

THE SCHOOL OF NURSING

Available on the Jackson and Germantown Campuses

Master of Science in Nursing

Mission Statement

- To provide masters nursing education that builds on the baccalaureate undergraduate foundation.
- To prepare the graduate for advanced professional nursing practice with specific functional and clinical abilities
- To prepare advanced practice nurses academically for doctoral study in nursing

Program Outcomes

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

1. Incorporate theory and research in advanced practice nursing.
2. Assume leadership roles in nursing education or nursing administration to promote health and well being of persons in an intercultural world.
3. Integrate knowledge of health care economics and policy into the delivery of cost effective, ethically responsible nursing care.
4. Manage information using technology to influence nursing practice.

The Cohort Approach

The MSN Program accepts up to 30 students each Fall semester between the two campuses, with a maximum of one cohort per campus. A minimum number is required to form a cohort. Groups pursue the degree as a cohort. This model emphasizes group cohesion, cooperation, and interactive support. Core courses are taken together as a group. Administration or education track courses are taken with the respective track group. The program begins in the fall and ends in December of the following fall, consisting of 16 months and 4 semesters. Within semesters, most courses are offered in an accelerated, 7-8 week format.

Graduate Program Admission Requirements

Admission to the program will be based on competitive selection from the pool of applicants who meet the following admission requirements:

1. Completion of a baccalaureate degree in nursing from an NLN accredited program
2. Official transcript(s) from all undergraduate and graduate coursework attempted
3. Official GRE test score
4. Current RN licensure verification form
5. Evidence of writing skill to include:
 - Statement of philosophy of nursing that integrates faith into the discipline of nursing

- Statement of professional career goals

6. Interview with the Nursing Graduate Admissions Selection Committee
7. Three letters of professional/academic reference specifying the applicants capabilities for graduate study
8. Completed application with application fee of \$25.00

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

1. Current CPR certification
2. Evidence of Hepatitis B, MMR, polio and tetanus vaccination
3. Rubella and varicella titers
4. Freedom from tuberculosis as evidenced by a negative PPD or health provider examination
5. Evidence of professional malpractice 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. Such transfer credit will not be allowed for courses used to satisfy another degree at another institution. The maximum number of semester hours that may be transferred to Union University and applied to the MSN degree is six.

No grade less than "B" may be transferred. Courses taken more than five years before beginning the MSN program at Union University will be considered on an individual basis.

Financial Information

Tuition is \$330 per semester hour or \$11,400 for the program—effective for the Fall 2003 Cohorts. Full payment for a term (Fall, Spring, Summer, Fall or other non-regular term) is expected at the time of registration for classes.

Application Fee: \$25
Graduation Fee: 25

Any combination of the following payment is available.

1. Check, cash, or credit card
2. Federal Stafford loan

3. Employer reimbursement
4. FACTS (an electronic monthly draft from a savings or checking account)

Books cost approximately \$100 per course and are purchased from Lifeway Christian Stores.

Federal Stafford Loan

The Stafford loan application process will require that you:

1. Complete and forward the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) to the federal government with Union University's code of 003528.
2. Complete a Union Financial Aid Application and a Stafford Master Promissory Note and forward to the Union University Financial Aid Office.
3. For more information, contact the Financial Aid Office at 731-661-5015.

If Federal Stafford loan is not approved and available at the time of registration, the student must assume the cost by paying in full by check, cash, credit card, or FACTS.

Employer Tuition Reimbursement

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

Graduation Requirements

1. Completion of the thirty-eight hours of required course work.
2. A minimum grade point average of 3.0 for the required course of study.
3. Successfully complete all degree requirements which are in effect for the MSN program.
4. File an application for graduation with the Graduate Nursing Office. The application deadline is October 1, 2004 for students who plan to complete degree requirements for December 2004 graduation.
5. Pay in full the student's account in the Business Office
6. Discharge all other obligations (fines, credentials, fees, etc.) at the University.

M.S.N., Nursing Education Track (36 hrs)

Fall Semester, Year One	
NUR 530, Research	2
NUR 514, Statistics/Health Sciences	3
NUR 513, Advanced Concepts I	2
NUR 512, Advanced Health Assessment	2
NUR 570, Curriculum Design	4

Spring Semester, Year One	
NUR 553, Advanced Concepts II	3
NUR 625, Teaching/Learning Lifespan	4
BIO 500, Advanced Pathophysiology	2
NUR 527 (Adult) or 557 (Pediatrics), Nursing Specialty I	3
NUR 537, Education Practicum I	2

Summer Semester	
NUR 573, Advanced Concepts III	3
NUR 627 (Adult) or 657 (Pediatrics), Nursing Specialty II	3

Fall Semester, Year Two	
NUR 696 (Thesis) or 697 (Scholarly Project)	3
NUR 637, Education Practicum II	3

M.S.N., Nursing Administration Track (38 hrs)

Fall Semester, Year One	
NUR 530, Research	2
NUR 514, Statistics/Health Sciences	3
NUR 513, Advanced Concepts I	2
NUR 512, Advanced Health Assessment	2
NUR 525, Intro Administrative Practice	3

