**Nursing**

**Master of Science (MS) Degree**

**DEGREE INFORMATION**

**Priority Admission Application Deadlines:**

**Fall:** February 15\*

International applicant deadlines:

<http://www.grad.usf.edu/majors>

**Minimum Total Hours:** 37

**Level:** Masters

**CIP Code:** 51.3801

**Dept Code:** NUR

**Major Codes:** NUR (BS to MS)

NAS (Accelerated)

NBM (RN to MS)

**College Code:** NR

**Approved:** 1980

**Concentrations:**

Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nursing (NAG)

Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nursing (NPG)

Clinical Nurse Leader (NCL) (on hold*)*

Family Health Nursing (NFH)

Nursing Education (NED)

Pediatric Health Nursing (NPH)

Psychiatric-Mental Health Nursing (NPM) (on hold)

**Dual Concentrations:**

Occupational Health Nursing /Adult-Gerontology Primary Care \* (NOC)

Oncology Nursing /Adult-Gerontology Primary Care \* (NOA) (on hold)

**Also offered:**

Concurrent Degree:

MS in Nursing/M.P.H. in Public Health With Nursing

Concentration in Adult-Gerontology Primary

Care/Occupational Health (NOP)

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

**College:** Nursing

**Contact Information:** [www.grad.usf.edu](http://www.grad.usf.edu/)

**MAJOR INFORMATION**

The major in Nursing leading to a Master of Science degree prepares its graduates for careers as nurse practitioners, nurse educators, or clinical nurse leaders. Students choose from a variety of nursing specialty options in advanced practice roles and enroll in a prescribed set of core courses central to all specialty options as well as specialty courses and electives. Successful completion of the master’s practitioners program qualifies students to take appropriate national certification examinations and apply for licensure as an ARNP in Florida and other states. Nurse Educator and Clinical Nurse Leader are also eligible for national certification from the National League of Nursing, and the American Association of the Colleges of Nursing, respectively.

**Graduate Major Objectives**

* Promote evidence-based practice based on synthesis of the most current research relevant to advanced nursing practice.
* Ensure excellence in written and oral communication emphasizing opportunities for publishing and presenting in areas of expertise locally and nationally.
* Prepare leaders to implement and evaluate evidenced based practice.
* Create an environment that enhances the use of translational research to solve practice problems and improve health outcomes.
* Ensure excellence in the dissemination of findings from evidence-based practice at the national and international levels.

**Major Research Areas**

The College has consolidated its research efforts into two main centers of research:

1. The Center for Living with Chronic Illness: the College of Nursing (CON) focuses the impressive research expertise of our world-class nurse scientists, faculty, and students as they collaborate on unique solutions to the nation’s leading health care issues such as heart disease, Alzheimer’s/dementia, and cancer.

b. Through the CON RESTORE LIVES: Research to Rehabilitate and Restore the Lives of Veterans, Service Members and their Families we are developing evidence-based methods to help veterans and service members overcome psychological stress and other health problems that result from serving in combat operations.

**Accreditation:**

The Commission on Collegiate Nursng Education, and the Florida Board of Nursing. In addition Nurse Anesthesia Master’s Concentration is accredited by the Council of Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs.

**ADMISSION INFORMATION**

Must meet University requirements (see Graduate Admissions) as well as requirements listed in the introductory portion of the college catalog section and for admission to the major, listed below. Certain concentrations are highly competitive.

**Baccalaureate Degree (in Nursing) to Master’s Degree (B.S. to M.S.)**

Nurses with a baccalaureate degree in nursing are prepared to enroll directly in graduate course work. The total number of credits required is specific to the nursing concentration. Admission criteria include:

* + Baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited program
  + Earned grade point average of 3.00 or higher on 4.00 scale in all work attempted while registered as an upper division applicant working on a baccalaureate degree.\*
  + Current unencumbered license as a registered nurse in the United States upon matriculation. Current license as a registered nurse in the state of Florida before the first clinical course. Three letters of recommendation, indicating potential for graduate study, from persons who can attest to the applicant's academic ability, clinical competence, and commitment. (Optimally, these letters will be from nursing professors, or clinical supervisors.)
  + Current resume or curriculum vitae
  + A personal interview with a designated faculty member may also be required
  + Applicants to the MS program are required to complete both a NursingCAS application and a USF Graduate Studies Application.

Applicants who do not meet these requirements may petition the Student Affairs Committee for consideration for admission.

**Registered Nurse to Master’s Degree (NBM)**

Registered nurses who have earned a baccalaureate degree in another discipline are eligible for admission to the Master’s degree program.

* B.S./B.A. from a regionally accredited program
* Earned grade point average of 3.00 or higher on 4.00 scale in all work attempted while registered as an upper division applicant while working on a baccalaureate degree. \*
* Current unencumbered license as a registered nurse in the United States upon matriculation. Current license as a registered nurse in the state of Florida before the first clinical course. Three letters of recommendation
* Current resume or curriculum vitae
* A personal interview with a designated faculty member may also be required, as well as other admission requirements
  + Applicants to the MS Nursing Major are required to complete both a NursingCAS application and a USF Graduate Studies Application.

