomes will be evaluated for equivalency. Additional information regarding the course may be requested.
- After a determination is made, a plan of study is developed and discussed with the student.
- If any credit for any course is granted by validation, the program director submits a request to the registrar. The registrar then makes a final decision about approving the course for transfer and posts credit on the student's transcript.
- An Independent study experience may be considered by the Nursing Faculty Committee based on the previous coursework and assessment of the student's individual learning needs. If an independent study experience is approved by the committee, a faculty member is assigned to oversee the experience, and a detailed plan is developed which includes outcomes to be achieved and all work to be completed.

Transferring a Completed AA, AS, or AAS Degree

Any learner with a completed associate of arts (AA), associate of science (AS), or associate of applied science (AAS) from an institution recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation is waived from all general education requirements with the exception of the following:

- Essentials of Biology
- Essentials of Chemistry
- Human Anatomy and Physiology 1 & 2
- Microbiology

- Pathophysiology
- Nutrition
- College Writing 2
- Medical Terminology
- College Algebra
- Statistics

DIVISION OF NURSING POLICIES

Progression and Graduation Policy

In addition to the standards of the College, the following specific policies apply to students enrolled in the Nursing Program.

Students must successfully complete required nursing courses in the sequence outlined in the nursing curriculum. In order to progress through the curriculum and continue in the nursing program, a student, at the end of each semester, must:

- Maintain a cumulative grade-point average of 2.75 or above;
- Pass all required courses;
- Earn at least a 77% on all final course exams;
- Have a grade of "C" or better in all supporting coursework and nursing courses (a grade of "C-minus" is not acceptable);
- Meet practicum performance standards as specified in the syllabus of each nursing course with a practicum component; and
- Provide documentation of professional liability insurance.
- Meet ATI testing standards as specified in each course syllabus requiring an ATI exam.

In addition, to continue in the nursing program, students must adhere to the following policies:

- All course policies, as outlined in each course syllabus
- Electronic Social Networking Policy
- Student Success/Remediation
- Academic Integrity Policy
- Attendance Policy
- Student Conduct
- Academic Standards
- Health Requirements Policy

Failure to meet grade requirements or to comply with all policies will result in dismissal from the nursing program. Dismissal from the nursing program does not imply being dismissed from the College. If the student fails to progress in the nursing program, the student will be notified in writing by the Director of Nursing Education; the academic dean also receives a copy of the notification.

Graduation: To be eligible for graduation with a baccalaureate degree in nursing, a student must meet the requirements of the college, as listed in the Southwestern College catalog, as well as those of the nursing program.

***Please Note*: Completion of the nursing program and graduation with a BSN degree do not guarantee the right to sit for the NCLEX examination or to practice as a registered nurse. An application process must be completed, and the candidate must be approved by the Kansas State Board of Nursing (KSBN) to take the exam.**

Qualification for Licensure Examination by Kansas State Board of Nursing

Prior to admission to nursing program, students must read and understand the requirements needed to be licensed in the state of Kansas through:

Kansas State Board of Nursing
Landon State Office Building
900 SW Jackson Street Suite 1051
Topeka, Kansas 66612-1230

KAR 60-3 Requirements for Licensure and Standards of Practice
K.S.A. 65-1120 Disciplinary

Readmission Policy

Students who receive a "C-," "D," "F," or "U" in a required nursing course or who are doing failing work at the time of withdrawal may apply to the Admission and Progression Committee of the Division of Nursing to be readmitted to the program under the following conditions:

- It is the first time a grade of "C-,"D" or "F" was received in any nursing course.
- The student's repetition of coursework has support from the instructor of the course which failed.
- The overall grade point average is at least 2.00, including the current semester in which course(s) was (were) taken.
- All components of the failed course must be repeated (i.e., both the practicum and didactic components).
- The reasons for that grade were **not** based on one of the following:
    - Violations of the college's Academic Integrity Policy or Academic Standards as described in the Student Handbook.
    - Failure to adhere to the Safe Nursing Care Policy.
    - Space is available in the course to be retaken.
    - The request for readmission occurs within two (2) years of the beginning of the semester during which failure occurred.

Students who withdraw or are dismissed from the nursing program as a result of violations of the Academic Integrity Policy or Academic Standards or failure to adhere to the Safe Nursing Care Policy are not eligible for readmission.

