**Nursing Science**

**Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) Degree**

**DEGREE INFORMATION**

**Priority Admission Application Deadlines:**

**Fall:** December 15

International applicant deadlines:

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

**Minimum Total Hours:** 57 post masters

87 post bachelors

45 post clinical doctorate

**Level:** Doctoral

**CIP Code:** 51. 3808

**Dept Code:** NUR

**Major/College Codes:** NUS NR

**Approved:** 2003

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

**College:** Nursing

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

**MAJOR INFORMATION**

The Ph.D. prepares scholars to

* Conduct original research that informs practice and health policy;
* Apply professional and research ethics and judgment in the conduct of research;
* Disseminate research findings to lay and professional audiences and identify implications for policy, nursing practice and the profession;
* Use innovative approaches to advance nursing science;
* Enact the evolving roles and responsibilities of a nurse scientist;
* Contribute to team science and interdisciplinary collaborations;
* Provide leadership to community, professional, and scientific organizations; and
* Contribute to a global, inter-professional or interdisciplinary community of scholars.

**ADMISSION INFORMATION**

Must meet University requirements (see Graduate Admissions) as well as requirements for admission to the major, listed below.

* 3.00 GPA
* B.S. in Nursing from a regionally accredited program (for post-bacc program)\*
* M.S. in Nursing from a regionally accredited program (for post-masters program)\*
* Clinical Doctorate from a regionally accredited program (for post-clinical doctorate program)\*
* Clear potential for research contributions
* Curriculum Vitae
* Demonstrated commitment to doctoral study and scholarly productivity
* Evidence of potential for leadership in nursing profession
* GRE
* Licensure as a registered nurse if performing clinical work (Current unencumbered license as a registered nurse in the United States upon matriculation. A current licence as a registered nurse in the state of Florida before the first clinical course.)
* Three letters or recommendation
* Written Statement of Professional Goals
* Prerequisite NGR 7848 or equivalent prior to full-time enrollment
* Applicants to the Ph.D. program are required to complete both a NursingCAS appliation and a USF Graduate Studies Application.

*\*Applicants with degrees in other fields may also be considered*

**Requirements for Transfer of Credits:**

* + GPA –Credits transferred in must have a grade of B or higher
  + For internal institutional credits the grade of the transferred course:
    - Will be calculated in the GPA at USF
    - Will be noted on the transcript as the grade earned
  + For external institution credits the grade of the transferred course:
    - Will not be calculated in the GPA at USF
    - Will be noted on the transcript by a T from a non-USF institution
    - Will be noted on the transcript by a N/A if from a USF regionally accredited institution
  + Credit Hours may not exceed 40% of the Ph.D. program requirements for total course hours. Credit hours from a professional doctorate may not count towards dissertation requirements.
  + The doctoral committee will be responsible for evaluating, approving, and initiating the transfer as soon as possible following admission.

**CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS**

There are three programs of study that lead to the Ph.D. in Nursing: MS-Ph.D., BS-Ph.D, and Clinical Doctorate-PhD.

**M.S. - Ph.D.**

**Total Minimum Program Hours: 57 credit hours**

Core – 33 hours

Advanced Directed Research – 3 hours

Cognate – 9 hours

Dissertion – 12 hours

A minimum of 57 hours post-master’s is required. The major can be completed in three to four years by full-time students and five or more years for part-time students. Specific major requirements are determined on an individual basis by the student’s supervisory committee.

**Core Requirements – 33 hours**

NGR 7111 3 Disciplinary Perspectives of Nursing Science

NGR 7125 3 Model Development for Nursing

NGR 7810 3 Design, Measurement and Analysis in Nursing Research I

NGR 7812 3 Design, Measurement and Analysis in Nursing Research II

NGR 7813 3 Design, Measurement and Analysis in Nursing Research III

NGR 7814 3 Design, Measurement and Analysis in Nursing Research IV

NGR 7881 2 Responsible Conduct of Research

NGR 7930 1 Scientific Inquiry Forum – required each semester prior to candidacy (4 hours minimum)

NGR 7837 3 Innovative Programs in Biobehavioral Research

NGR 7838 3 Innovative Programs in Symptom Management Research

NGR 7954 3 Communicating Nursing Science

Satisfactory completion of the Knowledge Building Core required courses prepares students to successfully complete the dissertation research.

