

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

SCHOOL OF NURSING

Available on the Jackson, Hendersonville, and Germantown Campuses

Mission Statement

To prepare graduates for advanced professional nursing practice with specific functional and clinical abilities.

MSN Program Goals

To provide masters nursing education that builds on one's previous nursing foundation.

To prepare the graduate for advanced professional nursing practice with specific functional and clinical abilities.

To prepare advanced professional nurses academically for doctoral study in nursing.

MSN Expected Student Outcomes

The graduate of the master's nursing program will be able to:

1. Incorporate theory and research in advanced nursing practice.

2. Assume leadership roles in one's specialty area of nursing to promote health and well-being of persons in an inter-cultural world.
3. Integrate knowledge of health care economics and policy into the delivery of cost-effective, ethically responsible nursing care.
4. Manage information technology to enhance nursing practice.
5. Demonstrate competence in the selected nursing practice.

The Cohort Approach and Calendar

In the fall semester of each year the MSN Program accepts students in the Nurse Education, Nurse Administration, and Nurse Practitioner tracks. Groups pursue the degree as a cohort. This model emphasizes group cohesion, cooperation, and interactive support. Within semesters, some courses are offered in an accelerated, 7-8 week format.

Each cohort is presented its unique calendar for the complete program. Current MSN calendars are available at <http://www.uu.edu/academics/graduate/msn/>

- The following undergraduate nursing courses must be completed with a grade of 'B' or above by March 31st of the year the applicant plans to be considered for the MSN cohort. The nursing courses may be in progress when the applicant notifies the coordinator of their readiness to be considered for the MSN applicant pool.
 - NUR 306 Scientific Writing
 - NUR 330 Research

The RN to MSN does not award a BSN.

Acceptance to the RN to MSN program does not guarantee acceptance to any MSN track. Applicants who are not selected to progress to the MSN cohort will be given the opportunity to enter the RN to BSN program.

- Applicants must complete or show evidence of completion of the following undergraduate courses:
 - Anatomy and Physiology 1 and 2 8 hrs.
 - Microbiology 3 or 4 hrs.
 - Pathophysiology 3 hrs.
 - An undergraduate statistics course 3 hrs.
- The above courses must be completed by December 31st of the year prior to the year the applicant plans to be considered for the MSN cohort. At that point, the applicant will notify the track coordinator the wish to be considered for the applicant pool in the next cohort for that track.
- The following undergraduate nursing courses must be completed with a grade of 'B' or above by March 31st of the year the applicant plans to be considered the MSN cohort. The nursing courses may be in progress when the applicant notifies the coordinator of their readiness to be considered for the MSN applicant pool.
 - NUR 306 Scientific Writing
 - NUR 330 Research

The RN to MSN does not award a BSN.

Acceptance to the RN to MSN program does not guarantee acceptance to any MSN track. Applicants who are not selected to progress to the MSN cohort will be given the opportunity to enter the RN to BSN program.

Students admitted to the program must have and maintain while in the program:

- Current CPR certification for NP and Education students only
- Evidence of Hepatitis B, MMR, and tetanus vaccination
- Varicella titer showing active immunity
- Freedom from tuberculosis as evidenced by a negative PPD or health provider examination
- Health insurance

Conditional Admission

Applicants who do not meet the regular admission requirements to the MSN program may be admitted conditionally at the discretion of the MSN Graduate

Admissions Committee. Conditional admission will require contractual agreement between the applicant and the Graduate Admissions Committee. The contract will specify the conditions and deadlines that must be met to matriculate to the regular MSN program.

Transfer of Credit

Graduate credit for courses earned at a regionally accredited college or university or at a foreign college or university may be transferred to Union University if the courses are essentially the same as those required in the MSN program. The maximum number of semester hours that may be transferred to Union University and applied to the MSN degree is nine, based upon evaluation of transcripts.

Applicants may take a maximum of two MSN core courses prior to being enrolled in their respective MSN track cohort. Enrollment in core d(N)0.5(pro)0.5(gr)0.5(am)0.5(m)1 10ero 63

7. If applicant has been dismissed from or withdrawn from a nurse anesthesia program, he or she must provide a letter from the previous program director addressing this dismissal/ withdrawal.

