



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY  
HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER  
*School of Nursing*<sup>™</sup>

**Student Catalog**  
**2007-2008**

[REV.9.17.07](#)



## CATALOG

This catalog, an official publication of Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center (TTUHSC) School of Nursing, contains policies, regulations, procedures, programs, courses, schedules and fees in effect when publication 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 current catalog. Only with the specified approval of the appropriate 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 its 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 this catalog do not constitute a contract, expressed or implied, between any applicant, 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 so 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 otherwise 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, sex, national origin or sexual orientation during the course of education at this institution.



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>Welcome</b> .....	8
<b>Administration</b> .....	9
Institutional Administration .....	9
School of Nursing Administration .....	10
<b>Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center (TTUHSC) Mission &amp; Vision</b> .....	11
<b>School of Nursing Mission, Vision, Values, &amp; Strategic Goals</b> .....	12
<b>Brief History</b> .....	13
Texas Tech University & Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center .....	13
Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center School of Nursing .....	13
Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center Accreditation .....	13
School of Nursing Program Accreditation .....	13
<b>Important Contact Information</b> .....	14
Dean of Nursing .....	14
Regional and Associate Deans .....	15
<b>Undergraduate Program</b> .....	16
Traditional .....	16
RN to BSN (Completion Program for RNs) .....	16
2° w BSN (Second Degree web-based BSN) .....	16
<b>Graduate Program</b> .....	17
Master of Science in Nursing Leadership Studies .....	17
Master of Science in Nursing Nurse Practitioner Studies .....	17
Collaborative Doctoral Program with the Texas Women University .....	17
<b>School of Nursing Departments</b> .....	18
<b>General Information</b> .....	19
Undergraduate Program .....	19
Graduate Program .....	19
Administrative & Student Affairs .....	20
Practice and Research .....	21
Outcomes Management and Evaluation .....	21
Continuing Nursing Education .....	21
Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) .....	22
Confidentiality/Health Insurance Portability & Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPPA) .....	22
Family Educational Rights & Privacy Act (FERPA) .....	22
State Privacy Policies .....	22
Smoke-Free Campus .....	22
<b>Essential Eligibility Requirements for Participation in the School of Nursing</b> .....	23

<b>Student Life</b> .....	24
Activities, Athletics, Entertainment, and Recreation .....	24
Awards .....	24
Clinical Simulation Center (CSC) .....	24
Computer Requirements .....	24
Employment .....	24
Health Services .....	25
Housing .....	25
HSC Testing Center .....	25
Preston Smith Library of the Health Sciences .....	25
<b>Organizations</b> .....	25
Department Advisory Councils (Undergraduate & Graduate) .....	25
Mentoring Advanced Practice Students (MAPS) .....	25
<b>Professional Societies</b> .....	26
Iota Mu Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau (International Nursing Honor Society) .....	26
Phi Kappa Phi .....	26
Golden Key .....	26
Student Government Association .....	26
Texas Nursing Student Association .....	26
<b>Student Assistance Program</b> .....	26
<b>University Counseling Center</b> .....	26
<b>International (Non-Immigrant) Application Policy</b> .....	27
<b>Financial Information</b> .....	28
Tuition and Fees .....	28
Refund Policies for Tuition and Fees .....	28
Financial Aid .....	28
<b>Scholarships</b> .....	29
<b>Other Programs at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center</b> .....	30
Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences .....	30
School of Allied Sciences .....	30
School of Medicine .....	30
School of Pharmacy .....	30
<b>Undergraduate Program</b> .....	31
Purpose .....	31
Student Learning Outcomes .....	31
Application and Admissions Information .....	31
Application Deadlines .....	31
<b>Traditional Undergraduate Studies</b> .....	32
<b>Traditional BSN Track</b> .....	32
Admissions Requirements .....	32
Eligibility to take NCLEX-RN Examination .....	32
Excess Undergraduate Credit Hours .....	33
Computer Requirements .....	34
Criminal Background Check .....	34
Drug Screening .....	34



Special Student Enrollment .....	34
Non-degree .....	34
Enrollment without Credit/Course Audit .....	34
Provisional Admission.....	34
Readmission .....	34
Prerequisite Courses .....	35
Required Non-Nursing Prerequisite Courses for Traditional BSN Track .....	35
Important Information about Pre-Nursing Course Requirements .....	35
Recognition of Previous Learning .....	36
Transfer of Credit .....	36
Advanced Placement .....	36
Offer of Admission .....	36
Degree Requirements for Students Admitted to Program .....	36
Graduation under a Particular Catalog .....	36
Maintaining Minimum Academic Requirements .....	36
Academic Dismissal .....	36
Comprehensive Examinations .....	37
Residence Credit.....	37
Semester Credit Hours and Course Loads .....	37
Degree Plan .....	37
Sample Degree Plan Traditional BSN Track .....	37
Course Descriptions.....	38
Undergraduate Traditional Track Courses .....	38
<b>Non-Traditional Undergraduate Studies .....</b>	<b>42</b>
<b>Second Degree Web-based BSN Track.....</b>	<b>42</b>
Admissions Requirements .....	42
Eligibility to take NCLEX-RN Examination.....	43
Excess Undergraduate Credit Hours.....	44
Computer Requirements.....	44
Criminal Background Check .....	44
Drug Screening.....	44
Special Student Enrollment .....	44
Non-degree .....	44
Enrollment without Credit/Course Audit .....	44
Provisional Admission.....	44
Conditional Admission.....	45
Readmission .....	45
Transfer Student .....	45
Prerequisite Courses .....	45
Required Non-Nursing Prerequisite Courses for the 2 w BSN Track .....	45
Important Information about Pre-Nursing Course Requirements .....	46
Recognition of Previous Learning .....	46
Transfer of Credit .....	46
Advanced Placement .....	46
Offer of Admission .....	46
Degree Requirements for Students Admitted to Program .....	47
Graduation under a Particular Catalog .....	47
Maintaining Minimum Academic Requirements .....	47
Academic Dismissal .....	47
Comprehensive Examinations .....	47
Residence Credit.....	47
Semester Credit Hours and Course Loads .....	47
Degree Plan .....	48
Sample Degree Plan Second Degree Web Based BSN Track .....	48



Course Descriptions.....	49
Undergraduate Second Degree Web Based Track Courses .....	49
<b>RN-BSN Track .....</b>	<b>51</b>
Admissions Requirements.....	51
Excess Undergraduate Credit Hours.....	51
Computer Requirements.....	51
Criminal Background Check .....	51
Drug Screening.....	51
Special Student Enrollment .....	52
Non-degree .....	52
Enrollment without Credit/Course Audit .....	52
Provisional Admission.....	52
Conditional Admission.....	52
Readmission .....	52
Transfer Student .....	52
Prerequisite Courses .....	53
Required Non-Nursing Prerequisite Courses for RN-BSN Track .....	53
Important Information about Pre-Nursing Course Requirements .....	53
Recognition of Previous Learning .....	54
Transfer of Credit .....	54
Advanced Placement .....	54
Offer of Admission.....	54
Degree Requirements for Students Admitted to Program .....	55
Graduation under a Particular Catalog .....	55
Maintaining Minimum Academic Requirements .....	55
Academic Dismissal .....	55
Residence Credit.....	55
Semester Credit Hours and Course Loads.....	55
Degree Plan .....	56
Sample Degree Plan RN-BSN Track .....	56
Curriculum Sequencing Plan .....	56
Course Descriptions.....	58
Undergraduate RN-BSN Track Courses .....	58
<b>Graduate Program.....</b>	<b>59</b>
Purpose .....	59
Student Learning Outcomes .....	59
Application and Admissions Information.....	59
Application Deadlines .....	59
<b>MSN Leadership and Nurse Practitioner Studies.....</b>	<b>60</b>
Admissions Requirements .....	60
Computer .....	60
Criminal Background Check .....	61
Drug Screening.....	61
Special Student Enrollment .....	61
Non-degree .....	61
Enrollment without Credit/Course Audit .....	61
Provisional Admission.....	61
Conditional Admission.....	61
Readmission .....	62
Transfer Student .....	62
Recognition of Previous Learning.....	62
Transfer of Credit .....	62
Offer of Admission.....	62



Degree Requirements for Students Admitted to Program .....	63
Graduation under a Particular Catalog .....	63
Maintaining Minimum Academic Requirements .....	63
Academic Dismissal .....	63
Comprehensive Examinations .....	63
Residence Credit.....	63
Semester Credit Hours and Course Loads .....	63
Master of Science in Nursing Degree Course Requirements.....	64
Master of Science in Nursing Collaborative UT Tyler Degree Course Requirements .....	67
Postmaster's Nurse Practitioner Course Certificate Requirements .....	69
<b>RN-MSN Rural Educational Leadership Track .....</b>	<b>71</b>
What is this Degree.....	71
Admission Requirements.....	71
Computer Requirements.....	72
Criminal Background Check .....	72
Drug Screening.....	72
Prerequisite Courses .....	73
Required Non-Nursing Prerequisite Courses for RN-MSN Track .....	73
Important Information about Pre-Nursing Course Requirements .....	73
Recognition of Previous Learning.....	74
Transfer of Credit.....	74
Offer of Admission.....	74
Degree Requirements for Students Admitted to Program .....	74
Graduation under a Particular Catalog .....	74
Maintaining Minimum Academic Requirements .....	74
Graduate Program.....	75
Academic Dismissal .....	75
Residence Credit.....	75
Semester Credit Hours and Course Loads .....	75
RN-MSN Degree Course Requirements.....	76
Undergraduate Course Descriptions for RN-MSN Track.....	76
<b>Doctoral Program Collaborative Ph.D. Program with Texas Woman University.....</b>	<b>77</b>
Goals.....	77
Admission Requirements.....	77
<b>Graduate Course Descriptions.....</b>	<b>79</b>
<b>Faculty.....</b>	<b>83</b>



## WELCOME

Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center School of Nursing is an excellent choice for contemporary, state-of-the-art nursing education. When you graduate, you will join our alumni serving in hospitals and clinics, influencing state and national policymakers, conducting research, and teaching in schools of nursing.

The School of Nursing is known for its fine faculty. It is also a pioneer in distance education. These distinctions are among the reasons the school earned a ranking for three years in U.S. News and World Report as one of the top graduate programs in the country.

I commend you on the choice you have made and wish you a rewarding and successful career.

***Kent Hance, Chancellor  
Texas Tech University System***

Welcome to Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center where we trust you'll discover an exciting, vibrant, growing university established on a rich foundation of serving the people of West Texas. I congratulate you on selecting a profession in which you will dedicate yourself to improving the lives of others.

At the School of Nursing you have the opportunity to learn from a nursing faculty recognized nationally as experts in their field and to perfect your skills in a state-of-the art environment. The school's interdisciplinary approach to education will prepare you for the collaborative nature of today's health care work force.

Thank you for joining in our mission of improving the health of people in West Texas and beyond.

***John Baldwin, M.D., President  
Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center***

From here the possibilities for your professional nursing career are infinite. Whether your goal is to complete a bachelor's, masters, 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.

You have chosen to join a school with a proud tradition of providing well-prepared nurses. Currently, the school has approximately one thousand students enrolled and provides approximately three hundred nursing graduates annually to serve in West Texas and the region.

We welcome you to the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center School of Nursing and look forward to joining you in launching a successful nursing career.

***Alexia Green, Ph.D., R.N. FAAN, Dean and Professor  
Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center School of Nursing***



## **TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER**

### **INSTITUTIONAL ADMINISTRATION**

#### ***Board of Regents***

F. Scott Dueser, Chair  
Larry K Anders, Vice Chair  
L. Frederick "Rick" Francis  
Mark Griffin  
John Field Scovell  
Daniel "Dan" T. Serna  
Windy M. Sitton  
Bob L. Stafford, M.D.  
Jerry Edward Turner  
Ebtesam "Sam" Attaya Islam, Student Regent

#### ***Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center***

Kent Hance, Chancellor  
John Baldwin, MD, President for the Health Sciences Center  
Elmo Cavin, Jr., MBA, Executive Vice President for Finance and Administration  
German Nunez, Vice President for Diversity and Multicultural Programs  
Patti Patterson, MD, Vice President for Rural and Community Health  
Barbara Pence PhD, Associate Vice President of Research  
Rial Rolfe, PhD, Vice President for Academic Services

#### ***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. Mitemeyer -Interim (2006-2007)  
John Baldwin, President (2007- Present)



## **TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER**

### **SCHOOL OF NURSING ADMINISTRATION**

Alexia Green, PhD, RN, FAAN, Professor & Dean

Myrna Armstrong, EdD, RN, FAAN, Professor & Regional Dean  
Sharon B. Cannon, EdD, RN, Professor & Medical Center Hospital Regional Dean Endowed Chair,  
Co-Director, Center of Excellence in Evidence-Based Practice

Christina R. Esperat, PhD, RN, FAAN, Professor & Associate Dean for Practice and Research  
Barbara A. Johnston, PhD, RN, CNE, Professor & Associate Dean for Administrative and Student Affairs  
Yondell Masten, PhD, RN, C, WHNP, CNS, Professor & Associate Dean for Outcomes Mgmt and Evaluation

Barbara Cherry, DNSc, MBA, RN, Assistant Professor & Department Chair for Leadership Studies  
Cathleen A. Collins, MSN, RN, Assistant Professor & Dept Chair for Nontraditional Undergraduate Studies  
Emily Merrill, Ph.D., MSN, RN, CS, CFNP, Associate Professor & Department Chair for Nurse Practitioner Studies  
Donna C. Owen, PhD, RN, Garrison Professor & Department Chair for Traditional Undergraduate Studies

Sharon I. Decker, PhD, RN, CS, CCRN, Professor & Director of Clinical Simulations

Shelley Burson, MEd, Director of Continuing Nursing Education & SON Accreditation

Karla Chapman, BA, Senior Director, Dean's Office

Joe Ferrer, BIT, SON Information Technology Administrator

Linda Lane, BS, Managing Director

Christy Meriwether BS, Director of Communications and Marketing

Maria M. Sierra BS, Director of Administrative Support and Student Affairs

Paula Simpson BS, Director of Outcomes Management and Evaluation

#### ***School of Nursing Deans***

Teddy Jones (1981-1991)

Pat Yoder-Wise (1991-1993, Interim Dean; 1993-2000, Dean)

Alexia Green (2000-Present)



## **TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER**

### **MISSION**

The mission of the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center is to improve the health of people by providing educational opportunities for students and health care professionals, advancing knowledge through scholarship and research, and providing patient care and service. The Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center fulfills its higher education mission by achieving the following strategic goals:

- Train competent health professionals and scientists
- Increase externally funded, peer-reviewed research, especially NIH-funded research, and research focused on aging, cancer, and rural health
- Improve access to quality health care for the TTUHSC target populations
- Prepare health professions students for an increasingly diverse workforce and patient population
- Provide leadership in the development of partnerships and collaborations to improve community health
- Operate TTUHSC as an efficient and effective institution

### **VISION**

Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center will be recognized nationally as a top-ranked health sciences university.



## **SCHOOL OF NURSING**

### **MISSION**

The primary mission of Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center School of Nursing is to provide quality educational programs and advance excellence in health care for diverse populations through programs of scholarship, research, practice, and service.

### **VISION**

The School of Nursing will be nationally recognized, propelled by visionary leadership, innovative educational programs, and a commitment to robust research and practice programs.

### **VALUES**

Our values adhere to the highest standards of integrity and quality related to innovative education, practice, research, and service. We value;

- individual uniqueness
- a spirit of trust, caring, open communication, and team work
- loyal, creative, and culturally diverse students, faculty, and staff
- a dedicated community of stakeholders

### **STRATEGIC GOALS**

1. Enhance educational programs to narrow the gap between education and practice.
2. Develop and implement robust evidence-based research and practice programs.
3. Advocate for and promote the social relevance of the nursing profession.
4. Increase the diversity and cultural competence of students, faculty, and staff.
5. Develop and implement innovative strategies to address the nursing shortage.
6. Operate the School of Nursing as an effective and efficient organization.

The School is committed to serving the rural, disadvantaged, and aging communities of West Texas. This commitment is exemplified by the practice enterprises operated by the School which serve these populations and provide learning sites for our students.

At the undergraduate level, the School offers a baccalaureate program in Lubbock. The school also offers baccalaureate in nursing degrees for professionals with baccalaureate degrees in another field and registered nurses with an associate degree in nursing or diploma nursing preparation. Specialized nursing preparation is offered at the Master's level in administration, education, research and practitioner roles. The Nurse Practitioner Program includes family, acute care, geriatric, and pediatric options in Lubbock, Odessa, the Hill Country and through collaborative arrangements with the University of Texas at Tyler College of Nursing and Health Sciences. The School also participates in a collaborative program with Texas Woman's University to provide doctoral nursing education in West Texas.

The School is committed to life-long learning of health care providers throughout rural West Texas. The faculty serve these rural communities by providing expert continuing education.



## BRIEF HISTORY

### ***Texas Tech University and Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center***

Texas Tech University (TTU), which was founded in 1923 and enrolled its first students in the fall of 1925, is a state-supported, coeducational institution comprising the instructional colleges of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources, Architecture, Arts and Sciences, Business Administration, Education, Engineering and Human Sciences; the School of Law; the Graduate School and a number of special departments and divisions. Graduate work has been offered at TTU since 1927. The 61st Legislature of the State of Texas authorized the creation of the Texas Tech University School of Medicine as a separate educational institution. The Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center (TTUHSC) was officially designated by the 66th Texas State Legislature. Together with TTU, the Schools of Allied Health, Graduate Biomedical Sciences, Medicine, Nursing, and Pharmacy are classified as a Research institution.

Lubbock, the home of TTU & TTUHSC, has over 200,000 people residing here. It is situated on the South Plains of West Texas at an altitude of 3,250 feet. Dry, crisp air and sunny days throughout practically the entire year provide a healthy and invigorating climate. The university campus, a contiguous tract of 1,839 acres, lies at the western edge of the business section of the city. University buildings number 245, including the Lubbock campus, Junction campus, Pantex campus, agricultural field laboratories at New Deal, and campuses in Amarillo, Dallas, El Paso, Odessa and Fredericksburg/Marble Falls. The present plant value is approximately \$230 million.

### ***Texas Tech University Health Science Center School of Nursing***

The School of Nursing (SON) as officially approved for funding by the 67th Legislature in 1981. This followed a period of development beginning with its initial approval by the Coordinating Board, Texas College and University System, in 1975, and approval for program development by the Board of Nursing for the State of Texas that same year. The Continuing Nursing Education (CNE) program was initiated in 1979. The first students were admitted to the undergraduate degree program in the Fall, 1981. This marked the initiation of a curriculum designed to admit students with no previous nursing course work, Licensed Vocational Nurses and Registered Nurses, into a program culminating in the Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree. The Odessa program began in Fall 1985. In Fall 1988, a graduate program was initiated to meet the increasing demands for nurses prepared at the graduate level to provide complex, comprehensive care. Online courses were initiated in 1998 in the Graduate Program. Online education was initiated in 1999 with the RN to BSN program and in 2005 an accelerated second degree program (2° w BSN) and RN-MSN programs were established through the use of HRSA funding provided by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA).

### ***Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center Accreditation***

Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award bachelor's, master's, 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 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 of standard.

### ***School of Nursing Program Accreditation***

In July, 1980, the TTUHSC Continuing Nursing Education Program was first accredited by the Western Regional Accrediting Committee of the American Nurses' Association as a provider for continuing education in nursing. That accreditation, now offered through the American Nurses Credentialing Center, remains in effect.

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 granted initial accreditation, which was retroactive prior to the first graduation in June 1983. The graduate program received initial accreditation in March 1992. The School of Nursing program is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE), contact the CCNE at One Dupont Circle, NW Suite 530, Washington, DC, or call to 202—887-6791, or visit the CCNE website at [www.aacn.nche.edu](http://www.aacn.nche.edu) for questions about accreditation of the School of Nursing program. 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 program. Additionally, because the actual enrollment of students for the SON was delayed until legislative funding was approved, the SON CNE Program was implemented prior to admission of students. Thus, the initial accreditation achievement was for the CNE Program. The official accreditation statement is:

Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center School of Nursing Continuing Nursing Education Program is accredited as a provider of continuing nursing education by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation.

## IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION



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## **SCHOOL OF NURSING REGIONAL AND ASSOCIATE DEANS**

**Myrna Armstrong, EdD, RN, FAAN**

**Professor & Regional Dean**

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## UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM

### **Traditional Undergraduate Studies**

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### **Non-Traditional Undergraduate Studies**

**Cathleen A. Collins, MSN, RN**

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### **Tiffany Hager, Coordinator**

**RN to BSN (Completion Program for RNs)**

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## GRADUATE PROGRAM

### **Leadership Studies**

**Barbara Cherry, DNSc, MBA, RN**  
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### **Nurse Practitioner Studies**

**Emily Merrill, Ph.D., MSN, RN, CS, CFNP**  
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### **Collaborative Doctoral Program with Texas Woman's University**

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#### **Contact:**

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College of Nursing  
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### **Master of Science in Nursing Collaborative Nurse Practitioner Program with University of Texas at Tyler College of Nursing & Health Sciences**

3900 University Blvd.

Tyler, TX 75799

#### **Contact:**

**Gayle Varnell, PhD, RN, CPNP**

Associate Dean for Advanced Practice

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## SCHOOL OF NURSING DEPARTMENTS

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### **Communications and Marketing**

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## GENERAL INFORMATION

### *Undergraduate Program*

#### **Undergraduate Traditional Studies**

##### **Traditional Track**

##### **Department Chair – Donna C. Owen, PhD, RN**

For students who are not registered nurses, the baccalaureate degree program at the Health Sciences Center offers the student the opportunity to complete the degree in six consecutive semesters, with admission once each year during the second summer session. Students must complete the nursing courses in sequential order.

#### **Undergraduate Non-Traditional Studies**

##### **2° to BSN Track**

##### **Department Chair – Cathleen Collins, MSN, RN**

For students with a non-nursing baccalaureate degree who reside in the Austin/Hill Country and Lubbock communities a second degree web-based accelerated baccalaureate nursing degree (2°wBSN) program is offered in a 12-month full time curriculum. This program admits students in January and August of each year and requires completion of all pre-requisite courses before entry. The program allows completion of 61 semester credit hours of upper division coursework for the BSN while remaining in the student's community.

##### **RN to BSN Track**

##### **Department Chair – Cathleen Collins, MSN, RN**

For students who are registered nurses, the RN-Baccalaureate program (RN-BSN) originates from the Health Sciences Center in Lubbock via web-based education offering the full-time student the opportunity to complete the degree in two semesters, with admission each semester (Fall, Spring, or Summer). Further information about this program can be located in the RN-BSN section of this Catalog. Contact the Program Administrator to discuss degree plan options.

### *Graduate Program*

#### **Leadership Studies (Education, Administration, & Doctoral Studies)**

##### **Department Chair – Barbara Cherry, DNSc, MBA, RN**

##### Master of Science in Nursing –Administration Track

Students who complete the MSN with a nursing administration focus are prepared to assume nursing leadership and management positions in a variety of health care settings. The BSN is the required entry level for the MSN in nursing administration. Students complete the program via a combination of on-line and on-campus course offerings. Further information about this program can be located in the Graduate Program section of this catalog.

##### Master of Science in Nursing –Education Track

Students interested in a career as a nurse educator have three options for graduate nursing education. First, the RN to MSN Rural Educational Leadership program is a collaborative program between School of Nursing's graduate and undergraduate program and is designed for students who have an associates degree or diploma in nursing and wish to pursue a graduate degree focused on nursing education in rural communities. This rigorous program is designed for full-time study and moves the student directly from Bachelors level courses to Masters level courses and is completed entirely through on-line course offerings and practicum experiences.