Procedure for Readmission Policy

Students applying for readmission should:

- Submit a letter to the Program Director, requesting readmission.
- Program Director will schedule a meeting with the Faculty members, during which the student will present information which is pertinent to re-admission.
- The faculty will request that the student develop and submit a plan which will target identified areas of concern and which will increase the student's probability of success. This usually involves meeting with faculty of the course in which the student was unsuccessful.
- After receiving the plan from the student, the Program Director and faculty members will make a decision regarding readmission. All agreed-upon dates and deadlines for submission of readmission materials must be followed.
- After a student is readmitted to the nursing program, all readmission requirements set forth by the action plan must be met satisfactorily in order to progress in the program.

Electronic Social Networking Policy

Students must refrain from addressing any aspect of the nursing program on any social networking site. This includes all classroom and clinical activities, and activities associated with either classroom or practicum. Any violation of this policy will be considered a violation of the Academic Standards and may result in dismissal from the program.

Accommodations for Documented Limitations Policy

Any student who has a documented limitation that could potentially impact his/her ability to meet course requirements should notify the faculty so that reasonable accommodations may be made to assist the student in the learning process. (Appendix C: Testing Accommodations)

Academic Integrity Policy

Southwestern College assumes the academic integrity of its students. In cases where academic integrity is in question, the following definitions and policies will apply.

Academic dishonesty is any act of cheating, fabrication, plagiarism, abuse of resources, forgery of academic documents, dissimulation, or sabotage, and any act of aiding and abetting academic dishonesty. The following definitions make clear the policy of the college.

1. Cheating is using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information or study aids in any academic exercises.
    - Examples: Copying homework, copying someone else's test, using an unauthorized "cheat sheet,"

2. Fabrication is the falsification or invention of any information or citation in any academic exercise.
    - Examples: Making up a source, giving an incorrect citation, misquoting a source, etc.
3. Plagiarism is the representation of the words and ideas of another as one's own in any academic exercise.
4. Dissimulation is the disguising or altering of one's own actions so as to deceive another about the real nature of one's actions concerning an academic exercise.
    - Examples: Fabricating excuses for such things as missing classes, postponing tests, handing in late papers; turning in a paper for one class that was originally written for another class.
6. Abuse of resources is the damaging of any resource material or inappropriately limiting access to resource material which is necessary for academic work.
    - Examples: Hiding library materials, removing non circulating material from the library, hiding or stealing another person's textbook, notes or software, failure to return library materials when requested by the library, etc.
7. Forgery of academic documents is the unauthorized changing or construction of any academic document.
    - Examples: Changing transcripts, changing grade books, changing grades on papers which have been returned, forging signatures, etc.
8. Sabotage is the damaging or impeding of the academic work of another student.
    - Examples: Ruining another student's lab work, destroying another student's term paper, etc.
9. Aiding and abetting academic dishonesty is knowingly facilitating any act defined in 1-7.

Academic Dishonesty Policy

The instructor shall determine if the infraction is intentional or unintentional. Any violation of the policy not under the supervision of a faculty member will be handled by recommendation of the academic dean to the academic affairs committee. On the first offense, violations of the academic integrity policy will result with:

- a reprimand (written or verbal) for unintentional violations
- a zero for the assignment (paper, exam or project) for intentional or flagrant violations.

Unintentional infractions may be reported to the academic dean at the discretion of the faculty member. All infractions deemed by the faculty member to be intentional or flagrant must be reported in writing to the academic dean; the student will also be notified verbally or in writing. The academic dean shall keep a record of reported infractions and sanctions.

A second or any subsequent intentional or flagrant violation of any part of the academic integrity policy during a student's academic career at Southwestern is grounds for suspension and requires a conference with the academic dean to determine the outcome. Any student so suspended has a right to appeal. If a student wishes to appeal, the request should be made in writing and must be received in the academic dean's office within thirty days of the suspension announcement. The appeal will be heard by the academic affairs committee and the committee's decision shall be final.

Reminder: Confirmed violations of the Division's Academic Standards or the College's Academic Integrity Policy may result in dismissal from the Nursing Program. If dismissal from the program or failure of a course is due to violations of the Academic Integrity Policy, the student is not eligible for readmission to the program.

Attendance Policy

In the Division of Nursing, all absences, regardless of reason, are considered absences…time lost from the learning environment. Therefore, there are no excused absences. Repeated absences may result in the student's grade being lowered.