* Completion of the bridge courses with a letter grade of “B/S” or greater and a GPA of 3.00 or better before progression:

NUR3078 Information Technology Skills for Nurses 1

NUR3805 Nursing as a Profession 2

NUR4169C Evidence Based Practice for Baccalaureate Nurses 3

NUR4634C Population Health 3

NUR4828C Foundations of Nursing Leadership & Management 3

NUR4895 Educational Role of Nurse in Healthcare 3

\*Note: The primary care and other selected concentrations in the Master’s program are highly competitive. Additional admission requirements and a higher GPA may be required for these concentrations.

**Accelerated Graduate (NAS) (on hold)**

Registered nurses who have earned an Associate of Science Degree in nursing, but do not have a bachelor’s degree are also eligible for admission to the Master’s degree program. Students complete 15 credit hours of coursework in the baccalaureate degree program before applying to the Graduate major.

* Associate of Science Degree (Nursing) from a regionally accredited program
* Minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or higher on 4.00 scale on all undergraduate coursework (excluding Associate of Science Nursing courses)\*
* Current unencumbered license as a registered nurse in the United States upon matriculation. Current license as a registered nurse in the state of Florida before the first clinical course. Completion of general education and state mandated prerequisites
* Application to the major upon completion of the necessary undergraduate transitional courses
  + - Three letters of recommendation
    - Current resume or curriculum vitae
    - Written statement of professional goals
    - A personal interview with a designated faculty member may also be required, as well as other admission requirements
  + Applicants to the MS degree program are required to complete both a NursingCAS application and a USF Graduate Studies Application.
  + Completion of 15 undergraduate nursing credits with a letter grade of “B/S” or greater and a cumulative 3.00 GPA\* or higher is required to be considered for application to the master portion of this major.

NUR3078 Information Technology Skills for Nurses 1

NUR3805 Nursing as a Profession 2

NUR4169c Evidence Based Practice for Baccalaureate Nurses 3

NUR4634C Population Health 3

NUR4828c Foundations of Nursing Leadership & Management 3

NUR4895 Educational Role of Nurse in Healthcare 3

* Students must complete all undergraduate requirements in 3 semesters of study to start master’s courses in the 4th semester of study.

Upon admission to the Accelerated Graduate Program, students choose a Master’s concentration.

\*Note: The primary care concentrations in the Master’s major are highly competitive. Additional admission requirements and a higher GPA may be required for these concentrations. During the semester that the student is completing the undergraduate nursing transition courses, the student will meet with an advisor to review all requirements to complete the transition into the graduate major.

**CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS**

The MS degree program in Nursing requires completion of the credit hours required for the major and the concentration. Sequencing of courses is particularly important and academic advisors work with students to design both full-time and part-time program plans in the specialty areas.

**Core Requirement for all MS Majors (NUR, NAS, NBM - 12 credit hours**

NGR6803 Research and Evidence-Based Practice 3

NGR6638 Health Promotion, Clinical Prevention, & Population Health 3

NGR6733 Organiz & Sys Lead & Qlty Improve for Adv. Practice Nursing 3

NGR6893 Systems and Populations in Healthcare 3

**Advanced Nursing Core: *Nurse Practitioner (Acute, Adult-Gerontology, Family & Pediatric) – 15 credit hours***

NGR6002C Advanced Health Assessment Across the Lifespan 4

NGR6152 Advanced Physiology & Pathophysiology 4

NGR6172 Pharmacology for Advanced Nurse Practitioner 4

NGR6064C Advanced Diagnostics and Procedures 3

***Advanced Generalist Core (Nursing Education) - 6 credit hours***

NGR6055 Health Assessment for the Advanced Generalist Nurse 2

NGR6146 Pathophysiology/Pharmacology for the Adv. Generalist Nurse 4

**Specialty Concentration Core:**

Note: Coureses with a “C” in the course number designate a combined didactic and clinical format.

**Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nursing Concentration (NPG) 45 Total Credit Hours**

Concentration Requirements – 18 credit hours

NGR6207C Health Management of Adults & Older Adults I 6 180 Clinical Hours

NGR 6244C Health Management of Adults & Older Adults II 6 180 Clinical Hours

NGR6291C Health Management of Adults & Older Adults – Special 6 180 Clinical Hours