Second, the BSN to MSN Rural Educational Leadership program prepares students for a career in nursing education in rural communities. The BSN is the required entry level and the program is completed entirely through on-line course offerings and practicum experiences.

Third, the MSN with a nursing education focus is designed for the BSN entry-level student who desires a career in nursing education. Students complete the program via a combination of on-line and on-campus course offerings. Further information about these programs can be located in the Graduate Program section of this catalog.

### PhD in Nursing

The PhD in Nursing is a collaborative program with Texas Women's University College of Nursing (TWU) and TTUHSC School of Nursing. The primary goal of the doctoral program is to develop leaders and scholars who will make a significant contribution to the nursing profession in the discovery, integration, application, and dissemination of knowledge. There are three sites for doctoral course offerings – Denton, Houston and Lubbock. The PhD degree is awarded by TWU in accordance with program policies of the TWU Graduate School and the TWU College of Nursing. Visit the TWU website for further information at [www.twu.edu](http://www.twu.edu).

### **Nurse Practitioner Studies (Family, Acute Care, Geriatric, Pediatric)**

**Department Chair – Emily Merrill, MSN, RN, CS, CFNP**

#### Master of Science in Nursing – Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) and Post Masters FNP Track

This track prepares graduates to assume a primary care provider role for the family (infants, children, adolescents, adults, and older adults). FNPs practice primarily in ambulatory care settings including rural and underserved areas.

#### Master of Science in Nursing – Acute Care Nurse Practitioner (ACNP) and Post-Masters ACNP Track

This track prepares graduates to assume responsibilities for promoting, maintaining, and restoring health to adults who are acutely or critically ill. While most ACNPs practice in acute care and hospital based settings including emergency care and intensive care settings, the continuum of care includes urgent care and ambulatory care.

#### Master of Science in Nursing – Pediatric Nurse Practitioner (PNP) and Post-Master PNP Track

This track 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.

#### Master of Science in Nursing – Geriatric Nurse Practitioner (GNP) and post-master's GNP Track

This track prepares graduates to assume a primary care provider role for older adults in multiple health care delivery settings including private practice, ambulatory clinics, acute care, long-term facilities, and the patient's home.

Upon completion of course requirements, graduates of the master's and post-master's programs are eligible to sit for one or more of the following certification exams:

- National Certification Board of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners (PNCB) Exam (PNP)
- American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) Exam (ACNP, GNP, FNP, PNP)
- American Academy of Nurse Practitioners Certification (AANP) Exam (FNP, GNP)
- National League for Nursing Nurse Educator Exam (CNE)

### ***Administrative and Student Affairs***

**Associate Dean – Barbara A. Johnston, PhD, RN, CNE**

The School of Nursing Administrative and Student Affairs Office is responsible for oversight of all Student Services items in the School of Nursing across all campuses and sites. Provides assistance to local and distance students in all nursing academic programs with various services such as Criminal Background Checks, Scholarships, and Graduation processes. This office maintains the accuracy and currency of official publications of the School of Nursing, in addition to coordinating recruitment and retention initiatives. Facilitates implementation of the grievance and appeals processes within the School of Nursing. The Associate Dean for Administrative and Student Affairs serves as the Conduct Board Administrator.

### ***Practice and Research***

#### **Associate Dean – Christina R. Esperat, PhD, RN, FAAN**

Faculty within the School of Nursing may choose development of either a research or practice program. The School of Nursing maintains an active Practice Program. Faculty 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 (Lubbock).

The research program is designed to provide assistance and support for faculty to promote their research interests and to develop proposals for their 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. The Larry Combest Community Health & Wellness Center in Lubbock serves medically-underserved populations. This is a nurse-managed center, and faculty and staff provide primary care services to clients over the life span. The Larry Combest Community Health & Wellness Center provides essential health care access points for residents of the community who are otherwise 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 payors.

### ***Outcomes Management and Evaluation***

#### **Associate Dean – Yondell Masten, PhD, RN, C, WHNP, CNS**

The School of Nursing outcomes management and evaluation focus is based on the concept of continuous quality improvement, supported by the Texas Tech University System. Data are collected each semester, quarter, and/or annually for decision-making and documentation of the School of Nursing achievement of the goals of the Strategic Plan. Graduate and undergraduate students participate in decision making and documentation of Strategic Plan goal achievement by providing valuable data via completion of evaluation tools and by serving as representatives on School of Nursing committees and task forces.

### ***Continuing Nursing Education***

#### **Director – Shelley Burson, MEd**

The TTUHSC School of Nursing Continuing Nursing Education (CNE) program provides many learning opportunities for nurses. The TTUHSC School of Nursing CNE Program is accredited as a provider of continuing nursing education by the American Nursing Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation. General service offerings are held at TTUHSC in Lubbock and Odessa. *Nursing students are invited to attend the general service offerings for half price.* Calendars listing these offerings may be obtained in the CNE program office, which is located in the Faculty Support Services atrium and in Odessa Campus Regional Dean's Office. Personal Order Service offerings, courses specifically designed and taught on-site, are held with more than ten hospitals and/or agencies in West Texas. This service has been referred to as "CNE on Wheels" and is beneficial to nursing staff who find it difficult to travel across West Texas to seek their continuing education.

The CNE program also co-provides educational activities with the TTUHSC Office of Continuing Medical Education, the TTUHSC Garrison Institute on Aging and other TTU/TTUHSC departments, which are typically multidisciplinary events. For additional information about the CNE program, please call the office at (806) 743-2734 or visit the web page at <http://www.ttuhsc.edu/son/cne/>.

### ***Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)***

Students seeking accommodations on the basis of disability must register with the office of TTUHSC Student Services at [www.ttuhsc.edu/student-services](http://www.ttuhsc.edu/student-services) and the TTUHSC Director of Student Services, Lubbock Campus (806-743-2300). The Director of Student Services, Lubbock Campus 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 [www.ttuhsc.edu/student-services/ada](http://www.ttuhsc.edu/student-services/ada).

### ***Confidentiality/Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA)***

The School of Nursing is dedicated to ensuring each student is current in issues as they relate to nursing practice and research. One such regulation includes the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA). Annually, each student is required to provide proof of education in HIPAA training. The training requirements vary by program; the student will receive information regarding HIPAA training and will be asked to sign a Confidentiality Agreement during New Student Orientation. All proof of training will be placed in the student's advising file located in the appropriate Department Chair's Office. Those who cannot show proof will not be allowed to attend clinicals. In addition, 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.

### ***Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)***

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 ("FERPA") (20 U.S.C.A. Section 1232g) 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 that 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 Student Affairs Handbook* shall serve as the annual notification that must be provided to students under FERPA, 34 C.F.R. 99.7, unless individual TTUHSC schools annually notify their students of FERPA rights otherwise.

### ***State Privacy Policies***

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 his or her identity and computer network location, we must post what types of information we are collecting about the website user on the Internet site. Finally, TTUHSC must establish a reasonable procedure to correct information about an individual.

### ***Smoke-Free Campus***

The TTUHSC is committed to the health of our students, patients, faculty, staff and the public in general. As an institution whose mission is to provide excellence in health care education and service, we are a smoke-free campus.



## ESSENTIAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE TTUHSC SCHOOL OF NURSING

The following essential eligibility requirements for participation in the School of Nursing and examples of necessary activities (not all inclusive) should be used to assist each applicant/student in determining whether accommodations or modifications are necessary.

Essential Functions	Examples of Necessary Activities
Critical thinking abilities sufficient for clinical judgment.	Identify cause/effect relationships in clinical situations; develop nursing care plans.
Interpersonal abilities sufficient to interact with individuals, families, and groups from a variety of social, emotional, cultural, and intellectual backgrounds.	Establish rapport with patients/clients and colleagues.
Communication abilities sufficient for interaction with others in verbal and written form.	Explain treatment procedures, initiate health teaching, document and interpret nursing actions and patient/client responses.
Abilities sufficient to move from room to room and to maneuver in small places.	Move around in patients' rooms, work spaces, treatment areas, and administer cardio-pulmonary procedures.
Abilities sufficient to provide safe and effective nursing care.	Calibrate and use equipment; position patients/clients.
Abilities sufficient to monitor and assess health needs.	Ability to hear monitor alarms, emergency signals, all auscultatory sounds, and cries for help.
Abilities sufficient for observation and assessment necessary in nursing care.	Observe patient/client responses.
Abilities sufficient for physical assessment.	Perform palpation, auscultation, percussion and observational functions of physical examination and/or those related to therapeutic intervention, e.g. insertion of a catheter.

ADA Guidelines apply to all qualified disabled persons. A qualified disabled person is a person with a disability who, with or without reasonable modifications to rules, policies, or practices, the removal of architectural, communication, or transportation barriers, or the provision of auxiliary aids and services, meets the essential eligibility requirements for the receipt of services, or the participation in programs or activities provided by a public entity **and** who can perform the “**essential functions**” of the position. For further information, see [www.ttuhschool.edu/student-services/ada/](http://www.ttuhschool.edu/student-services/ada/) For undergraduate and graduate admissions requirements see following links.

### ***Undergraduate Program***

#### **Traditional Undergraduate Studies**

Traditional Undergraduate Track

#### **Non-Traditional Undergraduate Studies**

Second Degree Web-Based BSN Track  
RN-BSN Track

### ***Graduate Program***

#### **Leadership Studies**

Education Administration  
RN-MSN Education

#### **Nurse Practitioner Studies**

MSN Family, Acute Care, Geriatric, Pediatric  
PM Family, Acute Care, Geriatric, Pediatric



## STUDENT LIFE

### ***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 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 other universities of the Big 12 Conference are Baylor, Texas, Texas A&M, Colorado, Oklahoma, Oklahoma State, Kansas, Kansas State, Iowa State, Nebraska and Missouri.

In Lubbock, the TTUHSC campus is located in close proximity to the TTU campus. TTUHSC campus also includes a Synergistic Center affording students easy access to both recreational and entertainment facilities. The Student Recreational Center and University Center (Lubbock) are two of the most popular buildings on campus for out-of-class student activities. The various cultural, social, educational and recreational programs include:

- |              |                                      |                             |
|--------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| ▪ ballrooms  | ▪ meeting rooms                      | ▪ gymnasium facilities      |
| ▪ theaters   | ▪ lounge & TV areas                  | ▪ weight rooms & saunas     |
| ▪ snack bars | ▪ intramural sports                  | ▪ indoor archery range      |
| ▪ cafeteria  | ▪ indoor-outdoor swimming pool       | ▪ multipurpose arenas       |
| ▪ games area | ▪ lighted tennis and handball courts | ▪ music & drama productions |
| ▪ foosball   | ▪ ping pong                          | ▪ TTUHSC Synergistic Center |

For more information about student organizations, fraternities or sororities you may contact the TTUHSC Student Services office at 806-743-2300. For information about the TTU recreational center and activities contact the Activities Office at 742-3621.

### ***Awards***

The School of Nursing participates in and offers numerous awards including:

- ❖ Who's Who Among American Universities and Colleges – Undergraduate & Graduate Students
- ❖ Excellence In Nursing – Undergraduate & Graduate Students

### ***Clinical Simulation Center***

The Clinical Simulation Center (CSC), located on the Lubbock campus, provides a unique environment where student learning and evaluation are facilitated through simulation. The CSC provides a realistic learning environment where students learn and develop clinical competencies in a non-stressful environment. Faculty and students from the School of Nursing, Medicine and Allied Health use the facilities, simulators, mannequins, equipment and supplies available in the CSC.

### ***Computer Requirements***

A considerable amount of time will be spent utilizing the resources available via the internet in all School of Nursing programs, including email. *Owning a personal computer is required to succeed in the program; and daily computer access is expected for all students.* The following website has specific computer system recommendations: [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. A student employed in a healthcare agency has responsibility, personally and professionally, to accept and engage in only those activities which fall within the position description for which he/she is qualified and which are not in conflict with legal and accreditation expectations.

### ***Health Services***

Students enrolled at the Lubbock campus can access Student Health Services through the Family Practice Clinic located on the first floor of the TTUHSC. All students enrolled in TTUHSC are expected to carry personal health insurance.

### ***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 Housing Office at (806) 742-2661.

### ***HSC Testing Center***

Located on the Lubbock campus which provides computerized testing for the School of Nursing.

### ***Preston Smith Library***

The TTUHSC Libraries of the Health Sciences in Lubbock, Amarillo, El Paso, and Odessa presently contain more than 303,721 bound volumes, of which over 180,000 are located in Lubbock and Odessa. Over 15,000 electronic books are also available. The system has 1,277 print journal subscriptions and approximately 11,466 electronic journals available at all TTUHSC sites. Over 16,000 audiovisuals are also available. The libraries feature study carrels, interlibrary loan and photocopy services, reference services, and Internet access/connectivity. The Preston Smith Library of the Health Sciences, a 50,000 square foot facility, which opened during the Summer of 1998 on the Lubbock campus, features 28 group study rooms and a 64 station Learning Resource Center (LRC). Numerous online databases are available for use including: MEDLINE, CINAHL Plus with Full Text, anatomy.tv, Natural Medicines, Health and Psychosocial Instruments, International Pharmaceutical Abstracts, MICROMEDEX, PsycINFO, MedlinePlus, PubMed, and ERIC, as well as general and academic TexShare databases. Ovid full-text Nursing Collections, MDConsult with full-text, Science Direct full-text electronic journals and a full array of electronic books are also accessible. Off-site access to licensed electronic resources is available via a proxy server to all TTUHSC faculty, staff, and students. The four libraries of the TTUHSC system have a common online catalog for access to holdings at all TTUHSC libraries. Nursing students also enjoy access to the TTU Library, with more than 1.5 million items, including U.S. Government documents and science holdings.

## **ORGANIZATIONS**

### ***Department Advisory Councils (Undergraduate & Graduate)***

For purposes of promoting the TTUHSC School of Nursing, three advisory councils exist to maintain open communication between students and administration/faculty/ staff. Students advise the administration on ways to improve the educational process while enrolled in the School of Nursing. Student Representatives are selected by the Department Chairs to serve on the Department Advisory Councils.

### ***Mentoring Advanced Practice Students (MAPS)***

The purpose of this mentoring program is to provide new graduate students attending the School of Nursing graduate program an opportunity to network with a knowledgeable colleague already enrolled in the Program. Contact the appropriate Department Chair office to obtain more information about joining this organization.

## 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***

The School of Nursing is represented on the TTUHSC Student Senate. The positions on the TTUHSC Student Senate are elected from the undergraduate and graduate programs. For more information regarding the senate contact the Student Services Office at (806) 743-2300.

### ***Texas Nursing Students' Association***

Voluntary membership in the Texas Nursing Students Association, pre-professional society, is available. This award winning group is highly active at school, state and national levels.

## STUDENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The Program of Assistance for Students (PAS) is a resource to keep you functioning well in your personal and academic life. PAS services are available to you and anyone in your household and PAS counselors are able to assist you with all types of problems, including family or relationship problems, depression, anxiety, and stress. You are entitled to five (5) free sessions per academic year. PAS consultations are private and professional and you can call the PAS offices directly (806-743-1327 or 800-327-0328) to schedule an appointment.

## UNIVERSITY COUNSELING CENTER

The University Counseling Center (Lubbock) offers a number of services to TTUHSC students including:

- career, vocational, and academic counseling;
- personal problems, crisis intervention and adjustment counseling;
- marital and premarital counseling;
- study techniques program;
- group experiences such as interpersonal skills and personal growth groups;
- assertiveness and relaxation training; and
- occupational information reading room.

All of the above services are offered free of cost by calling (806) 742-3674. For the licensed student at a distance, contact your Department Chair for specific assistance.

## INTERNATIONAL (NON-IMMIGRANT) APPLICATION POLICY

International students who are not living in the United States (US) at the time of application should apply one year in advance. Applicants should follow the same procedure and meet the same minimum criteria for admission consideration as all other students who are applying for a particular program.

To avoid difficulties in the application process it is strongly recommended to be **sure the name filled in on the application is the full legal name of the applicant. This must be the name that appears on the passport. The name, as it appears on the application, should also be the same on each of the documents and test score reports.**

In addition to stated admission requirements, applicants with foreign academic credentials must:

- Provide academic records in the original language with certified English translation and United States equivalency.
- ***Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL):*** Students whose predominant tongue is not English must also present a score of at least 550 (paper exam), 213 (computer exam), or 79 (internet) on the TOEFL. (This includes permanent residents of the US.) The TOEFL requirement may be waived if the student has graduated from a US high school with a minimum of two years attendance or if the student is a citizen of a country where English is the native language.

Countries commonly known to be 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), Ireland, Liberia, New Zealand, United Kingdom (England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, Wales), and the United States.

Applicants holding degrees from US colleges and/or universities are not required to submit TOEFL scores. Information concerning the TOEFL may be obtained from Educational Testing Service, P. O. Box 899, Princeton, New Jersey 08540, US, or their website – [www.toefl.org](http://www.toefl.org).

Upon acceptance to the School of Nursing the international student (non-immigrant) must furnish original documents or official certified copies indicating the nature and scope of their educational program, as well as citizenship, finance and visa information. These documents should be sent to the Office of International Affairs. The contact information for this office is: Office of International Affairs, International Cultural Center, TTU, and P.O. Box 45004, Lubbock, TX 79409-5004. Phone: 806-742-3667. FAX: 806-742-1286. Web: [www.iaff.ttu.edu](http://www.iaff.ttu.edu).

## FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Immediately upon acceptance of an offer of admission the student pays a non-refundable \$100 placement guarantee fee. Failure to pay the fee will result in forfeiture of the offer of acceptance.

To enable the student to approximate expenses an estimated average cost for a 12-month period is provided from the Financial Aid Office. These estimates are based on the 2006-2007 (Summer, Fall, Spring) school year.

### ***Tuition and Fees***

	<b>Traditional BSN Track</b>		<b>RN-BSN Track</b>		<b>2<sup>nd</sup> BSN Track</b>		<b>Graduate Studies</b>	
	Resident	Non-Resident	Resident	Non-Resident	Resident	Non-Resident	Resident	Non-Resident
Tuition	\$4,134	\$14,868	\$3,780	\$15,678	\$6,666	\$19,584	\$4,104	\$10,848
Fees	1,940	1,940	2,980	1,940	12,951	12,951	1,957	1,957
Books/Supplies	1,435	1,435	1,435	1,435	1,530	1,530	1,435	1,435
Housing/Food	8,459	8,459	8,459	8,459	7,840	7,840	10,128	10,128
Transportation	2,843	2,843	2,843	2,843	3,579	3,579	4,080	4,080
Personal/Misc.	4,501	4,501	4,501	4,501	4,137	4,137	4,924	4,924
Loan Fees	315	315	315	315	315	315	546	555
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$23,627</b>	<b>\$34,361</b>	<b>\$24,313</b>	<b>\$35,171</b>	<b>\$37,018</b>	<b>\$49,936</b>	<b>\$27,174</b>	<b>\$33,927</b>

There is an installment plan available for fall and spring terms only. An Installment Option Fee is charged per semester to students who use the installment payment plan. There is no installment option for the summer semester due to the shortened length of the semester. Tuition is paid to TTUHSC. Further questions regarding tuition and fees should be directed to the TTUHSC Bursar's Office at (806)743-1880.

### ***Refund Policies for Tuition and Fees***

Information concerning payments and refunds can be obtained from the TTUHSC Bursar's Office website at [www.fiscal.ttuhsc.edu/busserv/bursar](http://www.fiscal.ttuhsc.edu/busserv/bursar) or 806-743-1880.

### ***Financial Aid***

Grants and loans are available through the TTUHSC Financial Aid Office (806-743-3025) [www.ttuhsc.edu/financialaid](http://www.ttuhsc.edu/financialaid). All students interested in receiving grants, loans and scholarships are required to complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to be sent to TTUHSC. FAFSA must be completed to receive scholarship from the School of Nursing. FAFSA can be completed on the FAFSA website [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov).

**Financial aid award 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.**

## SCHOLARSHIPS

### **The School of Nursing has the following dedicated scholarships**

Allensworth	Nancy Neal
American State Bank Presidential Endowed	Nurse Practitioner
Burrell Family	Nursing Non-Resident
Jewel Benton	Nursing Resident (graduate)
Carroll Family	Nursing Resident (traditional undergraduate)
Dean's Discretionary	Nursing Resident (non-traditional undergraduate)
Disadvantaged Student	Overby Endowed
Diversity and Multicultural Affairs	President's Council
E.A. Franklin Presidential	Roberts Endowed
E.A. Franklin Trust & Giles McCrary	Marshall Verne Ross
Graduate Student Potential	Rushing Family
William Hearst	Sherill Skibell
Velma Brandon Heath	Preston Smith
V.E. Holland	Mary Nell Sowell
John Hurt	Shirley and Mildred Garrison
Louis B. Ketner	SON Endowed
Larabee	SON General
Earline Mills Lewis	Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
Mary Lowell Endowed	William Tinney
Lubbock Women's Club- Helen DeVitt Jones	William Wehner
Mary Ann Lubno	American State Bank Graduation Award
Joan Bailey Merritt	
Earline V. Mitchell	

In addition, there are general scholarships and loans administered by the Financial Aid Office for which School of Nursing students are eligible. Some organizations, such as the United Methodist Women, the Texas Tech University Health Science Center Alumni & Friends organization, the Lubbock-Crosby-Garza Medical Auxiliary, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, a private Permian Basin Area Foundation, and the Lubbock Foundation provide scholarships on a consistent basis for nursing students. Some traineeships are available for graduate students. Currently enrolled students should attend the annual Scholarship Stampede held early in the spring semester of each year to get scholarship information. The application deadline is generally April 1<sup>st</sup> for the following academic year. For RN-BSN students residing outside of Lubbock and/or unable to attend the Scholarship Stampede, information will be forwarded to each student by the Department Chair.

For further information regarding grants, loans, and scholarships policies, please contact: TTUHSC Financial Aid Department, 3601 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Room 2C400, Lubbock, Texas, 79430, or call (806) 743-3025.



## **OTHER PROGRAMS AT TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER**

### ***Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences***

Graduate programs leading to MS and PhD degrees are offered in the Basic Science Departments of Cell Biology and Biochemistry (both Cell and Molecular Biology, Biotechnology, and Biochemistry and Molecular Genetics graduate programs are offered in this department), Microbiology and Immunology, and Physiology. Programs are structured 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 his or her own course of study.

### ***School of Allied Sciences***

The School of Allied Health Science's mission is to provide a high-quality, student-centered learning environment that seeks, through continuous quality improvement, to achieve the highest levels of excellence in teaching, research and clinical service, while fostering in our students the professional insight and service-oriented compassion that will enable them to excel in merging "high tech and high touch" throughout their professional careers. The School offers fourteen different doctoral, masters and baccalaureate health professions degree programs in the rehabilitation sciences, clinical laboratory sciences and primary care, speech, language and hearing sciences, and rehabilitation counseling and clinic administration.

### ***School of Medicine***

The primary mission of the School of Medicine is to attract and educate physicians for West Texas. The emphasis is directed toward primary care fields, but there is a balance between the seven responsibilities of any school of medicine; undergraduate medical education, residency training, continuing medical education, biomedical graduate education, research, patient care, and community service. The decision to develop specialty care areas consonant with the fundamental primary care mission has been made with due deliberation and with concern for breadth of an academic program which provides for the general education of the physician and also for the advancement of health care and medical science in West Texas. In training physicians, the School of Medicine concomitantly provides quality health care to the entire West Texas area comprising 108 counties and 131,000 square miles from the Mexican border through the Panhandle to Oklahoma.

