TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER™

School *of* Nursing

ACADEMIC CATALOG
2018 - 2019

Quick Reference

The School of Nursing *Catalog*, an official publication of Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center (TTUHSC), contains policies, regulations, procedures, programs, courses, schedules and fees in effect when the *Catalog* is posted on the website. A student is expected to complete the degree requirements set forth in the School of Nursing *Catalog* in effect at the time the student enters the program. Students readmitted to the TTUHSC School of Nursing are expected to complete the degree requirements set forth in the *Catalog* that is current at the time of readmission. Only with the specified approval of the appropriate Associate Dean/ Department Chair may a different *Catalog* be selected. In no case, may a student complete the requirements set forth in a catalog more than seven years old. The *Catalog* is published at least biennially and the provisions are applicable during the stated school year. Other conditions of graduation and the curriculum program are outlined in detail in the School of Nursing *Student Handbook*.

The provisions of the *Catalog* do not constitute a contract, expressed or implied, between any applicant or student and faculty member in the TTUHSC School of Nursing. The TTUHSC School of Nursing reserves the right to withdraw courses at any time, change fees, calendars, curricula, graduation procedures, and any other requirement affecting students. Changes become effective when the proper authorities determine the application to both prospective students and to the students already enrolled.

TTUHSC is open to all persons, regardless of race, color, religion, disability, sex, national origin, or sexual orientation, who are eligible for admission as students. TTUHSC is an Equal Opportunity Institution and no applicant or student will be discriminated against because of race, creed, religion, disability, gender, national origin, or sexual orientation during the course of education at this institution.

Table of Contents

Welcome to Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, an outstanding academic center of discovery and learning in West Texas. TTUHSC's mission of education, research and patient care drives all that we do. I applaud you for considering a profession dedicated to improving the lives of your fellow human beings.

At the School of Nursing, you will learn from nationally acclaimed faculty, recognized for innovative teaching and distinguished programs. Our university's interprofessional approach to education will prepare you for the collaborative nature of today's health care work force.

We hope that this catalog will help you understand the spirit that enlivens our university and the School of Nursing. We welcome the thinkers and doers ready to add your ideas and energy to fulfilling our mission of improving the health of the people in West Texas and beyond.

Tedd Mitchell, MD
President
Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center

Welcome to the TTUHSC School of Nursing.
You have chosen to join a school whose faculty and staff are dedicated to your success. Our goal is to produce well-prepared nurses who make a positive difference in the health care arena.

From here, there are endless possibilities for your professional nursing career. Whether your goal is to complete a bachelor's, master's, or doctoral degree, our rich, diverse learning experiences and expert faculty will prepare you for the challenges ahead. Your educational journey will give you opportunities to contribute through practice, education, scholarship, and service.

We welcome you to the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center School of Nursing and look forward to sharing this enriching experience with you.

Michael L. Evans, PhD, RN, FAAN
Dean and Professor
UMC Endowed Chair for Excellence in Nursing

Mission

The School of Nursing's mission is to educate students for practice in evolving healthcare systems and to advance knowledge and practice through research, service, and community engagement.

Vision

The School of Nursing's vision is to shape healthcare of the future by advancing the profession, improving the health of others, and inspiring exceptional care.

Core Values

As a TTUHSC School of Nursing team member, I commit to:

- Seek transparency through open communication, respect, and clarity;
- Advance a work ethic of excellence, accountability, and integrity; and
- Promote a spirit of teamwork, trust, and compassion.
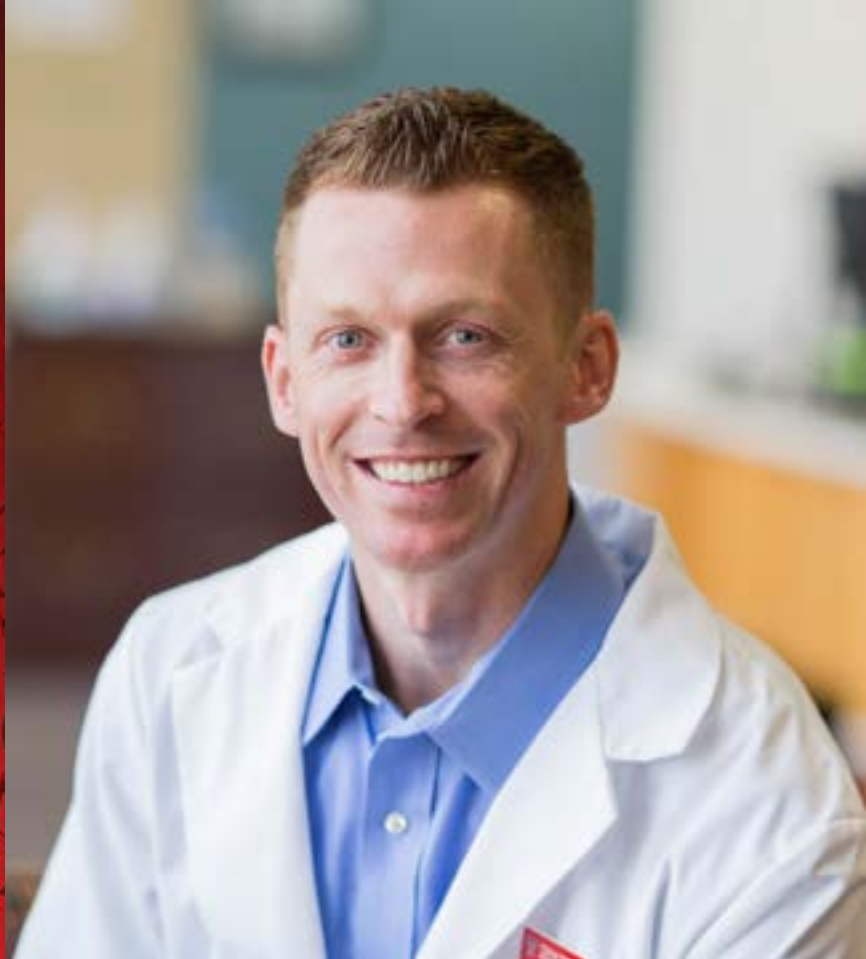
About TTUHSC

TTUHSC Presidents
Grover Elmer Murray (1966-1976)
Maurice Cecil Mackey (1976-1979)
Lauro Fred Cavazos (1980-1988)
Robert Lawless (1988-1996)
David Smith (1996-2002)
M. Roy Wilson (2003-2006)
Bernhard T. Mittemeyer -Interim (2006-2007)
John C. Baldwin, President (2007- 2009)
Tedd Mitchell, President (2010-present)

Mission
As a comprehensive health sciences center, our mission is to enrich the lives of others by educating students to become collaborative healthcare professionals, providing excellent patient care, and advancing knowledge through innovative research.

Vision
Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center will strengthen its national reputation as it seeks to promote healthier communities across West Texas and beyond.

Brief History
The Texas Tech University School of Medicine was created by the 61st Texas Legislature in May, 1969 as a multi-campus institution with Lubbock as the administrative center, and with regional campuses at Amarillo, El Paso, and Odessa. In 1979, the charter was expanded to become the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center (TTUHSC), leading the way for establishment of the School of Nursing, School of Health Professions, and the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences. In 1993, the legislature authorized the establishment of a School of Pharmacy to be located in Amarillo. In addition, Health Professions programs were expanded to Amarillo and the Permian Basin. In 2003, the legislature authorized the establishment of a four-year medical school in El Paso, and in 2011, the Gayle Greve Hunt School of Nursing was established, also located in El Paso. On May 18, 2013, after 40 years of operating as a regional campus of TTUHSC's School of Medicine, Governor Rick Perry signed Senate Bill 120, which established TTUHSC at El Paso as its own independent institution.

TTUHSC's schools are committed to regionalized, multi-campus educational experiences, and to the related biomedical research, graduate studies, patient care and community service required of a health sciences center. A primary effort is made to achieve a balanced group of students with qualified minority students, diverse age groups, and heterogeneous backgrounds in educational and life experiences.

TTUHSC has as its major objectives the provision of quality education and development of academic, research, patient care, and community service programs to meet the health care needs of West Texas, which in total is comprised of 108 counties and represents 50% of Texas' land mass and 11% of its total population. This 131,000 square mile service area and population of 2.7

million has been, and remains highly underserved by health professionals and accessible health care facilities, despite the substantial and meaningful contribution made by our institution. Demographic shifts in West Texas populations, as well as socioeconomic and epidemiologic characteristics of its sub-groups, create major and specific demands for service. While education of students and residents remains the primary focus of the institution, there has been an important impact on the health status of West Texas. The lack of a single locus of population density has resulted in the regionalization of medical and health care education and patient care on multiple geographically separated campuses. In providing an excellent quality undergraduate, graduate, and continuing health professional education at each site, the health needs of the larger community have been better met and relevant indices of health status demonstrate significant improvement. To continue to provide excellent health care for the people of West Texas, a special effort is made to recruit applicants from West Texas and from rural and border communities. Students from these areas are more likely to service their home regions upon graduation, which ensures the long-term perpetuation of quality health care in West Texas and that the objectives of TTUHSC are continually met.

Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center Accreditation
Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award baccalaureate, masters, doctoral, and professional degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia, 30033-4097, or call 404.679.4500 for questions about accreditation of the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center. The Commission should be contacted only if there is evidence that appears to support the institution's significant non-compliance with a requirement or standard.

A member of Texas Tech University System,

Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center has been accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges as an institution separate from Texas Tech University since 2004. TTUHSC received its reaffirmation of accreditation from SACS-COC in 2009. The next reaffirmation is scheduled for 2019.

Diversity and Inclusion
The TTUHSC School of Nursing promotes, supports and embraces diversity amount our students, faculty and staff as a foundational tenant to accomplishing the vision and mission of the School of Nursing. Therefore, the TTUHSC SON affirms and aligns with the TTUHSC Diversity Statement:

The core foundational value of including the diverse cultures, lifestyles, personal beliefs and ideas of all those we serve - and serve alongside - provides a positive impact on the health of our regional, national, and global societies. As we pursue excellence in healthcare education, research, and patient care, we will be ever mindful of the strength gained through unity in diversity.

OTHER SCHOOLS AT TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER
[Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences](#)
The mission of the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences is to educate the next generation of scientists and health-related professionals in a dynamic and productive research environment that fosters creativity and discovery. The Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences offers programs leading to MS and PhD degrees in Biochemistry and Molecular Genetics, Biotechnology, Cell and Molecular Biology, Cell Physiology and Molecular Biophysics, Immunology and Infectious Diseases as well as Pharmacology and Neuroscience. Additionally, a Master's Degree is offered in Public Health. The school structures programs to provide a wide variety of opportunities for the development of special research and teaching interests. Consulting with a faculty advisory committee, each student

participates in the design of a personalized course of study.

School of Health Professions

The mission of the TTUHSC School of Health Professions is to provide a high quality, inclusive and diverse, student-centered learning environment for graduate and undergraduate education in the health professions; advance knowledge through scholarship and research; and provide clinical services that improve health and quality of life in Texas and the nation. The School offers nineteen different baccalaureate, masters, and doctoral, health professions degree programs in the rehabilitation sciences, clinical laboratory sciences and primary care, speech, language and hearing sciences, and clinic administration and rehabilitation counseling.

School of Medicine

TTUHSC School of Medicine mission is to address the shortage of physicians in West Texas by providing innovative educational opportunities to medical students and residents with the intent to supply competent and compassionate medical professionals for a geographically expansive area. In 2010, TTUHSC School of Medicine launched the Family Medicine Accelerated Track, the first program of its kind in the country. The track provides students with the option to graduate in three years.

School of Pharmacy

The School of Pharmacy's mission is to enhance the lives of the diverse people of Texas and beyond through excellence and innovation in educating health care practitioners, researchers, and educators; providing pharmaceutical care and service; and advancing knowledge through scholarship and research. The School of Pharmacy offers the Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) as the single professional degree. The PharmD is a 4-year professional program, requiring at least two years of pre-professional studies to be completed at any accredited college or university. The School offers programs in Amarillo, Dallas/

Fort Worth, Lubbock, and Abilene. The Abilene campus enrolled its inaugural class of 40 students in August 2007. The school also provides continuing education courses for pharmacists practicing in Texas.

About TTUHSC School of Nursing

School of Nursing Deans
Teddy Jones, RN, CS, PhD, FNP (1981-1991)
Patricia Yoder-Wise, RN, EdD, NEA-BC, ANEF, FAAN (1991-1993, Interim Dean; 1993-2000, Dean)
Alexia Green, RN, PhD, FAAN (2000-2010)
Chandice Covington, PhD, PHP(BC), RN, FAAN (Interim Dean 2010)
Yondell Masten, PhD, WHNP-BC, RNC-OB (Interim Dean 2010-2011)
Michael L. Evans, PhD, RN, NEA-BC, FACHE, FAAN (2012-present)

Brief History
The TTUHSC School of Nursing is the only nursing school on the South Plains that provides baccalaureate, masters, and doctoral education. Since its inception in 1979, the school has offered innovative educational programs to meet the needs of Texas residents. With an expanded selection of program options offered throughout Texas and beyond, the School of Nursing continues to help bolster the state's nursing workforce by educating more than 1,400 students each year.

The first students were admitted to the Traditional Bachelor of Science in Nursing four-year degree on the Lubbock campus in August 1981. Four years later, RN to BSN students were admitted in the Permian Basin. The first students were admitted to the Master of Science in Nursing track in 1988. The Accelerated Second Degree BSN Program was launched in Austin and in Lubbock in 2005, and is now offered in Abilene, the Permian Basin, Amarillo, and Dallas-Ft. Worth area. In 2008, the inaugural cohort of doctoral students was admitted into the Doctor of Nursing Practice degree program, and in 2009, the Traditional BSN program was expanded to include Abilene and the Permian Basin. The Accelerated Veteran to BSN Program admitted its inaugural cohort in 2016 in Dallas, San Antonio and Amarillo.

The TTUHSC School of Nursing is known for innovation in nursing education, excellent student retention and graduation rates, above national average National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) scores, and producing well-prepared nurses for West Texas and beyond.

School of Nursing Accreditation
In November 1982, the undergraduate program received full accreditation from the Board of Nursing for the State of Texas and in December 1983, the National League for Nursing (NLN) granted initial accreditation, which was retroactive prior to the first graduation in June, 1983. The graduate program received initial accreditation in March 1992. Graduate and undergraduate degrees were accredited by NLN Accrediting Commission until 2005. From 2005, forward, the Traditional BSN, RN to BSN, Accelerated Second Degree BSN, and Master's in Nursing (MSN) degrees were accredited by the Commission for Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE). The Doctor of Nursing

Practice (DNP) degree was accredited by CCNE in 2010. Traditional BSN, RN to BSN, Second Degree Accelerated BSN, Master's in Nursing, and Doctor of Nursing Practice degrees are accredited by CCNE, 655 K Street, NW, Suite 750, Washington, DC, 20001; (202) 887-6791; www.ccneaccreditation.org.

The Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center School of Nursing, Nurse Midwifery program, for master's degree and post master certificate is accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Midwifery Education (ACME). For inquiries about accreditation, please contact ACME at 8403 Colesville Road Suite 1550 Silver Spring, MD 20910-6374, www.midwife.org/acme, email acme@acnm.org.

Additionally, the School of Nursing is accredited by the Texas Board of Nursing (BON). Contact the BON at 333 Guadalupe #3-460, Austin, Texas 78701, or call (512) 305-7400 for questions about accreditation of the School of Nursing programs.

In July 1980, the TTUHSC School of Nursing Continuing Education Program was first accredited by the Western Regional Accrediting Committee of the American Nurses' Association as a provider of continuing education in nursing. The accreditation, now offered through the American Nurses Credentialing Center, remained in effect through 2012 when the department closed.

SCHOOL OF NURSING ADMINISTRATION

Michael L. Evans, PhD, RN, NEA-BC, FACHE, FAAN
Professor and Dean
UMC Endowed Chair for Excellence in Nursing

ACADEMIC DEPARTMENTS

Traditional BSN Undergraduate Department
Traditional BSN Program

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Non-Traditional Undergraduate Department
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Graduate Department
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MSN Leadership Programs (Administration, Education, and Informatics) and Post-Master's DNP Program

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REGIONAL SUPPORT

Permian Basin
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Abilene
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ACADEMIC SERVICES

Clinical Services and Community Engagement
Associate Dean – Linda McMurry, DNP, RN, NEA-BC

Because faculty within the School of Nursing may choose development of a clinical studies program, the School of Nursing maintains an active Clinical Studies Program. Faculty can participate in the delivery of care to residents of West Texas in many institutions and health care facilities.

The School of Nursing operates sites for direct access to services by community clients at the Larry Combest Community Health & Wellness Center in Lubbock. The Larry Combest Community Health & Wellness Center staff and faculty serve medically-underserved populations by providing primary care services to clients over the life span. The Larry Combest Community Health & Wellness Center, a Federally Qualified Health Care nurse managed center provides essential health care access points for residents of the community unable to obtain the needed services for health promotion and disease prevention. The Larry Combest Community Health & Wellness Center is supported by funding from the School of Nursing, federal grants, and reimbursements from third party payers.

Research
Associate Dean for Research and Scholarship - Alyce Ashcraft, PhD, RN, CNE, ANEF

Faculty within the School of Nursing also have the choice of developing a research program. The School of Nursing has designed the research program to provide assistance and support for faculty in promoting research interests and developing proposals for funding and implementation of research projects. Current research initiatives focus on improvement of the health of diverse populations through collaborating efforts and providing opportunities for all nursing students to be actively involved in faculty research projects.

Outcomes Management and Evaluation
Associate Dean – Yondell Masten, PhD, WHNP-BC, RNC-OB

Director - Paula Simpson
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The School of Nursing bases the outcomes management and evaluation focus on the concept of continuous quality improvement, supported by the Texas Tech University System. Data are collected each semester, semi-annually and/or annually for decision-making and documentation of the School of Nursing achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan. Students participate in decision-making and documentation of Strategic Plan goal achievement by providing valuable data via completion of assessment tools and by serving as representatives on School of Nursing councils and task forces.

Student Support

ADMISSIONS and STUDENT AFFAIRS

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MSN Admissions - Pediatric NP, Psychiatric Mental Health NP, Adult Gerentology Acute Care NP, and Leadership tracks
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RETENTION

RETENTION COUNSELORS

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Dallas Campus

Accelerated BSN Program

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Traditional BSN Program

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Permian Basin Campus

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San Antonio Site

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ACADEMIC RETENTION and SUCCESS COACH

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Eligibility Requirements

CORE CURRICULUM

Given the rapid evolution of necessary knowledge and skills and the need to take into account global, national, state, and local cultures, the core curriculum for institutions of higher education in the State of Texas must ensure students develop the essential knowledge and skills needed for success in college, career, and individual communities, and in life.

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board has approved a 42 semester credit hour core curriculum for all undergraduate students in Texas. The TTUHSC School of Nursing will ensure the students transferring into the baccalaureate nursing programs have completely met the core competencies of the 42 semester credit hour curriculum. Objectives for the core curriculum competencies include the following:

- **Critical Thinking Skills** – includes creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information.
- **Communication Skills** – includes effective written, oral, and visual communication.
- **Empirical and Quantitative Skills** – includes the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions.
- **Teamwork** – includes the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal.
- **Personal Responsibility** – includes the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making.
- **Social Responsibility** – includes intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.

Core Curriculum Requirements
Students who will be earning a baccalaureate degree from Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center (TTUHSC) **MUST** satisfy the coursework requirements of the TTUHSC Core Curriculum. The curriculum complies with the 1997 Texas legislation that required each state-supported institution to establish a core curriculum that encompasses components of natural and applied sciences, social sciences, mathematics, humanities, visual and performing arts and tools of language and thoughts.

These courses or their equivalents for a total of 42 semester credit hours may be taken at any regionally accredited college or university and should be completed with a grade of "C" or higher BEFORE enrolling at TTUHSC. IF a student successfully completes a core curriculum of 42 or more semester credit hours at another accredited public institution of higher education in Texas, and the core curriculum meets the following specified "component area" requirements, the block of courses may be transferred to TTUHSC and substituted for the core curriculum here. The student will not be required to take any additional core curriculum courses. The State of Texas has specified the following component area requirements as found in the following table.

CORE CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS	
COMMUNICATION (English Rhetoric/Composition) (010)	6 credit hours
MATHEMATICS (020)	3 credit hours
LIFE and PHYSICAL SCIENCES (030)	6 credit hours
LANGUAGE, PHILOSOPHY, and CULTURE (040)	3 credit hours
CREATIVE ARTS (050)	3 credit hours
AMERICAN HISTORY (060)	6 credit hours
GOVERNMENT/POLITICAL SCIENCE (070)	6 credit hours
SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES (080)	3 credit hours
COMPONENT AREA OPTION	6 credit hours
TOTAL CORE CURRICULUM HOURS	42 credit hours

CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK (CBC)

A Criminal Background Check (CBC) must be completed prior to enrollment at TTUHSC School of Nursing in compliance with TTUHSC OP 10.20 and SON OP 60.081. Each student is responsible for the cost of his/her CBC and any additional fees.

All applicants, once offered provisional admission, must complete a criminal background check before being allowed to matriculate. Those who do not complete a criminal background check are ineligible for progress in the nursing program. A history of criminal conduct or convictions may result in withdrawal of the admission offer. The TTUHSC SON utilizes the Texas Board of Nursing criminal background check process for all pre-licensure students. For RN-BSN, MSN and DNP students, the students will be required to use the institutionally approved vendor to process these background checks. Only those individuals with a BON Blue Card, a BON Declaratory Order with No Stipulations and approval from the Associate Dean of Student Affairs will be allowed to matriculate into the program.

In accordance with TTUHSC OP 10.20, students in the School of Nursing shall self-disclose relevant criminal history record information no later than five (5) business days following the charge of a crime. Failure to self-disclose may result in dismissal or withdrawal of acceptance from the university.

Additional background checks are required after a break in enrollment in accordance with TTUHSC OP 10.20.

If an applicant believes the record is in error and gives written notification to the School of the intent to challenge the report, matriculation will be put on hold pending the outcome of the challenge. Should the applicant fail to notify the School of the intent to challenge or the record is determined to be accurate at the conclusion of a vendor challenge by an applicant; the admission offer will be withdrawn.

DRUG SCREENING

Drug screenings may be required if requested by the clinical institution site. If a student is requested to complete a required drug screening, this request must be completed within three days of receipt of notification. All results are confidential and are managed by the Office of Student Affairs. The cost of all drug screens are the responsibility of the student, including any additional screenings.

ESSENTIAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE SCHOOL OF NURSING

Physical, cognitive, psychomotor, affective and social abilities are required in unique combinations to provide safe and effective nursing care. In order to be admitted and to progress in the nursing program, one must possess a functional level of ability to perform the duties required of a nurse. The applicant/student must be able to meet the essential functions with or without reasonable accommodation's throughout the program of learning. Admission, progression and graduation are contingent upon one's ability to demonstrate the essential functions as identified by the school or additional essential functions as may be identified by affiliated clinical agencies. The TTUHSC School of Nursing reserves the right to amend the essential functions as deemed necessary.

Each student/applicant should use the following standard (essential eligibility requirements) for participation in the School of Nursing to assist in determining the necessity of accommodation or modifications.

1. Work in a standing position and do frequent walking for twelve hours.
2. Lift and transfer patients, both adult and children, from a stooped position up to six inches from surface, and push or pull the weight of an adult up to three feet.
3. Lift and transfer patients, both adult and children from a stooped to an upright position to accomplish bed to-chair and chair-to-bed transfers.
4. Use hands, wrists, and arms to physically apply up to ten pounds of pressure in the performance of specific procedures (e.g., to control bleeding, perform CPR).
5. Respond and react immediately to verbal instructions and requests, auditory sounds from monitoring equipment, and perform auditory auscultation of patients. Abilities to monitor and assess heath needs therefore must be able to hear monitor alarms, emergency signals, all auscultatory sounds, and cries for help.
6. Be able to move freely and physically maneuver in small spaces. Possess sufficient visual acuity to perform close and distant visual activities involving objects, persons, and paperwork, as well as the ability to discriminate depth and color perception.
7. Read calibrated scales of one-hundredth increments in not more than a three-inch distance.
8. Possess sufficient fine motor skills and eye-hand coordination to use small instruments and equipment.
9. Discriminate between sharp and dull, hot and cold.
10. Perform mathematical calculations for preparation and administration of medication in a timely manner.
11. Communicate effectively, both orally and in writing, using appropriate grammar, spelling, vocabulary and word usage.
12. Comprehend verbal and written directions and make appropriate notations.
13. Access patient/client information electronically and document care provided.
14. Develop the ability to make appropriate and timely decision under stressful situations.
15. Demonstrate sufficient endurance to complete a twelve hour clinical and/or simulation laboratory experience.

TTUHSC OP 10.15 complies with the American with Disabilities Act (ADA), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and state and local requirements regarding students with disabilities. Under these laws, no otherwise qualified and competitive individual with a disability shall be denied access to or participation in services, programs and activities of TTUHSC solely on the basis of the disability. For additional information please see www.ttuhsc.edu/studentservices/ada/.

GENERAL EDUCATION COMPETENCIES
At Texas Tech University Health Sciences

Center, we expect students to enter the institution with a foundation in certain basic intellectual competencies. These include critical thinking skills, communication skills, empirical/quantitative skills, teamwork, personal responsibility, and social responsibility. Through our undergraduate programs, we seek to build upon the existing foundation in order to enhance these basic competencies. TTUHSC uses a variety of methods to measure student progress in developing the desired competencies, including the ETS-Proficiency Profile. We will use the results from this instrument to identify the strengths and weaknesses of different student sub-groups. The results will be used to make ongoing improvements to our undergraduate degree programs.

GOVERNMENT-ISSUED IDENTIFICATION

Government-issued identification (e.g., driver's license, identification card, pass port) is required for admission and matriculation through completion of the School of Nursing degree program. There is no additional charge for review and verification of student government-issued identification. See SON OP 60.078.

IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS

Students are expected to maintain a general state of good health. Failure to maintain documentation of immunization requirements in the appropriate departmental office can result in exclusion from clinical practice and a hold being placed on school records. The below information must be on file for a complete immunization record while enrolled in the School of Nursing.

Students should contact the Immunization Coordinator in the Office of Institutional Health/TTUHSC Infection Control for the most up-to-date information on obtaining immunizations by calling (806) 743-2264.

IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS	
Vaccine	**When Required**
Hepatitis B series (Hep B)	At the beginning of the initial semester of enrollment to be completed within 6 months, or a titer showing immunity is required.
Measles, Mumps, Rubella vaccine/titer (MMR)	At the beginning of the initial semester of enrollment, with doses of vaccine or titers showing immunity are required. (Note: Women who need MMR must make an appointment with a health professional to verify pregnancy status before receiving MMR.)
Meningococcal (MCV)	At the beginning of the initial semester of enrollment. Adults 22 years of age or younger within the last five years.
Tuberculosis (TB)	At the beginning of the initial semester of enrollment and annually thereafter. If you have not had a TB test within the last 12 months you must have a 2 step skin test with a minimum of 7 days between the 2 readings.
Tetanus/Diphtheria (Td)	At the beginning of the initial semester of enrollment. (Booster required every 10 years.)
Tetanus, Diphtheria and Acellular Pertussins (Tdap)	At the beginning of the initial semester of enrollment. (Adult - one time dose)
Influenza (Flu)	Required during flu season annually.
Varicella (Chicken Pox)	At the beginning of the initial semester of enrollment – two (2) doses of vaccine or titer showing immunity are required. (TTUHSC does not accept history of the disease)

Keep personal immunization records in a safe place; immunization records are required for all healthcare workers employed in the healthcare industry. All copies of Personal Immunization Records provided to the School of Nursing become the property of the School of Nursing. Never supply the School of Nursing with original documents. There may be a fee charged to receive a copy of the immunization records from School of Nursing files.

Other specialty-related immunizations or testing may be recommended to a student or may be required by a clinical agency. All students are expected to personally maintain immunization requirements; this maintenance should be documented in the appropriate departmental office for every semester the student is enrolled at TTUHSC – **NO notification will be sent.**

NCLEX-RN EXAMINATION ELIGIBILITY

The Texas Board of Nursing (BON) has identified certain circumstances that may render a potential candidate ineligible for licensure as a registered nurse in the State of Texas. If there is a potential to be denied licensure, students should complete the Petition of Declaratory Order during the first semester of nursing school.

The Petition for Declaratory Order (http://www. bon.texas.gov/forms_declaratory_order.asp) is a formal disclosure to the BON of an outstanding eligibility issue that may prevent an applicant from taking the NCLEX examination. The Declaratory Order permits the BON to make decisions regarding a petitioner's eligibility for licensure *prior to entering or completing a nursing program*. The petition should be completed as soon as possible. The review process can take a minimum of **three (3) months** but could be longer depending on the issue and volume of applications. Students who have obtained a Declaratory Order Petition must notify and inform the Traditional or Non-Traditional Undergraduate Associate Dean/Department Chair of the outcome of the petition. If a student answers yes to one of the following questions,

a Petition for Declaratory Order must be completed.

For any criminal offense, including those pending appeal, have you:
- Been convicted of a misdemeanor?
- Been convicted of a felony?
- Pled nolo contendere, no contest, or guilty?
- Received deferred adjudication?
- Been placed on community supervision or court-ordered probation, whether or not adjudicated guilty?
- Been sentenced to serve jail or prison time? court-ordered confinement?
- Been granted pre-trial diversion?
- Been arrested or have any pending criminal charges?
- Been cited or charged with any violation of the law?
- Been subject of a court-martial; Article 15 violation; or received any form of military judgment/ punishment/action?

(You may only exclude Class C misdemeanor traffic violations.)
- Are you currently the target or subject of a grand jury or governmental agency investigation?
- Has any licensing authority refused to issue you a license or ever revoked, annulled, cancelled, accepted surrender of, suspended, placed on probation, refused to renew a license, certificate or multi-state privilege held by you now or previously, or ever fined, censured, reprimanded or otherwise disciplined you?
- Within the past five (5) years, have you been addicted to and/or treated for the use of alcohol or any other drug?
- Within the past five (5) years have you been diagnosed with, treated, or hospitalized for schizophrenia and/or psychotic disorders, bipolar disorder, paranoid personality disorder, antisocial personality disorder, or borderline personality disorder?

*Pursuant to Occupations Code §301.207, information regarding a person's diagnosis or treatment for a physical condition, mental condition, or chemical dependency is confidential to the same extent the information collected as part of an investigation is confidential under the Occupations Code §301.466. You may indicate "NO" if you have completed and/ or are in compliance with Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses (TPAPN) for substance abuse or mental illness.

NOTE: Expunged and Sealed Offenses:
While expunged or sealed offenses, arrests, tickets, or citations need not be disclosed, you are responsible for ensuring the offense, arrest, ticket or citation has, in fact, been expunged or sealed. Submission of a copy of the Court Order expunging or sealing the record in question to the Texas Board of Nursing is recommended. Failure to reveal an offense, arrest, ticket, or citation that is not in fact expunged or sealed, will at a minimum, subject your license to a disciplinary fine. Non-disclosure of relevant offenses raises questions related to truthfulness and character.

NOTE: Orders of Non-Disclosure:
Pursuant to Texas Government Code § 552.142(b), if you have criminal matters subject to an order of non-disclosure, you are not required to reveal those criminal matters on the declaratory order form. However, a criminal matter subject to an order of non-disclosure may become a character and fitness issue. Pursuant to other sections of the Government Code Chapter 411, the Texas Board of Nursing is entitled to access criminal history record information subject to an order of non-disclosure, even if you properly did not reveal the matter, the Board may require you to provide information about any conduct that raises issues of character.

Statues and Rules governing the Petition for Declaratory Order may be found in the Texas Occupations Code §§ 301.257, 301.452-304.454 (Nursing Practice Act), and in the Board Rules

and Regulations relating to Nurse Education, Licensure and Practice, Texas Administrative Code (TAC) Title 22 Examining Boards §§ 213.27-30 and §§ 217.11-12. These statutes and rules can be located on the BON's website www.bon.state.tx.us.

The Nurse Practice Act (http://www.bon.texas.gov/nursinglaw/npa.html) was amended during the 2005 Texas legislative session, adding Texas Occupations Code § 301.4535, to authorize the Board of Nursing to deny or revoke licensure to an individual for certain criminal offenses. Under the provision, the BON shall refuse or withdraw a license if the person has been convicted of an identified offense or has noted on his or her criminal record a plea of guilty or nolo contendere. The Texas Board of Nursing may consider eligibility for licensure of an applicant, after the fifth anniversary of the successful completion of and dismissal from probation or parole. The criminal offenses barring licensure, as defined by Texas Penal Code, include the following: murder; capital murder; reckless manslaughter; kidnapping, unlawful restraint, or unlawful transport of a person for payment and punishable as a felony; sexual assault; aggravated sexual assault; indecency with a child, an elderly or disabled person; perpetrator of family violence, an agreement to abduct a child; the sale or purchase of a child; robbery; aggravated robbery; an offense that requires the individual to register as a sexual offender; and convections for similar crimes in a military tribunal.

Student Information

Activities, Athletics, Entertainment, and Recreation

As a member of the National Collegiate Athletic Association and the Big 12 Conference, Texas Tech provides intercollegiate programs for men and women. As part of the Texas Tech University (TTU) System, TTUHSC students participate in football, volleyball, basketball, baseball/softball, soccer, track and field, golf and tennis with other members of the conference.

The Lubbock campus of Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center includes the F. Marie Hall Synergistic Center providing students easy access to recreational and entertainment facilities. The TTUHSC Lubbock campus is located in close proximity to the TTU campus. The Robert H. Ewalt Student Recreational Center and Student Union Building, located on the TTU's Lubbock campus are two of the most popular buildings on campus for out-of-class student activities.

For information about student organizations, fraternities, or sororities you may contact the TTUHSC Student Services office at (806) 743-2300 or online at https://www.ttuhsc.edu/student-services/organizations/default.aspx.

For information about the TTU recreational center contact the TTU Department of Recreational Sports online at http://www.depts.ttu.edu/recsports/.

Awards

The School of Nursing participates in and offers awards including:
- Excellence In Nursing – Undergraduate and Graduate students are eligible
- SON Dean's Leadership Excellence Award

Computer Requirements

Students spend a considerable amount of time utilizing resources online and must own a computer with broadband (high speed) internet to succeed in the chosen area of study. Daily computer access is expected of all students.

NOTE:
- The Traditional BSN Undergraduate Program requires admitted students to own a laptop and a mobile device (iOS or Android). Students are required to bring their laptop to participate in classroom learning activities and testing. A mobile device capable of using specific nursing apps is required.
- The Accelerated BSN Program requires admitted students to own a computer (preferably a laptop) and a mobile device (iOS or Android). A compatible mobile device capable of using specific nursing apps is required. Students are also required to have a webcam and microphone.
- The RN to BSN Program requires admitted students to have webcam capabilities for making videos of presentations, clinical activities, and for online proctoring of exams and quizzes.

- The MSN and DNP Programs highly recommend students bring a laptop to participate in classroom learning activities.

Tablet devices can be used to access some course content but will not substitute the need for a computer. Go to https://www.ttuhsc.edu/nursing/help/system-requirements.aspx for specific minimum computer system requirements.

Technical Skills
Students are expected to possess basic skills in both the use of a computer and to function independently in the use of Microsoft Office. To assess skill level go to "Is Online Learning for You?" at http://nursing.ttuhsc.edu/skills/. If a student cannot function independently, the applicable Associate Dean/Department Chair reserves the right to place the student on an academic leave of absence until the student can demonstrate competence to learn, draft, and submit work independently. See www.ttuhsc.edu/son/help/system-requirements.aspx for specific minimum computer system requirements.

Employment
The decision to work while enrolled as a student in the School of Nursing rests with the individual student; the school assumes no responsibility for student employment. Students should check with their enrolled program to determine if employment is discouraged. A student employed in a healthcare agency has the responsibility, personally and professionally, to accept and engage in only activities falling within the position description for which the student is qualified and do not conflict with legal and accreditation expectations.

Health Services
Medical services for TTUHSC students are available at the Abilene, Amarillo, Dallas, Lubbock, and Permian Basin, campuses. Refer to the *TTUHSC Institutional Student Handbook* online at www.ttuhsc.edu/studentservices/.

Health Insurance
Students are required by TTUHSC to pay a Medical Service Fee each semester. With this fee, access to healthcare is available at no charge for minimal or limited minor problems. Access to healthcare is through a TTUHSC clinic or a regional contracted provider (when available) for distance students. This fee is only waived for distance students.

TTUHSC and the School of Nursing **strongly recommend** each student maintain health insurance to cover major medical, emergency care, specialty care, and pharmacy services. Students should note many of the facilities where students receive clinical training **require** each student to be covered by health insurance. Hospital or clinic personnel may ask for proof of coverage at any time. Students may be denied access to clinical experience, at the discretion of the facility, if not covered by health insurance.

TTUHSC provides students the opportunity to purchase health insurance. Students may contact the TTUHSC Office of Student Services, Room 2C400 (743-2300) for more information. The TTUHSC Office of Student Services can provide information on several insurance resources for students or visit www.ttuhsc.edu/studentservices/studenthealth.aspx for further information.

Housing
Although students of the School of Nursing have access to TTU on-campus housing, it is not mandatory. For more information on housing, contact the TTU Student Housing Office at (806) 742-2661.

Interprofessional Practice and Education (IPE) Core Curriculum
All TTUHSC students, regardless of school affiliation, are required to complete the IPE core curriculum prior to graduation. The IPE core curriculum is composed of two components including successful completion of a non-credit online course (>70% accuracy on the knowledge

post-test) and successful participation in at least one registered IPE learning activity. Failure to complete the IPE core curriculum will result in delayed graduation. Students should consult their academic/program advisor and/or school catalog for additional information.