**Advanced Directed Research – minimum 3 Credits**

Specialized individual participation in research activity, including but not limited to pilot studies and other investigative activities.

**Cognate - 12 Credits**

Students select a cognate area to further support the student’s area of expertise in nursing and the research problem that will be addressed by the dissertation research. Examples of appropriate areas of study for the cognate might be organizational administration, health policy, physiology, cognitive psychology, organizational psychology, gerontology, epidemiology, biostatistics, administration, applied anthropology, educational measurement or a nursing specialty.

**Qualifying Examinations:**

The qualifying examination is to be completed as soon as the majority of core and minor coursework is completed The purpose of the qualifying examination is to assess the student’s level of scholarship and research skills and to determine if the student possesses the critical and analytical skills necessary to undertake the dissertation research. The qualifying examination consists of a one-day written exam covering core and specialty content.

**Dissertation** -12 Credits

Students must complete and successfully defend a dissertation

**B.S. -Ph.D.**

**Total Minimum Hours: 87 credit hours**

Core – 33 hours

Content Area – 18 hours

Additional Coursework – 12 hours

Advanced Directed Research – 3 hours

Cognate – 9 hours

Dissertion – 12 hours

A minimum of 30 hours beyond the M.S - Ph.D. curriculum is required. The additional coursework must be approved by the student’s supervising committee. These 30 hours should provide students with the foundational knowledge to conduct their proposed research.

Students who wish to earn the MS degree must meet the progression and graduation requirements for the MS concentration.

Students may select to complete the following master’s degree tracks in nursing to meet this requirement. Students who select one of these options are required to complete all of the required courses of these tracks.

Adult-Gerontology Acute Care

Adult-Gerontology Primary Care

Family Health Nursing

Nursing Education

Pediatric Health Nursing

Alternatively, students may opt for a tailored plan of study developed in collaboration with their supervising committee. A minimum of 18 hours must be in an identifiable area of emphasis. Examples include entrepreneurship, informatics, medical sciences, and public health.

**Clinical Doctorate. - Ph.D.**

**Total Minimum Program Hours: 45 credit hours post master’s**

Core – 33

Dissertion – 12 hours

A minimum of 45 hours post-clinical doctorate is required. The program can be completed in two to three years by full-time students and four or more years for part-time students. Specific program requirements are determined on an individual basis by the student’s supervisory committee.

**Core Requirements – 33 hours**

NGR 7111 3 Disciplinary Perspectives of Nursing Science

NGR 7125 3 Model Development for Nursing

NGR 7810 3 Design, Measurement and Analysis in Nursing Research I

NGR 7812 3 Design, Measurement and Analysis in Nursing Research II

NGR 7813 3 Design, Measurement and Analysis in Nursing Research III

NGR 7814 3 Design, Measurement and Analysis in Nursing Research IV

NGR 7836 2 Responsible Conduct of Research

NGR 7920 1 Scientific Inquiry Forum – required each semester prior to candidacy (4 hours minimum)

NGR 7936 3 Innovative Programs in Biobehavioral Research

NGR 7938 3 Innovative Programs in Symptom Management Research

NGR 7954 3 Communicating Nursing Science

Satisfactory completion of the Knowledge Building Core required courses prepares students to successfully complete the dissertation research.

**Qualifying Examinations:**

The qualifying examination is to be completed as soon as the majority of core and minor coursework is completed The purpose of the qualifying examination is to assess the student’s level of scholarship and research skills and to determine if the student possesses the critical and analytical skills necessary to undertake the dissertation research. The qualifying examination consists of a one-day written exam covering core and specialty content.

**Dissertation** -12 Credits

Students must complete and successfully defend a dissertation

***NOTE: Students are to meet with curriculum advisor for individual program plan.***

**Ph.D. Continuous Enrollment Policy**

All degree-seeking students in the Nursing Ph.D. program must be continuously enrolled. Continuous enrollment for the Ph.D. program is defined as completing a minimum of 2 hours of graduate credit every semester. Students who have been Admitted to Doctoral Candidacy must follow the Dissertation Hour Enrollment Policy in place of the continuous enrollment requirement, as specified in the USF Graduate Catalog.

**COURSES**

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