



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY
HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER™

School of Nursing

ACADEMIC CATALOG | 2016-2017



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The School of Nursing *Catalog*, an official publication of Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center (TTUHSC), contains policies, regulations, procedures, programs, courses, schedules and fees in effect when the *Catalog* is posted on the website. A student is expected to complete the degree requirements set forth in the School of Nursing *Catalog* in effect at the time the student enters the program. Students readmitted to the TTUHSC School of Nursing are expected to complete the degree requirements set forth in the *Catalog* that is current at the time of readmission. A student registering for the first time at TTUHSC during a summer semester is subject to the degree requirements set forth in the *Catalog* effective for the fall semester immediately following the summer semester. 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 the provisions are applicable during the stated school year. Other conditions of graduation and the curriculum program are outlined in detail in the School of Nursing *Student Handbook*.

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

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



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Mission

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

Vision

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

Core Values

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

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



Welcome to the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center School of Nursing.
You have made an excellent choice for a comprehensive, state-of-the-art nursing education.

We have an outstanding, innovative faculty with the highest quality of ideas and educational methods who are motivated to help you achieve academic success and a promising future as a health care professional.

When you complete your studies and graduate, you will join our distinguished group of alumni from the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center who are serving patients, conducting research and teaching across Texas and the nation.

Thank you for joining our Texas Tech family. Best wishes for a rewarding and successful future!

***Robert L. Duncan, Chancellor
Texas Tech University System***

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

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

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

***Tedd Mitchell, MD, President
Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center***

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

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

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

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





About TTUHSC

TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER INSTITUTIONAL ADMINISTRATION

Board of Regents

Mickey L. Long, Chairman
 Debbie Montford, Vice Chairwoman
 Larry K. Anders
 John D. Steinmetz
 John Esparza
 L. Frederick "Rick" Francis
 Tim Lancaster
 Ronnie Hammonds
 Christopher M. Huckabee
 Victoria Messer, Student Regent
 Ben W. Lock, Secretary
 Christina Martinez, Executive Secretary

Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center

Robert L. Duncan, Chancellor
 Tedd Mitchell, MD, President of the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center
 Steven L. Berk, MD, Executive Vice President, Provost, Dean School of Medicine
 Elmo Cavin, Executive Vice President for Finance and Administration
 P. Michael Conn, PhD, Senior Vice President for Research and Associate Provost
 Rial Rolfe, PhD, Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs
 Chip Shaw, EdD, Vice President for Information Technology and Chief Information Officer
 Billy U. Philips, Jr., PhD, Executive Vice President for Rural and Community Health

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. Mittermeyer -Interim (2006-2007)
 John C. Baldwin, President (2007- 2009)
 Tedd Mitchell, President (2010-present)

School of Nursing Deans

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

Mission

The mission of the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center is to improve the health of people by providing high quality educational opportunities to students and health care professionals, advancing knowledge through scholarship and research, and providing patient care and service.

Vision

Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center will become a nationally recognized health sciences university.

Brief History

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

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

and heterogeneous backgrounds in educational and life experiences.

TTUHSC has as its major objectives the provision of quality education and development of academic, research, patient care, and community service programs to meet the health care needs of West Texas, which in total is comprised of 108 counties and represents 50% of Texas' land mass and 11% of its total population. This 131,000 square mile service area and population of 2.7 million has been, and remains highly underserved by health professionals and accessible health care facilities, despite the substantial and meaningful contribution made by our institution. Demographic shifts in West Texas populations, as well as socioeconomic and epidemiologic characteristics of its sub-groups, create major and specific demands for service. While education of students and residents remains the primary focus of the institution, there has been an important impact on the health status of West Texas. The lack of a single locus of population density has resulted in the regionalization of medical and health care education and patient care on multiple geographically separated campuses. In providing an excellent quality undergraduate, graduate, and continuing health professional education at each site, the health needs of the larger community have been better met and relevant indices of health status demonstrate significant improvement. To continue to provide excellent health care for the people of West Texas, a special effort is made to recruit applicants from West Texas and from rural and border communities. Students from these areas are more likely to service their home regions upon graduation, which ensures the long-term perpetuation of quality health care in West Texas and that the objectives of TTUHSC are continually met.

Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center Accreditation

Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges

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

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

Diversity and Inclusion

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

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

OTHER SCHOOLS AT TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER

[Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences](#)

The mission of the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences is to educate the next generation of scientists and health-related professionals in a dynamic and productive research environment that fosters creativity and discovery. The Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences offers programs

leading to MS and PhD degrees in Biochemistry and Molecular Genetics, Biotechnology, Cell and Molecular Biology, Cell Physiology and Molecular Biophysics, Immunology and Infectious Diseases as well as Pharmacology and Neuroscience. Additionally, a Master's Degree is offered in Public Health. The school structures programs to provide a wide variety of opportunities for the development of special research and teaching interests. Consulting with a faculty advisory committee, each student participates in the design of a personalized course of study.

[School of Health Professions](#)

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

[School of Medicine](#)

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

[School of Pharmacy](#)

The School of Pharmacy's mission is to enhance the lives of the diverse people of Texas and

beyond through excellence and innovation in educating health care practitioners, researchers, and educators; providing pharmaceutical care and service; and advancing knowledge through scholarship and research. The School of Pharmacy offers the Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) as the single professional degree. The PharmD is a 4-year professional program, requiring at least two years of pre-professional studies to be completed at any accredited college or university. The School offers programs in Amarillo, Dallas/Fort Worth, Lubbock, and Abilene. The Abilene campus enrolled its inaugural class of 40 students in August 2007. The school also provides continuing education courses for pharmacists practicing in Texas.



About TTUHSC School of Nursing

Brief History

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

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

The TTUHSC School of Nursing is known for innovation in nursing education, excellent student

retention and graduation rates, above national average National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) scores, and producing well-prepared nurses for West Texas and beyond.

School of Nursing Accreditation

In November 1982, the undergraduate program received full accreditation from the Board of Nursing for the State of Texas and in December 1983, the National League for Nursing (NLN) granted initial accreditation, which was retroactive prior to the first graduation in June, 1983. The graduate program received initial accreditation in March 1992. Graduate and undergraduate degrees were accredited by NLN Accrediting Commission until 2005. From 2005, forward, the Traditional BSN, RN to BSN, Accelerated Second Degree BSN, and Master's in Nursing (MSN) degrees were accredited by the Commission for Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE). The Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree was accredited by CCNE in 2010. Traditional BSN, RN to BSN, Second Degree Accelerated BSN, Master's in Nursing, and Doctor of Nursing Practice degrees are accredited by CCNE, One Dupont Circle, NW Suite 530, Washington, DC, 20036; (202) 463-6930; www.aacn.nche.edu.

The Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center School of Nursing, Nurse Midwifery program, for master's degree and post master certificate is accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Midwifery Education (ACME). For inquiries

about accreditation, please contact ACME at 8403 Colesville Road Suite 1550 Silver Spring, MD 20910-6374, www.midwife.org/acme, email acme@acnm.org.

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

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

SCHOOL OF NURSING ADMINISTRATION

Michael L. Evans, PhD, RN, FAAN

Professor and Dean

UMC Endowed Chair for Excellence in Nursing

ACADEMIC DEPARTMENTS

Traditional BSN Undergraduate Department

Traditional BSN Program

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Associate Dean and Department Chair

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Ann Hagstrom, MSN, RN, CNE

Assistant Professor, Traditional BSN Program

Director of Admissions/Progressions

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MSN Advanced Practice RN Program (Nurse Practitioner and Nurse Midwifery Tracks) and DNP Program (APRN Track)

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MSN Leadership Programs (Administration, Education, and Informatics) and DNP Program

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Abilene

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ACADEMIC SERVICES

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

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

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

Research

Associate Dean - Alyce Ashcraft, PhD, RN, CNE, ANEF

Faculty within the School of Nursing also have the choice of developing a research program.

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

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

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



Student Support

ADMISSIONS and STUDENT AFFAIRS

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Eligibility Requirements

CORE CURRICULUM

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

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

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

- **Social Responsibility** – includes intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.

Core Curriculum Requirements

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

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

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

CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK (CBC)

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

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

In accordance with [TTUHSC OP 10.20](#), students in the School of Nursing shall self-disclose relevant criminal history record information no later than five (5) business days following the

charge of a crime. Failure to self-disclose may result in dismissal or withdrawal of acceptance from the university.

Additional background checks are required after a break in enrollment in accordance with [TTUHSC OP 10.20](#).

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

DRUG SCREENING

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

ESSENTIAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE SCHOOL OF NURSING

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

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

1. Work in a standing position and do frequent walking for twelve hours.
2. Lift and transfer patients, both adult and children, from a stooped position up to six inches from surface, and push or pull the weight of an adult up to three feet.
3. Lift and transfer patients, both adult and children from a stooped to an upright position to accomplish bed to-chair and chair-to-bed transfers.
4. Use hands, wrists, and arms to physically apply up to ten pounds of pressure in the performance of specific procedures (e.g., to control bleeding, perform CPR).
5. Respond and react immediately to verbal instructions and requests, auditory sounds from monitoring equipment, and perform auditory auscultation of patients. Abilities to monitor and assess health needs therefore must be able to hear monitor alarms, emergency signals, all auscultatory sounds, and cries for help.

6. Be able to move freely and physically maneuver in small spaces. Possess sufficient visual acuity to perform close and distant visual activities involving objects, persons, and paperwork, as well as the ability to discriminate depth and color perception.
7. Read calibrated scales of one-hundredth increments in not more than a three-inch distance.
8. Possess sufficient fine motor skills and eye-hand coordination to use small instruments and equipment.
9. Discriminate between sharp and dull, hot and cold.
10. Perform mathematical calculations for preparation and administration of medication in a timely manner.
11. Communicate effectively, both orally and in writing, using appropriate grammar, spelling, vocabulary and word usage.
12. Comprehend verbal and written directions and make appropriate notations.
13. Access patient/client information electronically and document care provided.
14. Develop the ability to make appropriate and timely decision under stressful situations.
15. Demonstrate sufficient endurance to complete a twelve hour clinical and/or simulation laboratory experience.

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

GENERAL EDUCATION COMPETENCIES

At Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, we expect students to enter the institution with a foundation in certain basic intellectual competencies. These include

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

IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS

Students are expected to maintain a general state of good health. Failure to maintain documentation of immunization requirements in the appropriate departmental office can result in exclusion from clinical practice and a hold being placed on school records. The below information

must be on file for a complete immunization record while enrolled in the School of Nursing.

Students should contact the Managing Director in the Office of Institutional Health/TTUHSC Infection Control for the most up-to-date information on obtaining immunizations by calling (806) 743-3019.

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

Other specialty-related immunizations or testing may be recommended to a student or may be

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

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

NCLEX-RN EXAMINATION ELIGIBILITY

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

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

For any criminal offense, including those pending appeal, have you:

- Been convicted of a misdemeanor?
- Been convicted of a felony?
- Pled nolo contendere, no contest, or guilty?
- Received deferred adjudication?
- Been placed on community supervision or court-ordered probation, whether or not adjudicated guilty?

- Been sentenced to serve jail or prison time? court-ordered confinement?
- Been granted pre-trial diversion?
- Been arrested or have any pending criminal charges?
- Been cited or charged with any violation of the law?
- Been subject of a court-martial; Article 15 violation; or received any form of military judgment/ punishment/action?

(You may only exclude Class C misdemeanor traffic violations.)

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

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

NOTE: Expunged and Sealed Offenses:

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

NOTE: Orders of Non-Disclosure:

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

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

The Nurse Practice Act (<http://www.bon.texas.gov/nursinglaw/npa.html>) was amended during the 2005 Texas legislative session, adding Texas Occupations Code § [301.4535](#), to authorize the Board of Nursing to deny or revoke licensure

to an individual for certain criminal offenses. Under the provision, the BON shall refuse or withdraw a license if the person has been convicted of an identified offense or has noted on his or her criminal record a plea of guilty or nolo contendere. The Texas Board of Nursing may consider eligibility for licensure of an applicant, after the fifth anniversary of the successful completion of and dismissal from probation or parole. The criminal offenses barring licensure, as defined by Texas Penal Code, include the following: murder; capital murder; reckless manslaughter; kidnapping, unlawful restraint, or unlawful transport of a person for payment and punishable as a felony; sexual assault; aggravated sexual assault; indecency with a child, an elderly or disabled person; perpetrator of family violence, an agreement to abduct a child; the sale or purchase of a child; robbery; aggravated robbery; an offense that requires the individual to register as a sexual offender; and convictions for similar crimes in a military tribunal.

TEXAS SUCCESS INITIATIVE (TSI)

The Texas Success Initiative (TSI) mandates any student who is not exempt is required to take the Texas Higher Education Assessment (THEA), the Compass, Accuplacer, or Asset test to test for basic skills in the areas of reading, math, and writing.

TSI was implemented to ensure students enrolled in Texas public colleges and universities possess the necessary academic skills to succeed. The THEA test – a diagnostic assessment of reading, mathematics, and writing skills – must be taken by all entering undergraduate students without exempt or waived statuses. Students may also take the TSI approved tests: Accuplacer, Asset, or Compass.