Simulation

The simulation centers located at the various campuses provide unique learning environments. These realistic environments support experiential learning activities promoting the development and maintenance of intra-professional and interprofessional competencies. Faculty and students from the School of Nursing, School of Medicine, School of Health Professions, School of Pharmacy, and Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences are engaged in simulation-based activities supported by these centers.

TTUHSC Libraries of the Health Sciences

The [TTUHSC Libraries of the Health Sciences](#) provide facilities and learning/information resources with physical sites in Lubbock, Amarillo, and Odessa. The TTUHSC Library system collections presently contain more than 275,338 bound volumes and over 80,504 electronic books. The system has 209 print journal subscriptions and approximately 22,002 electronic journals available at all TTUHSC sites. The libraries feature quiet and group study carrels and rooms, anatomy models, seven 3D printers (one printer in Odessa and six printers in Lubbock), computer labs, scanners, interlibrary loan and reference services, and Internet access. The online Ask A Librarian service (http://ttuhsc.libanswers.com/ask) allows students to email, text, or chat with a reference librarian for article and searching assistance. Step-by-step online guides to library services and resources are available at http://ttuhsc.libguides.com.

The TTUHSC Libraries provide on and off-campus electronic access to more than 579 databases including but not limited to: MEDLINE, PubMed, CINAHL Plus with FullText, Nursing Reference Center, Anatomy.tv, Health and Psychosocial Instruments, LEXICOMP, MICROMEDEX, PsycINFO, EXAM MASTER online (NCLEXRN), Scopus, ERIC, OVID, Cochrane Databases, ClinicalKey as well as general and academic TexShare databases. Bibliographic tools such as RefWorks and Endnote, full-text electronic journals, and a full array of electronic books are also accessible through the Libraries' homepage: http://www.ttuhsc.edu/libraries/ via the TTUHSC e-Raider account. To meet the needs of all TTUHSC users including distance education, the TTUHSC Libraries provides online forms for ILL requests, search assistance, 3D prints, and library cards.

- Preston Smith Library of the Health Sciences in Lubbock features 28 group study rooms and 17 computers in the Learning Resource Center (LRC). An additional 12 public computers are located throughout the second and third floors along with seating for 362 individuals.
- Harrington Library of the Health Sciences in Amarillo, has two computer areas with 15 stations, 106 seats and 4 study rooms.
- Library of the Health Sciences in Odessa, has 71 study seats, 3 study rooms and 1 computer classroom with 10 desktop stations and 4 laptop stations.

Textbooks

Courses use information from various mediums, including textbooks. Students may have to purchase or rent specific textbooks. Each semester, the required and optional texts are listed for each course on the following website http://nursing.ttuhsc.edu/textbooks/. Generally students may purchase or rent textbooks through a vendor of the student's choice, though some custom printed texts maybe available only through the college bookstore which will be noted on the website.

STUDENT SERVICES

TTUHSC Student Services is an institutional centralized information office providing an array

of student support services. Student Services collaborates with the school's student affairs offices to offer assistance to aid in the success of TTUHSC students. For more information, please visit their website: http://www.ttuhsc.edu/studentservices/.

Graduation

Students planning to graduate **MUST** complete a *Graduation Application* found here. Students should create a "Diploma" address in WebRaider to ensure the diploma will be mailed to the proper address. The TTUHSC Student Services office uses the diploma address to mail the diploma only if the diploma is not picked up at commencement.

Students must be enrolled at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center and registered in the School of Nursing for a minimum of one (1) credit hour in the term of graduation.

COUNSELING SERVICES

As in all professional health fields, if stress is not dealt with effectively, it can interfere with optimal academic performance. For a student experiencing excessive stress, the SON highly recommends self-referral for counseling. The following are the counseling options available for all School of Nursing students.

Program of Assistance for Students (PAS) is a professional, confidential, no cost counseling service for students and family members living in their households. Five sessions (per household) per academic year are available from licensed counselors who can provide assistance for a variety of problems related to daily living, including: family and relationship problems, depression, alcohol and drug abuse, anxiety, excessive stress, and other problems. No information is released to anyone in the SON and use of the program does not become part of a student's record. For additional information visit https://www.ttuhsc.edu/student-services/mental.aspx.

- **Abilene students** have two options for counseling services: Life Renovations (325) 672-7055.

- **Amarillo students** should contact the Professional Counseling Center at (806) 356-0404.

- **Austin students** should contact the Samaritan Center for Counseling at (512) 451-7337, then "0".

- **Dallas students** should contact the Pastoral Counseling Center at (214) 526-4525.

- **Lubbock students** have two options for counseling services: the Program of Assistance for Students (PAS)or the Student Counseling Center (SCC). For information for PAS, visit https://www.ttuhsc.edu/student-services/mental.aspx or contact (806) 743-1327 or 1-800-327-0328. For information on the SCC go to the website http://www.depts.ttu.edu/scc/.

- **Permian Basin students** should contact the Samaritan Counseling Center of West Texas, (432) 563-4144.

- **San Antonio area students** should contact the Institute for Couple and Family Enhancement, (210) 496-0100.

- **Off-campus distance education students** who want to receive counseling services should contact the Lubbock office of the Program of Assistance for Students at 1-800-327-0328 or (806) 743-1327 to inquire about the availability of area counseling services.

A 24-hour crisis/help line is available to all SON students and members of their household through the Program of Assistance for Students at 1-800-327-0328.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT

Sexual Harassment is prohibited under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, and Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972. SEXUAL HARASSMENT WILL NOT BE TOLERATED.

The School of Nursing considers sexual harassment in all forms to be a serious offense subject to a range of actions up to and including suspension or dismissal. Sexual harassment is a violation of TTUHSC OP 51.02 and OP 51.03. Refer to the TTUHSC Institutional Student Handbook and the Title IX website located at http://www.ttuhsc.edu/title-ix/. Sexual harassment education is required for all students and is completed at the time of orientation. Contact the appropriate departmental office for further educational information and opportunities.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT APPLICATION POLICY

International applicants must demonstrate adequate proficiency in the English language before they can be considered for admission. All international applicants are required to take the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) and have an official score report sent directly to the University from Educational Testing Service (ETS). Because all educational programs in the School rely heavily or totally on computer and internet supported learning material, only the TOEFL *iBT* Test is accepted for purposes of making admission decisions.

- **TOEFL *iBT* minimum recognized scores:** Applicants must have a minimum score of 20.76 on all sections: (reading, listening, speaking, and writing) with a minimum total score of 83 to be considered for admission.

Applicants who are citizens of countries exempt from English proficiency requirement (considered to have English as the predominant language) include: Australia, Canada (except the Province of Quebec), Commonwealth Caribbean countries (Anguilla, Antigua, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, British Virgin Islands, Bermuda, Cayman Islands, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Montserrat, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Trinidad and Tobago, and Turks and Caicos Islands), Republic of Ireland, Liberia, New Zealand, United Kingdom (England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, Wales), and the United States.

Applicants holding degrees from U.S. colleges and/or universities or universities in English proficiency-exempt countries are not required to submit TOEFL scores. The TOEFL requirement may be waived by the School if the student has graduated from a U.S. high school based upon SAT or ACT scores.

Information concerning the TOEFL may be obtained from Educational Testing Service, P. O. Box 899, Princeton, New Jersey 08540, U.S., or their website – www.toefl.org.

- **Transcripts**: International applicants must provide academic records in the original language with certified English translation and United States equivalency.

ORGANIZATIONS

Student Service on Advisory Councils and Councils/Forums for Undergraduate and Graduate Programs

For purposes of promoting the TTUHSC School of Nursing, advisory bodies exist to maintain open communication between students and administration/faculty/staff:
- Undergraduate Department Advisory Council (UDAC)
- Non-Traditional Electronic Advisory Forums
- Department Chairs' Advisory Council for the MSN Program
- DNP Student Advisory Council.

Students also have opportunities to serve as Student Representatives on School of Nursing Councils. Through service on the Student Advisory Councils and the School of Nursing

Councils, student representatives provide feedback to the faculty and administration on ways to improve the educational experience while enrolled in the School of Nursing. Student representatives may volunteer or are selected by the appropriate Associate Dean/Department Chair to serve on the Student Advisory Councils and School of Nursing Councils. Students are expected to represent fellow students by bringing forth issues of importance to be addressed. Associate Deans/Department Chairs reserve the right to invite faculty or staff as appropriate to address student concerns.

PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES

- Iota Mu Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau, the International Nursing Honor Society
  Membership is by invitation and is based on outstanding scholarly activities.

- Phi Kappa Phi
  Membership is by invitation to top performing juniors, seniors, and graduate students.

- Golden Key
  Membership is by invitation to the top 15% of juniors, seniors, and graduate students.

- Student Government Association (SGA)
  The Student Government Association is recognized as the governing student body at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center with representatives from the School of Health Professions, Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, School of Medicine, School of Nursing and School of Pharmacy. SGA Representatives assist in the promotion of student affairs and activities affecting all students throughout TTUHSC and encourage communication between the schools. Representatives are elected from the undergraduate and graduate programs. For more information regarding the Student Government Association, visit the Student Government Association's Webpage at http://student.ttuhsc.edu/sga/.

- Texas Nursing Students' Association
  The Texas Nursing Students' Association grants membership to any student in an Associate Degree, Diploma, Baccalaureate, generic Masters, generic Doctoral program preparing students for RN licensure, as well as RNs in a BSN completion program. This award winning group is highly active at school, state, and national levels. For more information, please visit http://www.tnsa.org/.

- SALUTE: Veterans National Honor Society
  SALUTE is the first national honor society established for student veterans and military in 2-year and 4-year institutions of higher education. One unique element of our honor society includes the 4 tier system which is designed to encourage student veterans to strive to improve their GPAs and advance to higher tier levels in the honor society during their academic careers.

VETERANS and MILITARY ADVISING

All military affiliated students and their families in need of services are required to self-identify, particularly if using VA or Hazlewood benefits. Contact Sara Henly in the Office of Student Services, sara.henly@ttuhsc.edu or (806) 743-7549. Or visit the TTUHSC Veterans and Military website for information, instructions and forms. http://www.ttuhsc.edu/student-services/veterans-military/.

Tuition & Assistance

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Immediately upon acceptance of an offer of admission, the student pays a non-refundable $175 placement guarantee/orienation fee. Failure to pay the fee results in forfeiture of the offer of admission.

To enable the student to approximate expenses, the following table provides an estimated average cost per semester. This information is provided by the TTUHSC Student Business Services office. These estimates are based on the AY 2018-2019 (Fall, Spring, Summer) school year.

Please be aware the figures are **only** estimates. Students may also go online to the Student Business Services website to see updates to tuition at any time. http://www.fiscal.ttuhsc.edu/studentbusserv/.

An installment plan, available for fall and spring terms only, charges an Installment Option Fee each semester to students utilizing the installment payment plan. No installment option is available for the summer semester due to the shortened semester length. Tuition is paid to TTUHSC. Further questions regarding tuition and fees should be directed to the TTUHSC Student Business Services Office at (806)743-7867.

Estimated Tuition and Fees Per Semester - AY 2018-2019

	Traditional BSN Program Estimated 15 Semester Credit Hours		RN to BSN Program Estimated 15 Semester Credit Hours		Accelerated BSN Program Estimated 20 Semester Credit Hours		Graduate Program Estimated 9 Semester Credit Hours	
	Resident	Non Resident	Resident	Non Resident	Resident	Non Resident	Resident	Non Resident
Tuition	$ 3,000	$ 9,225	$ 3,000	$ 9,225	$ 4,000	$ 12,300	$ 2,250	$ 5,985
Fees	$ 2,262	$ 2,262	$ 2,047	$ 2,047	$ 4,552	$ 4,552	$ 1,861	$ 1,861
Books/Supplies	$ 750	$ 750	$ 750	$ 750	$ 1,000	$ 1,000	$ 450	$ 450
Housing/Food	$ 5,200	$ 5,200	$ 5,525	$ 5,525	$ 5,200	$ 5,200	$ 5,688	$ 5,688
Transportation	$ 2,000	$ 2,000	$ 2,125	$ 2,125	$ 2,000	$ 2,000	$ 2,000	$ 2,000
Personal/Misc.	$ 3,176	$ 3,176	$ 3,375	$ 3,375	$ 3,176	$ 3,176	$ 3,176	$ 3,176
TOTAL	$ 16,388	$ 22,613	$ 16,822	$ 23,047	$ 19,928	$ 23,921	$ 15,425	$ 19,160

Refund Policies for Tuition and Fees
Information concerning payments and refunds can be obtained from the TTUHSC Student Business Services Office website at http://www.fiscal.ttuhsc.edu/studentbusserv/ or call (806) 743-7867. Fax: (806) 743-7873.

Tuition for Repeated or Excessive Undergraduate Hours
The Texas Education Code – Section 54.014 states: "An institution of higher education may charge a resident undergraduate student tuition at a higher rate than the rate charged to other resident undergraduate students (not to exceed the rate charged to nonresident undergraduate students) **IF**: before the semester or other academic session begins, the student has previously **attempted** a number of semester credit hours for courses taken at any institution of higher education while classified as a resident student for tuition purposes that exceeds by at least 30 hours the number of semester credit hours required for completion of the degree program in which the student is enrolled. For purposes of this subsection, an undergraduate student who is not enrolled in a degree program is considered to be enrolled in a degree program or programs requiring a minimum of 120 semester credit hours, including minors and double majors, and for completion of any certificate or other special program in which the student is also enrolled, including a program with a study-abroad component. An institution of higher education that charges students tuition at a higher rate under this subsection may adopt a policy under which the institution exempts from the payment of that higher rate a student that is subject to the payment of the higher rate solely as a result of hardship as determined by the institution under the policy."

Students who were enrolled as an undergraduate student in any institution of higher education prior to Fall 1999 are exempt from this rule. Also, students enrolled as undergraduate students prior to Fall 2006 may not be charged a higher rate of tuition until the number of semester hours previously attempted exceeds the number of hours required for the student's degree program by 45 hours.

Financial Aid
The TTUHSC Financial Aid Office provides grants and loans. Students can find information by calling (806) 743-3025, emailing financial.aid@ttuhsc.edu, or accessing https://www.ttuhsc.edu/financial-aid/. All students interested in receiving grants, loans, and scholarships must have a completed Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) on file with the TTUHSC Financial Aid Office. Students can complete the FAFSA on the FAFSA website at www.fafsa.ed.gov.

Financial aid awards letters to other colleges and universities including TTU are not transferable to TTUHSC. Separate financial aid applications are required for TTU and TTUHSC. Contact the TTUHSC Financial Aid Office during the School of Nursing application process at (806) 743-3025.

SCHOLARSHIPS
School of Nursing students are eligible for general scholarships and loans administered by the Financial Aid Office, Student Services Office, and Student Government Association. Scholarship eligibility is based upon the criteria as established by each donor and the TTUHSC School of Nursing. For further information regarding scholarships, visit https://www.ttuhsc.edu/nursing/scholarships/ or https://www.ttuhsc.edu/financial-aid/scholarships.aspx or contact: School of Nursing Scholarship Office at sonscholarships@ttuhsc.edu or call (806) 743-1543.

For information regarding grants, loans, and policies, please visit: TTUHSC Financial Aid Office online at https://www.ttuhsc.edu/financial-aid/ or contact via email: financial.aid@ttuhsc.edu or call (806) 743-3025.
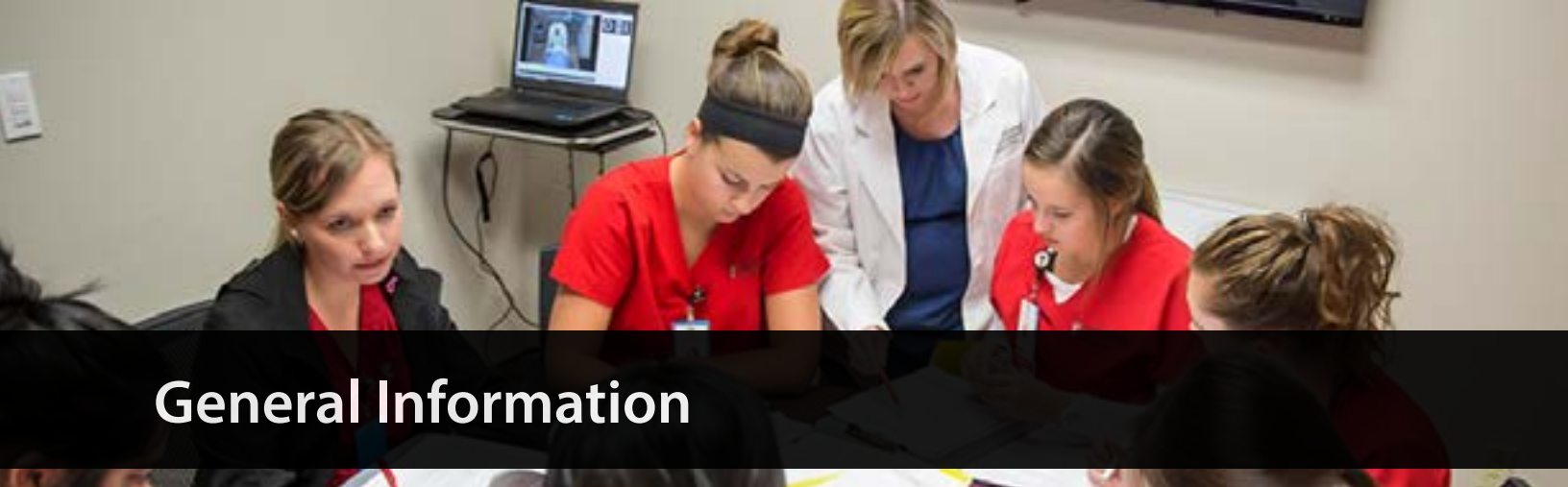
Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)
([TTUHSC OP 77.14](#))
Students seeking accommodations on the basis of disability must register with the office of TTUHSC Student Services at https://www.ttuhsc.edu/student-services/. The ADA Compliance Officer for Students will notify the appropriate School of Nursing Department Chair of the student's need for accommodations. Review the TTUHSC ADA policy located on the TTUHSC Student Services website. For further information, see http://www.ttuhsc.edu/student-services/ada/default.aspx.

Confidentiality/Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA)
([TTUHSC OP 52.09](#) & [SON OP 10.050](#))
The School of Nursing is dedicated to ensuring each student is current in issues related to nursing practice and research. One such regulation includes the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA).

- Each student is required to provide proof of education in HIPAA training.
- The training requirements vary by program; the student receives information regarding HIPAA training as part of new student orientation and is asked to sign a Confidentiality Agreement prior to the beginning of the initial semester of enrollment.
- Proof of training is kept electronically and only accessible to the School of Nursing Student Affairs Office and the TTUHSC Privacy Officer.
- Those who cannot show proof are not allowed to attend clinical.
- Release of confidential information (including verbal communications, written communications or electronic communications with or about patients or involving patient health information to anyone who does not need the information for treatment, payment or health care operation) is a cause for dismissal from the School.
- Certificates of compliance are not transferable from another institution because HIPAA certification is institution specific. Thus, all students must take the TTUHSC HIPAA training and provide evidence of compliance certification.

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)
The [Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act](#) of 1974 ("FERPA") (20 U.S.C.A. §1232g; 34 CFR Part 99) affords certain rights to students concerning their educational records. FERPA grants students the right to inspect and review their educational records (with exceptions), to request their records be amended, to have limited control over the disclosure of information contained in their records, and to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures of the University to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The TTUHSC Institutional Student Handbook shall serve as the annual notification that must be provided to students under FERPA, 34 C.F.F. 99.7, unless individual TTUHSC schools annually notify their students of FERPA rights otherwise.

See [TTUHSC OP 77.13](#) for additional information regarding student education records.

Tobacco Free Environment

TTUHSC is committed to the health of students, patients, faculty, staff, and the public in general. As an institution whose mission is to improve the health of people by providing high quality educational opportunities to students and health care professionals, advancing knowledge through scholarship and research, and providing patient care and service. TTUHSC campuses both indoors and outdoors remain tobacco free. Violations will be treated seriously and violators will be subject to disciplinary action as prescribed by existing operating and Board of Regents policies. Refer to the [TTUHSC OP 10.19](#) and [TTUHSC Institutional Student Handbook](#), Part I, B Tobacco Free Environment.

State Privacy Policies (§[559.003](#))

When TTUHSC "collects information about an individual by means of a form that the individual completes and files with the governmental body in either a paper format or an electronic format", the paper forms or the Internet site used in connection with the electronic form must state:

- With few exceptions, the individual is entitled on request to be informed about the information that the state governmental body collects about the individual;
- The individual is entitled to receive and review the information;
- The individual is entitled to have the state governmental body correct information about the individual that is incorrect.

If TTUHSC collects information about a website user on its Internet site, including the identity and computer network location, TTUHSC must post what types of information collected about the website user on the Internet site. Finally, TTUHSC must establish a reasonable procedure to correct information about an individual.

Participation in Assessments - Student Feedback

The School of Nursing provides several opportunities for student feedback regarding the effectiveness of educational programs and services provided for students. Both formal and informal feedback is solicited. Satisfaction and feedback are solicited through student membership on School of Nursing Councils, focus groups, and completion of satisfaction assessment tools. Individuals or groups of students may provide unsolicited feedback to faculty and administrators at any time in person, via phone, and via email messages.

Completion of the following student satisfaction assessment tools **ARE MANDATORY**:

- Orientation Satisfaction Assessment tool: Completed during the first semester of enrollment. Students access the assessment via an invitation sent to the TTUHSC email address
- Course Satisfaction Assessment tool: Completed for each course enrolled every semester. Students access the assessment via an invitation sent to the TTUHSC email address
- Satisfaction at Graduation Assessment tool: Completed during the last semester of enrollment. Students access the assessment via an invitation sent to the TTUHSC email address

See [SON OP 10.015](#) Mandatory Student Satisfaction Tool Completion Policy for more information.

Students have an additional opportunity to provide feedback six months after graduation by completing the Alumni Assessment and asking the employer to complete the Employer Assessment. The School of Nursing contacts the student by either emailing the links to the student's non-TTUHSC email address or mails the Alumni and Employer assessments to the permanent address listed with the TTUHSC Registrar's office at the time of graduation. Students should notify the Registrar of changes to permanent address and the non-TTUHSC email information to ensure delivery.

Degree Programs and Options

Page 93

Undergraduate Departments

The Undergraduate Departments consist of the Traditional BSN Undergraduate Department offering the BSN degree through the Traditional BSN Program and the Non-Traditional Undergraduate Department offering the BSN degree through the RN to BSN Program, and Accelerated BSN Program.

Purpose

The purpose of the Undergraduate Departments is to provide educational and experiential learning opportunities in liberal arts, natural and behavioral sciences, humanities, and nursing arts and sciences, for students desiring to practice professional nursing.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon degree program completion, graduates will be able to:

- Provide patient-centered care for individuals, families, and communities.
- Work as an effective member of interprofessional teams to ensure continuous and safe patient care.
- Employ evidence-based practice (EBP) by integrating current research with clinical expertise and patient values to provide optimal patient care.
- Apply quality improvement measures to continually improve health outcomes consistent with current professional knowledge.
- Utilize informatics to enhance patient safety, manage knowledge and information, make decisions, and communicate more effectively.
- Provide safe care to individuals, families, and communities through individual performance and system effectiveness.

Undergraduate Programs

TRADITIONAL BSN PROGRAM

Kathryn Sridaromont, PhD, MSN
Associate Professor, Associate Dean/Department Chair

Ann Hagstrom, MSN, RN, CNE
Program Director of Admissions/Progressions

Amanda Veesart, PhD, RN, CNE
Program Director of Curriculum

Kyle Johnson, PhD, RN, CHSE
Clinical and Simulation Director

Ruth Bargainer, MSN, RN, CNE
Regional Program Director

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Traditional BSN Program is for the student who is not a registered nurse and wants to earn an undergraduate degree (BSN) in nursing. The combination of classroom and hands-on learning using patient simulators and hospital settings provides students the ability to learn skills using the most current technology. Upon completion of prerequisite courses, the BSN degree plan can be completed in four consecutive semesters. The program is offered at our campuses in Abilene, Lubbock and the Permian Basin.

APPLICATION DATES

Fall	Dec. 1 - Feb 1
Spring	June 1 - Aug. 31
Summer	Nov. 15 - Jan. 15

ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

All applicants to the Traditional BSN Program complete an online application as directed on the Traditional BSN Program website. Students must meet the minimum requirements listed below for admission consideration:

Academic Requirements

- Minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0. All grades earned at all schools attended are calculated in the admission grade point average;
- All non-nursing course prerequisites must be completed with a grade of C or better prior to enrollment;
- At time of application submission, applicants must have completed and/or have enrollment verification to support completion of the required non-nursing prerequisite courses. A minimum of 40 credit hours of the required non-nursing prerequisite courses (60 hours total), including completion of at least three of the five required science courses: Chemistry with lab (4 hours), Anatomy & Physiology I (4 hours), Anatomy & Physiology II (4 hours), Microbiology with lab (4 hours), and

Pathophysiology (3 hours);

- Completion of the TEAS (Test of Essential Academic Skills) V (or most current) examination with a minimal proficiency level in all the following areas: Reading, Math, Science, English and Language usage;
- Grades earned in science core courses – Chemistry, Anatomy & Physiology I, Anatomy & Physiology II, Microbiology, and Pathophysiology are required to have a minimal GPA of 2.75. Consideration is given for repetition of science courses; and
- Letter of academic good standing if prior enrollment in nursing program.

Effective Spring 2020 Application Cycle:

- Preference will be given to applicants without dropped and/or repeated courses.
- Proficient level or higher required in all of the following areas: Reading, Math, Science, English and Language Usage;
- Preference will be given to applicants whose TEAS scores are at the exemplary level;
- Score for the TEAS exam older than one year prior to application submission deadline will not be accepted; and
- Students applying can take the TEAS no more than two (2) times per application cycle. If two sets of scores are submitted, the scores will be averaged.
- At time of application submission, applicants must have completed and/or have enrollment verification to support completion of the required non-nursing prerequisite courses. A minimum of 48 credit hours of the required non-nursing prerequisite courses (60 hours total), including completion of at least four of the five science courses: Chemistry with lab (4 hours), Anatomy & Physiology I (4 hours), Anatomy & Physiology II (4 hours), Microbiology with lab (4 hours), and Pathophysiology (3 hours).
- Pathophysiology must be one of the four science courses completed to be eligible to apply.

Non-Academic Admission Considerations

- Prior enrollment at TTU
- Permanent resident of TTUHSC service area
- First generation college student
- Volunteer enrichment/community activities
- Current healthcare work experience
- Military service and/or training
- Based upon fulfillment of all application eligibility requirements as outlined in the School of Nursing Catalog and posted on the BSN website, a determination will be made on an offer of an interview
- Performance in a face to face interview upon invitation

Applicants are reviewed by the Admissions Committee and evaluated individually and holistically, not allowing any single attribute to be the determining attribute in the admission decision. The actual number of students offered admission is dependent upon a variety of attributes, such as financial resources, classroom space, and available clinical experiences.

ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS

NCLEX-RN Examination Eligibility
See NCLEX-RN Examination Eligibility on page 28.

Tuition for Repeated or Excessive Undergraduate Hours
See Tuition for Repeated or Excessive Undergraduate Hours on page 37.

Computer Requirements
See Computer Requirements on page 30.

Criminal Background Checks
See Criminal Background Check Requirements on page 25.

Drug Screening
See Drug Screening Requirements on page 25.

Immunizations
See Immunization Requirements on page 27.

Deferment of Admission
Admission may be deferred from one semester to the next at the discretion of the admissions committee on a case-by-case basis.

Provisional Admission
Provisional admission is not available for the Traditional BSN Program.

Conditional Admission
If the requirements for full admission are not met, conditional admission may be available. The student is required to comply with "conditions" stated in the letter of admission offer prior to the first day of class for the semester the student is applying for. Failing to do so will result in retraction of the offer.

Readmission
Any student who has been dismissed or who withdrew for academic or disciplinary causes or as a result of a Complaint of Misconduct is ineligible for readmission to the Traditional BSN Program.

Transfer Admission
All requests for transfer to TTUHSC School of Nursing from a different School of Nursing must be made no later than two months prior to the first day of the semester in which transfer admission is requested. The minimum cumulative GPA for transfer admission consideration is 3.0. A student seeking transfer completes an online application showing the expected entry point. The criteria considered for transfer are the same as those criteria considered for a new admission. In addition, the transfer student must submit a letter of good standing from the dean or department chair of the School of Nursing previously attended.

Enrollment without Credit/Course Audit
Students who wish to audit a course for no grade must obtain approval from the Associate Dean/Department Chair. Students who audit a course will not be listed on the class roll, and no notation of the audit will be made on the student's transcript. Students who are enrolled for 12 semester credit hours or more may audit a course without paying an additional fee.

PREREQUISITE COURSES and REQUIREMENTS

The prerequisite course requirements listed should be completed with a grade of "C" or higher in each course prior to enrollment in the first nursing course. These requirements as detailed in the following table include a total of 60 semester credit hours and can be taken at any regionally accredited college or university. A maximum of 15 credit hours can be earned via credit by examination.

The prerequisite courses listed in the following table for the Traditional BSN Program also incorporates the 42 hours of the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center Core Curriculum for undergraduate nursing degrees. Please see **Core Curriculum Requirements on page 25** to review the Texas Core Curriculum requirements.

Important Information about Prerequisite Course Requirements
- Pass/Fail grades are not accepted for credit toward degree requirements.
- Applicants may choose to request grades for all non-nursing courses greater than 10 years old not be considered in the GPA for admission. If this option is selected, the credits excluded are not eligible for prerequisite course consideration and must be retaken for credit. The applicant must have at least 34 credit hours within the past 10 years to use this option.
- Grades earned at all schools attended are calculated in the admission grade point average. The quality points and semester credit hours used to calculate the cumulative grade point average for admission to the

School of Nursing are taken from the official transcripts submitted during the application process.

The School of Nursing accepts courses completed via classroom, internet, correspondence, CLEP (College Level Examination Program), or advanced placement examination for which credit with the grade of "C" or higher has been awarded and posted on an official transcript from an accredited college or university when determining completion of prerequisite non-nursing course requirements.

Traditional BSN Program Prerequisite Coursework Table

	HOURS
Pathophysiology (ZOOL3303 or equivalent)	3
Microbiology w/lab (BIOL2420 or BIOL2421)	4
Human Anatomy & Physiology w/lab (BIOL2401)	4
Human Anatomy & Physiology w/lab (BIOL2402)	4
Chemistry w/lab (CHEM1305/1105 or CHEM1406/CHEM1411)	4
Introduction to Nursing as a Profession (HUSC 3221)	2
General Psychology (PSY2301)	3
Life Span Human Development (PSY2314)	3
Statistics (MATH1342, 1442, 2342 or 2442)	3
Science of Nutrition (BIOL1322 or HECO 1322)	3
History of the United States to 1877 (HIST1301)	3
History of the United States since 1887 (HIST1302)	3
American Government Organization (GOVT2305 or POLS 1301)	3
American Public Policy (GOVT2306 or POLS 2302)	3
English Composition I (ENGL1301)	3
English Composition II (ENGL1302)	3
Any Texas core approved course in Creative Arts	3
Any Texas core approved course in Language, Philosophy, or Culture	3
Communication in Nursing (COMS 2320)	3
TOTAL	60

- Course numbers listed are based on the Texas Common Course Numbering System (TCCNS). Check with your academic institution to verify the course number corresponds with the TCCNS number.
- Students must complete 3 credit hours of math to meet core curriculum requirements. Students who take math statistics will simultaneously meet the requirements for the nursing prerequisite and the core curriculum. Students, who take any other statistics course as the nursing prerequisite, must also take an upper level mathematics course in order to meet the core curriculum requirement.
- All courses are considered prerequisite to admission and beginning first semester of nursing course work.

OFFER OF ADMISSION

Offers of admission will be made from the Traditional BSN Admissions Chair approximately eight (8) weeks following the application deadline. Applicants are required to respond to the offer of admission no later than the deadline stated in the letter offering admission by returning a $175 non-refundable placement guarantee/orientation fee, as well as a signed response form accepting the offer. Failure to respond by the deadline results in withdrawal of the offer of admission.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS FOR STUDENTS ADMITTED TO PROGRAM

Graduation Under a Particular Catalog

A student is expected to complete the degree requirements set forth in the School of Nursing *Catalog* in effect at the time the student enters the chosen degree or area of study. Only with the specific approval from the appropriate Associate Dean/Department Chair may a different *Catalog* be selected. Students, in all cases are prohibited from completing the requirements set forth in a catalog more than seven years old. The School of Nursing *Catalog* is published at least biennially and its provisions are applicable during the following academic year (September 1 through August 31).

Maintaining Minimum Academic Requirements

- Maintain a 2.0 GPA for each semester and overall cumulative.
- A minimum grade of "C" required in all degree required (nursing) courses.
- Students receiving a "D", "F" or "WF" in a nursing course are eligible to repeat the course one time only pursuant to recommendation of course faculty.
- Students earning an overall cumulative GPA or a semester GPA less than a 2.0 in the semester of graduation are ineligible for graduation.

Academic Dismissal from the School of Nursing will result from the following circumstances:

- A student earning a "D", "F" or "WF" in two or more nursing courses in one semester is cause for academic dismissal.

- Students earning a "D", "F" or "WF" in a second nursing course, even when students successfully complete the courses in which the previous "D"s, "F"s or "WF"s were earned.
- Earning less than a 2.0 per semester or cumulative GPA for two consecutive semesters.

Comprehensive Examinations

Undergraduate (prelicensure) students must have a passing score on the comprehensive examination administered in NURS 4620 for the Traditional BSN Undergraduate Program. If the student is not successful on the examination, the student is required to meet with the course facilitator(s) to determine next steps in progression.

Residence Credit

The minimum actual residence credit required of each undergraduate student is 30 hours at TTUHSC, including the final 15 hours in nursing courses taken for a grade. The remaining hours may include transfer credit and correspondence course work. Residence credit as used here means credit for work done while enrolled in and attending classes at TTUHSC and should not be confused with "residence" in the State of Texas for tuition purposes.

Semester Credit Hours and Course Loads

The semester credit hour is the unit of measure for credit purposes. Didactic (lecture) hours are measured on a one-to-one basis; clinical hours are measured on a one-to-three basis. Approximately two hours in preparation for each hour of lecture or recitation and an appropriate amount of time for preparation for clinical activity is required. The number of semester credit hours a student may carry (course load) is regulated by the Associate Dean/Department Chair. In determining course load, the Associate Dean/Department Chair takes into account the quality of prior scholastic work performed and the types of courses involved. Permission is needed to enroll in more than 20 semester credit hours.

Traditional BSN students are required to complete 60 hours of prerequisite courses and 60 hours of nursing courses, totaling 120 credit hours.

	Traditional BSN Undergraduate Program
60	Semester Hours from general education prerequisite courses
60	Semester Hours from the Traditional BSN Undergraduate curriculum
120	Total Semester Hours

RECOGNITION OF PREVIOUS NURSING LEARNING

Transfer of Credit

- Applicants requesting admission must submit a letter from each School of Nursing attended from the dean or department chair outlining the student's academic standing.
- Applicants must submit original copies of official college transcripts from all institutions in which the student has enrolled. These transcripts will be reviewed and course work evaluated by the Associate Academic Dean for Education Support Services and Student Affairs and/or Associate Dean/Department Chair. Final determination regarding applicability of completed course work toward degree requirements lies with the Associate Dean/Department Chair.
- Course equivalencies for transfer credit are assessed based upon the catalog course description or the course syllabus and/or notes provided by the student. Generally, courses of equivalent course content completed with the grade of "C" or higher at any accredited educational institution will be accepted for transfer credit toward degree requirements.
- Applicants are encouraged to meet with the School of Nursing Student Affairs Coordinator for the appropriate program to discuss applicability of credit for degree purposes.
- Credit for nursing courses cannot be earned via credit by examination.

A maximum of 35 credits from another school of nursing may be accepted via transfer.

DEGREE PLAN

Degree plans are generally completed by the appropriate Student Affairs Coordinator during new student orientation. The degree plan may be revised by the Program Director of Curriculum based on a student's ability to successfully progress through the curriculum. Course enrollment may be limited based on available resources, including but not limited to, availability of clinical sites within the community. The following degree plan is designed for applicants without a RN license. The sample degree plan provides an overview of a basic course schedule for full time students. All non-nursing courses should be completed prior to taking the first nursing course. When necessary, methods for limiting enrollment will be determined by the Traditional BSN Associate Dean/Department Chair.