### ***School of Pharmacy***

The School of Pharmacy offers the Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) as its single professional degree. The PharmD is a 4-year professional program, requiring at least two years of pre-professional studies that may be completed at any accredited college or university. When fully operational the School of Pharmacy is expected to have more than 550 students enrolled in professional and post-graduate programs. The School offers programs in Amarillo, Dallas, Lubbock, and Abilene. The Abilene campus will enroll its inaugural class of 40 students in August of 2007. The school also provides continuing education courses for pharmacists practicing in the Texas.

## UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM

Under the guidance of an admissions committee all qualified applicants are carefully evaluated individually and holistically. Admission to the nursing program is highly competitive and only the most qualified applicants are selected.

### ***Purpose***

To prepare generalist nurses who will develop into leaders for the future as they provide competent, compassionate patient care in the rapidly changing health care environment.

### ***Student Learning Outcomes***

Upon program completion, graduates will be able to:

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

Programs: The Undergraduate program offers three paths to obtain the BSN degree: Traditional BSN, RN-BSN and 2° w BSN programs.

### ***Application and Admissions Information***

#### **Application Deadlines**

<b>Undergraduate Track</b>	<b>Fall</b>	<b>Spring</b>	<b>Summer</b>
Traditional	No Admission	No Admission	February 1
RN-BSN	July 1	November 1	April 1
Second Degree Web Based	June 1 (LB/OD)	November 1 (Austin/HC)	No Admission

## TRADITIONAL UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES

### *Traditional BSN Track*

*Donna C. Owen, PhD, RN, Department Chair*

### **Admissions Requirements**

#### **Traditional BSN (applicants who do not currently have an RN license)**

The TTUHSC School of Nursing offers the student the opportunity to complete the degree in six consecutive semesters, with admission once each year during the second summer session. A 2.5 or higher cumulative grade point average is required for admission consideration. All grades earned at all schools attended are calculated in the admission grade point average. All non-nursing courses should be completed with a grade of "C" or higher prior to beginning the first nursing course. Students must have completed a minimum of 40 credit hours of prerequisite courses, including at least three of the four required science courses, at the time of application submission. Students may seek exceptions from the department chair.

All BSN applicants are required to:

- Complete all prerequisites by end of the spring semester before summer II program entry.
- Submit a completed online application and non-refundable application fee for admission to the School of Nursing. The application fee is \$40, and the application deadline is February 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Submit official transcripts from all institutions in which the student has enrolled.
- Complete the Nurse Entrance Test (NET) – (Nationally standardized nurse entrance test from educational resources, Inc.) as an admission criteria.
- Submit appropriate documentation, i.e. TOEFL score, if an international student.

Although academic criteria (cumulative GPA, grades earned in science courses, and failed/repeated courses) are the most important factors in admission consideration, additional non-academic information can be considered. These non-academic factors include but are not limited to:

- Extracurricular activities
- 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
- Socioeconomic status
- Prior enrollment at TTU

All applicants will be reviewed in an individual and holistic manner. No single factor will determine a student's admission.

### **Eligibility to take NCLEX-RN Examination**

The Board of Nursing has identified certain circumstances that may render a potential candidate ineligible for licensure as a registered nurse in the State of Texas. If one of the following statements applies to you, you must complete a Petition for Declaratory Order. This Petition should be completed as soon as possible. The review process can take a minimum of three (3) months to two (2) years depending on the petitioner's case.

- If you have had any licensing authority: 1) refuse to issue you a license; 2) revoke a license; 3) annul a license; 4) cancel a license; 5) accept surrender of a license; 6) suspend a license; 7) place a license on probation; 8) refuse to renew a professional license or certificate held by you now or previously; or 9) ever fine, censure, reprimand, or otherwise discipline a license issued to you.
- If you have been convicted, adjudged guilty by a court, plead guilty, no contest or nolo contendere to any crime in any state, territory or country, whether or not a sentence was imposed, including any pending criminal charges or unresolved arrests (excluding minor traffic violations). This includes expunged offenses and deferred adjudications with or without prejudice of guilt. Please note that DUIs, DWIs and PIs are not considered minor traffic violations. **One time minor in possession (MIP) or minor in consumption (MIC) do not need to be disclosed. However, if you have more than one of either offense or one of each, then you must file a declaratory order petition.**

- If you have been diagnosed, treated, or hospitalized in the past five (5) years for schizophrenia and/or psychotic disorders, bipolar disorder, paranoid personality disorder, antisocial personality disorder, or borderline personality disorder.
- If you have been addicted to or treated for the use of alcohol or any other drug within the past five (5) years.

One FBI fingerprint card must be submitted to the Board with the Petition for Declaratory Order form. To request the FBI fingerprint cards, complete the web form at [www.bne.state.tx.us](http://www.bne.state.tx.us) requesting a fingerprint card packet. Please allow three (3) weeks to receive the FBI fingerprint cards. The FBI cards **will not be accepted** if the cards are bent, folded, creased, cut, or damaged in any way. The fingerprint cards must be mailed and will not be faxed, e-mailed, or sent overnight to the applicant.

The Declaratory Order process permits the Board of Nursing to make decisions regarding eligibility for licensure prior to entering or completing a nursing program. You can request a Petition for Declaratory Order by contacting the Board of Nursing for the State of Texas via mail (P.O. Box 430, Austin, Texas 78767-0430), telephone (512-305-6802) or website [www.bne.state.tx.us](http://www.bne.state.tx.us). Processing your petition may take three months to two years, after you provide all required documentation. Statutes and Rules governing this petition may be found in the Texas Occupations Code §§301.257, 301.452-301.454 (Nursing Practice Act), and in the Board Rules and Regulations relating to Professional Nurse Education, Licensure and practice, 22 TAC §§213.27-30 and §§217.11-12. These statutes can be located on the Board of Nursing website. Students who have obtained a Declaratory Order Petition must notify and inform the Department Chair of the outcome of his/her petition.

The Nurse Practice Act 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 to issue 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, who otherwise would be ineligible for licensure, 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; intentional or reckless abandonment or endangerment of a child; inflicting intentional or reckless injury to 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 convictions for similar crimes in a military tribunal.

### **Excess Undergraduate Credit Hours**

“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 begins the student has previously **attempted** coursework at any institution that exceeds by at least 30 hours the number of semester credit hours required for completion of the degree program enrolled in.”

### **It does NOT apply to**

- Semester credit hours taken at a private or out of state institution.
- Earned credit hours without enrollment (i.e. advanced placement, credit by exam) or remedial courses.
- Credits that culminated in an earned degree.

Students who were enrolled as an undergraduate student in any institution of higher education prior to Fall 1999 are exempt from this rule. In addition, students who were first admitted to an institution of higher education between Fall 1999 and Summer 1996 can exceed the semester credit hours required for the degree by 45 credit hours.

For the complete text of this legislation, access the following website: <http://www.capitol.state.tx.us/>. Click on “Bill Number” under “Legislation”. Select “79<sup>th</sup> Regular Session – 2005” and enter Bill Number “HB1172” in the box. Click on “Submit”. When the bill history appears on the screen, click on “Text.” Scroll to “Enrolled Version” and click on the text bill icon.

**Computer Requirements**

All students admitted will be required to have a computer.

**Criminal Background Check**

In compliance with TTUHSC policy, all applicants who have received offers of admission will be required to consent to a criminal background check before being allowed to matriculate. A history of criminal conduct or convictions may result in withdrawal of the admission offer. See the "Criminal Background Checks" section of the SON Student Handbook for the SON policy. The Health Sciences Center policy may be found at HSC OP 10.20.

**Drug Screening**

Drug Screenings may be required if requested by the clinical institution site.

***Special Student Enrollment*****Non-Degree**

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 Undergraduate Program Committee for enrollment.

**Enrollment without Credit/Course Audit**

Students who wish to audit a course for no grade must obtain approval from the 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. All other students must pay a \$10 fee for auditing a course.

**Provisional Admission**

The Undergraduate Program Committee may admit candidates as provisional students. The term "provisional" applies to any admission applicants who demonstrate potential to succeed in the nursing program but do not meet the minimum admission criteria. These designations are noted in the letter of admission, along with the condition for removal of the provision.

**Readmission**

All requests for readmission must be made no later than two months prior to the first day of the semester in which readmission is requested. The Undergraduate Program Committee is responsible for overseeing all readmissions to the School of Nursing. The minimum cumulative grade point average is 2.5 for the Undergraduate Program. A student seeking re-enrollment completes an application showing the expected entry point. The appropriate committee reviews all such requests and may take one of the following actions regarding readmission of a student who withdrew in good standing: 1) eligible and admit, 2) eligible pending space available in nursing courses and in sequence to date of action in relation to other readmission applicants, 3) not eligible. The UPC may assign requirements to be met as a condition of enrollment, i.e. successful completion of a comprehensive examination. Readmission of a student who has been dismissed or who withdrew for academic or disciplinary causes is based upon the decision of the UPC.

## Prerequisite Courses

### Required Non-Nursing Prerequisite Courses for Traditional BSN Track

Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center (TTUHSC) is compliant with the intent of state law and Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) regulations regarding the Texas Success Initiative (TSI).

#### Texas Success Initiative (TSI)

The Texas Success Initiative (TSI), formerly known as the Texas Academic Skills Program (TASP), is a state-required program that is designed to help ensure undergraduate students' success in their college studies. All students seeking an undergraduate degree from the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center must satisfy the TSI requirement before enrollment. To obtain TSI details pertaining see [Texas Success Initiative](#)

The THECB requires every public institution of higher education in Texas to establish a core curriculum of at least 42 semester credit hours. Thus, students who will be earning their first baccalaureate degree from TTUHSC must satisfy the requirements of the Texas Core Curriculum.

The TTUHSC Core Curriculum reflects all of the THECB Texas Core Curriculum requirements. Each of the baccalaureate programs at the TTUHSC has identified prerequisite course work to meet the TTUHSC Core Curriculum and included additional discipline specific requirements. [TTUHSC Core Curriculum](#)

The pre-nursing course requirements listed below should be completed with a grade of "C" or better in each course. These requirements can be taken at any regionally accredited college or university and should be completed prior to enrollment in the first nursing course.

The Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center core curriculum for undergraduate nursing degrees incorporates the Field of Study requirements in nursing is comprised of 55 semester credit hours as detailed in the following table.

	HOURS
COMMUNICATION	
English (*ENGL1301, 1302)	6
MATHEMATICS	
Statistics (*MATH1342, 1442, 2342 or 2442)	3
NATURAL SCIENCES	
Anatomy and Physiology (*BIOL2401 & 2402)	8
Chemistry (*CHEM1305 & 1105 or CHEM 1406 or CHEM1411)	4
Microbiology (*BIOL2420 or BIOL2421)	4
Food and Nutrition (*HECO1322 or BIOL1322)	3
HUMANITIES AND VISUAL PERFORMING ARTS	
Visual/Performing Arts (any art, music, drama, or theatre arts course)	3
Humanities (any literature, philosophy, modern or classical language/literature, or cultural studies course)	3
SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES	
United States History (*HIST1301, 1302)	6
<i>Students may substitute 3 credit hours of Texas History for 3 credit hours of American History</i>	
Political Science (*GOVT 2301 & 2302 or GOVT 2305 & 2306)	6
Psychology (*PSY2301)	3
Sociology or Cultural Anthropology (*SOC1301 or ANTH2351)	3
Life Span Growth and Development (*PSY2314)	3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>55</b>

- Course numbers listed are based on the Texas Common Course Numbering System (TCCNS). Check with your academic institution to verify the course number that corresponds with the TCCNS number.
- Students must complete 3 credit hours of math to meet core curriculum requirements. If the student does not take math statistics, an additional math course must be completed to meet the core requirement
- 3 credit hours in upper division POLS may be substituted for POLS2302 if an A or B was earned in POLS1301.

### Important Information about Pre-Nursing 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, those credits excluded are not eligible for pre-requisite 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 pre-requisite non-nursing course requirements.

## ***Recognition of Previous Nursing Learning***

TTUHSC School of Nursing utilizes two methods to acknowledge previous nursing learning. They are (a) transfer of credit and (b) advanced placement. These methods are described below:

### **A. Transfer of Credit**

- Applicants requesting admission to the BSN Program 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 academic advisor and/or Department Chair. Final determination regarding applicability of completed course work toward degree requirements lies with the Undergraduate Program Committee.
- 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 Coordinator for the Traditional BSN Track or advisor to discuss applicability of transfer credit for degree purposes.
- Credit for nursing courses cannot be earned via credit by examination.

### **B. Advanced Placement**

Students who have completed courses in nursing are eligible to receive advanced placement. Advanced placement credit may be awarded for credit earned at an agency that is not part of an institution of higher education, such as a diploma nursing school.

## ***Offer of Admission***

Offers of admission will be made approximately six weeks following the application deadline. There are a limited number of positions available each semester. Applicants should respond to the offer of admission no later than the deadline stated in the letter offering admission by returning a \$100 non-refundable placement guarantee fee and the 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 program. Only with the specific approval of the 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 its provisions are applicable during the stated school year.

BSN (traditional) students are required to complete 55 hours of non-nursing courses and 67 hours of nursing courses, totaling 122 credit hours.

### **Maintaining Minimum Academic Requirements**

- Maintain a 2.0 GPA for each semester and overall cumulative
- A minimum grade of "C" in all nursing and non-nursing (degree required) courses is required.
- Students receiving a "D", "F" or "WF" in a nursing course are eligible to repeat that 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**

- Making a "D", "F" or "WF" in two or more nursing courses in one semester is cause for academic dismissal.
- Making a "D", "F" or "WF" in a third nursing course, even when the first two "D"s, "F"s or "WF"s have been replaced by a passing grade upon retaking those courses.
- 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.

## Comprehensive Examinations

Undergraduate students must have a passing score on the comprehensive examination administered in N4201. If a student is not successful on the examination, he/she will be required to complete a prescribed remediation program and to repeat the examination.

## Residence Credit

The minimum actual residence credit required of each undergraduate student is 32 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 Department Chair. In determining this load, the 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.

## Degree Plan

Degree plans are generally completed by the Traditional Undergraduate Program Coordinator during new student orientation. The degree plan may be revised 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 who do not already possess the RN license. It is provided here as an overview of a basic course schedule for full time students. Length of the program will vary depending on the student's ability to progress through the program. 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 Department Chair.

### Sample Degree Plan Traditional BSN Track

SUMMER – SEMESTER 1 (5 weeks)		FALL – SEMESTER 2	
NURS 3206	Intro to Nursing as a Profession	NURS 3115	Concepts of Pathophysiology
NURS 3420	Health History & Physical Assessment	NURS 3313	Care of the Healthy Aging Adult
<i>Total Credit Hours: 6</i>		NURS 3314	Nursing Mgt of Pharmacological Therapy I
		NURS 3500	Fundamentals of the Nursing Profession
		<i>Total Credit Hours: 12</i>	
SPRING – SEMESTER 3		SUMMER – SEMESTER 4 (10 weeks)	
NURS 3216	Integrated Concepts of Pathophysiology	NURS 4403	Nursing Care of the Childbearing Family
NURS 3311	Community Health Nursing	NURS 4404	Mental Health Nursing
NURS 3312	Nursing Care of Families with Children	<i>Total Credit Hours: 8</i>	
NURS 3530	Medical Surgical Nursing I		
<i>Total Credit Hours: 13</i>			
FALL – SEMESTER 5		SPRING – SEMESTER 6	
NURS 4208	Complex Pharmacological Therapy	NURS 4201	Synthesis of Nursing Knowledge
NURS 4210	Nurse as a Consumer of Research	NURS 4205	Nursing as a Profession- Seminar II/Leadership
NURS 4330	Medical Surgical Nursing II Theory	NURS 4405	The Nurse as a Manager/Management
NURS 4630	Medical Surgical Nursing II Clinical	NURS 4430	Medical Surgical Nursing III
<i>Total Credit Hours: 13</i>		<i>Total Credit Hours: 12</i>	

**\*Students must also enroll in 3 credit hours of nursing elective. Total nursing credits required equals 67.**

BSN (traditional) students are required to complete 55 hours of non-nursing courses and 67 hours of nursing courses, totaling 122 credit hours.



## COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

### ***Undergraduate Traditional Track Courses***

Undergraduate courses are delivered via traditional, Web-enhanced (combination of face-to-face and online), and Web-based (completely online) methodologies. Traditional course methodology is indicated by **T**, Web-enhanced by **WE**, and Web-based by **WB**.

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.

**(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.

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### **3000 Level Courses**

**3030. Independent Study in Nursing (V1-6 WE).** (Traditional BSN) 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. (Pre-requisite: Consent of instructor and Department Chair for Undergraduate Traditional Track.)

**3040. Special Topics in Nursing (V1-6 WE).** Designed to focus on subjects of special interest to groups of students. May be repeated for credit as topics vary. (Prerequisite: Consent of instructor and Department Chair for Undergraduate Traditional Track.)

**3115. Concepts of Pathophysiology/Patho I (1:1:0 WB).** (Traditional BSN) Study of the physiologic basis of disease for beginning nursing practice. Emphasis on application of pathophysiologic concepts to the recognition of pathologic conditions across life span. Major concepts addressed are elimination, sensory stimulation and perception, rest and sleep, immune process, homeostasis, reproduction, gas exchange, and nutritional dysfunctions. (Prerequisite: NURS 3420; 3206 or consent of the Department Chair for Undergraduate Traditional Track.)

**3206. Introduction to Nursing as a Profession - Seminar I (CL 2:1.75:.75 WE).** (Traditional BSN) An introduction to the healthcare delivery system and the nursing profession. Concepts in the course include: nursing history, nursing theory, nursing philosophy, legal/ethical issues, professional roles, interdisciplinary roles, professional writing, and scholarship. Definition and comprehension of nursing education and nursing research are also included. (Prerequisite: Admission to Nursing Major or consent of the Department Chair for the Undergraduate Traditional Track.)

**3216. Integrated Concepts of Pathophysiology/Patho II (2:2:0 WE).** (Traditional BSN) Continued study of pathophysiologic concepts across the life span. Major concepts addressed are alterations in sensory and perception, reproduction, gas exchange, hematology, neurological system, musculoskeletal system, endocrine system, gastrointestinal system, renal system, and cancers. (Prerequisite: NURS 3115 or consent of the Department Chair for the Undergraduate Traditional Track.)

**3311. Community Health Nursing/Community (CL 3:1.5:4.5 WE).** (Traditional BSN) Study of nursing care of populations in the community. Includes the concepts of community health nursing practice, epidemiology, environmental health, and collaboration with other healthcare team members. (Prerequisite: NURS 3500, 3313, 3314, 3115. Pre/co-requisite: NURS 3216, 3530, 3312 or consent of the Department Chair for the Undergraduate Traditional Track.)

**3312. Nursing Care of Families with Children/Families (CL 3:1.5:4.5 WE).** (Traditional BSN) Assists the student in developing a concept of family-centered care across the life span. Emphasizes application of the nursing process with children and families with developmental, cultural, and family structure variances. Common problems affecting family dynamics are emphasized. (Prerequisites: NURS 3500, 3313, 3314, 3115. Pre/co-requisites: NURS 3216, 3530 or consent of the Department Chair for the Undergraduate Traditional Track.)

**3313. Nursing Care of the Healthy Aging Adult/Healthy Aging (CL 3:2:3 WE).** (Traditional BSN) An introduction to concepts of healthy aging with a focus on health promotion, maintenance of functional capacity, normal physiologic changes, and improvement of quality of life through interdisciplinary collaboration. (Pre/co-requisites: NURS 3206, 3420, or consent of the Department Chair for the Undergraduate Traditional Track.)

**3314. Nursing Management of Pharmacological Therapy I/Pharm I (CL 3:1:6 WE).** (Traditional BSN) Introduces the concepts of pharmacotherapeutics and pharmacological treatment of humans experiencing altered states from adaptation through dysfunction to pathological processes. Includes calculation of dosages and therapeutic ranges, techniques of medication administration by all routes commonly used by nurses with practice in simulation, legal/ethical concepts related to pharmacological therapy, and pharmacotherapy across the life span. (Prerequisite: NURS 3206, 3420. Co/prerequisite NURS 3500 or consent of the Department Chair for the Undergraduate Traditional Track.)

**3341. Nursing Care of the Patient Experiencing Cardiac Dysrhythmias (CL 3:1.4:4.8 WE).** (Traditional BSN) This course includes assessment and nursing diagnosis of adult clients experiencing cardiac dysrhythmias. Pathophysiology, therapeutic modalities, patient/family response and nursing implications are emphasized throughout the course. The importance of interdisciplinary collaboration in the care of the patient experiencing cardiac dysrhythmias is stressed. The course incorporates a variety of teaching modalities including interactive computer technology, computer assisted instruction, video, seminars, and clinical observation. (Prerequisite: Consent of instructor and Department Chair for the Undergraduate Traditional Track.)

**3357. Holistic Health Practices in Stress Management (3:3:0 WE).** (Traditional BSN) This course is an introduction to holistic health in stress management. Includes the role of the mind, body and universe in attaining high level wellness; stress and its relationship to health; and the interaction of holistic health practices in the management of stress. (Prerequisite: Consent of the instructor and Department Chair for the Undergraduate Traditional Track.)

**3365. Introduction and Exploration into the Multiple Aspects of Forensic Science (3:3:0 WE).** (Traditional BSN) Forensic science has multiple, significant procedures and guidelines which contribute to the medicolegal analysis in the criminal justice system. It also provides support and treatment for victims and family members. Multiple disciplines, such as nursing, medicine, law, psychology, and the sciences necessary to make forensic science operate, will be explored. Content to be addressed includes assessment, intervention, and utilization of community resources; legal issues; and evaluation of forensic evidence. The course will give the student a general understanding and appreciation of forensic sciences. (Prerequisite: Consent of the instructor and Department Chair for the Undergraduate Traditional Track.)

**3366. Hospice and Palliative Care (CL 3:2.5:1.5 WE).** (Traditional BSN) This course will utilize readings from sociology, psychology, religion, and medical and nursing sciences as a background for discussing and analyzing therapeutic nursing interventions for care of the terminally ill client. Clinical and experimental techniques will be utilized to promote thought and discussion in order to explore death in its personal, general, and professional significance. (Prerequisite: Consent of the instructor and Department Chair for the Undergraduate Traditional Track.)

**3367. Violence in Families (CL 3:2:3 WE).** (Traditional BSN) Family violence has multiple, significant consequences for victims and members of families in which violence occurs. Concepts of assessment, intervention, utilization of community resources, and evaluation of violence in families are included. (Prerequisite: Consent of the instructor and Department Chair for the Undergraduate Traditional Track.)

**3368. High Risk Obstetrics in Nursing (CL 3:2.5:1.5 WE).** (Traditional BSN) This course will explore the scope of high risk pregnancy in which the life or health of the mother or fetus is in jeopardy due to complications that are either unique to pregnancy or are due to disorders that coincide with the pregnancy. (Prerequisite: NURS 4403 or consent of the Department Chair for the Undergraduate Traditional Track.)

**3369. Community Mental Health Nursing (CL 3:2:3 WE).** (Traditional BSN) This course will utilize various readings and case studies to explore the psychiatric nurse's role in community healthcare. Clinical experiences will be utilized to examine community-based mental health services for individuals and families living with mental illness. (Prerequisite: Consent of the instructor and Department Chair for the Undergraduate Traditional Track.)