Classroom

- To achieve the needed knowledge and skill to become a proficient and safe practitioner in nursing, a student must be present at each class period. Students are responsible for information discussed in class, absences and tardiness are discouraged.
- In addition to classroom experiences, some courses may require virtual attendance through on-line threaded discussions and/or live chats. Students are expected to follow each course policy regarding participation in these activities, as stated in the course syllabus.

Clinical Experience (including simulation and laboratory)

- Because the clinical experience is critical for analysis, transfer and application of learning for safe nursing practice, students are expected to be prompt and prepared for practicum experiences. Clinical absences are to be avoided.
- If an absence is unavoidable, it is the responsibility of the student to notify the appropriate instructor and agency PRIOR to the time experience is to begin.
- Due to limited availability of practicum sites and faculty, make up experiences are not possible. Final decision regarding alternate practicum experiences is at the discretion of the instructor.

Travel Policy

- Nursing students are responsible for their own travel arrangements to agencies where practicum experiences occur.

Hazardous Weather

- In general, students should not travel to practicum agencies if hazardous road conditions exist. If it is deemed inadvisable to travel because of weather, the student should contact the practicum instructor. Practicum experiences missed due to inclement weather may be made up.

Student Conduct Policy

Nursing Code of Ethics Interpretive Statements
9 Provisions of the Nursing Code of Ethics

1. The nurse practices with compassion and respect for the inherent dignity, worth, and unique attributes of every person.
2. The nurse's primary commitment is to the patient, whether an individual, family, group, community, or population.
3. The nurse promotes, advocates for, and protects the rights, health, and safety of the patient.

4. The nurse has authority, accountability, and responsibility for nursing practice; makes decisions; and takes action consistent with the obligation to provide optimal patient care.
5. The nurse owes the same duties to self as to others, including the responsibility to promote health and safety, preserve wholeness of character and integrity, maintain competence, and continue personal and professional growth.
6. The nurse, through individual and collective effort, establishes, maintains, and improves the ethical environment of the work setting and conditions of employment that are conducive to safe, quality health care.
7. The nurse, in all roles and settings, advances the profession through research and scholarly inquiry, professional standards development, and the generation of both nursing and health policy.
8. The nurse collaborates with other health professionals and the public to protect human rights, promote health diplomacy, and reduce health disparities.
9. The profession of nursing, collectively through its professional organization, must articulate nursing values, maintain the integrity of the profession, and integrate principles of social justice into nursing and health policy.

Academic Standards

Professionalism and academic integrity are expected of all students. In order to maintain the integrity of the program of study and to assure appropriate learning, students will adhere to expected standards in relation to classroom interaction, examinations, assignments, practicum performance, and other program activities. In addition to these policies, other course-specific policies may be posted in course syllabi, and students are expected to adhere to them. The Southwestern College Academic Integrity definitions and policy shall be followed.

- All students have the right to privacy/confidentiality with regard to program-related work and activities. Students shall respect the privacy of other students and shall maintain confidentiality at all times.
- Professional behavior is expected at all times in the classroom and in practicum settings. Therefore, unprofessional behavior is not tolerated. Examples of unprofessional behavior include, but are not limited to:
    - Poor or inappropriate verbal communication
    - Inappropriate nonverbal behavior, including written communication
    - Inappropriate or disrespectful interactions with faculty and colleagues
    - Inappropriate response to feedback
    - Confrontation over examination items, attendance policy, and selection of clinical sites and assignments.
    - Inappropriate dress
    - Sleeping when expected to be engaged in learning
- Continuing unprofessional behavior may result in dismissal from the program.
- Any student who has a documented limitation that could potentially impact his/her ability to meet course requirements should notify the faculty so that reasonable accommodations may be made to

assist the student in the learning process. Notification of such limitations must be accompanied by appropriate documentation.
- In general, students should not bring their children or friends to class.

Examinations

All examinations are taken at the scheduled time unless pre-arrangements have been made with faculty. Individual course syllabi may reflect specific grading procedures which apply to missed examinations.

