**NURSE ANESTHESIA**

**Doctor of Nursing Practice (D.N.P.) Degree**

**DEGREE INFORMATION**

**Priority Admission Application Deadlines:**

Summer: August 15\*

\*Admissions begins immediately after the August 15 Priority Deadline and continues until all seats are filled by qualified applicants, up to the final deadline of February 15. Classes begin the following May.

International applicant deadlines:

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

Minimum Total Hours: 94

Program Level:     Doctoral

CIP Code:        51.3818

Dept. Code:       NUR

Program (Major/College): NAD

Effective:   **CONTACT INFORMATION**

College: Nursing

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

The major in nursing leading to a Doctor of Nursing Practice degree prepares its graduates for careers as nurse Anesthetists. Successful completion of the Doctor of Nursing Practice’s Nurse Anesthesia degree program qualifies students to take appropriate national certification examinations and apply for state licensure.

Graduate Major Objectives:

1. Develop, implement and evaluate new evidence based practice approaches to caring for patients in the peri-anesthetic environment.
2. Ensure accountability for quality care and patient safety for varied patient populations, displaying sensitivity to various cultural norms in the application of scientific principles of care.
3. Demonstrate the ability to apply appropriate analytics for the evaluation and application of scientific evidence to inform clinical practice.
4. Utilize technological information systems to evaluate outcomes of care, healthcare delivery and quality improvement
5. Provided the leadership necessary to develop health care policy in order to improve patient safety, improve health care financing, reducing the barriers to pain management and improving patient access to care.
6. Develop trans-disciplinary teams who collaboratively address the health care needs of individuals and populations.
7. Analyze epidemiological, bio-statistical, environmental and occupational data for the development, implementation and evaluation of programs of population health.
8. Provide clinical practice incorporating bio/psycho/social, cultural, economic, ethical and scientific principles.

**Accreditation:**

Accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education. In addition Nurse Anesthesia Doctor of Nursing Practice’s degree program 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 for admission to the major and requirements listed in the introductory portion of the college catalog section.

Baccalaureate Degree (in Nursing) to Doctor of Nursing Practice Degree (B.S. to D.N.P.) Nurses with a bachelor of science 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:

* Bachelor of Science degree from a regionally accredited program.
* Competitive applicants to the CRNA Program should have a minimum of a 3.00 GPA (on a 4.00 scale). A cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.00 or better (based on a 4.00 system); recommended science GPA of 3.00.
* Required Undergraduate Coursework includes: Pathophysiology (3 credits), Pharmacology (3 credits), Anatomy and Physiology (6 credits), Health Assessment (3 credits), Chemistry (3 credits), Statistics (3 credits) – with a grade of B or Better.  If prerequisite science coursework is greater than ten years old, repeating or supplementing with a refresher course at the undergraduate level is highly recommended.
* 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.
* Graduate Record Examination (GRE) is required.  Graduate Record Examination (GRE) taken within five years of application.  Competitive score on the GRE. A performance score at or above the 50th percentile on each of the three subtests of the (General) Graduate Record Exam (GRE).
* Current license as registered nurse
* 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.)
* Personal statement of goals
* Current resume or curriculum vitae
* A minimum of two current years of experience as an RN in an aggressive adult, pediatric, and/or neonatal Intensive Care Unit (ICU) must be completed prior to matriculation into the program.
* Current Basic Life support (BLS), Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) certifications are required.
* Critical Care Registered Nurse (CCRN) Certification is highly recommended.

“A critical care area is defined as one where, on a routine basis, the registered professional nurse manages one or more of the following: invasive hemodynamic monitors (such as pulmonary artery catheter, CVP, arterial); cardiac assist devices; mechanical ventilation; and vasoactive infusions. Examples of critical care units may include but are not limited to: Surgical Intensive Care, Cardiothoracic Intensive care, Coronary Intensive Care, Medical Intensive Care, Pediatric Intensive Care, and Neonatal Intensive Care. Those who have experiences in other areas may be considered provided they can demonstrate competence with managing unstable patients, invasive monitoring, ventilators, and critical care pharmacology."

‐ Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Programs.

* Current Basic Life Support (BLS), Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) and Pediatric Advanced Life support (PALS) Certifications must be maintained while in program.
* A personal interview with the CRNA Program Panel is required
* Statement of good physical, mental and emotional health to be verbally provided during interview.
* International students whose native language is not English must demonstrate proficiency in the English language. A Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) composite score of 550 for the paper test or 213 for the computer‐based test is strongly recommended for admission to the graduate major.