**3371. Legal and Ethical Issues in Healthcare (3:3:0 WE).** (Traditional BSN) An interdisciplinary course surveying major legal and ethical issues in the delivery of healthcare. (Prerequisite: Consent of the instructor and Department Chair for the Undergraduate Traditional Track.)

**3374. Philosophical Issues and Problems in Human Caring (3:3:0 WE).** (Traditional BSN) Exploration of different avenues of approaching philosophical dilemmas in providing care to clients whose behaviors and value systems are difficult to accept. Examines select issues from the standpoints of philosophy and nursing. (Prerequisite: Consent of the instructor and Department Chair for the Undergraduate Traditional Track.)

**3376. Advanced Cardiac Life Support (CL 3:1:6 WE).** (Traditional BSN) This course will expand the student's cognitive knowledge and psychomotor skills necessary to provide nursing care to individuals experiencing acute life-threatening physiological dysfunctions. The course is designed to prepare the student for participation in an Advanced Cardiac Life Support provider's class according to the standards set by the American Heart Association. Concepts included are advanced pathological processes, critical thinking/clinical reasoning and judgment, legal/ethical issues, collaboration, and professional role development. (Prerequisite: Consent of the instructor and Department Chair for the Undergraduate Traditional Track.)

**3420. Health History and Physical Assessment/History and Physical (CL 4:1:9 WE).** (Traditional BSN) An introduction to the nursing process with emphasis on therapeutic communication, health history, and physical exam. Concepts to be explored will include an introduction to growth and development, legal/ethical issues related to health assessment, data collection, and documentation of health history and physical examination across the life span. (Pre/co-requisite: NURS 3206 or consent of the Department Chair for the Undergraduate Traditional Track.)

**3500. Fundamentals of the Nursing Profession/Fundamentals (CL 5:2:9 WE).** (Traditional BSN) An introduction into acute and long-term healthcare systems, health-wellness-illness continuum, health promotion, nursing process, and decision making. Concepts to be explored include legal/ethical aspects of care, cultural variances, holism, life span variances, communication, spirituality, asepsis, basic care and comfort measures, stress and coping, physical assessment, patient advocacy and nursing process. (Prerequisite: NURS 3206, 3420. Pre/co-requisites: NURS 3115, 3314 or consent of the Department Chair for the Undergraduate Traditional Track.)

**3530. Medical Surgical Nursing I/MS I (CL 5:2:9 WE).** (Traditional BSN) Applies nursing process and critical thinking in the care of persons with altered health states. Concepts included are adaptation, immune response, alteration in gas exchange, metabolism, sensory stimulation and perception, violence, grief and loss, and fluid and electrolyte balance (Prerequisites: NURS 3500, 3314, 3115, 3313. Pre/or co-requisite: NURS 3216 or consent of the Department Chair for the Undergraduate Traditional Track.)

**3911. Chronic Care Nursing (9:2:18 WB).** (Second Degree) Prerequisite: NURS 3211 and satisfactory completion of NURS 3307 and 3308. Corequisite: NURS 4312, 4313, 4214. This course emphasizes chronic care nursing concepts essential for professional nursing practice in long-term care and medical/surgical environments. Special focus is on the concepts of aging and health promotion and disease prevention as well as illness management. Clinical judgment and reasoning and the integration of therapeutic nursing skills will be required in the application of nursing care in case studies and weekly clinical experiences

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## 4000 Level Courses

**4201. Synthesis of Nursing Knowledge/Synthesis (CL 2:1:3 WE).** (Traditional BSN) Provides students with an opportunity to assess and analyze own ability to synthesize concepts of nursing care and apply those concepts in simulations and standardized examinations. (Pre/co-requisite: all NURS 4000 level courses must be completed or in progress or consent of the Department Chair for Undergraduate Traditional Track.)

**4205. Nursing as a Profession - Seminar II/Leadership (CL 2:1:3 WE).** (Traditional BSN) Summarizes the concepts of the profession of nursing with emphasis in nursing leadership. Includes anticipatory socialization to the professional nursing role. Content is presented via small group discussions and applications. Clinical includes experiences with professional organizations and political processes. (Pre/co-requisite: all 4000 level courses must be completed or in progress or consent of the Department Chair for the Undergraduate Traditional Track.)

**4208. Complex Pharmacological Therapy/Pharmacology II (CL 2:1.5:1.5 WE).** (Traditional BSN) Focuses on pharmacological therapy in complex healthcare situations affecting individuals across the life span. Includes an understanding of medications and alternative therapies for common health disorders and builds on previous pharmacological knowledge. Additionally, includes a discussion related to potential weapons of biologic, radiologic, and chemical terrorism and the pharmacological implication of care of individuals related to bioterrorism, disasters, and life threatening emergencies. Clinical includes simulation. (Prerequisites: NURS 4403, 4404 or consent of the Department Chair for the Undergraduate Traditional Track.)

**4210. The Nurse as a Consumer of Research/Research (2:2:0 WE).** (Traditional BSN) Addresses basic research concepts and explores the relationship of research to theory and evidence based practice. Prepares the student as a consumer of research to enhance clinical judgment/reasoning when reading research studies and applying research to clinical practice. (Prerequisite: NURS 4403, 4404 or consent of the Department Chair for the Undergraduate Traditional Track.)

**4330. Medical Surgical Nursing II Theory/MS II Theory (3:3:0 WE).** (Traditional BSN) Combines an emphasis on the critical thinking and clinical reasoning/judgment process as a major role in professional nursing practice with detailed study of the problems of care which are predominant in acute and critical care setting with clients across the life span. (Pre-requisite: NURS 4403, 4404. Pre/co-requisite: NURS 4208 or consent of the Department Chair for the Undergraduate Traditional Track.)

**4403. Nursing Care of the Childbearing Family/OB (CL 4:2:6 WE).** (Traditional BSN) Nursing processes with individuals in the childbearing process. Focuses on developing skills during the phases of the nursing process in working with all members of the childbearing family unit. Special emphasis on assessment of family unit, cultural differences in the approach to the childbirth experience, techniques of nursing intervention, and evaluation. (Prerequisite: NURS 3530, 3216, 3311, 3312 or consent of the Department Chair for the Undergraduate Traditional Track.)

**4404. Mental Health Nursing/Psych (CL 4:2:6 WE).** (Traditional BSN) Concepts of human mental health in altered states from adaptation through dysfunction to pathological processes are included. Focus is on utilization of nursing process in the care of clients, groups, and families with alterations in mental health. (Pre-requisite: NURS 3530, 3216, 3311, 3312 or consent of the Department Chair for the Undergraduate Traditional Track.)

**4405. The Nurse as a Manager/Management (CL 4:2.5:4.5 WE).** (Traditional BSN) Emphasizes the role of the nurse in beginning management roles as critical elements for nursing's future. Examines the use of selected theoretical role perspectives related to management. Emphasizes prioritization and delegation of patient care in multiple settings. (Prerequisite: NURS 4330, 4630, 4208 or consent of the Department Chair for the Undergraduate Traditional Track.)

**4430. Medical-Surgical Nursing III/Internship (CL 4:1:9 WE).** (Traditional BSN) Focuses on the role of the professional nurse using selected models of case delivery for the complex client and family. Emphasis is on the evaluation of the multifaceted nursing care as it relates to the pathological state of the clients experiencing complex problems. (Prerequisite: NURS 4330, 4630, 4208, or consent of the Department Chair for the Undergraduate Traditional Track.)

**4630. Medical-Surgical Nursing II Clinical/MS II Clinical (CL 6:0:18 WE).** (Traditional BSN) Combines an emphasis on the critical thinking and clinical reasoning/judgment process as a major role in professional nursing practice with application of nursing process in acute and critical care setting with clients across the life span. (Pre/Co-requisite: NURS4330 or or consent of the Department Chair for the Undergraduate Traditional Track.)

## NON-TRADITIONAL UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES

### *Second Degree Web-Based BSN Track*

*Cathleen A. Collins, MSN, RN, Department Chair*

#### **Admissions Requirements**

##### **2° w BSN (applicants who do not currently have a RN license)**

Texas Tech Health Sciences Center School of Nursing (TTUHSC SON) offers a second-degree web based accelerated baccalaureate nursing degree (2° w **BSN Track**) for students with previous baccalaureate degrees, initially targeting recruits from both the Austin/Hill Country and West Texas communities of Lubbock and the Permian Basin. The 2° w **BSN Track** goals are derived from the mission of the TTUHSC- School of Nursing as well as the organizing framework for the program. The program goals are to prepare graduates to provide and direct care to individuals, families and communities with complex health care needs in structured and unstructured settings (Texas Board of Nursing, 2002), to prepare graduates with a professional commitment to nursing excellence for present and emerging healthcare arenas and to provide a foundation for future graduate education in nursing.

Under the guidance of the Department Chair of Undergraduate Non-Traditional Tracks all qualified applicants are carefully evaluated individually and holistically. Admission to the nursing program is highly competitive and only the most qualified applicants are selected. Applicants to the 2° w BSN (Pre- licensure) track can seek admission to the School of Nursing through one entry point in the school's curriculum.

The TTUHSC School of Nursing offers the student the opportunity to complete the degree in three consecutive semesters, with admission for the Lubbock/Permian Basin in August and admission for the Austin/Hill Country in January each year. Students applying for admission to this program should have a cumulative 3.0 or higher grade point average in their science courses, as well as all pre-requisite courses. All non-nursing courses should be completed with a grade of "C" or higher prior to beginning the first nursing course. Additionally, students should have two of the four required science courses completed the semester prior to applying. Students must have completed a minimum of 39 credit hours of prerequisite courses, at the time of application submission. Students may seek exceptions from the Department Chair.

All 2° w **BSN** applicants are required to:

- Submit a completed online application and non-refundable application fee for admission to the School of Nursing. The application fee is \$40, and the application deadline is November 1 and for the Austin/Hill Country and June 1 for the Lubbock/Permian Basin area.
- Submit official transcripts from all institutions in which the student has enrolled.
- Submit appropriate documentation, i.e. TOEFL, refer to policy in this catalog.

#### **Criteria for selection of students will include:**

- Previous Bachelor's Degree in Science or Arts
- Cumulative science and pre-requisite cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher, with specific emphasis on science GPA above 3.0 (GPA is a strong predictor of NCLEX success);
- Completion of medical terminology course (certificate or transcript should be provided as documentation of completion).
- Completion of pathophysiology and all required general education courses as a pre-requisite for admission;
- Certification as a Certified Nursing Assistant and BLS prior to admission;
- A commitment to not seek employment during the accelerated educational process (consisting of 50 weeks)

Although academic criteria (cumulative GPA, grades earned in science courses, and failed/repeated courses) are the most important factors in admission consideration, additional non-academic information can be considered. These non-academic factors include but are not limited to:

- Extracurricular activities
- 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
- Socioeconomic status
- Prior enrollment at TTU

All applicants will be reviewed in an individual and holistic manner. No single factor will determine a student's admission.

### **Eligibility to take NCLEX-RN Examination**

The Board of Nursing has identified certain circumstances that may render a potential candidate ineligible for licensure as a registered nurse in the State of Texas. If one of the following statements applies to you, you must complete a Petition for Declaratory Order. This Petition should be completed as soon as possible. The review process can take a minimum of three (3) months to two (2) years depending on the petitioner's case.

- If you have had any licensing authority: 1) refuse to issue you a license; 2) revoke a license; 3) annul a license; 4) cancel a license; 5) accept surrender of a license; 6) suspend a license; 7) place a license on probation; 8) refuse to renew a professional license or certificate held by you now or previously; or 9) ever fine, censure, reprimand, or otherwise discipline a license issued to you.
- If you have been convicted, adjudged guilty by a court, plead guilty, no contest or nolo contendere to any crime in any state, territory or country, whether or not a sentence was imposed, including any pending criminal charges or unresolved arrests (excluding minor traffic violations). This includes expunged offenses and deferred adjudications with or without prejudice of guilt. Please note that DUIs, DWIs and PIs are not considered minor traffic violations. **One time minor in possession (MIP) or minor in consumption (MIC) do not need to be disclosed. However, if you have more than one of either offense or one of each, then you must file a declaratory order petition.**
- If you have been diagnosed, treated, or hospitalized in the past five (5) years for schizophrenia and/or psychotic disorders, bipolar disorder, paranoid personality disorder, antisocial personality disorder, or borderline personality disorder.
- If you have been addicted to or treated for the use of alcohol or any other drug within the past five (5) years.

One FBI fingerprint card must be submitted to the Board with the Petition for Declaratory Order form. To request the FBI fingerprint cards, complete the web form at [www.bne.state.tx.us](http://www.bne.state.tx.us) requesting a fingerprint card packet. Please allow three (3) weeks to receive the FBI fingerprint cards. The FBI cards **will not be accepted** if the cards are bent, folded, creased, cut, or damaged in any way. The fingerprint cards must be mailed and will not be faxed, e-mailed, or sent overnight to the applicant.

The Declaratory Order process permits the Board of Nursing to make decisions regarding eligibility for licensure prior to entering or completing a nursing program. You can request a Petition for Declaratory Order by contacting the Board of Nursing for the State of Texas via mail (P.O. Box 430, Austin, Texas 78767-0430), telephone (512-305-6802) or website [www.bne.state.tx.us](http://www.bne.state.tx.us). Processing your petition may take three months to two years, after you provide all required documentation. Statutes and Rules governing this petition may be found in the Texas Occupations Code §§301.257, 301.452-301.454 (Nursing Practice Act), and in the Board Rules and Regulations relating to Professional Nurse Education, Licensure and practice, 22 TAC §§213.27-30 and §§217.11-12. These statutes can be located on the Board of Nursing website. Students who have obtained a Declaratory Order Petition must notify and inform the Department Chair of the outcome of his/her petition.

The Nurse Practice Act 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 to issue 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, who otherwise would be ineligible for licensure, 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; intentional or reckless abandonment or endangerment of a child; inflicting intentional or reckless injury to 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 convictions for similar crimes in a military tribunal.

### **Excess Undergraduate Credit Hours**

“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 begins the student has previously **attempted** coursework at any institution that exceeds by at least 30 hours the number of semester credit hours required for completion of the degree program enrolled in.”

### **It does NOT apply to**

- Semester credit hours taken at a private or out of state institution.
- Earned credit hours without enrollment (i.e. advanced placement, credit by exam) or remedial courses.
- Credits that culminated in an earned degree.

Students who were enrolled as an undergraduate student in any institution of higher education prior to Fall 1999 are exempt from this rule. In addition, students who were first admitted to an institution of higher education between Fall 1999 and Summer 1996 can exceed the semester credit hours required for the degree by 45 credit hours.

For the complete text of this legislation, access the following website: <http://www.capitol.state.tx.us/>. Click on “Bill Number” under “Legislation”. Select “79<sup>th</sup> Regular Session – 2005” and enter Bill Number “HB1172” in the box. Click on “Submit”. When the bill history appears on the screen, click on “Text.” Scroll to “Enrolled Version” and click on the text bill icon.

### **Computer Requirements**

All students admitted will be required to have a computer & personal digital assistant.

### **Criminal Background Check**

In compliance with TTUHSC policy, all applicants who have received offers of admission will be required to consent to a criminal background check before being allowed to matriculate. A history of criminal conduct or convictions may result in withdrawal of the admission offer. See the "Criminal Background Checks" section of the SON Student Handbook for the SON policy. The Health Sciences Center policy may be found at HSC OP 10.20.

### **Drug Screening**

Drug Screenings may be required if requested by the clinical institution site.

### ***Special Student Enrollment***

#### **Non-Degree**

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.

### **Enrollment Without Credit/Course Audit**

Students who wish to audit a course for no grade must obtain approval from the 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. All other students must pay a \$10 fee for auditing a course.

### **Provisional Admission**

Provisional admission is not available for the Second Degree 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. 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)
- CNA certification confirmation (student will not have verification until after admission process is over but before the semester of admission begins)
- Pre-requisite courses have not been completed prior to admission process

## Readmission

All requests for readmission must be made no later than two months prior to the first day of the semester in which readmission is requested. The Undergraduate Program Committee is responsible for overseeing all readmissions to the School of Nursing. The minimum cumulative grade point average is 3.0 for the Second Degree Track. A student seeking re-enrollment completes an application showing the expected entry point. The appropriate committee reviews all such requests and may take one of the following actions regarding readmission of a student who withdrew in good standing: 1) eligible and admit, 2) eligible pending space available in nursing courses and in sequence to date of action in relation to other readmission applicants, 3) not eligible. The UPC may assign requirements to be met as a condition of enrollment, i.e. successful completion of a comprehensive examination. Readmission of a student who has been dismissed or who withdrew for academic or disciplinary causes is based upon the decision of the UPC.

## Transfer Student

Transfer of credit from another School of Nursing is not allowed in the Second Degree Program.

## Prerequisite Courses

### Required Non-Nursing Prerequisite Courses for the Traditional BSN Track

Students who will be earning their first baccalaureate degree from the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center must satisfy the coursework requirements of the Texas Core Curriculum.

The pre-nursing course requirements listed below should be completed with a grade of “C” or better in each course. These requirements can be taken at any regionally accredited college or university and should be completed prior to enrollment in the first nursing course.

The Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center core curriculum for undergraduate nursing degrees, which also incorporate Field of Study requirements in nursing, is comprised of 39 semester credit hours as detailed in the following table. To review the Texas Core Curriculum visit [Texas Core Curriculum](#).

NURS 3302	Pathophysiology	3
BIOL 3400 w/Lab	Microbiology w/Lab	4
BIOL 2403 & 2404	Anatomy & Physiology I & II	8
HDFS 2303	Life Span Human Development	3
<OR> PSY 2314	Statistics	
MATH 2300, PSY 3400		3
<OR> SOC 3391		
F&N 1410	Science of Nutrition	3
<OR> 3320		
SOC 1301	Sociology	3
HIST 2300 & 2301	American History**	6
POLS 1301	American Govt Organization	3
POLS 2302	American Public Policy	3
<b>Total Semester Credit Hours</b>		<b>39</b>

**\*\* May substitute 3 credits Texas history for 3 credits American history.**

All general education courses must be completed prior to taking the first nursing course.



### **Important Information about Pre-Nursing 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, those credits excluded are not eligible for pre-requisite 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 pre-requisite non-nursing course requirements.

### ***Recognition of Previous Learning***

TTUHSC School of Nursing utilizes two methods to acknowledge previous nursing learning. They are (a) transfer of credit and (b) advanced placement. These methods are described below:

#### **A. Transfer of Credit**

- Applicants requesting admission to the 2<sup>nd</sup> w BSN 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 academic advisor and/or Department Chair. Final determination regarding applicability of completed course work toward degree requirements lies with the Undergraduate Program Committee.
- 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 recruiter or advisor to discuss applicability of transfer credit for degree purposes.
- Credit for nursing courses cannot be earned via credit by examination.

#### **B. Advanced Placement**

- Students who have completed courses in nursing are eligible to receive advanced placement. Advanced placement credit may be awarded for credit earned at an agency that is not part of an institution of higher education, such as a diploma nursing school.

### ***Offer of Admission***

Offers of admission will be made approximately six weeks following the application deadline. Due to the limited number of positions available each semester, applicants should respond to the offer of admission no later than the deadline stated in the letter offering admission by returning a \$100 non-refundable placement guarantee 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 the 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 program. Only with the specific approval of the 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 its provisions are applicable during the stated school year.

### **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 Pass/Fail option may be used only in courses that exceed the minimum degree requirements. 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 and non-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
- Any student who is unsuccessful (receives grade of “D” or “F”) in any course in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree Program will be dismissed from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree Program and allowed to enter the Undergraduate Traditional BSN Program if space is available and will be advised by the Undergraduate Traditional BSN Program faculty to determine entry into that program.

### **Academic Dismissal**

- Making a “D”, “F” or “WF” in two or more nursing courses in one semester is cause for academic dismissal.
- Making a “D”, “F” or “WF” in a third nursing course, even when the first two “D”s, “F”s or “WF”s have been replaced by a passing grade upon retaking those courses.
- 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.

### **Comprehensive Examinations**

Undergraduate students must have a passing score on the comprehensive examination administered in NURS 4219 for 2<sup>o</sup> w BSN students. If a student is not successful on the examination, he/she will be required to complete a prescribed remediation program and to repeat the examination.

### **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 2<sup>o</sup> w BSN students are required to complete 39 hours of non-nursing courses and 61 hours of nursing courses.

## Degree Plan

Degree plans are generally completed by the program coordinator during the initial advising session with the student. The degree plan may be revised 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. When necessary, methods for limiting enrollment will be determined by the Department Chair.

### Sample Degree Plan 2° w BSN Track

#### SEMESTER ONE

NURS 3205	Basic Skills for Nursing Practice: Clinical Competence I Practicum
NURS 3906	Foundations for Professional Nursing Practice I
NURS 3307	Health Assessment
NURS 3308	Pharmacology
NURS 3315	Nursing of the Developing Family
NURS 3211	Clinical Competence II: Practicum in Dev. Family & Selected Foundation Skills

**Total Credit Hours: 22**

#### SEMESTER TWO

NURS 3911	Chronic Care Nursing
NURS 4312	Child Health Nursing
NURS 4314	Mental Health Nursing
NURS 4214	Nursing Research
NURS 4216	Clinical Competence III: Practicum in Mental Health Nursing and Child Healthcare

**Total Credit Hours: 19**

#### SEMESTER THREE

NURS 4316	Health Promotion Teaching in Nursing
NURS 4317	CL, Community Nursing
NURS 4318	Management & Leadership in Nursing
NURS 4919	CL, Acute Care Nursing
NURS 4219	Clinical Competence IV: Practicum in Integration of Nursing

**Total Credit Hours: 20**

## COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

### Second Degree Web-Based BSN Undergraduate Track Courses

Undergraduate courses are delivered via traditional, Web-enhanced (combination of face-to-face and online), and Web-based (completely online) methodologies. Traditional course methodology is indicated by **T**, Web-enhanced by **WE**, and Web-based by **WB**.

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.

**(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.

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### 3000 Level Courses

**3205. Basic Skills for Nursing Practice: Clinical Competence I Practicum (CL 2:0:6 WB).** (2<sup>nd</sup> Degree) 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, mobility and transfer, nutrition, care of the integument and beginning assessment skills. (Prerequisite: Program admission and completion of all required general education courses.)

**3211. Clinical Competence II: Practicum in the Developing Family and Selected Foundational Nursing Skills. (CL 2:0:6 WB).** (2<sup>nd</sup> Degree) This laboratory/clinical experience focuses on additional foundational skills for nursing practice. Selected experiences will also include a practicum in obstetric nursing. (Prerequisite: Satisfactory completion of all first semester courses.)

**3302. Basic Concepts of Pathophysiology: Application in Nursing (3:3:0 WB).** (2<sup>nd</sup> Degree) Study of the physiologic basis of disease for beginning nursing practice. Emphasis on application of pathophysiologic concepts to the recognition of pathologic conditions across the life span. (Prerequisite: Previous Baccalaureate Degree and acceptance as a Special Student at TTUHSC SON.)

**3307. Health Assessment (CL 3:2:3 WB).** (2<sup>nd</sup> Degree) An introduction to health assessment as a systematic process with emphasis on developing skill in the techniques of assessment and communication across the life span. Includes introductory concepts of data collection, health history, physical examination, communication, documentation of assessment and nursing process. (Prerequisite: NURS 3205; Corequisites: NURS 3906, 3308, 3315.)

