

Graduate Program Requirements

Research College of Nursing offers the Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) degree program. Six tracks are offered leading to the MSN degree: Adult-Gero Nurse Practitioner (ANP), Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL), Executive Nurse Practice: Health Care Leadership (ENP), Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP), Nurse Educator (NEd) and RN-MSN Program.

Two post master's certificate programs are offered: the Executive Nurse and the Nurse Educator.

Many courses are offered in an online (OL) format and these are identified following the course title in this section.

Adult-Gero Nurse Practitioner (ANP) Track

The Adult-Gero Nurse Practitioner track prepares nurses for an advanced role as a health provider in a variety of primary care settings. Graduates of the ANP track are qualified to sit for the Adult-Gero Nurse Practitioner certification examination. The curriculum for this track is based upon the MSN core courses.

Courses in advanced health assessment, pathophysiology and pharmacology provide a core of essential content for the Adult-Gero Nurse Practitioner specialty courses. These courses will focus on health promotion, health protection and disease prevention and commonly occurring health conditions for adolescent, adult, and older adult populations. Health management practices associated with such conditions will be emphasized with the integration of environmental factors on health.

The program also includes 660 total clinical practicum clock hours. Clinical practicum clock hours are determined using a 1:4 ratio (one credit hour is equivalent to 4 clock hours). For example, a 3 credit practicum course includes 12 clinical practicum hours/week for 15 weeks = 180 clinical practicum clock hours within the semester.

Adult –Gero Nurse Practitioner Curriculum

Master of Science in Nursing Core Courses

NU 6020	Theoretical Foundations of Nursing (OL)	3
NU 6060	Role Development in Advanced Nursing (OL)	3
NU 6080	Nursing Research (OL)	3
NU 6040	Contemporary Issues in Nursing (OL)	2
NU 7xxx	Research Option**	2
	Total Credit Hours	<u>13</u>

** Students choose from these Research Options

NU 7480	Research Project	2 - 4 credits
NU 7490	Research Utilization Project (OL)	2 credits
NU 7500	Research Thesis	5 - 8 credits

Advanced Practice Nursing Core Courses

NU 7040	Advanced Pathophysiology (OL)	3
NU 7060	Advanced Health Assessment	4
NU 7080	Advanced Pharmacology (OL)	3
	Total Credit Hours	<u>10</u>

Nurse Practitioner Specialty Courses

NU 7100	Primary Care I	4
NU 7110	Primary Care I Practicum*	3
NU 7030	Gerontology for the Adult Gero Practitioner	3
NU 7142	Primary Care II Women' s Health	2
NU 7152	Primary Care II Practicum for the ANP*	3
NU 7452	Independent Primary Care Practicum for the ANP*	5
	Total Credit Hours	20
	Total Program Credit Hours	43

*The program includes 660 total clinical practicum clock hours. Clock hours are calculated using a 1:4 ratio (1 credit hour = 4 clock hours) multiplied by 15 practicum weeks per semester.

Typical Program of Study: Adult-Gero Nurse Practitioner Track

Following is a guide for sequencing and grouping courses. Individual programs of study may vary. Students will select courses each semester based on full-time or part-time status.

Full-time status is reflected in the following plan. Students preferring part-time study, take fewer than nine (9) credits each semester, completing the NP specialty courses (NU 7100, 7110, 7142, 7152, 7452) at the end of the program.

Year One:

FALL		SPRING		SUMMER	
NU 6020	3	NU 6080	3	NU 6060	3
NU 7080	3	NU 7040	3	NU 7490	2
Total credits	6	Total credits	6	Total credits	5

Year Two:

FALL		SPRING		SUMMER	
NU 7060	4	NU 7100	4	NU 7030	3
		NU 7110	3	NU 7142	2
				NU 7152	3
Total credits	4	Total credits	7		8

Year Three:

FALL	
NU 6040	2
NU 7452	5
Total credits	7

Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL) Track

The Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL)sm is a generalist prepared at the Master's degree level. The major thrust of the CNL role is oversight of the lateral integration of care. The CNL has specialized knowledge in horizontal leadership and is accountable for the management of care and the care environment. In addition to generalist preparation in nursing with enhanced clinical skills, the CNL is primarily unit or setting based and is responsible for a specified cohort of patients.

Courses in advanced health assessment, pathophysiology and pharmacology provide the core content for the CNL specialty courses. The specialty courses focus on evidence based practice, evaluation of outcomes, risk analysis, quality improvement and patient safety. Leadership in the health care delivery system is emphasized including cost-effective resource utilization, enhancement of communication across all levels, interprofessional collaboration and influencing healthcare policy.