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

**CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS**

The D.N.P. in Nurse Anesthesia requires completion of the credit hours required by the major. Sequencing of courses is particularly important and academic advisors work with students to design full‐time program plans in the major.   The classes contain the principles and practices in all applications of anesthesia.  The Nurse Anesthesia major is independent of the USF academic calendar. During certain rotations in the clinical phase, weekends, nights, and 24‐hour rotations will be expected.

**Total Minimum Hours     94 post bachelors**

NGR 7892 3 Health Care Policy and Clinical Prevention for Improving Population Health

NGR 7874 3 Informatics and Patient Care Technology

NGR 7766 3 Health Systems Leadership and Interprofessional Practice

NGR 6404 4 Anatomy/Physiology for Nurse Anesthetist Currently: Anatomy Physiology for Nurse Anesthesia I 3 credit hours

NGR 6157 4 Advanced Physiology and Pharmacology for Nurse Anesthetist Currently: Physiology & Pharmacology for Nurse Anesthetist II 5 credit hours

NGR 6002C 4 Advanced Health Assessment Across the Lifespan

NGR 6400 2 Chemistry, Biochemistry and Physics for Nurse Anesthetists

NGR 6152 4 Advanced Pathophysiology Currently: Advanced Physiology and Pathophysiology 4 credit hours

NGR 6460 3 Nurse Anesthesia Pharmacology II Currently: Pharmacology for Nurse Anesthesia I 3 credit hours

NGR 6420 4 Foundations of Nurse Anesthesia Foundations & Methods of Nurse Anesthesia Practice 4 credit hours

NGR 6440L 2 Anesthesia Simulation I: Intro to Clinical Practicum

NGR 6492 3 Nurse Anesthesia Role: Practice Management, QI and Patient Safety Currently: Nurse Anesthesia Role Development 3 credit hours

NGR 6422 3 Principles of Anesthesia Across the Lifespan

NGR 6423 3 Theoretical Foundations of Nurse Anesthesia: Advanced Principles I

NGR 6441L 2 Anesthesia Simulation II

NGR 6431 1 Nurse Anesthesia Clinical Practicum I Currently: Nurse Anesthesia Clinical Residency I 4 credit hours

NGR 6673 3 Epidemiology of Advanced Nursing Practice

NGR 6424 3 Theoretical Foundations of Nurse Anesthesia Practice: Advanced Principles II Currently: Principles of Nurse Anesthesia 3 credit hours

NGR 6442L 1 Nurse Anesthesia III: Special Procedures Currently: Nurse Anesthesia Simulation Lab III 2 credit hours

NGR 7848 3 Fundamentals of Statistics for Clinicians

NGR 6432 2 Nurse Anesthesia Clinical Practicum II Currently: Nurse Anesthesia Clinical Residency II 4 credit hours

NGR 6803 3 Research and Evidence Based Practice

NGR 6471 3 Pharmacology of Pain Management

NGR 7974 2 DNP Project: Implementation and Analysis

NGR 6433 4 Nurse Anesthesia Clinical Practicum III Currently: Nurse Anesthesia Clinical Residency III 4 credit hours

NGR 6472 3 Pharmacology of Pain Management

NGR 7974 2 DNP Project: Proposal Development

NGR 6434 4 Nurse Anesthesia Clinical Practicum IV Currently: Nurse Anesthesia Clinical Residency IV 4 credit hours

NGR 6491 2 Nurse Anesthesia Comprehensive Seminar

NGR 7945 1 DNP Clinical Residency

NGR 6435 3 Nurse Anesthesia Clinical Practicum V Currently: Course Does Not Exist

NGR 6491 2 Nurse Anesthesia Comprehensive Seminar Currently: Nurse Anesthesia Practice Comprehensive 2 credits

NGR 6436 4 Nurse Anesthesia Clinical Practicum VI Currently: Does Not Exist

**Comprehensive Examination**

Comprehensive competency testing is done through two mechanisms.  Currently this requirement is typically fulfilled during the final semester of study and consists of:

* One is a comprehensive oral boards examination which is evaluated by a faculty panel.
* The other mechanism is through the Self‐Evaluation Exam (SEE) which is created by the NBCRNA for Nurse Anesthetists who oversees national certification and professional licensure. The SEE is required twice during the major.

**Dissertation – this is a clinical program; no dissertation is required**

**COURSES**

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