**3308. Pharmacology (3:3:0 WB).** (2<sup>nd</sup> Degree) Introduction to principles of pharmacology and drug therapy, classifications of drugs, and nursing implications of pharmaco-therapeutics, legal, ethical, genetic, and cultural implications of drug therapy are explored as well as life span considerations of drug therapy in the young and old. Dosage calculation and routes of medication administration are included. (Prerequisite: NURS 3205; Corequisite: NURS 3906, 3307, 3315.)

**3315. Developing Family Nursing (3:3:0 WB).** (2<sup>nd</sup> Degree) This course emphasizes nursing concepts related to the childbearing family with emphasis on the neonate and women's health. Family theory, health disparities, and genetics are also explored as a foundation for care delivery. Clinical judgment and reasoning will be required in the application of evidence based nursing care in case studies and clinical simulations. (Prerequisite: NURS 3205 and satisfactory completion of all first semester courses; Corequisite: NURS 3906, 3307, 3308.)

**3906. Foundations of Nursing Practice (CL 9:3:6 WB).** (2<sup>nd</sup> Degree) 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. Clinical opportunities in exploration of the foundations of professional practice occur in a variety of acute care settings. (Prerequisite: NURS 3205; Corequisite: NURS 3307, 3308, 3308, 3315.)

**3911. Chronic Care Nursing (CL 9:2:18 WB).** (Second Degree) This course emphasizes chronic care nursing concepts essential for professional nursing practice in long-term care and medical/surgical environments. Special focus is on the concepts of aging and health promotion and disease prevention as well as illness management. Clinical judgment and reasoning and the integration of therapeutic nursing skills will be required in the application of nursing care in case studies and weekly clinical experiences. (Prerequisite: NURS 3210 and satisfactory completion of all first semester courses. Corequisite: NURS 4312, 4313, 4314)

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## 4000 Level Courses

**4214. Research (2:2:0 WB).** (2<sup>nd</sup> Degree) This course will address the basic research concepts and explore the relationship of research to theory and evidence based practice. The purpose of the course is to develop skills in critical appraisal and summary of the evidence in order to apply best practices in clinical care. (Prerequisite: NURS 3211.)

**4216. Clinical Competence III: Practicum in Mental Health Nursing and Child Healthcare (CL 2:0:6 WB).** (2<sup>nd</sup> Degree) This practicum/laboratory experience provides opportunities to care for clients and families in pediatric and mental health settings applying knowledge obtained from the theory courses in mental health and child health nursing. (Prerequisite: Satisfactory completion of NURS 3911, 4312, and 4314.)

**4219. Clinical Competence IV: Practicum in Integration of Nursing (CL 2:0:6 WB).** (2<sup>nd</sup> Degree) This course provides the student with the clinical opportunity to integrate the roles of provider, manager, and member of the profession. Practicum emphasis is on providing comprehensive nursing care to multiple clients in an acute care setting and integration of the core concepts of the curriculum in preparation for transition from student to professional nurse. (Prerequisite: Satisfactory completion of all first, second and third semester courses.)

**4312. Child Health (3:3:0 WB).** (2<sup>nd</sup> Degree) This course emphasizes child health and illness nursing concepts essential for professional nursing practice in pediatric acute care and outpatient settings. Growth and development and safety are emphasized. Clinical judgment and reasoning will be required in the application of evidence based nursing care in case studies and clinical simulations. (Prerequisite: NURS 3211 and satisfactory completion of all first semester courses; Corequisite: NURS 3911, 4314, 4214.)

**4314. Mental Health Nursing (3:3:0 WB).** (2<sup>nd</sup> Degree) Course emphasizes the concepts of human mental health in altered states from adaptation through dysfunction to pathological processes. The focus is the promotion of mental health/optimal function in the care of clients, groups, and families with mental illness. (Prerequisite: NURS 3211 and satisfactory completion of all first semester courses; Corequisite: NURS 3911, 4312, 4214.)

**4316. Health Promotion and Education (3:3:0 WB).** (2<sup>nd</sup> Degree) This course incorporates health promotion and disease prevention concepts for assessment and intervention with clients across the life span. Emphasis is placed on health education planning and teaching principles for support and promotion of clients in the choice for healthy lifestyles. (Prerequisite: NURS 4216; Corequisite: NURS 4317, 4318, 4919.)

**4317. Community Nursing (CL 3:2:3 WB).** (2<sup>nd</sup> Degree) 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, and collaboration with the interdisciplinary team. (Prerequisite: NURS 4216; Corequisite: NURS 4316, 4318, 4919.)

**4318. Management and Leadership in Nursing (3:3:0 WB).** (2<sup>nd</sup> Degree) This course is designed to provide experiences and critical information for the role of the nurse as a leader and as a manager in nursing. In addition to developing greater personal insight, this course includes opportunities to apply key concepts in relation to leadership roles. As the coordinator of care, the student will have the opportunity to examine complex staffing, delegation organization and healthcare delivery system and policy issues for effective management of human and material resources. (Prerequisite: NURS 4216; Corequisite: NURS 4316, 4317, 4919.)

**4919. Acute Care Nursing (CL 9:2:21 WB).** (2<sup>nd</sup> Degree) This course emphasizes acute care nursing concepts essential for professional nursing practice in complex adult medical/surgical environments. Clinical judgment and reasoning and therapeutic nursing skills will be required in the application of evidence based nursing care in case studies and weekly clinical experiences. (Prerequisite: NURS 4216; Corequisite: NURS 4316, 4317, 4318.)

***RN-BSN Track (Licensed RN Students)***  
***Cathleen A. Collins, MSN, RN, Department Chair***

Faculty are located in a variety of sites including Lubbock, Odessa and Highland Lakes. The campuses work collaboratively to provide the instructional component of the ***RN-BSN Track***. Web-based technology and associated methodologies are used to provide course delivery. A concerted effort is made to individualize the program to meet the needs of the learners and classes are exclusively designed for the registered nurse. The RN-BSN Track can be completed in two semesters with admission in the fall, spring, or summer semesters. Other degree plan options should be discussed with the Department Chair.

***Admissions Requirements***

**RN-BSN (applicants who currently have a RN license)**

- A 2.5 or higher cumulative grade point average is required for admission consideration.. All non-nursing courses should be completed with a grade of “C” or higher prior to enrollment.
- All general education requirements must be documented on official transcripts prior to enrollment in nursing courses.
- Students must have NCLEX results prior to enrollment.
- Submit a completed application and non-refundable application fee for admission to the School of Nursing. The total application fee is \$40 if submitted prior to the application deadline of July 1 (fall admission), November 1 (spring admission) or April 1 (summer admission). A late fee of \$20 may be assessed for late applications.
- Submit original copies of official transcripts from all institutions in which the student has enrolled.
- Submit verification of valid/current Texas RN license, including out-of-state RN students.
- Submit appropriate documentation, i.e. TOEFL score, if an international student.
- Complete general education requirements prior to beginning the first nursing course.

Although academic criteria (cumulative GPA, grades earned in science courses, and failed/repeated courses) are the most important factors in admission consideration, additional non-academic information can be considered. These non-academic factors include but are not limited to:

- Extracurricular activities
- 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
- Socioeconomic status
- Prior enrollment at TTU

All applicants will be reviewed in an individual and holistic manner. No single factor will determine a student’s admission.

**Excess Undergraduate Credit Hours**

“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 begins the student has previously **attempted** coursework at any institution that exceeds by at least 30 hours the number of semester credit hours required for completion of the degree program enrolled in.”

**It does NOT apply to**

- Semester credit hours taken at a private or out of state institution.
- Earned credit hours without enrollment (i.e. advanced placement, credit by exam) or remedial courses.
- Credits that culminated in an earned degree.

For the complete text of the Enrolled Version including exemptions Senate Bill 345 enacted by the Texas Legislature access the following web site: <http://www.capitol.state.tx.us/>. In 2005, HB1172 was passed. This legislation allows the institution to charge a higher rate for hours in excess of 30 credit hours required for degree program beginning in Fall 2006.

## **Computer Requirements**

RN-BSN Track courses are conducted online; therefore, students admitted are required to have a computer.

## **Criminal Background Check**

In compliance with TTUHSC policy, all applicants who have received offers of admission will be required to consent to a criminal background check before being allowed to matriculate. A history of criminal conduct or convictions may result in withdrawal of the admission offer. See the "Criminal Background Checks" section of the SON Student Handbook for the SON policy. The Health Sciences Center policy may be found at HSC OP 10.20.

## **Drug Screening**

Drug Screenings may be required if required by the clinical institution site.

## ***Special Student Enrollment***

### **Non-Degree**

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.

### **Enrollment Without Credit/Course Audit**

Students who wish to audit a course for no grade must obtain approval from the 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. All other students must pay a \$10 fee for auditing a course.

### **Provisional Admission**

RN-BSN candidates may be admitted as provisional students if there is concern for successful completion of the program. The term "provisional" applies to any admission applicants who demonstrate potential to succeed in the nursing program but do not meet the minimum admission criteria, i.e. have completed requirements of basic nursing education but have not taken the NCLEX examination. These designations are noted in the letter of admission, along with the condition for removal of the provision.

### **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 the student is applying for. Examples of conditional admission are as follows but not limited to:

- Nursing degree completion confirmation (student graduating in current semester and verification is not available until the end of the semester)
- NCLEX licensure confirmation (student will not have verification until after admission process is over but before the semester of admission begins)
- Pre-requisite courses have not been completed prior to admission process.

### **Readmission**

All requests for readmission must be made no later than two months prior to the first day of the semester in which readmission is requested. The Undergraduate Program Committee is responsible for overseeing all readmissions to the School of Nursing. The minimum cumulative grade point average is 2.5 for the RN-BSN track. A student seeking re-enrollment completes an application showing the expected entry point. The appropriate committee reviews all such requests and may take one of the following actions regarding readmission of a student who withdrew in good standing: 1) eligible and admit, 2) eligible pending space available in nursing courses and in sequence to date of action in relation to other readmission applicants, 3) not eligible. The UPC may assign requirements to be met as a condition of enrollment, i.e. successful completion of a comprehensive examination. Readmission of a student who has been dismissed or who withdrew for academic or disciplinary causes is based upon the decision of the UPC.

### **Transfer Student**

Students requesting admission to the TTUHSC SON RN-BSN track as a transfer student from another university must meet the following criteria:

- Transfer student must be eligible to return to the institution from which he or she is transferring from
- Student previously enrolled in the RN-BSN track at TTUHSC School of Nursing who has attended another institution and is seeking to return must apply for readmission and will be required to meet the standards for transfer credit
- Number of credits completed at TTUHSC to receive a degree



## Prerequisite Courses

### Required Non-Nursing Prerequisite Courses for the RN-BSN Track

Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center (TTUHSC) is compliant with the intent of state law and Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) regulations regarding the Texas Success Initiative (TSI).

#### Texas Success Initiative (TSI)

The Texas Success Initiative (TSI), formerly known as the Texas Academic Skills Program (TASP), is a state-required program that is designed to help ensure undergraduate students' success in their college studies. All students seeking an undergraduate degree from the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center must satisfy the TSI requirement before enrollment. To obtain TSI details pertaining see [Texas Success Initiative](#)

The THECB requires every public institution of higher education in Texas to establish a core curriculum of at least 42 semester credit hours. Thus, students who will be earning their first baccalaureate degree from TTUHSC must satisfy the requirements of the Texas Core Curriculum.

The TTUHSC Core Curriculum reflects all of the THECB Texas Core Curriculum requirements. Each of the baccalaureate programs at the TTUHSC has identified prerequisite course work to meet the TTUHSC Core Curriculum and included additional discipline specific requirements. [TTUHSC Core Curriculum](#)

The pre-nursing course requirements listed below should be completed with a grade of "C" or better in each course. These requirements can be taken at any regionally accredited college or university and should be completed prior to enrollment in the first nursing course.

The Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center core curriculum for undergraduate nursing degrees incorporates the Field of Study requirements in nursing is comprised of 55 semester credit hours as detailed in the following table.

COMMUNICATION	HOURS
English (*ENGL1301, 1302)	6
MATHEMATICS	
Statistics (*MATH1342, 1442, 2342 or 2442)	3
NATURAL SCIENCES	
Anatomy and Physiology (*BIOL2401 & 2402)	8
Chemistry (*CHEM1305 & 1105 or CHEM 1406 or CHEM1411)	4
Microbiology (*BIOL2420 or BIOL2421)	4
Food and Nutrition (*HECO1322 or BIOL1322)	3
HUMANITIES AND VISUAL PERFORMING ARTS	
Visual/Performing Arts (any art, music, drama, or theatre arts course)	3
Humanities (any literature, philosophy, modern or classical language/literature, or cultural studies course)	3
SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES	
United States History (*HIST1301, 1302)	6
<i>Students may substitute 3 credit hours of Texas History for 3 credit hours of American History</i>	
Political Science (*GOVT 2301 & 2302 or GOVT 2305 & 2306)	6
Psychology (*PSY2301)	3
Sociology or Cultural Anthropology (*SOC1301 or ANTH2351)	3
Life Span Growth and Development (*PSY2314)	3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>55</b>

- Course numbers listed are based on the Texas Common Course Numbering System (TCCNS). Check with your academic institution to verify the course number that corresponds with the TCCNS number.
- Students must complete 3 credit hours of math to meet core curriculum requirements. If the student does not take math statistics, an additional math course must be completed to meet the core requirement
- 3 credit hours in upper division POLS may be substituted for POLS2302 if an A or B was earned in POLS1301.

**RN-BSN Track:** 55 Semester Hours from general education requirements courses  
35 Semester Hours awarded for completion of the Basic Nursing Program  
30 Semester Hours from the RN-BSN TTUHSC SON curriculum  
120 Semester Hours BSN

#### Important Information about Pre-Nursing 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, those credits excluded are not eligible for pre-requisite 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 pre-requisite non-nursing course requirements.

### ***Recognition of Previous Nursing Learning***

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

#### **A. 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 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 55 general education course hours will be transferred, as well as a minimum of 38 hours of basic nursing education courses be posted, for a total of 93 semester hours that will be acknowledged for the RN-BSN degree requirements. (If a basic nursing program has less than 38 hours, details for this should be arranged with the 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 SON.
- Applicants are encouraged to meet with or send transcripts to (fax is acceptable) the RN-BSN Coordinator's office to discuss applicability of transfer credit for degree purposes before submitting their application.

#### **B. Advanced Placement**

Students who have completed courses in nursing are eligible to receive advanced placement. Advanced placement credit may be awarded for credit earned at an agency that is not part of an institution of higher education, such as a diploma nursing school.

### ***Offer of Admission***

Offers of admission will be made approximately six weeks following the application deadline. Due to the limited number of positions available each semester, applicants should respond to the offer of admission no later than the deadline stated in the letter offering admission by returning a \$100 non-refundable placement guarantee 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.

Although academic criteria are the most important factors in admission consideration, beginning Fall 2005, additional information considered for all applicants will include, but are not limited to demographic data, diverse work and life experiences, and unique attributes that would contribute to the profession of nursing. The "diversity of experience" category may include, but will not be limited to study abroad, knowledge of other cultures, and proficiency in other languages. All applicants will be reviewed in an individual and holistic manner. No single factor will determine a student's admission.

## ***Degree Requirements for Students Admitted to the 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 program. Only with the specific approval of the 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 its provisions are applicable during the stated school year.

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 Pass/Fail option may be used only in courses that exceed the minimum degree requirements. 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 and non-nursing (degree required) courses is required.
- Students receiving a “D”, “F” or “WF” in a nursing course are eligible to repeat that 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**

- Making a “D”, “F” or “WF” in two or more nursing courses in one semester is cause for academic dismissal.
- Making a “D”, “F” or “WF” in a third nursing course, even when the first two “D”s, “F”s or “WF”s have been replaced by a passing grade upon retaking those courses.
- 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-BSN student is 30 hours at TTUHSC. Final determination for completed course work toward degree requirements is with the 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. The number of semester credit hours a student may carry (course load) is regulated by the 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-BSN student.

## Degree Plan

The following degree plan is designed for applicants with a RN license only. It is provided here only 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. All general education courses must be completed prior to taking the first nursing course. Students should discuss an appropriate academic and employment workload with the RN-BSN Department Chair.

### Sample Degree Plan RN-BSN Track

SEMESTER ONE			SEMESTER TWO		
NURS 4380	Nature of Scientific Inquiry		NURS 4387	Community Health Practice	
NURS 4381	Issues & Trends in Nursing		NURS 4389	Pharmacology Across Lifespan	
NURS 4382	Aspects of Nursing Research		NURS 4379	Management and Leadership II	
NURS 4378	Management and Leadership I		NURS 4390	Baccalaureate Nursing Practice	
NURS 4383	Legal & Ethical Issues for Rn's		NURS XXXX	Nursing Elective	
<b>Total Credit Hours: 15</b>			<b>Total Credit Hours: 15</b>		

## Curriculum Sequencing Plan

The following diagram illustrates the sequence of courses. Most of the courses will be six weeks in length and in each semester there will be one sixteen week course.

### Fall & Spring Semesters

Week	NURS 4380 Theory	NURS 4382 Research (16 wks)	NURS 4381 Issues	NURS 4385 Mgt I/II (clin)	NURS 4383 Legal /Ethics	NURS 4386 Leader ship (clin)	NURS 4387 Community (clin)	NURS 4389 Pharm	NURS 4383 Legal/ Ethics	NURS 4390 Bacc-Nurs (clin)
1	X	X	X			X	X	X		
2	X	X	X			X	X	X		
3	X	X	X			X	X	X		
4	X	X	X			X	X	X		
5	X	X	X			X	X	X		
6	X	X	X			X	X	X		
7		X					X			
8		X		X	X		X		X	X
9		X		X	X		X		X	X
10		X		X	X		X		X	X
11		X		X	X		X		X	X
12		X		X	X		X		X	X
13		X		X	X		X		X	X
14		X					X			
15		X					X			
16										

**Summer:****Session I****Session II**

Week	NURS 4380 Theory	NURS 4381 Issues	NURS 4383 Legal/ Ethics	NURS 4385 Mgmt II (clin)	NURS 4382 Research (16wks)	NURS 4386 Leader ship (clin)	NURS 4389 Pharm	NURS 4388 Teaching	NURS 4387 Comm (clin)	NURS 4390 Bacc- Nurs (clin)
1	X	X			X	X	X		X	
2	X	X			X	X	X		X	
3	X	X			X	X	X		X	
4	X	X			X	X	X		X	
5	X	X			X	X	X		X	
6			X	X	X			X	X	X
7			X	X	X			X	X	X
8			X	X	X			X	X	X
9			X	X	X			X	X	X
10			X	X	X			X	X	X

## COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

### RN-BSN Undergraduate Track Courses

Undergraduate courses are delivered via traditional, Web-enhanced (combination of face-to-face and online), and Web-based (completely online) methodologies. Traditional course methodology is indicated by **T**, Web-enhanced by **WE**, and Web-based by **WB**.

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.

**(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.

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### 4000 Level Courses

**4378. Nursing Management and Leadership I (CL 3:3:0 WB).** (RN-BSN) This course builds on management and leadership concepts essential in professional nursing practice in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Management and leadership theories, roles and functions serve as the foundation for course. Key concepts covered include managing quality using informatics tools and systems, patient safety, staffing, fiscal planning and decision making.

**4379. Nursing Management and Leadership II (CL 3:3:0 WB).** (RN-BSN) Building on *Management and Leadership I*, this course presents concepts related to managing and leading in the changing healthcare environment. Interdisciplinary team building in a culturally diverse environment, delegation, conflict management, organizational structures and leading planned change in a variety of health care settings will be presented. (Pre-requisite: Completion of *Management and Leadership I*)

**4380. Nature of Nursing Theory (3:3:0 WB).** (RN-BSN) An introduction to the nature of nursing theory. Origins of and strategies for theory development in nursing are examined in terms of importance in guiding the development of the profession as a practice discipline. Nursing theory is analyzed as a foundation for nursing practice and research. (Corequisite: NURS 4381.)

**4381. Issues and Trends in Nursing (3:3:0 WB).** (RN-BSN) Focuses on current issues and trends relevant to the professional nursing role on a local, state, national and international level. (Corequisite: NURS 4380.)

**4382. Aspects of Nursing Research (3:3:0 WB).** (RN-BSN) Addresses basic research concepts and explores the relationship of research to theory and practice. Prepares the student as a consumer of research in order that relevant findings may be applied to clinical practice. (Prerequisite: NURS 4380, 4381, and 3 hours of undergraduate statistics.)

**4383. Legal and Ethical Issues for RNs (3:3:0 WB).** (RN-BSN) This course surveys major legal and ethical issues in the delivery of healthcare. It focuses on basic principles and language of legal and ethics in healthcare. It provides a foundation in value development and ethical theories. This course is designed to address the issues confronted by individuals who are actively engaged in the practice of professional nursing.

**4386. Leadership in Nursing (CL 3:2:3 WB).** (RN-BSN) Leadership concepts related to the management of nursing personnel and healthcare delivery are emphasized. (Prerequisite: NURS 4384 or 4385.)

**4387. Community Health Practice (CL 3:2:3 WB).** (RN-BSN) This clinical course provides students with the opportunity to apply the nursing process, together with public health, professional nursing and community concepts, scientific methods and critical thinking (judgments and reasoning) to the nursing care groups in a community.

**4388. Client and Peer Teaching (3:3:0 WB).** (RN-BSN) Elective .Teaching focuses on collaboration between the nurse and clients/peers. It includes an assessment of learning needs, the implementation of planned learning experiences, and the evaluation of process and product of teaching. Teaching-learning theories/principles are used as bases for educational planning and intervention.

**4389. Pharmacology Across the Life Span (3:3:0 WB).** (RN-BSN) This course will build on the foundation resulting from the student's previous nursing educational process. The principles of pharmacology will be applied, in case study format, to non-structured and structured healthcare settings and to individuals across the life span.

**4390. Baccalaureate Nursing Practice (CL 3:2:3 WB).** (RN-BSN) Focuses on synthesis of essential concepts in the RN-BSN program, the conceptual framework of the School of Nursing, a conceptual model of nursing, and the Texas BNE competencies for baccalaureate nursing practice. (Prerequisite: Completion of all 438-level courses in RN-BSN plan.)

## GRADUATE PROGRAM

***Barbara Cherry, DNSc, MBA, RN, Department Chair for Leadership Studies***

***Emily Merrill, PH.D, RN, CS, CFNP, Department Chair for Nurse Practitioner Studies***

### ***Introduction***

The School of Nursing Graduate Program offers the Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) degree and the Doctorate of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree. The School of Nursing also offers the MSN with preparation as a nurse practitioner through a collaborative arrangement with the College of Nursing and Health Sciences at the University of Texas at Tyler (UT Tyler) and a Ph.D. in Nursing through a collaborative program with Texas Woman's University (TWU) with the PhD degree being granted by TWU. The School of Nursing also offers post-MSN certification in the following nurse practitioner specialty areas: family nurse practitioner, pediatric nurse practitioner, acute care nurse practitioner, and geriatric nurse practitioner.

### ***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.

### **Student Learning Outcomes**

Upon program completion, the graduate will be prepared to:

- Provide patient centered care in the Master's prepared nursing role.
- Work in interdisciplinary 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, making 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.

These objectives are met by all students in all program tracks at all sites, including students in the collaborative program at the University of Texas at Tyler College of Nursing and Health Sciences pursuing nurse practitioner degrees and post masters certificates. The educational program delivery is accomplished by a combination of on campus classes, web-based technologies and the use of Healthnet, a two-way interactive video conferencing system.