Students may be exempt if they have high ACT, SAT, or TAKS test scores or have earned an associate's or baccalaureate degree (<http://www.depts.ttu.edu/registrar/tsi/> gives other exemptions) at an accredited Texas public institution of higher education or from a

regionally accredited out of state institution. Students may test with Accuplacer through Academic Testing Services, Room 214 West Hall, (806) 742-3671 for Texas Higher Education Assessment (THEA) test registration or to take practice THEA test, go to www.thea.nesinc.com. More information on the TSI can be found at TSI Compliance Office website <http://www.depts.ttu.edu/registrar/tsi/> or 742-3661.



Student Information

Activities, Athletics, Entertainment, and Recreation

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

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

For information about student organizations, fraternities, or sororities you may contact the TTUHSC Student Services office at (806) 743-2300 or online at <http://www.ttuhs.edu/student-services/>.

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

Awards

The School of Nursing participates in and offers awards including:

- Excellence In Nursing – Undergraduate and Graduate Students

Computer Requirements

Students spend a considerable amount of time utilizing resources available via the internet including but not limited to checking their TTUHSC e-mail while enrolled in the School of Nursing. All students must own a computer with broadband (fast internet) access to succeed in the chosen area of study; daily computer access is expected of all students.

NOTE:

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

students to have webcam capabilities for making videos of presentations, clinical activities, and for online proctoring of exams and quizzes.

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

Go to www.ttuhschool.edu/son/help/system-requirements.aspx for specific minimum computer system requirements.

Technical Skills

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

Employment

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

Health Services

Medical services for TTUHSC students are available at the Abilene, Amarillo, Dallas, Lubbock, and Permian Basin, campuses. Refer to the *TTUHSC Institutional Student Handbook*

online at www.ttuhschool.edu/student-services/.

Health Insurance

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

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

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

Housing

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

Interprofessional Education

All TTUHSC students, regardless of school affiliation, will be required to complete a non-credit, online course in interprofessional education. Implementation of this requirement will vary across schools and degree programs.

Students should consult their academic/program advisor for additional information.

Simulation

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

TTUHSC Libraries of the Health Sciences

The [TTUHSC Libraries of the Health Sciences](http://www.ttuhschool.edu/libraries/) provide facilities and learning/information resources with three physical sites in Lubbock, Amarillo, and Odessa. The TTUHSC Library system collections presently contain more than 275,563 bound volumes, of which over 219,397 are located in Lubbock and Odessa. Over 69,297 electronic books are also available. The system has 209 print journal subscriptions and approximately 27,129 electronic journals available at all TTUHSC sites. Over 14,610 audiovisuals are also available system-wide. The libraries feature study carrels, interlibrary loan and photocopy services, reference services, and Internet access/connectivity.

The TTUHSC Libraries provide electronic access to more than 574 databases including but not limited to: MEDLINE, PubMed, CINAHL Plus with Full Text, Nursing Reference Center, Anatomy.tv, Health and Psychosocial Instruments, LEXICOMP, MICROMEDEX, PsycINFO, MedlinePlus, EXAM MASTER online (NCLEXRN), Web of Knowledge, Scopus, ERIC, OVID full-text, Cochrane Databases, ClinicalKey, Science Direct eJournals, as well as general and academic TexShare databases. To meet the needs of all TTUHSC users including distance education, the TTUHSC Libraries provide

around-the-clock, seven-days-a-week access to several electronic library resources and services. All electronic holdings of the library are available for users through the use of the e-raider account.

Bibliographic tools such as RefWorks and Endnote, 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 libraries of the TTUHSC system have a common online catalog for access to holdings at all TTUHSC libraries.

- Preston Smith Library of the Health Sciences, a 50,000 square foot facility on the Lubbock campus, features 30 group study rooms and one computer classroom with 36 computers in the Learning Resource Center (LRC).
- Harrington Library of the Health Sciences in Amarillo, has two computer areas with 13 stations, 106 seats and 3 study rooms.
- Library of the Health Sciences in Odessa, has 63 study seats, 3 study rooms and 1 computer classroom with 18 work stations.

Textbooks

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

STUDENT SERVICES

TTUHSC Student Services is an institutional centralized information office providing an array of student support services. Student Services collaborates with the school's student affairs offices to offer assistance to aid in the success of TTUHSC students. For more information,

please visit their website: <http://www.ttuahsc.edu/student-services/>.

Graduation

Students planning to graduate **MUST** complete the *Intent to Graduate* form found [here](#). Students should create a “Diploma” address in WebRaider to ensure the diploma will be mailed to the proper address. The TTUHSC Student Services office uses the diploma address to mail the diploma only if the diploma is not picked up at commencement.

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

COUNSELING SERVICES

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

Program of Assistance for Students (PAS) is a professional, confidential, no cost counseling service for students and family members living in their households. Five sessions (per household) per academic year are available from licensed counselors who can provide assistance for a variety of problems related to daily living, including: family and relationship problems, depression, alcohol and drug abuse, anxiety, and stress. No information is released to anyone in the SON and use of the program does not become part of a student’s record. The brochure for PAS may be downloaded [here](#).

- **Abilene students** have two options for counseling services: Life Renovations (325) 672-7055 or Dr. Marc Orner, (325) 690-1313.
- **Amarillo students** should contact the

Professional Counseling Center at (806) 356-0404.

- **Austin students** should contact the Samaritan Center for Counseling at (512) 451-7337, then “0”.
- **Dallas students** should contact the Pastoral Counseling Center at (214) 526-4525.
- **Lubbock students** have two options for counseling services: the Student Counseling Center (SCC) or the Program of Assistance for Students (PAS). For information on the SCC go to the website <http://www.depts.ttu.edu/scc/>. Contact (806) 743-1327 or 1-800-327-0328 for PAS. Detailed information regarding PAS counseling is available [here](#).
- **Permian Basin students** should contact the Samaritan Counseling Center of West Texas, (432) 563-4144.
- **San Antonio area students** should contact the Institute for Couple and Family Enhancement, (210) 602-1898.
- **Off-campus distance education students** who want to receive counseling services should contact the Lubbock office of the Program of Assistance for Students at (800) 327-0328 or (806) 743-1327 to inquire about the availability of area counseling services.

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

SEXUAL HARASSMENT

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

The School of Nursing considers sexual harassment in all forms to be a serious offense subject to a range of actions up to and including suspension or dismissal. Sexual harassment is a violation of TTUHSC [OP 51.02](#) and [OP 51.03](#). Refer to the [TTUHSC Institutional Student Handbook](#) and the Title IX website located at <http://www.ttuahsc.edu/hr/Title9-Home.aspx>. Sexual harassment education is required for all students and is completed at the time of orientation. Contact the appropriate departmental office for further educational information and opportunities.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT APPLICATION POLICY

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

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

Applicants who are citizens of countries exempt from English proficiency requirement (considered to have English as the predominant language) include:

Australia, Canada (except the Province of Quebec), Commonwealth Caribbean countries (Anguilla, Antigua, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, British Virgin Islands, Bermuda, Cayman Islands, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Montserrat, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Trinidad and Tobago, and Turks and

Caicos Islands), Republic of Ireland, Liberia, New Zealand, United Kingdom (England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, Wales), and the United States.