KEY:
- Courses are listed in numerical order
- (**F**) Face-to-face
- (**O**) Online
- (**H**) Hybrid (combination of face-to-face and online)
- (**CL**) Concurrent enrollment in a Clinical Section is required
- (**#:#:#**) First # represents the number of credit hours, Second # represents the number of lecture hours per week, Third # represents the number of clinical hours per week
- * Elective Courses are offered at select times as faculty and interest are present
- (**V**) Variable Credit

Sample Degree Plan - Traditional BSN Undergraduate Program

Level 1		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 3604	Core Concepts of Nursing Care, CL	(6:5:3 F)
NURS 3511	Applied Concepts of Pharmacology, CL	(5:4:3 F)
NURS 3322	Health Promotion Across the Lifespan	(3:3:0 F)
NURS 3208	Integrated Learning I, CL	(2:1.5:1.5 F)
	Total Semester Hours	**16**

Level 2		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 3512	Complex Concepts of Nursing Care I, CL	(5:4:3 F)
NURS 3502	Mental & Behavioral Health Nursing, CL	(5:3.5:4.5 F)
NURS 3450	Concepts of Community and Public Health Nursing, CL	(4:3:3 F)
NURS 3102	Integrated Learning II, CL	(1:0:3 F)
	Total Semester Hours	**15**

Level 3		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 4602	Complex Concepts of Nursing Care II with Application to Practice, CL	(6:4:6 F)
NURS 4407	Nursing Care of Families with Children, CL	(4:3:3 F)
NURS 4322	Scholarship for Evidence-based Practice	(3:3:0 F)
NURS 4204	Leadership in Interprofessional Practice	(2:2:0 F)
NURS 4102	Integrated Learning III, CL	(1:0:3 F)
	Total Semester Hours	**16**

Level 4		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 4620	Professional Transitions of Nursing Care, CL	(6:3:9 F)
NURS 4105	Complex Concepts of Nursing Care II: Application to Practice II, CL	(1:0:3 F)
NURS 4103	Nursing Care of Families with Children: Application to Practice, CL	(1:0:3 F)
NURS 4520	Integrated Learning IV: Clinical Immersion, CL	(5:3:6 F)
	Total Semester Hours	**13**

Total Credit Hours	**60**

TRADITIONAL BSN PROGRAM COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Undergraduate courses are delivered via face-to-face, online, or hybrid methodologies.

All pre/co-requisites and any designated conditions/criteria for previous courses apply throughout the curriculum. All general education courses should be completed prior to beginning the nursing curriculum.

KEY:
- Courses are listed in numerical order
- (**F**) Face-to-face
- (**O**) Online
- (**H**) Hybrid (combination of face-to-face and online)
- (**CL**) Concurrent enrollment in a Clinical Section is required
- (**#:#:#**) First # represents the number of credit hours, Second # represents the number of lecture hours per week, Third # represents the number of clinical hours per week
- * Elective Courses are offered at select times as faculty and interest are present
- (**V**) Variable Credit

3000 Level Courses

3030. Independent Study in Nursing*
(V1-6 F or O)
(Prerequisite: Consent of instructor and Traditional BSN Program Associate Dean/Department Chair.) Topic and objectives of study are mutually agreed upon by the student and selected faculty member. Independent study agreement formalizes the plan for study and guides evaluation. Semester hours and course may be repeated as topic and/or objective of study change.

3040. Special Topics in Nursing*
(V1-6 F, O)
(Prerequisite: Consent of instructor and Traditional BSN Program Associate Dean/Department Chair) Designed to focus on subjects of special interest to groups of students. May be repeated for credit as topics vary.

3102. Integrated Learning II (CL)
(1:0:3 F)
(Prerequisites: NURS 3208, NURS 3322, NURS 3511, NURS 3604 . Corequisites: NURS 3450, NURS 3502, NURS 3512.) This course integrates knowledge from complex concepts of medical, surgical, community health, behavioral, and mental health nursing. Students apply this essential integrated knowledge to the mastery of designated nursing skill competencies. Clinical learning for these skills occurs in a simulated learning environment using deliberate practice with various levels of fidelity of simulation and evaluation relies on formative/summative examinations.

3208: Integrated Learning I (CL)
(2:1.5:1.5 F)
(Corequisites: Admission to the School of Nursing, NURS 3322, NURS 3511, NURS 3604) This course integrates knowledge from health assessment, pathophysiology, pharmacological therapy, and health promotion. Students apply this integrated knowledgeto the mastery of designated nursing skill competencies. Clinical learning for these skills occurs in a simulated learning environment; deliberate practice with various levels of fidelity of simulation and evaluation by formative/summative examination will be implemented.

3322. Health Promotion Across the Lifespan
(3:3:0 F)
(Corequisite: Admission to the School of Nursing, NURS 3208, NURS 3511, NURS 3604.) This course provides an introduction to concepts of health promotion and maintenance across the lifespan with a focus on maintenance of functional capacity, physiologic changes, and access to health care. Emphasis will be placed on improving quality of life through routine health

assessment, advocacy, and education for health promotion, risk reduction, and disease prevention across the lifespan.

3450. Concepts of Community and Public Health Nursing (CL)
(4:3:3 F)

(Prerequisites: NURS 3208, NURS 3322, NURS 3511, NURS 3604. Corequisites: NURS 3202, NURS 3502, NURS 3512.) This course emphasizes public health and community nursing concepts essential for professional nursing practice. Focus is on the concepts of community health nursing practice, epidemiology and disease transmission, comprehensive assessment of risk factors and health problems, program planning and intervention, environmental health, collaboration with the interdisciplinary team, and promotion of healthy populations.

3502. Mental & Behavioral Health Nursing (CL)
(5:3.5:4.5 F)

(Prerequisites: NURS 3208, NURS 3322, NURS 3511, NURS 3604. Corequisites: NURS 3102, NURS 3450, NURS 3512.) This course emphasizes the concepts of altered mental health and the pathological processes associated with mental health disorders. The focus is on approaches to promote mental health/optimal function in the care of patients, groups, and families experiencing altered states of mental health utilizing evidence-based standards of care.

3511. Applied Concepts of Pharmacology (CL)
(5:4:3 F)

(Corequisite: Admission to the School of Nursing, NURS 3208, NURS 3322, NURS 3604.) This course introduces principles of pharmacodynamics and pharmacotherapeutics. Classifications of drugs and the use of nursing process for safe medication administration is emphasized. The various components of drug therapy are explored including genetic, life span/ age and cultural implications. Evidence-based practice and legal/ethical standards will guide the use of case studies and simulation of accurate

dosage calculations, medication administration, and methods of documentation.

3512. Complex Concepts of Nursing Care I (CL)
(5:4:3 F)

(Prerequisites: NURS 3208, NURS 3322, NURS 3511, NRUS 3604. Corequisites: NURS 3102, NURS 3450, NURS 3502.) This course emphasizes chronic care nursing concepts essential for professional nursing practice in a variety of settings. Special focus is on the concepts of aging, health promotion, disease prevention, and genetics as well as illness management. Clinical judgment and reasoning and the integration of therapeutic nursing skills will be demonstrated through case study analysis and critical thinking activities according to contextual priorities.

3604. Core Concepts of Nursing Care (CL)
(6:5:3 F)

(Corequisite: Admission to the School of Nursing, NURS 3208, NURS 3322, NURS 3511.) This course is an introduction to nursing foundations for patient safety. Using current evidence, the skills of health assessment, communication, clinical reasoning, and select standards of nursing care, profession role and safe use of select nursing skills are explored. Emphasis is on recognizing shared commonalities and uniqueness of a patient's health such as age, gender, religion, race, ethnicity, culture, lifestyle, socio-economic class and sexual orientation. Performance assessment of skills is required in a laboratory experience.

4000 Level Courses

4102. Integrated Learning III (CL)
(1:0:3 F)

(Prerequisites: NURS 3102, NURS 3208, NURS 3322, NURS 3450, NURS 3502, NURS 3511, NURS 3512, NURS 3604. Corequisites: NURS 4204, NURS 4322, NURS 4407, NURS 4602.) This course integrates knowledge from advanced concepts of medical surgical, leadership and management, scholarship of evidence based

practice and nursing care of families. Students apply this integrated knowledge to the obtainment of designated nursing skill competencies. Clinical learning for these skills occurs in a simulated learning environment; using deliberate practice with various levels of fidelity of simulation with evaluation utilizing formative and summative examinations.

4103. Nursing Care of Families with Children: Application to Practice (CL)
(1:0:3 F)

(Prerequisites: NURS 3102, NURS 3208, NURS 3322, NURS 3450, NURS 3502, NURS 3511, NURS 3512, NURS 3604, NURS 4102, NURS 4204, NURS 4322, NURS 4407, NURS 4602. Corequisites: NURS 4105, NURS 4520, NURS 4620) This clinical laboratory experience provides opportunities to care for children, families, and communities in obstetrical and pediatric settings using evidence-based knowledge from the theory courses.

4105. Complex Concepts of Nursing Care II Application to Practice II (CL)
(1:0:3 F)

(Prerequisites: NURS 3102, NURS 3208, NURS 3322, NURS 3450, NURS 3502, NURS 3511, NURS 3512, NURS 3604, NURS 4102, NURS 4204, NURS 4322, NURS 4407, NURS 4602. Corequisites: NURS 4103, NURS 4520, NURS 4620.) This course provides opportunities for students to synthesize generalist nursing roles of provider, manager of nursing care in clinical and simulated acute care settings. Simulated case studies and weekly clinical experiences will provide the opportunity for students to demonstrate nursing skills appropriate for care of the patient experiencing acute care needs. Evidence based practice will be a major focus as will be safety and quality processes for clinical evaluation.

4203. Complex Concepts of Nursing Care II: Application to Practice II (CL)
(2:0:6 F)

(Prerequisites: NURS 3208, NURS 3212, NURS 3322, NURS 3450, NURS 3502, NURS 3511, NURS 3512, NURS 3604, NURS 4102, NURS 4202, NURS 4322, NURS 4406, NURS 4407, NURS 4319. Corequisites: NURS 4103, NURS 4620) This course provides opportunities for students to synthesize generalist nursing roles of provider, manager of nursing care in clinical and simulated acute care settings. Simulated case studies and weekly clinical experiences will provide the opportunity for students to demonstrate nursing skills appropriate for care of the patient experiencing acute care needs. Evidence-based practice will be a major focus as will be safety and quality processes for clinical evaluation.

4204. Leadership in Interprofessional Practice
(2:2:0 F)

(Prerequisites: NURS 3102, NURS 3208, NURS 3322, NURS 3450, NURS 3502, NURS 3511, NURS 3512, NURS 3604. Corequisites: NURS 4102, NURS 4322, NURS 4407, NURS 4602.) This course surveys the role of the nurse as a leader, a manager and a member of an inter-professional team. The student is introduced to key concepts in systems theory, change theory, management and leadership theory, conflict resolution, quality improvement, and financial concepts. The opportunity to examine staffing and delegation strategies, as well as legal and ethical modalities that impact nursing practice will be included.

4319. Leadership in Interprofessional Practice
(3:3:0 F)

(Prerequisites: NURS 3208, NURS 3212, NURS 3322, NURS 3450, NURS 3502, NURS 3512, NURS 3511, NURS 3604. Corequisites: NURS 4102, NURS 4202, NURS 4322, NURS 4406, NURS 4407.) This course surveys the role of the nurse as a leader, a manager and a member of an interprofessional team. The student is introduced to key concepts in systems theory, change theory, management and leadership theory, conflict resolution, quality improvement, and financial

concepts. The opportunity to examine staffing and delegation strategies, as well as legal and ethical modalities that impact nursing practice will be included.

4322. (Fall 2018) Scholarship for Evidence-based Practice
4322. (Spring 2019) Evidence-based Practice (3:3:0 F)
(Prerequisites: NURS 3102, NURS 3208, NURS 3322, NURS 3450, NURS 3502, NURS 3511, NURS 3512, NURS 3604. Corequisites: NURS 4102, NURS 4204, NURS 4407, NURS 4602.) This course focuses on exploring the theory and methods of evidence-based practice with emphasis on the role in providing quality patient-centered care in the medical/surgical setting. The dialogue of asking and answering of clinical nursing questions through the synthesis of current literature and analysis of clinical practice guidelines is a major emphasis.

4407. Nursing Care of Families with Children (CL)
(4:3:3 F)
(Prerequisites: NURS 3102, NURS 3208, NURS 3322, NURS 3450, NURS, 3502, NURS 3511, NURS 3512, NURS 3604. Corequisites: NURS 4102, NURS 4204, NURS 4322, NURS 4602.) This course emphasizes essential nursing concepts related to the safe delivery of quality nursing care to families with children. The focus is on the childbearing family unit from preconception through birth to care of the child appropriate to age and development. Emphasis is placed upon the nursing role and communication within an interdisciplinary team, patient safety, and evidence-based nursing care.

4520. Integrated Learning IV: Clinical Immersion (CL)
(5:3:6 F)
(Prerequisites: NURS 3102, NURS 3208, NURS 3322, NURS 3450, NURS 3502, NURS 3511, NURS 3512, NURS 3604, NURS 4102, NURS 4204, NURS 4322, NURS 4407, NURS 4602. Corequisites: NURS 4103, NURS 4105, NURS

4620.) This course is designed to focus on subjects of special interest to groups of students. This course provides a clinical immersion experience for the student preparing to transition to practice in the clinical specialty area of the student's choice. Opportunity for integration of knowledge, concepts and skills from all four levels of curriculum will occur.

4602. Complex Concepts of Nursing Care II with Application to Practice (CL)
(6:4:6 F)
(Prerequisites: NURS 3102, NURS 3208, NURS 3322, NURS 3502, NURS 3511, NURS 3512, NURS 3450, NURS 3604. Corequisites: NURS 4102, NURS 4204, NURS 4322, NURS 4407.) This course provides opportunities for students to synthesize generalist nursing roles of provider and manager of care in the clinical and simulated acute care setting. Clinical judgment, reasoning and therapeutic nursing skills necessary in the acute care delivery are demonstrated in the application of evidence-based nursing care through simulated case studies and weekly clinical experiences. Simulated case studies and weekly clinical experiences will provide the opportunity for students to demonstrate nursing skills appropriate for care of the patient experiencing acute care needs.

4620. Professional Transitions of Nursing Care (CL)
(6:3:9 F)
(Prerequisites: NURS 3102, NURS 3208, NURS 3322, NURS 3450, NURS 3502, NURS 3511, NURS 3512, NURS 3604, NURS 4102, NURS 4204, NURS 4322, NURS 4407, NURS 4602, Corequisites: NURS 4103, NURS 4105, NURS 4520.) This course focuses on the role of the professional nurse using evidence-based practice and quality standards to deliver safe holistic care to the culturally diverse complex client and family. Emphasis is on the transition of the student nurse into a professional role which includes their ability to apply concepts related to interprofessional teamwork, informatics and patient-centered care.

RN to BSN PROGRAM

Melinda Mitchell Jones, MSN, JD, RN
Professor, Associate Dean/Department Chair

Darlene Lacy, PhD, RN-C, CNE
RN to BSN Program Director

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The RN to BSN Program offers an opportunity for registered nurses (RNs) with either an associate degree or diploma to be challenged professionally and personally through its innovative online curriculum. It is ideal for RNs who want to advance their careers through practice, leadership, or education. Students can attend full-time and complete the degree in two semesters, or part-time which is three semesters.

Students are admitted three times per year in the fall, spring, or summer semesters. The RN to BSN Admissions and Progressions Committee sets the admission criteria for the RN to BSN Program. Although no single applicant's attribute is used to make an admission decision, a consistent pattern of success based on grade point averages in pre-requisite and nursing coursework as well as the frequency of course withdraws and failures is important.

APPLICATION DATES

Fall	Dec. 15 - Aug. 3
Spring	May 1 - Dec. 14
Summer	Sept. 15 - April 13

ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

All applicants to the RN to BSN Program complete an online application as directed on the RN to BSN Program website. Students must meet the minimum requirements listed below for admission consideration:

Note: International students with F1 and F2 visa status are not eligible to apply to an online program.

Academic Requirements

- Current RN License that is active and in good standing, without any restrictions or stipulations.
- A cumulative GPA is calculated for both prerequisites and nursing courses. Each must meet the minimum cumulative of 2.5. Courses earned must be from an accredited institution.
- All prerequisite courses must be completed with a grade of "C" or better prior to beginning the program.
- Students must have NCLEX results prior to enrollment.
- A Test of English as Foreign Language (TOEFL) is required unless a degree has been earned from an accredited college/university in the U.S.
- All general education requirements (core curriculum) and prerequisites must be documented on official transcripts prior to enrollment in nursing courses.

Non-Academic Admission Considerations

- First generation college student
- Permanent resident of the TTUHSC service area
- Prior enrollment within a Texas Tech University System institution
- Military service
- Multilingual
- Clearing a criminal background check

Academic Admission Criteria Effective Fall 2019

- Current RN License that is active and in good standing, without any restrictions or stipulations. If an early Early Decision student, submission of NCLEX-RN results may be delayed to no later than the end of the first semester of classes.
- Minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher – courses earned must be from an accredited institution.
- Minimum cumulative nursing GPA of 2.5 or higher – courses earned must be from an accredited institution.

- All prerequisite courses must be completed with a grade of "C" or better prior to beginning the program.
- A test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) is required, unless a degree has been earned from an accredited university in the U.S.
- All general education requirements (Core curriculum) and prerequisites must be documented on an official transcript prior to enrollment in nursing courses.
- Consideration of the number of withdraws in prior courses. State law permits students to withdraw from no more than 6 courses while enrolled in another institution of higher education. See Texas Education Code §51.907. Applicants with 7 or more transcripted withdraws will not be eligible for admission consideration regardless of meeting other admission criteria.

Non-Academic Admission Considerations Effective Fall 2019
- Prior enrollment within a TTU System institution
- Permanent resident of TTUHSC service area
- First generation college student
- Multilingual
- Military service and/or training
- Completion and submission of the SON Computer Literacy Score

The Admissions and Progressions Committee sets the admission criteria for the RN to BSN Program. No single applicant attribute is used to make an admission decision. Admission is competitive. The actual number of students offered admission is dependent upon the overall number of qualified applicants as well as institutional, financial, and educational resources.

ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS

Tuition for Repeated or Excessive Undergraduate Hours
See Tuition for Repeated or Excessive Undergraduate Hours on page 37.

Computer Requirements
See Computer Requirements on page 30.

Criminal Background Checks
All applicants who receive offers of admission will be required to consent to a criminal background check. A history of criminal conduct or convictions may result in withdrawal of the admission offer. See Criminal Background Check Requirements on page 25. No student will be allowed to start classes without a cleared criminal background check.

Drug Screening
Drug Screenings may be required if requested by the clinical institution site at the cost of the student. See Drug Screening Requirements on page 25.

Immunizations
See Immunization Requirements on page 27.

Provisional Admission
Provisional admission will only be granted to students graduated from Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) schools with current Early Decision admissions agreements with TTUHSC School of Nursing and who have submitted the Declaration of Intent to seek Early Decision Admission at the start of the ADN program. These designations are noted in the letter of admission, along with the condition for removal of the provision. Provisionally admitted students may take two courses, NURS 4342 Evidence Into Practice and NURS 4233 Art of the Human Experience. Once the student presents evidence of licensure as a registered nurse per admission guidelines, the student will be granted full admission to the RN-BSN Program. If a student is unsuccessful in passing the NCLEX, a leave of absence for one semester will be granted. If the student has not been licensed during the leave of absence, the student will be academically

withdrawn and encouraged to reapply upon passage of the NCLEX.

Conditional Admission

RN to BSN candidates may be offered conditional admission if they have not met the following requirements for full admission:

- Nursing degree completion confirmation (student graduating in current semester and verification is not available until the end of the semester)
- Prerequisite courses have not been completed prior to the deadline for application for admission for the semester to which the student is applying.

The student with conditional admission is required to comply with the conditions stated in the letter of admission offer prior to the first day of class for the semester to which the student has applied. Failing to do so will result in retraction of the offer.

Note: If a student is offered both provisional and conditional admission, the terms of conditional admission govern at the time of the first class day.

Readmission

All requests for readmission must be made no later than two (2) months prior to the first day of the semester in which readmission is requested. The RN to BSN Program Council is responsible for overseeing all requests for readmission via the Admissions and Progressions Committee. A student who left in good standing and seeking readmission shall complete and submit a readmission application showing the expected entry point to the appropriate Student Affairs Coordinator. The Coordinator will notify the chair of the Admissions and Progressions Committee of the request for readmission along with providing the most current transcript, and a summary of the circumstances of the student's withdrawal, if known.

A student who left with a record not in good standing for disciplinary causes must complete and submit a readmission application to the appropriate Student Affairs Coordinator along with a letter explaining the circumstances resulting in the withdrawal/dismissal and the plan to improve or correct performance if offered readmission. The appropriate Student Affairs Coordinator will forward the application, the letter, and any available academic records including the most recent transcript to the chair of the Admissions and Progressions Committee. The Admissions and Progressions Committee review all such requests and may take one of the following actions regarding readmission of a student:

1) eligible and admit,
2) eligible pending space availability in nursing courses and in sequence to date of action in relation to other readmission applicants,
3) not eligible.

The Admissions and Progressions Committee may assign requirements to be met as a condition of enrollment, i.e. readmission on a part-time degree plan.

Transfer Admission

All requests for transfer to TTUHSC School of Nursing from a different School of Nursing must be made no later than two months prior to the first day of the semester in which transfer admission is requested. The minimum cumulative GPA for transfer admission consideration is 3.0. A student seeking transfer completes an online application showing the expected entry point. The criteria considered for transfer are the same as those criteria considered for a new admission. In addition, the transfer student must submit a letter of standing from the dean or department chair of the School of Nursing previously attended. Requests for transfer of credits to the RN to BSN Program is not an option due to state regulations requiring 25% of credits must be earned at the institution awarding the degree.

Special Student Enrollment

Under certain circumstances, it may be appropriate for an individual to seek admission as a special non-degree seeking student. This admission is for the purpose of taking a limited number of courses for one semester only. It is not an avenue for seeking a degree. The individual must receive approval from the RN to BSN Program Council for enrollment.

Enrollment without Credit/Course Audit

Students who wish to audit a course for no grade must obtain approval from the Associate Dean/Department Chair. Students who audit a course will not be listed on the class roll, and no notation of the audit will be made on the student's transcript. Students who are enrolled for 12 semester credit hours or more may audit a course without paying an additional fee.

PREREQUISITE COURSES and REQUIREMENTS

The prerequisite course requirements listed below should be completed with a grade of "C" or higher in each course prior to enrollment in the first nursing course. These requirements as detailed in the table below include a total of 54 semester credit hours and can be taken at any regionally accredited college or university. A maximum of 15 credit hours can be earned via credit by examination.

The prerequisite courses listed in the following table for the RN to BSN Program also incorporates the 42 hours of the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center Core Curriculum for undergraduate nursing degrees. Please see **Core Curriculum Requirements on page 25** to review the Texas Core Curriculum requirements.

Important Information about General Education and Associate Degree Nursing Course Requirements

- Pass/Fail grades for general education prerequisites are NOT accepted for credit toward degree requirements.
- Pass/Fail grades for nursing course prerequisites will be awarded a 2.0 grade value in determination of admission GPA. Students may not take any courses required for a degree in nursing as Pass-Fail.
- Courses previously taken as Pass-Fail will not be transferred for credit if the course is required for a School of Nursing Degree
- Applicants may choose to request grades for all non-nursing courses greater than 10 years old not be considered in the GPA for admission. If this option is selected, those credits excluded are not eligible for prerequisite course consideration. The applicant must have at least 34 credit hours within the past 10 years to use this option.
- Courses taken at Texas Tech University or any other college/university are not used in calculating the TTUHSC grade point average once a student has been admitted to the School of Nursing. However, all grades earned at all schools attended are calculated in the admission grade point average. The quality points and semester credit hours used to calculate the cumulative grade point average for admission to the School of Nursing are taken from the official transcripts submitted during the application process.
- The School of Nursing accepts courses completed via classroom, internet, correspondence, CLEP (College Level Examination Program), or advanced placement examination for which credit has been awarded and posted on an official transcript from an accredited college or university when determining completion of prerequisite non-nursing course requirements.

RN to BSN Program Prerequisite Coursework Table

LIFE and PHYSICAL SCIENCES	HOURS
Microbiology (BIOL2420 or BIOL2421)	4
Human Anatomy (BIOL2401)	4
Human Physiology (BIOL2402)	4
Chemistry (CHEM1305/1105 or CHEM1406/CHEM1411)	4
SOCIAL and BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES	
General Psychology (PSY2301)	3
Life Span Growth and Development (PSY2314)	3
MATHEMATICS	
Statistics (MATH1342, 1442, 2342 or 2442)	3
HUMAN ECOLOGY	
Food and Nutrition (BIOL1322)	3
AMERICAN HISTORY	
United States History I (HIST1301)	3
United States History II (HIST1302)	3
GOVERNMENT/POLITICAL SCIENCES	
Federal Government (GOVT2305)	3
Texas Government (GOVT2306)	3
COMMUNICATION	
English Composition I (ENGL1301)	3
English Composition II (ENGL1302)	3
CREATIVE ARTS	
Any Texas core approved course in creative arts	3
LANGUAGE, PHILOSOPHY, and CULTURE	
Any Texas core approved course in language, philosophy, or culture	3
ELECTIVE	2
TOTAL	54

- Course numbers listed are based on the Texas Common Course Numbering System (TCCNS). Check with your academic institution to verify the course number corresponds with the TCCNS number.
- Students must complete 3 credit hours of math to meet core curriculum requirements. Students who take math statistics will simultaneously meet the requirements for the nursing prerequisite and the core curriculum. Students, who take any other statistics course as the nursing prerequisite, must also take an upper level mathematics course in order to meet the core curriculum requirement.
- All courses are considered prerequisite to admission and beginning first semester of nursing course work.

RECOGNITION OF PREVIOUS NURSING LEARNING

The TTUHSC School of Nursing utilizes two methods to acknowledge previous nursing learning for students enrolled in the RN to BSN Program. They are (a) transfer of credit and (b) advanced placement. Both methods are described below:

Transfer of Credit

- Applicants must submit original copies of official college transcripts from all institutions in which the student has enrolled. These transcripts will be reviewed and course work evaluated by the program administrator's office. Final determination regarding applicability of completed course work toward degree requirements lies with the Associate Dean/Department Chair.
- Course equivalencies for transfer credit are assessed based upon the catalog course description or the course syllabus and/or notes provided by the student. Generally, courses of equivalent course content completed with the grade of "C" or higher at any accredited educational institution will be accepted for transfer credit toward degree requirements.
- The School of Nursing accepts courses completed via classroom, internet, correspondence, College Level Examination Program (CLEP) or advanced placement examination for which credit has been awarded and posted on an official transcript from an accredited college or university when determining completion of general education course requirements.
- No more than 54 general education course hours will be transferred, as well as a minimum of 36 hours of basic nursing education courses will be posted, for a total of 90 semester credit hours that may be transferred in fulfillment of RN-BSN degree requirements. (If a basic nursing program has less than 35 hours, details for this should be arranged with the Associate Dean/Department Chair.) These transfer hours will be posted upon admission to the School of Nursing by the Registrar's office of TTUHSC, thus the RN-BSN student will be classified as a senior student upon entering TTUHSC School of Nursing.
- Applicants are encouraged to meet with or send transcripts to (fax is acceptable) the Student Affairs office to discuss applicability of transfer credit for degree purposes before submitting their application.

OFFER OF ADMISSION

Offers of admission will be made from the RN to BSN Associate Dean/Department Chair approximately eight weeks following the application deadline. Applicants are required to respond to the offer of admission no later than the deadline stated in the letter offering admission by returning a $175 non-refundable placement guarantee/orientation fee, as well as a signed response form accepting the offer. Failure to respond by the deadline results in withdrawal of the offer of admission.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS FOR STUDENTS ADMITTED TO PROGRAM

Graduation under a Particular Catalog

A student is expected to complete the degree requirements set forth in the School of Nursing *Catalog* in effect at the time the student enters the chosen area of study. Only with the specific approval of the Non-Traditional Undergraduate Associate Dean/Department Chair may a different *Catalog* be selected. Students, in all cases are prohibited from completing the requirements set forth in a catalog more than seven years old. The *Catalog* is published at least biennially and its provisions are applicable during the following academic year (September 1 through August 31).

Maintaining Minimum Academic Requirements

- Maintain a 2.0 GPA for each semester and overall cumulative
- A minimum grade of "C" in all nursing courses is required.
- Students receiving a "D", "F" or "WF" in a

nursing course are eligible to repeat the course one time only pursuant to recommendation of course faculty.

• Students earning an overall cumulative GPA or a semester GPA less than a 2.0 in the semester of graduation are ineligible for graduation

Academic Dismissal
• Students earning a "D", "F" or "WF" in two or more nursing courses is cause for academic dismissal even when the first D or F has been replaced by a passing grade upon retaking the course.
• Earning less than a 2.0 semester or cumulative GPA for two consecutive semesters.
• Making a "D", "F", or "WF" in the same nursing course twice.

Residence Credit
The minimum credit required of each undergraduate RN to BSN student is 30 hours at TTUHSC which includes the final 15 hours in nursing courses taken for a grade. Final determination for completed course work toward degree requirements is with the Non-Traditional Undergraduate Associate Dean/Department Chair.

Semester Credit Hours and Course Loads
The semester credit hour is the unit of measure for credit purposes. Didactic (lecture) hours are measured on a one-to-one basis; clinical hours are measured on a one-to-three basis. Approximately two hours in preparation for each hour of lecture or recitation and an appropriate amount of time for preparation for clinical activity is required. Non-Traditional Undergraduate enrollment in 12 or more credit hours per semester (6 or more credit hours in each summer session or 12 or more credit hours in a full summer session) constitutes full-time enrollment. The number of semester credit hours a student may carry (course load) is regulated by the Non-Traditional Undergraduate Associate Dean/Department Chair, taking into account the quality of prior

scholastic work performed and the types of courses involved. Permission is needed to enroll in more than 15 semester credit hours. Refer to example course loads in the sample degree plans for the RN to BSN student.

RN to BSN Program	
54	Semester Hours from general education prerequisite courses
36	Semester Hours awarded for completion of the Basic Nursing Program
30	Semester Hours from the RN to BSN curriculum
120	Total Semester Hours

DEGREE PLAN
The following degree plan is provided as a sample degree plan for reference. This degree plan is designed for applicants with a RN license only. The information is provided here as an overview of a basic course schedule of a full-time student and will vary depending on each student's ability to progress through the program. Standard program degree plans are approved by RN to BSN faculty and completed by the RN to BSN Enrollment Coordinator in the Office of Student Affairs during the initial advising session with the student prior to enrollment. The degree plan may be revised based on a student's ability to successfully progress through the curriculum. All general education courses must be completed prior to enrollment. Students can expect to complete this program going full-time while maintaining a standard 40 hour work week. Attempting to carry greater than 15 semester credit hours per semester and working in excess of 40 hours per week is discouraged.

If a student is unable to complete the program in three semesters, the student must seek approval of the extended degree plan from the RN to BSN Program Director. Approval will only be granted for demonstration of an unexpected life event due to illness or change in job which has disrupted the student's progression of studies. If

a student is unable to enroll in any courses for a semester, a leave of absence (LOA) request should be submitted by the student for one semester and maybe renewed for a second semester if circumstances require. (See Student Handbook). The degree requirements must be completed within 4 semesters (16 months) unless a student took an approved leave of absence. If at any time the student elects to not enroll in a course for an entire semester or does not complete the program within 16 months, without authorization, the student will be dismissed from the program.

All pre/co-requisites and any designated conditions/criteria for previous courses apply throughout the curriculum. All general education courses should be completed prior to beginning the nursing curriculum.

KEY:
- Courses are listed in numerical order
- (**F**) Face-to-face
- (**O**) Online
- (**H**) Hybrid (combination of face-to-face and online)
- **(CL)** Concurrent enrollment in a Clinical Section is required
- **(#:#:#)** First # represents the number of credit hours, Second # represents the number of lecture hours per week, Third # represents the number of clinical hours per week
- * Elective Courses are offered at select times as faculty and interest are present
- **(V)** Variable Credit

Sample Degree Plan - RN to BSN Program

Semester 1		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 4342	Incorporation of Evidence into Practice	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 4233	Art of the Human Experience	(2:2:0 O)
NURS 4343	Foundations of Nursing Knowledge	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 4344	Management & Leadership: Bedside to Boardroom, CL	(3:2.5:0.5 O)
NURS 4345	Healthcare Information Technology	(3:3:0 O)
IPNR 000-730	Foundations for Interprofessional Collaborative Practice (TTUHSC Course)	(0)
	Total Semester Hours	**14**

Semester 2		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 4346	Community and Public Health Nursing, CL	(3:2.5:0.5 O)
NURS 4347	Evaluating Risk in Healthcare, CL	(3:2.5:0.5 O)
NURS 4348	Health Intervention Design	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 4349	Nursing Jurisprudence and Ethics, CL	(3:2.5:0.5 O)
NURS 4234	Integrating BSN Concepts	(2:2:0 O)
	Elective	(2)
	Total Semester Hours	**16**

Total Credit Hours	**30**

RN to BSN PROGRAM COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Undergraduate courses are delivered via face-to-face, online, or hybrid methodologies.

All pre/co-requisites and any designated conditions/criteria for previous courses apply throughout the curriculum. All general education courses should be completed prior to beginning the nursing curriculum.

KEY:
- Courses are listed in numerical order
- (F) Face-to-face
- (O) Online
- (H) Hybrid (combination of face-to-face and online)
- **(CL)** Concurrent enrollment in a Clinical Section is required
- **(#:#:#)** First # represents the number of credit hours, Second # represents the number of lecture hours per week, Third # represents the number of clinical hours per week
- * Elective Courses are offered at select times as faculty and interest are present
- **(V)** Variable Credit

4000 Level Courses

4221. Breastfeeding Practices
(2:2:0 O)
(*Elective) (Prerequisite: NURS 4342) This course engages the students in examining policies, practices, and support systems affecting breastfeeding. Evidence based guidelines will be discussed in relation to the nursing role and how the nurse can encourage and support the breastfeeding experience.

4222. Healthcare Teaching
(2:2:0 O)
(*Elective) (Prerequisite: NURS 4342) Professional nurses must effectively provide education to meet the learning needs of clients and colleagues. Teaching/learning principles are applied as foundational bases for educational planning and intervention in healthcare. This process includes an assessment of learning needs, the implementation of a teaching plan, and evaluation of the process and product of teaching.

4223. Holistic Nursing Practice
(2:2:0 O)
(*Elective) (Prerequisite: NURS 4342) This course is an introduction to holistic concepts and therapeutic modalities in health practices. Students will examine the standards and values of holistic nursing with the focus on the mind, body, spirit and emotions of the patient's health-illness experiences. Challenges to integrate holistic therapies across the continuum of healthcare environments will be explored. Evidence based practice will be reviewed for delivery of quality and safe holistic nursing care to populations across the lifespan.

4224. Improving Care Coordination for Seniors
(2:2:0 O)
(*Elective) (Prerequisite: NURS 4342) This course will focus on the role of nurse leaders in care coordination for seniors. Students will explore transitional care models that promote patient safety and inter-professional teamwork. Additionally, models of healthcare delivery that ensure patient and family engagement, effective communication, and collaboration will be discussed in relation to care for seniors.

4225. Introduction to Global Health
(2:2:0 O)
(*Elective) (Prerequisite: NURS 4342) It is critical for nurses to have a basic awareness of global health issues in order to provide competent care for diverse populations. This course will provide the student with a foundation of global health issues. The student will learn about a variety of issues affecting vulnerable populations including communicable disease, non-communicable disease, and non-disease related global issues that impact healthcare worldwide.

4226. Managing Spiritual Needs through Evidence Based Practice
(2:2:0 O)

(*Elective) (Prerequisite: NURS 4342) This course explores the utilization of spirituality in health care. This course delineates different aspects related to providing spirituality care while exploring avenues for strengthening the inclusion of spirituality in health care delivery with a concentration on the evidence-based practice underpinning.

4227. Political Involvement
(2:2:0 O)

(*Elective) (Prerequisite: NURS 4342) The course provides participants opportunities to engage in a basic review of the lawmaking process and the political systems locally, state, nationally, and globally. Current legislation, which is applicable to the nursing profession will be investigated. A personal plan for getting involved in influencing politics will be developed. Students will engage in discussions, reading, and evaluation of evidence, quality improvement, and research reports to advance the practice of nursing.

4228. Genetics in Health Practice
(2:2:0 O)

(*Elective) (Prerequisite: NURS 4342) This course will provide a foundation in the basics of genetics and genomics skills in health practice. Students will explore the inheritance and transmission of genes in relation to health, predisposition and diagnosis. Information will be presented about common inherited genetic disorders and conditions, as well as the ethics involved in the genomic aspects of patient care and advocacy.

4229. Infection Preventionist
(2:2:0 O)

(*Elective) (Prerequisite: NURS 4342) This course focuses on engaging students in identification and review of current infection prevention and control concepts, standards, resources, tools, and best practices. The student will be able to apply regulatory and accreditation infection prevention and control requirements and standards across various healthcare environments including acute care, ambulatory care, and long term care.

4230. Utilizing Fine Arts in Healthcare
(2:2:0 O)

(* Elective) (Prerequisite: NURS 4342) This course will examine practical applications of the fine arts (music, visual art, theater, dance, and literature) to all areas of nursing practice and clinical specialties. Students will examine how the fine arts are being used to alleviate pain, enhance health education, and relieve stress.

4233. Art of the Human Experience
(2:2:0 O)

(Prerequisite: NURS 4342) This course is designed to introduce the student to concepts related to the art and science of the nursing profession. Students will have the opportunity to identify personal strengths and develop a personal statement in relation to their role as a baccalaureate prepared nurse. Students will also develop an understanding of how the human experience improves personal and patient satisfaction and healthcare outcomes.

4234. Integrating BSN Concepts
(2:2:0 O)

(Prerequisites: NURS 4233, NURS 4342, NURS 4343, NURS 4344, NURS 4345, NURS 4346, NURS 4347, NURS 4348, NURS 4349) This capstone course provides the opportunity for the student to synthesize concepts and issues to facilitate overall success in the profession. Students integrate principles of patient centered care, interdisciplinary teams, advocacy, ethics, policy development, evidence-based practice, quality improvement, informatics, professional organization involvement, and patient safety.

4342. Incorporation of Evidence into Practice
(3:3:0 O)

This course provides channels for connecting with identifiable evidence to enhance the practice of nursing. Basic research concepts, quality

improvement aspects, and evidence-based practice (EBP) approaches will be considered to empower the students as consumers of evidence to verify practice established on valid evidence. To synthesize the professional role of the nurse, this course provides students with an underpinning for evidence-based practice. The capacity to operate as proficient consumers of evidence compels a comprehension of what are evidence, quality improvement, and basic research principles. Students will engage in discussions, reading, and evaluation of evidence, quality improvement, and research reports to advance the practice of nursing.