The program includes 60 hours of advanced health assessment lab and 360 clinical immersion hours which meets the clinical residency requirements. The total program credit hour requirement is 40. Clinical practicum hours for the residency are determined using a 1:6 credit to clock hours ratio.

Clinical Nurse Leader Curriculum

Master of Science in Nursing Core Courses

NU 6020	Theoretical Foundations of Nursing (OL)	3
NU 6080	Nursing Research (OL)	3
NU 6040	Contemporary Issues in Nursing	2
NU 7xxx	Research Options**	2
	Total Credit Hours	10

**Students choose from these Research Options

NU 7480 Research Project	2-4 credits
NU 7490 Research Utilization Project (OL)	2 credits
NU 7500 Research Thesis	5-8 credits

Advanced Nursing Practice Core Courses

NU 7040	Advanced Pathophysiology (OL)	3
NU 7060	Advanced Health Assessment	4
NU 7080	Advanced Pharmacology	3
	Total Credit Hours	10

Clinical Nurse Leader Specialty Courses

NU 6100	Nursing Informatics	3
NU 7600	Healthcare Leadership and Organizational Behavior	3
NU 7520	Environment of Care Management	4
NU 7530	Clinical Outcomes Management	4
NU 7540	Clinical Residency (360 clinical hours)	6
	Total Credit Hours	20
	Total Program Credit Hours	40

Typical Program of Study: Clinical Nurse Leader Track

Following is a guide for sequencing and grouping courses.

Year One:

SPRING		SUMMER		FALL	
NU 6020	3			NU 7040	3
				NU 7060	4
Total credits	3	Total credits	0	Total credits	7

Year Two:

SPRING		SUMMER		FALL	
NU 6080	3	NU 6100	3	NU 6040	2
NU 7080	3			NU 7520	4
NU 7600	3				
Total credits	9	Total credits	3		6

Year Three:

SPRING		SUMMER	
NU 7490	2	NU 7540	6

NU 7530	4		
Total credits	6	Total credits	6

Executive Nurse Practice: Health Care Leadership (ENP) Track

The Executive Nurse Practice: Health Care Leadership track prepares nurses for leadership and management roles in diverse health care delivery systems. The current Research College of Nursing core courses along with the Health Care Leadership courses offer a strong foundation of nursing theory as well as needed concepts from business and organizational management. Graduates of this track are qualified to sit for the certification examination in Nursing Administration.

Executive Nurse Practice: Health Care Leadership Curriculum

Master of Science in Nursing Core Courses

NU 6020	Theoretical Foundations of Nursing (OL)	3
NU 6040	Contemporary Issues in Nursing (OL)	2
NU 6060	Role Development in Advanced Nursing (OL)	3
NU 6080	Nursing Research (OL)	3
NU 7xxx	Research Option**	2-8
	Total Credit Hours	13-19

** Students choose from these Research Options

NU 7480	Research Project	2 - 4 credits
NU 7490	Research Utilization Project (OL)	2 credits
NU 7500	Research Thesis	5 - 8 credits

Health Care Leadership Specialty Courses

NU 7600	Healthcare Leadership and Organizational Behavior (OL)	3
NU7610	Human Resource Management (OL)	3
NU 7620	Health Systems (OL)	3
NU 7630	Health Policy and Politics (OL)	3
	Total Credit Hours	12

Executive Nurse Practice: Specialty Courses

NU 7200	Executive Nurse Seminar I (OL)	2
NU 7210	Executive Nurse Practicum I*	3
NU 7220	Executive Nurse Seminar II (OL)	2
NU 7230	Executive Nurse Practicum II*	3
	Total Credit Hours	10
	Total Program Credit Hours	35

*Practicum courses equal 180 clock hours per semester for a total of 360. Clock hours are calculated using a 1:4 ratio (1 credit hour = 4 clock hours) multiplied by 15 practicum weeks per semester.

Typical Program of Study for ENP Track

Following is a guide for sequencing and grouping courses for part-time study.

Year One:

SUMMER		FALL		SPRING	
NU 6060	3	NU 6020	3	NU 6080	3
		NU 7620	3	NU 7600	3
Total credits	3	Total credits	6	Total credits	6

Year Two:

SUMMER		FALL		SPRING	
NU 7490	2	NU 6040	2	NU 7630	3
NU 7610	3	NU 7200	2	NU 7220	2
		NU 7210	3	NU 7230	3
Total credits	5	Total credits	7	Total credits	8

Post Master's Executive Nurse Practice Certificate Program

The Executive Nurse Practice certificate program is designed for individuals prepared with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing and a Master's degree in nursing or a health related field who wish to gain specialty knowledge in this role.