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

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

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

ORGANIZATIONS

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

For purposes of promoting the TTUHSC School of Nursing, advisory bodies exist to maintain open communication between students and administration/faculty/staff:

- Undergraduate Department Advisory Council (UDAC)
- Non-Traditional Electronic Advisory Forums
- Graduate Department Chairs’ Advisory Council
- DNP Student Advisory Council.

Students also have opportunities to serve as Student Representatives on School of Nursing Councils. Through service on the Student Advisory Councils and the School of Nursing Councils, student representatives provide feedback to the faculty and administration on ways to improve the educational experience while enrolled in the School of Nursing. Student representatives may volunteer or are selected

by the appropriate department chair to serve on the Student Advisory Councils and School of Nursing Councils. Students are expected to represent fellow students by bringing forth issues of importance to be addressed. Department chairs reserve the right to invite faculty or staff as appropriate to address student concerns.

PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES

- [Iota Mu Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau, the International Nursing Honor Society](#)
Membership is by invitation and is based on outstanding scholarly activities.
- [Phi Kappa Phi](#)
Membership is by invitation to top performing juniors, seniors, and graduate students.
- [Golden Key](#)
Membership is by invitation to the top 15% of juniors, seniors, and graduate students.
- [Student Government Association \(SGA\)](#)
The Student Government Association is recognized as the governing student body at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center with representatives from the School of Health Professions, Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, School of Medicine, School of Nursing and School of Pharmacy. SGA Representatives assist in the promotion of student affairs and activities affecting all students throughout TTUHSC and encourage communication between the schools. Representatives are elected from the undergraduate and graduate programs. For more information regarding the Student Government Association, visit the Student Government Association's Webpage at <http://student.ttuhschool.edu/sga/>.
- [Texas Nursing Students' Association](#)
The Texas Nursing Students' Association grants membership to any student in an Associate Degree, Diploma, Baccalaureate, generic Masters, generic Doctoral program

preparing students for RN licensure, as well as RNs in a BSN completion program. This award winning group is highly active at school, state, and national levels. For more information, please visit <http://www.tnsa.org/>.

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

Tuition & Assistance

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 results in forfeiture of the offer of admission.

To enable the student to approximate expenses, the following table provides an estimated average cost per semester. This information is provided by the TTUHSC Student Business Services office. These estimates are based on the AY 2016-2017 (Fall, Spring, Summer) school year.

Please be aware the figures are **only** estimates.

Students may also go online to the Student Business Services website to see updates to tuition at any time. <http://www.fiscal.ttuhs.edu/busserv/bursar/>.

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

Estimated Tuition and Fees Per Semester - AY 2016-2017

	Traditional BSN Program Estimated 15 Semester Credit Hours		RN to BSN Program Estimated 15 Semester Credit Hours		Accelerated BSN Program Estimated 20 Semester Credit Hours		Graduate Program Estimated 9 Semester Credit Hours	
	Resident	Non Resident	Resident	Non Resident	Resident	Non Resident	Resident	Non Resident
Tuition	\$ 2,850	\$ 8,700	\$ 2,850	\$ 8,700	\$ 3,800	\$ 11,600	\$ 3,060	\$ 8,505
Fees	\$ 2,161	\$ 2,161	\$ 1,943	\$ 1,943	\$ 4,363	\$ 4,363	\$ 1,666	\$ 1,666
Books/Supplies	\$ 750	\$ 750	\$ 750	\$ 750	\$ 1,050	\$ 1,050	\$ 450	\$ 450
Housing/Food	\$ 4,151	\$ 4,151	\$ 4,982	\$ 4,982	\$ 4,982	\$ 4,982	\$ 5,616	\$ 5,616
Transportation	\$ 1,511	\$ 1,511	\$ 1,814	\$ 1,814	\$ 1,814	\$ 1,814	\$ 2,052	\$ 2,052
Personal/Misc.	\$ 2,966	\$ 2,966	\$ 3,560	\$ 3,560	\$ 3,560	\$ 3,560	\$ 3,173	\$ 3,173
TOTAL	\$ 14,389	\$ 20,239	\$ 15,899	\$ 21,749	\$ 19,519	\$ 27,319	\$ 16,017	\$ 21,462

Refund Policies for Tuition and Fees

Information concerning payments and refunds can be obtained from the TTUHSC Student Business Services Office website at <http://www.fiscal.ttuhs.edu/busserv/bursar/> or call (806) 743-7867 ext. 332 or 333. Fax: (806) 743-7873.

Tuition for Repeated or Excessive Undergraduate Hours

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

Students who were enrolled as an undergraduate student in any institution of higher education prior to Fall 1999 are exempt from this rule. Also, students enrolled as undergraduate students prior to Fall 2006 may not be charged a higher rate of tuition until the number of semester hours

previously attempted exceeds the number of hours required for the student’s degree program by 45 hours.

Financial Aid

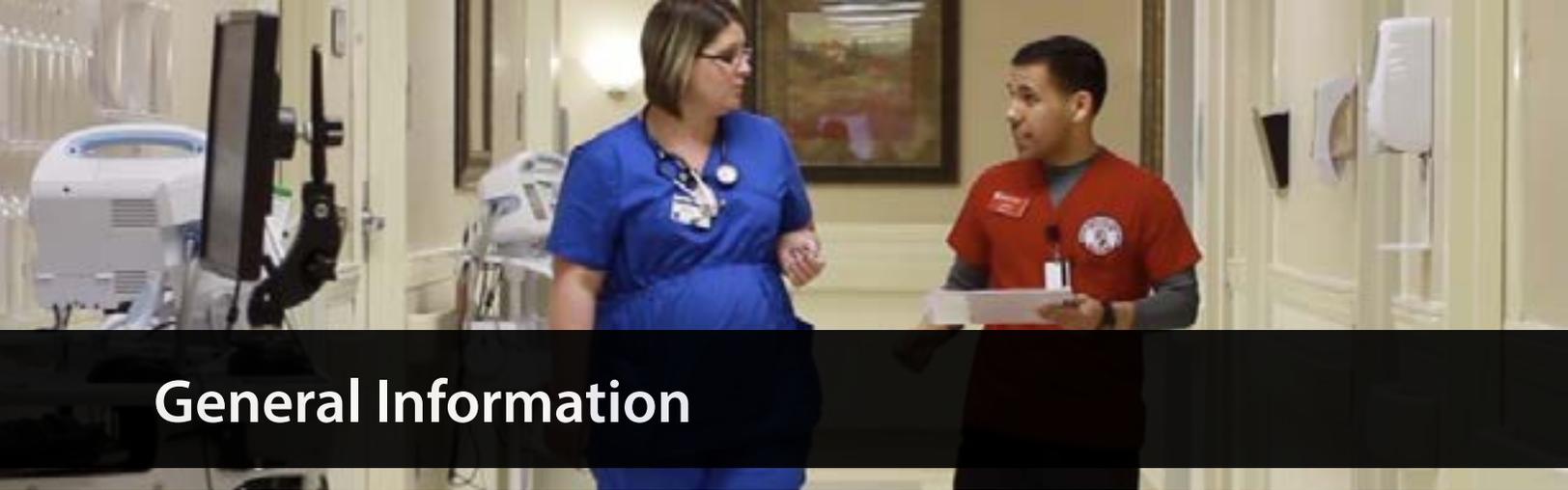
The TTUHSC Financial Aid Office provides grants and loans. Students can find information by calling (806) 743-3025, emailing financial.aid@ttuhsc.edu, or accessing www.ttuhs.edu/financialaid. All students interested in receiving grants, loans, and scholarships must have a completed Free Application for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