### ***Application and Admission Information***

All applicants are selected on a composite evaluation of past academic achievement, personal essay, 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

### **Application Deadlines**

Consideration for admission is given to applicants who meet all admission criteria and have submitted all admission requirements by the application deadline to the TTUHSC Registrar's Office, SON Admissions, 3601 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Stop 8310, Lubbock, Texas 79430.

**To be considered for admission "ALL" admission requirements must be received by the TTUHSC**

	Fall	Spring	Summer
Application Deadline	June 1	October 1	NO Admission



## ***MSN Leadership and Nurse Practitioner Studies***

### **Admission Requirements**

Applicant must submit the following application requirements for full admission:

#### **Masters**

- Valid 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 from the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC).
- Successful completion of an undergraduate research and statistics course
- A minimum 3.0 GPA or better (on a 4.0 scale) in upper division undergraduate nursing courses
- BLS Certification
- Essay- Personal Goals Statement
- References (3)
- Signature Page
- Oath of Residency
- Official Transcripts from all nationally accredited colleges and universities
- Immunizations
- International Students - Appropriate documentation, i.e. TOEFL score

#### **Post Master's Certificate**

- Valid RN License
- Master of Science in Nursing degree from an accredited college or university
- A minimum 3.0 GPA or better (on a 4.0 scale)
- ACLS/PALS certification (FNP, GNP, PNP, ACNP)
- Essay Personal Goals Statement
- References (3)
- BLS Certification (CRM)
- International Students - Appropriate documentation, i.e. TOEFL score

Additional non-academic information can be considered. These non-academic factors include but are not limited to:

- Extracurricular activities
- 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
- Socioeconomic status
- Prior enrollment at TTU\TTUHSC

Only **complete** applications are reviewed for admission consideration, **which means “ALL” admission requirements must be received by the TTUHSC Registrar’s Office by the application deadline.**

Applicants to the collaborative programs with The University of Texas at Tyler College of Nursing and Health Sciences and Texas Women’s University are required to contact the respective school regarding admission criteria pertaining to their program. Applicants admitted to a collaborative program are required to adhere to admission requirements for the collaborative program and meet the minimum requirements set by each institution.

Although academic criteria are the most important factors in admission consideration, additional information considered for all applicants will include but are not limited to demographic data, diverse work and life experiences, and unique attributes that would contribute to the profession of nursing. The “diversity of experience” category may include, but will not be limited to study abroad, knowledge of other cultures, and proficiency in other languages. All applicants will be reviewed in an individual and holistic manner. No single factor will determine a student’s admission.

The Department Chair and the Graduate Program Committee (GPC) carefully evaluate all qualified applicants with regard to the applicant's potential for successful completion of the program.

### **Computer Requirements**

All students admitted will be required to have a personal computer.

### **Criminal Background Check**

In compliance with TTUHSC policy, all applicants who have received offers of admission will be required to consent to a criminal background check before being allowed to matriculate. A history of criminal conduct or convictions may result in withdrawal of the admission offer. See the "Criminal Background Checks" section of the SON Student Handbook for the SON policy. The Health Sciences Center policy may be found at HSC OP 10.20. <http://www.ttuhschool.edu/HSC/OP/OP10>.

### **Drug Screening**

Drug Screenings may be required if requested by the clinical institution site.

### ***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. This admission is for the purpose of taking a limited number of courses. The applicant must seek approval from the Department Chair prior to submitting a special student (non-degree) application. The student must also be eligible for admission under the following generally acceptable criteria:

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

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

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

- Submitted on-line application
- Submitted signature page & application fee
- Submitted official transcripts from all universities or colleges attended
- Submitted Oath of Residency
- Submitted immunizations
- Submitted BLS certification

A special student must apply to the graduate program and be admitted as a degree seeking student in order to continue enrollment after completion of a semester of graduate credits. Six credits is the maximum number that can be taken as a special student.

### **Enrollment without Credit/Course Audit**

Students who wish to audit a course for no grade must obtain approval from the 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. 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 who do not meet the minimum requirement for admission are evaluated by the Graduate Program Committee. Provisional admission requires the student to enroll in 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 this stipulation has been met.

### **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 the student is applying for. Examples of conditional admission are as follows but not limited to:

- 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 Graduate Program Committee

### **Readmission**

All requests for readmission must be made no later than two months prior to the first day of the semester in which readmission is requested. The Department Chair and Graduate Program Committee are responsible for overseeing all readmissions to the School of Nursing Graduate Program. Readmission of a student who has been dismissed or who withdrew for academic or disciplinary causes is also based upon the decision of the Department Chair and Graduate Program Committee.

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 Department Chair and Graduate Program Committee
- Complete online application and meet admission criteria for full admission

### **Transfer Student**

Students requesting admission to the TTUHSC SON graduate 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 he or she is transferring from
- Student previously enrolled in the graduate program at TTUHSC School of Nursing who has attended another institution and is seeking to return must apply for readmission and will be required to meet the standards for transfer credit
- Number of credits completed at TTUHSC to receive a degree

### ***Recognition of Previous Learning***

#### **Transfer Credit**

The 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.

Generally, credits earned at an accredited college or university are accepted for transfer provided course content is equivalent. A maximum number of 12 semester hours will be accepted as transfer. A grade below B is not acceptable for transfer credit.

Following are the criteria for students requesting transfer credit

- Submission of official transcripts for courses considered for transfer credit
- Submission of course descriptions and course content for each course
- All courses, including courses taken for grade replacement, for which a student has enrolled, are used in computing the grade point average for admissions purposes
- A student previously enrolled in the graduate program at TTUHSC School of Nursing who has attended another institution and is seeking to return must apply for readmission and will be required to meet the standards for transfer credit
- Must meet all admissions requirements for full admission

### ***Offer of Admission***

Offers of admission will be made approximately three to four 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 \$100.00 non-refundable placement/orientation fee prior to advisement appointment
- Call and schedule advisement appointment with Graduate Program Advisor

- Complete Criminal Background online
- Complete Sexual Harassment training online and submit certificate of completion
- 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 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 program. Only with the specific approval of the 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 its provisions are applicable during the stated school year.

### **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 and non-nursing) required for degree completion. The TTUHSC SON Student Handbook provides further details regarding academic and graduation expectations.

### **Majority of Credits**

The majority of credits toward any graduate or post-baccalaureate professional degree awarded by the TTUHSC must be earned 1) at the TTUHSC or 2) in the case of those programs offered through joint, cooperative, or consortia arrangements, through instruction offered by the participating institutions.

### **Graduate Program**

- Grades are reviewed each semester and progression in the Graduate Program is determined by the Department Chair and Graduate Program Committee
- Graduate students are required to maintain a 3.0 GPA with grades at “B” or above in all graduate courses
- Students receiving “C” or lower in a graduate course are eligible to repeat that 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:**

- Students making a “C” or lower in two or more graduate courses in one semester
- Students making a “C” or lower in the same nursing course twice
- Students making a “C” or lower in a third graduate course even though two graduate courses have 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.**

### **Residence Credit**

Ordinarily, the minimum residence for the graduate program is a full academic year or its equivalent of graduate work carrying residence credit, as required for the degree. The term “residence credits” as a degree requirement should not be confused with “residence” in the State of Texas for enrollment purposes. Residence credit is used for work completed while enrolled and attending classes at TTU/TTUHSC.

### **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 Department Chair. In determining this load, the Department Chair takes into account the quality of prior scholastic work performed and the types of courses involved. A student enrolled in 9 credits per semester, Fall or Spring and 6 credits in Summer is considered full-time.

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## MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING DEGREE COURSE REQUIREMENTS

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### ***BSN-MSN Rural Educational Leadership***

*(ALL Online Courses): (Semester Credit Hours Required for Completion-45)*

#### **Required Non-Nursing Courses**

Adv. Statistics (3)

#### **Required Core Nursing Courses**

NURS 5305	Rural/ Cultural Competency ( 3:2:3 )
NURS 5330	Theories and Therapies (3:3:0)
NURS 5371	Professional Nursing Issues (3:3:0)
NURS 5391	Principles of Advanced Research (3:3:0)
NURS 5343	Pharmacotherapeutics for Nurses in Advanced Practice (3:3:0)
NURS 5345	Advanced Practice Nursing: Application of Pathophysiology (3:3:0)

#### **Clinical Tracks:**

**A minimum of 6 credits is required from a sequential combination of any of the following courses**

NURS 5300	Community Health I: Foundations of Community Health Nursing (3:1:6)
NURS 5301	Community Health II: Role Design and Implementation (3:1:6)
NURS 5310	Gerontics I: Foundations of Gerontic Nursing (3:1:6)
NURS 5311	Gerontics II: Role Design and Implementation (3:1:6)

#### **Specialty Courses:**

NURS 5314	Leadership in Education I: Foundations of Nursing Education (3:3:0)
NURS 5315	Leadership in Education II: Critical Elements of the Teaching Role (3:2.5:1.5)
NURS 5316	Leadership in Education III: Evaluation and Outcomes (3:2.5:.5)
NURS 6030	Leadership in Education IV: Role and Practicum (3:.5:8))

#### **Thesis**

NURS 6000 Thesis (6 hours minimum)

#### **Non-Thesis**

NURS 5392 Application of Advanced Research ( 3:2:3)

Elective (3)

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### ***Education or Administration***

*(Education - Semester Credit Hrs Required for Completion-42)(Administration - Semester Credit Hrs Required for Completion-36)*

#### **Required Non-Nursing Courses**

Physiology (3), Adv. Statistics (3), Computer Science (3)\* or Elective (3) can be transferred from any accredited institution.

#### **Required Core Nursing Courses**

NURS 5330	Theories and Therapies (3:3:0)
NURS 5371	Professional Nursing Issues (3:3:0) – Online Course
NURS 5391	Principles of Advanced Research (3:3:0) – Online Course

#### **Clinical Tracks:**

**A minimum of 6 credits is required from a sequential combination of any of the following courses**

NURS 5300	Community Health I: Foundations of Community Health Nursing (3:1:6)
NURS 5301	Community Health II: Role Design and Implementation (3:1:6)
NURS 5310	Gerontics I: Foundations of Gerontic Nursing (3:1:6)
NURS 5311	Gerontics II: Role Design and Implementation (3:1:6)

#### **Specialty Tracks**

##### **Education - Online Courses**

NURS 5314	Leadership in Education I: Foundations of Nursing Education (3:3:0)
NURS 5315	Leadership in Education II: Critical Elements of the Teaching Role (3:2.5:1.5)
NURS 5316	Leadership in Education III: Evaluation Outcomes (3:2.5:.5)
NURS 6030	Leadership in Education IV: Role and Practicum (3:.5:8)

##### **Administration**

NURS 5231	The Nursing Administrator: Standards for Excellence(2:2:0)
NURS 5241	Administrator Role Development (2:0:6)
NURS 6221	Administrator Role Development: The Nurse Administrator as Leader (2:2:0)

#### **Thesis**

NURS 6000 Thesis (6 hours minimum)

#### **Non-Thesis**

NURS 5392 Application of Advanced Research (3:2:3) – Online Course  
Elective (3)

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***Family Nurse Practitioner***  
(Semester Credit Hours Required for Completion-48)

**Required Non-Nursing Courses**

Adv. Statistics (3) & Computer Science (3)\* or Elective (3) can be transferred from any accredited institution.

**Required Core Nursing Courses**

- NURS 5330 Theories and Therapies (3:3:0)  
NURS 5371 Professional Nursing Issues (3:3:0) – Online Course  
NURS 5391 Principles of Advanced Research (3:3:0) – Online Course

**Pre-requisite Nursing Courses**

- NURS 5111 The Advanced Practice Nurse Role: Foundations for Advanced Practice Nursing (1:1:0 WE)  
NURS 5222 Diagnostic Methods and Procedures for Advanced Practice (CL 2:1:3) – Online Course  
NURS 5302 Community Health Foundations for Advanced Practice (CL 3:1:6) – Online Course  
NURS 5342 Advanced Health Assessment (CL 3:1:6) – Online Course  
NURS 5343 Pharmacotherapeutics for Nurses in Advanced Practice (3:3:0) – Online Course  
NURS 5345 Advanced Practice Nursing: Application of Pathophysiology (3:3:0) – Online Course

**Specialty Courses**

- ▲ NURS 5340 Primary Health Care I: Advanced Assessment, Pathology, and Management (CL 3:1:6 WE)  
NURS 5341 Primary Health Care II: Advanced Role Application (CL 3:1:6 WE)  
NURS 6060 Nursing Practicum: A majority of clinical must be completed in medically underserved settings.  
(CL 3:0:18 WE or CL 6:0:36 WE)

**Thesis**

- NURS 6000 Thesis (6 hours minimum)

**Non-Thesis**

- NURS 5392 Application of Advanced Research (CL 3:2:3) – Online Course  
Elective (3)

▲ All Nurse Practitioner students are required to hold Advanced Life Support Certification appropriate to their clinical specialty as a pre-requisite to NURS 5340. NURS 5344 is offered for those who wish to become certified through the School of Nursing.

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***Acute Care Nurse Practitioner***  
(Semester Credit Hours Required for Completion-48)

**Required Non-Nursing Courses**

Adv. Statistics (3) & Computer Science (3)\* or Elective (3) can be transferred from any accredited institution.

**Required Core Nursing Courses**

- NURS 5330 Theories and Therapies (3:3:0 WB/WE)  
NURS 5371 Professional Nursing Issues (3:3:0) – Online Course  
NURS 5391 Principles of Advanced Research (3:3:0) – Online Course

**Pre-requisite Nursing Courses**

- NURS 5111 The Advanced Practice Nurse Role: Foundations for Advanced Practice Nursing (1:1:0 WE)  
NURS 5222 Diagnostic Methods and Procedures for Advanced Practice (CL 2:1:3) – Online Course  
NURS 5342 Advanced Health Assessment (CL 3:1:6) – Online Course  
NURS 5343 Pharmacotherapeutics for Nurses in Advanced Practice (3:3:0) – Online Course  
NURS 5345 Advanced Practice Nursing: Application of Pathophysiology (3:3:0) – Online Course

**Specialty Courses**

- ▲ NURS 5450 Acute Care Nurse Practitioner Concepts & Diagnostic Skills I: Adult (CL 4:2:6 WE)  
NURS 5551 Acute Care Nurse Practitioner Concepts & Diagnostic Skills II: Adult (CL 5:2:9 WE)  
NURS 6050 Acute Care Nurse Practitioner IV: Role & Practicum (CL 6:0:36 WE)

**Thesis**

- NURS 6000 Thesis (6 hours minimum)

**Non-Thesis**

- NURS 5392 Application of Advanced Research (CL 3:2:3) – Online Course  
Elective (3)

▲ All Nurse Practitioner students are required to hold Advanced Life Support Certification appropriate to their clinical specialty as a pre-requisite to NURS 5450. NURS 5344 is offered for those who wish to become certified through the School of Nursing.

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***Pediatric Nurse Practitioner***  
(Semester Credit Hours Required for Completion-48)

**Required Non-Nursing Courses**

Adv. Statistics (3) & Computer Science (3)\* or Elective (3) can be transferred from any accredited institution.

**Required Core Nursing Courses**

- NURS 5330 Theories and Therapies (3:3:0)  
NURS 5371 Professional Nursing Issues (3:3:0) – Online Course  
NURS 5391 Principles of Advanced Research (3:3:0) – Online Course

**Pre-requisite Nursing Courses**

- NURS 5111 Advanced Practice Nurse Role (1:1:0 WE)  
NURS 5222 Diagnostic Methods and Procedures (CL 2:1:3) – Online Course  
NURS 5302 Community Health Foundations for Advanced Practice (CL 3:1:6) – Online Course  
NURS 5342 Advanced Health Assessment (CL 3:1:6) – Online Course  
NURS 5343 Pharmacotherapeutics for Nurses in Advanced Practice (3:3:0) – Online Course  
NURS 5345 Advanced Practice Nursing: Application of Pathophysiology (3:3:0) – Online Course

**Specialty Course**

- ▲ NURS 5380 Pediatric Primary Health Care I (CL 3:1:6 WE)  
NURS 5381 Pediatric Primary Health Care II (CL 3:1:6 WE)  
NURS 6080 Pediatric Nursing Practicum (CL 3:0:18 WB or CL 6:0:36 WB)

**Thesis**

- NURS 6000 Thesis (6 hours minimum)

**Non-Thesis**

- NURS 5392 Application of Advanced Research (CL 3:2:3) – Online Course  
Elective (3)

▲ All Nurse Practitioner students are required to hold PALS Certification appropriate to their clinical specialty as a pre-requisite to NURS 5380.

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***Geriatric Nurse Practitioner***  
(Semester Credit Hours Required for Completion-48)

**Required Non-Nursing Courses**

Adv. Statistics (3) & Computer Science (3)\* or Elective (3) can be transferred from any accredited institution.

**Required Core Nursing Courses**

- NURS 5330 Theories and Therapies (3:3:0 WB/WE)  
NURS 5371 Professional Nursing Issues (3:3:0) – Online Course  
NURS 5391 Principles of Advanced Research (3:3:0) – Online Course

**Pre-requisite Nursing Courses**

- NURS 5111 Advanced Practice Nurse Role (1:1:0 WE)  
NURS 5222 Diagnostic Methods and Procedures (CL 2:1:3) – Online Course  
NURS 5302 Community Health Foundations for Advanced Practice (CL 3:1:6) – Online Course  
NURS 5342 Advanced Health Assessment (CL 3:1:6) – Online Course  
NURS 5343 Pharmacotherapeutics for Nurses in Advanced Practice (3:3:0) – Online Course  
NURS 5345 Advanced Practice Nursing: Application of Pathophysiology (3:3:0) – Online Course

**Specialty Courses**

- ▲ NURS 5333 Management of Acute and Episodic Conditions in Older Adults (CL 3:1:6 WE)  
NURS 5334 Management of Chronic Health Conditions in Older Adults (CL 3:1:6 WE)  
NURS 6090 Gerontological Nurse Practitioner Practicum (CL 3:0:18 WB or CL 6:0:36 WB)

**Thesis**

- NURS 6000 Thesis (6 hours minimum)

**Non-Thesis**

- NURS 5392 Application of advanced Research (CL 3:2:3) – Online Course  
Elective (3)

▲ All Nurse Practitioner students are required to Advanced Life Support Certification appropriate to their clinical specialty as a pre-requisite to NURS 5333. NURS 5344 is offered for those who wish to become certified through the School of Nursing.

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## MSN COLLABORATIVE UT TYLER DEGREE COURSE REQUIREMENTS

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### *Family Nurse Practitioner*

(Semester Credit Hours Required for Completion-48)

#### **Required transfer courses from University of Texas-Tyler**

NURS 5320	Research Design (3)
NURS 5312	Nursing Theory (3)
NURS 5308	Contemporary Healthcare Ethics (3)
NURS 5317	Biometric Methods (3)
NURS 5324	Healthcare Informatics (3)
NURS 5350	Advanced Pathophysiology (3)
NURS 5352	Advanced Health Assessment (3)
NURS 5354	Advanced Nursing Pharmacotherapeutics (3)

#### **Required Nursing Courses from TTUHSC**

NURS 5111	Advanced Practice Nurse Role (1:1:0)
NURS 5222	Diagnostic Methods and Procedures (2:1:3) – Online Course
NURS 5302	Community Health Foundations for Advanced Practice (3:1:6) – Online Course
▲ NURS 5340	Primary Health Care I: Advanced Assessment, Pathology, and Management (3:1:6)
NURS 5341	Primary Health Care II: Advanced Role Application (3:1:6)
NURS 6060	Nursing Practicum: A majority of clinical must be completed in medically underserved settings. (3:0:18 or 6:0:36)

#### **Thesis**

NURS 6000 Thesis (6 hours minimum)

#### **Non-Thesis**

NURS 5392 Application of Advanced Research (3:2:3) – Online Course  
Elective (3)

▲ All Nurse Practitioner students are required to hold Advanced Life Support Certification appropriate to their clinical specialty as a pre-requisite to NURS 5340. NURS 5344 is offered for those who wish to become certified through the School of Nursing.

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### *Acute Care Nurse Practitioner*

(Semester Credit Hours Required for Completion-48)

#### **Required transfer courses from University of Texas-Tyler**

NURS 5320	Research Design (3)
NURS 5312	Nursing Theory (3)
NURS 5308	Contemporary Healthcare Ethics (3)
NURS 5317	Biometric Methods (3)
NURS 5324	Healthcare Informatics (3)
NURS 5350	Advanced Pathophysiology (3)
NURS 5352	Advanced Health Assessment (3)
NURS 5354	Advanced Nursing Pharmacotherapeutics (3)

#### **Required Nursing Courses from TTUHSC**

NURS 5111	The Advanced Practice Nurse Role: Foundations for Advanced Practice Nursing (1:1:0)
NURS 5222	Diagnostic Methods and Procedures for Advanced Practice (2:1:3) – Online Course
▲ NURS 5450	Acute Care Nurse Practitioner Concepts & Diagnostic Skills I: Adult (4:2:6)
NURS 5551	Acute Care Nurse Practitioner Concepts & Diagnostic Skills II: Adult (5:2:9)
NURS 6050	Acute Care Nurse Practitioner IV: Role & Practicum (3:5:7.5 or 6:1:15)

#### **Thesis**

NURS 6000 Thesis (6 hours minimum)

#### **Non-Thesis**

NURS 5392 Application of Advanced Research (3:2:3) – Online Course  
Elective (3)

▲ All Nurse Practitioner students are required to hold ACLS Certification appropriate to their clinical specialty as a pre-requisite to NURS 5450. NURS 5344 is offered for those who wish to become certified through the School of Nursing.

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***Pediatric Nurse Practitioner***  
(Semester Credit Hours Required for Completion-48)

**Required transfer courses from University of Texas-Tyler**

NURS 5320	Research Design (3)
NURS 5312	Nursing Theory (3)
NURS 5308	Contemporary Healthcare Ethics (3)
NURS 5317	Biometric Methods (3)
NURS 5324	Healthcare Informatics (3)
NURS 5350	Advanced Pathophysiology (3)
NURS 5352	Advanced Health Assessment (3)
NURS 5354	Advanced Nursing Pharmacotherapeutics (3)

**Required Nursing Courses from TTUHSC**

NURS 5111	Advanced Practice Nurse Role (1:1:0)
NURS 5222	Diagnostic Methods and Procedures (2:1:3) – Online Course
NURS 5302	Community Health Foundations for Advanced Practice (3:1:6) – Online Course
▲ NURS 5380	Pediatric Primary Health Care I (3:1:2)
NURS 5381	Pediatric Primary Health Care II (3:1:2)
NURS 6080	Pediatric Nursing Practicum (3:0:18 or 6:0:36)

**Thesis**

NURS 6000 Thesis (6 hours minimum)

**Non-Thesis**

NURS 5392 Application of Advanced Research (3:2:3) – Online Course  
Elective (3)

▲ All Nurse Practitioner students are required to hold PALS Certification appropriate to their clinical specialty as a pre-requisite to NURS 5380.