4343. Foundations of Nursing Knowledge (3:3:0 O)

(Prerequisite: NURS 4342) This course is an exploration of the evolution of nursing theory and how theory is applied in practice settings. Concepts within select nursing theories are examined in terms of a hierarchy of theoretical and philosophical thinking. The relationships between nursing theory, evidence based practice, research, and practice policies are examined.

4344. Management & Leadership: Bedside to Boardroom (CL) (3:2.5:0.5 O)

(Prerequisite: NURS 4233, NURS 4342, NURS 4343) This course provides channels for connecting with identifiable evidence to enhance the practice of nursing. Basic re-search concepts, quality improvement aspects, and evidence-based practice (EBP) approaches will be considered to empower the students as consumers of evidence to verify practice established on valid evidence. To synthesize the professional role of the nurse, this course provides students with an underpinning for evidence-based practice. The capacity to operate as proficient consumers of evidence compels a comprehension of what are evidence, quality improvement, and basic research principles. Students will engage in discussions, reading, and evaluation of evidence, quality improvement, and research reports to advance the practice of nursing.

4345. Healthcare Information Technology (3:3:0 O)

(Prerequisites: NURS 4342, NURS 4233, NURS 4343) This course will focus on healthcare information technology (HIT) being utilized by todays nurse. Course content will assist nurses to understand HIT processes utilized to improve patient outcomes by working across healthcare disciplines to integrate knowledge, improve quality, and efficiency of patient care. Students will explore the various uses of HIT initiatives, and use of technology in a variety of health care settings. Course content will identify the issues of ethics, information security, and privacy associated with HIT. Additionally the course provides students strategies for implementing meaningful use of HIT.

4346. Community and Public Health Nursing (CL) (3:2.5:0.5 O)

(Prerequisites: NURS 4233, NURS 4342, NURS 4343) This course emphasizes population health, community health and public health nursing concepts needed for the professional nursing practice. The focus is on the concepts of community and population assessment including health problems, risk factors, program planning and interventions. This course provides foundations for interdisciplinary teamwork and disease prevention.

4347. Evaluating Risk in Healthcare (CL) (3:2.5:0.5 O)

(Prerequisites: NURS 4233, NURS 4342, NURS 4343) This course will introduce the student to concepts related to patient safety. Course content will cover the role of the nurse as a member of the inter-professional team. The student will be introduced to the process of failure modes effects analysis (FMEA) and root cause analysis (RCA). Strategies that enhance inter-professional communication will be reviewed. An overview to the Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (HCAHPS) assessment of patient satisfaction will be provided.

4348. Health Intervention Design
(3:3:0 O)
(Prerequisite: NURS 4233, NURS 4342, NURS 4343) Students will design an effective intervention to enhance self-management of chronic disease based on current incidence and prevalence rates of chronic disease, cultural competence, behavior change theory, and program planning models. With the development of a community-based self-management intervention, students will synthesize evidence-based practice aimed at improving the health of individuals with chronic disease.

4349. Nursing Jurisprudence and Ethics (CL)
(3:2.5:0.5 O)
(Prerequisites: NURS 4233, NURS 4342, NURS 4343, NURS 4344, NURS 4347) This course serves as an introduction to nursing jurisprudence and ethics in professional practice. Students examine nursing practice acts, rules and regulations of state boards of nursing, legal and ethical position statements, principles of nursing ethics, professional boundaries and patient rights. Legal and ethical dilemmas as well as the duties and obligations of the professional nurse as a patient safety advocate are studied to assist the student with providing safe and quality healthcare in various settings. A brief overview of peer review, whistleblower protections, and health policy prepares the student to become more professionally engaged.

ACCELERATED BSN PROGRAM

Melinda Mitchell Jones, MSN, JD, RN
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Accelerated BSN Program - Second Degree BSN
Director

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Accelerated BSN Program - Veteran to BSN
Director

ACCELERATED BSN PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Accelerated BSN course of study is derived from the mission of the TTUHSC School of Nursing to create a fast-track for individuals desiring an intense, fast-paced entrance into a career path of professional nursing. The Accelerated BSN model of education instills in graduates a commitment to nursing excellence in the provision of care to individuals, families, communities, and populations with complex health care needs in structured and unstructured settings for present and emerging healthcare arenas, as well as provide a foundation for future graduate education.

The Accelerated BSN offers two tracks which include the Second Degree BSN and the Veteran to BSN (VBSN). Students in an accelerated track (Second Degree BSN or VBSN) are admitted in the spring semester and enrolled in the same courses outlined in the degree plan. All course requirements are completed in three consecutive semesters over a 12 month period. Didactic courses are delivered in a structured online format and clinical instruction is preceptor based with live faculty guidance and oversight.

Students in both tracks are enrolled in the same courses. There are some distinct differences in the tracks in terms of certain admission requirements and eligibility to earn prior learning credit. These differences are provided in the specific track overviews.

Under the guidance of the Associate Dean/ Department Chair for Non-Traditional Undergraduate Program, applicants are reviewed by the Accelerated BSN Program Admission and Progressions Committee and are evaluated individually and holistically. No single attribute is considered in arriving at an admission decision. **Acceptance into an accelerated track is based upon a competitive ranking process for selection using a point award system of academic and nonacademic requirements and considerations.** The actual number of students offered admission is dependent upon a variety of institutional elements such as financial resources, classroom space, and available clinical experiences. Administration reserves the right to adjust the number of offers based upon availability of institutional resources.

Second Degree BSN Overview
The Second Degree BSN is for students with a previous baccalaureate degree. This 12-month web-based track offers clinical instruction and course reviews in Abilene, Amarillo, Austin, Dallas, Lubbock, Odessa, and San Antonio. Students must have completed a minimum of 55 credit hours of prerequisite courses prior to enrollment in the first nursing course with a grade of "C" or higher prior to admission. A total of 61 hours of nursing courses will be completed while in the accelerated course of study which will total 116 credit hours.

Veteran to BSN Overview
The Accelerated Veteran to BSN Track began in Spring 2016. Students in the VBSN Track follow the same curriculum and train at the same clinical sites as Second Degree BSN students including Abilene, Amarillo, Austin, Dallas, Lubbock, Odessa, and San Antonio. The goal is to provide veterans with military medical experience, and who may or may not have a prior bachelor's degree, an educational option to begin a career path in professional nursing. To be eligible for admission consideration, the applicant must be a veteran and can demonstrate recent health care

experience in the last 3 years.

The track is open to veterans from all branches of the service and is designed to build on the prior healthcare education and experience of the student. Direct assessment of prior knowledge through the Competency Assessment Placement (CAP) Battery is an option for students in this track for basic foundational nursing knowledge, health assessment, pharmacology, and management. Success in any or all CAP eligible courses will allow the student to earn prior learning credit toward the accelerated upper division nursing courses. The Veteran to BSN students are required to complete 59 hours of non-nursing courses and 61 hours of nursing courses during the entire track, totaling 120 credit hours required by the State of Texas to earn a bachelor's degree.

ACCELERATED BSN PROGRAM APPLICATION DATES

Fall	No Admission
Spring	May 1 - July 15
Summer	No Admission

ACCELERATED BSN PROGRAM ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

Second Degree BSN Admissions Requirements
All applicants to the Second Degree BSN track must complete an online application as directed on the Second Degree BSN website. All applicants must meet requirements listed below for admission consideration:

Second Degree BSN Academic Requirements
- Previous Bachelor's Degree in Science or Arts (BA or BS) from an accredited college or university;
- Minimum overall cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher;
- Science GPA of 3.0 or higher in courses including Chemistry, Anatomy and Physiology I & II, Microbiology, and Pathophysiology;

- Prior to admission offer, applicants must have either completed all 55 credit hours (SCH) of lower-division general education courses as outlined in the School of Nursing Catalog and posted on the SON Second Degree BSN website or have completed at least 40 credit hours (SCHs) of non-nursing prerequisites with proof of enrollment for the remaining prerequisites. Prior to admission offer, applicants must have completed at least three of the five required science classes, which include Pathophysiology, Microbiology, Anatomy and Physiology I, Anatomy and Physiology II, and Chemistry. All prerequisites must be completed prior to the first day of class.
- All general education requirements (core curriculum) and prerequisites must be documented on official transcript prior to the first day of class;
- Submission of TEAS V (or most current version of the Test of Essential Academic Skills) scores no later than the application close date; TEAS V requirements are outlined below:
  - Proficient level or higher required in all the following areas: Reading, Math, Science, English and Language Usage;
  - Preference will be given to applicants whose TEAS scores are at the exemplary level;
  - Score for the TEAS exam older than one year prior to application submission deadline will not be accepted;
  - Students applying for admission can take the TEAS no more than two (2) times per year (both attempts must occur within the one year period prior to application submission deadline).
- Completion of a medical terminology course (can be for credit or certificate of completion);
- Completion of certified nursing assistant training. Preference for those certified at time of admission consideration.
- Current American Heart Association BLS certification prior to first day of class

Second Degree BSN Non-Academic Admission Considerations

The order of the following considerations does not indicate any given priority of consideration in the admission decision. All factors are considered relevant.

- Rationale for interest in nursing as a professional career choice
- Work history and experience
- Permanent resident of TTUHSC service area county
- First generation college student
- One page resume
- Prior enrollment at Texas Tech University
- Diversity of experience, including proficiency in other languages, knowledge of other cultures, and/or study abroad
- Military service and/or training
- A face-to-face interview – Based upon fulfillment of all eligibility requirements as outlined in the School of Nursing Catalog and posted on the SON website, a determination will be made on an offer of an interview. For those invited for an interview, an essay will be required. Professional attire is expected for the interview.

Veteran to BSN Admissions Requirements

All applicants to the Veteran to BSN track must complete an online application as directed on the Veteran to BSN website. All applicants must meet requirements listed below for admission consideration. Joint service transcripts (JST) may be submitted to Texas College Credit for Heroes website and evaluation for consideration of possible awarding of lower division credit. For a JST evaluation go to https://www.collegecreditforheroes.org/

Veteran to BSN Academic Requirements

- Prior to admission offer, applicants must have either completed all 59 credit hours (SCH) of lower-division general education courses as outlined in the *School of Nursing Catalog* and posted on the SON VBSN website or have completed at least 40 credit hours (SCHs)

of non-nursing prerequisites with proof of enrollment for the remaining prerequisites. Prior to admission offer, applicants must have completed at least three of the five required sciences classes, which include Pathophysiology, Microbiology, Anatomy and Physiology I, Anatomy and Physiology II, and Chemistry. All prerequisites must be completed prior to the first day of classes;
- Minimum overall cumulative GPA of 2.5; preference for overall cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher;
- Preference for science GPA of 3.0 or higher in core courses including Chemistry, Anatomy and Physiology I & II, Microbiology, and Pathophysiology;
- Submission of TEAS V (or most current version of the Test of Essential Academic Skills) scores no later than the application close date; TEAS V requirements are outlined below:
  - Proficient level or higher required in all the following areas: Reading, Math, Science, English and Language Usage;
  - Preference will be given to applicants whose TEAS scores are at the exemplary level;
  - Scores for the TEAS V exam older than one year prior to application submissions deadline will not be accepted; and
  - Students applying for admission can take the TEAS no more than two (2) times per year (both attempts must occur within the one year period prior to application submission deadline).

Veteran to BSN Non-Academic Admission Considerations

The order of the following considerations does not indicate any given priority of consideration in the admission decision. All factors are considered relevant.

- Health Care Specialist Rating (i.e. medic, corpsman, vocational/practical nurse) while in the service. Individuals separated from the military are required to submit a DD214

showing proof of a medical rating. Active duty military and reservists are required to submit a Joint Services Transcript. All VBSN applicants must submit either a DD214 or a Joint Services Transcript to provide proof of health care training in the military prior to application deadline. To order your DD214, go to the following link: http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/.

- Documentation of recent health care experience (within the past three years), either in the military or as a healthcare professional;
- Submission of current American Heart Association Basic Life Support (BLS) certification prior to first day of class;
- Rationale for interest in nursing as a professional career choice;
- Work history and experience;
- Permanent resident of a TTUHSC service region county (See TTUHSC Factbook for a map);
- First generation college student;
- One page resume;
- Prior enrollment at Texas Tech University;
- Diversity of experience, including proficiency in other languages, knowledge of other cultures, and/or study abroad;
- A face-to-face interview – Based upon fulfillment of all eligibility requirements as outlined in the School of Nursing Catalog and posted on the SON website, a determination will be made on an offer of an interview. For those invited for an interview, an essay will be required. Professional attire is expected for the interview.

ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS

NCLEX-RN Examination Eligibility
See NCLEX-RN Examination Eligibility on page 28.

Tuition for Repeated or Excessive Undergraduate Hours
See Tuition for Repeated or Excessive Undergraduate Hours on page 37.

Computer Requirements
See Computer Requirements on page 30.

Criminal Background Checks
See Criminal Background Check Requirements on page 25.

Drug Screening
Drug screenings may be necessary if required by the clinical institution site. The cost of all drug screens are the responsibility of the student. See Drug Screening Requirements on page 25.

Immunizations
See Immunization Requirements on page 27.

Provisional Admission
Provisional admission is an option for Accelerated VBSN active duty members seeking verification for officer promotion purposes. Provisional admission will only be provided with proof of meeting all prerequisite requirements with the exception of interview results.

Conditional Admission
If the requirements for full admission are not met, conditional admission may be available. The student is required to comply with "conditions" stated in the letter of admission offer prior to the first day of class for the semester the student is applying for. Failing to do so will result in retraction of the offer. Examples of conditional admission are as follows but not limited to:

- Baccalaureate degree completion confirmation (Student graduating in current semester and verification is not available until the end of the semester. Applicable to the Accelerated Second Degree BSN only.)
- Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) certification confirmation (Student will not have verification until after admission process is over but before the semester of admission begins. Applicable to the Accelerated Second Degree BSN only.)
- Basic Life Support (CPR/AED) training and medical terminology completion confirmation
- Prerequisite course(s) completion

confirmation (student will not have verification until after admission process is over but before the semester of admission begins)

Readmission
All requests for readmission must be made no later than two (2) months prior to the first day of the semester in which readmission is requested. The Accelerated BSN Program Council is responsible for overseeing all readmission requests via the Admissions and Progressions Committee. A student who left in good standing and seeking readmission shall complete and submit a readmission application showing the expected entry point to the program's student affairs coordinator. The coordinator will notify the chair of the Admissions and Progressions Committee of the request for readmission along with providing the most current transcript, and a summary of the circumstances of the student's withdrawal, if known.

A student who left with a record not in good standing for disciplinary causes must complete and submit a readmission application to the program's admissions coordinator along with a letter explaining the circumstances resulting in the withdrawal/dismissal and the plan to improve or correct performance if offered readmission. The program's student affairs coordinator will forward the application, the letter, and any available academic records including the most recent transcript to the chair of the Admissions and Progressions Committee. The Admissions and Progressions Committee shall review all such requests and may take one of the following actions regarding readmission of a student:
1) eligible and admit,
2) eligible pending space availability in nursing courses and in sequence to date of action in relation to other readmission applicants,
3) not eligible.

The Admissions and Progressions Committee may assign requirements to be met as a condition of enrollment, i.e. readmission on a part-time degree plan.

Veterans who are unable to complete a semester due to having been called to active duty may be "readmitted and re-enrolled as a student without penalty or redetermination of admission eligibility within two years following release from the state or federal active military service. If student does not seek readmission within two years of active service, the student will be required to complete admissions process to determine eligibility". (See [TTUHSC Operating Policy 77.16,](#) Miltary Service for additional considerations)

Transfer Admission
All requests for transfer to TTUHSC School of Nursing from a different School of Nursing must be made no later than two months prior to the first day of the semester in which transfer admission is requested. The minimum cumulative GPA for transfer admission consideration is 3.0. A student seeking transfer completes an online application showing the expected entry point. The criteria considered for transfer are the same as those criteria considered for a new admission. In addition, the transfer student must submit a letter of standing from the dean or department chair of the School of Nursing previously attended. Veteran to BSN students may be required to meet additional criteria specific to military service.

Transfer of Credit
Course equivalencies for transfer credit are assessed based upon the catalog course description or the course syllabus. Courses of equivalent course content must be completed with the grade of "C" or higher to be considered as well as be earned at an institutions of higher education accredited by a recognized accrediting agency at the time the course credit is awarded. Transcripts will only be accepted from educational institutions accredited by regional and professional accrediting agencies approved by the US Department of Education.

Special Student Enrollment

Under certain circumstances, it may be appropriate for an individual to seek admission as a special non-degree seeking student. This admission is for the purpose of taking a limited number of courses for one semester only. It is not an avenue for seeking a degree. The individual must receive approval from the Accelerated BSN Admissions and Progressions Committee for enrollment.

Enrollment without Credit/Course Audit

Students who wish to audit a course for no grade must obtain approval from the Associate Dean/Department Chair. Students who audit a course will not be listed on the class roll, and no notation of the audit will be made on the student's transcript. Students who are enrolled for 12 semester credit hours or more may audit a course without paying an additional fee.

ACCELERATED BSN PROGRAM PREREQUISITE COURSE REQUIREMENTS

The prerequisite course requirements listed below should be completed with a grade of "C" or higher in each course prior to enrollment in the first nursing course. These requirements as detailed in the table below include a total of 55 semester credit hours (Second Degree BSN) or 59 semester credit hours (Veteran to BSN) and can be taken at any regionally accredited college or university. A maximum of 15 credit hours can be earned via credit by examination.

The prerequisite courses listed in the following table for the Accelerated BSN Program also incorporates the 42 hours of the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center Core Curriculum for undergraduate nursing degrees. Please see **Core Curriculum Requirements on page 25** to review the Texas Core Curriculum requirements.

Important Information about Prerequisite Course Requirements

- Pass/Fail grades are not accepted for credit toward degree requirements.
- Applicants may choose to request grades for all non-nursing courses greater than 10 years old not be considered in the GPA for admission. If this option is selected, the credits excluded are not eligible for prerequisite course consideration and must be retaken for credit. The applicant must have at least 34 credit hours within the past 10 years to use this option.
- Grades earned at all schools attended are calculated in the admission grade point average. The quality points and semester credit hours used to calculate the cumulative grade point average for admission to the School of Nursing are taken from the official transcripts submitted during the application process.

The School of Nursing accepts courses completed via classroom, internet, correspondence, CLEP (College Level Examination Program), or advanced placement examination for which credit with the grade of "C" or higher has been awarded and posted on an official transcript from an accredited college or university when determining completion of prerequisite non-nursing course requirements. All general education courses must be completed prior to beginning the nursing curriculum.

Accelerated BSN Program Prerequisite Coursework Table

LIFE and PHYSICAL SCIENCES	HOURS
Pathophysiology (ZOOL3303 or equivalent)	3
Microbiology (BIOL2420 or BIOL2421)	4
Human Anatomy (BIOL2401)	4
Human Physiology (BIOL2402)	4
Chemistry (CHEM1305/1105 or CHEM1406/CHEM1411)	4
SOCIAL and BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES	
General Psychology (PSY2301)	3
Life Span Growth and Development (PSY2314)	3
MATHEMATICS	
Statistics (MATH1342, 1442, 2342 or 2442)	3
HUMAN ECOLOGY	
Food and Nutrition (BIOL1322)	3
AMERICAN HISTORY	
United States History I (HIST1301)	3
United States History II (HIST1302)	3
GOVERNMENT/POLITICAL SCIENCES	
Federal Government (GOVT2305)	3
Texas Government (GOVT2306)	3
COMMUNICATION	
English Composition I (ENGL1301)	3
English Composition II (ENGL1302)	3
CREATIVE ARTS	
Any Texas core approved course in creative arts	3
LANGUAGE, PHILOSOPHY, and CULTURE	
Any Texas core approved course in language, philosophy, or culture	3
ELECTIVE* (Veteran to BSN)	4
TOTAL	59

- * Elective is only required for Veteran to BSN Applicants
- Course numbers listed are based on the Texas Common Course Numbering System (TCCNS). Check with your academic institution to verify the course number corresponds with the TCCNS number.
- Students must complete 3 credit hours of math to meet core curriculum requirements. Students who take math statistics will simultaneously meet the requirements for the nursing prerequisite and the core curriculum. Students, who take any other statistics course as the nursing prerequisite, must also take an upper level mathematics course in order to meet the core curriculum requirement.
- All courses are considered prerequisite to admission and beginning first semester of nursing course work.

OFFER OF ADMISSION

Offers of admission will be made electronically by the Accelerated BSN Programs Admissions and Progressions Committee approximately eight weeks following the application deadline. Applicants are required to respond to the offer of admission no later than the deadline stated in the letter offering admission by returning a $175 non-refundable placement guarantee/orientation fee, as well as a signed response form accepting the offer. Failure to respond by the deadline results in withdrawal of the offer of admission.

Second Bachelor's Degree

No second bachelor's degree is conferred until the candidate has completed at least 24 semester hours—exclusive of credit by examination—in addition to the courses counted toward the first bachelor's degree. A second bachelor's degree sought by a student who did not complete the core curriculum at a public Texas institution of higher education must include the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center required core curriculum.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS FOR STUDENTS ADMITTED TO AN ACCELERATED PROGRAM

Graduation under a Particular Catalog

A student is expected to complete the degree requirements set forth in the School of Nursing *Catalog* in effect at the time the student enters the chosen degree or area of study. Only with the specific approval of the Non-Traditional Undergraduate Associate Dean/Department Chair may a different *Catalog* be selected. Students, in all cases are prohibited from completing the requirements set forth in a catalog more than seven years old. The School of Nursing *Catalog* is published at least biennially and its provisions are applicable during the following academic year (September 1 through August 31).

Minimum Academic Requirements

A student must earn a 2.0 in each course in the required curriculum and maintain an overall semester and cumulative GPA of 2.0 or greater.

The School of Nursing Student Handbook provides further details regarding academic and graduation expectations.

Maintaining Minimum Academic Requirements

- Maintain a 2.0 GPA for each semester and overall cumulative
- A minimum grade of "C" in all nursing (degree required) courses is required.
- Students earning an overall cumulative GPA or a semester GPA less than a 2.0 in the semester of graduation are ineligible for graduation

Academic Dismissal

- Any student who is unsuccessful (achieves a grade of "D" or "F" or "WF") in any single course will be dismissed from the School of Nursing and the University.

Comprehensive Exams

In the Accelerated BSN Programs the comprehensive exams are included in the overall assessment of student knowledge in NURS 4391 - Synthesis of Nursing Knowledge.

Residence Credit

The minimum actual residence credit required of each undergraduate student is 30 hours at TTUHSC, including the final 15 hours in nursing courses taken for a grade. The remaining hours may include transfer credit and correspondence course work. Residence credit as used here means credit for work done while enrolled in and attending classes at TTUHSC and should not be confused with "residence" in the State of Texas for tuition purposes.

Semester Credit Hours and Course Loads

The semester credit hour is the unit of measure for credit purposes. Didactic (lecture) hours are measured on a one-to-one basis; clinical hours are measured on a one-to-three basis. Approximately two hours in preparation for each hour of lecture or recitation and an appropriate amount of time for preparation for clinical activity is required.

The Accelerated BSN Programs enrollment in 12 or more credit hours per semester (6 or more credit hours in each summer session, or 12 or more credit hours in a full summer session) constitutes full-time enrollment. The number of semester credit hours a student may carry (course load) is regulated by the Non-Traditional Undergraduate Associate Dean/Department Chair. In determining course load, the Non-Traditional Undergraduate Associate Dean/Department Chair takes into account the quality of prior scholastic work performed and the types of courses involved.

The Second Degree BSN students are required to complete 55 hours of non-nursing courses and 61 hours of nursing courses during the entire program, totaling 116 credit hours.

The Veteran to BSN students are required to complete 59 hours of non-nursing courses and 61 hours of nursing courses during the entire program, totaling 120 credit hours.

ACCELERATED BSN PROGRAM DEGREE PLAN

The degree plans are approved by the faculty and is provided to the student as part of an online student affairs orientation. The program's student affairs coordinator will work with students to revise a degree plan based on a student's ability to successfully progress through the Curriculum. A revised degree plan needs to be approved by the Non-Traditional Undergraduate Associate Dean/Department Chair. Course enrollment may be limited based on available resources, including but not limited to, availability of clinical sites within the community. When necessary, methods for limiting enrollment will be determined by the Non-Traditional Undergraduate Associate Dean/Department Chair.

All pre/co-requisites and any designated conditions/criteria for previous courses apply throughout the curriculum. All general education courses should be completed prior to beginning the nursing curriculum.

KEY:
- Courses are listed in numerical order
- (**F**) Face-to-face
- (**O**) Online
- (**H**) Hybrid (combination of face-to-face and online)
- (**CL**) Concurrent enrollment in a Clinical Section is required
- (**#:#:#**) First # represents the number of credit hours, Second # represents the number of lecture hours per week, Third # represents the number of clinical hours per week
- * Elective Courses are offered at select times as faculty and interest are present
- (**V**) Variable Credit

Sample Degree Plan - Accelerated BSN Program:
Second Degree BSN and Veteran to BSN

Semester 1		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 3215	Basic Skills for Nursing Practice, CL	(2:0.5:4.5 H)
▲NURS 3380	Foundational Concepts of Nursing Practice	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 3510	Clinical Foundations of Nursing Practice, CL	(5:0:15 H)
▲NURS 3307	Health Assessment, CL	(3:2:3 H)
▲NURS 3107	Pharmacology I	(1:1:0 O)
NURS 3325	Essentials for Professional Nursing Practice	(3:3:0 O)
▲NURS 4207	Pharmacology II	(2:2:0 H)
	Total Semester Hours	**19**

Semester 2		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 3385	Concepts of Chronic Care Nursing	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 3520	Chronic Care Nursing Clinical, CL	(5:0:15 H)
NURS 4411	Mental Health Nursing, CL	(4:3:3 H)
NURS 3407	Perinatal Nursing, CL	(4:3:3 H)
NURS 3326	Evidence Based Practice	(3:3:0 O)
	Total Semester Hours	**19**

Semester 3		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 4398	Concepts of Acute Care Nursing	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 4510	Acute Care Nursing Clinical, CL	(5:0:15 H)
NURS 4317	Community and Population Health, CL	(3:2:3 H)
▲NURS 4409	Leadership and Management, CL	(4:3.5:1.5 H)
NURS 4401	Child Health Nursing, CL	(4:3:3 H)
NURS 4104	Pharmacology III, CL	(1:0:3 H)
NURS 4391	Synthesis of Nursing Knowledge	(3:3:0 O)
	Total Semester Hours	**23**

Total Credit Hours	**61**

Students must earn 61 total credit hours (TCH) to complete the program requirements toward the awarding of a degree of Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN). TCH can be earned through successful completion of 48 semester credit hours (SCH) in traditional program courses and up to 13 prior learning credits (PLC) by successful demonstration of competency in the courses indicated by "▲". PLC may be awarded in NURS 3380, NURS 3307, NURS 4409, NURS 3107, and NURS 4207. PLCs may only be awarded to students enrolled in the Veteran to BSN track.

ACCELERATED BSN PROGRAM: SECOND DEGREE BSN and VETERAN to BSN COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Undergraduate courses are delivered via face-to-face, online, or hybrid methodologies.

All pre/co-requisites and any designated conditions/criteria for previous courses apply throughout the curriculum. All general education courses should be completed prior to beginning the nursing curriculum.

KEY:
- Courses are listed in numerical order
- (**F**) Face-to-face
- (**O**) Online
- (**H**) Hybrid (combination of face-to-face and online)
- (**CL**) Concurrent enrollment in a Clinical Section is required
- (**#:#:#**) First # represents the number of credit hours, Second # represents the number of lecture hours per week, Third # represents the number of clinical hours per week
- * Elective Courses are offered at select times as faculty and interest are present
- (**V**) Variable Credit

3000 Level Courses

3107. Pharmacology I
(1:1:0 O)
(Corequisites: Enrollment in all first semester courses.) This course introduces principles of pharmacology, drug therapy, classifications of drugs, and nursing implications of pharmacotherapeutics. Legal, ethical, genetic, cultural, and life span implications of drug therapy are also explored. Emphasis is on the principles of pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics, and pharmacogenetics in the treatment of selected illnesses. The focus is on utilization of the nursing process concepts in the safe administration of pharmacotherapeutics.

3215. Basic Skills for Nursing Practice (CL)
(2:0.5:4.5 H)
(Prerequisites: Program admission and completion of all required general education courses.) This laboratory/clinical experience is an introduction to foundational skills for practice and an overview of the standards for nursing practice. This course focuses on client safety and comfort, nutrition, selected nursing interventions, and beginning assessment skills.

3307. Health Assessment (CL)
(3:2:3 H)
(Prerequisites: NURS 3215; Corequisites: Enrollment in all first semester courses.) An introduction to health assessment as a systematic process with emphasis on developing skill in the techniques of assessment and therapeutic communication across the life span. Includes introductory concepts of data collection, health history, physical examination, use of technology to access and document holistic health assessment, and clinical decision making. Performance assessment of skills is required in a laboratory experience.

3325. Essential Concepts for Professional Nursing Practice
(3:3:0 O)
(Corequisite: Enrollment in all first semester courses.) This course emphasizes concepts essential for professional nursing practice in the various roles of the professional registered nurse. The role of the professional nurse is introduced as well as discovering the nurse's position in patient care and advocacy, health promotion, and education. The nurse's legal and ethical responsibilities and role within the interdisciplinary team are explored through case studies of historical events. The focus is on developing an identity as the professional nurse.

3326. Evidence Based Practice
(3:3:0 O)
(Corequisite: Enrollment in all first semester courses.) This course will introduce students to evidence-based practice and research methods utilized in nursing practice. The purpose of the course is to allow students to develop skills in using the cyclical process of carefully identifying clinical problems, critically appraising available evidence, and successfully integrating evidence-based practice for enhancing patient outcomes.

3380. Foundational Concepts of Nursing Practice
(3:3:0 O)
(Prerequisites: NURS 3215; Corequisites: Enrollment in all first semester courses.) This course is an introduction to nursing as a systematic process with emphasis on the knowledge, skills, and values core to evidence-based professional nursing utilizing a framework of clinical judgment and decision-making coupled with a management systems approach of macro/micro systems. Emphasis is on human functioning, human diversity, and responses to health and illness.

3385. Concepts of Chronic Care Nursing
(3:3:0 O)
(Prerequisites: Satisfactory completion of all first semester courses; Corequisites: Enrollment in all second semester courses.) This course emphasizes chronic care nursing concepts essential for professional nursing practice in a variety of settings. Special focus is on the concepts of aging, health promotion, disease prevention, and genetics as well as illness management. Clinical judgment and reasoning and the integration of therapeutic nursing skills will be demonstrated through case study analysis and critical thinking activities.

3407. Perinatal Nursing (CL)
(4:3:3 H)
(Corequisites: Enrollment in all second semester courses.) Encompasses concepts related to the safe delivery of evidence-based nursing care to childbearing families throughout the antepartum, intrapartum, postpartum, and newborn experience. Special emphasis is placed upon clinical experiences providing opportunity to exercise clinical judgment in case studies, simulation, community, and acute care settings.

3510. Clinical Foundations of Nursing Practice (CL)
(5:0:15 H)
(Prerequisites: NURS 3215; Corequisites: Enrollment in all first semester courses.) This course provides students with the opportunity to demonstrate foundational professional nursing skills through clinical and simulated nursing activities for patients experiencing common health problems in a variety of health care settings.

3520. Chronic Care Nursing Clinical (CL)
(5:0:15 H)
(Prerequisites: Satisfactory completion of all first semester courses; Corequisites: Enrollment in all second semester courses.) This course provides opportunities for students to integrate knowledge and theory essential to the care of patients experiencing chronic health alterations with special focus on the needs of the aging population. Clinical judgment and reasoning, therapeutic nursing skills, genetics, and pharmacology concepts necessary for chronic care delivery are demonstrated in the application of evidence based nursing care through case studies and weekly clinical experiences.

4000 Level Courses

4104. Pharmacology III
(1:0:3 H)
(Prerequisites: Satisfactory completion of all first and second semester courses; Corequisite: Enrollment in all third semester courses.) The purpose of this course is to promote safety in medication administration, improve clinical judgment, and critical thinking in the clinical environment using pharmacology simulation. The student will utilize knowledge from previous pharmacology courses.

4207. Pharmacology II
(2:2:0 H)
(Prerequisite: Satisfactory completion of all first semester courses; Corequisite: Enrollment in all second semester courses.) The purpose of this course is to examine pharmacotherapeutic agents used in the treatment of illness and the promotion, maintenance and restoration of wellness. Emphasis is on understanding drug classification, actions, therapeutic use, adverse effect of medications, and management of toxicity. The focus is on concepts of safe administration, drug calculation, client education, and monitoring the response to pharmacotherapeutic agents. The student will synthesize information learned in previous pharmacology course. Co-requisite: Enrollment in all first semester courses.

4317. Community and Population Health (CL)
(3:2:3 H)
(Prerequisites: Satisfactory completion of all first and second semester courses; Corequisite: Enrollment in all third semester courses.) This course emphasizes population-focused nursing and community-oriented approaches essential for understanding and addressing public health concerns. Focus is on the concepts of community and population health nursing practice, epidemiology and disease transmission, comprehensive assessment of risk factors and health problems, program planning and intervention, environmental health, collaboration with the interprofessional team, health promotion, and disease prevention.

4391. Synthesis of Nursing Knowledge
(3:3:0 O)
(Pre/corequisite: all NURS 4000 level courses must be completed or in progress.) The student is guided through a series of learning and assessment experiences that synthesize content from both didactic and clinical courses in the Program. This reflection on learning serves as a basis for review of nursing concepts and how effectively students synthesize those concepts in making decisions regarding professional practice situations.

4398. Concepts of Acute Care Nursing
(3:3:0 O)
(Prerequisites: Satisfactory completion of all first and second semester courses; Corequisites: Enrollment in all third semester courses.) This course emphasizes acute care nursing concepts essential for professional nursing practice in complex adult medical/surgical environments. Advanced clinical judgment, reasoning, and therapeutic nursing skills are demonstrated in the application of evidence-based nursing care through the use of case study analysis with increasing complexities and critical thinking activities. The focus is on complex disease management including environmental factors, genetic risks, and preventive care using a collaborative approach.

4401. Child Health Nursing (CL)
(4:3:3 H)
(Prerequisite: Satisfactory completion of all first and second semester courses; Corequisite: Enrollment in all third semester courses) The course emphasizes child health and illness nursing concepts essential for professional nursing practice in pediatric acute care and outpatient settings. Growth and development, health promotion, and safety are emphasized. Application of evidence based nursing care of pediatric patients and their families will

be provided through clinical opportunities in pediatric settings. Application of clinical judgment and critical thinking will be demonstrated by students in the clinical laboratory environment, as well as acute, chronic and outpatient settings.

4409. Leadership and Management (CL)
(4:3.5:1.5 H)
(Prerequisite: Satisfactory completion of all first and second semester courses; Corequisite: Enrollment in all third semester courses.) This course surveys the role of the nurse as a leader, a manager, and a member of an interprofessional team. Key concepts discussed in this course include change theories, quality improvement processes, and strategies for managing costs and budgets in the patient care setting. This course will provide the entry level nurse with a foundation from which to engage in effective decision making regarding conflict management and personnel problems. Students will participate in clinical experiences involving integration of the roles of provider, manager, and interprofessional team member.

4411. Mental Health Nursing (CL)
(4:3:3 H)
(Prerequisite: Satisfactory completion of all first semester courses; Corequisite: Enrollment in all second semester courses.) This course emphasizes the concepts of human mental health in altered states from adaptation through dysfunction to pathological processes. The focus is on approaches to promote mental health/optimal function in the care of patients, groups, and families experiencing altered states of mental health using evidence based standards of care.

4510. Acute Care Nursing Clinical (CL)
(5:0:15 H)
(Prerequisites: Satisfactory completion of all first and second semester courses; Corequisites: Enrollment in all third semester courses.) This course provides opportunities for students to synthesize generalist nursing roles of provider and manager of nursing care, in clinical and simulated

acute care settings. Clinical judgment and reasoning and therapeutic nursing skills necessary in the acute care delivery are demonstrated in the application of evidence-based nursing care through simulated case studies and weekly clinical experiences.

Graduate Department

The School of Nursing Graduate Department offers the Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) Program and the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) Program. The MSN program has the following tracks: Nursing Administration, Nursing Education, Nursing Informatics, Family Nurse Practitioner, Pediatric Primary Care Nurse Practitioner, Pediatric Acute Care Nurse Practitioner, Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner, Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner and Nurse Midwifery. The DNP Program offers the following tracks: Post-Master's DNP for Executive Leadership, Post-Master's DNP for Advanced Practitioner Nursing, BSN to DNP for Family Nurse Practitioner, BSN to DNP for Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing.

The School of Nursing also offers a Post-Master's certificate in the following role and population-based focus tracks: Acute Care Pediatric Nurse Practitioner, Family Nurse Practitioner, Pediatric Primary Care Nurse Practitioner, Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner, Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner, Nurse Midwifery, Nursing Education and Nursing Informatics.