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

SCHOLARSHIPS

School of Nursing students are eligible for general scholarships and loans administered by the Financial Aid Office, Student Services Office, and Student Government Association. Some organizations, such as Lubbock Woman’s Club and the Lubbock Foundation provide scholarships on a consistent basis for nursing students. Scholarship eligibility is based upon the criteria as established by each donor and the TTUHSC School of Nursing. For further information regarding scholarships, please visit <http://www.ttuhs.edu/son/Scholarships/default.aspx> or contact: School of Nursing Scholarship Office at sonscholarships@ttuhsc.edu or call (806) 743-3581.

For information regarding grants, loans, and policies, please visit: TTUHSC Financial Aid Office online at <http://www.ttuhs.edu/financialaid/> or contact via email: financial.aid@ttuhsc.edu or call (806) 743-3025.



General Information

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

([TTUHSC OP 77.14](#))

Students seeking accommodations on the basis of disability must register with the office of TTUHSC Student Services at www.ttuhschool.edu/student-services/ada/default.aspx. The ADA Compliance Officer for Students will notify the appropriate School of Nursing Department Chair of the student's need for accommodations. Review the TTUHSC ADA policy located on the TTUHSC Student Services website. For further information, see www.ttuhschool.edu/student-services/ada/default.aspx.

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

([TTUHSC OP 52.02](#) & [SON OP 10.050](#))

The School of Nursing is dedicated to ensuring each student is current in issues related to nursing practice and research. One such regulation includes the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA).

- Each student is required to provide proof of education in HIPAA training.
- The training requirements vary by program; the student receives information regarding HIPAA training as part of new student orientation and is asked to sign a Confidentiality Agreement prior to the beginning of the initial semester of enrollment.
- Proof of training is kept electronically and only accessible to the School of Nursing Student Affairs Office and the TTUHSC

Privacy Officer.

- Those who cannot show proof are not allowed to attend clinical.
- Release of confidential information (including verbal communications, written communications or electronic communications with or about patients or involving patient health information to anyone who does not need the information for treatment, payment or health care operation) is a cause for dismissal from the School.
- Certificates of compliance are not transferable from another institution because HIPAA certification is institution specific. Thus, all students must take the TTUHSC HIPAA training and provide evidence of compliance certification.

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

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

provided to students under FERPA, 34 C.F.F. 99.7, unless individual TTUHSC schools annually notify their students of FERPA rights otherwise. See [TTUHSC OP 77.13](#) for additional information regarding student education records.

Tobacco Free Environment

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

State Privacy Policies (§559.003)

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

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

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

to correct information about an individual.

Participation in Assessments - Student Feedback

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

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

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

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

Students have an additional opportunity to provide feedback six months after graduation by completing the Alumni Assessment and asking the employer to complete the Employer

Assessment. The School of Nursing contacts the student by either emailing the links to the student’s non-TTUHSC email address or mails the Alumni and Employer assessments to the permanent address listed with the TTUHSC Registrar’s office at the time of graduation. Students should notify the Registrar of changes to permanent address and the non-TTUHSC email information to ensure delivery.

Degree Programs and Options



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Undergraduate Departments

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

Purpose

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

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon degree program completion, graduates will be able to:

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



Undergraduate Programs

Traditional BSN Program.....	Page 41
RN to BSN Program.....	Page 59
Accelerated BSN Program.....	Page 71

program is offered at our campuses in Abilene, Lubbock and the Permian Basin.

APPLICATION DATES

Fall 2016	Nov. 15 - Jan. 15
Spring 2017	June 1 - Aug. 31
Summer 2017	Nov. 15 - Jan. 15
Fall 2017	Dec. 1 - Feb 1

TRADITIONAL BSN PROGRAM

Kathryn Sridaromont, PhD, MSN
Associate Dean and Department Chair

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

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

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

Ruth Bargainer, MSN, RN, CNE
Regional Program Director

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

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

ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

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

Academic Requirements

- Minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 All grades earned at all schools attended are calculated in the admission grade point average;
- All non-nursing course prerequisites must be completed with a grade of C or better prior to enrollment;
- At time of application submission, applicants must have completed and/or have enrollment verification to support completion of the required non-nursing prerequisite courses. A minimum of 40 credit hours of the required non-nursing prerequisite courses (57 hours total), including completion of at least three of the four required lab-science courses: Chemistry with lab (4 hours), Human Anatomy I (4 hours), Physiology II (4 hours),

- and/or Microbiology with lab (4 hours);
- Completion of the TEAS (Test of Essential Academic Skills) V (or most current) examination with a minimal proficiency level in all the following areas: Reading, Math, Science, English and Language usage;
- Grades earned in science core courses – Chemistry, Anatomy and Physiology I & II, Microbiology, and Pathophysiology are required to have a minimal GPA of 2.75. Consideration is given for repetition of science courses; and
- Letter of academic good standing if prior enrollment in nursing program.

Non-Academic Admission Considerations

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

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

NCLEX-RN Examination Eligibility

See NCLEX-RN Examination Eligibility on page 28.

Tuition for Repeated or Excessive Undergraduate Hours

See Tuition for Repeated or Excessive Undergraduate Hours on page 38.

Computer Requirements

See Computer Requirements on page 31.

Criminal Background Checks

See Criminal Background Check Requirements on page 25.

Immunizations

See Immunization Requirements on page 27.