Spring Semester, Year One	
NUR 553, Advanced Concepts II	3
NUR 645, Applied Financial Management	3
BIO 500, Advanced Pathophysiology	2
NUR 535, Quality Management	4
NUR 595, Administration Practicum I	2

Summer Semester	
NUR 573, Advanced Concepts III	3
NUR 615, Resource Management	3

Fall Semester, Year Two	
NUR 696 (Thesis) or 697 (Scholarly Project)	3
NUR 695, Administration Practicum II	3

Post-Master Certificate Program in Nursing

Description

The School of Nursing endeavors to provide curricula that encourage individuals to pursue Christ-centered excellence in their nursing vocation as the future needs of the nursing profession come into view. The certificate program fits with the mission of the University to provide Christ-centered higher education that promotes excellence and character development in service to Church and society.

This program is ideal for nurses who have obtained their master's degree in nursing in another advanced practice area and now find themselves in positions that require advanced preparation in either nursing education or nursing administration. For example, if an MSN graduate with a major in nursing administration desired to acquire a certificate in nursing education, that individual could enroll in this program. Another example might be that of

an individual with a nurse practitioner degree desiring advanced study in nursing administration.

Mission Statement

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

Program Outcomes

The nursing education certificate prepares nurses for educator positions in various settings such as staff development, patient education, schools and colleges. The nursing administration certificate prepares nurses for a variety of administrative and leadership positions in health care delivery systems.

Schedule

The certificate program is part-time study with classes generally occurring one day per week over an 11-month period. In the final semester, clinical requirements of practicum commonly require more than one day per week. Courses taken out of the typical sequence will lengthen the time required to complete the certificate. Seminar Practicum must be the last course taken.

The enrollment of certificate students will occur on a space-available basis. Curricular needs of full-time MSN cohort students will be given priority.

Admission Requirements:

- Master's degree with a major in nursing.
- Completed application
- \$25 application fee.
- Official transcripts from all colleges and universities attended.
- Letters of Professional Recommendation (2)
- Proof of current RN Licensure
- Once admitted, students must submit evidence of:
 - Current Immunizations Status
 - CPR Health Care Provider Certification
 - Professional Nurse Liability Insurance

Transfer credit policy

No college credit will be allowed to transfer to the certificate program.

Financial Information

Tuition is \$330 per semester hour of \$4,290 for the total program. Full payment for a term is expected at the time of registration for classes.

Graduation fee: \$25

Any 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.

Employer Tuition Reimbursement Policies

1. The student is responsible for providing information to the university regarding their 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 Graduation Requirements

1. Completion of the 13 hours of required course work.
2. A minimum grade point average of 3.0 in the certificate course work.
3. Filing an application for graduation by the published deadline.
4. Payment in full of the student account.
5. Discharge of all other obligations to the university.

Curricula

Nursing Education Post Master's Certificate Program—13 hours

- NUR 570, Curriculum Design (4)
- NUR 537, Education Practicum I (2)
- NUR 625, Teaching/Learning Methods (4)
- NUR 637, Education Practicum II (3)

Nursing Administration Post Master's Certificate Program—18 hours

- NUR 525, Administrative Practice (3)
- NUR 535, Quality Management (4)
- NUR 595, Administrative Practicum I (2)
- NUR 615, Resource Management (3)
- NUR 645, Applied Financial Mgmt (3)
- NUR 695, Administrative Practicum II (3)

Course Descriptions: Biology (BIO)

() Hours Credit; F-Fall; W-Winter; S-Spring; Su-Summer

500 Advanced Pathophysiology (2) S

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.

Course Descriptions: Nursing (NUR)

() Hours Credit; F-Fall; W-Winter; S-Spring; Su-Summer

512 Advanced Health Assessment (2) F

This course builds on knowledge and skills acquired at the undergraduate level. Emphasis is on development of advanced assessment skills that enable learners to promote

wellness, prevent illness, and detect acute and chronic health problems among clients across the lifespan.

513 Advanced Nursing Concepts I (2) F

Prepares the student to critique, evaluate, develop and utilize appropriate theory in the advanced practice of nursing; also includes the study of the use of technology in health care practice, as well as educational and administrative decision making.

514 Statistics for the Health Sciences (3) F

Prerequisite: MAT 114 and admission to the MSN program.

This course serves as an introduction to biostatistics. 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 data; regression 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 class consists of 3 class hours per week.

525 Nursing Administration—Introduction to Administrative Practice (3) S

This course will integrate information about delivery systems, organizational mission, structure, culture, personnel motivation, management and networking. The focus will be on exploring these concepts from a nursing perspective and a wholistic Christian worldview. This class consists of 4 class hours per week.

527 Nursing Specialty I—Adult Health (3) S

A study of the application of nursing practice to illness-related problems of symptoms associated with acute illnesses in selected populations. Emphasis: specific foundations of symptoms, models, theories, and empirical bases of therapeutic nursing interventions that facilitate recovery to optimal health. Clinical includes designing care based on evidence-based practice.

530 Research Methods (2) F

Pre- or Corequisite: NUR 514.

