

Nursing Pathway

What High School Courses Should I take?

Course selection always involves the student, school counselor and parent. Newtown High School courses listed below include specific skills for this pathway. This is not a mandatory listing, not does it indicate the level of any course. It is provided to raise awareness of the wide variety of options available to NHS students.

Suggested Courses:

English: 4 years

Math: 4 years

Science: 4 years to include Physics

Social Studies: 4 years

World Language: 4 years

Elective Options:

- AP Physics
- AP Chemistry
- AP Biology
- AP Environmental Studies
- Foundations of Health Science and Technology
- Anatomy and Physiology
- Biotechnology and Forensic Science
- Applied Science Research

Junior/Senior Project: In this course, students work with a community professional to develop and present a project. Besides allowing students to determine their course content, it is an opportunity for students to learn time management skills prior to college. Projects have included: immunization research paper, diabetes research project, AIDS education, and booklets on injury prevention in sports.

NHS Programs/Activities:

Career Center Programs utilize community volunteers to provide career information to students. Programs include:

- Career Speakers: open to all students with permission of their teacher(s).
- Career Tours: open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors. An example would be the Hartford Hospital tour in the fall.
- Career Shadowing: This program allows sophomores, juniors, and seniors one excused day per semester to spend time in a career field of their interest with a community volunteer.
- Internships: Junior and senior students spend 30 hours at a workplace to gain knowledge about a career. Internships occur outside of the school day and may be either paid or unpaid. Students interested in medical careers should apply for Education Connection's Regional Medical Internship Program during their sophomore year.

Current Community Volunteers include: Danbury Hospital, Waterbury Hospital, Center for Pediatric Medicine, Danbury Orthopedics, Education Connection, and Fairfield University.

Related NHS Student Activities:

Health Careers Club

Math Team

Science Bowl

Scholarship Opportunities Related to the Nursing Pathway:

HRSA 2009 Nursing Scholarship Program

Meserve Scholarships

Newtown High School Nurse Scholarship

VNA of Newtown Scholarships

Weller Medical/Health Sciences Scholarship

College Career Pathways:

In the 2009-2010 school year, junior and senior students may take tuition-free technology, science, math, or Engineering courses through Naugatuck Valley Community College. This program is funded by a grant through the community college. Interested students should complete an application by early December. Applications are available in the Career Center.

Depending on the policies of each college/university, these college credits earned in high school may be transferred upon high school graduation.

Sample College Program of Study (Nursing at Naugatuck Valley Community College)

Courses are subject to change and sequencing may vary. Contact the Department(s) of your selected school for specific information on their program.

Admission Requirements: Anatomy & Physiology 1 and 2; English composition.

Freshman Year: Introduction to Nursing Practice; Microbiology; General Psychology; Family Health Nursing; Pharmacology for Families Across the Life Span; Life Span Development; and, Principles of Sociology.

Sophomore Year: Nursing Care of Families and Individuals 1 and 2; Pharmacology for Individuals and Families with Intermediate Health Care Needs; English Composition and Literature; Pharmacology for Individuals, Families and Groups with Complex Health Care Needs; Nursing Management and Trends; and, Humanities/Arts.

Sample Careers

Occupations Requiring Less than Baccalaureate Degree:

Cardiovascular Technologist
Central Supply Technician
Clinical Lab Technician
Computer Tomography (CT) Technologist
Diagnostic Medical Sonographer
Electrocardiographic (ECG) Technician
Histotechnician
Magnetic Resonance (MR) Technician
Mammographer
Nuclear Medicine Technologist
Pathology Assistant
Phlebotomist
Positron Emission Tomography (PET) Technologist
Radiologic Technologist/Radiographer

Occupations Requiring Baccalaureate Degree:

Cytogenetic Technologist
Cytotechnologist
Exercise Physiologist
Geneticist
Histotechnologist
Medical Technologist/Clinical Laboratory Scientist
Nurse
Nutritionist
Pathologist
Radiologist