Graduate Programs

MASTER of SCIENCE in NURSING PROGRAM (MSN)

Barbara Cherry, DNSc, MBA, RN, NEA-BC
Professor, Associate Dean/Department Chair, Leadership Program

Emily Merrill, PhD, RN, FNP, BC, CNE, FAANP
Professor, Associate Dean/Department Chair, MSN Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) Program

Cindy Acton, DNP, RN, NEA-BC
Program Director, MSN Nursing Administration Track

Laura Thomas, PhD, RN, CNE
Program Director, MSN Nursing Education Track

Kellie Bruce, PhD, RN, FNP-BC
Program Director, Family Nurse Practitioner Track

Rebecca Burpo, DNP, RN, CNM, FACNM
Program Director, Nurse-Midwifery Track

Susan Calloway, PhD, RN, FNP-BC, PMHNP-BC, FAANP
Program Director, Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Track

Karen Esquibel, PhD, RN, CPNP-PC
Program Director, Pediatric Nurse Practitioner (Primary and Acute Care) Tracks

Tara Hilliard, PhD, RN, ACNP-BC
Program Director, Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner Track

Susan McBride, PhD, RN, FAAN
Program Director, MSN Nursing Informatics Track

Purpose
The purpose of the Master of Science in Nursing Program is to prepare the graduate to practice nursing within an expanded role. In synthesizing a clinical and functional focus, the graduate assumes an encompassing perspective of practice, service, research, and education.

MSN Student Learning Outcomes
Upon program completion, the MSN graduate will have the preparation to:
- Provide patient-centered care in the master's prepared nursing role.
- Work in interprofessional teams to address the needs of patients using master's prepared nursing role skills.
- Employ evidence-based practice (EBP) by

integrating the best research evidence into the master's prepared nursing role.

- Apply quality improvement as a master's prepared nurse.
- Utilize information in the master's prepared nursing role to reduce errors, manage knowledge and information, make decisions, and communicate effectively.
- Integrate best practices in implementation of master's prepared nursing roles to ensure safety and risk reduction for patients and populations.

All MSN students regardless of program or site will meet the above objectives. The MSN educational program delivery is accomplished by a combination of on campus classes/simulated clinical and web-based technologies.

LEADERSHIP PROGRAM OVERVIEW
Administration Track
The MSN with a nursing administration focus prepares students to assume nursing leadership and management positions in a variety of health care settings. Students must have a BSN as the minimum RN preparation for admission to the MSN in nursing administration track. Students complete the program via on-line courses and practicum experiences.

Education Track
The MSN with a nursing education focus prepares students to assume a career as a nurse educator within a school of nursing or as a clinical educator in a healthcare setting. Students must have a BSN as the minimum RN preparation for admission to the MSN in nursing education track.

Nursing Informatics (NI) Track
The MSN in Nursing Informatics is the first NI masters offered by a Texas-based university. This program fills a critical gap in advanced nursing education to prepare nurses for expanding roles in nursing informatics with emphasis on data management; analytics and clinical decision support; electronic health record adoption,

implementation and evaluation; systems life cycle; and evaluating innovative technology solutions for clinical care. Students must have a BSN as the minimum RN preparation for admission to the MSN NI track.

ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSE (APRN) PROGRAM OVERVIEW
An APRN is a registered nurse who completed a graduate degree or postgraduate program that provided preparation to practice in one of the four advanced practice nursing roles (i.e., nurse practitioner, nurse midwife, nurse clinical specialist, or nurse anesthetist). Preparation includes the advanced knowledge and skills to provide direct patient care in the health promotion and health maintenance of individuals.

All students must have a BSN as the minimum RN preparation for admission to the MSN APRN tracks. All APRN programs must meet the educational requirements and standards for professional certification. Nurse Practitioner programs meet the Criteria for Evaluation of Nurse Practitioner Programs as outlined by the National Task Force on Quality Nurse Practitioner Education (NTF). The NTF 5th Edition published in 2016 is available at https://cdn.ymaws.com/www.nonpf.org/resource/resmgr/Docs/EvalCriteria2016Final.pdf. Nurse Midwifery programs must meet the educational criteria set by the Accreditation Commission for Midwifery Education (ACME).

Upon completion of course requirements, graduates of the master's and post-master's tracks are eligible to sit for one or more of the following certification exams:
- Pediatric Nursing Certification Board (PNCB) Exam (PNP, both acute care and primary care)
- American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) Exam (AGACNP, FNP, PMHNP, PNP-PC)
- American Academy of Nurse Practitioners Certification Program (AANPCP) (FNP)
- American Midwifery Certification Board

- (AMCB) Exam (CNM)
- American Association of Critical Care Nurses (AACN) (AGACNP)
- Certified Professional in Health Information Management (CPHIMS) Exam (NI)
- Certified Nurse Educator Exam (CNE)

Acute Care Pediatric Nurse Practitioner (AC-PNP) and Post-Master's AC-PNP Tracks
Prepares graduates to assume an advanced care provider role to meet the specialized physiologic and psychological needs of children with acute, complex acute, critical, and chronic health conditions.

Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner (AGACNP) and Post-Master's AGACNP Tracks
Prepares graduates to assume responsibilities for promoting, maintaining, and restoring health to acutely or critically ill adults. The patient population includes young adults, adults, and older adults. Patient care needs and not the setting determine the scope of practice.

Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) and Post-Master's FNP Tracks
Prepares graduates to assume a primary care provider role for the population of the family across the lifespan (infants, children, adolescents, adults, and older adults). FNPs practice in variety of settings including urban, rural, and underserved areas. Patient care needs and not the setting determine the scope of practice.

Nurse Midwifery and Post-Master's Nurse Midwifery Tracks
Prepares graduates to provide women's health care across the reproductive life cycle and beyond, as well as their newborns for the first month of life, in accordance with the standards of the American College of Nurse-Midwives (ACNM).

Pediatric Primary Care Nurse Practitioner (PNP-PC) and Post-Master's PNP-PC Tracks
Prepares graduates to assume a primary care

provider role for children, adolescents, and young adults in multiple health care delivery settings including rural and underserved areas. Patient care needs and not the setting determine the scope of practice.

Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PMHNP) and Post-Master's PMHNP Tracks
Prepares graduates to assume an advanced care provider role in providing the full range of psychiatric services including the delivery of primary, acute and consultative mental health care services throughout the lifespan.

MSN and POST-MASTER'S APPLICATION and ADMISSION INFORMATION
All applicants are selected on a composite evaluation of past academic achievement, personal essay, career achievements, and references. Although the materials required for admission consideration vary from one program to another, the general qualities considered are:
- Academic performance and aptitude
- Ability to perform capably in positions of responsibility for self and others
- Potential for leadership in the advanced nursing role

The applicant electronically signs the application certifying the application is accurate and complete and he/she understands falsification of an application is cause for non-acceptance or dismissal.

All coursework leading to a baccalaureate degree including courses taken for grade replacement are used in computing the grade point average for admission purposes.

All applicants will be reviewed in an individual and holistic manner. No single factor will determine a student's admission. Only complete submitted applications are reviewed for admission consideration.

MSN Application Dates

Semester	Application Open	Application Deadline
Fall	November 1 of previous year	February 15
Leadership Tracks Spring	May 1 of previous year	August 1 of previous year
APRN Tracks Spring	May 1 of previous year	August 31 of previous year

Post-Master's Application Dates

Semester	Application Open	Application Deadline
Fall*	November 1 of previous year	February 15
Spring	May 1 of previous year	August 31 of previous year
Summer*	November 1 of previous year	February 15

*Not all Post-Master's tracks offer fall and summer admission

MSN and Post-Master's Application Deadlines
Consideration for admission is given to applicants who meet all admission criteria and have submitted ALL admission requirements by the application deadline. **NOTE: The MSN Program does not admit students for the summer semester. Summer applications are accepted for the Post-Master's Certificate. The PMHNP BSN to MSN track accepts students once a year for the spring semester and Post-Master's Certificate students once a year for the fall semester.**

Admissions Requirements - MSN
All applicants must complete and submit an online application as directed on the MSN website. All applicants must meet requirements listed below for admission consideration:
- Valid unencumbered RN License
- Baccalaureate nursing degree (BSN) from a regionally accredited college or university with nursing program accreditation from the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) or from the American Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN), formerly the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC).

-Applicants with a transcript(s) from a foreign university (ies) are to submit a Commission for Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools (CGFNS) evaluation of their transcript(s). Additionally applicants from a country where the primary language is not English, must provide evidence of achieving a total score of 84 or higher with a speaking score of 26 or higher and a writing score of 27 or higher on the TOEFL iBT.
- Completion of undergraduate courses in research and statistics with a grade of C or better.
- A minimum GPA of 3.0 (4.0 scale) for all course work leading to the baccalaureate degree.
    -The undergraduate science courses GPA may be considered as a factor for admission.
- Personal Statement/Essay (maximum of 500 words)
- Current Basic Live Support (BLS) certification from the American Heart Association
- Professional letters of reference (3). Two letters from nurse managers or professional mentors and one letter from a former faculty

member or other health care professional attesting to the applicant's professional and academic abilities and potential for success in a graduate program.

- Individuals who obtained their nursing education outside of the United States are not eligible for admission unless their nursing program was accredited by the CCNE or ACEN. (See above)
- Official transcript for the BSN plus transcripts for all undergraduate courses including undergraduate research and statistics course if not included on the BSN transcript. (NOTE: all transcripts must be from a regionally accredited college or university with nursing program accreditation from the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE), or from the American Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN), formerly the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC).
- Computer Literacy; defined as an understanding of the capabilities and limitations of a computer and how to use them wisely within clinical workflow and for scholarly work. Applicants must complete the TTUHSC SON Computer Literacy Test located at http://nursing.ttuhsc.edu/skills prior to applying.

Additional MSN Admissions Requirements - Track Specific

Administration (Leadership Studies)	• Must have one (1) year of RN experience prior to application submission. • Response to Track specific essay questions.
Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner (AGACNP)	• Must have at least one (1) year of RN experience in an acute care, intensive care, or emergency department setting within the past (5) years. • Response to Track specific essay questions.
Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP track)	• Must have one (1) year of RN experience prior to application submission to the FNP track. • Response to Track specific essay questions.
Pediatric Primary and Acute Care Nurse Practitioner (PNP tracks)	• Required to have two (2) years of RN pediatric experience prior to application. For applicants to the PNP Acute Care track, RN pediatric experience in critical care, ER, or acute care is preferred. • Response to Track specific essay questions.
Nurse Midwifery (NMW) track	• Preferred applicants have at least one (1) year labor and delivery experience or comparable OB clinical experience within the last five (5) years prior to admission. • Response to Track specific essay questions. • Reference letters are to be from supervisors, Certified Nurse Midwives (CNMs), OB-GYNs, former faculty, or professional mentors and should address the applicant's leadership, academic, and critical reasoning abilities. • Participation in a personal interview with faculty upon invitation.

Nursing Informatics Track (Leadership Studies)	• Experience in nursing informatics or technology (minimum super user experience) is required. • Minimum of two (2) years of clinical experience. • Response to Track specific essay questions.
Nursing Education (Leadership Studies)	• Participate in an interview with faculty if selected for an interview. • Response to Track specific essay questions.
Psychiatric Mental Health (PMHNP)	• Three (3) letters of reference; two letters from nursing supervisors or professional mentors and one letter from a former faculty member or other health care professional attesting to the applicant's professional and academic abilities and potential for success in a graduate program. • Participate in a personal interview with faculty if selected for an interview. • Critical Analysis Essay (maximum of 650 words).

Non-Academic Considerations (MSN) – include but are not limited to:

- Evidence of leadership in nursing (Professional organizations, committees, etc.)
- Potential for leadership in an advanced role as evidenced by reference letters.
- Professional nursing work experience.
- Diversity of work or life experience (For example: experience with other cultures, study/travel/work abroad, community service, military service, degree in other field, volunteerism, or other related extracurricular activities).
- Curriculum vitae/resume which includes educational background, honors, nursing experience, professional membership(s), leadership roles, research, presentations, and community service.
- Permanent resident of Texas or TTUHSC service area/county or TTUHSC campus location.
- Fluent in a language in addition to English that is frequently used by patients in the applicant's service area.

Admission Requirements - Post-Master's Certification

All applicants must complete and submit an online application as directed on the Post-Master's website. All applicants must meet requirements listed below for admission consideration:

- Valid unencumbered RN License
- Master of Science in Nursing degree from a regionally accredited college or university with nursing program accreditation from the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) or from the American Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN), formerly the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC).
- A minimum GPA of 3.0 (4.0 scale) in all graduate level course work.
- Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) or Pediatric Advanced Live Support (PALS) certification for FNP, PNP, or AGACNP tracks
- Personal Statement/Essay (minimum of 500 words)
- Current BLS certification from the American Heart Association
- Professional letters of reference (3). Two letters from nurse managers or professional mentors and one letter from a former faculty member or other health care professional attesting to the applicant's professional and academic abilities and potential for success in a graduate program.

- Official transcript for the MSN degree. (NOTE: all transcripts must be from a regionally accredited college or university with nursing program accreditation from the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE), or from the American Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN), formerly the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC).

- Computer Literacy: defined as an understanding of the capabilities and limitations of a computer and how to use them wisely within clinical workflow and for scholarly work. Applicants must complete the TTUHSC SON Computer Literacy Test located at http://nursing.ttuhsc.edu/skills prior to applying.

Additional Post-Master's Admission Requirements - Track Specific

Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner (AGACNP)	• Must have at least one (1) year of RN experience in an acute care, intensive care, or emergency department setting within the past (5) years. • Response to Track specific essay questions.
Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP track)	• Must have one (1) year of RN experience prior to application submission to the FNP track. • Response to Track specific essay questions.
Pediatric Primary and Acute Care Nurse Practitioner (PNP tracks)	• Required to have two (2) years of RN pediatric experience prior to application. For applicants to the PNP Acute Care track, RN pediatric experience in critical care, ER, or acute care is preferred. • Response to Track specific essay questions.
Nurse Midwifery (NMW) track	• Preferred applicants have at least one (1) year labor and delivery experience or comparable OB clinical experience within the last five (5) years prior to admission. • Response to Track specific essay questions. • Reference letters are to be from supervisors, CNMs, OB-GYNs, former faculty, or professional mentors and should address the applicant's leadership, academic, and critical reasoning abilities. • Participation in a personal interview with faculty upon invitation.
Nursing Informatics Track (Leadership Studies)	• Experience in nursing informatics or technology (minimum super user experience) is required. • Minimum of two (2) years of clinical experience. • Response to Track specific essay questions.
Nursing Education (Leadership Studies)	• Pathophysiology, Pharmacology, and Advanced Health Assessment are required courses for this certificate. • Participate in an interview with faculty if selected for an interview. • Response to Track specific essay questions.

Psychiatric Mental Health (PMHNP)	• For the post-MSN PMHNP certificate plus DNP, the admission requirements for the DNP program must also be met. A separate application to the DNP program and offer of admission to the DNP program is required to pursue the MSN to DNP while dually enrolled in the PMHNP program. • If practicing as an APRN in another specialty, must supply evidence of current certification by a nationally recognized certifying body such as the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), American Academy of Nurse Practitioners (ANP), and American Midwifery Certification), - formerly the ACNM Certification Council. • Three (3) letters of reference; two letters from nursing supervisors or professional mentors and one letter from a former faculty member or other health care professional attesting to the applicant's professional and academic abilities and potential for success in a graduate program. • Participate in a personal interview with faculty if selected for an interview. • Critical Analysis Essay (maximum of 650 words).

Non-Academic Considerations (Post-Master's) – include but are not limited to:

- Evidence of leadership in nursing (Professional organizations, committees, etc.)
- Potential for leadership in an advanced role as evidenced by reference letters
- Professional nursing work experience
- Diversity of work or life experience (For example: experience with other cultures, study/travel/work abroad, community service, military service, degree in other field, volunteerism, or other related extracurricular activities).
- Curriculum vitae/resume including educational background, honors, nursing experience, professional membership(s), and community service.
- Permanent resident of Texas, TTUHSC service area/county or TTUHSC campus location.
- Fluent in a language frequently used by patients in the applicant's service area in addition to English.

ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS

Computer Requirements
See Computer Requirements on page 30.

Criminal Background Checks
See Criminal Background Check Requirements on page 25.

Immunizations
See Immunization Requirements on page 27.

Drug Screening
Drug screenings may be necessary if required by the clinical institution site. The cost of all drug screens are the responsibility of the student. See Drug Screening Requirements on page 25.

SPECIAL STUDENT ENROLLMENT
Non-Degree
Special Student enrollment is not an avenue for seeking a degree. Under certain circumstances, it may be appropriate for an individual to seek admission as a non-degree seeking student.

Non-degree Special Student admission is for the purpose of taking a limited number of courses. The applicant must seek approval from the applicable Graduate Associate Dean/Department Chair prior to submitting a special student (non-degree) application. The student must also be eligible for admission under the following criteria:

- Currently enrolled in a master's nursing program at a college or university and in good academic standing;
- Registered nurse with a BSN not enrolled in an educational institution; or
- Waiver to the above requirement from the applicable Graduate Associate Dean/ Department Chair.

In addition to meeting admission criteria, consideration to non-degree seeking students is given on a space available basis.

A complete Special Student (non-degree) application includes the following:

- Submitted special-student application
- Submitted signature page
- Submitted Oath of Residency
- Submitted current Basic Life Support (BLS) certification from the American Heart Association

Special students can take a maximum of six (6) credit hours. A special student wishing to apply for full admission to one of the Graduate Department programs must submit the full application according to the stated deadlines and will be considered for admission with the entire pool of applicants for the time period the application is submitted.

Enrollment without Credit/Course Audit

Students wanting to audit a course for no grade must obtain approval from the applicable Graduate Associate Dean/Department Chair. Students auditing a course will not be listed on the official class roll, and no notation of the audit will be made on the student's transcript. Students enrolled for 12 or more semester credit hours may audit a course without paying an additional fee.

All other students must pay a $10 fee for auditing a course.

Provisional Admission

If the requirements for full admission are not met, provisional admission may be available. Students not meeting the minimum requirement for admission are evaluated by the MSN Program Council. Provisional admission requires the student to enroll in six (6) semester credit hours of graduate level courses for a semester and obtain a grade of "B" or higher. Students are not eligible for scholarships while on provisional status. The provisional status is changed to full matriculation once the student has successfully completed six (6) semester credit hours of graduate level course work with a grade of "B" or higher.

Conditional Admission

If the requirements for full admission are not met, conditional admission may be available. The student is required to comply with "conditions" stated in the letter of admission offer prior to the first day of class for the semester the student is applying. Examples of conditional admission include, but are not limited to, the following:

- BSN completion confirmation (student graduating in current semester and verification is not available until the end of the semester)
- MSN completion confirmation (student graduating in current semester and verification is not available until the end of the semester)
- Leveling courses may be required per the MSN Program Council

Readmission

All requests for readmission must be made prior to the application deadline for the semester in which readmission is requested. The applicable Graduate Associate Dean/Department Chair and MSN Program Council are responsible for overseeing all readmissions to the School of Nursing MSN Programs. Readmission of a student who has been dismissed or who withdrew

for academic or disciplinary causes is also based upon the decision of the applicable Graduate Associate Dean/Department Chair and MSN Program Council.

A student seeking readmission must comply with the following:

- Submit a letter requesting readmission to the Graduate Program
- Meet all recommendations and requirements set forth by the applicable Associate Dean/Department Chair and MSN Program Council
- Complete online application and meet admission criteria for full admission

Student Transfers from Other Educational Institutions

Students requesting admission to the TTUHSC SON graduate programs as a transfer student from another college or university must meet the following criteria:

- Eligible to return to the institution from which the student is transferring
- Complete a full application to the applicable MSN program by the deadlines specified for the semester of transfer to TTUHSC
- A student previously enrolled in the graduate program at TTUHSC School of Nursing who attended another institution and is seeking to return must apply for readmission; any courses considered for transfer credit will be required to meet the standards for transfer credit
- Complete the majority or over 50% of the required credits to complete the degree at TTUHSC School of Nursing.

RECOGNITION OF PREVIOUS NURSING LEARNING

Transfer Credit

The decision to award transfer of academic credit is made by the applicable Graduate Associate Dean/Department Chair and/or Program Director after a thorough review of the applicant's transcript for evidence of satisfactory course work completion and review of the course catalog descriptions and/or course syllabi as necessary to determine course equivalency. The decision to award transfer credit is based on [TTUHSC OP 77.17](). Generally, credits earned at a regionally accredited college or university are accepted for transfer provided course content is equivalent and a grade of "B" or higher has been earned in the course. The majority, or over 50%, of the required credits toward a TTUHSC School of Nursing graduate degree must be earned at TTUHSC.

PLEASE NOTE: Courses previously taken as Pass-Fail will not transfer for credit if the course is required for a School of Nursing Degree unless approved by the applicable Graduate Associate Dean/Department Chair and/or Program Director.

Students requesting courses to be considered for transfer credit will:

- Submit official transcripts for courses considered for transfer credit
- Submit course descriptions and course content for each course

Credit accepted for transfer and applied to the student's degree program will appear on the TTUHSC transcript under the name of the institution where the student completed the course. Transfer credit will not alter a student's TTUHSC Grade Point Average.

A student previously enrolled in the graduate program at TTUHSC School of Nursing who attended another institution and is seeking to return and transfer in course credit must apply for readmission. Courses accepted for transfer will be required to meet the standards for transfer credit.

OFFER OF ADMISSION

Offers of admission will be made approximately six - eight weeks following the application deadline. In order to assure a place in the desired program, applicants must comply with the following:

- Applicants must respond to the offer of admission no later than the deadline stated in the letter offering admission

- Submit $175 non-refundable placement/orientation fee
- Complete Criminal Background Check online
- Submit evidence of compliance with required immunizations
- Complete Sexual Harassment training online and submit certificate of completion
- Complete required trainings as specified during virtual orientation and on-site orientation
- Failure to respond to admissions offer by the date specified in offer letter may result in withdrawal of the offer of admission.
- All students admitted to the MSN Program are required to attend a mandatory on-campus orientation held at the Lubbock campus prior to the first semester of enrollment.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS FOR STUDENTS ADMITTED TO THE GRADUATE PROGRAM

Graduation Under a Particular Catalog

A student is expected to complete the degree requirements set forth in the School of Nursing Catalog in effect at the time the student enters the chosen area of study. Only with the specific approval of the applicable Graduate Associate Dean/Department Chair may a different Catalog be selected. Students, in all cases, are prohibited from completing the requirements set forth in a catalog more than seven years old. The Catalog is published at least biennially and its provisions are applicable during the stated year (September 1st through August 31st).

Maintaining Minimum Academic Requirements

The minimum GPA for continuance in the Graduate Programs is 3.0 overall. Additionally, a minimum grade of "B" is required in each course (nursing) required for degree completion. The *TTUHSC School of Nursing Student Handbook* (https://www.ttuhsc.edu/student-services/handbook.aspx) provides further details regarding academic and graduation expectations.

Requirements for Progression towards the MSN Degree

- Grades are reviewed each semester and progression in the Graduate Program is determined by the applicable Graduate Associate Dean/Department Chair and MSN Program Council.
- MSN students are required to maintain a 3.0 GPA with grades at "B" or above in all graduate courses. Students with a cumulative or semester GPA below 3.0 are placed on academic probation.
- Students receiving "C" or lower in a graduate course are eligible to repeat the course one time only pursuant to recommendation of course faculty.
- Students earning an overall cumulative GPA or a semester GPA less than a 3.0 in the semester of graduation/completion are ineligible for graduation/completion.

Academic Dismissal from the School of Nursing MSN Program will result from the following circumstances:

- Students earning a "C" or lower in two or more graduate courses in one semester.
- Students earning a "C" or lower in the same nursing course twice.
- Students earning a "C" or lower in a second graduate course even though one graduate courses has been retaken and a satisfactory grade of "B" or better has been obtained.
- Cumulative semester or cumulative GPA less than 2.0 for two consecutive semesters

Failing to meet expected standards in any program may result in academic dismissal at any time.

Residence Credit

The minimum residence for the MSN degree is the majority, or over 50%, of graduate course work carrying residence credit must be completed at TTUHSC. Residence credit as used here means credit for work done while enrolled in and attending classes at TTUHSC and should not be

confused with "residence" in the State of Texas.

Majority of Credits

The majority or over 50% of credits toward any graduate or post-baccalaureate professional degree awarded by the TTUHSC must be earned:

- At TTUHSC
- In the case of those programs offered through joint, cooperative, or consortia arrangements through instruction offered by the participating institutions.

Semester Credit Hours and Course Loads

The semester credit hour is the unit of measure for credit purposes. Didactic (lecture) hours are measured on a one-to-one basis; clinical hours are measured on a one-to-three basis for nursing education and informatics tracks; clinical hours are measured on a one-to-four basis for the nursing administration track. For nurse practitioner and nurse midwifery clinical courses, clinical hours are measured on a one-to-3.5 basis. Approximately two hours in preparation for each hour of lecture/didactic and an appropriate amount of time for preparation for clinical activities are required. The number of semester credit hours a student may carry (course load) is regulated by the applicable Program Director. In determining this load, the applicable Program Director takes into account the quality of prior scholastic work performed and the types of courses involved. A student enrolled in nine (9) or more credit hour in the Fall or Spring semester and six (6) or more credit hours in the Summer semester is considered full-time.

DEGREE PLAN

- Upon initial enrollment into the TTUHSC Graduate Programs, each student is provided with a degree plan, individualized according to his/her program of study. The student's individual needs and circumstances are considered when developing the degree plan.
- The applicable Program Director for the program in which the student is enrolled is responsible for approving the degree plan.
- Students are responsible for notifying the

applicable Graduate Program office to discuss changes to the degree plan.

- During orientation to the applicable Graduate Program, students are advised about the requirements for their specific track or major and their responsibility to (a) be knowledgeable about their degree requirements; and (b) meet degree requirements for graduation.
- The degree plan serves as the student's guide for course registration each semester.
- Degree plans for post-master's students will be individualized based on the previous course work and requirements.

TTUHSC Interprofessional Practice and Education (IPE) Core Curriculum

All TTUHSC students, regardless of school affiliation, are required to complete the IPE core curriculum prior to graduation. The IPE core curriculum is composed of two components including successful completion of a non-credit online course (>70% accuracy on the knowledge post-test) and successful participation in at least one registered IPE learning activity. Failure to complete the IPE core curriculum will result in delayed graduation. Students should consult their academic/program advisor and/or school catalog for additional information.

Course Requirements

The following course requirements reflect the basic needs for each track in the MSN program. The plans should only serve as an overview of a basic course schedule of a full-time student and it will vary depending on each student's ability to progress through the program.

NOTE: Nurse midwifery students will be required to secure and present proof of their own purchased student malpractice insurance prior to commencing nurse midwifery-specific clinical courses (NURS 5304, NURS 5470, NURS 5571, and NURS 6620). The average cost for a yearly rate is around $500 and students may select from a carrier of their choice.

MSN Degree Plans for Leadership Programs

MSN Nursing Administration Degree Plan
(Total Credit Hours Required for Completion – 36)

KEY:
- (F) Face-to-face
- (O) Online
- (H) Hybrid (combination of face-to-face and online)
- **(CL)** Concurrent enrollment in a Clinical Section is required
- **(#:#:#)** First # represents the number of credit hours, Second # represents the number of lecture hours per week, Third # represents the number of clinical hours per week
- * Elective Courses are offered at select times as faculty and interest are present
- **(V)** Variable Credit

Required Core Nursing Courses (15 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5351	Scientific Foundations of Advanced Practice Nursing	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5352	Leadership for Healthcare	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5353	Informatics, Quality and Safety	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5324	Population Health: Essentials for Advanced Nursing Practice	(3:3:0 O)
▲NURS 5345	Advanced Practice Nursing: Application of Pathophysiology	(3:3:0 O)

Specialty Courses (21 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5346	The Nursing Administrator: Standards of Excellence, CL	(3:2.5:2 O)
NURS 5447	Administrative Role Development, CL	(4:3.5:2 O)
NURS 5448	Administrative Role Development: The Nurse Administrator as Leader, CL	(4:3:4 O)
NURS 5385	Health Law Survey for the Nurse Executive	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5386	Finance and Budgeting for Nurse Leaders	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 6410	Application of Administrative Practice, CL	(4:1:12 O)

▲ In lieu of NURS 5345, students may opt to take a different leadership-focused course – options will be provided by the Program Director during new student orientation.

MSN Nursing Education Degree Plan
(Total Credit Hours Required for Completion – 39)

KEY:
- (F) Face-to-face
- (O) Online
- (H) Hybrid (combination of face-to-face and online)
- **(CL)** Concurrent enrollment in a Clinical Section is required
- **(#:#:#)** First # represents the number of credit hours, Second # represents the number of lecture hours per week, Third # represents the number of clinical hours per week
- * Elective Courses are offered at select times as faculty and interest are present
- **(V)** Variable Credit

Required Core Nursing Courses (21 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5351	Scientific Foundations of Advanced Practice Nursing	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5352	Leadership for Healthcare	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5353	Informatics, Quality and Safety	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5324	Population Health: Essentials for Advanced Nursing Practice	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5343	Pharmacotherapeutics for Nurses in Advanced Practice	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5345	Advanced Practice Nursing: Application of Pathophysiology	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5342	Advanced Health Assessment (Requires on-campus intensive)	(3:3:0 O)

Specialty Courses (18 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5313	Leadership in Nursing Education I: The Role of the Nurse Educator	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5315	Leadership in Nursing Education II: Best Practices for Curriculum Development and Program Evaluation	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5316	Leadership in Nursing Education III: Best Practices in Assessment and Measurement	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5317	Comprehensive Clinical Care, CL	(3:2:3 O)
NURS 5318	Simulation and Clinical Teaching, CL (Requires on-campus skills lab)	(3:2.5:1.5 O)
NURS 6030	Leadership in Nursing Education IV: Role and Practicum, CL	(3:.5:7.5 O)

MSN Nursing Informatics Degree Plan

(Total Credit Hours Required for Completion – 36)

KEY:

- (F) Face-to-face
- (O) Online
- (H) Hybrid (combination of face-to-face and online)
- **(CL)** Concurrent enrollment in a Clinical Section is required
- **(#:#:#)** First # represents the number of credit hours, Second # represents the number of lecture hours per week, Third # represents the number of clinical hours per week
- * Elective Courses are offered at select times as faculty and interest are present
- **(V)** Variable Credit

Required Core Nursing Courses (12 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5351	Scientific Foundations of Advanced Practice Nursing	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5352	Leadership for Healthcare	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5353	Informatics, Quality and Safety	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5324	Population Health: Essentials for Advanced Nursing Practice	(3:3:0 O)

Specialty Courses (24 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5231	Informatics I: Foundations of Nursing Informatics Specialization: Theories of Practice	(2:2:0 O)
NURS 5332	Informatics II: Health Information Management and Knowledge, CL (Requires on-campus skills lab)	(3:2:3 O)
NURS 5333	Informatics III: Information Technology, CL (Requires on-campus skills lab)	(3:2:3 O)
NURS 5334	Informatics IV: Health Information Technology Systems Life Cycle, CL (Requires on-campus skills lab)	(3:2:3 O)
NURS 5335	Informatics V: Managing and Leading in Informatics, CL (Requires on-campus skills lab)	(3:2:3 O)
NURS 53XX	Project Management (Under development)	
NURS 5386	Finance and Budgeting for Nurse Leaders	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 6440	Informatics VI: Practicum, CL	(4:1:9 O)
▲NURS 6310	Practical Application of Statistics in Health Care	(3:3:0 H)

▲ Option to take this DNP course in lieu of Project Management Course or as an additional course – the Program Director will discuss at new student orientation

MSN Degree Plans for APRN Programs

Acute Care Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Degree Plan
(Total Credit Hours Required for Completion – 51)

KEY:
- (F) Face-to-face
- (O) Online
- (H) Hybrid (combination of face-to-face and online)
- **(CL)** Concurrent enrollment in a Clinical Section is required
- **(#:#:#)** First # represents the number of credit hours, Second # represents the number of lecture hours per week, Third # represents the number of clinical hours per week
- * Elective Courses are offered at select times as faculty and interest are present
- **(V)** Variable Credit

Required Core Nursing Courses (12 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5324	Population Health: Essentials for Advanced Nursing Practice	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5351	Scientific Foundations of Advanced Nursing Practice	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5352	Leadership for Healthcare	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5353	Informatics, Quality and Safety	(3:3:0 O)

Prerequisite Nursing Courses (17 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5220	Critical Care Pharmacology	(2:2:0 O)
NURS 5312	Foundations for Advanced Practice Nursing Role	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5320	Diagnostic Methods for Advanced Nursing Practice (Requires on-campus intensive)	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5342	Advanced Health Assessment (Requires on-campus intensive)	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5343	Pharmacotherapeutics for Nurses in Advanced Practice	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5345	Advanced Practice Nursing: Application of Pathophysiology	(3:3:0 O)

Population Focus Courses (22 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5200	Essentials of Pediatric Acute Care	(2:2:0 O)
NURS 5309	Foundations of the Well Child	(3:3:0 O)
▲NURS 5500	Pediatric Acute Care I, CL (Requires on-campus skills lab)	(5:2:10.5 O)
NURS 5600	Pediatric Acute Care II, CL (Requires on-campus skills lab)	(6:2:14 O)
NURS 6690	Pediatric Acute Care III, CL (Requires on-campus skills lab)	(6:1:17.5 O)

▲   All Acute Care Pediatric Nurse Practitioner students are required to hold PALS Certification prior to first population focus clinical course.

Two (2) years of RN experience in pediatrics required at the time of application. Experience in pediatric acute care, critical care, or emergency department setting preferred.

Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner Degree Plan

(Total Credit Hours Required for Completion – 48)

KEY:
- (F) Face-to-face
- (O) Online
- (H) Hybrid (combination of face-to-face and online)
- **(CL)** Concurrent enrollment in a Clinical Section is required
- **(#:#:#)** First # represents the number of credit hours, Second # represents the number of lecture hours per week, Third # represents the number of clinical hours per week
- * Elective Courses are offered at select times as faculty and interest are present
- **(V)** Variable Credit

Required Core Nursing Courses (12 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5324	Population Health: Essentials for Advanced Nursing Practice	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5351	Scientific Foundations of Advanced Nursing Practice	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5352	Leadership for Healthcare	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5353	Informatics, Quality and Safety	(3:3:0 O)

Prerequisite Nursing Courses (17 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5220	Critical Care Pharmacology	(2:2:0 O)
NURS 5312	Foundations for Advanced Practice Nursing Role	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5320	Diagnostic Methods for Advanced Nursing Practice (Requires on-campus intensive)	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5342	Advanced Health Assessment (Requires on-campus intensive)	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5343	Pharmacotherapeutics for Nurses in Advanced Practice	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5345	Advanced Practice Nursing: Application of Pathophysiology	(3:3:0 O)

Population Focus Courses (19 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5410	Essentials of Acute Care, CL (Requires on-campus skills lab)	(4:3:1 O)
▲NURS 5460	Adult-Gerontology Acute Care I, CL (Requires on-campus skills lab)	(4:2:7 O)
NURS 5561	Adult-Gerontology Acute Care II, CL (Requires on-campus skills lab)	(5:2:10.5 O)
NURS 6652	Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Practicum, CL (Requires on-campus skills lab)	(6:1:17.5 O)

▲   All Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner students are required to hold ACLS Certification prior to first population focus clinical course.

One (1) year of RN experience at the time of application within last 5 years in acute care, ICU, or ER required for admission to the Adult-Gerontology Acute Care track.

Family Nurse Practitioner Degree Plan
(Total Credit Hours Required for Completion – 48)

KEY:
- (F) Face-to-face
- (O) Online
- (H) Hybrid (combination of face-to-face and online)
- **(CL)** Concurrent enrollment in a Clinical Section is required
- **(#:#:#)** First # represents the number of credit hours, Second # represents the number of lecture hours per week, Third # represents the number of clinical hours per week
- * Elective Courses are offered at select times as faculty and interest are present
- **(V)** Variable Credit

Required Core Nursing Courses (12 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5324	Population Health: Essentials for Advanced Nursing Practice	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5351	Scientific Foundations of Advanced Nursing Practice	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5352	Leadership for Healthcare	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5353	Informatics, Quality and Safety	(3:3:0 O)

Prerequisite Nursing Courses (21 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 6318	Mental Health in Primary Care	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5312	Foundations for Advanced Practice Nursing Role	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5320	Diagnostic Methods for Advanced Nursing Practice (Requires on-campus intensive)	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5342	Advanced Health Assessment (Requires on-campus intensive)	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5343	Pharmacotherapeutics for Nurses in Advanced Practice	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5345	Advanced Practice Nursing: Application of Pathophysiology	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5309	Foundations of the Well Child	(3:3:0 O)

Population Focus Courses (15 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
▲NURS 5440	Primary Health Care I, CL (Requires on-campus skills lab)	(4:2:7 O)
NURS 5541	Primary Health Care II, CL (Requires on-campus skills lab)	(5:2:10.5 O)
NURS 6660	Family Nurse Practitioner Practicum, CL (Requires on-campus skills lab)	(6:1:17.5 O)

▲   All Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) students are required to hold current ACLS Certification prior to first population focus clinical course. Applicants to the FNP track must have one (1) year of experience as a RN prior to application submission.