The certificate consists of executive nurse focused courses and two executive nurse practica. The program totals 15 credit hours and can be completed in 2 consecutive semesters.

Typical Program of Study: Executive Nurse Practice Certificate**Fall Semester:**

NU 7620	Health Systems (OL)	3
NU 7200	Executive Nurse Seminar I (OL)	2
NU 7215	Executive Nurse Certificate Practicum I *	1
	Total Credit Hours	6

Spring Semester*:

NU 7220	Executive Nurse Seminar II (OL)	2
NU 7225	Executive Nurse Certificate Practicum II *	1
	Total Credit Hours	3

And choice of 6 credits from the following:

NU 7600	Healthcare Leadership and Organizational Behavior (OL)	3
NU 7630	Policy and Politics of Health Care (OL)	3
NU 7610	Human Resource Management (OL) (only offered in summer)	3
	Total Credit Hours	6

*Practicum courses equal 90 clock hours per semester for a total of 180. Clock hours are calculated using a 1:4 ratio (1 credit hour = 4 clock hours) multiplied by 15 practicum weeks in a semester.

Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) Track

The Family Nurse Practitioner track prepares nurses for an advanced role as a health provider in a variety of primary care settings. Graduates of the FNP track are qualified to sit for the Family Nurse Practitioner certification examination. The curriculum for this track is based upon the MSN core courses.

Courses in advanced health assessment, pathophysiology and pharmacology provide a core of essential content for the family nurse practitioner specialty courses. These courses will focus on health promotion, health protection and disease prevention and commonly occurring health conditions for populations across the life span. Health management practices associated with such conditions will be emphasized with the integration of environmental factors on health.

The program also includes 660 total clinical practicum clock hours. Clinical practicum clock hours are determined using a 1:4 ratio (one credit hour is equivalent to 4 clock hours). For example, a 3 credit practicum course includes 12 clinical practicum hours/week for 15 weeks = 180 clinical practicum clock hours within the semester.

Family Nurse Practitioner Curriculum

Master of Science in Nursing Core Courses

NU 6020	Theoretical Foundations of Nursing (OL)	3
NU 6060	Role Development in Advanced Nursing (OL)	3
NU 6080	Nursing Research (OL)	3
NU 6040	Contemporary Issues in Nursing (OL)	2
NU 7xxx	Research Option**	2
	Total Credit Hours	13

** Students choose from these Research Options

NU 7480	Research Project	2 - 4 credits
NU 7490	Research Utilization Project (OL)	2 credits
NU 7500	Research Thesis	5 - 8 credits

Advanced Practice Nursing Core Courses

NU 7040	Advanced Pathophysiology (OL)	3
NU 7060	Advanced Health Assessment	4
NU 7080	Advanced Pharmacology (OL)	3
	Total Credit Hours	10

Family Nurse Practitioner Specialty Courses

NU 7100	Primary Care I	4
NU 7110	Primary Care I Practicum*	3
NU 7020	Family and Community Concepts (OL)	3
NU 7141	Primary Care II Peds	2
NU 7142	Primary Care II Women's Health	2
NU 7151	Primary Care II Practicum for the FNP*	3
NU 7451	Independent Primary Care Practicum for the FNP*	5
	Total Credit Hours	22
	Total Program Credit Hours	45

*The program includes 660 total clinical practicum clock hours. Clock hours are calculated using a 1:4 ratio (1 credit hour = 4 clock hours) multiplied by 15 practicum weeks per semester.

Typical Program of Study: FNP Track

Following is a guide for sequencing and grouping courses. Individual programs of study may vary. Students will select courses each semester based on full-time or part-time status.

Full-time status is reflected in the following plan. Students preferring part-time study, take fewer than nine (9) credits each semester, completing the FNP specialty courses (NU 7100, 7110, 7141, 7142, 7151, 7451) at the end of the program.