1.

Academic Standards, Requirements for Progression, Probation, and Dismissal

After completion of 9 graduate hours at Union University, a graduate student whose cumulative GPA from courses taken at Union University for graduate credit is below 3.0 will be placed on academic probation. A student placed on academic probation has one semester to increase his or her GPA to 3.0 or greater to be removed from a probationary status.

If the student fails to increase his or her GPA to 3.0 or greater during the following semester, the student will be dismissed from the DNP Program. Students must make a grade of B or higher in all track-specific courses. No more than 2 Cs are allowed in the remaining courses in order to continue in the program. Students will also be dismissed if they receive an F (i.e. an grade below a C) in any course.

Students must maintain an overall B average. The program faculty recognize that situations may arise which prevent students from successfully matriculating through the program. Students who are concerned about their academic standing should contact his or her advisor. If it appears the student may

Graduation Requirements

1. Completion of the course work within each specified track.
2. A minimum grade point average of 3.0 for the required course of study.
3. File an application for graduation with the Graduate Nursing Office by the published deadline.
- 4.



Students admitted to the program must have and maintain while in the program:

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2. Evidence of Hepatitis B, MMR, polio and tetanus vaccination

3. Varicella titer showing active immunity
4. Freedom from tuberculosis as evidenced by a negative PPD or health provider examination
5. Health insurance

Financial Information

Tuition is \$560 per semester hour for Post-Master's Certificate programs and \$840 for post-graduate DNP programs. Full payment for a term is expected at the time of registration for classes.

General Student fee: \$200

A combination of the following payment methods is available:

1. Check, cash, or credit card.
 2. Employer reimbursement.
 3. FACTS (and electronic monthly draft from a savings or checking account) The cost of books is approximately \$150 per course.
- All financial information is subject to change without notice.

Employer Tuition Reimbursement Policies

1. The student is responsible for providing information to the university regarding his/her employer's policies for reimbursement.
2. If the employer reimburses the student directly, the student must pay the university in full at the time of registration for classes.
3. If the employer provides partial reimbursement directly to the university, the student must pay his/her portion of the tuition at the time of registration.
4. The university will provide any required information to an employer when requested by the student.

Certificate Program Completion Requirements

1. Must demonstrate evidence of completion of MSN or DNP core through an accredited MSN or DNP Program.
2. Completion of the special curriculum for Post-graduate Certificate.
3. A minimum grade point average of 3.0 in the certificate coursework.
4. File an application for graduation with the Graduate Nursing Office by the published deadline.
5. Pay in full the student's account in the Business Office.
6. Discharge all other obligations (fines, credentials, fees, etc.) at the University.

Curriculum

- I. Post-graduate Certificate Nursing Administration 22 hours
A. NUR 525, 528, 535, 548, 572, 593
B. NUR 615, 693A, 695B
C. Minimum Residency (22 semester hours) includes 525, 528, 535, 548, 593, 615, 693A, 695B, 572, and 400 clinical hours.
- II. Post-graduate Certificate Nursing Education 24 hours
A. BIO 500; NUR 507, 517, 537, 538, 544
B. NUR 607, 622, 642
C. Minimum Residency (14 semester hours) includes NUR 507, 517, 537, 538, 607, 642 and 380 clinical hours
- III. Post-graduate Certificate Nurse Practitioner 29 hours
A. BIO 500; NUR 544, 622
B. Special courses:
 1. FNP: NUR 547, 600, 617, 639, 650
 2. PNP: NUR 557C, 600, 627C, 638C, 650
 3. Adult/Geriatric NP: NUR 557A, 600, 627A, 638C, 650
 4. Family Psychiatric Mental Health: NUR 566, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654
- C. Minimum Residency (16 hours; except Family Psychiatric Mental Health, which is 19 hours) includes all special courses and 560 clinical hours
- IV. Post-graduate Certificate Nurse Anesthesia 48 hours
A. BIO 500, NUR 544, 622 (Completion requirements reviewed on a case-by-case basis)
B. BIO 505, 507, 509; NUR 524, 612, 614
C. Special courses: NUR 519, 532, 534, 554, 574, 609, 611, 613, 691
D. Minimum Residency (29 hours) includes all special courses and associated clinical hours.