Nurse-Midwifery Degree Plan - Effective academic year 2018-2019.
(Total Credit Hours Required for Completion – 51)

KEY:
- (F) Face-to-face
- (O) Online
- (H) Hybrid (combination of face-to-face and online)
- **(CL)** Concurrent enrollment in a Clinical Section is required
- **(#:#:#)** First # represents the number of credit hours, Second # represents the number of lecture hours per week, Third # represents the number of clinical hours per week
- * Elective Courses are offered at select times as faculty and interest are present
- **(V)** Variable Credit

Required Core Nursing Courses (12 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5324	Population Health: Essentials for Advanced Nursing Practice	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5351	Scientific Foundations of Advanced Nursing Practice	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5352	Leadership for Healthcare	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5322	Health Informatics for Advanced Nursing Practice	(3:3:0 O)

Prerequisite Nursing Courses (12 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5312	Foundations for Advanced Practice Nursing Role	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5342	Advanced Health Assessment (Requires on-campus intensive)	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5343	Pharmacotherapeutics for Nurses in Advanced Practice	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5345	Advanced Practice Nursing: Application of Pathophysiology	(3:3:0 O)

Population Focus Courses (27 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5308	Nurse-Midwifery Practice I: Primary Care of Women	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5205	Nurse-Midwifery II: Gynecological Care	(2:2:0 O)
NURS 5270	Nurse-Midwifery III: Antepartum and Postpartum Care	(2:2:0 O)
NURS 6321	Nurse-Midwifery IV: Intrapartum Care	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5171	Nurse-Midwifery V: Neonatal Care	(1:1:0 O)
NURS 5471	Nurse-Midwifery Integrated Clinical Practicum, Level A, CL (Requires on-campus skills lab)	(4:0:14 O)
NURS 6102	Transition to Nurse-Midwifery Practice	(1:1:0 O)
NURS 6520	Nurse-Midwifery Integrated Clinical Practicum, Level B, CL (Requires on-campus skills lab)	(5:0:17.5 O)
NURS 6610	Nurse-Midwifery Clinical Immersion Practicum, CL (Requires on-campus skills lab)	(6:0:21 O)

All Nurse Midwifery students are required to complete a NRP (neonatal resuscitation program) and EFM (electronic fetal monitoring) course prior to first population focus clinical course.

One (1) year of birth support experience is required prior to the first population focus clinical course.

Nurse Midwifery Degree Plan - This degree plan is being phased out and will no longer be available after academic year 2019-2020.
(Total Credit Hours Required for Completion – 51)

KEY:
- (F) Face-to-face
- (O) Online
- (H) Hybrid (combination of face-to-face and online)
- **(CL)** Concurrent enrollment in a Clinical Section is required
- **(#:#:#)** First # represents the number of credit hours, Second # represents the number of lecture hours per week, Third # represents the number of clinical hours per week
- * Elective Courses are offered at select times as faculty and interest are present
- **(V)** Variable Credit

Required Core Nursing Courses (18 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5322	Health Informatics for Advanced Nursing Practice	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5323	Leadership for Advanced Nursing Practice	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5324	Population Health Essentials for Advanced Nursing Practice	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5325	Health Policy Essentials for Advanced Nursing Practice	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5326	Research for Advanced Nursing Practice	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5327	Evidence for Advanced Nursing Practice	(3:3:0 O)

Pre-requisite Nursing Courses (15 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5312	Foundations for Advanced Practice Nursing Role	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5320	Diagnostic Methods for Advanced Nursing Practice (Requires on-campus intensive)	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5342	Advanced Health Assessment (Requires on-campus intensive)	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5343	Pharmacotherapeutics for Nurses in Advanced Practice	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5345	Advanced Practice Nursing: Application of Pathophysiology	(3:3:0 O)

Population Focus Courses (18 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
▲NURS 5304	Foundations for Nurse Midwifery, CL (Requires on-campus skills lab)	(3:1:3.5 O)
NURS 5470	Nurse Midwifery I - Antepartum Care Management, CL (Requires on-campus skills lab)	(4:2:7 O)
NURS 5571	Nurse Midwifery II - Intrapartum/Postpartum/Newborn Care, CL (Requires on-campus skills lab)	(5:2:10.5 O)
NURS 6620	Nursing Midwifery Practicum Integrated Practice, CL (Requires on-campus skills lab)	(6:1:17.5 O)

▲   All Nurse Midwifery students are required to complete a NRP (neonatal resuscitation program) and EFM (electronic fetal monitoring) prior to first population focus clinical course.

One year of birth support experience is required before the first population-focus clinical course.

Pediatric Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Degree Plan

(Total Credit Hours Required for Completion – 49)

KEY:
- (F) Face-to-face
- (O) Online
- (H) Hybrid (combination of face-to-face and online)
- **(CL)** Concurrent enrollment in a Clinical Section is required
- **(#:#:#)** First # represents the number of credit hours, Second # represents the number of lecture hours per week, Third # represents the number of clinical hours per week
- * Elective Courses are offered at select times as faculty and interest are present
- **(V)** Variable Credit

Required Core Nursing Courses (12 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5324	Population Health: Essentials for Advanced Nursing Practice	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5351	Scientific Foundations of Advanced Nursing Practice	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5352	Leadership for Healthcare	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5353	Informatics, Quality and Safety	(3:3:0 O)

Prerequisite Nursing Courses (15 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5312	Foundations for Advanced Practice Nursing Role	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5320	Diagnostic Methods for Advanced Nursing Practice (Requires on-campus intensive)	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5342	Advanced Health Assessment (Requires on-campus intensive)	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5343	Pharmacotherapeutics for Nurses in Advanced Practice	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5345	Advanced Practice Nursing: Application of Pathophysiology	(3:3:0 O)

Population Focus Courses (22 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5309	Foundations of the Well Child	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5319	Foundations of Care of the Sick Child	(3:3:0 O)
▲NURS 5580	Pediatric Primary Care I, CL (Requires-on campus skills lab)	(5:2:10.5 O)
NURS 5581	Pediatric Primary Care II, CL (Requires-on campus skills lab)	(5:2:10.5 O)
NURS 6680	Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Practicum, CL (Requires-on campus skills lab)	(6:1:17.5 O)

▲   All Pediatric Nurse Practitioner students are required to hold PALS Certification prior to first population focus clinical course.

Two (2) years of RN experience in pediatrics required at the time of application.

Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Degree Plan
(Total Credit Hours Required for Completion – 49)

KEY:
- (F) Face-to-face
- (O) Online
- (H) Hybrid (combination of face-to-face and online)
- **(CL)** Concurrent enrollment in a Clinical Section is required
- **(#:#:#)** First # represents the number of credit hours, Second # represents the number of lecture hours per week, Third # represents the number of clinical hours per week
- * Elective Courses are offered at select times as faculty and interest are present
- **(V)** Variable Credit

Required Core Nursing Courses (9 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5351	Scientific Foundations of Advanced Nursing Practice	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5352	Leadership for Healthcare	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5324	Population Health: Essentials for Advanced Nursing Practice	(3:3:0 O)

Advanced Practice Nursing Courses (12 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5345	Advanced Practice Nursing: Application of Pathophysiology	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5342	Advanced Health Assessment (Requires on-campus intensive)	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5343	Pharmacotherapeutics for Nurses in Advanced Practice	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5312	Foundations for Advanced Practice Nursing Role	(3:3:0 O)

Population Focus Courses (28 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5203	Neuroscience & Epigenetics: A Lifespan Approach	(2:2:0 O)
NURS 5204	Psychopharmacology	(2:2:0 O)
NURS 5307	Diagnostics and Management I : Advanced Mental Health Assessment Across the Lifespan, CL	(3:2:1 O)
NURS 5202	Psychotherapeutic Modalities with Individuals, Families and Groups across the Lifespan	(2:2:0 O)
NURS 5201	Telehealth and Rural Service Delivery	(2:2:0 O)
NURS 5603	Evidence-Based Management of Adults with Mental Health Disorders, CL	(6:3:3 O)
NURS 5604	Evidence-Based Management: Children & Adolescents with Mental Health Disorders, CL	(6:3:3 O)
NURS 6500	Interprofessional Collaboration in Management of Complex Psychiatric Patients Across the Lifespan, CL	(5:2:3 O)

Applicants to the PMHNP track are not required to have previous nursing experience, but must have a passion for serving those with psychiatric disorders and have the ability to communicate effectively.

Post-Master's Certificate Course Requirements

Nursing Education Post-Master's Certificate

(Total Credit Hours Required for Completion – 27 including master's level pathophysiology, pharmacology and advanced health assessment)

KEY:
- (F) Face-to-face
- (O) Online
- (H) Hybrid (combination of face-to-face and on-line)
- **(CL)** Concurrent enrollment in a Clinical Section is required
- **(#:#:#)** First # represents the number of credit hours, Second # represents the number of lecture hours per week, Third # represents the number of clinical hours per week
- * Elective Courses are offered at select times as faculty and interest are present
- **(V)** Variable Credit

Pre or corequisites to Required Nursing Courses:

The applicable Associate Dean/Department Chair will review the applicant's previous academic preparation and/or competency in required courses in order to award transfer credit. Any deficiencies will be met by enrollment in required courses.

Specialty Courses (27 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5343	Pharmacotherapeutics for Nursing in Advanced Practice	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5345	Advanced Practice Nursing: Application of Pathophysiology	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5342	Advanced Health Assessment (Requires on-campus intensive)	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5313	Leadership in Nursing Education I: The Role of the Nurse Educator	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5315	Leadership in Nursing Education II: Best Practices for Curriculum Development and Program Evaluation	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5316	Leadership in Nursing Education III: Best Practices in Assessment & Measurement	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5317	Comprehensive Clinical Care, CL	(3:2:3 O)
NURS 5318	Simulation and Clinical Teaching, CL (Requires on-campus lab)	(3:2.5:1.5 O)
NURS 6030	Leadership in Nursing Education IV: Role and Practicum, CL	(3:.5:7.5 O)

Applicants for the post-master's nursing education certificate must have master's level pathophysiology, pharmacology, and advanced health assessment courses.

Nursing Informatics Post-Master's Certificate
(Total Credit Hours Required for Completion – 21)

KEY:
- (F) Face-to-face
- (O) Online
- (H) Hybrid (combination of face-to-face and on-line)
- **(CL)** Concurrent enrollment in a Clinical Section is required
- **(#:#:#)** First # represents the number of credit hours, Second # represents the number of lecture hours per week, Third # represents the number of clinical hours per week
- * Elective Courses are offered at select times as faculty and interest are present
- **(V)** Variable Credit

Pre or corequisites to Required Nursing Courses:
The applicable Associate Dean/Department Chair will review the applicant's previous academic preparation and/or competency in required courses in order to award transfer credit. Any deficiencies will be met by enrollment in required courses.

Specialty Courses (21 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5386	Finance and Budgeting for Nurse Leaders	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5231	Informatics I: Foundations of Nursing Informatics Specialization: Theories of Practice	(2:2:0 O)
NURS 5332	Informatics II: Health Information Management and Knowledge, CL	(3:2:3 O)
NURS 5333	Informatics III: Information Technology, CL	(3:2:3 O)
NURS 5334	Informatics IV: Health Information Technology Systems Life Cycle, CL	(3:2:3 O)
NURS 5335	Informatics V: Managing and Leading in Informatics, CL	(3:2:3 O)
NURS 6440	Informatics VI: Practicum, CL	(4:1:9 O)

Acute Care Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Post-Master's Certificate
(Total Credit Hours Required for Completion – 39)

KEY:
- (F) Face-to-face
- (O) Online
- (H) Hybrid (combination of face-to-face and on-line)
- **(CL)** Concurrent enrollment in a Clinical Section is required
- **(#:#:#)** First # represents the number of credit hours, Second # represents the number of lecture hours per week, Third # represents the number of clinical hours per week
- * Elective Courses are offered at select times as faculty and interest are present
- **(V)** Variable Credit

Pre or corequisites to Required Nursing Courses:
The applicable Associate Dean/Department Chair will review the applicant's previous academic preparation and/or competency in required courses in order to award transfer credit. Any deficiencies will be met by enrollment in required courses.

Required Nursing Courses (39 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5220	Critical Care Pharmacology	(2:2:0 O)
NURS 5200	Essentials of Pediatric Acute Care	(2:2:0 O)
NURS 5312	Foundations for Advanced Practice Nursing Role	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5320	Diagnostic Methods for Advanced Nursing Practice (Requires on-campus intensive)	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5342	Advanced Health Assessment (Requires on-campus intensive)	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5343	Pharmacotherapeutics for Nurses in Advanced Practice	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5345	Advanced Practice Nursing: Application of Pathophysiology	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5309	Foundations of the Well Child	(3:3:0 O)
▲NURS 5500	Pediatric Acute Care I, CL (Requires on-campus skills lab)	(5:2:10.5 O)
NURS 5600	Pediatric Acute Care II, CL (Requires on-campus skills lab)	(6:2:14 O)
NURS 6690	Pediatric Acute Care III, CL (Requires on-campus skills lab)	(6:1:17.5 O)

▲   All Acute Care Pediatric Nurse Practitioner students are required to hold PALS Certification prior to first population focus clinical course.
Two (2) years of RN experience in pediatrics required at the time of application. Experience in pediatric acute care, critical care, or emergency department setting preferred.

Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner Post-Master's Certificate

(Total Credit Hours Required for Completion – 36)

KEY:

- (F) Face-to-face
- (O) Online
- (H) Hybrid (combination of face-to-face and on-line)
- **(CL)** Concurrent enrollment in a Clinical Section is required
- **(#:#:#)** First # represents the number of credit hours, Second # represents the number of lecture hours per week, Third # represents the number of clinical hours per week
- * Elective Courses are offered at select times as faculty and interest are present
- **(V)** Variable Credit

Pre or corequisites to Required Nursing Courses:

The applicable Associate Dean/Department Chair will review the applicant's previous academic preparation and/or competency in required courses in order to award transfer credit. Any deficiencies will be met by enrollment in required courses.

Required Nursing Courses (36 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5410	Essentials of Acute Care, CL (Requires on-campus skills lab)	(4:3:1 O)
NURS 5220	Critical Care Pharmacology	(2:2:0 O)
NURS 5312	Foundations for Advanced Practice Nursing Role	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5320	Diagnostic Methods for Advanced Nursing Practice (Requires on-campus intensive)	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5342	Advanced Health Assessment (Requires on-campus intensive)	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5343	Pharmacotherapeutics for Nurses in Advanced Practice	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5345	Advanced Practice Nursing: Application of Pathophysiology	(3:3:0 O)
▲NURS 5460	Adult-Gerontology Acute Care I, CL (Requires-on campus skills lab)	(4:2:7 O)
NURS 5561	Adult-Gerontology Acute Care II, CL (Requires-on campus skills lab)	(5:2:10.5 O)
NURS 6652	Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Practicum, CL (Requires-on campus skills lab)	(6:1:17.5 O)

▲ All Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner students are required to hold ACLS Certification prior to the first population focus clinical course.
One (1) year of RN experience at the time of application within the last five (5) years in acute care, ICU, or ER required for admission to the Adult-Gerontology Acute Care track.

Family Nurse Practitioner Post-Master's Certificate
(Total Credit Hours Required for Completion – 36)

KEY:
- (F) Face-to-face
- (O) Online
- (H) Hybrid (combination of face-to-face and on-line)
- **(CL)** Concurrent enrollment in a Clinical Section is required
- **(#:#:#)** First # represents the number of credit hours, Second # represents the number of lecture hours per week, Third # represents the number of clinical hours per week
- * Elective Courses are offered at select times as faculty and interest are present
- **(V)** Variable Credit

Pre or corequisites to Required Nursing Courses:
The applicable Associate Dean/Department Chair will review the applicant's previous academic preparation and/or competency in required courses in order to award transfer credit. Any deficiencies will be met by enrollment in required courses.

Required Nursing Courses (36 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5309	Foundations of the Well Child	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5312	Foundations for Advanced Practice Nursing Role	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5320	Diagnostic Methods for Advanced Nursing Practice (Requires on-campus intensive)	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5342	Advanced Health Assessment (Requires on-campus intensive)	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5343	Pharmacotherapeutics for Nurses in Advanced Practice	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5345	Advanced Practice Nursing: Application of Pathophysiology	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 6318	Mental Health in Primary Care	(3:3:0 O)
▲NURS 5440	Primary Health Care I, CL (Requires on-campus skills lab)	(4:2:7 O)
NURS 5541	Primary Health Care II, CL (Requires on-campus skills lab)	(5:2:10.5 O)
NURS 6660	Family Nurse Practitioner Practicum, CL (Requires on-campus skills lab)	(6:1:17.5 O)

▲   All Family Nurse Practitioner students are required to hold ACLS Certification prior to first population focus clinical course.
Applicants to the Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) track must have one (1) year of experience as a RN prior to application submission.

Nurse-Midwifery Post-Master's Certificate
(Total Credit Hours Required for Completion – 27)

KEY:
- (F) Face-to-face
- (O) Online
- (H) Hybrid (combination of face-to-face and on-line)
- **(CL)** Concurrent enrollment in a Clinical Section is required
- **(#:#:#)** First # represents the number of credit hours, Second # represents the number of lecture hours per week, Third # represents the number of clinical hours per week
- * Elective Courses are offered at select times as faculty and interest are present
- **(V)** Variable Credit

Pre or corequisites to Required Nursing Courses:
The applicable Associate Dean/Department Chair will review the applicant's previous academic preparation and/or competency in required courses in order to award transfer credit. Any deficiencies will be met by enrollment in required courses.

Population Focus Courses (27 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5308	Nurse-Midwifery Practice I: Primary Care of Women (Requires on-campus skills lab)	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5205	Nurse-Midwifery II: Gynecological Care (Requires on-campus skills lab)	(2:2:0 O)
NURS 5270	Nurse-Midwifery III: Antepartum and Postpartum Care (Requires on-campus skills lab)	(2:2:0 O)
NURS 6321	Nurse-Midwifery IV: Intrapartum Care (Requires on-campus skills lab)	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5171	Nurse-Midwifery V: Neonatal Care (Requires on-campus skills lab)	(1:1:0 O)
NURS 5471	Nurse-Midwifery Integrated Clinical Practicum, Level A, CL	(4:0:14 O)
NURS 6102	Transition to Nurse-Midwifery Practice	(1:1:0 O)
NURS 6520	Nurse-Midwifery Integrated Clinical Practicum, Level B, CL	(5:0:17.5 O)
NURS 6610	Nurse-Midwifery Clinical Immersion Practicum, CL	(6:0:21 O)

- All Nurse Midwifery students are required to complete a NRP (neonatal resuscitation program) and EFM (electronic fetal monitoring) course prior to first population focus clinical course.
- One (1) year of birth support experience is required prior to the first population focus clinical course.
- Degree plans for post-master's students will be individualized based on the previous course work and requirements. The sample degree plan is based on enrolling in all nurse-midwifery courses.

Pediatric Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Post-Master's Certificate

(Total Credit Hours Required for Completion – 37)

KEY:
- (F) Face-to-face
- (O) Online
- (H) Hybrid (combination of face-to-face and on-line)
- **(CL)** Concurrent enrollment in a Clinical Section is required
- **(#:#:#)** First # represents the number of credit hours, Second # represents the number of lecture hours per week, Third # represents the number of clinical hours per week
- * Elective Courses are offered at select times as faculty and interest are present
- **(V)** Variable Credit

Pre or corequisites to Required Nursing Courses:

The applicable Associate Dean/Department Chair will review the applicant's previous academic preparation and/or competency in required courses in order to award transfer credit. Any deficiencies will be met by enrollment in required courses.

Required Nursing Courses (37 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5319	Foundations of Care of the Sick Child	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5312	Foundations for Advanced Practice Nursing Role	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5320	Diagnostic Methods for Advanced Nursing Practice (Requires on-campus intensive)	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5342	Advanced Health Assessment (Requires on-campus intensive)	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5343	Pharmacotherapeutics for Nurses in Advanced Practice	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5345	Advanced Practice Nursing: Application of Pathophysiology	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5309	Foundations of the Well Child	(3:3:0 O)
▲NURS 5580	Pediatric Primary Care I, CL (Requires-on campus skills lab)	(5:2:10.5 O)
NURS 5581	Pediatric Primary Care II, CL (Requires-on campus skills lab)	(5:2:10.5 O)
NURS 6680	Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Practicum, CL (Requires-on campus skills lab)	(6:1:17.5 O)

▲ All Pediatric Nurse Practitioner students are required to hold PALS Certification prior to first population focus clinical course.

Two (2) years of RN experience in pediatrics required at the time of application.

Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Post-Master's Certificate (non-APRN)
(Total Credit Hours Required for Completion – 40)

KEY:
- (F) Face-to-face
- (O) Online
- (H) Hybrid (combination of face-to-face and on-line)
- **(CL)** Concurrent enrollment in a Clinical Section is required
- **(#:#:#)** First # represents the number of credit hours, Second # represents the number of lecture hours per week, Third # represents the number of clinical hours per week
- * Elective Courses are offered at select times as faculty and interest are present
- **(V)** Variable Credit

Pre or corequisites to Required Nursing Courses:
The applicable Associate Dean/Department Chair will review the applicant's previous academic preparation and/or competency in required courses in order to award transfer credit. Any deficiencies will be met by enrollment in required courses.

Required Nursing Courses (12 credit hour)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5312	Foundations for Advanced Practice Nursing Role	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5342	Advanced Health Assessment (Requires on-campus intensive)	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5343	Pharmacotherapeutics for Nurses in Advanced Practice	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5345	Advanced Practice Nursing: Application of Pathophysiology	(3:3:0 O)

Population Focus Courses (28 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5203	Neuroscience & Epigenetics: A Lifespan Approach	(2:2:0 O)
NURS 5204	Psychopharmacology	(2:2:0 O)
NURS 5307	Diagnostics and Management I : Advanced Mental Health Assessment Across the Lifespan, CL	(3:2:1 O)
NURS 5202	Psychotherapeutic Modalities with Individuals, Families and Groups across the Lifespan	(2:2:0 O)
NURS 5201	Telehealth and Rural Service Delivery	(2:2:0 O)
NURS 5603	Evidence-Based Management of Adults with Mental Health Disorders, CL	(6:3:3 O)
NURS 5604	Evidence-Based Management: Children & Adolescents with Mental Health Disorders, CL	(6:3:3 O)
NURS 6500	Interprofessional Collaboration in Management of Complex Psychiatric Patients Across the Lifespan, CL	(5:2:3 O)

Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Post-MSN Certificate (current APRN)

(Total Credit Hours Required for Completion – 28)

KEY:
- (F) Face-to-face
- (O) Online
- (H) Hybrid (combination of face-to-face and on-line)
- **(CL)** Concurrent enrollment in a Clinical Section is required
- **(#:#:#)** First # represents the number of credit hours, Second # represents the number of lecture hours per week, Third # represents the number of clinical hours per week
- * Elective Courses are offered at select times as faculty and interest are present
- **(V)** Variable Credit

Pre or corequisites to Required Nursing Courses:

The applicable Associate Dean/Department Chair will review the applicant's previous academic preparation and/or competency in required courses in order to award transfer credit. Any deficiencies will be met by enrollment in required courses.

Population Focus Courses (28 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5203	Neuroscience & Epigenetics: A Lifespan Approach	(2:2:0 O)
NURS 5204	Psychopharmacology	(2:2:0 O)
NURS 5307	Diagnostics and Management I : Advanced Mental Health Assessment Across the Lifespan, CL	(3:2:1 O)
NURS 5202	Psychotherapeutic Modalities with Individuals, Families and Groups across the Lifespan	(2:2:0 O)
NURS 5201	Telehealth and Rural Service Delivery	(2:2:0 O)
NURS 5603	Evidence-Based Management of Adults with Mental Health Disorders, CL	(6:3:3 O)
NURS 5604	Evidence-Based Management: Children & Adolescents with Mental Health Disorders, CL	(6:3:3 O)
NURS 6500	Interprofessional Collaboration in Management of the Complex Psychiatric Patients Across the Lifespan, CL	(5:2:3 O)

Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Post-MSN Certificate + DNP (current APRN in another track)

(Total Credit Hours Required for Completion - Individualized in conjunction with the DNP program director. The following courses (28 credit hours) will be required to take the PMHNP exam for certification through American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC))

KEY:

- (F) Face-to-face
- (O) Online
- (H) Hybrid (combination of face-to-face and on-line)
- **(CL)** Concurrent enrollment in a Clinical Section is required
- **(#:#:#)** First # represents the number of credit hours, Second # represents the number of lecture hours per week, Third # represents the number of clinical hours per week
- * Elective Courses are offered at select times as faculty and interest are present
- **(V)** Variable Credit

Pre or corequisites to Required Nursing Courses:

The applicable Associate Dean/Department Chair will review the applicant's previous academic preparation and/or competency in required courses in order to award transfer credit. Any deficiencies will be met by enrollment in required courses.

Population Focus Courses (28 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5201	Telehealth and Rural Service Delivery	(2:2:0 O)
NURS 5203	Neuroscience & Epigenetics: A Lifespan Approach	(2:2:0 O)
NURS 5204	Psychopharmacology	(2:2:0 O)
NURS 5307	Diagnostics and Management I : Advanced Mental Health Assessment Across the Lifespan, CL	(3:2:1 O)
NURS 5202	Psychotherapeutic Modalities with Individuals, Families and Groups across the Lifespan	(2:2:0 O)
NURS 5603	Evidence-Based Management of Adults with Mental Health Disorders, CL	(6:3:3 O)
NURS 5604	Evidence-Based Management: Children & Adolescents with Mental Health Disorders, CL	(6:3:3 O)
NURS 6500	Interprofessional Collaboration in Management of Complex Psychiatric Patients Across the Lifespan, CL	(5:2:3 O)

Applicants must apply and be accepted into the DNP program as well as into the Post-MSN certificate program for dual enrollment. The above courses will be required for the PMHNP plan of study to enable the student to take the PMHNP certification exam.

DOCTOR of NURSING PRACTICE PROGRAM (DNP)

Barbara Cherry, DNSc, MBA, RN, NEA-BC
Professor, Associate Dean/Department Chair, Leadership Program

Emily Merrill, PhD, RN, FNP, BC, CNE, FAANP
Professor, Associate Dean/Department Chair, APRN (Advanced Practice Registered Nurse) Program

Purpose
The purpose of the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) Program is to provide a rigorous education to prepare clinical scholars who translate science to improve population health through expert leadership that powers innovation in health care for West Texas, the state, and the nation.

Student Learning Outcomes
Upon program completion, the graduate will be prepared to:
- Integrate nursing science with knowledge from ethics, biophysical, psychosocial, analytical, and organizational sciences to foster a culture of heaths and transform clinical practice and health care delivery systems.
- Develop and operationalize effective, culturally relevant, and evidence-based clinical practice approaches that meet current and future needs of patient populations.
- Design and implement evidence-based strategies to analyze and improve outcomes of care at the practice, system, or population levels.
- Apply, use, and evaluate health care information systems, information literacy and patient care technology to advance quality, patient safety, and organizational effectiveness.
- Facilitate interprofessional team building and collaborative leadership skills to create positive change and improve outcomes in complex health care systems.
- Exercise leadership skills to analyze, develop,

influence, and implement health policies that advocate social justice, equity, and ethics within all health care arenas.
- Analyze epidemiological, biostatistical, environmental, and other appropriate scientific data to develop culturally relevant and scientifically based health promotion and disease prevention initiatives.
- Employ advanced leadership skills, systems thinking, and accountability to design, deliver and evaluate evidence-based management practices to improve patient, population and health system outcomes (Executive Leadership track).
- Employ advanced practice levels of clinical judgment, systems thinking, and accountability to design, deliver, and evaluate evidence-based care to improve patient and population outcomes (Advanced Practice Nursing Track).

DNP PROGRAM OVERVIEW
The DNP Program offers the following tracks for completing the DNP degree:
- BSN to DNP for Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP)
- BSN to DNP for Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PMHNP)
- Post-master's DNP for Executive Leadership
- Post-master's DNP for Advanced Practice Nursing

BSN to DNP Track for Family Nurse Practitioners (FNP) and Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing (PMHNP) Overview
Nurses with the BSN degree can apply to the BSN to DNP program and move directly from the BSN degree to the DNP degree for the FNP and PMHNP tracks (see Admission Requirements for additional criteria for admission). The BSN to DNP program is a combination of online and face-to-face courses and supervised clinical experiences and will meet all educational standards established by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing's Essentials of Doctoral Education for Advanced Nursing

Practice (2006) and the National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculty's (NONPF) Criteria for Evaluation of Nurse Practitioner Programs (2016), which are the standards for both FNP and PMHNP programs. Graduates will meet all qualifications to sit for national certification to become a Family Nurse Practitioner or a Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner upon completion of the DNP degree.

Post-Master's DNP Overview

Advanced practice nurses and clinical administrative leaders with a master's degree have the opportunity to obtain the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP), a terminal degree designed for practice at the highest level of nursing. Students interested in the advanced practice nursing specialty must have a master's degree and be prepared as a nurse practitioner, nurse midwife, clinical nurse specialist, or nurse anesthetist with national certification. Students interested in the executive leadership specialty must have a master's degree and experience in a healthcare leadership position. The primary goal of the DNP program is to prepare graduates for clinically intensive leadership careers including advanced clinical practice, executive leadership, applied clinical research, and faculty leadership roles. The program allows students to participate in online activities as well as on-campus intensives.

BSN to DNP APPLICATION and ADMISSION INFORMATION

BSN to DNP Application Dates

Fall	November 1 - February 15
Spring	No Admission
Summer	No Admission

Consideration for admission is given to applicants meeting all admission criteria who have submitted **ALL** admission requirements by the application deadline through the online TTUHSC application portal.

BSN to DNP Admission Requirements

Applicants must submit the following application requirements for full admission:

- Completed and submitted online application as directed on the School of Nursing website
- Valid unencumbered RN License
- Baccalaureate nursing degree from a regionally accredited college or university with nursing program accreditation from the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) or accreditation from the American Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN), formerly the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC)
    -Applicants with a transcript(s) from a foreign university (ies) are to submit a Commission for Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools (CGFNS) evaluation of their transcript(s). Additionally applicants from a country where the primary language is not English, must provide evidence of achieving a total score of 84 or higher with a speaking score of 26 or higher and a writing score of 27 or higher on the TOEFL iBT.
- Completion of undergraduate courses in research and statistics with a grade of C or better taken within five years of application to the program
- A minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 (4.0 scale) for all coursework leading to the baccalaureate degree. (The undergraduate science courses GPA may be considered as a factor for admission.)
- Current Basic Life Support (BLS) Certification from the American Heart Association
- Computer literacy
- Critical analysis essay
- Professional letters of reference (3). One from a manager in your current nursing role, a peer in your area of practice and a former faculty member that can attest to your ability to successfully complete doctoral studies.
- Oath of Residency
- Official transcripts from all institutions formerly attended. NOTE: All transcripts

must be from regionally accredited colleges or universities with nursing program accreditation from the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) or accreditation from American Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN), formerly the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC)

- Current Curriculum Vita (CV) or Resume' (in the template provided in the application process)
- Interview with DNP faculty (Interviews are conducted on an invitation only basis after a review of submitted application materials).
- Personal Statement/Essay (maximum of 300 words)
- Critical analysis response to track specific question(s)(maximum of 600 words)
- Computer literacy defined as an understanding of the capabilities and limitations of a computer and how to use them wisely within clinical workflow and for scholarly work. Applicants must complete the TTUHSC SON Computer Literacy Test located at http://nursing.ttuhsc.edu/skills prior to applying.

Non-Academic Considerations (BSN to DNP) – include but are not limited to:
- Evidence of leadership in nursing (Professional organizations, committees, etc.)
- Professional nursing experience highly preferred for the DNP applicant in the FNP track
- Potential for leadership in an advanced practice role
- Professional and community service activities
- Curriculum vitae/resume which includes educational background, honors, nursing experience, professional membership(s), and community service
- Permanent resident of Texas or TTUHSC service area/county
- Fluent in a language frequently used by patients in the applicant's service area in addition to English

All applicants will be reviewed in an individual and holistic manner. No single factor will determine a student's admission. All applicants receiving offers of admission will be required to consent to a criminal background check. A history of criminal conduct or convictions may result in withdrawal of the admission offer. See 'Criminal Background Checks' section of the School of Nursing Student Handbook for the school policy. Criminal Background Checks must be received prior to matriculation to the TTUHSC DNP Program. The TTUHSC Criminal Background policy may be found at HSC OP 10.20.

Only complete applications are reviewed for admission consideration, which means "ALL" admission requirements must be received by the application deadline.

The DNP Program administrators, directors, and faculty carefully evaluate all qualified applicants with regard to the applicant's potential for successful completion of the program.

POST-MASTER'S DNP APPLICATION and ADMISSION INFORMATION

Post-Master's DNP Application Dates

Fall	No Admission
Spring	No Admission
Summer	September 1 - January 15

Consideration for admission is given to applicants meeting **ALL** admission criteria who have submitted all admission requirements by the application deadline through the online TTUHSC application portal.

Post-Master's DNP Admission Requirements
Applicant must submit the following application requirements for full admission:
- Current licensure as a registered nurse in the United States
- Master of Science in Nursing degree from a regionally accredited college or university

with nursing program accreditation from the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) or accreditation from American Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN), formerly the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC).
- GPA of 3.0 for master's degree
- Graduate level nursing research course
- Three letters of reference attesting to the applicant's academic ability and leadership potential, including one from a current professional colleague
- Personal Statement
- Interview with DNP faculty
- Current American Heart Association BLS certification
- Current CV or resume
- Oath of Residency
- Official transcripts from all institutions formerly attended.
    NOTE: All transcripts must be from regionally accredited colleges or universities with nursing program accreditation from the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) or accreditation from American Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN), formerly the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC).
- Application Signature Page
- Application Fee

All Post-Master's DNP Advanced Practice Nursing applicants must meet the following additional requirements:
- Approval by a state nursing board to practice as a nurse practitioner or nurse midwife
- Current certification by a nationally recognized credentialing body as a nurse practitioner or nurse midwife
- Minimum of one year's experience as a nurse practitioner

ALL Post-Master's DNP Executive Leadership applicants must meet the following additional requirements:

- Minimum of one year's experience in a healthcare leadership position

Post-Master's applicants with unique credentials will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Such applicants may be required to complete one or more additional graduate nursing courses. A comprehensive review of the candidate's application will include consideration of the following factors.
- Academic performance and aptitude
- Career achievements
- Ability to perform capably in positions of responsibility for self and others
- Potential for leadership in the DNP advanced role.

Although academic criteria (cumulative GPA, grades earned in nursing courses, and failed/repeated courses) are the most important factors in admission considerations, additional non-academic information is considered. These non-academic factors include but are not limited to:
- Extracurricular activities
- Evidence of leadership in nursing
- Work experience
- Diversity of experience such as study abroad, knowledge of other cultures, proficiency in other languages
- Permanent resident of TTUHSC service area county
- First generation college student
- Bilingual - English /Spanish
- Military service

All applicants will be reviewed in an individual and holistic manner. No single factor will determine a student's admission. All applicants receiving offers of admission will be required to consent to a criminal background check. A history of criminal conduct or convictions may result in withdrawal of the admission offer. See 'Criminal Background Checks' section of the School of Nursing *Student Handbook* for the school policy. Criminal Background Checks must be received prior to matriculation to the

TTUHSC DNP Program. The TTUHSC Criminal Background policy may be found at HSC OP 10.20. https://www.ttuhsc.edu/administration/documents/ops/op10/op1020.pdf.

Only **complete** applications are reviewed for admission consideration, **which means "ALL" admission requirements must be received by the application deadline.**

The DNP Program administrators, directors, and faculty carefully evaluate all qualified applicants with regard to the applicant's potential for successful completion of the program.

ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS

Computer Requirements
See Computer Requirements on page 30.

Criminal Background Checks
A Criminal Background Check (CBC) must be completed prior to enrollment at TTUHSC School of Nursing in compliance with TTUHSC OP 10.20 and SON OP 60.081. Each student is responsible for the cost of his/her CBC and any additional fees. See Criminal Background Check Requirements on page 25.

Graduate students will complete the Hire Right Criminal Background Check process. Information will be provided to new students with orientation information.

The following searches are required for students attending facilities for clinical/preceptorship/externship through TTUHSC:
- Social Security Number Trace
- Criminal Felony & Misdemeanor search, 7 years, unlimited number of counties as revealed by SSN Trace
- Healthcare Sanctions Check (Federal plus All States – FACIS Level 3)
- Widescreen Plus National Criminal Search

In accordance with TTUHSC OP 10.20, students in the School of Nursing shall self-disclose relevant criminal history record information no later than five (5) business days following the charge of a crime. Failure to self-disclose may result in dismissal or withdrawal of acceptance from the university.

Additional background checks are required after a break in enrollment in accordance with TTUHSC OP 10.20.

If an applicant believes the record is in error and gives written notification to the School of the intent to challenge the report, matriculation will be put on hold pending the outcome of the challenge. Should the applicant fail to notify the School of the intent to challenge or it is determined that the record is accurate at the conclusion of a vendor challenge by an applicant; the admission offer will be withdrawn.

NOTE: Expunged and Sealed Offenses
While expunged or sealed offenses, arrests, tickets, or citations need not be disclosed, it is your responsibility to ensure the offense, arrest, ticket or citation has, in fact, been expunged or sealed. It is recommended that you submit a copy of the Court Order expunging or sealing the record in question to our office with your application. Failure to reveal an offense, arrest, ticket, or citation that is not in fact expunged or sealed, will at a minimum, subject your license to a disciplinary fine. Non-disclosure of relevant offenses raises questions related to truthfulness and character.

NOTE: Orders of Non-Disclosure
Pursuant to Texas Government Code § 552.142(b), if you have criminal matters that are the subject of an order of non-disclosure you are not required to reveal those criminal matters on the declaratory order form. However, a criminal matter that is the subject of an order of non-disclosure may become a character and fitness issue. Pursuant to other sections of the

Government Code [chapter 411](), the Texas Nursing Board is entitled to access criminal history record information that is the subject of an order of non-disclosure, even if you properly did not reveal that matter, the Board may require you to provide information about any conduct that raises issues of character.

Statues and Rules governing the Petition for Declaratory Order may be found in the Texas Occupations Code §§ 301.257, 301.452-304.454 (Nursing Practice Act), and in the Board Rules and Regulations relating to Nurse Education, Licensure and Practice, 22 TAC §§ 213.27-30 and §§ 217.11-12. These statutes and rules can be located on the BON's website [www.bon.state.tx.us]().