Topics

**Family Health Nursing (NFH) Concentration 52 Total Credit Hours**

Concentration Requirements – 25 credit hours

NGR6207C Health Management of Adults & Older Adults I 6 180 Clinical Hours

NGR6244C Health Management of Adults & Older Adults II 6 180 Clinical Hours

NGR6301C Primary Care of Children and Adolescents I 6 180 Clinical Hours

NGR6342 Primary Care of Childbearing Family 1

NGR6342L Primary Care of Childbearing Family Practicum 1

NGR6613C Health Management of Families – Special Topics 5 180 Clinical Hours

**Pediatric Health Nursing (NPH) Concentration 45 Total Credit Hours**

Concentration Requirements – 18 credit hours

NGR6301C Primary Care of Children & Adolescents I 6 180 Clinical Hours

NGR6302C Primary Care of Children & Adolescents II 6 180 Clinical Hours

NGR 6339C Special Topics: Primary Care of Children and Adolescents 6 180 Clinical Hours

**Acute-Gerontology Acute Care Nursing Concentration (NAG)** **48 Total Credit Hours**

Concentration requirements – 21 credit hours

NGR6210C Clinical Management of Acutely & Chronically Ill Adults 7 180 Clinical Hours

NGR6232C Clinical Management of Acute & Critically Ill Ad & Older Ad 7 180 Clinical Hours

NGR6211C Acute Care of Adults & Older Adults: Special Topics 7 180 Clinical Hours

**Clinical Nurse Leader (NCL) Concentration (admissions on hold)**

*This concentration is currently not available.*

**Nursing Education (NED) Concentration 37 Total Credit Hours**

Concentration Requirements – 19 credit hours

NGR6713 Foundations of Nursing Education 3

NGR6710 Teaching Strategies in Nursing Education 3

NGR6718 Evaluation Strategies for Nursing Education 3

NGR6947 Practicum in Nursing Education 2

NGR 6940 Classroom/Online Teaching Practicum 2

NGR 6719 Clinical Case Studies in Nursing Education 3

Cognate 3

**Psychiatric/Mental Health Concentration (NPM) (admissions on hold)**

*This concentration is currently not available.*

**Concurrent Concentrations:**

**Oncology Nursing (NOA) /Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse (admissions on hold)**

**Occupational Health Nursing (NOC)/Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse 61 Total Credit Hours**

NGR6207C Health Management of Adults & Older Adults I 6 180 Clinical Hours

NGR6244C Health Management of Adults & Older Adults II 6 180 Clinical Hours

NGR6291C Health Management of Adults & Older Adults – Special Topics6 180 Clinical Hours

NGR6650 Occupational Health Nursing I 2

NGR6651 Occupational Health Nursing II 2

PHC 6360 Safety Principles and Practices 2

PHC6364 Industrial Hygiene Aspects of Plant Operations 2

OR

PHC6945 Supervised Field Experience: Plant Operations Interdisciplinary Field Experience

OR EOH Field course

PHC6356 Industrial Hygiene 2

PHC6351 Occupational Medicine 3

PHC 6354 Safety Health for Health Professionals 2

PHC6977 Special Project 3

PHC 6936 Public Health Capstone 3

**Concurrent Degree MS in Nursing/MPH in Public Health with Nursing Concentrations in**

**Occupational Health /Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner (NOP) 80 Total Credit Hours**

NGR 6207C Health Management of Adults and Older Adults I 6 180 Clinical Hours

NGR 6244C Health Management of Adults and Older Adults II 6 180 Clinical Hours

NGR 6291C Health Management of Adults and Older Adults – Special Topics 6 180 Clinical Hours

NGR 6650 Occupational Health Nursing I 2

NGR 6651 Occupational Health Nursing II 2

PHC 6357 Environmental and Occupational Health 3

PHC 6000 Epidemiology 3

PHC 6050 Biostatistics I 3

PHC 6102 Principles of Health Policy Management 3

PHC 6423 Occupational Health Law 2

PHC 6360 Safety Principles and Practices 2

PHC 6945 Superviced Field Experience\*\* 2

PHC 6356 Industrial Hygiene 2

PHC 6351 Occupational Medicine 3

PHC 6354 Occupational Health and Safety Administration 2

PHC 6977 Special Project 3

PHC 6936 Public Health Capstone 3

\*\* Can substitute PHC 6364 Plant Operations Interdisciplinary Field Experience course if filled

**Comprehensive Exam**

**ADHERENCE TO DEGREE/PROGRAM PLANS**

Admitted students are expected to meet with their professional advisor to determine the appropriate course sequence to meet the curriculum requirements. In some concentrations, the concentration director will develop the program plan with the student and forward the program plan to the professional advisor. Once a program plan is determined, students are expected to adhere to this plan unless special permission is obtained. As not all courses are offered each semester, a student who deviates from the program plan understands that delay in graduation can be expected Priority is given to students who maintain initial degree plans.

Clinical and/or site placements are based on preceptor and/or site availability. While every effort is made to assign students to preceptor/clinical sites near their residence, it is not always possible, and thus, students will need to be flexible. Students may find it useful to meet with the concentration director to understand speciality course focus and/or clinical course demands and plan accordingly.

**COURSES**

See <http://www.ugs.usf.edu/course-inventory/>