Drug Screening

Drug screenings may be necessary if required by the clinical institution site. The cost of all drug screens are the responsibility of the student.

Provisional Admission

Provisional admission is not available for the Traditional BSN Program.

Conditional Admission

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

Readmission

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

Transfer Admission

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

the School of Nursing previously attended.

Special Student Enrollment

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

Enrollment without Credit/Course Audit

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

PREREQUISITE COURSES and REQUIREMENTS

The prerequisite course requirements listed should be completed with a grade of “C” or higher in each course prior to enrollment in the first nursing course. These requirements as detailed in the following table include a total of 57 semester credit hours and can be taken at any regionally accredited college or university. A maximum of 15 credit hours can be earned via credit by examination.

The prerequisite courses listed in the following table for the Traditional BSN Program also incorporates the 42 hours of the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center Core Curriculum for undergraduate nursing degrees. Please see **Core Curriculum Requirements on page 24** to review the Texas Core Curriculum requirements.

Important Information about Prerequisite Course Requirements

- Pass/Fail grades are not accepted for credit toward degree requirements.
- Applicants may choose to request grades

for all non-nursing courses greater than 10 years old not be considered in the GPA for admission. If this option is selected, the credits excluded are not eligible for prerequisite course consideration and must be retaken for credit. The applicant must have at least 34 credit hours within the past 10 years to use this option.

- Grades earned at all schools attended are calculated in the admission grade point average. The quality points and semester credit hours used to calculate the cumulative grade point average for admission to the School of Nursing are taken from the official transcripts submitted during the application process.

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

Traditional BSN Program Prerequisite Coursework Table

LIFE and PHYSICAL SCIENCES	HOURS
Pathophysiology (ZOOL3303 or equivalent)	3
Microbiology (BIOL2420 or BIOL2421)	4
Human Anatomy (BIOL2401)	4
Human Physiology (BIOL2402)	4
Chemistry (CHEM1305/1105 or CHEM1406/CHEM1411)	4
HUMAN SCIENCES	
Introduction to Nursing as a Profession (HUSC 3221)	2
SOCIAL and BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES	
General Psychology (PSY2301)	3
Life Span Growth and Development (PSY2314)	3
MATHEMATICS	
Statistics (MATH1342, 1442, 2342 or 2442)	3
HUMAN ECOLOGY	
Food and Nutrition (BIOL1322)	3
AMERICAN HISTORY	
United States History I (HIST1301)	3
United States History II (HIST1302)	3
GOVERNMENT/POLITICAL SCIENCES	
Federal Government (GOVT2305)	3
Texas Government (GOVT2306)	3
COMMUNICATION	
English Composition I (ENGL1301)	3
English Composition II (ENGL1302)	3
CREATIVE ARTS	
Any Texas core approved course in creative arts	3
LANGUAGE, PHILOSOPHY, and CULTURE	
Any Texas core approved course in language, philosophy, or culture	3
TOTAL	57

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

RECOGNITION OF PREVIOUS NURSING LEARNING

Transfer of Credit

- Applicants requesting admission to either 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 Associate Dean for Student Affairs and/or Department Chair. Final determination regarding applicability of completed course work toward degree requirements lies with the Associate Dean/ Department Chair.
- Course equivalencies for transfer credit are assessed based upon the catalog course description or the course syllabus and/or notes provided by the student. Generally, courses of equivalent course content completed with the grade of "C" or higher at any accredited educational institution will be accepted for transfer credit toward degree requirements.
- Applicants are encouraged to meet with the School of Nursing Student Affairs Coordinator for the appropriate program to discuss applicability of transfer credit for degree purposes.
- Credit for nursing courses cannot be earned via credit by examination.

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

OFFER OF ADMISSION

Offers of admission will be made from the Traditional BSN Department Chair approximately eight (8) weeks following the application deadline. Applicants are required to respond to the offer of admission no later than the deadline stated in the letter offering admission by returning a \$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 PROGRAM

Graduation Under a Particular Catalog

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

Maintaining Minimum Academic Requirements

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

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

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

Comprehensive Examinations

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

Residence Credit

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

Semester Credit Hours and Course Loads

The semester credit hour is the unit of measure for credit purposes. Didactic (lecture) hours are measured on a one-to-one basis; clinical hours are measured on a one-to-three basis. Approximately two hours in preparation for each hour of lecture or recitation and an appropriate amount of time for preparation for clinical activity is required. The number of semester credit hours a student may carry (course load) is regulated by the Department Chair. In determining course 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.

Traditional BSN students are required to complete 57 hours of prerequisite courses and 63 hours of nursing courses, totaling 120 credit hours.

<p>Traditional BSN Undergraduate Program: 57 Semester Hours from general education prerequisite courses 63 Semester Hours from the Traditional BSN Undergraduate curriculum <hr/> 120 Semester Hours BSN</p>
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DEGREE PLAN

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

Sample Degree Plan - Traditional BSN Undergraduate Program

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

Level 2		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 3512	Complex Concepts of Nursing Care I, CL	(5:4:3 F)
NURS 3502	Mental & Behavioral Health Nursing, CL	(5:3:6 F)
NURS 3450	Concepts of Community and Public Health Nursing, CL	(4:3:3 F)
NURS 3212	Integrated Learning II, CL	(2:1.5:1.5 F)
Total Semester Hours		16

Level 3		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 4406	Complex Concepts of Nursing Care II	(4:4:0 F)
NURS 4202	Complex Concepts of Nursing Care II: Application to Practice I, CL	(2:0:6 F)
NURS 4407	Nursing Care of Families with Children, CL	(4:3:3 F)
NURS 4322	Scholarship for Evidence-Based Practice	(3:3:0 F)
NURS 4319	Leadership in Interprofessional Practice	(3:3:0 F)
NURS 4102	Integrated Learning III, CL	(1:0.5:1.5 F)
Total Semester Hours		17

Level 4		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 4620	Professional Transitions of Nursing Care, CL	(6:3:9 F)
NURS 4203	Complex Concepts of Nursing Care II: Application to Practice II, CL	(2:0:6 F)
NURS 4103	Nursing Care of Families with Children: Application to Practice, CL	(1:0:3 F)
NURS 4520	Integrated Learning IV: Clinical Immersion	(5:*:*)
Total Semester Hours		14

Total Credit Hours		63
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TRADITIONAL BSN PROGRAM COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

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

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

KEY:

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

3000 Level Courses

3030. Independent Study in Nursing* (V1-6 F or O)

(Prerequisite: Consent of instructor and Traditional BSN Program Department Chair.)
Topic and objectives of study are mutually agreed upon by the student and selected faculty member. Independent study agreement formalizes the plan for study and guides evaluation. Semester hours and course may be repeated as topic and/or objective of study change.

