MASTER’S ENTRY PROGRAM IN NURSING

Program Description

The Master’s Entry Program in Nursing is designed for adult learners with no prior nursing experience or education and who have a baccalaureate degree or higher in a field other than nursing. The purpose of this alternative entry program is to equip students with entry-level professional nurse competencies as a foundation for advanced practice roles. The program consists of an intensive pre-licensure year transitioning into one of several specialty nursing pathways.

Fast Facts

✓ Enables qualified nurse professionals to enter the workforce in a shorter period increasing the pool of advanced practice nurses as leaders in practice and education.
✓ The first year of intensive study is offered in a tri-semester format of 16-18 credits per semester. Due to the rigor and scheduling, it is impossible for students to be employed during this year.
✓ The curriculum is based on a competency model appropriate for graduate level adult learners.
✓ Employers of MEPN graduates recognize the value of these highly qualified, well-rounded nurses to the workforce.
✓ Healthcare community partners collaborate with the School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene in the applicant review process, curriculum development, and dedicated clinical experiences.

Program Outcomes

At the conclusion of the MEPN pre-licensure year, the student is eligible to take the National Council Licensure Examination – Registered Nurse (NCLEX-RN).

Students immediately transition into the specialty track upon successful completion of the pre-licensure year. The post-licensure specialty curriculum prepares students for their chosen role in advanced practice nursing. The specialties include: Adult Health Clinical Nurse Specialist; Advanced Public Health Nursing; Nursing Executive Leadership and Nursing Executive Leadership MBA/MS (offered only during every odd year- 2013, 2015, 2017, etc); and Nurse Practitioner (Adult/Gerontology and Family and Dual NP: FNP with Advanced Public Health Nursing). Please refer to the specialty area program information for additional details.

Upon completion of both the MEPN pre-licensure year and specialty track requirements, the student is awarded a Masters Degree, Nursing.

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Curriculum

The first year curriculum is based on a competency model appropriate for graduate level adult learners. Active learning strategies are emphasized including clinical experience, simulation-based learning, and a continuous emphasis on searching the literature for the most current information to inform the actions of the nurse. A substantial amount of the curriculum is clinical practicum in community and hospital/health care settings where students are actively engaged in nursing care under the supervision and guidance of faculty. The total number of credits required for completion of the pre-licensure year is 52 over three semesters.

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<tr>
<th>FALL</th>
<th>SPRING</th>
<th>SUMMER</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NURS 501 Professionalism in Nursing (2)</td>
<td>NURS 507 Bio-behavioral Health (2)</td>
<td>NURS 508 Nursing Care of Childbearing Families (2)</td>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 502 Pathophysiology (3)</td>
<td>NURS 507L Bio-behavioral Health (2)</td>
<td>NURS 508L Nursing Care of Childbearing Families Lab (2)</td>
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<td>NURS 503 Pharmacology for Nursing Practice (3)</td>
<td>NURS 513 Medical/Surgical Nursing (3)</td>
<td>NURS 509 Nursing Care of Children &amp; Families (2)</td>
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<td>NURS 504 Health Assessment (2)</td>
<td>NURS 513L Medical/Surgical Nursing Lab (3)</td>
<td>NURS 509L Nursing Care of Children &amp; Families Lab (2)</td>
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<td>NURS 504L Health Assessment Lab (2)</td>
<td>NURS 518 Introduction to Community and Public Health Nursing (2)</td>
<td>NURS 517 Clinical Immersion to Nursing Practice (3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 505 Foundations of Nursing Science (2)</td>
<td>NURS 518L Introduction to Community and Public Health Nursing Lab (3)</td>
<td>NURS 517L Clinical Immersion to Nursing Practice (5)</td>
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<td>NURS 505L Foundations of Nursing Science Practice Lab (4)</td>
<td>NURS 600 Epidemiology for Advanced Nursing (3)</td>
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Semester Credits: 18  Semester Credits: 18  Semester Credits: 16

Note: The number of credits is noted in parenthesis after each course.

The length of time necessary to complete the specialty track curriculum and graduate at the Master’s level is dependent upon the specialty area selected by the learner (refer to specialty).

Contact Us

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