- In the event of closed-book exams, students will place all books and papers under their desks. Absolutely no paper or materials will be allowed on the desk. If an open book exam is given, students will follow specific faculty instructions.
- Exams will be monitored.
- Individual exams may be reviewed, with permission of the instructor. Faculty may schedule exam review sessions at their discretion. Exams will not be discussed before the grades are available.
- Information regarding exams, including individual item content, is confidential. Students must not share any information regarding exams with another individual in any format. Doing so constitutes a violation of the Academic Integrity Policy.
- Exams can only be taken once.
- Multiple choice and select all that apply questions will have 1 minute 20 seconds per question.
- Alternative items (NGN, essay, dose calculations) will have 2 minutes 30 seconds per question.

Computer examinations are utilized regularly throughout the nursing program. This gives students the opportunity to become accustomed to a computer testing environment and allows a monitored testing environment. The licensure examination for registered nurses (NCLEX) utilizes a similar format, so this practice prepares students for the licensure exam experience. The faculty may utilize a variety of formats for assessing knowledge. The format may not be identified ahead of time.

The following policies apply when exams are taken on computer:

- Each exam is given within a specific period of time to be determined by the faculty member.
- Exams are to be taken individually.
- No bags, books, notebooks, or papers are allowed in the testing situation, unless specifically allowed by the faculty member.
- No hats, hoodies, jackets, or coats may be worn during exams.
- All examinations will be monitored; students are not to discuss exams during the testing situation.
- You may not leave the exam room during the exam.
- If exam requires scratch paper, it will be colored and distributed by the proctor. Following the completion of the exam, the paper will be turned into the proctor dated and signed by the student.
- The test application is the ONLY item to be open on the computer during the test; no other applications may be open.
- No programmable personal calculators may be used; if a calculator is allowed, students will use the computer's calculator or a non-programmable calculator.

- Exams are not to be copied in any form. Copying an exam constitutes a violation of the academic integrity policy.
- Violation of this policy will be considered a violation of the academic integrity policy and appropriate consequences will apply.
- Cell phones should be turned off during the exam.
- Students should not use their cell phones or any cellular associated equipment (e.g., ear pieces or smart watches) during the exam. All cellular devices shall be placed in a designated location as determined by proctor.
- All policies from course syllabi, the Nursing Student Handbook and College apply to exams taken.

Integrated Testing Program

ATI (Assessment Technologies Institute) is an integrated testing platform widely adopted in nursing programs to bolster NCLEX-RN preparation and ensure students achieve competency across critical nursing concepts. By providing structured assessments at various stages of the nursing curriculum, ATI aids in identifying areas where students may need additional support and active remediation. Through targeted practice assessments, predictive exams, and individualized feedback, ATI helps students address knowledge gaps early on, which is essential for improving their critical thinking, clinical judgment, and overall readiness for the NCLEX-RN.

The platform offers a comprehensive range of resources, including:
1. Practice Assessments: Simulated tests that help students practice under NCLEX-like conditions, highlighting their strengths and areas needing improvement.
2. Remediation Tools: Personalized study plans based on assessment results, guiding students through content they need to review.
3. Proctored Exams: These benchmark exams are taken throughout the program and provide predictive data on students' NCLEX-RN success likelihood.
4. Focus Reviews: Customized content reviews that address each student's identified weak areas, facilitating deeper learning and retention.

Incorporating ATI into the BSN curriculum at Southwestern College enhances students' preparation, tracking their progress over time and allowing faculty to provide tailored support. This structured, data-driven approach will likely improve NCLEX pass rates and help students achieve their educational and professional goals in nursing.

Technology in the Classroom

Laptops should be open during class ***only*** for class-related activities. Students are expected to refrain from using electronic devices for any other purpose during class time. If your laptop is open during class, it will be assumed you are completing a faculty-directed activity. Air Pods or listening devices are not allowed during class, labs or clinicals.

Health Requirements

Each student entering the nursing program must comply with specific health requirements. These help to ensure the safety and well-being of the student, patient/client, and staff in each practicum experience. These requirements are dictated in part by the various practicum facilities in which Southwestern College students have experience, as well as by the Kansas State Division of Health and Environment, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and Occupational Safety and Health Administration. The nursing Division maintains files containing records of student health and immunization status, *but it is the student's responsibility to submit documentation of compliance with the requirements before entering classes!*

Admission Health Requirements

Prior to August 1, all students entering the nursing junior year of the program must provide written documentation of the listed below. Students will not be allowed to begin practicum experience until requirements are met.