Course Descriptions: Biology (BIO)

500. *Cellular Pathophysiology* (2)

Building on a basic knowledge of pathophysiology, the student will analyze the mechanisms and symptoms of illness to provide advanced theoretical understanding of disease states and health problems.

505. *Human Physiology & Pathophysiology* (3)

An intensive examination of the human body that addresses the normal complex physiological processes of the cell, fluids and electrolytes, acid-base balance, temperature regulation, vascular hemodynamics, mobilization of fluids through the body and lymphatic system, musculoskeletal systems and function of the myocardium. The acquired information will provide the student with a body of knowledge to critically evaluate acute-existing conditions of the surgical patient.

507. *Human Physiology & Pathophysiology* (3)

Prerequisite: BIO 221 and 222

A continuation of 505 focusing on the normal complex physiological processes of blood components and coagulation and the respiratory, renal, endocrine, digestive and nervous systems.

508. *Human Physiology & Pathophysiology* (4)

Prerequisites: BIO 505 & 507, or BIO 221 & 222.

This course will incorporate the dissection of cadavers and viewing of anatomical models in understanding the nervous, endocrine, cardiovascular, respiratory, digestive, and urinary systems of the human body. Additional emphasis is placed on the needs of professional health care personnel.

Course Descriptions: Nursing (NUR)

501. *Professionalism* (3)

This course will focus on the development of curricular learning outcomes-based learning experiences by addressing individual attitudes, knowledge, and skills that are assessable, transferable and self-reliant in a multicultural world.

515. *Biostatistics* (3)

Prerequisite: undergraduate statistics

This course serves to build upon basic statistical knowledge. Topics include a review of descriptive statistics, probability, and probability distributions; confidence intervals and classical hypothesis tests for one and two samples; analysis of variance; hypothesis tests for categorical variables; regressions and correlation; and nonparametric methods, all with an emphasis on applications in the health sciences. Appropriate statistical software will be utilized throughout the semester. This course will use online (MoodleRooms) method of delivery.

516. *Health Informatics* (3)

This course is designed to provide the student with the knowledge and skills regarding the uses of information technology to support nursing practice, education, and leadership through a Christian worldview. The course will provide an overview of informatics topics including: computer systems and system development; standardized clinical terminology; informatics standards; electronic health records; retrieval and critical analysis of digital data, information, and knowledge; simulation strategies; and technology-aided instruction.

52. *Pharmacology of Anesthetic Agents* (3)

This course affords the graduate nursing student the opportunity to be involved in the development and implementation of a short-term healthcare mission trip by serving in a transcultural healthcare setting. The educational service provided in the transcultural healthcare setting will be based on the student's nursing expertise and guided by the presence of a faculty member.

532. *Pharmacology of Anesthetic Agents* (3)

An evidence-based examination of the pharmacological principles associated with the administration of anesthetic agents. An understanding of the physiological impact on the body in relation to the absorptive, metabolic, and elimination processes of each anesthetic agent will be examined.

533. *Pharmacology of Anesthetic Agents* (3)

Prerequisite: NUR 515

This course emphasizes analysis and interpretation of clinical research and evidence-based practice, preparing the student to use translational science in clinical decision making to improve patient outcomes. Specific aspects of the research process, quantitative and qualitative research, and systematic reviews will be studied.

534. *Pharmacology of Anesthetic Agents* (3)

This course builds on the basic sciences in examining the pathophysiology of major organ systems (e.g. cardiovascular, hepatic, endocrine, and pulmonary) that are impacted by the administration of anesthetics.

535. *Pharmacology of Anesthetic Agents* (3)

Prerequisite: NUR 525.

This course examines the quality of health care in relationship to nursing care delivery. It will include the concepts and information systems that are necessary in the identification, tracking, and evaluation of quality indicators. Emphasis is placed on terminology and information systems specific to nursing administration and quality.