The Nurse Practice Act ([http://www.bon.texas.gov/nursinglaw/npa.html]()) was amended during the 2005 Texas legislative session, adding § 301.4535, to authorize the Board of Nursing to deny or revoke licensure to an individual for certain criminal offenses. Under the provision, the BON shall refuse or shall withdraw a license if the person has been convicted of an identified offense or has noted on his or her criminal record a plea of guilty or nolo contendere. The Board of Nursing may consider eligibility for licensure of an applicant after the fifth anniversary of the successful completion of and dismissal from probation or parole. The criminal offenses barring licensure, as defined by Texas Penal Code, include the following: murder; capital murder; reckless manslaughter; kidnapping, unlawful restraint, or unlawful transport of a person for payment and punishable as a felony; sexual assault; aggravated sexual assault; indecency with a child, an elderly or disabled person, perpetrator of family violence, an agreement to abduct a child; the sale or purchase of a child; robbery; aggravated robbery; an offense that requires the individual to register as a sexual offender; and convections for similar crimes in a military tribunal.

Immunizations
See Immunization Requirements on page 27.

Drug Screening
Drug screenings may be necessary if required by the clinical institution site. The cost of all drug screenings are the responsibility of the student. See Drug Screening Requirements on page 25.

SPECIAL STUDENT ENROLLMENT
Non-Degree
Special Student enrollment is not an avenue for seeking a degree. Under certain circumstances, it may be appropriate for an individual to seek admission as a non-degree seeking student. Non-degree Special Student admission is for the purpose of taking a limited number of courses. The applicant must seek approval from the applicable DNP Associate Dean/Department Chair prior to submitting a special student (non-degree) application. The student must also be eligible for admission under the following criteria:
- Currently enrolled in a master's or doctoral program at a college or university and is in good academic standing;
- Registered nurse not enrolled in an educational institution;
- Waiver to the above requirement from the applicable DNP Associate Dean/Department Chair.

In addition to meeting the above criteria, consideration is given on a space available basis.

A complete Special Student (non-degree) application includes the following:
- Submitted special-student application
- Submitted signature page and application fee
- Submitted official transcripts from all universities or colleges attended
- Submitted Oath of Residency
- Submitted current American Heart Association BLS certification

Special students can take a maximum of six (6) credit hours or nine (9) if approved by the applicable Associate Dean/Department Chair. A special student wishing to apply for full admission to the DNP Program must submit the

full application according to the stated deadlines and will be considered for admission with the entire pool of applicants for the time period the application is submitted.

Enrollment without Credit/Course Audit

Students wanting to audit a DNP course for no grade must obtain approval from the DNP Associate Deans/Department Chairs. Students auditing a course will not be listed on the official class roll, and no notation of the audit will be made on the student's transcript. Students enrolled for 12 or more semester credit hours may audit a course without paying an additional fee. All other students must pay a $10 fee for auditing a course.

Provisional Admission

If the requirements for full admission are not met, provisional admission may be available. Students not meeting the minimum requirement for admission are evaluated by the DNP Program Council. Provisional admission requires the student to enroll in six (6) semester credit hours of doctoral level courses for a semester and obtain a grade of "B" or higher. Students are not eligible for scholarships while on provisional status. The provisional status is changed to full matriculation once the student has successfully completed six (6) semester credit hours of graduate level course work with a grade of "B" or higher.

Conditional Admission

If the requirements for full admission are not met, conditional admission may be available. The student is required to comply with "conditions" stated in letter of admission offer prior to the first day of class for the semester of admission.

Readmission

All requests for readmission must be made prior to the application deadline date for the semester in which readmission is requested. The DNP Program Directors and applicable DNP Program Council are responsible for overseeing all readmissions to the School of Nursing DNP Program. Readmission of a student dismissed or withdrawn for academic or disciplinary causes is also based upon the decision of the DNP Program Directors and applicable DNP Program Council.

A student seeking readmission must comply with the following:
- Submit a letter requesting readmission to the DNP Program
- Meet all recommendations and requirements set forth by the DNP Program Directors and applicable DNP Program Council
- Complete online application and meet admission criteria for full admission

Transfer Student

Students requesting admission to the TTUHSC School of Nursing DNP program as a transfer student from another university must meet the following criteria:
- Transfer student must be eligible to return to the institution from which the student is transferring.
- Submit a full application by the application deadline date for the semester in which transfer is requested.
- Student previously enrolled in the graduate program at TTUHSC School of Nursing who attended another institution and is seeking to return must apply for readmission; any courses considered for transfer credit will be required to meet the standards for transfer credit
- Complete the majority, or over 50%, of the required credits to complete the degree at TTUHSC School of Nursing

RECOGNITION OF PREVIOUS NURSING LEARNING

Transfer Credit

The decision to award transfer of academic credit is made by the applicable DNP Assoiate Dean/ Department Chair or DNP Program Director after a thorough review of the applicant's transcript for evidence of satisfactory course work completion and review of the course catalog descriptions and/

or course syllabi as necessary to determine course equivalency. The decision to award transfer credit is based on [TTUHSC OP 77.17](). Generally, credits earned at a regionally accredited college or university are accepted for transfer provided course content is equivalent and a grade of "B" or higher has been earned in the course.

The majority, or over 50%, of the required credits toward a TTUHSC School of Nursing graduate degree must be earned at TTUHSC. Students requesting courses to be considered for transfer credit will:

- Submit official transcripts for courses considered for transfer credit
- Submit course descriptions and course content for each course

A student previously enrolled in the graduate program at TTUHSC School of Nursing who attended another institution and is seeking to return and transfer in course credit must apply for readmission. Courses accepted for transfer will be required to meet the standards for transfer credit.

OFFER OF ADMISSION

Offers of admission will be made approximately six - eight weeks following the application deadline. In order to assure a place in the desired program, applicants must comply with the following:

- Return Acceptance Form on or before date specified in the offer of admissions letter
- Submit $175 non-refundable placement/orientation fee
- Submit evidence of compliance with required immunizations
- Complete Criminal Background Check online
- Completion of required trainings as specified during virtual orientation
- Failure to respond to admissions offer by the date specified in offer letter may result in withdrawal of the offer of admission.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS FOR STUDENTS ADMITTED TO DNP PROGRAM

Graduation Under a Particular Catalog

A student is expected to complete the degree requirements set forth in the School of Nursing *Catalog* in effect at the time the student enters the chosen area of study. Only with the specific approval of the applicable DNP Associate Dean/Department Chair may a different *Catalog* be selected. Students, in all cases are prohibited from completing the requirements set forth in a catalog more than seven years old. The *Catalog* is published at least biennially and its provisions are applicable during the stated Academic year (September 1st through August 31st).

DNP Clinical Hour Requirements for Post-Master's DNP Students

All DNP students must complete a total of 1000 clinical hours/practice hours from a combination of clinical hours achieved in the master's program and in the DNP program. Qualified nurse practitioner applicants are expected to have successfully completed a minimum of 500 clinical hours in the student's nurse practitioner master's program in order to meet requirements for recognition or licensure and national certification, as appropriate, for the student's professional role and practice area. The DNP post-master's program provides a minimum of 500 clinical hours resulting in a minimum total of 1000 clinical hours for graduation.

Qualified applicants with a MSN in nursing administration or other MSN specialty area or master's degree in a related field must provide evidence of the number of clinical hours/practice hours achieved in the student's master's program. To ensure students meet the required minimum 1000 clinical hours/practice hours, additional clinical learning opportunities are offered via one or more of the following methods:

- Submission of a professional portfolio documenting clinical activities/practice hours and scholarship to meet the criteria for clinical hours for the DNP program. The portfolio

may include a resume or CV and a description of the individual's practice experience; academic and specialized programs of study in the student's specialty area; certifications in administration; or additional activities, and experiences exemplifying competence in the student's specialty area.

- Students not meeting the clinical hour/practice hour criteria will be evaluated and required to take an independent study course designed to provide an individualized clinical intensive based on the student's background, experience, and learning needs to complete the required 1000 clinical hours/practice hours for the DNP degree.

Clinical experiences/practice hours for DNP post-master's students are defined as direct or indirect patient care experiences; observational experiences; interviews; participation in community events or local, state, or national meetings relevant to the learning objectives; or other unique learning opportunities where the student can achieve defined learning objectives. Clinical experiences/practice hours may take place in the student's place of employment if the experience clearly provides an opportunity to achieve specified student learning objectives. Students may work with professional mentors or preceptors during their clinical experiences. School of Nursing faculty may serve as preceptors or professional mentors.

TTUHSC Interprofessional Practice and Education (IPE) Core Curriculum
All TTUHSC students, regardless of school affiliation, are required to complete the TTUHSC IPE core curriculum prior to graduation. The IPE core curriculum is composed of two components including successful completion of a non-credit online course (>70% accuracy on the knowledge post-test) and successful participation in at least one registered IPE learning activity. Failure to complete the IPE core curriculum will result in delayed graduation. Students should consult their academic/program advisor and/or school catalog

for additional information.

All TTUHSC students, regardless of school affiliation, will be required to complete the IPE non-credit, online course in interprofessional education. DNP students are required to complete the online course in the first semester of enrollment.

Maintaining Minimum Academic Requirements
The minimum GPA for continuance in the graduate program is 3.0 overall. Additionally, a minimum grade of "B" is required in each course (nursing required for degree completion. The *TTUHSC SON Student Handbook* (http://www.ttuhsc.edu/son/handbook.aspx) provides further details regarding academic and graduation expectations.

Progression in the DNP Program
- Grades are reviewed each semester and progression in the DNP Program is determined by the applicable DNP Associate Dean/Department Chair and DNP Program Council.
- DNP students are required to maintain a 3.0 GPA with grades at "B" or above in all doctoral courses. Students with a cumulative or semester GPA below 3.0 are placed on academic probation.
- Students receiving "C" or lower in a doctoral course are eligible to repeat the course one time only pursuant to recommendation of course faculty.
- Students earning an overall cumulative GPA or a semester GPA less than a 3.0 in the semester of graduation/completion are ineligible for graduation/completion.

Academic Dismissal from the School of Nursing DNP Program will result from the following circumstances:
- Students earning a "C" or lower in two or more DNP courses in one semester
- Students earning a "C" or lower in the same DNP course twice

- Students earning a "C" or lower in a second DNP course even though one DNP course has been retaken and a satisfactory grade of "B" or better has been obtained

Failing to meet expected standards in any program may result in academic dismissal at any time. Academically dismissed students are eligible to be readmitted according to the stipulations noted in the "Readmission" section above.

Residence Credit

The minimum residence for the DNP degree is the majority, or over 50%, of graduate course work carrying residence credit be completed at TTUHSC. Residence credit as used here means credit for work done while enrolled in and attending classes at TTUHSC and should not be confused with "residence" in the State of Texas.

Majority of Credits

The majority or over 50% of credits toward any graduate or post-baccalaureate professional degree awarded by the TTUHSC must be earned:
- At TTUHSC
- In the case of those programs offered through joint, cooperative, or consortia arrangements through instruction offered by the participating institutions.

Semester Credit Hours and Course Loads

The semester credit hour is the unit of measure for credit purposes. For the Post-Master's DNP Program, didactic (lecture) hours are measured on a one-to-one basis; clinical hours are measured on a one-to-six basis for the post-master's DNP program. Approximately two hours in preparation for each hour of lecture/didactic and an appropriate amount of time for preparation for clinical activities are required. The number of semester credit hours a student may carry (course load) is regulated by the DNP Program Directors. In determining this load, the DNP Program Directors take into account the quality of prior scholastic work performed and

the types of courses involved. A student enrolled in nine (9) or more credit hours in the Fall or Spring semester and six (6) or credit hours in the Summer semester is considered full-time.

DEGREE PLAN

- Upon initial enrollment into DNP Program, each student is provided with a degree plan, individualized according to the student's program of study and part-time or full-time enrollment status. The student's individual needs and circumstances (i.e., part-time or full-time enrollment, preference for electives, transfer courses, etc…) are considered when developing the degree plan.
- The applicable DNP Associate Dean/Department Chair or Program Director for the track in which the student is enrolled is responsible for approving the degree plan.
- Students are responsible for notifying the DNP Program office anytime the student deviates from the degree plan (i.e., withdraw from a course; fail to register for a course, etc).
- During orientation to the DNP Program, students are advised about the requirements for the specific track or major and the student's responsibility to (a) be knowledgeable about the degree requirements; (b) notify the Graduate Program office if the student deviates from the degree plan; and (c) meet degree requirements for graduation.
- The degree plan serves as the student's guide for course registration each semester.

DNP Degree Plans and Course Progression

BSN to DNP Degree Plan - Family Nurse Practitioner Track
(Total Credit Hours Required for Completion – 74)

NOTE: (Incomplete course numbers listed are under development for Academic Year 2019-2020)

KEY:
- (F) Face-to-face
- (O) Online
- (H) Hybrid (combination of face-to-face and on-line)
- **(CL)** Concurrent enrollment in a Clinical Section is required
- **(#:#:#)** First # represents the number of credit hours, Second # represents the number of lecture hours per week, Third # represents the number of clinical hours per week
- * Elective Courses are offered at select times as faculty and interest are present
- **(V)** Variable Credit

BSN to DNP Degree Plan - FNP Track		
SEMESTER I (9 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 6305	Scientific Foundation for the Practice Scholar	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5345	Advanced Practice Nursing: Application of Pathophysiology	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 6325	Informatics and Technology to Improve Health Care, CL	(3:2.75:1.5 H)

SEMESTER II (6 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 6310	Practical Application of Statistics in Health Care	(3:3:0 H)
NURS 5343	Pharmacotherapeutics for Nurses in Advanced Practice	(3:3:0 O)

SEMESTER III (8 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 6330	Evidence Based Inquiry I	(3:3:0 H)
NURS 6243	Advanced Pharmacologic Management for Primary Care	(2:2:0 O)
NURS 5312	Foundations for Advanced Practice Nursing Role	(3:3:0 O)

SEMESTER IV (9 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5309	Foundations of the Well Child	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 6318	Mental Health in Primary Care	(3:3:3 O)
NURS 6345	Population Health and Epidemiology	(3:3:0 H)

SEMESTER V (9 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5342	Advanced Health Assessment	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5320	Diagnostic Methods for Advanced Nursing Practice (Requires on-campus intensive)	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 6320	Systems Leadership for Effectiveness, Quality and Safety, CL	(3:2.75:1.5 H)

SEMESTER VI (8 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 54xx	Primary Healthcare I, CL	(4:2:10 O)
NURS 6350	Financial Intelligence for the DNP Leader	(3:3:0 H)
NURS 61xx	DNP Project Identification	(1:1:0 O)

SEMESTER VII (6 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 55xx	Primary Healthcare II, CL	(5:2:15 O)
NURS 61xx	DNP Project Development	(1:1:0 O)

SEMESTER VIII (10 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 66xx	Family Nurse Practitioner Practicum, CL	(6:1:25 O)
NURS xxxx	DNP Project Implementation	(1:x:x)
NURS 6340	Advancing Policy and Politics in Health Care, CL	(3:2.75:1.5 H)

SEMESTER IX (9 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 7310	Health Innovations in Chronic Illness, CL	(3:2.25:4.5 H)
NURS xxxx	DNP Role in Complex Care	(2:x:x)
NURS xxxx	DNP Project Evaluation/Dissemination	(1:x:x)
NURS xxxx	Special Populations-clinical	(3:x:x)

BSN to DNP Degree Plan - Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Track

(Total Credit Hours Required for Completion – 74)

NOTE: (Incomplete course numbers listed are under development for Academic Year 2019-2020)

KEY:

- (F) Face-to-face
- (O) Online
- (H) Hybrid (combination of face-to-face and on-line)
- **(CL)** Concurrent enrollment in a Clinical Section is required
- **(#:#:#)** First # represents the number of credit hours, Second # represents the number of lecture hours per week, Third # represents the number of clinical hours per week
- * Elective Courses are offered at select times as faculty and interest are present
- **(V)** Variable Credit

BSN to DNP Degree Plan - Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Track		
SEMESTER I (9 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 6305	Scientific Foundation for the Practice Scholar	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5345	Advanced Practice Nursing: Application of Pathophysiology	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 6325	Informatics and Technology to Improve Health Care, CL	(3:2.75:1.5 H)
SEMESTER II (9 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5343	Pharmacotherapeutics for Nurses in Advanced Practice	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 6310	Practical Application of Statistics in Healthcare	(3:3:0 H)
NURS 5342	Advanced Health Assessment	(3:3:0 O)
SEMESTER III (8 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 6330	Evidence Based Inquiry I	(3:3:0 H)
NURS 5202	Psychotherapeutic Modalities	(2:2:0 O)
NURS 5312	Foundations for Advanced Practice Nursing Role	(3:3:0 O)
SEMESTER IV (10 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5203	Neuroscience and Genomics: A Lifespan Approach	(2:2:0 O)
NURS 5204	Psychopharmacology	(2:2:0 O)
NURS 5307	Diagnostics and Management I: Advanced Mental Health Assessment Across the Lifespan, CL	(3:2:1 O)
NURS 6345	Population Health and Epidemiology	(3:3:0 H)

SEMESTER V (9 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5603	Diagnostics & Management II: Evidence-based Management of Adults with Mental Health Disorders, CL	(6:3:3 O)
NURS 6320	Systems Leadership for Effectiveness, Quality and Safety, CL	(3:2.75:1.5 H)

SEMESTER VI (10 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5604	Diagnostics and Management III: Evidence-Based Management of Children & Adolescents with Mental Health Disorders, CL	(6:3:3 O)
NURS 6350	Financial Intelligence for the DNP Leader	(3:3:0 H)
NURS 61xx	DNP Project Identification	(1:1:0 O)

SEMESTER VII (8 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 6500	Diagnostics and Management IV: Interprofessional Collaboration in Management of the Complex Psychiatric Patient Across the Lifespan, CL	(5:2:3 O)
NURS 61xx	DNP Project Development	(1:1:0 O)
NURS 5201	Telehealth and Rural Practice Develompent	(2:2:0 O)

SEMESTER VIII (6 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 72xx	Specialty	(2:0:2 O)
NURS 71xx	DNP Project Implementation	(1:1:0 O)
NURS 6340	Advancing Policy and Politics in Health Care, CL	(3:2.75:1.5 H)

SEMESTER IX (5 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 72xx	Specialty	(2:0:2 O)
NURS 71xx	DNP Project Evaluation/Dissemination	(1:1:0 O)
NURS 72xx	DNP Role in Complex Care	(2:2:0 O)

Post-Master's DNP Degree Plan
(Total Credit Hours Required for Completion – 45)

NOTE: (Incomplete course numbers listed are under development for Academic Year 2019-2020)

KEY:
- (F) Face-to-face
- (O) Online
- (H) Hybrid (combination of face-to-face and on-line)
- **(CL)** Concurrent enrollment in a Clinical Section is required
- **(#:#:#)** First # represents the number of credit hours, Second # represents the number of lecture hours per week, Third # represents the number of clinical hours per week
- ⋆ Elective Courses are offered at select times as faculty and interest are present
- **(V)** Variable Credit

Post-Master's DNP Full Time Degree Plan		
SEMESTER I (5 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 6200	DNP Role Transition I	(2:2:0 H)
NURS 6325	Informatics and Technology to Improve Health Care, CL	(3:2.75:1.5 H)
SEMESTER II (9 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 6310	Practical Application of Statistics in Healthcare	(3:3:0 H)
NURS 6330	Evidence Based Inquiry I	(3:3:0 H)
NURS 6345	Population Health and Epidemiology	(3:3:0 H)
SEMESTER III (8 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 6340	Advancing Policy and Politics in Health Care, CL	(3:2.75:1.5 H)
NURS 6244	Advanced Practice Development, CL	(2:1:6 H)
NURS 6320	Systems Leadership for Effectiveness, Quality and Safety, CL	(3:2.75:1.5 H)
SEMESTER IV (8 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 6201	DNP Role Transition II	(2:2:0 H)
NURS 6350	Financial Intelligence for the DNP Leader	(3:3:0 H)
Advanced Practice Nursing Major		
NURS 7310	Health Innovations in Chronic Illness, CL	(3:2.25:4.5 H)
Executive Leadership Major		
NURS 7311	Leading Teams in Complex Health Care Environments, CL	(3:2.25:4.5 H)

SEMESTER V (9 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 7332	Evidence-Based Inquiry II	(3:3:0 H)
NURS 7331	Population Health at the Organizational and Public Policy Level, CL	(3:2.25:4.5 H)
NURS 7321	Health Care Economics and Finance	(3:3:0 H)

SEMESTER VI (6 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 7352	DNP Project Seminar & Practice Immersion, CL	(3:1.5:9 H)
NURS 7334	Integrating Community Mental Health into Health Care Systems, CL	(3:2.5:3 H)

GRADUATE PROGRAMS COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Graduate courses are delivered via face-to-face, online, or hybrid methodologies.

All pre- or co-requisites and any designated conditions/criteria for previous courses apply throughout the curriculum.

KEY:
- Courses are listed in numerical order
- (F) Face-to-face
- (O) Online
- (H) Hybrid (combination of face-to-face and on-line)
- **(CL)** Concurrent enrollment in a Clinical Section is required
- **(#:#:#)** First # represents the number of credit hours, Second # represents the number of lecture hours per week, Third # represents the number of clinical hours per week
- ⋆ Elective Courses are offered at select times as faculty and interest are present
- **(V)** Variable Credit

5000 Level Courses

5060. Individual Studies
(V1-6 H or O)
Designed to meet special needs and interests of a student who proposes a specific plan of study. Course varies from 1-6 semester hours and course may be repeated as topic and/or objective of study changes.

5080. Special Topics
(V1-6 H or O)
Designed to focus on subjects of special interest to groups of students. Course credit varies from 1-6 semester hours. May be repeated for credit as topics vary.

5100. Foundations of the Well Child
(1:1:0 O)
This course is designed to explore growth and development of children from birth to yound adulthood as a foundation for pediatric nurse practitioner practice. The course will focus on age specific milestones and implications for counseling, disease prevention, and health promotion based on national guidelines. This course will include significant influences on growth and development such as: nutrition, genetic/genomics, psychosocial, socioeconomic, cultural, and spiritual influences.

5101. The Advanced Practice Nurse Role for the Post-MSN APRN Student
(1:1:0 O)
This course is designed for the student who completed an MSN or DNP in a non APRN role. Content focuses on nurse practitioner competencies and role development including scope of practice, legal and ethical considerations, quality improvement, and financial considerations.

5171. Nurse-Midwifery V: Neonatal Care
(1:1:0 O)
(Prerequisite: NURS 5308, NURS 5270, and Neonatal Resuscitation Program (NRP) certification) This course examines the midwifery management of newborn care from birth through the first month of life, ensuring the stabilization and ongoing transition of the neonate, according to standards of care. Stabilization is followed by continued surveillance and development of a plan of care with the appropriate use of resources. Topics include the influences of perinatal history, newborn transition, the physical exam, nutrition, developmental care, discharge process, and health maintenance visits. Integrated within these topics are common screening diagnostics, pharmacotherapeutics, deviations from normal, and complications. Population health and national quality guidelines are interwoven throughout the course. Select clinical skills are practiced in the SimLife Center on campus.

5200. Essentials of Pediatric Acute Care
(2:2:0 O)
(Prerequisite: NURS 5309) This course introduces theoretical and research- based knowledge of assessment, diagnosis, and treatment of pediatric patients with acute and chronic health problems. Emphasis is on the Pediatric Acute Care Nurse Practitioner (PNP-AC) role and scope of practice caring for acutely, chronically, and complexly ill patients across the pediatric continuum. Students develop entry level competency in procedural skill and paradigms of discovery specific to pediatric acute care practice management of the chronic/ acutely ill child while acquiring health promotion and disease prevention knowledge.

5201. Telehealth and Rural Service Delivery
(2:2:0 O)
This course provides the foundation for establishing a telemental health practice to improve access for individuals in rural and underserved communities. Technology requirements along with ethical and legal standards will be addressed. Business principles, cost containment, coding, reimbursement, and outcome measurement will be covered. The nurse practitioner as leader and patient advocate in analyzing the effect of health care policy on accessibility, accountability, and affordability will be emphasized.

5202. Psychotherapeutic Modalities with Individuals, Families and Groups across the Lifespan
(2:2:0 O)
(Prerequisites: Admission to TTUHSC advanced practice nursing track) This course introduces students to the theory and practice of psychotherapeutic modalities as interventions in promoting mental health with individuals, couples, families, and groups. The selection of evidence-based psychotherapeutic modalities and cultural considerations will be addressed to provide value-based, patient-centered care.

5203. Neuroscience & Genomics: A Lifespan Approach
(2:2:0 O)
(Prerequisite: NURS 5345) This course presents the latest developments in neuroscience and epigenetics as they relate to psychiatric symptom expression and symptom management throughout the lifespan. Emphasis is placed on neuroanatomical, neurophysiological and epigenetic mechanisms that impact mental health.

5204. Psychopharmacology
(2:2:0 O)
(Pre or Corequisite: NURS 5203, NURS 5343, NURS 5345) This course builds on the student's knowledge of pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics, pharmacotherapeutics and neuroscience in the use of pharmacological and complementary therapies in the targeted management of psychiatric symptoms across the lifespan. Monitoring physiologic and psychiatric treatment response, the use of genetic testing and prevention of comorbid health conditions will be addressed.

5205. Nurse-Midwifery II: Gynecological Care
(2:2:0 O)
(Prerequisite: NURS 5308) This theoretical course examines the midwifery management of care for women presenting for well-woman and gynecologic services. It expands knowledge of female growth and development, health promotion based on best practices, national quality guidelines, gynecologic anatomy and physiology, the gynecologic history and physical examination, and periodic screening and health maintenance. Study of clinical care based upon the Hallmarks of Midwifery includes well-woman and gynecologic topics. Following the midwifery management process, the course will focus on the history and physical exam, selected diagnostic procedures, non-pharmacologic therapies, pharmacologic therapies, and follow-up strategies. Research skills will be further developed through course discussions. Financial acumen and information technology skills will be enhanced

through course assignments. Clinical skills will be practiced in the SimLife Center on campus.

NURS 5220 Critical Care Pharmacology
(2:2:0 O)

This graduate course provides the advanced practice nurse with the knowledge needed to select and prescribe pharmacological interventions with a focus on acute and critical health conditions across the lifespan. Building on the student's previous knowledge of pharmacodynamics and pharmacokinetics, students will utilize evidence-based research to guide safe prescribing practices for patients managed in a variety of acute care settings.

5231. Informatics I: Foundations of Nursing Informatics Specialization: Theories of Practice
(2:2:0 O)

(Prerequisite: Enrollment in Informatics Specialty track. Pre or Corequisite: Previous or concurrent enrollment in NURS 5322) This course explores the intersection of computer science and nursing science by focusing on the role in functional areas of essential nursing informatics, interdisciplinary teams, evidence-based practice, patient-centered care, quality improvement, population health, and regulatory compliance.

5270. Nurse-Midwifery III: Antepartum and Postpartum Care
(2:2:0 O)

(Prerequisite: NURS 5308) This theoretical course examines the application of the midwifery management process in the provision of comprehensive women's preconception, prenatal, and ambulatory postpartum care, with a focus on normal childbearing. It emphasizes the assessment for maternal/fetal well-being and ambulatory postpartum with screening for deviations from normal that would require consultation/collaboration and/or referral. Management strategies include diagnostics, non-pharmacologic therapies, pharmacologic therapies, and interprofessional relationships. Educational needs and social/cultural contexts are

also included. Clinical skills will be practiced in the SimLife Center on campus.

5304. Foundations for Nurse Midwifery (CL)
(3:2:3.5 O)

(Prerequisites: NURS 5312, 5320, 5342, 5343, 5345, EFM and Neonatal Resuscitation Protocol; Corequisite NURS 5470) Examines selected primary care, well-woman, and gynecologic issues/topics of nurse-midwifery practice. Clinical experiences are planned for family planning, contraceptive management, gynecologic visits-including peri/postmenopausal visits and primary care.

5307. Diagnostics and Management I: Advanced Mental Health Assessment Across the Lifespan (CL)
(3:2:1 O)

(Pre or Corequisite: NURS 5203) This course provides the foundation for advanced comprehensive mental health assessment, differential diagnosis, and management of clients across the lifespan. Culturally sensitive approaches in the development of a therapeutic alliance are emphasized. The role of laboratory diagnostics and neuroimaging in psychiatric conditions will be critically analyzed. This course involves 52.5 hours of clinical experience with patients throughout the lifespan with psychiatric conditions.

5308. Nurse-Midwifery Practice I: Primary Care of Women
(3:3:0 O)

(Prerequisites: NURS 5343, NURS 5345; Pre or Corequisite: NURS 5342)

This course expands knowledge of the professional responsibilities of certified nurse-midwives. The course then explores theoretical knowledge of the nurse-midwifery management of primary health screening, health promotion, and care of women from the peri-menarchal period through the lifespan, based on professional philosophy, the Hallmarks of Midwifery, and the midwifery management process.

Building on a scientific foundation in anatomy and physiology, growth and development, epidemiology, nutrition, pharmacology, health education, and bioethics, the student will gain knowledge in primary care. Selected diagnostic procedures, non-pharmacologic therapies, and pharmacologic therapies for the treatment of common health problems and deviations from normal will be studied, as well as the introduction of select skills for clinical practice. The financial implications and use of information technology in quality driven, value-based primary care will be interwoven throughout the course. Clinical skills will be practiced in the SimLife Center on campus.

5309. Foundations of the Well Child
(3:3:0 O)

This course is designed to explore growth and development of children from birth to young adulthood as a foundation for pediatric nurse practitioner practice. The course will focus on age specific milestones and implications for counseling, disease prevention, and health promotion based on national guidelines. This course will include significant influences on growth and development such as: nutrition, genetic/genomics, psychosocial, socioeconomic, cultural, and spiritual influences.

5312. Foundations for Advanced Practice Nursing Role
(3:3: 0 O)

This didactic course explores the Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) role, including the evolution of the role, current and continuing issues relevant to advanced practice nursing, and clinical practice.

5313. Leadership in Nursing Education I: The Role of the Nurse Educator
(3:3:0 O)

(Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Nursing Education track) This course focuses on the nurse educator role in multiple settings through the foundational components of learning principles,

pedagogical approaches, scholarship and legal and ethical issues in education.

5315. Leadership in Nursing Education II: Best Practices for Curriculum Development and Program Evaluation
(3:3:0 O)

(Pre or Corequisite enrollment in NURS 5313) This course focuses on the concepts and components of course development, implementation, evaluation, and revision in academic, continuing nursing education, or staff development settings will be emphasized as critical elements of the nurse educator role.

5316. Leadership in Nursing Education III: Best Practices in Assessment & Measurement
(3:3:0 O)

(Pre or Corequisite enrollment in NURS 5315) This course focuses on measurement theory and its practical application in assessment of learning outcomes. Didactic, clinical, and simulation learning environments are evaluated.

5317. Comprehensive Clinical Care (CL)
(3:2:3 O)

(Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Nursing Education track) Utilizing knowledge and skills from the core curriculum, this course builds on the opportunity for the nurse educator to employ the skills of risk analysis, complex care planning with multiple disciplines, skillful use of technology for care coordination as well as efficient use of resources for quality patient care, staff, and student development.

5318. Simulation and Clinical Teaching (CL)
(3:2.5:1.5 O)

(Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Nursing Education track)
This course encompasses the use of simulation, clinical skills lab, and clinical teaching in nursing education, professional development, and continuing education. The course will cover the development of simulation activities, debriefing, and hands on experience conducting simulation

exercises. Evidence and theoretical based methods of teaching in the simulation and clinical setting will be explored in this course.

5319. Foundations of Care of the Sick Child
(3:3:0 O)

(Prerequisite: NURS 5309) This didactic course focuses on the care of the sick child across the pediatric age spectrum. Necessary content expands primary health care, health promotion, and disease prevention, for assessment and management of common problems. The APRN role emphasizes the family-centered and developmental perspective.

5320. Diagnostic Methods for Advanced Nursing Practice
(3:3:0 O)

This course focuses on clinical diagnostic reasoning and procedural skills for the Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN). Students will use evidence-based research to appropriately gather, differentiate and manage clinical data for various health problems across the lifespan. Requires an on-campus intensive.

5322. Health Informatics for Advanced Nursing Practice
(3:3:0 O)

(Prerequisite: enrollment as a MSN student) This course will engage the student in the examination of information and technology concepts, theories, and skills necessary to optimally communicate, manage knowledge, minimize error, and support health care decisions. Students will learn to apply information and communication technologies to integrate and coordinate patient care; examine data management systems to improve outcomes of care; and utilize evidence-based care and health education to manage health information. Principles of information and cognitive science will provide the foundation for integrating concepts of healthcare information, health care delivery, decision-support, and the ethical and secure management of information in the advanced practice nursing role.

5323. Leadership for Advanced Nursing Practice
(3:3:0 O)

(Prerequisite: enrollment as a MSN student) This course engages the student in an examination of organizational and leadership concepts, theories, and skills that are critical to high quality, safe patient care. Students will learn to apply quality improvement and patient safety sciences to promote healthcare systems that are safe, timely, effective, efficient, equitable, and patient centered. Principles of leadership will provide the foundation for integrating concepts of systems thinking, ethical and critical decision-making, communication, collaboration, negotiation, change facilitation and financial management in the advanced practice nursing role.

5324. Population Health: Essentials for Advanced Nursing Practice
(3:3:0 O)

(Prerequisite: enrollment as a MSN student) This course addresses the theoretical basis for population and environmental health, the principles of epidemiology, models/frameworks of health and health management systems and major population health concepts foundational to advanced nursing practice.

5325. Health Policy: Essentials for Advanced Nursing Practice
(3:3:0 O)

(Prerequisite: enrollment as a MSN student) This course addresses health policy, financing, and advocacy roles implemented by the MSN-prepared nurse, as well as professional issues for MSN-prepared nurses. Local, state, and national policies; legal and regulatory processes; and professional nursing issues impacting health care delivery are examined.

5326. Research for Advanced Nursing Practice
(3:3:0 O)

(Perquisite: enrollment as a MSN student) This core course focuses on developing an understanding of fundamental aspects of research

critique and common approaches to design and conduct of research relevant to nursing. While qualitative and quantitative approaches are introduced this course, the understanding and use of statistics in the context of research and research critique is emphasized.

5327. Evidence for Advanced Nursing Practice
(3:3:0 O)

(Prerequisite: NURS 5326) This course promotes understanding and use of theory while focusing on methods underlying evidence based approaches to nursing practice. Selected theories that are relevant to evidence based nursing practice will be critiqued for usefulness and application in an effort to link theory, evidence, and practice. Practice problems form the basis for examining evidence application in nursing

5332 Informatics II: Health Information Management and Knowledge (CL)
(3:2:3 O)

(Pre or Corequisites: NURS 5231, NURS 5322) This course establishes the major concepts with foundational emphasis on understanding nomenclature and vocabularies. Students will understand data transformation, beginning with raw sources and generating information, knowledge, and wisdom. This will be a practically oriented course with opportunity for hands on data analysis using healthcare data from the clinical setting, work with clinical decision support and analytic toolsets, and Electronic Health Records (EHRS).

5333. Informatics III: Information Technology (CL)
(3:2:3 O)

(Pre or Corequisites: NURS 5231, NURS 5322) This course addresses the nursing informaticist's role in computer science and in supporting hardware, software, communication, and network technologies. Human-computer interaction and related concepts are addressed. Practical hands-on experiences in programming and managing technical aspects of the healthcare information technology support systems will reinforce the nursing informaticist's role.

5334. Informatics IV: Health Information Technology Systems Life Cycle (CL)
(3:2:3 O)

(Pre or Corequisites: NURS 5231, NURS 5333) This course emphasizes the role of the nursing informaticist in system development life cycle (SDLC), mastering skills necessary for the role in all phases of the development life cycle of health information technology. The SDLC concepts covered include system planning, analysis, implementation, and testing. Competencies related to project management, system selection and deployment, as well as developing and deploying system requirements documentation, RFIs and RFPs will be covered.

5335. Informatics V: Managing and Leading in Informatics (CL)
(3:2:3 O)

(Pre or Corequisites: NURS 5333, NURS 5334) This course will focus on the nursing informaticist's leadership role in organizations, as well as local, state, and national policy agendas addressing an evolving utilization of health information technology and health information exchange within the industry. Additionally, the course will cover business management concepts necessary for nursing informaticists within the healthcare setting further emphasizing project management, strategic planning, budget planning, and business planning processes. Quality improvement methods will be emphasized to enhance information systems through leading teams to achieve quality.

5342. Advanced Health Assessment
(3:3:0 O)

Building upon basic physical assessment and history taking knowledge and skills, this course focuses on advanced practice nursing concepts in assessment, evidence-based health promotion and clinical reasoning processes. Requires an on-campus intensive.

5343. Pharmacotherapeutics for Nurses in Advanced Practice
(3:3:0 O)
This graduate course focuses on application of pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic principles to medication regimens for patients, male and female, across the life span. Students will utilize assessment data and evidence-based protocols to guide safe prescriptive decision-making in a master's prepared nursing role.

5345. Advanced Practice Nursing: Application of Pathophysiology
(3:3:0 O)
Study of the physiologic basis of disease for advanced practice nursing. Emphasis is on application of pathophysiologic concepts to the recognition of pathologic conditions and the management of clients with a variety of health problems across the life span.

5346. The Nursing Administrator: Standards for Excellence (CL)
(3:2.5:2 O)
(Prerequisite: Admission to the Graduate Program, Nursing Administration track) This course provides an overview of the current, major forces driving nursing services toward quality and nursing administrators toward competence. The focus is to develop an appreciation for the numerous quality initiatives that influence how nursing leaders lead their areas of accountability toward better patient care.

5347. Administrative Role Development (CL)
(3:2.5:2 O)
(Prerequisite: NURS 5346) The focus of this course is on creation of an effective workplace in which safe patient care can occur. The traditional elements of managing are the avenues through which learners gain insight into the effectiveness and influence of the administrative role.

