**Nursing Science program**

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

**DEGREE INFORMATION**

**Program Admission Deadlines:**

**Fall:** December 15

**Minimum Total Hours:** 57 post-masters

87 post bachelors

**Program Level:** Doctoral

**CIP Code:** 51. 3808

**Dept Code:** NUR

**Program (Major/College):** NUS NR

**Approved:** 2003

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

**College:** Nursing

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

**PROGRAM 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.

**Accreditation:**

Accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of College and Schools.

**ADMISSION INFORMATION**

Must meet University requirements (see Graduate Admissions) as well as requirements listed below.

**Program Admission Requirements**

* 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)\*
* 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*

Applicants to the Ph.D. program who have completed a professional doctorate degree (DNP) may have professional degree credits transferred into the Ph.D. in Nursing Science. The transfer of credits is determined on an individual basis and will be at the discretion of the College’s doctoral committee.

**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.

**DEGREE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS**

There are two programs of study that lead to the Ph.D. in Nursing: MS-Ph.D., BS-Ph.D.

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

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

Core – 36

Cognate – 9 hours

Dissertion – 12 hours

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

**Core Requirements – 36 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 7915 3 Advanced Directed Research in Nursing

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

NGR 7936 3 Innovative Programs in Biobehavioral Research

NGR 7837 3 Innovative Programs in Symptom Management Research

NGR 7838 3 Communicating Nursing Science

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

**Cognate - 9 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 Program Hours: 87 credit hours**

Core – 36 hours

Content Area – 18 hours

Additional Coursework – 12 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 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

Adult-Gerontology Primary Care/Oncology

Family Health

Nursing Education

Pediatric Health

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.

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

**COURSES**

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