53. *Pharmacology of Anesthetic Agents* (2)

Clinical introduction to the nursing educator practical experience. It includes application of educational theories and holistic nursing practice.

53. *Pharmacology of Anesthetic Agents* (3)

Prerequisites: NUR 544, and BIO 500.

An overview of clinical management of patients throughout the lifespan. Opportunities are provided for students to integrate theory, research and evidence-based practice in a specialized clinical setting under the direction of a preceptor with specialized expertise.

544. *Pharmacology of Anesthetic Agents* (3)

The course focuses on advanced health/physical assessment of the client where the client is defined as the individual and includes the individual's context within the family and/or community. Focus of the course is on comprehensive history, physical/psychological assessment, pathophysiology, and health promotion strategies incorporating the individual's cultural and developmental variations across the lifespan.

545. *Pharmacology of Anesthetic Agents* (2)

This course provides an overview of organizational concepts, healthcare economic theory, health systems, communication and other leadership principles needed by the nurse in advanced practice. Emphasis is on the foundational skills and competencies needed by the master's prepared nurse.

54. *Pharmacology of Anesthetic Agents* (4)

Prerequisite: BIO 500. Pre- or Corequisite: NUR 544 and 622.

The purpose of this course is to enhance knowledge and skill in diagnostic reasoning, advanced health assessment, health promotion, health maintenance and disease prevention with regard to the family. Students will explore family concepts and theories relevant to advanced nursing practice and research. Special emphasis will be placed on meeting goals and objectives of Health People 2020. Clinical experiences will provide opportunities in the community for students to develop advanced practice interventions to promote health and disease throughout the lifespan.

54. *Pharmacology of Anesthetic Agents* (3)

This course provides an overview of organizational concepts, theories, perspectives, and research relevant to nursing administration, patient care delivery systems, and nursing practice organization. Emphasis is on management principles and organizational processes applicable to quality work environments and the influence of the external and internal environment on these organizations, and the role and relationship of nurse leaders to the nursing practice environment and to the greater organization.

554. *Pharmacology of Anesthetic Agents* (1)

An introduction to the clinical practice of nurse anesthesia to begin the development of fundamental skills necessary to provide a safe and effective anesthetic. Critical thinking skills will be applied and developed through the synthesis of knowledge acquired from prior didactic coursework and simulation experiences. Pass/Fail grading.

55. *Pharmacology of Anesthetic Agents* (4)

Prerequisite: BIO 500; Pre- or Corequisite: NUR 544 and 622.

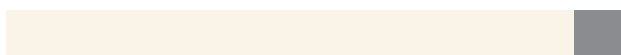
To expand enhancing knowledge and skill in diagnostic reasoning, advanced assessment, health promotion, health maintenance and disease prevention of adult/geriatric populations (A) and children (C) with regards to family environment, special emphasis will be placed on meeting goals and objectives of Health People 2020. Clinical experiences will provide opportunities in the community for students to develop advanced practice interventions to promote health and disease prevention.

55. *Pharmacology of Anesthetic Agents* (2)

Prepares the student for transition from student role to Advanced Practice role; emphasis placed on professional topics such as reimbursement, licensure, credentialing, prescriptive privileges, interviewing for and securing employment, contract negotiation, and portfolio preparation. Also encompasses legal issues pertinent to the APN role.

55 (2)

The purpose of this course is to enhance the student's knowledge of advanced nursing practice roles and



20. **Philosophical Underpinnings of the Christian Worldview (3)**

The philosophical underpinnings of the Christian worldview as it applies to faith and science in the arena of health care. An understanding of faith as the basis for hope and humanity in delivering quality health care will be discussed while incorporating the quantitative analysis of scientific principles.

25. **Health Care Legislation and Policy (3)**

To prepare the student to critically evaluate the relationship between problems in health care legislation and the development of economic, political, social, and ethical issues that impact nursing. Students will synthesize the components of the Christian worldview related to issues in health care legislation and apply this philosophy to the development of effective health care policies. Students will be prepared to enact, scale, responsible and effective changes in local, state and national health care policies.

2. **Course Objectives (3)**

The purpose of this course is to prepare the student for