MS-PhD Degree Changes

Knowledge Building Core (Required)

NGR 6713 Foundations of Nursing Education (3)
NGR 7123 Theory Development in Nursing (3)
NGR 7124 Advances in Nursing Science (3)
NGR 7815 Qualitative Methods in Nursing Research (3)
NGR 7816 Research Designs and Methods in Nursing (3)
NGR 7823 Psychometrics and Measurement for Nursing Research (3)
NGR 7841 Statistical Methods in Nursing Research I (3)
NGR 7842 Statistical Methods in Nursing Research II (3)
NGR 7843 Statistical Methods in Nursing Research III (3)
NGR 7881 Ethics in Research and Practice (3)
NGR 7892 Health Policy Issues in Nursing and Health Care (3)

NGR 7941 Nursing Research Pro Seminar (1) x 3
NGR 7941 Nursing Research Pro Seminar (1)
NGR 7932 Dissertation Proposal Writing (2)  NOTE: New Course Proposal

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

Cognate (12-15 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.

Electives (3-6 Credits) Students must complete 3-6 elective credits. Three credits must be in research methods. Suggested courses:
NGR 6824 Data Analysis for Health Sciences
NGR 7932 Current Topics in Quantitative Methods
NGR 6713 Foundations of Nursing Education

Qualifying Examinations:
The qualifying examination is to be completed as soon as the majority of core and minor coursework is completed.

Oral Examination Component:
An oral examination component will be used to clarify and verify that the student has met the written components of the qualifying examination and will be used to formally admit the student to candidacy.

Qualifying Examination:
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 two parts:

May 11, 2009 Updated Program Proposal
a. Completion and submission of a manuscript that is sole authored to a refereed journal for publication.

b. Preparation and submission of a research grant application for funding to an appropriate agency.

Dissertation (12-24 Credits)
Students must complete and successfully defend a dissertation.

Changes and Justification:

1. Eliminate NGR 6713 as a REQUIREMENT for MSN-PhD students, thus reducing the number of credits in the program by 3 and recommending this course as ELECTIVE.

   Rationale: Not all PhD graduates go into faculty positions. Therefore course will be most useful to those students who plan an academic career and will be highly recommended as an ELECTIVE.

2. Change the Pro Seminar to two courses equal to 3 credits: Nursing Research Pro Seminar (1 cr) and a new seminar course “Dissertation Proposal Writing.”

   Rationale: The course is taught at three levels, but students can be at any of these three levels in a given semester, making it very difficult to present different level objectives. Currently students take NGR 7941 Nursing Research Pro Seminar 3x for 1 credit. Providing a sequenced and required course specifically in proposal writing will address these issues.

3. Eliminate Oral Examination Component and expand the explanation of Qualifying Examination.

   Rationale: The oral examination component is not used.