Year One:

FALL		SPRING		SUMMER	
NU 6080	3	NU 6060	3	NU 6020	3
NU 7040	3	NU 7080	3	NU 7020	3
Total credits	6	Total credits	6	Total credits	6

Year Two:

FALL		SPRING		SUMMER	
NU 7060	4	NU 7100	4	NU 7142	2
NU 7490	2	NU 7110	3	NU 7151	3
Total credits	6	Total credits	7	Total credits	5

Year Three:

FALL	
NU 6040	2
NU 7451	5
Total credits	7

Nurse Educator Track

The Master of Science of Nursing with an education focus is designed to meet the needs of current and potential nurse educators in academic or healthcare settings to develop and refine their practice as teachers of students, clients and/or employees. The program includes the MSN core courses, clinically focused advanced practice nursing core courses, and educationally focused courses. Students will be prepared with a strong clinical foundation as well as theory and practice in the role of the nurse educator in a focused area.

Nurse Educator Curriculum

Master of Science in Nursing Core Courses

NU 6020	Theoretical Foundations of Nursing (OL)	3
NU 6060	Role Development in Advanced Nursing (OL)	3
NU 6080	Nursing Research (OL)	3
NU 6040	Contemporary Issues in Nursing (OL)	2
NU 7xxx	Research Option**	2
	Credit Hours	13

** Students choose from these Research Options

NU 7480	Research Project	2 - 4 credits
NU 7490	Research Utilization Project (OL)	2 credits
NU 7500	Research Thesis	5 - 8 credits

Advanced Practice Nursing Core Courses

NU 7040	Advanced Pathophysiology (OL)	3
NU 7060	Advanced Health Assessment	4
NU 7080	Advanced Pharmacology (OL)	3

	Credit Hours	10
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Nurse Educator: Specialty Courses

NU 7300	Instructional Strategies (OL)	3
NU 7310	Evaluation Strategies (OL)	3
NU 7320	Program Development (OL)	3
NU 7330	Nursing Focus Practicum *	2
NU 7340	Educational Practicum *	2
	Credits	13
	Total Program Credits	36

* Practicum courses equal 120 clock hours each for a total of 240. Clock hours are calculated using a 1:4 ratio (1 credit hour = 4 clock hours) multiplied by 15 practicum weeks per semester.

Typical Program of Study: Nurse Educator (NEd) Track

Following is a guide for sequencing and grouping courses. Students will select courses each semester based on preference for full-time or part-time status. Below is a sample part-time program of study. Students can meet with an advisor to develop an alternative plan, including a full-time option.

Year One:

SUMMER		Fall		Spring	
NU 6060	3	NU 6020	3	NU 6080	3
		NU 7040	3	NU 7080	3
Total credits	3	Total credits	6	Total credits	6

Year Two:

SUMMER		FALL		SPRING	
NU 7490	2-8	NU 7300	3	NU 7310	3
NU 7320	3	NU 7060	4	NU 7330	2
Total credits	5-11	Total credits	7	Total credits	5

Year Three:

FALL	
NU 6040	2
NU 7340	2
Total credits	4

Post Master's Nurse Educator Certificate Program

The Nurse Educator certificate program is designed for individuals who are prepared with a Bachelor of Science in nursing and a Master's degree in nursing or a health related field who wish to gain specialty knowledge in this role.

The certificate consists of education focused courses and an individualized practicum for a total of eleven (11) credit hours. The program can be completed part-time in four consecutive semesters.

Typical Program of Study: Nurse Educator Certificate

Spring	NU 7300	Instructional Strategies (OL)	3
Summer	NU 7320	Program Development (OL)	3
Fall	NU 7310	Evaluation Strategies (OL)	3
Spring	NU 7340	Educational Practicum*	2
Total Credits			11

*Practicum course equals 120 clock hours. Clock hours are calculated using a 1:4 ratio (1 credit hour = 4 clock hours) multiplied by 15 practicum weeks per semester.

RN-MSN Program

The RN-MSN program is designed for associate degree or diploma nurses who desire to continue their education toward a Master's of Science degree in Nursing. Students are admitted as graduate students and may focus on the Nurse Educator, the Clinical Nurse Leader, or the Executive Nurse Practice track. The program allows the transfer courses to meet pre-requisites and some upper division nursing coursework. Much of the coursework at Research College of Nursing is completed on-line.

The **Nurse Educator track** is designed to meet the needs of current and potential nurse educators in academic or healthcare settings to develop and refine their practice as teachers of students, clients and/or employees. The program includes the MSN core courses, clinically focused advanced practice nursing core courses, and educationally focused courses. Students will be prepared with a strong clinical foundation as well as theory and practice in the role of the nurse educator in a focused area.