1. Current American Heart Association CPR certification (also called BLS) at the health care provider level; online and American Red Cross will not be accepted. Certification must be valid during the student's full tenure in the program.
2. Proof of a physical exam no more than 1 year old. The exam must be signed by a licensed medical doctor, physician assistant, doctor of osteopathy, or nurse practitioner.
3. Negative TB status as documented by one of the following:
    a. Negative TB skin test within the last 12 months; or
    b. Negative Quantiferon / T-spot within the last 12 months; or
    c. Negative chest-Xray within the last 12 months.
4. Proof of Measles, Rubella and Rubeola immunity by positive antibody titers or two (2) doses of MMR;
5. Proof of Varicella immunity, by positive antibody titer or two (2) doses of Varicella;
6. Proof of Influenza vaccination during the flu season, October 1 to March 31, (or dates defined by CDC and/or HCA), or a signed Declination Form; Masks may be required by clinical site if influenza vaccination is declined.
7. Proof of Hepatitis B immunization or declination of vaccine, if patient contact is anticipated;
8. Tdap vaccination within the last 10 years.
9. COVID-19 or exemption approved by clinical site; note that clinical sites may not permit students to enter without COVID-19 vaccination.

Other immunizations may be required by specific clinical facilities or by CDC requirements.

Students with transmissible infection: Students having practicum experience are presumed healthy and if any of the following illnesses are encountered, the student may not participate in the practicum experience:

- Streptococcal infections of the throat
- herpes simplex; herpes zoster; dysentery

    - confirmed organism or diarrhea
    - staphylococcal infections
    - infectious hepatitis (viral)
    - tuberculosis
    - hepatitis B
    - seasonal influenza
    - H1N1 virus
    - COVID

- If an exposure does occur, the student must notify the practicum instructor immediately.
- Students are responsible for their own healthcare costs and are responsible for their own health insurance coverage during their educational experience.
- Student pregnancy: Practicum experience may pose certain hazards to pregnancy. At any point during the educational experience, students must notify the instructor in the event of a pregnancy, and practicum experiences may be altered.
- Drug testing: Students are prohibited from the inappropriate use of drugs or alcohol during any school related activity, including classroom and clinical experiences. Clinical agencies require that students be tested for cause. Students are subject to drug testing per compliance with clinical agency polices. If the clinical agency determines that a cause for drug testing exists, costs will be borne by the student. A student may be immediately dismissed from a nursing program when the following occur:
    - The result of their drug screening is positive or presumed positive.
    - The request for a drug screening was not completed on the date required.
    - Evidence has been obtained that proves the student is using or is in possession of illegal drugs, alcohol, or controlled substances in the classroom, lab, or clinical setting.
- Documentation of the following must be submitted prior to September 1: Completion of Training for "Bloodborne Pathogens Exposure Control Plan", according to OSHA Standard 29 CFR part 1910. This will be provided by the Division of Nursing after classes begin.

Annual Health Requirements

Each subsequent year of enrollment in the nursing program, all students must submit written documentation through the CastleBranch compliance tracking system by August 1:

- Documentation of current physical examination on file in the Division of Nursing.
- Current T.B. skin test, within 3 months prior to fall enrollment.
- Current tetanus immunization, and
- Current CPR certification. It is the student's responsibility to renew the certification prior to expiration.
- Influenza vaccinations are strongly recommended.
- Students are responsible for their own healthcare costs and are responsible for their own health insurance coverage during their educational experience. You will be expected to provide documentation of this coverage.

Documentation of the following must be submitted by September 1:

- Completion of Training for "Bloodborne Pathogens Exposure Control Plan", according to OSHA Standard 29 CFR part 1910. This will be through the CastleBranch compliance training system.

Dress Code

On-Campus Classroom

Casual, comfortable clothing is recommended. However, please note that the classroom temperature is centrally controlled and tends to be somewhat cool, so you are advised to dress accordingly.

Clinical/Lab/Simulation Experiences

- Uniform is a purple (grape), scrub top with the Southwestern College Division of Nursing logo embroidered on the left chest, and gray pants. Scrub bundles with two tops/two pants/ jacket and logos will be ordered through the Nursing Division on admission to the nursing program for student purchase. Special needs based upon cultural or religious affiliation will be addressed as needed. A professional appearance is to be maintained. Students may not wear Southwestern logo scrubs, lab coats, name badges or any other Southwestern identification when employed by a healthcare organization.