3040. Special Topics in Nursing* (V1-6 F, O)

(Prerequisite: Consent of instructor and Traditional BSN Program Department Chair)

Designed to focus on subjects of special interest to groups of students. May be repeated for credit as topics vary.

3208. Integrated Learning I (CL) (2:1.5:1.5 F)

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

3212. Integrated Learning II (CL) (2:1.5:1.5 F)

(Prerequisites: NURS3604, NURS3511, NURS3322, NURS3208. Corequisites: NURS3512, NURS3502, NURS3450.) This course integrates knowledge from complex concepts of medical surgical, community health, behavioral, and mental health nursing care. Students apply this essential integrated knowledge to the mastery of designated nursing skill competencies. Clinical learning for these skills occurs in a simulated learning environment; using deliberate practice with various levels of fidelity of simulation and evaluation relies on formative/summative examinations.

3322. Health Promotion Across the Lifespan (3:3:0 F)

(Corequisite: Admission to the School of Nursing, NURS 3604, 3511, 3208.) This course provides an introduction to concepts of health promotion and maintenance across the lifespan with a focus on maintenance of functional capacity, physiologic changes, and access to health care. Emphasis will be placed on improving quality of life through routine health assessment, advocacy, and education for health promotion, risk reduction, and disease prevention across the lifespan.

3450. Concepts of Community and Public Health Nursing (CL)

(4:3:3 F)
(Prerequisites: NURS3604, NURS3511, NURS3322, NURS3208. Corequisites: NURS3512, NURS3502, NURS3212.) This course emphasizes public health and community nursing concepts essential for professional nursing practice. Focus is on the concepts of community health nursing practice, epidemiology and disease transmission, comprehensive assessment of risk factors and health problems, program planning and intervention, environmental health, collaboration with the interdisciplinary team, and promotion of healthy populations.

3502. Mental & Behavioral Health Nursing (5:3:6 F)

(Prerequisites: NURS 3604, 3511, 3322, 3208. Corequisites: NURS 3512, 3450, 3212.) This course emphasizes the concepts of altered mental health and the pathological processes associated with mental health disorders. The focus is on approaches to promote mental health/optimal function in the care of patients, groups, and families experiencing altered states of mental health utilizing evidence-based standards of care.

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

(Corequisite: Admission to the School of Nursing, NURS 3604, 3322, 3208.)

This course introduces principles of pharmacodynamics and pharmacotherapeutics. Classifications of drugs and the use of nursing process for safe medication administration is emphasized. The various components of drug therapy are explored including genetic, life span/age and cultural implications. Evidence-based practice and legal/ethical standards will guide the use of case studies and simulation of accurate dosage calculations, medication administration, and methods of documentation.

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

(Prerequisites: NURS 3604, 3511, 3322, 3208. Corequisites: NURS 3450, 3502, 3212.) This course emphasizes chronic care nursing concepts essential for professional nursing practice in a variety of settings. Special focus is on the concepts of aging, health promotion, disease prevention, and genetics as well as illness management. Clinical judgment and reasoning and the integration of therapeutic nursing skills will be demonstrated through case study analysis and critical thinking activities according to contextual priorities.

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

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

4000 Level Courses

4102. Integrated Learning III (CL) (1:0.5:1.5 F)

(Prerequisites: NURS 3604, 3511, 3322, 3208, 3512, 3450, 3502, 3212. Corequisites: NURS 4406, 4202, 4407, 4322, 4319.) This course integrates knowledge from advanced concepts of medical surgical, leadership and management, scholarship of evidence-based practice and nursing care of families. Students apply this integrated knowledge to the obtainment of designated nursing skill competencies. Clinical learning for these skills occurs in a simulated learning environment; using

deliberate practice with various levels of fidelity of simulation with evaluation utilizing formative and summative examinations.

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

(Prerequisites: NURS 3604, 3511, 3322, 3208, 3512, 3450, 3502, 3212, 4406, 4202, 4407, 4322, 4319, 4102. Corequisites: NURS 4203, 4408, 4620) This clinical laboratory experience provides opportunities to care for children, families, and communities in obstetrical and pediatric settings using evidence-based knowledge from the theory courses.

4202. Complex Concepts of Nursing Care: Application to Practice I (CL)
(2:0:6 F)

(Prerequisites: NURS 3604, 3511, 3322, 3208, 3512, 3450, 3502, 3212. Corequisites: NURS 4406, 4407, 4322, 4319, 4102.) This course provides opportunities for students to synthesize generalist nursing roles of provider and manager of care in the clinical and simulated acute care setting. Clinical judgment, reasoning and therapeutic nursing skills necessary in the acute care delivery are demonstrated in the application of evidence-based nursing care through simulated case studies and weekly clinical experiences.

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

(Prerequisites: NURS 3604, 3511, 3322, 3208, 3512, 3450, 3502, 3212, 4406, 4202, 4407, 4322, 4319, 4102. Corequisites: NURS 4103, 4408, 4620) This course provides opportunities for students to synthesize generalist nursing roles of provider, manager of nursing care in clinical and simulated acute care settings. Simulated case studies and weekly clinical experiences will provide the opportunity for students to demonstrate nursing skills appropriate for care of the patient experiencing acute care needs. Evidence-based practice will be a major focus as will be safety and

quality processes for clinical evaluation.

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

(Prerequisites: 3604, 3511, 3322, 3208, 3512, 3450, 3502, 3212. Corequisites: 4406, 4202, 4407, 4322, 4102.) This course surveys the role of the nurse as a leader, a manager and a member of an interprofessional team. The student is introduced to key concepts in systems theory, change theory, management and leadership theory, conflict resolution, quality improvement, and financial concepts. The opportunity to examine staffing and delegation strategies, as well as legal and ethical modalities that impact nursing practice will be included.

4322. Scholarship for Evidence-based Practice (3:3:0 F)

(Prerequisites: NURS 3604, 3511, 3322, 3208, 3512, 3450, 3502, 3212. Corequisites: NURS 4406, 4202, 4407, 4319, 4102.) This course focuses on exploring the theory and methods of evidence-based practice with emphasis on the role in providing quality patient-centered care in the medical/surgical setting. The dialogue of asking and answering of clinical nursing questions through the synthesis of current literature and analysis of clinical practice guidelines is a major emphasis.

4406. Complex Concepts of Nursing Care II (4:4:0 F)

(Prerequisites: NURS 3604, 3511, 3322, 3208, 3512, 3450, 3502, 3212. Corequisites: NURS 4202, 4407, 4322, 4319, 4102.) This course emphasizes acute care nursing concepts essential for professional nursing practice in complex adult medical/surgical environments. Advanced clinical judgment, reasoning and therapeutic nursing skills are demonstrated in the application of evidence-based nursing care through the use of a case study analysis with increasing complexities and critical thinking activities. The focus is on complex disease management including environmental factors, genetic risks, and nursing

care of the patient and family experiencing complex care needs.