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***Geriatric Nurse Practitioner***  
(Semester Credit Hours Required for Completion-48)

**Required transfer courses from University of Texas-Tyler**

NURS 5320	Research Design (3)
NURS 5312	Nursing Theory (3)
NURS 5308	Contemporary Healthcare Ethics (3)
NURS 5317	Biometric Methods (3)
NURS 5324	Healthcare Informatics (3)
NURS 5350	Advanced Pathophysiology (3)
NURS 5352	Advanced Health Assessment (3)
NURS 5354	Advanced Nursing Pharmacotherapeutics (3)

**Required Nursing Courses from TTUHSC**

NURS 5111	Advanced Practice Nurse Role (1:1:0)
NURS 5222	Diagnostic Methods and Procedures (2:1:3) – Online Course
NURS 5302	Community Health Foundations for Advanced Practice (3:1:6) – Online Course
▲ NURS 5333	Management of Acute and Episodic Conditions in Older Adults (3:1:6)
NURS 5334	Management of Chronic Health Conditions in Older Adults (3:1:6)
NURS 6090	Gerontological Nurse Practitioner Practicum (3:0:18 or 6:0:36)

**Thesis**

NURS 6000 Thesis (6 hours minimum)

**Non-Thesis**

NURS 5392 Application of Advanced Research (3:2:3) – Online Course  
Elective (3)

▲ All Nurse Practitioner students are required to hold ACLS Certification appropriate to their clinical specialty as a pre-requisite to NURS 5333. NURS 5344 is offered for those who wish to become certified through the School of Nursing.

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# POST MASTERS NURSE PRACTITIONER CERTIFICATE COURSE REQUIREMENTS

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## *Family Nurse Practitioner Certificate*

(Semester Credit Hours Required for Completion-27)

This program is also available through the collaborative program with The University of Texas at Tyler. Requirements for each campus are as follows:

### **Pre- or co-requisites to Required Nursing Courses:**

The 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**

NURS 5111	Advanced Practice Nurse Role (1:1:0 WE)
NURS 5222	Diagnostic Methods and Procedures (CL 2:1:3) – Online Course
NURS 5302	Community Health Foundations for Advanced Practice (CL 3:1:6) – Online Course
▲ NURS 5340	Primary Health Care I: Advanced Assessment, Pathology, and Management (CL 3:1:6 WE)
NURS 5341	Primary Health Care II: Advanced Role Application (CL 3:1:6 WE)
NURS 5342	Advanced Health Assessment (CL 3:1:6) – Online Course
NURS 5343	Pharmacotherapeutics for Nurses in Advanced Practice (3:3:0) – Online Course
NURS 5345	Advanced Practice Nursing: Application of Pathophysiology (3:3:0) – Online Course
NURS 6060	Nursing Practicum-A majority of clinical must be completed in medically underserved settings. (CL 3:0:18 WE or CL 6:0:36 WE)

▲ All Nurse Practitioner students are required to hold Advanced Life Support Certification appropriate to their clinical specialty as a pre-requisite to NURS 5340. NURS 5344 is offered for those who wish to become certified through the School of Nursing.

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## *Acute Care Nurse Practitioner Certificate*

(Semester Credit Hours Required for Completion-27)

This program is also available through the collaborative program with The University of Texas at Tyler. Requirements for each campus are as follows:

### **Pre- or co-requisites to Required Core Courses:**

The 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**

NURS 5111	Advanced Practice Nurse Role (1:1:0 WE)
NURS 5222	Diagnostic Methods and Procedures (CL 2:1:3) –Online Course
NURS 5342	Advanced Health Assessment (CL 3:1:6) – Online Course
NURS 5343	Pharmacotherapeutics for Nurses in Advanced Practice (3:3:0) – Online Course
NURS 5345	Advanced Practice Nursing: Application of Pathophysiology (3:3:0) – Online Course
▲ NURS 5450	Acute Care Nurse Practitioner Concepts & Diagnostic Skills I: Adult (CL 4:2:6 WE)
NURS 5551	Acute Care Nurse Practitioner Concepts & Diagnostic Skills II: Adult (CL 5:2:9 WE)
NURS 6050	Acute Care Nurse Practitioner IV: Role & Practicum (CL 6:0:36 WE)

▲ All Nurse Practitioner students are required to hold Advanced Life Support Certification appropriate to their clinical specialty as a pre-requisite to NURS 5450. NURS 5344 is offered for those who wish to become certified through the School of Nursing.

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### ***Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Certificate***

*(Semester Credit Hours Required for Completion-27)*

This program is also available through the collaborative program with The University of Texas at Tyler. Requirements for each campus are as follows:

#### **Pre- or co-requisites to Required Nursing Courses:**

The 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**

NURS 5111	Advanced Practice Nurse Role: Foundations for Advanced Practice Nursing (1:1:0 WE)
NURS 5222	Diagnostic Methods and Procedures for Advanced Practice (CL 2:1:3) – Online Course
NURS 5302	Community Health Foundations for Advanced Practice (CL 3:1:6) – Online Course
NURS 5342	Advanced Health Assessment (CL 3:1:6) – Online Course
NURS 5343	Pharmacotherapeutics for Nurses in Advanced Practice (3:3:0) – Online Course
NURS 5345	Advanced Practice Nursing: Application of Pathophysiology (3:3:0) – Online Course
▲ NURS 5380	Pediatric Primary Health Care I (CL 3:1:6 WE)
NURS 5381	Pediatric Primary Health Care II (CL 3:1:6 WE)
NURS 6080	Pediatric Nursing Practicum (CL 3:0:18 WB or CL 6:0:36 WB)

▲ All Nurse Practitioner students are required to hold PALS Certification appropriate to their clinical specialty as a pre-requisite to NURS 5380.

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### ***Geriatric Nurse Practitioner Certificate***

*(Semester Credit Hours Required for Completion-27)*

This program is also available through the collaborative program with The University of Texas at Tyler. Requirements for each campus are as follows:

#### **Pre- or co-requisites to Required Nursing Courses:**

The 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**

NURS 5111	Advanced Practice Nurse Role: Foundations for Advanced Practice Nursing (1:1:0 WE)
NURS 5222	Diagnostic Methods and Procedures for Advanced Practice (CL 2:1:3) – Online Course
NURS 5302	Community Health Foundations for Advanced Practice (CL 3:1:6) – Online Course
NURS 5342	Advanced Health Assessment (CL 3:1:6) – Online Course
NURS 5343	Pharmacotherapeutics for Nurses in Advanced Practice (3:3:0) – Online Course
NURS 5345	Advanced Practice Nursing: Application of Pathophysiology (3:3:0) – Online Course
▲ NURS 5333	Management of Acute and Episodic Conditions in Older Adults (CL 3:1:6 WE)
NURS 5334	Management of Chronic Health Conditions in Older Adults (CL 3:1:6 WE)
NURS 6090	Gerontological Nurse Practitioner Practicum (CL 3:0:18 WB or CL 6:0:36 WB)

▲ All Nurse Practitioner students are required to hold Advanced Life Support Certification appropriate to their clinical specialty as a pre-requisite to NURS 5333. NURS 5344 is offered for those who wish to become certified through the School of Nursing.

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## **RN-MSN RURAL EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP TRACK**

### **Graduate Program in Collaboration with the Undergraduate Non-Traditional Program**

#### *Masters of Science in Nursing – Rural Educational Leadership Track*

##### ***What is this degree?***

Students interested in a career as a nurse educator have three options for graduate nursing education. First, the **RN to MSN Rural Educational Leadership Track** is a collaborative program between School of Nursing's graduate and undergraduate program and is designed for students who have an associates degree or diploma in nursing and wish to pursue a graduate degree focused on nursing education in rural communities. This rigorous program is designed for full-time study and moves the student directly from Bachelors level courses to Masters level courses and is completed entirely through on-line course offerings and practicum experiences.

- On-line web based distance education program
- Fulltime study only
- 54 Credits

##### ***Admission Requirements***

Applicant must submit the following application requirements for full admission:

###### **RN-MSN**

- Graduate from an accredited associate degree/diploma program
- Completion of all general education requirements for the BSN (55-58 credits)
- Cumulative GPA average of 3.0 or higher in basic nursing program and general education requirements
- Valid RN License
- BLS Certification
- Essay- Personal Goals Statement
- References (3)
- Signature Page
- Oath of Residency
- Immunizations
- Official Transcripts from all nationally accredited colleges and universities
- Admissions Advisement Interview
- International Students - Appropriate documentation, i.e. TOEFL score

Additional non-academic information can be considered. These non-academic factors include but are not limited to:

- Extracurricular activities
- 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
- English as a second language
- Socioeconomic status
- Prior enrollment at TTU\TTUHSC

Only **complete** applications are reviewed for admission consideration, **which means ALL admission requirements must be received by the TTUHSC Registrar's Office by the application deadline.**

Although academic criteria are the most important factors in admission consideration, additional information considered for all applicants will include but are not limited to demographic data, diverse work and life experiences, and unique attributes that would contribute to the profession of nursing. The "diversity of experience" category may include, but will not be limited to study abroad, knowledge of other cultures, and proficiency in other languages. All applicants will be reviewed in an individual and holistic manner. No single factor will determine a student's admission.

The Department Chair and the Graduate Program Committee (GPC) carefully evaluate all qualified applicants with regard to the applicant's potential for successful completion of the program.

### **Computer Requirements**

All students admitted will be required to have a personal computer.

### **Criminal Background Check**

In compliance with TTUHSC policy, all applicants who have received offers of admission will be required to consent to a criminal background check before being allowed to matriculate. A history of criminal conduct or convictions may result in withdrawal of the admission offer. See the "Criminal Background Checks" section of the SON Student Handbook for the SON policy. The Health Sciences Center policy may be found at HSC OP 10.20. <http://www.ttuhsu.edu/HSC/OP/OP10>.

### **Drug Screening**

Drug Screenings may be required if requested by the clinical institution site.

## Prerequisite Courses

### Required Non-Nursing Prerequisite Courses for the RN-MSN Track

Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center (TTUHSC) is compliant with the intent of state law and Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) regulations regarding the Texas Success Initiative (TSI).

#### Texas Success Initiative (TSI)

The Texas Success Initiative (TSI), formerly known as the Texas Academic Skills Program (TASP), is a state-required program that is designed to help ensure undergraduate students' success in their college studies. All students seeking an undergraduate degree from the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center must satisfy the TSI requirement before enrollment. To obtain TSI details pertaining see [Texas Success Initiative](#)

The THECB requires every public institution of higher education in Texas to establish a core curriculum of at least 42 semester credit hours. Thus, students who will be earning their first baccalaureate degree from TTUHSC must satisfy the requirements of the Texas Core Curriculum.

The TTUHSC Core Curriculum reflects all of the THECB Texas Core Curriculum requirements. Each of the baccalaureate programs at the TTUHSC has identified prerequisite course work to meet the TTUHSC Core Curriculum and included additional discipline specific requirements. [TTUHSC Core Curriculum](#)

The pre-nursing course requirements listed below should be completed with a grade of "C" or better in each course. These requirements can be taken at any regionally accredited college or university and should be completed prior to enrollment in the first nursing course.

The Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center core curriculum for undergraduate nursing degrees incorporates the Field of Study requirements in nursing is comprised of 55 semester credit hours as detailed in the following table.

	HOURS
COMMUNICATION	
English (*ENGL1301, 1302)	6
MATHEMATICS	
Statistics (*MATH1342, 1442, 2342 or 2442)	3
NATURAL SCIENCES	
Anatomy and Physiology (*BIOL2401 & 2402)	8
Chemistry (*CHEM1305 & 1105 or CHEM 1406 or CHEM1411	4
Microbiology (*BIOL2420 or BIOL2421)	4
Food and Nutrition (*HECO1322 or BIOL1322)	3
HUMANITIES AND VISUAL PERFORMING ARTS	
Visual/Performing Arts (any art, music, drama, or theatre arts course)	3
Humanities (any literature, philosophy, modern or classical language/literature, or cultural studies course)	3
SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES	
United States History (*HIST1301, 1302)	6
<i>Students may substitute 3 credit hours of Texas History for 3 credit hours of American History</i>	
Political Science (*GOVT 2301 & 2302 or GOVT 2305 & 2306)	6
Psychology (*PSY2301)	3
Sociology or Cultural Anthropology (*SOC1301 or ANTH2351)	3
Life Span Growth and Development (*PSY2314)	3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>55</b>

- Course numbers listed are based on the Texas Common Course Numbering System (TCCNS). Check with your academic institution to verify the course number that corresponds with the TCCNS number.
- Students must complete 3 credit hours of math to meet core curriculum requirements. If the student does not take math statistics, an additional math course must be completed to meet the core requirement
- 3 credit hours in upper division POLS may be substituted for POLS2302 if an A or B was earned in POLS1301.

<b>RN-MSN Track:</b>	55	Semester Hours from general education requirements courses
	38	Semester Hours awarded for completion of the Basic Nursing Program
	9	Semester Hours from the RN-BSN TTUHSC SON curriculum
	<u>45</u>	Semester Hours from the MSN TTUHSC SON curriculum
	147	

### Important Information about Pre-Nursing 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, those credits excluded are not eligible for pre-requisite 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 pre-requisite non-nursing course requirements.

### ***Recognition of Previous Nursing Learning:***

The TTUHSC School of Nursing acknowledges previous nursing learning for students enrolled in the RN-MSN program.

### **Transfer of Credit for RN-MSN Program**

- 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 transfer credit of completed course work toward degree requirements is determined by the 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" (course work 4000 & below) 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 55-58 general education course hours will be transferred, as well as a minimum of 38 hours of basic nursing education courses be posted, for a total of 93 semester hours that will be acknowledged for the RN-MSN degree requirements. (If a basic nursing program has less than 38 hours, details for this should be arranged with the 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-MSN student will be classified as a Senior student upon entering TTUHSC SON.
- Applicants are encouraged to meet with or send transcripts to (fax is acceptable) the Coordinator for the graduate program to discuss applicability of transfer credit for degree purposes before submitting their application.

### ***Offer of Admission***

Offers of admission will be made approximately three to four 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 \$100.00 non-refundable placement/orientation fee prior to advisement appointment
- Call and schedule advisement appointment with Graduate Program Advisor
- Complete Criminal Background online
- Complete Sexual Harassment training online and submit certificate of completion
- 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 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 program. Only with the specific approval of the 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 its provisions are applicable during the stated school year.

#### **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 and non-nursing) required for degree completion. The TTUHSC SON Student Handbook provides further details regarding academic and graduation expectations.



### **Graduate Program**

- Grades are reviewed each semester and progression in the Graduate Program is determined by the Department Chair and Graduate Program Committee
- Graduate students are required to maintain a 3.0 GPA with grades at “B” or above in all graduate courses
- Students receiving “C” or lower in a graduate course are eligible to repeat that 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:**

- Students making a “C” or lower in two or more graduate courses in one semester
- Students making a “C” or lower in the same nursing course twice
- Students making a “C” or lower in a third graduate course even though two graduate courses have been retaken and a satisfactory grade of “B” or better has been obtained

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

### **Residence Credit**

Ordinarily, the minimum residence for the graduate program is a full academic year or its equivalent of graduate work carrying residence credit, as required for the degree. The term “residence credits” as a degree requirement should not be confused with “residence” in the State of Texas for enrollment purposes. Residence credit is used for work completed while enrolled and attending classes at TTU/TTUHSC.

### **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 Department Chair. In determining this load, the Department Chair takes into account the quality of prior scholastic work performed and the types of courses involved. A student enrolled in 9 credits per semester, Fall or Spring and 6 credits in Summer is considered full-time.

## RN-MSN DEGREE COURSE REQUIREMENTS

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### *Master of Science in Nursing RN-MSN Rural Educational Leadership*

(ALL Online Courses): (Semester Credit Hours Required for Completion-54)

#### **Required Non-Nursing Courses**

Adv. Statistics (3)

#### **Required Undergraduate Nursing Courses**

- NURS 4382 Aspects of Nursing Research (3:2:3)  
NURS 4386 Leadership in Nursing (2:1:6)  
NURS 4395 Gateway to Advanced Professional Practice (3:3:0)

#### **Required Core Nursing Courses**

- NURS 5305 Rural/ Cultural Competency - Online Course (3:2:3)  
NURS 5330 Theories and Therapies (3:3:0)  
NURS 5371 Professional Nursing Issues (3:3:0)  
NURS 5391 Principles of Advanced Research (3:3:0)  
NURS 5343 Pharmacotherapeutics for Nurses in Advanced Practice (3:3:0)  
NURS 5345 Advanced Practice Nursing: Application of Pathophysiology (3:3:0)

#### **Clinical Tracks:**

**A minimum of 6 credits is required from a sequential combination of any of the following courses**

- NURS 5300 Community Health I: Foundations of Community Health Nursing (3:1:6)  
NURS 5301 Community Health II: Role Design and Implementation (3:1:6)  
NURS 5310 Gerontics I: Foundations of Gerontic Nursing (3:1:6)  
NURS 5311 Gerontics II: Role Design and Implementation (3:1:6)

#### **Specialty Courses:**

- NURS 5314 Leadership in Education I: Foundations of Nursing Education (3:3:0)  
NURS 5315 Leadership in Education II: Critical Elements of the Teaching Role (3:2.5:1.5)  
NURS 5316 Leadership in Education III: Evaluation and Outcomes (3:2.5:5)  
NURS 6030 Leadership in Education IV: Role and Practicum (3:5:8)

#### **Thesis**

NURS 6000 Thesis (6 hours minimum)

#### **Non-Thesis**

NURS 5392 Application of Advanced Research (3:2:3)  
Elective (3)

## UNDERGRADUATE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS FOR RN-MSN TRACK

Undergraduate courses are delivered via traditional, Web-enhanced (combination of face-to-face and online), and Web-based (completely online) methodologies. Traditional course methodology is indicated by T, Web-enhanced by WE, and Web-based by WB.

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.

**(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.

**\*** Elective Courses are offered at select times as faculty and interest are present.

**(V)** Variable Credit.

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### **4000 Level Courses**

**4382. Aspects of Nursing Research (3:3:0 WB).** (RN-BSN & RN-MSN) Addresses basic research concepts and explores the relationship of research to theory and practice. Prepares the student as a consumer of research in order that relevant findings may be applied to clinical practice. (Prerequisite: NURS 4380, 4381, and 3 hours of undergraduate statistics.)

**4386. Leadership in Nursing (CL 3:2:3 WB).** (RN-BSN & RN-MSN) Leadership concepts related to the management of nursing personnel and healthcare delivery are emphasized. (Prerequisite: NURS 4384 or 4385.)

**4395. Gateway to Advanced Professional Practice (CL 2:1:6 WB).** (RN-MSN) This is a transition class for the RN-MSN student focusing on current issues relevant to the professional nursing role and introduction to the nature of nursing theory. Selected local, state, national and international issues impacting the professional nursing role are addressed. Additional, the impact of theory development on the evolving practice of the nursing professional is reviewed and analyzed.

## **DNP CURRICULUM: COURSE PROGRESSION (FULL-TIME)**

**Admissions page to be added**

**POST MASTERS DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE (DNP)**  
**DNP CURRICULUM: COURSE PROGRESSION (FULL-TIME)**  
**Six Semesters: 48 Hours**

		<b>Semester Credit Hours</b>	<b>Clinical Hours</b>
<b>SEMESTER I</b>			
N6200 DNP Role Transition I (2:2:0)		2	0
N6310 Practical Application of Statistics in Healthcare (3:3:0)		3	0
<b>SEMESTER II</b>			
N6320 Systems Leadership for Effectiveness, Quality and Safety (3:3:0)		3	0
N6325 Informatics & Technology to Improve Health Care (3:3:0)		3	0
N6330 Evidence Based Inquiry I (3:3:0)		3	0
<b>SEMESTER III</b>			
N6340 Advancing Policy and Politics in Health Care (3:3:0)		3	0
N6331 Evidence Based Inquiry II (3:3:0)		3	0
N6345 Population Health and Epidemiology (3:3:0)		3	0
<b>SEMESTER IV</b>			
N6101 DNP Role Transition II (1:1:0)		1	0
N6350 Financial Operations and Business Management (3:3:0)		3	0
N7310 Promoting Health Through Behavior Change (3:1:6)	N7311 Leading Teams in Complex Health Care Environments (3:1:6)	3 (2 clinical; 1 didactic)	90
<b>SEMESTER V</b>			
N7320 Integrating Complementary & Alternative Modalities (CAM) into Health Care Systems (3:1:6)	N7321 Population Health at the Organizational and Public Policy Level (3:1:6)	3 (2 clinical; 1 didactic)	90
N7330 Integrating Community Mental Health into Health Care Systems (3:1:6)	N7331 Health Care Economics and Finance (3:1:6)	3 (2 clinical; 1 didactic)	90
N7340 Advanced Clinical Management in the DNP Role (3:2:3)	N7341 Executive Leadership in the DNP Role (3:2:3)	3 (1 clinical; 2 didactic)	45
<b>SEMESTER VI</b>			
Cognate/Elective		3	0
N7350 Capstone Project and Seminar (3:1:6)		3 (2 clinical; 1 didactic)	90
N7351 DNP Practicum and Seminar (3:0:9)		3 (3 clinical)	135
<b>Total Program</b>		<b>48</b>	<b>540</b>

## **DOCTORAL PROGRAM COLLABORATIVE PROGRAM WITH TEXAS UNIVERSITY**

### ***PhD in Nursing***

The PhD in Nursing is a collaborative program with Texas Women's University College of Nursing (TWU) and TTUHSC School of Nursing. The primary goal of the doctoral program is to develop leaders and scholars who will make a significant contribution to the nursing profession in the discovery, integration, application, and dissemination of knowledge. There are three sites for doctoral course offerings – Denton, Houston and Lubbock. The PhD degree is awarded by TWU in accordance with program policies of the TWU Graduate School and the TWU College of Nursing. Visit the TWU website for further information at [www.twu.edu](http://www.twu.edu).

Influences on women's health are the central theme of the research program in the College of Nursing. Doctoral faculty is involved in both funded and unfunded research projects. Active participation by students in these projects is encouraged and supported. Such projects offer opportunities for mentorship into a research career.

### ***Goals:***

The goals of the doctoral nursing program are to prepare nurse scholars who will:

- A Engage in scholarship that will add to the body of nursing knowledge
- Influence professional values and practice
- Investigate substantive questions of human health
- Assume leadership in nursing and health care
- Integrate knowledge from nursing and other disciplines to address problems of human health
- Teach and mentor other nurses and nurse scholars

### ***Admission Requirements:***

All applicants must meet the general requirements for admission to the Texas Women's University Graduate School. In addition to these general requirements the Texas Women's University College of Nursing requires the following for admission to the doctoral program:

- A course in statistics.
- A course in research at the graduate level.
- A course in nursing theory at the graduate level.
- A master's degree with a major in nursing from a program accredited by a nationally recognized accrediting body (preferred).
- Two letters of recommendation.
- A statement of research interest area and professional goals.
- A current license to practice professional nursing in the U.S.A.
- A curriculum vita or resume.

Admission to the nursing doctoral degree program may be awarded on an unconditional or provisional basis. The criteria for unconditional admission are:

- A minimum grade point average (GPA) of 3.5 on prior graduate level course work or
- A preferred score of 460 on the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) Verbal and 500 on the GRE Quantitative; or
- A preferred score of 50 on the Miller Analogies Test (MAT).

Applicants who do not meet the unconditional criteria, but who have a minimum GPA of 3.0 on prior graduate level course work may be considered for provisional admission on an individual basis. Factors that will be considered in the admission decision are GPA on graduate level course work, GRE verbal and quantitative scores or MAT score, scholarly activities, professional leadership, and work history. Within the framework of the general regulations of the Graduate School, a relevant program of study is planned by the student and a faculty advisory committee. The program includes course work in nursing, research design and methodology, research tools and selected electives or a minor. Additional advising is done by the doctoral program coordinator on each campus.

