

## Master of Science in Nursing

Three MSN programs are offered in two different concentration areas. The nurse practitioner concentrations prepare the advanced practice nurse to respond effectively as an adult or family nurse practitioner. The concentration in nursing education prepares the graduate to teach in formal and informal settings. There is additional focus on consumer education.

The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools accredits the University to award baccalaureate and master's degrees.

UT's nursing programs are accredited by and affiliated with the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission, 61 Broadway 33rd Floor, New York, NY 10006; (800) 669-1656, x 153; fax: (212) 812-0390; *www.nlnac.org*.

### Program and Course Requirements

Satisfactory completion of the MSN curriculum requires a minimum of 38 (education concentration), 41 (adult nurse practitioner) or 48 (family nurse practitioner concentration) credit hours of graduate work.

MSN students must obtain a grade of "B" or higher in the four nursing core classes in order to progress in the program. A grade below a "B" in any of the core classes will result in immediate dismissal from the program.

No grade below "C" will be accepted toward a graduate degree or certificate completion. MSN/Post-MSN students cannot earn more than two grades below a "B." If they do, they can repeat up to two courses, but the original grades will not be removed from the student's academic record. A third grade below "B," regardless of grades in repeated courses, will result in academic dismissal. Furthermore, students who receive less than a "B/C" in a practicum course will be required to repeat that course.

A student is allowed seven years from the time graduate work has begun, whether at UT or elsewhere, in which to complete the degree. Under certain circumstances, the student, with approval from the director,

may retake courses that are outdated by the time limit.

### Core Nursing Courses (applies to all concentrations)

NUR 601*	Current Perspectives in Health Care.....	2
NUR 602	Scholarly and Professional Communication in Nursing** .....	3
NUR 605	Theory Development in Nursing .....	3
NUR 615	Nursing Research.....	3

\*NUR 601 may be waived for students in the RN/BSN/MSN option. The credits are, however, not waived, but may be taken as an elective.

\*\*NUR 602 may be waived for students who receive a score of 4.0 or higher on the analytical writing section of the GRE.

### Concentration Options

#### Nursing Education Concentration

NUR 618*	Advanced Health Assessment .....	4
NUR 645	Clinical Pharmacology .....	3
NUR 650	Teaching Methods and Strategies in Nursing Education.....	3
NUR 652	Curriculum Design and Evaluation in Nursing Education.....	3
NUR 654	Measurement and Evaluation in Nursing Education .....	3
NUR 655	Advanced Pathophysiology .....	3
NUR 656+	Nursing Education Practicum .....	4
NUR 658+	Community Nursing Education Practicum.....	4
	Elective: Any graduate level course.....	3

\*This course includes a laboratory experience.

+These courses each require a minimum of 224 hours of supervised education practice.

#### Family Nurse Practitioner Concentration

NUR 618*	Advanced Health Assessment .....	4
NUR 635	Professional Issues and the Nurse Practitioner.....	3

NUR 645	Clinical Pharmacology .....	3
NUR 646	The Family: Theory, Research and Practice .....	2
NUR 655	Advanced Pathophysiology .....	3
NUR 677	Clinical Management of the Adult Client.....	3
NUR 687	Clinical Management of Infants, Children, and Adolescents .....	3
NUR 697	Clinical Management of Women and Older Adults...	3
NUR 675+	Practicum in Adult Primary Care I.....	4
NUR 676+	Practicum in Adult Primary Care II .....	4
NUR 685+	Practicum in Infants, Children and Adolescent Primary Care .....	4
NUR 686+	Practicum in Women and Older Adult Primary Care...	4

\*This course includes a laboratory experience.

+These courses each require a minimum of 224 hours of supervised clinical practice in a designated facility.

#### **Adult Nurse Practitioner Concentration**

NUR 618*	Advanced Health Assessment .....	4
NUR 635	Professional Issues and the Nurse Practitioner.....	3
NUR 645	Clinical Pharmacology .....	3
NUR 646	The Family: Theory, Research and Practice .....	2
NUR 655	Advanced Pathophysiology .....	3
NUR 677	Clinical Management of the Adult Client.....	3
NUR 697	Clinical Management of Women and Older Adults...	3
NUR 675+	Practicum in Adult Primary Care I.....	4
NUR 676+	Practicum in Adult Primary Care II .....	4
NUR 686+	Practicum in Women and Older Adult Primary Care...	4

\*This course includes a laboratory experience.

+These courses each require a minimum of 224 hours of supervised clinical practice in a designated facility.

## Oral Comprehensive Examination

A comprehensive oral examination must be passed by every MSN and post-MSN student prior to enrolling in the first practicum experience. The examination process provides students the opportunity to synthesize the knowledge learned throughout their graduate coursework. The focus of the examination will be the integration and application of content from all previous courses.

## Transfer Credit Policy

A maximum of 9 semester hours of graduate level credit taken at other regionally accredited institutions may be applied toward the MSN. Only credit earned with grades of “B” or better will be considered for admission. Coursework that was completed more than seven years prior to admission may not be applied toward a master’s degree.

## Admission Standards

Admission to the MSN program is competitive and based upon several important factors. Every student admitted to the MSN program must have earned a baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited college or university. One year of recent clinical experience is recommended.

### General Admission Requirements:

- Bachelor’s degree from a regionally accredited institution
- Current licensure as a registered nurse in the state of Florida
- Application with \$40 nonrefundable fee
- Official college transcripts
- Résumé
- Two letters of reference (forms are attached to the application)
- Completion of a statistics course, an introduction to computer course, and an upper-level health assessment course.

There are three categories of admission status, as outlined below, and GPA requirement is based on last 60 hours of coursework.

### *Full Admission*

- Bachelor's degree in nursing
- Florida RN license
- Minimum 3.0 GPA

### *Pre-MSN Admission*

- Minimum 3.0 GPA
- A bachelor's degree in an area other than nursing
- Florida RN license
- Three Required Nursing Prerequisites
- Students who have bachelor's degrees in areas other than nursing are admitted as pre-MSN students. They are required to take NUR 318, NUR 322 and NUR 420 prior to starting the graduate-level curriculum. These courses can be completed without the GRE because they are undergraduate courses. Students may complete pre-MSN courses at another university with faculty permission. Only grades of "C" or better will be accepted. Students will be re-evaluated for admission once the pre-MSN courses are completed.

### **Nursing Student Handbook**

See the Department of Nursing for further details.

### *Post-Master's Admission*

A student with a previously earned MSN may apply for admission to the post-master's program to complete requirements for the ANP, FNP or nursing education concentration. Students will be individually evaluated to determine required coursework. There must be evidence from the previous master's program of courses fulfilling UT requirements. Courses taken more than seven years prior to admission may not be applied towards a post-master's certificate.