The **Executive Nurse Practice: Health Care Leadership track** prepares nurses for leadership and management roles in diverse health care delivery systems. The current Research College of Nursing core courses along with the Health Care Leadership courses offer a strong foundation of nursing theory as well as needed concepts from business and organizational management. Graduates of this track are qualified to sit for the certification examination in Nursing Administration.

The **Clinical Nurse Leader track (CNL)** sm prepares a generalist nurse at the Master's degree level with the major thrust being oversight of the lateral integration of care. The CNL has specialized knowledge in horizontal leadership and is accountable for the management of care and the care environment. In addition to generalist preparation in nursing with enhanced clinical skills, the CNL is primarily unit or setting based and is responsible for a specified cohort of patients.

Program Prerequisites

Chemistry with Lab	4 hours
Anatomy and Physiology with Lab	6 hours
Microbiology with Lab	4 hours
Nutrition	3 hours
General or Intro Psychology	3 hours
Developmental Psychology	3 hours
English Comp I	3 hours
English Comp II	3 hours
Sociology	3 hours
Statistics	3 hours
Communication/Speech	3 hours
Philosophy or Theology	6 hours

Humanities	15 hours
Elective (computer course recommended)	3 hours
TOTAL HOURS OF PREREQUISITES	62 HOURS
ADN/DIPLOMA TRANSFER HOURS	35 HOURS

RN-MSN Baccalaureate Specialty Courses

NU 4102	Leadership and Professional Issues (OL)	3
NU 4212	Community Health Nursing (OL)	3
NU 4232	Community Health Nursing Practice	2
NU 4402	Capstone: Leadership in Professional Nursing Practice	5
	<u>Credit Hours</u>	<u>13</u>

Master of Science in Nursing Core Courses

NU 6020	Theoretical Foundations of Nursing (OL)	3
NU 6060	Role Development in Advanced Nursing (OL)	3
NU 6080	Nursing Research (OL)	3
NU 6040	Contemporary Issues in Nursing (OL)	2
NU 7xxx	Research Option**	2
	<u>Credit Hours</u>	<u>13</u>

** Students choose from these Research Options

NU 7480	Research Project	2 - 4 credits
NU 7490	Research Utilization Project (OL)	2 credits
NU 7500	Research Thesis	5 - 8 credits

Advanced Practice Nursing Core Courses (completed by those pursuing the Nurse Educator track)

NU 7040	Advanced Pathophysiology (OL)	3
NU 7060	Advanced Health Assessment	4
NU 7080	Advanced Pharmacology (OL)	3
	<u>Credit Hours</u>	<u>10</u>

Typical Program of Study: RN-MSN Nurse Educator (NEd) Track (54 Hours)

Year One:

SPRING		SUMMER		FALL	
NU 4100	3	NU 4210	3	NU 7040	3
NU 5020	4	NU 4230	2	NU 7060	4
NU 6020	3	NU 4400	5	NU 7300	3
Total credits	10	Total credits	10	Total credits	10

Year Two:

SPRING		SUMMER		FALL	
NU 6080	3	NU 6060	3	NU 6040	2
NU 7080	3	NU 7320	3	NU 7330	2
NU 7310	3	NU 7490	2-8	NU 7340	2
Total credits	9	Total credits	8-14	Total credits	6

Typical Program of Study for RN-MSN Executive Nurse Practice Track (52 Hours)

Year One:

SPRING		SUMMER		FALL	
NU 4100	3	NU 4210	3	NU 6040	2
NU 5020	4	NU 4230	2	NU 6080	3

NU 6020	3	NU 4400	5	NU 7620	3
Total credits	10	Total credits	10	Total credits	8

Year Two:

SPRING		SUMMER		FALL	
NU 7200	2	NU 6060	3	NU 7220	2
NU 7210	3	NU 7610	3	NU 7230	3
NU 7600	3			NU 7490	2-8
NU 7630	3				
Total credits	11	Total credits	6	Total credits	7-13

Typical Program of Study: Clinical Nurse Leader Track

Year One:

SPRING		SUMMER		FALL	
NU 4102	3	NU 4212	3	NU 7040	3
NU 5020	4	NU 4232	2	NU 7060	4
NU 6020	3	NU 4402	5		
Total credits	10	Total credits	10	Total credits	7

Year Two:

SPRING		SUMMER		FALL	
NU 6080	3	NU 6100	3	NU 6040	2
NU 7080	3			NU 7520	4
NU 7600	3				
Total credits	9	Total credits	3		6

Year Three:

SPRING		SUMMER	
NU 7490	2	NU 7540	6
NU 7530	4		
Total credits	6	Total credits	6