Specific aspects of the research process from quantitative analysis and qualitative perspectives will be studied. Emphasis will be placed on analysis of research, which prepares the student to utilize research findings as a basis for decision-making. The student will develop a proposal for research thesis or scholarly project. This class consists of 4 class hours per week.

535 Nursing Administration—Quality Measurement and Information Management in Health Services (4) Su

Prerequisite: NUR 525.

This course examines the quality of healthcare 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 in terminology and information systems specific to nursing administration and quality. This class consists of 5.3 class hours per week.

537 Nursing Education Practicum I (2) S

Clinical introduction to the nurse educator practical experience. It involves application of educational theories and wholistic nursing practice.

553 Advanced Nursing Concepts II (3) S

Explores the importance of wholistic health promotion, disease prevention, and health risk education in individuals, families and communities with attention to developmental, cultural, and managerial perspectives as well as educational theory in assessing, analyzing, planning, implementing and evaluating health promotion strategies and the study of culturally appropriate and wholistic professional nursing care.

557 Nursing Specialty I—Pediatric (3) S

A study of the application of nursing practice to illness-related problems of symptoms associated with acute illnesses in selected populations. Emphasis: the scientific foundations of symptoms, models, theories, and empirical bases of therapeutic nursing interventions that facilitate recovery to optimal health. Clinical includes designing care based on evidence-based practice.

570 Curriculum Design (4) S

The focus of this course is the development of curricula using outcomes-based learning experiences. It addresses individual attitudes, knowledge and skills that are assessable, transferable and useful in a multicultural world. This class consists of 5.3 class hours per week.

573 Advanced Nursing Concepts III (3) SU

Prepares the student to understand and evaluate health care policy and the economics of health care utilized in the advanced practice of nursing. Includes the examination of health care ethics from a Christian perspective as well as its relationship to the economic characteristics of the health care industry.

585 Special Studies in Nursing (1-4)

Group studies which do not appear in the department course offerings. Content will be determined by need.

595 Nursing Admin Practicum I (2) S

Experiential application of the concepts examined in Nursing Administration in a workplace setting with a preceptor in nursing management.

598 Seminar (1-3)

A non-lecture research and discussion course. Course content will be determined by need. To be used at the discretion of the department.

615 Resource Management (3) SU

The management of resources in the health care environment. Focus is managing the revenue and expense aspects of the budget and the management of personnel.

625 Teaching/Learning Through the Lifespan (4) S

Examine models and methods of teaching and learning, learner characteristics at each developmental stage and how these influence learning will be incorporated using the nursing process as its framework.

627 Nursing Specialty II—Adult Health (3) SU

A study of nursing interventions to enhance physical and cognitive function of clients with chronic illness in

selected populations. Emphasis: models, theories, and empirical bases of therapeutic nursing interventions that facilitate maintenance of chronic health problems, Clinical includes designing care based on evidence-based practice.

637 Nursing Education Practicum II (3) F

Clinical culmination of the nurse educator clinical experience. It involves application of educational theories and wholistic nursing practice. Practice experiences are designed to synthesize knowledge and skills and to enable the advanced practice nurse to meet individual practice outcomes and career goals.

645 Nursing Administration—Applied Financial Management (3) S

Prerequisites: NUR 530 and 535.

This course will facilitate a working knowledge of budgetary and fiscal issues specific to nursing management in various types of health care organizations. The content covers issues related to day to day fiscal management such as developing a budget and tracking revenue and expenditures. Computer systems used in fiscal management, as well as long range planning, are included. This class consists of 4 class hours per week.

655 Independent Study (1-4)

Individual research and study under the guidance of a graduate faculty member.

657 Nursing Specialty II—Pediatric (3) SU

A study of nursing interventions to enhance physical and cognitive function of clients with chronic illness in selected populations. Emphasis: models, theories, and empirical bases of therapeutic nursing interventions that facilitate maintenance of chronic health problems, Clinical includes designing care based evidence-based practice.

695 Nursing Administration Practicum II (3) F

Prerequisite: NUR 525, 535, 645.

This course will integrate didactic material from previous courses with administrative practice. The focus is the dynamic combination of administrative theory, quality management, health care economics and information systems through mentoring and field experience. Emphasis will be placed on developing practice and decision-making skills that are excellence driven, Christ-centered, people-focused, and future-directed. This class consists of 1.5 class hours and 4.5 lab hours per week.

696 Thesis (3) F

Prerequisites: NUR 514, 530.

This course enables the nurse educator/nurse administrator to implement the research proposal developed in the nursing research course. This project will focus on a problem in a school/college of nursing or health care delivery system. The subject of healthcare improvements is emphasized through nursing research utilization. Pass/Fail.

697 Scholarly Project (3) F

Prerequisites: NUR 514, 530.

This course enables the nurse educator/nurse administrator to complete a scholarly project. Through the scholarly project the student will identify, analyze, synthesize and utilize knowledge related to a healthcare issue in a school/college of nursing or health care delivery system. Application of critical thinking and nursing research utilization in this project will result in improved healthcare outcomes. Pass/Fail.