TTUHSC School of Nursing does not set the admission and degree requirements for the Doctoral program. Information the Coordinator for graduate programs at (806) 743-2730 ext. 309 or contact the office the TTUHSC School of Nursing does not set the admission and degree requirements for the Doctoral program. Information the Coordinator for graduate programs at (806) 743-2730 ext. 309 or contact the office the Department Chair of Leadership studies at calling (806) 743-2730 ext. 230. It is recommended that contact be made directly to TWU, Denton at (940) 898-2401 or TWU, Houston at (713) 794-2100 for further information on application and specific degree requirements or visit TWU website at [www.twu.edu](http://www.twu.edu).

## GRADUATE PROGRAM COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Graduate courses are delivered via traditional, Web-enhanced (combination of face-to-face and online), and Web-based (completely online) methodologies. Traditional course methodology is indicated by **T**, Web-enhanced by **WE**, and Web-based by **WB**.

All pre- or 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.

**(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.

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### 5000 Level Courses

**5060. Independent Study (V1-6 T).** 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 WBWE).** Designed to focus on subjects of special interest to groups of students. May be repeated for credit as topics vary.

**5111. The Advanced Practice Nurse Role: Foundation for Advanced Practice Nurse (1:1:0 WE).** This course is a study of the Advanced Practice Nurse (APN) role, including the evolution of the role, current and continuing issues relevant to advanced practice nursing, and clinical practice issues related to health promotion and disease prevention. Course activities include observation, discussion, and analysis of experiences.

**5222. Diagnostic Methods and Procedures for Advanced Practice (CL) (2:1:3 WB).** This course is designed for students preparing for the Advanced Practice Nursing (APN) role as a nurse practitioner. Selected clinical diagnostic laboratory, imaging tests, and selected procedures practiced by APNs will be presented. Clinical decision making for selecting appropriate tests or procedures, and interpretation of diagnostic test results is addressed. Students will use evidence based research to appropriately gather, interpret and manage objective diagnostic clinical data to manage various health problems across the life span.

**5231. The Nursing Administrator: Standards for Excellence (2:2:0 T).** Focuses on the standards affecting the nursing administrator and the administrative role. Content relates to the Scope of Practice and Standards for Nurse Administrators, the Magnet Recognition Program criteria and the Baldrige National Quality Program. Traditional role content is viewed in light of these elements of quality.

**5242. Administrative Role Development (CL) (2:0:6 T).** Prerequisite: NURS 5231. The course emphasizes the practicality of applying quality standards in the nursing administration role. The practicum focuses on the concepts formulated in the prerequisite course.

**5300. Community Health I: Foundations of Community Health Nursing (CL) (3:1:6 WB).** Prerequisite or corequisite: NURS 5330. Study of the major concepts basic to the development, implementation and evaluation of Community Health. Clinical practice focuses on application of nursing theory, epidemiologic concepts, public policy, program planning and exploration of nursing skills and techniques related to aggregate level health promotion, health maintenance, health restoration and disease prevention.

**5301. Community Health II: Role Design and Implementation (CL) (3:1:6 WB).** Prerequisite: Successful completion of NURS 5300 and concurrent enrollment in CDC Epidemiology Module. Study of the nursing role components inherent in community health. Identification of facilitators for and barriers to the implementation of community health in healthcare settings. Clinical practice involves collaboration and implementation of the community health role in selected healthcare settings.

**5302. Community Health Foundation for Advanced Practice (CL) (3:1:6 WB).** Prerequisite: NURS 5330. Study of the major basic concepts and the nursing role components inherent to community health. Facilitates the transition into the

advance practice community health role. The incorporation of interdisciplinary relationships and/or partnerships into the delivery of community health nursing.

**5305. Rural Health and Cultural Competency CL (3:2:3 WB).** This course will focus on the concepts important in rural health and cultural competency for the emerging nurse leader. The concept of rurality will be presented not as a dichotomy, but as a continuum; a continuous movement of people and money from remote/rural through suburban to urban/metropolitan. This perspective will emphasize the interaction of communities across the rurality continuum with a focus on the contribution of social, economic, environmental, cultural, historical, and demographic characteristics to healthcare.

**5310. Gerontics I: Foundations of Gerontic Nursing (CL) (3:1:6 WB).** Study of the major concepts essential to the development, implementation and evaluation of quality gerontic care. Clinical practice focuses on application of nursing theory and pathophysiological concepts, and exploration of nursing therapies, skills and techniques associated with the provision of gerontic care.

**5311. Gerontics II: Role Design and Implementation (CL) (3:1:6 WB).** Prerequisite: NURS 5310. Study of the nursing role components basic to collaboration and provision of gerontic care, including family dynamics related to the extended family and identification of families at risk. Clinical practice focuses on provision of care in a variety of settings.

**5314. Leadership in Education I: Foundations of Nursing Education (3:3:0 WB).** Prerequisite: NURS 5330. This course focuses on the leadership role of the nurse educator by examining the foundational components of the formal teaching/learning process.

**5315. Leadership in Education II: Critical Elements of the Teaching Role (CL) (3:2.5:1.5 WB).** Prerequisite: NURS 5314. The concepts and components of course development, implementation, evaluation, and revision in academic, continuing nursing education, or staff development setting will be emphasized as critical elements of the teaching role.

**5316. Leadership in Education III: Evaluation and Outcomes (CL) (3:2.5:1.5 WB).** Prerequisite: NURS 5315. Concepts related to student evaluation, test construction, evaluation of evidence based teaching and evaluation of distance learning/technology will be introduced. Program evaluation, accreditation processes and professional development of faculty will be discussed and analyzed.

**5330. Theories and Therapies (3:3:0 WBWE).** Exploration of theories in nursing as a basis for nursing therapies. Analysis of existing theories, theory construction and concept formulation and common specialized therapies such as counseling, touch, and comfort measures.

**5333. Management of Acute and Episodic Conditions in Older Adults (CL) (3:1:6 WE).** Prerequisite: NURS 5111, NURS 5222, NURS 5302, NURS 5330, NURS 5342, NURS 5343, NURS 5345, NURS 5344 or ACLS certification. This course addresses the theoretical and clinical foundation for evidence based management strategies of acute health problems and common syndromes of older adults. Emphasis is on comprehensive assessment, clinical decision-making, and the implementation of scientifically based clinical management plans in collaboration with the healthcare team. The focus is on empowering the older adult to maintain or regain health through the framework of evidenced based care and use of best practices. Under the supervision of faculty and preceptors, clinical experiences occur in a variety of community-based healthcare settings that expose the student to both healthy and frail adult populations.

**5334. Management of Chronic Health Conditions in Older Adults (CL) (3:1:6 WE).** Prerequisite: NURS 5333. This course addresses the theoretical and clinical foundation for evidence-based management strategies of chronic and complex health problems of older adult. Emphasis is placed on the management of older adults with multiple system problems. Clinical practice involves collaboration and implementation of the primary healthcare role in selected healthcare settings.

**5340. Primary Healthcare Practice I: Advanced Assessment, Pathology, and Management (CL) (3:1:6 WE).** Prerequisite: NURS 5111, NURS 5222, NURS 5302, NURS 5330, NURS 5342, NURS 5343, NURS 5345, NURS 5344 or ACLS certification. Study of major concepts and therapies required in the development, implementation and evaluation of primary healthcare. Clinical practice focuses on application of nursing theory, pathophysiological and epidemiological concepts and exploration of nursing therapies, skills and techniques essential to the provision of primary healthcare.

**5341. Primary Healthcare Practice II: Advanced Role Application (CL) (3:1:6 WE).** Prerequisite: NURS 5340. Study of nursing role components critical to primary healthcare. Identification of facilitators for and barriers to the implementation of primary healthcare. Clinical practice involves collaboration and implementation of primary healthcare role in selected healthcare settings.

**5342. Advanced Health Assessment (CL) (3:1:6 WB).** Building upon basic physical assessment and history taking knowledge and skills, this course focuses on knowledge and clinical skills required for advanced practice nursing.



**5343. Pharmacotherapeutics for Nurses in Advanced Practice (3:3:0 WB).** Study of advanced pharmacologic and pharmacokinetics principles of drug categories used by nurses in advanced practice.

**5344. Advanced Practice Role Development: Advanced Cardiac Life Support (3:2:3 WE).** Expands the student's ability to analyze and provide appropriate care in situations in which individuals are experiencing acute life-threatening physiological dysfunctions from the perspectives of ethics, law, and advanced clinical practice. This course is designed to prepare the student for participation in an Advanced Cardiac Life Support providers' class according to the standards set by the American Heart Association.

**5345. Advanced Practice Nursing: Application of Pathophysiology (3:3:0 WB).** Study of the physiologic basis of disease for advanced practice nursing. Emphasis 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.

**5362. Statistics for Nurses (3:0:0).** This course is designed to be a general but comprehensive introduction to statistical methods used in the health, social, behavioral and other sciences. Statistics are the tools of researchers who seek to make[e70] sense of scientific data. This course will introduce you to the three main types of statistical analyses. This course is quantitative in nature; therefore knowledge of algebraic principles is important.

**5371. Professional Nursing Issues (3:3:0 WB).** Analysis of role issues confronting the nursing profession. Issues are examined from historical, multidisciplinary, and global perspectives with an emphasis on synthesis of advanced nursing role knowledge at a societal-level focus.

**5372. Utilizing the Arts in Healthcare (3:3:0 WB). Elective.** This course is an introductory study and overview of current and past methods of incorporating the arts into the healthcare setting for patients, families and healthcare staff and professionals. Attention will be paid to cultural and age diversities and education, psychological and physical benefits derived from creative expression.

**5374. Writing for Publication (3:3:0 WB). Elective.** Develops expertise in writing/preparing manuscripts for publication. Special emphasis on choosing journals of manuscript topics, preparing a manuscript according to journal guidelines, and learning to navigate the publication process from inquiry letter to submission of manuscript to peer review and final submission.

**5375. Nursing Ethics through the Life Span (3:3:0 WB). Elective.** This graduate course provides an opportunity to examine ethical issues that arise in advanced nursing practice throughout the life span of the client, providing an opportunity to: implement an evidence-based practice; understand the moral significance of nursing; recognize and clarify models of professional relationships; and identify and distinguish between ethical models. Ethical models will be utilized to justify ethical decisions in advanced nursing practice.

**5376. Best Practices for Safe Healthcare Systems (3:3:0 WB). Elective.** This graduate level interdisciplinary course is designed to explore solutions and practices that promote safer patient care and reduce risk in a variety of health care settings.

**5377. Humanities in Professional Life (3:3:0 T). Elective.** Nursing as a humanistic discipline is an elective course designed to provide opportunities for analyzing the humanistic aspects of nursing as a primary function of modern nursing practice for the master's prepared and advanced practice prepared nurse. The humanistic aspects of nursing have been described as follows in the Affirmation of Commitment, often recited at commencements: We believe that the nature and purpose of nursing encompasses a multifaceted approach to human need. We further believe in nursing as a professional discipline, involving clinical practice, and as a humanistic field where nurse and client share in the wonder, pain, and awe of human existence.

**5378. Primary Health Care for Women (CL) (3:1.5:1.5 WE). Elective.** Prerequisite: NURS 5342 or consent of instructor. Presents the theoretical and clinical basis for advanced practice nursing management of the woman who is essentially well or who has non-acute health problems. Emphasis is on the integration of primary health care screening, preventive health care, and health care promotion. Selected health problems common to women across the age continuum are addressed.

**5379. Clinical Nutrition for Professional Practice (CL) (3:2.5:5 WB). Elective.** Study of clinical nutrition issues useful in professional nursing practice. Nutrition issues related to disease prevention and treatment across the life span will be explored using an interdisciplinary approach. (Pre-requisites: Graduate Standing)

**5380. Pediatric Primary Health Care I (CL) (3:1:6 WE).** Prerequisite: NURS 5111, NURS 5222, NURS 5302, NURS 5311, NURS 5330, NURS 5342, NURS 5343, NURS 5345, PALS certification. Designed to develop theoretical and research-based knowledge of child health issues and well-child assessment of infants, children, and adolescents in the context of family and cultures, the course develops advanced practice skills in comprehensive assessment, as well as, management strategies reflecting current nursing and medical knowledge and practice.

**5381. Pediatric Primary Health Care II (CL) (3:1:6 WE).** Prerequisite: NURS 5380. Designed to further develop theoretical and research-based knowledge of diagnosis, treatment, and evaluation of pediatric patients with acute and chronic health problems, the course develops advanced practice skills and comprehensive assessment and management strategies reflecting evidence-based nursing/medical knowledge and practice.

**5386. Finance and Budgeting for Nurse Leaders (3:3:0 WB). Elective.** 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.

**5387. Palliative Care for APN'S (3:3:0 WB)** This course explores end-of-life (EOL) care and the role of Advanced Practice Nurses as members of interdisciplinary teams providing EOL care. Synthesis of advanced health assessment, advanced pharmacotherapeutics, advanced pathophysiology, and evidence based practice in the provision of palliative care will be emphasized.

**5391. Principles of Advanced Research (3:3:0 WB).** Prerequisite: NURS 5330, Graduate Statistics. Course addresses components of the research process including the scientific method in quantitative and qualitative research design.

**5392. Application of Advanced Research (CL) (3:2:3 WB).** Prerequisite: NURS 5391. Examines relationship of research to outcome measures in practice, education, and administrative role.

**5450. Acute Care Nurse Practitioner Concepts and Diagnostic Skills I: Adult (CL) (4:2:6 WE).** Prerequisite: NURS 5111, NURS 5222, NURS 5330, NURS 5342, NURS 5343, NURS 5345, NURS 5344 or ACLS certification. This course is designed to develop a beginning theoretical and research based knowledge of diagnosis, treatment, and evaluation of adults with acute and chronic health problems. Emphasis will be placed on applying this knowledge to the management of patients with disorders of selected body systems. Clinical activities focus on enhancing history and physical skills, delineating differential diagnoses, and learning initial clinical management of clients experiencing acute and chronic health problems. Basic role components of the Acute Care Nurse Practitioner will be introduced.

**5551. Acute Care Nurse Practitioner Concepts and Diagnostic Skills II: Adult (CL) (5:2:9 WE).** Prerequisite: NURS 5450. This course is designed to build on major components critical to the knowledge of diagnosis, treatment, and evaluation of adults with acute and chronic health problems. Clinical practice focuses on research-based decision-making process in close collaboration with preceptors.

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## 6000 Level Courses

**6000. Thesis (V1-6 T).** A planned process of scholarly inquiry, which implements a quantitative or qualitative design and contributes to nursing's body of knowledge.'

**6030. Leadership in Education IV: Role and Practicum (CL) (3:5:8 WB).** Prerequisite: NURS 5314, 5315, and 5316. Immersion in all leadership aspects of the faculty role in an academic, CE, or staff development setting with guidance of a preceptor.

**6050. Acute Care Nurse Practitioner IV: Role and Practicum (CL) (3:0:18) (6:1:15 WE).** Prerequisite: NURS 5551. This course emphasizes clinical practice. Clinical activities allow for immersion in advanced role. Function and responsibility of selected topics of the advanced practice role are addressed.

**6060. Nursing Practicum (CL) (3:0:18 WE) (6:0:36 WE).** Prerequisite: NURS 5341. A clinically focused practicum for individuals pursuing expectations beyond basic graduate degree requirements. Variable credit 3 or 6 hours. Nurse Practitioner students are required to complete the majority of practicum in underserved areas.

**6071. Supervised Teaching (V1-3 T).** Directed teaching in students' major area under close supervision of one or more faculty.

**6080. Pediatric Nursing Practitioner Practicum (CL) (3:0:18 WE) (6:0:36 WE).** Prerequisite: NURS 5381 and successful completion of required clinical and functional courses. A clinically-focused practicum for individuals pursuing expectations

beyond basic graduate degree requirements. Variable credit of 3 to 6 hours. Pediatric nurse practitioner students are required to complete the majority of practicum in underserved areas.

**6090. Gerontological Nurse Practitioner Practicum (CL) (3:0:18 WE) (6:0:36 WE).** Prerequisite: NURS 5334. This course is a synthesizing, practical experience in development and implementation of the role of the advanced practice nurse. Emphasis is on role development along with the refinement of critical reasoning, skill development, and resource allocation. Under the guidance of a preceptor, students practice in a clinical setting to provide primary care to older adults.

**6101. DNP Role Transition II (1:1:0 WE) (DNP)** Prerequisites: Core Leadership: N6200 DNP Role Transition I As a follow-up to Role Transition I, the course will engage students in a reassessment of their leadership strengths and emotional intelligence after completing two full semesters of course work. Students will revisit their plans for personal growth and self-directed learning in an on-going process of personal leadership development as well as identifying ways to promote leadership development for future health care leaders.

**6200. DNP Role Transition I (2 :2:0 WE) (DNP)** Provide students with the opportunity to fully engage in extensive self-assessment of leadership strengths and emotional intelligence and develop action plans for personal growth through self-directed learning. The course focuses on self-knowing and reflective leadership as essential attributes of transformation leaders in complex health care systems.

**6221. Administrative Role Development: The Nurse Administrator as Leader (2:2:0 T).** Prerequisite: NURS 5231. An online seminar in contemporary issues in administrative circles. Explores issues from various professional, client, legal, ethical, policy and societal perspectives. Emphasizes leadership development..

**6310 Practical Application of Statistics in Healthcare (3:3:0 WE) (DNP)** 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 regression with an introduction to statistical modeling.

**6320 Systems Leadership for Effectiveness, Quality and Safety (3:3: 0 WE) (DNP)** Prerequisites: Doctor of Nursing Practice program 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 will be explored.

**6325 Informatics & Technology to Improve Health Care (3:3:0 WE) (DNP)** 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 WE) (DNP)** Prerequisites: Doctor of Nursing Practice program 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.

**6331 Evidence Based Inquiry II (3:3:0 WE) (DNP)** Prerequisites: NURS6330 Practice Inquiry I. The course will build on Practice 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.

**6340 Advancing Policy & Politics in Health Care (3:3:0 WE) (DNP)** Prerequisites: Doctor of Nursing Practice program 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 & Epidemiology (3:3:0 WE ) (DNP)** Prerequisites: Doctor of Nursing Practice program 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 Operations & Budget Management (3:3:0 WE) (DNP)** Prerequisites: Doctor of Nursing Practice program 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.

**6351 Advanced Interprofessional Role Immersion (CL 3:1:2 WE) Elective (DNP)** Prerequisites: Doctor of Nursing Practice program student. The course will provide students with an in depth experience in a health professional role that provides an alternate perspective on patient-centered care, transparency and leadership in healthcare, evidence-based practice, quality improvement, technology, and interdisciplinary team collaboration. Students will be partnered with one or more interprofessional team member(s) (e.g., pharmacist, physical therapist, physician) and will participate in the partners' work environment to establish a unique appreciation of the interprofessional nature of healthcare and its significance in improving health outcomes.

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## 7000 Level Courses

**7310 Promoting Health Through Behavior Change (CL 3:1:6 WE) (DNP)** Prerequisites: Concurrent enrollment in or completion of core leadership courses and 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 3:1:6 WE) (DNP)** Prerequisites: Concurrent enrollment in or completion of core leadership courses and core evidence-based courses. The course provides nursing leaders the opportunity to enhance skills to lead and manage groups. Strategies are included for managing professional development, implementing creative and effective staffing models, and affecting positive change using data to inform productivity and performance. Key trends and their relationship to workforce issues will be discussed. Forecasting, team building and coaching functions are explored as key concepts/tools.

**7320 Integrating Complementary & Alternative Modalities (CAM) into Health Care Systems (CL 3:1:6 WE) (DNP)** Prerequisites: Concurrent enrollment in or completion of core leadership courses and core evidence-based courses. The course uses the field of complementary and alternative health care as a venue for developing the student's role to improve health care by introducing change within existing health care systems. Students are provided with the opportunity to gain knowledge, analyze, observe and experience various CAM modalities. 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.

**7321 Health Care Economics & Finance (CL 3:1:6 WE) (DNP)** Prerequisites: Concurrent enrollment in or completion of core leadership courses and core evidence-based courses. The course will provide an in-depth exploration of health care economics and the impact of current and proposed reimbursement mechanisms on delivery systems as well as global economies. The course will explore innovative business models for health care organizations and methods of cost-benefit analysis for practice initiatives accounting for risk and improvement of outcomes.

**7330 Integrating Community Mental Health Concepts into Health Care Systems (CL 3:1:6 WE) (DNP)** Prerequisites: Concurrent enrollment in or completion of core leadership courses and 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.

**7331 Population Health at the Organizational & Public Policy Level (CL 3:1:6 WE) (DNP)** Prerequisites: Concurrent enrollment in or completion of core leadership courses and 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.

**7340 Advanced Clinical Management in the DNP Role (CL 3:2:3 WE) (DNP)** Prerequisites: Concurrent enrollment in or completion of core leadership courses and core evidence-based courses. This course prepares APNs to deliver health care based on a deep understanding of the scientific underpinnings for practice. The student will have opportunity to develop the role of the DNP in a distinct specialty that requires expertise, advanced knowledge, and mastery in one area of nursing practice. The student will determine, in consultation with faculty, specific goals for individualized clinical experiences.

**7341 Executive Leadership in the DNP Role (CL 3:2:3 WE) (DNP)** Prerequisites: Concurrent enrollment in or completion of core leadership courses and core evidence-based courses. The course will explore strategies to develop transformational leadership skills and systems thinking to design, implement and evaluate care delivery systems at the organizational, community and population levels. Students will use conceptual and analytical skills along with principles of business, finance, economics, health policy, and evidence-based practice to address gaps in health care delivery systems that affect the care of individuals, aggregates or populations. Creating a shared vision, influencing teams, and negotiating positions are explored as key leadership strategies.

**7350 Capstone Project (CL 3:1:6 WE) (DNP)** Prerequisites: Concurrent enrollment in or completion of advanced APN or executive leadership specialization courses. The capstone project incorporates evidence-based strategies for implementing and achieving health care outcomes such as a significant pilot study, a program evaluation project, a quality improvement project, or a practice change initiative derived from translational science and the DNP role. The capstone project serves as a foundation for future scholarly practice and is reviewed and evaluated by an academic community. Students share issues in a seminar format as the project nears completion.

**7351 DNP Practicum & Seminar (CL 3:0:9 WE) (DNP)** Prerequisites: Completion of advanced APN or executive leadership specialization course. The course provides an end of program practice immersion experience to integrate and synthesize the essentials necessary to demonstrate competency in an area of specialized nursing practice in the DNP role. Proficiency may be acquired through a variety of methods such as in depth case studies, patient or practice contact hours, completing and demonstrating specified projects or competencies, or a combination of these elements. Students share issues related to implementation of the DNP role in a seminar format.

**7370. The Quality Imperative (3:3:0 WE).** Course provides an opportunity for doctoral students to study cutting edge issues in quality improvement and risk management in nursing.

**Elective Cognate/Elective (3:3:0 WE)** This is an elective that will support an area of students interest.

## SCHOOL OF NURSING

### FACULTY

**Acton, Cindy, MSN, RN**, Assistant Professor – BSN (West Texas A&M), MSN (West Texas A&M), DNSc in progress (Case Western Reserve University)

**Allen, Patricia, EdD, RN, CNE**, Associate Professor & Director of Center for Innovation in Nursing Education (CINE) – BSN (Old Dominion University), MSN (The Catholic University of America), PhD (Florida International University)

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**Curran, Terry, MSN, RN, MS, FNP**, Instructor of Clinical Nursing & Clinic Services Director – BSN (Angelo State University) MS (Abilene Christian University)

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