5348. Administrative Role Development: The Nurse Administrator as Leader (CL)
(3:2:4 O)
(Prerequisite: NURS 5347) This course centers on interpreting the social and political impact on the organization and the issues that influence how the nurse administrator enacts the role of leader.

5351. Scientific Foundations of Advanced Nursing Practice
(3:3:0 O)
(Prerequisite: enrollment as a MSN student) This core course focuses on developing an understanding of research and evidence-based processes as a foundation for using evidence to support advanced nursing practice. Research critique relevant to advanced practice nursing including qualitative and quantitative approaches are applied to clinical practice problems. Examination of instrument design and evaluation is highlighted. Advanced skills for the systematic evaluation of evidence for advanced nursing practice are developed and refined. Practice problems form the basis for examining evidence application in nursing.

5352. Leadership for Healthcare
(3:3:0 O)
This course engages the student in an examination of leadership concepts and theories, with an emphasis on skills that are critical to understanding the role of the leader in political advocacy and impacting health care systems and policies. Key issues will be presented within the framework of health care delivery systems, organizations, and evaluation of the impact on health. Special emphasis will be placed on the role of advanced practice nursing and its impact on policy for all, and in particular vulnerable populations. Principles of leadership will provide the foundation for integrating concepts of systems thinking, ethical and critical decision-making, communication, collaboration, negotiation, change facilitation, transparency, political advocacy, and economics in the advanced practice nursing role.

5353. Informatics, Quality and Safety
(3:3:0 O)
(Prerequisite: enrollment as a MSN student)
This course prepares the student with foundational informatics and quality improvement skills. Students are engaged in the use of patient care, communication and other technologies to deliver, improve and coordinate care. Fundamental quality improvement methods to monitor, analyze, and prioritize outcomes using techniques such as root cause analysis, failure mode effect analysis, workflow redesign, and control charts are introduced. Students gain knowledge and skills in evidence-based practice, human factors science and basic safety design principles relevant to optimizing technology for safe and effective care while fostering a culture of safety within high reliability organizations.

5385. Health Law Survey for the Nurse Executive
(3:3:0 O)
(Prerequisite: MSN student enrolled in Nursing Administration specialty track.)
Students will explore legal issues and government regulations impacting the health care arena and the delivery of care. Topics in the law and impinging ethical issues are explored using court cases and clinical case studies.

5386. Finance and Budgeting for Nurse Leaders
(3:3:0 O)
(Prerequisite: Enrollment in the Nursing Administration track.) This course is designed to provide graduate students with information and skills for developing budgets and managing financial issues in health care facilities, clinics, independent practice or a nursing unit.

NURS 5410 Essentials of Acute Care (CL)
(4:3:1 O)
This course introduces theoretical and research-based knowledge of assessment, diagnosis, and treatment of adult and geriatric patients with acute and chronic health problems by the Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner

(AGACNP). Emphasis is on AGACNP role and scope of practice caring for acutely, chronically, and complexly ill patients across the adult-geriatric continuum. Students develop entry level competency in procedural skill and paradigms of discovery specific to adult gerontology acute care practice management of the chronic/acutely ill patient while acquiring health promotion and disease prevention knowledge.

5440. Primary Healthcare I (CL)
(4:2:7 O)
(Prerequisites: NURS 5312, NURS 5320, NURS 5342, NURS 5343, NURS 5345, ACLS certification) This is a didactic and clinical course that builds upon concepts and skills derived from prerequisite courses. Advanced practice nursing (APRN) students will integrate theoretical and evidence-based knowledge of assessment, diagnosis, treatment, and evaluation of patients with acute and chronic health problems across the lifespan. The focus is on development of critical thinking and decision making skills necessary for the provision of safe and effective primary health care in the nurse practitioner role.

5447. Administrative Role Development (CL)
(4:3.5:2 O)
(Prerequisite: NURS 5346) The focus of this course is on creation of an effective workplace in which safe patient care can occur. The traditional elements of managing are the avenues through which learners gain insight into the effectiveness and influence of the administrative role.

5448. Administrative Role Development: The Nurse Administrator as Leader (CL)
(4:3:4 O)
(Prerequisite: NURS 5447) This course centers on interpreting the social and political impact on the organization and the issues that influence how the nurse administrator enacts the role of leader.

5460. Adult-Gerontology Acute Care I (CL)
(4:2:7 O)
(Prerequisites: NURS 5312, NURS 5320, NURS 5342, NURS 5343, NURS 5345, ACLS Certification) This course is designed to develop a beginning theoretical and research based knowledge of assessment diagnosis, and treatment of adult and geriatric patients with acute and chronic health problems. Emphasis will be placed on applying this knowledge to the assessment and management of both health and illness states including disease prevention. Clinical activities focus on enhancing health assessment skills, delineating differential diagnoses, and learning initial clinical management of clients experiencing acute and chronic health problems. The role and competencies of the Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner will be examined.

5470. Nurse-Midwifery I - Antepartum and Ambulatory Postpartum Care Managment (CL)
(4:2:7 O)
(Prerequisites: NURS 5342, 5343, 5345, EFM and Neonatal Resuscitation Protocol; Co-Requisite: NURS 5304) Utilizes the Nurse Midwifery management process in provision of comprehensive preconception, prenatal, and ambulatory postpartum care. Emphasis is placed on the assessment for maternal and fetal well-being with screening for deviations from normal that would require consultation/collaboration and/or referral. Educational needs and social/cultural contexts are included. The practicum includes nurse-midwifery management of women during the preconception, prenatal, and ambulatory postpartum periods.

5471. Nurse-Midwifery Integrated Clinical Practicum, Level A (CL)
(4:0:14 O)
(Prerequisites: NURS 5205, NURS 5270, and NURS 5308) In this precepted clinical course, the student applies the cognitive and clinical skills learned in Nurse-Midwifery I, II, and III in the office/clinic setting, as well as becoming involved in the professional organization. In addition to "hands-on" skills in clinical practice, the student will apply skills of professional communication through documentation exercises and a case review that includes a literature review of peer-reviewed sources. The student will also learn to use relevant evidence-based mobile applications and websites for clinical practice. Additional skills learning and an objective simulated/structured clinical examination (OSCE) will be conducted in this course at the SimLife Center on campus. Depending upon the clinical assignment, the student may have the opportunity to begin applying Nurse-Midwifery IV skills during the latter part of the semester.

5480. Pediatric Primary Care I (CL)
(4:2:7 O)
(Prerequisites: NURS 5100, 5312, 5320, 5342, 5343, 5345, PALS certification). This didactic and clinical course builds upon concepts and skills derived from prerequisite courses. Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Primary Care (PNP-PC) students will develop advanced practice skills in caring children from birth through young adult including well child assessment and prevention/management of common pediatric acute illnesses and chronic conditions. Students will develop advanced practice skills in comprehensive assessment, diagnosis, and management strategies that reflect current evidence based practice. The focus is on development of critical thinking and decision-making skills necessary for the provision of safe and effective care of children.

5500. Pediatric Acute Care I (CL)
(5:2:10.5 O)
(Prerequisites: NURS 5309, NURS 5312, NURS 5320, NURS 5342, NURS 5343, NURS 5345, PALS certification) This course focuses on care of children with acute, complex acute, and chronic, illness across the entire pediatric age spectrum, from birth to young adult. Students will develop advanced practice skills in comprehensive assessment, diagnosis, and management strategies that reflect current evidence based practice.

Students will have opportunities to implement the role of the acute care pediatric nurse practitioner across the continuum of care settings.

5541. Primary Healthcare II (CL)
(5:2:10.5 O)
(Prerequisites: NURS 5440, ACLS certification) This course is a didactic and clinical course that builds upon the study of advanced practice nursing (APRN) concepts and skills derived in Primary Care I (NURS 5440). APRN students will integrate theoretical and evidence-based knowledge of assessment, diagnosis, management, and evaluation of patients with acute and chronic health problems across the lifespan. The course focuses on APRN role development and synthesis of data from a variety of sources to make clinical decisions regarding appropriate management, consultation, or referral necessary for the provision of safe and effective care.

5561. Adult-Gerontology Acute Care II (CL)
(5:2:10.5 O)
(Prerequisite: NURS 5460) This course is designed to build on major components critical to the knowledge of diagnosis, treatment, and evaluation of adult and geriatric patients with acute and chronic health problems. Clinical experiences include a spectrum of care ranging from disease prevention to acute and critical care management. Clinical practice focuses on research- based clinical decision- making processes in close collaboration with preceptors.

5571. Nurse Midwifery II – Intrapartum/ Postpartum/Newborn Care (CL)
(5:2:10.5 O)
(Prerequisite: NURS 5470) In this course the student studies, analyzes, and applies the concepts of the nurse-midwifery management process to the intrapartum/immediate postpartum care of women and their newborns. Clincal experiences include skills of managing and assuming responsibility of normal intrapartum/ breastfeeding/immediate postpartum women with continuit of care into the postpartum, in addition to well-newborn care during the neonatal period. Managment of common emergencies and deviations form normal are also introduced.

5580. Pediatric Primary Care I (CL)
(5:2:10.5 O)
(Prerequisites: NURS 5309, NURS 5312, NURS 5320, NURS 5342, NURS 5343, NURS 5345, PALS certification). This didactic and clinical course builds upon concepts and skills derived from prerequisite courses. Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Primary Care (PNP-PC) students will develop advanced practice skills in caring children from birth through young adult including well child assessment and prevention/management of common pediatric acute illnesses and chronic conditions. Students will develop advanced practice skills in comprehensive assessment, diagnosis, and management strategies that reflect current evidence based practice. The focus is on development of critical thinking and decision-making skills necessary for the provision of safe and effective care of children.

5581. Pediatric Primary Care II (CL)
(5:2:10.5 O)
(Prerequisites: NURS 5309, NURS 5580, PALS certification) This course emphasizes the role of the Primary Care Pediatric Nurse Practitioner (PC-PNP) in managing acute and chronic health conditions across the entire pediatric age spectrum from birth to young adult. The student will assimilate and apply knowledge from prerequisite courses. The focus of this course is to formulate diagnoses, develop family centered treatment and evaluation plans, and use evidence to provide expert pediatric care.

5600 Pediatric Acute Care II (CL)
(6:2:14 O)
(Prerequisites: NURS 5309, NURS 5500, PALS certification) This course emphasizes the role of the Acute Care Pediatric Nurse Practitioner (AC-PNP) as a member of an interprofessional team managing complex acute, critical and chronic, illness across the entire pediatric age spectrum,

from birth to young adult. The student will assimilate knowledge from prerequisite courses. Emphasis is placed on formulating diagnoses, treatment plans, and use of evidence to provide expert pediatric clinical care. The student will perform consultations and make referrals in a variety of setting.

5603. Diagnostics and Management II: Evidence-Based Management of Adults with Mental Health Disorders (CL)
(6:3:3 O)
(Prerequisites: NURS 5204, NURS 5307. Pre or Corequisites: NURS 5201, NURS 5202) This course provides the essential knowledge and theoretical foundations for assessing, diagnosing, and managing adult and geriatric clients who have dysfunctional coping patterns and psychiatric disorders. This course provides an integrated learning experience during which the student implements the role of the psychiatric-mental health nurse practitioner in the clinical setting utilizing current evidence-based practice guidelines along with targeted, individualized care management. Emphasis is given to mental health promotion and collaboration with clients, their support systems, and the interprofessional team.

5604. Diagnostics and Management III: Evidence-Based Management of Children & Adolescents with Mental Health Disorders (CL)
(6:3:3 O)
(Prerequisites: NURS 5204, NURS 5307. Pre or Corequisites: NURS 5201, NURS 5202) This course provides the essential knowledge and theoretical foundations for assessing, diagnosing, and intervening in dysfunctional coping patterns and psychiatric disorders in children and adolescents. This course provides an integrated learning experience during which the student implements the role of the psychiatric-mental health nurse practitioner in the clinical setting utilizing current evidence-based practice guidelines along with targeted, individualized care management. Emphasis is given to mental health promotion and collaboration with the child

and adolescent, their support systems and the interprofessional team.

6000 Level Courses

6001. Graduation Station
(0:0:0 O)
(Prerequisites: Student must be in their last semester of enrollment prior to graduation. Students are required to enroll in this course in the semester in which they are scheduled to graduate.) The course serves as the vehicle for students to pay their graduation fee and complete the School of Nursing's Graduation Assessment. There is no tuition charged for this course, the student does not generate semester credit hours for the course, and the course is not graded.

6010. Application of Administrative Practice (CL)
(3:0:12 O)
(Prerequisites: successful completion of the administrative course sequence; authorization from a clinical agency willing to support the practice experience.) This course provides learners with the opportunity to implement ideas into a practice setting. It is designed to allow learners to use ideas from the literature, their peers, conferences, and other approved sources to create an application project designed to change practice from a clinical or administrative perspective.

6030. Leadership in Education IV: Role and Practicum (CL)
(3:.5:7.5 O)
(Prerequisites: NURS 5313, NURS 5315, NURS 5316) Immersion in all leadership aspects of the faculty role in an academic, CE, or staff development setting with guidance of a preceptor.

6102. Transition to Nurse-Midwifery Practice
(1:1:0 O)
(Prerequisite: NURS 5205, NURS 5270, NURS

5308, NURS 5471, NURS 5171, NURS 6321, NURS 6520) This course prepares the student for practice as a master's prepared certified nurse-midwife. All ACNM standard-setting documents are reviewed, as well as the legal basis of practice, current legislation, policies, and processes for entry into practice. The student is guided in the development of a professional resume' and writes an "Entry Into Practice" paper in preparation for seeking or formalizing one's first nurse-midwifery position.

6200. DNP Role Transition I
(2:2:0 H)
(Prerequisite: Doctorate of Nursing Practice Student) The course is designed to provide students with the opportunity to engage in extensive self-assessment of leadership strengths and emotional intelligence and develop action plans for personal growth through self-directed learning. Self-knowing and reflective leadership are essential attributes of transformation leaders in complex health care systems.

6201. DNP Role Transition II
(2:2:0 H)
(Prerequisites: NURS 6200, NURS 6310, NURS 6320, NURS 6325, NURS 6330, NURS 6340, NURS 6345) In this course, students focus on the transition to advanced nursing practice through continued integration of the competencies of a DNP prepared leader and development of a DNP Project proposal based on a topic or phenomenon of interest.

6243. Advanced Pharmacologic Management for Primary Care
(2:2:0 O)
This course focuses on differentiating pharmacological treatment options for selected disease processes in primary care. Building on previous knowledge of pharmacodynamics and pharmacokinetics, students adapt evidence-based research to the individuals' unique characteristics to guide pharmacotherapy across the lifespan.

6244. Advanced Practice Development (CL)
(2:1:6 H)
(Prerequisite: Doctorate of Nursing Practice Student) This course prepares the DNP student to gain a deeper understanding of emerging knowledge and issues in a distinct specialty area related to the Capstone Project topic. The student will have the opportunity to engage in collaboration with other experts and specialists in the topic area and to develop advanced reasoning skills. Students will determine with faculty guidance specific goals for individualized advanced practice experiences.

6305. Scientific Foundation for the Practice Scholar
(3:3:0 O)
(Prerequisite: enrollment in BSN to DNP track) In this course, students examine the scientific and philosophical foundations of the discipline of nursing within the context of advanced nursing practice. Students develop skills in critical appraisal of studies grounded in research and quality improvement perspectives. Examination of the ethical conduct of research and quality improvement forms the foundation for students to develop skills in clinical inquiry and scholarship.

6310. Practical Application of Statistics in Health Care
(3:3:0 H)
(Prerequisite: Doctorate of Nursing Practice student) The course will provide the basics of statistical analysis, measurement theory, and data management. The course will focus on the application of statistics to health services research and to clinical healthcare settings. The students will have hands-on experience using SPSS statistical software in computer labs with data preparation, statistical analysis, and data display. Statistical tests covered in the course will range from simple T-test through multiple regressions with an introduction to statistical modeling.

**6318. Mental Health in Primary Care
(3:3:0 O)**
This didactic course addresses the Advanced Practice Nurse (APRN) role in assessment and management of individuals experiencing mental health disorders in the primary care setting. The role of the APRN will be considered in the context of family and community. Theoretical and evidenced-based knowledge of assessment, diagnosis, and management of individuals at risk for and experiencing mental health disorders are investigated. The effective use of communication, critical thinking, and decision-making skills necessary for the provision of safe and effective mental health care across the lifespan will be explored.

**6320. Systems Leadership for Effectiveness, Quality and Safety (CL)
(3:2.75:1.5 H)**
(Prerequisite: Doctorate of Nursing Practice student) The course will explore the scientific underpinnings of leadership, organizational effectiveness, and quality improvement. Students will be provided with strategies and tools for transformational leadership and systems thinking in complex adaptive systems including effective communication, process analysis, measuring and tracking quality and safety data, and facilitating change to improve health outcomes.

**6321. Nurse-Midwifery IV: Intrapartum Care
(3:3:0 O)**
(Prerequisites: NURS 5270, Electronic Fetal Monitoring (EFM) certification) In this course, the student studies, analyzes, and applies the concepts of the midwifery management process to the intrapartum and immediate postpartum care of women. Using scientific fundamentals and the Hallmarks of Midwifery, the student examines labor triage, assessment and evaluation of maternal and fetal status, facilitation of physiologic labor progress, psychosocial support, pharmacologic and non-pharmacologic therapies, and birth attendance. Extra attention is placed on the pharmacotherapeutics surrounding

the prescribing of opioids.   In addition, the immediate management of postpartum healing and discomforts, as well as facilitation of lactation is studied. Management of emergencies and deviations from normal are also introduced. The health policy and fiscal implications associated with care management are interwoven throughout the course. Clinical skills will be practiced in the SimLife Center on campus.

**6325. Informatics and Technology to Improve Health Care (CL)
(3:2.75:1.5 H)**
(Prerequisite: Doctorate of Nursing Practice student) The course will explore health care informatics and methods to apply information technology to clinical care for improving patient safety, quality, and the health of the population. Students will learn information technology and research methods that collect appropriate and accurate data to generate evidence for practice and to inform and guide the design of databases to generate meaningful evidence for nursing practice.

**6330. Evidence Based Inquiry I
(3:3:0 H)**
(Prerequisite: Doctorate of Nursing Practice student) The course will prepare students to integrate evidence based practice in clinical settings after careful evaluation of best evidence. Emphasis will be placed on synthesizing and evaluating a specific body of evidence for merit and generalizability to the clinical setting and transforming practice problems into answerable questions. Students will begin developing their capstone project in this course.

**6340. Advancing Policy and Politics in Health Care (CL)
(3:2.75:1.5 H)**
(Prerequisite: Doctorate of Nursing Practice student) The course provides opportunities for nursing leaders to value the political processes that influence policy decisions through analyzing public policies, health policies, and legislation

at the organizational, local, state, national, and international level. This course includes opportunities to advocate and participate in political and policy-making processes for a health issue in the student's area of interest and career trajectory.

6345. Population Health and Epidemiology
(3:3:0 H)
(Prerequisite: Doctorate of Nursing Practice student.) This course provides a comprehensive investigation into the application of public health and epidemiology principles. Emphasis will be placed on using technologically advanced clinical information systems that aggregate patient data so that group and/or population-based clinical profiles, practice patterns and variations, genetic problems, and health disparities can be identified, analyzed, and compared to regional and national benchmark norms and data bases.

6350. Financial Intelligence for the DNP Leader
(3:3:0 H)
(Prerequisite: Doctorate of Nursing Practice student.) The course is designed to increase the nurse leader's understanding of health care economics and financing mechanisms as well as to advance skills in managing financial issues, developing budgets, making sound financial decisions, and managing projects to achieve strategic goals in health care. Students will gain hands-on experience in analyzing financial statements, developing business plans, establishing procedures for accurate charging mechanisms, and educating patient care teams on financial implications of patient care decisions.

6410. Application of Administrative Practice
(CL)
(4:1:12 O)
(Prerequisite: successful completion of the administrative course sequence; authorization from a clinical agency willing to support the practice experience.) This course provides learners with the opportunity to implement ideas into a practice setting. It is designed to allow learners

to use ideas from the literature, their peers, conferences and other approved sources to create an application project designed to change practice from a clinical or administrative perspective.

6440. Informatics VI: Practicum (CL)
(4:1:9 O)
(Pre or Corequisites: NURS 5334, NURS 5335) This practicum experience is designed to be a comprehensive and integrated application of the curriculum which will allow the students to demonstrate professional competency in nursing informatics in a clinical health information technology specialty area of interest. The clinical field experience will be focused on a Capstone major project deliverable involving practice oriented research, quality improvement, clinical decision support, analytics, programming, or other major project in specialty area of interest approved by faculty.

6500. Diagnostics and Management IV: Interprofessional Collaboration in Management of the Complex Psychiatric Patient Across the Lifespan (CL)
(5:2:3 O)
(Prerequisites: NURS 5201, NURS 5603, NURS 5604) This capstone course focuses on interprofessional collaboration in the management of clients with complex and comorbid mental health disorders including crisis interventions and stabilization. Additionally, the prevention and management of co-occurring chronic health conditions such as diabetes, heart disease, and COPD will be addressed in optimizing the client's overall health.

6520. Nurse-Midwifery Integrated Clinical Practicum, Level B (CL)
(5:0:17.5 O)
(Prerequisite: NURS 6321, Electronic Fetal Monitoring (EFM), Neonatal Resuscitation Program (NRP)) In this precepted clinical course, the student applies the cognitive and clinical knowledge learned in Nurse-Midwifery I-IV, with the major focus on care of the childbearing

woman. In the second half of the semester, the student will begin applying Nurse-Midwifery V (neonatal) knowledge as well. In addition to "hands-on" skills, the student will apply skills of professional communication through documentation and verbal reporting exercises, as well as an illustrative case study paper. The student will also participate in monthly virtual faculty/student clinical rounds and professional service/community activities. Expanding on the previous level A practicum, the student will gain proficiency in the use of relevant mobile apps and websites for clinical practice, as well as developing evaluation expertise related to labor progress, labor support, pharmacotherapeutic use, and fetal evaluation. Additional skills learning and an objective simulated/structured clinical examination (OSCE) will be conducted during this course at the SimLife Center on campus.

6610. Nurse-Midwifery Clinical Immersion Practicum (CL)
(6:0:21 O)
(Prerequisite: NURS 5471, NURS 6520)
In this precepted clinical course, the student synthesizes previously learned theory and clinical knowledge, providing comprehensive, full scope basic nurse-midwifery care according to the ACNM Standards of Practice and Code of Ethics. In addition to "hands-on" skills, professional presentations and peer review of selected activities will be conducted. Review modules to prepare the student for national certification board examination will also be offered. An objective simulated/structured clinical examination (OSCE) and proctored "Mock Board" exam will be administered during this course at the SimLife Center on campus.

6620. Nursing Midwifery Practicum Integrated Practice (CL)
(6:1:17.5 H)
(Prerequisite: NURS 5571) This course synthesizes previously learned theory and clinical knowledge. In the clinical setting, the learner is expected to provide comprehensive, full-scope, basic

nurse-midwifery care according to the ACNM Standards of Practice & Code of Ethics. Emphasis is placed on the management of common deviations and collaborative management of selected complicataions. The professional issues surrounding transition to the professional practice role are explored, including practice requirements, contract negotiation, financial resources, quality systems, health policy, interprofessional communication, best practices, and evidence-based practice changes.

6652. Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Practicum (CL)
(6:1:17.5 O)
(Prerequisites: NURS 5460, NURS 5561)
This course emphasizes clinical practice and role development to prepare the graduate to implement the full scope of the adult-gerontology acute care Nurse Practitioner (NP) role. Clinical activities allow for immersion in the advanced practice nursing role. Function and responsibility on selected topics of the advanced practice role are addressed.

6660. Family Nurse Practitioner Practicum (CL)
(6:1:17.5 O)
(Prerequisites: NURS 5440, NURS 5541, ACLS certification) This course provides a clinical immersion experience to integrate and synthesize the APRN role. APRN students will integrate theoretical and evidence-based knowledge of assessment, diagnosis, management, and evaluation of patients with increasingly complex acute and chronic health problems across the lifespan. Issues related to APRN responsibilities and competencies are addressed.

6680. Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Practicum (CL)
(6:1:17.5 O)
(Prerequisite: NURS 5309, NURS 5480, NURS 5581, PALS certification) This course provides a clinical immersion experience to integrate and synthesize the Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) role for the Primary Care Pediatric

Nurse Practitioner (PC-PNP). Issues related to APRN responsibilities, competencies, and scope of practice for the PC-PNP are included.

6690 Pediatric Acute Care III (CL) (6:1:17.5 O)

(Prerequisite: NURS 5309, NURS 5500, NURS 5600, PALS certification) This course provides a clinical immersion experience to integrate and synthesize the Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) role for the Acute Care Pediatric Nurse Practitioner (AC-PNP). Issues related to APRN responsibilities, competencies, and scope of practice for the AC-PNP are included.

7000 Level Courses

7310. Health Innovations in Chronic Illness (CL) (3:2.25:4.5 H)

(Prerequisites: Concurrent enrollment in or completion of DNP core leadership courses and DNP core evidence-based science courses.) The course provides the opportunity for advanced exploration of theory and evidence-based research underlying the adoption of healthy lifestyle behaviors in the prevention, management, and palliative care of chronic disease. Students will apply and evaluate theories and principles of healthy behavior change in individuals, families, and/or communities in rural and urban settings.

7311. Leading Teams in Complex Health Care Environments (CL) (3:2.25:4.5 H)

(Prerequisites: Concurrent enrollment in or completion of DNP core leadership courses and DNP core evidence-based courses.) Leading and managing interprofessional groups, as well as nursing groups, is a critical leadership skill. Numerous strategies exist to develop teams. This course focuses on knowing oneself as a leader, forecasting future needs, understanding the team, coaching others, balancing data driven decisions

with innovation, and valuing the complexity of the evolving healthcare environment.

7321. Health Care Economics and Finance (3:3:0 H)

(Prerequisites: Concurrent enrollment in or completion of DNP core leadership courses and DNP core evidence-based courses.) This course is designed to provide an in-depth look at the economics of U.S. health care and major issues that have prompted the current attempt at health care reform. Health care represents nearly fifteen percent of the U.S. Gross Domestic Product, and more importantly, has profound effect on almost all individuals. Resources in the health care industry are scarce and a source of conflict. This course will attempt to utilize many traditional tools of economics to illustrate how limited resources can be applied to the health care sector. Additionally, certain health care related topics pertaining to other industrialized and developed countries will be discussed. Students will be introduced to a variety of economic theories, models, and tools that will facilitate the understanding of the breadth of subjects introduced during the semester.

7331 Population Health at the Organizational and Public Policy Level (CL) (3:2.25:4.5 H)

(Prerequisites: Concurrent enrollment in or completion of DNP core leadership courses and DNP core evidence-based courses.) The course provides nurse leaders in the DNP role with the skills to evaluate care delivery models and strategies related to community, environmental, occupational, cultural, and socioeconomic dimensions of health. Students will learn to access and analyze population-level health data, design evidence-based interventions at the organizational and public policy level, and predict and analyze outcomes to improve population health.

7332. Evidence Based Inquiry II (3:3:0 H)

(Prerequisite: NURS 6330) The course will build

on Evidence Based Inquiry I, refining the student's ability to evaluate and synthesize evidence for integration into clinical practice. Emphasis will be placed on translating the evidence into actual clinical or management practice as well as creating an environment for the integration of evidence based practice within an organization. Students will further develop their capstone project in this course.

7334. Integrating Community Mental Health Concepts into Health Care Systems (CL) (3:2.5:3 H)

(Prerequisites: Concurrent enrollment in or completion of DNP core leadership courses and DNP core evidence-based courses.) The course uses the field of integrative health care as a venue for developing the student's role to improve health care for rural and vulnerable populations who have limited access to conventional health services by introducing change within existing health care systems. Students are provided the opportunity to observe, analyze, and experience various culturally-based modalities and non-traditional health practices. Critical reviews of the application of evidenced based research approaches to examine the effectiveness and safety of CAM in advanced nursing practice will be synthesized within an analysis of health care systems.

7352. DNP Project Seminar & Practice Immersion (CL) (3:1.5:9 H)

(Prerequisites: Completion of advanced APRN or executive leadership specialization courses.) This seminar designed course focuses on the culmination of a DNP scholarly project and integration of the competencies of a DNP leader. Students complete 144 hours of clinical/practice immersion and engage in advanced nursing practice experiences to (a) complete and disseminate a DNP Project; (b) lead sustainable systems change that improves population health; and, (c) achieve competence in the eight American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) (2006) DNP Essentials.

54XX. Primary Healthcare I (Under development for Academic Year 2019-2020)

55XX. Primary Healthcare II (Under development for Academic Year 2019-2020)

61XX. DNP Project Development (Under development for Academic Year 2019-2020)

66XX. Family Nurse Practitioner Practicum (Under development for Academic Year 2019-2020)

XXXX. DNP Project Implementation (Under development for Academic Year 2019-2020)
XXXX. DNP Role in Complex Care (Under development for Academic Year 2019-2020)

XXXX. DNP Project Evaluation/Dissimination (Under development for Academic Year 2019-2020)

XXXX. Special Polulations-clinical (Under development for Academic Year 2019-2020)

72XX. Specialty (Under development for Academic Year 2019-2020)

Interprofessional Certificates

RURAL COMMUNITY HEALTH and GLOBAL HEALTH

Purpose
The purpose for certificates is to meet the supplemental education needs of professionals. As jobs and job-related responsibilities change, a person often needs additional training in a specific area. A certificate program is a set of courses providing in-depth knowledge in a subject matter.

OVERVIEW
Certificate in Rural Community Health
The Interprofessional Certificate in Rural Community Health is designed for professionals practicing or planning to practice in rural counties. Upon completion of the Rural Community Health Certificate, graduates will have the necessary knowledge and skills to excel in a variety of settings in medically underserved areas around the world. This online interprofessional certificate in Rural Community Health is completed in 12 semester credit hours. A 67.5 hour clinical field experience in the principle area of interest is expected as part of the program requirements.

Certificate in Global Health
The Interprofessional Certificate in Global Health is designed for professionals practicing or planning to practice in developing countries.

Upon completion of the Global Health Certificate, graduates will have the necessary knowledge and skills to excel in a variety of settings in medically underserved areas around the world. This online interprofessional certificate in Global Health is completed in 12 semester credit hours. A 67.5 hour clinical field experience in the principle area of interest is expected as part of the program requirements.

INTERPROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATE APPLICATION and ADMISSION INFORMATION

Semester	Application Open	Application Deadline
Fall	September 1	August 1

Certificate Application Deadlines
Consideration for admission is given to applicants meeting all admission criteria who submitted all admission requirements by the application deadline as noted below:

Admission Requirements
All applicants must complete and submit an online application as directed on the Interprofessional Certificate website. All applicants must meet requirements listed below for admission consideration:
• Personal statement
• Letters of reference (3)
• Official transcripts from all colleges/universities attended

- 3.0 GPA
- A resume or CV is required
- Students enrolled at another institution are required to provide a letter of good standing

Non-Academic Admission Considerations
- Ability to perform capably in positions of responsibility for self and others
- Extracurricular activities
- Diversity of experience, such as study abroad, knowledge of other cultures, proficiency in other languages
- First-generation college student
- English as a second language
- Prior enrollment at Texas Tech University
- Evidence of leadership in professional organizations, committees, etc.
- Military service
- Permanent resident of TTUHSC service area county

All applicants will be reviewed in an individual and holistic manner. No single factor will determine a student's admission.

ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS

Computer Requirements
See Computer Requirements on page 30.

Criminal Background Checks
See Criminal Background Check Requirements on page 25.

Immunizations
See Immunization Requirements on page 27.

Drug Screening
Drug screenings may be necessary if required by the clinical institution site. The cost of all drug screens are the responsibility of the student.

Course Requirements for Interprofessional Certificates

KEY:
- (F) Face-to-face
- (O) Online
- (H) Hybrid (combination of face-to-face and online)
- **(CL)** Concurrent enrollment in a Clinical Section is required
- **(#:#:#)** First # represents the number of credit hours, Second # represents the number of lecture hours per week, Third # represents the number of clinical hours per week
- * Elective Courses are offered at select times as faculty and interest are present
- **(V)** Variable Credit

Interprofessional Certificate in Rural Community Health
(Total Credit Hours Required for Completion – 12)

Required Courses		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5420	Foundations of World Health	(4:4:0 O)
NURS 5421	Issues in World Health	(4:4:0 O)
NURS 5422	Practicum: Application of the World Health Concepts, CL	(4:3:1.5 O)

Interprofessional Certificate in Global Health
(Total Credit Hours Required for Completion – 12)

Required Courses		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5420	Foundations of World Health	(4:4:0 O)
NURS 5421	Issues in World Health	(4:4:0 O)
NURS 5422	Practicum: Application of the World Health Concepts, CL	(4:3:1.5 O)

INTERPROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATES COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Interprofessional Certificates courses are delivered via face-to-face, online, or hybrid methodologies.

All pre- or co-requisites and any designated conditions/criteria for previous courses apply throughout the curriculum.

KEY:
- Courses are listed in numerical order
- (F) Face-to-face
- (O) Online
- (H) Hybrid (combination of face-to-face and on-line)
- **(CL)** Concurrent enrollment in a Clinical Section is required
- **(#:#:#)** First # represents the number of credit hours, Second # represents the number of lecture hours per week, Third # represents the number of clinical hours per week
- * Elective Courses are offered at select times as faculty and interest are present
- **(V)** Variable Credit

5000 Level Courses

5420. Foundations of World Health
(4:4:0 O)
This course provides a conceptual and ethical foundation for rural community and global health practice. Students are introduced to the fundamental social, political, and economic determinants of health in rural communities and developed/developing countries. A multi-professional approach to teaching the course concepts is employed.

5421. Issues in World Health
(4:4:0 O)
The course focuses on the rural/global burden of disease and the pattern of disease variations within and among communities/countries. The course explores management of disease and the empowerment of people within their communities to manage their health with limited resources. A multi-professional approach to teaching the course concepts is employed.

5422. Practicum: Application of the World Health Concepts (CL)
(4:3:1.5 O)
This course focuses on clinical application for improving health in rural/global health communities. Students will complete a project and clinical experience in an approved global/rural health setting under the supervision of a TTUHSC faculty member.

Faculty

Acton, Cindy, DNP, RN, NEA-BC
Associate Professor, Director of the MSN Nursing Administration Track – BSN (West Texas A&M), MSN (West Texas A&M), DNP (Case Western Reserve University)

Allen, Patricia, EdD, RN
Professor – BSN (Old Dominion University), MSN (The Catholic University of America), EdD (Florida International University)

Alvarez, Stacie, MSN, RN
Instructor – BSN (Abilene Christian University), MSN (University of Texas at Arlington)

Andersen, Susan, PhD, RN
Associate Professor – BA (Carleton College), RN (Mohawk College of Applied Arts and Technology), BSN (Lubbock Christian University), MSN (Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center), PhD (University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio)

Ashcraft, Alyce, PhD, RN, ANEF, CNE
Professor and Associate Dean for Research and Scholarship,Roberts Endowed Practiceship in Nursing– BSN (Texas Woman's University), MSN (University of Texas at Arlington), PhD (University of Texas at Austin)

Baba, David, MSN, RN
Instructor - BSN (University of Ghana), MSN (University of Ghana)

Bargainer, Ruth, MSN, RN, CNE
Assistant Professor - ASN (McMurry University), MSN (Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center)

Barnes, Glenn, MSN, RN, PMP, EMT-P
Assistant Professor – AAS (Cooke County College), AA (North Central Texas College), BSN (University of Texas at Austin), MSN (University of Texas at Austin)

Barron, Alison, MSN, RN, CPEN, TCRN
Instructor - BSN (West Texas A&M), MSN (Lubbock Christian University)

Beckling, April, MSN, RN, CMSRN
Instructor - BSN (McMurry University), MSN (Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center)

Boothe, Amy, DNP, RN
Assistant Professor - BSN (Adams State University), MSN (University of Phoenix), DNP (Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center)

Boswell, Carol, EdD, RN, CNE, ANEF
Professor and Co-Director for the TTUHSC Center of Excellence in Evidence-Based Practice – BSN (Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center), MSN (Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center), EdD (Texas Tech University)

Boyd, Elizabeth, MSN, RNC-MNN
Assistant Professor - BSN (University of Texas at Austin), MSN (University of Texas at Austin)

Branham, Steven, PhD, RN, ACNP-C, FNP-BC, CCRN
Associate Professor – ADN (Central Ohio Technical College), BSN (University of Phoenix), MSN (The University of Texas Medical Branch), ACNP-C (University of Texas Medical Branch), PhD (Texas Woman's University)

Brewer, Sharon, MSN, RN
Instructor and Retention Counselor, Accelerated BSN Program, Amarillo - Diploma (Northwest Texas Hospital School of Nursing), BSN (West Texas State University), MSN (West Texas A&M University)

Bruce, Kellie, PhD, RN, FNP-BC
Associate Professor and Program Director, FNP Track - BSN (West Texas A&M University), MSN (West Texas A&M University), PhD (Touro University International)

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ADDENDUM

REVISED 9.26.18
P 55: Updated RN to BSN Academic Requirements and Non-Academic Admission Considerations, Effective FALL 2019.

REVISED 11.15.18
P 76: Corrected lab hours listed for NURS 4104 in the degree plan.
P79: Corrected the number of credit hours listed for the NURS 4104 course description.

REVISED 12.14.18
P 53: Updated the title of NURS 4322 to include the edited title of the course effective Spring 2019.

REVISED 12.21.18
P 55: Added a second course availalbe to provisional admission students for the RN to BSN Program.