Uniform Attire:

- All students must wear clean, neat school scrubs unless otherwise instructed.
- Pants should not drag the floor and be loose fitting.
- Clean professional or athletic shoes are to be worn with uniform with enclosed heels and toes.
- Jewelry must look professional, discreet in appearance.
- Watch with a second hand, or digital watch that indicates seconds is required.
- SC Nursing Badge is to be worn at all times with the uniform.
- Hair must be away from the face and off the collar with natural hair colors.
- T-shirts may be worn under the scrub shirt. T-shirts must be either grape or gray, clean, in good condition, and must not contain visible writing or logos.
- Tattoos must be appropriate for professional environment. Inappropriate tattoos must be covered when in a practicum agency.
- Good personal hygiene. No fragrances.
- No artificial nails allowed. Nails may be painted with no chips.

Students participating in clinicals hosted by external organizations are required to adhere to the dress code of the host organization. If the organization's dress code is more stringent than the college's policy, the organization's standards will take precedence for the duration of clinical time.

Non-Uniform Attire:

(whenever the uniform is not worn, the following criteria will apply)

- Nursing jacket over street clothes may be appropriate with SC Nursing name badge.

- NO jeans, shorts, short tops (no exposed midriff, cleavage, or undergarments), sweats, or jogging suits are to be worn in any practicum or community setting when completing practicum experience.
- Shirts should be without logos or writing.
- Closed-toed shoes must be worn (i.e., no sandals).

STUDENT INVOLVEMENT

Nursing students are encouraged to participate in nursing student organizations, as well as in campus-wide student government (Student Government Association), campus committees, and other campus organizations.

Student Representative Responsibilities (Governance)

A nursing student representative from each nursing class, is elected by the respective classes annually in the fall. An alternate representative is also elected for each class and will assume the duties if the student representative is unable to do so.

The Student Representatives' responsibilities include:

- Supporting the policies of the Division of Nursing.
- Attendance at nursing faculty meetings.
- Conducting periodic class meetings.
- Acting as liaison between students and faculty by bringing comments voiced by nursing students to the attention of the faculty.
- Serving on ad hoc committees as appointed by the Nursing Program Director.
- Reporting to the student body action taken at faculty meetings.

Student representatives are non-voting members of the Nursing Faculty Committee.

Jinx Student Nurse Organization

The Jinx Student Nurse Organization (JSNO) is a constituency of the National Student Nurses' Association (NSNA) and the Kansas Association of Nursing Students. The purpose of JSNO is to promote professionalism in nursing and to acquaint students with professional organizations in nursing. All current nursing students and pre-nursing students are invited to join. Throughout the academic year, the organization holds bi-monthly meetings for all members focusing on issues that are of interest to students.

Sigma Theta Tau

International Honor Society of Nursing Epsilon Gamma Chapter-At-Large
Each fall, senior students meeting eligibility criteria are invited to be inducted into Epsilon Gamma Chapter-At-Large, the local chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International. Our chapter includes members from

Southwestern College, Bethel College, Newman University, Wichita State University, and Tabor College. Sigma Theta Tau International endeavors to seek out and reward all students in baccalaureate or higher degree nursing programs who have demonstrated ability in nursing as evidenced by superior academic achievement.

The purposes of Sigma Theta Tau International are to:

- Recognize superior achievement and scholarship.
- Recognize the development of leadership qualities.
- Foster high professional standards.
- Encourage creative work.
- Strengthen commitment to the ideals and purposes of the profession.

In order to be eligible for membership, students must have completed one-half of the required nursing course work, must rank among the highest 35% of the class, and have at least a 3.0 grade-point average.

If a student believes he or she is eligible for membership in Sigma Theta Tau, he/she should contact the Faculty Counselor to discuss eligibility.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Tuition and Fees

Nursing Special Charges and Fees *(Cost of Attendance)*

Refund Policies

Nursing Scholarships

Statement of Nondiscrimination

Southwestern College is committed to a policy of nondiscrimination on the basis of race, gender, color, age, sexual orientation, religion, national origin, ethnic origin, or physical disability, veteran (including Vietnam era) status, or other non-merit reasons, in hiring, admissions, and educational programs or activities, all as required by applicable laws and regulations. The college also practices affirmative action in hiring. Responsibility for coordination of compliance efforts and receipt of inquiries, including those concerning the Civil Rights Act of 1960, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1975, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Vietnam Era Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act of 1974, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and other related federal, state, and local legislation, executive orders, regulations, and guidelines has been delegated to the director of human resources, Lonnie Boyd, Southwestern College, 100 College, Winfield, KS 67156, telephone (620) 229-6141.

APPENDIX A

Faculty Biographies (Full-Time Faculty)

Following are short "biographies" of full-time members of the nursing faculty to help you get to know them a little better.



Shona Turner MBA, MSN, RN SC BSN
Program Director

Shona Turner is the founding Director of the BSN 2x2 Nursing Program at Southwestern College. With experience in nursing leadership, curriculum development, and accreditation, she brings a visionary approach to building programs that promote academic excellence and student-centered learning. A passionate advocate for the nursing profession, Shona is deeply committed to preparing graduates who are not only clinically competent, but also culturally responsive, and prepared to lead in today's complex and evolving healthcare systems.



Melanie Burnett, MSN, RN
Assistant Professor

Mel Burnett brings extensive experience in nursing education, with a strong focus on emergency and critical care. She is passionate about supporting student success and fostering a learning environment where critical thinking and compassionate care are at the center. Mel serves as the program's Simulation Lead, responsible for designing and implementing high-fidelity simulation experiences that enhance clinical reasoning, patient safety, and hands-on skills in a controlled, supportive setting. She looks forward to guiding students as they build the foundational competencies needed for professional nursing practice.



Tia Bunch, BSN, RN
Assistant Professor

Tia Bunch is a dedicated nursing educator with a background in critical care and community nursing. She brings valuable experience from her work in healthcare education, where she supported a wide range of students in achieving their academic and professional goals.

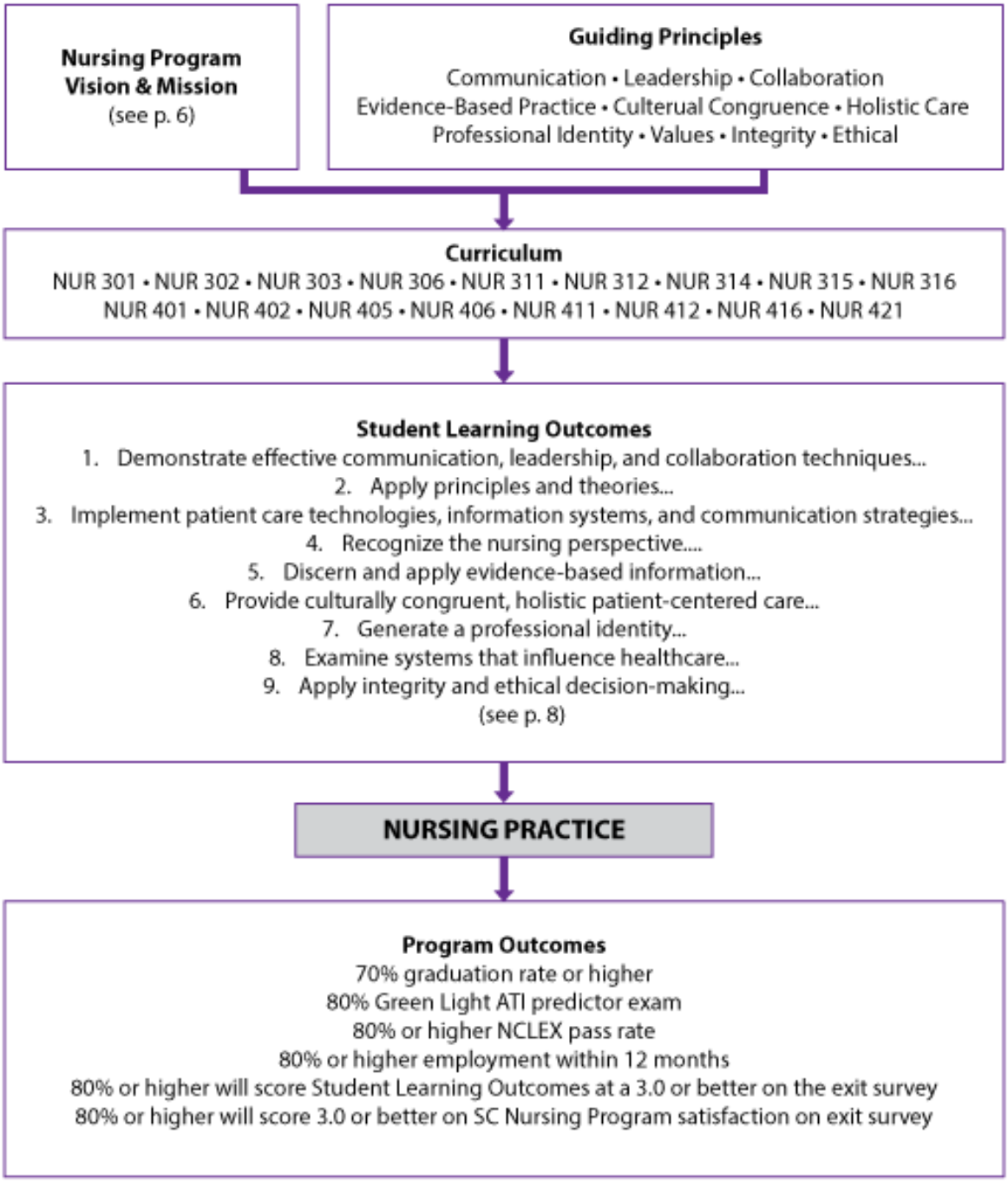
Tia serves as the program's Remediation Lead, where she leads targeted support efforts to help students strengthen core competencies and persist through academic challenges. Her approach emphasizes early intervention, individualized learning strategies, and continuous encouragement to ensure student success.



Jenni Ireland Wilson, ANP-C
Affiliate Faculty in Nursing

Jenni Ireland brings a strong background in adult patient care, with specialized experience in advanced practice management of individuals with renal disorders. She is passionate about delivering healthcare to underserved and unique populations with limited access to services. Her teaching approach centers on evidence-based practice, patient safety, and effective teamwork. Jenni leads our Transcultural Nursing course, which includes a mission/service trip designed to give students hands-on experience in delivering care across diverse cultural settings.

APPENDIX B: Curriculum Organizing Framework



APPENDIX C: Testing Accommodations

Southwestern College Nursing Department
Testing Accommodations Requirements and Plan

Student Name: _____Date: _____

Students requesting Testing Accommodations must provide the appropriate documentation for consideration for any testing accommodations. Documentation must include a written report of an evaluation (educational, psychological, or physical) within the preceding five (5) years from a qualified professional which states a diagnosis of the disability, describes the disability, and recommends specific accommodations. If testing was completed more than two years prior to this request, a physician or psychologist must provide a summary stating why current testing is not needed (e.g., the disability does not change over time and new testing would not reveal new information).

Documentation must include the following:

1. A professionally recognized diagnosis must be included in the documentation.
2. A history of the disability and any past accommodation granted the student and a description of its impact on the individual's functioning.
3. Identification of the specific standardized and professionally recognized test/assessment given (e.g., Woodcock-Johnson, Weschler Adult Intelligence Scale).
4. The scores resulting from testing, interpretation of the scores and evaluations.
5. Recommendations for testing accommodations with a stated rationale as to why the requested accommodation is necessary and appropriate for the diagnosed disability (NCSBN 2007).

Testing Accommodation Plan Options:

- Participating in full accommodations of reader/extra time/quiet testing environment during their entire 4 semesters of coursework with the understanding that individuals will take responsibility to prepare to take the NCLEX-RN® with any accommodations by following the regulations outlined on the KSBN website.

- Participating in scaffolded accommodations of reader/extra time/quiet testing environment during their first three semesters of coursework with the goal of taking exams in an alternate classroom with no additional time and on the NCLEX and therefore having no limitations on their nursing license. (e.g. proctor reads/extended time; student reads to proctor/extended time; student reads to self in isolated testing room/no extended time; student takes exam in alternate classroom/no extended time, etc.).

Referred to Disability Services Coordinator: Yes No

Below is the suggested Testing Accommodations Plan.

Foundations of Nursing_____

Health and Illness 1 _____

Health and Illness 2 _____

Health and Illness 3_____

Student Signature: _____

Nursing Education Director_____

APPENDIX D: Handbook Acknowledgement

Southwestern College Division of Nursing Student Handbook Acknowledgement Form

I have read the policies and information as stated in the Division of Nursing Student Handbook. I have had an opportunity to clarify any questions or concerns I have regarding the policies and/or information. I hereby certify my understanding that I must adhere to these policies in order to continue to be a student in good standing in the nursing program. I also understand that a copy of this statement will be kept in my academic file in the Division of nursing office.

Signed: _____ **Date:** _____