4407. Nursing Care of Families with Children (CL)
(4:3:3 F)

(Prerequisites: NURS 3604, 3511, 3322, 3208, 3512, 3450, 3502, 3212. Corequisites: 4406, 4202, 4322, 4319, 4102.) This course emphasizes essential nursing concepts related to the safe delivery of quality nursing care to families with children. The focus is on the childbearing family unit from preconception through birth to care of the child appropriate to age and development. Emphasis is placed upon the nursing role and communication within an interdisciplinary team, patient safety, and evidence-based nursing care.

4520. Integrated Learning IV: Clinical Immersion (5:*:*)

(Prerequisites: NURS 3604, 3511, 3322, 3208, 3512, 3450, 3502, 3212, 4406, 4202, 4407, 4322, 4319, 4102. Corequisites: NURS 4203, 4103, 4620.) This course is designed to focus on subjects of special interest to groups of students. This course provides a clinical immersion experience for the student preparing to transition to practice in the clinical specialty area of the student's choice. Opportunity for integration of knowledge, concepts and skills from all four levels of curriculum will occur.

4620. Professional Transitions in Nursing Care (CL)
(6:3:9 F)

(Prerequisites: NURS 3604, 3511, 3322, 3208, 3512, 3450, 3502, 3212, 4406, 4202, 4407, 4322, 4319, 4102. Corequisites: NURS 4203, 4103, 4520.) This course focuses on the role of the professional nurse using evidence-based practice and quality standards to deliver safe holistic care to the culturally diverse complex client and family. Emphasis is on the transition of the student nurse into a professional role which includes their ability to apply concepts related to interprofessional

teamwork, informatics and patient-centered care.

RN to BSN PROGRAM

*Melinda Mitchell Jones, MSN, JD, RN,
Department Chair*

*Darlene Lacy, PhD, RN-C, CNE
Program Director*

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

For registered nurses with an associate degree or diploma, the RN to BSN Program (RN-BSN) provides the opportunity to receive a Bachelor's of Science in Nursing through web-based education. A full-time student has the opportunity to complete the degree in two semesters; however, students have the option to attend on a part-time basis. If a student elects to attend part-time, the student must complete the program in two years from the time of initial enrollment. Students are admitted in the fall, spring, and summer semesters.

Students will choose a two semester or three semester degree plan. If the student needs more than three semesters to finish the program, a leave of absence (LOA) should be filed.

APPLICATION DATES

Fall 2016	Dec. 15 - Feb. 15
Spring 2017	May 1 - July 15
Summer 2017	Sept. 15 - Nov. 15

ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

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

Academic Requirements

- Current RN License that is active and in good standing, without any restrictions or stipulations.
- A cumulative GPA is calculated for both prerequisites and nursing courses. Each must meet the minimum cumulative of 2.5. Courses

earned must be from an accredited institution.

- All prerequisite courses must be completed with a grade of "C" or better prior to beginning the program.
- Students must have NCLEX results prior to enrollment.
- A Test of English as Foreign Language (TOEFL) is required unless a degree has been earned from an accredited college/university in the US.
- All general education requirements (core curriculum) and prerequisites must be documented on official transcripts prior to enrollment in nursing courses.

Non-Academic Admission Considerations

- Prior enrollment within the Texas Tech University System
- Permanent resident of TTUHSC service area county
- First generation university student
- Bilingual
- Prior practice as a Registered Nurse
- Military service

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

Tuition for Repeated or Excessive Undergraduate Hours

See Tuition for Repeated or Excessive Undergraduate Hours on page 38.

Computer Requirements

See Computer Requirements on page 31.

Criminal Background Checks

See Criminal Background Check Requirements on page 25.

Drug Screening

Drug Screenings may be required if requested by the clinical institution site at the cost of the student.

Immunizations

See Immunization Requirements on page 27.

Provisional Admission

Provisional admission will only be granted to those students who have graduated from Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) schools who TTUHSC School of Nursing have current concurrent admissions agreements and who have submitted the form giving notice of an Intent to Seek Concurrent Admission at the start of their ADN program. These designations are noted in the letter of admission, along with the condition for removal of the provision. Provisionally admitted students may take one course, NURS 4381 Issues and Trends in Nursing. Once the student presents evidence of licensure as a registered nurse per admission guidelines, the student will be granted full admission to the RN-BSN Program. If a student is unsuccessful in passing the NCLEX, a leave of absence for one semester will be granted. If the student has not been licensed during the leave of absence, the student will be academically withdrawn and encouraged to reapply upon passage of the NCLEX.

Conditional Admission

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

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

The student with conditional admission is

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

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

Readmission

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

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

- 1) eligible and admit,
- 2) eligible pending space availability in nursing

courses and in sequence to date of action in relation to other readmission applicants, 3) not eligible.

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

Transfer Admission

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

Special Student Enrollment

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

Enrollment without Credit/Course Audit

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

PREREQUISITE COURSES and REQUIREMENTS

The prerequisite course requirements listed below should be completed with a grade of "C" or higher in each course prior to enrollment in the first nursing course. These requirements as detailed in the table below include a total of 52 semester credit hours and can be taken at any regionally accredited college or university. A maximum of 15 credit hours can be earned via credit by examination.

The prerequisite courses listed in the following table for the RN to BSN Program also incorporates the 42 hours of the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center Core Curriculum for undergraduate nursing degrees. Please see **Core Curriculum Requirements on page 24** to review the Texas Core Curriculum requirements.

Important Information about General Education and Associate Degree Nursing Course Requirements

- Pass/Fail grades for general education prerequisites are NOT accepted for credit toward degree requirements.
- Pass/Fail grades for nursing course prerequisites will be awarded a 2.0 grade value in determination of admission GPA. Students may not take any courses required for a degree in nursing as Pass-Fail.
- Courses previously taken as Pass-Fail will not be transferred for credit if the course is required for a School of Nursing Degree
- Applicants may choose to request grades for all non-nursing courses greater than 10 years old not be considered in the GPA for admission. If this option is selected, those credits excluded are not eligible for prerequisite course consideration. The applicant must have at least 34 credit hours within the past 10 years to use this option.
- Courses taken at Texas Tech University or any other college/university are not used in calculating the TTUHSC grade point average

once a student has been admitted to the School of Nursing. However, all grades earned at all schools attended are calculated in the admission grade point average. The quality points and semester credit hours used to calculate the cumulative grade point average for admission to the School of Nursing are taken from the official transcripts submitted during the application process.

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

RECOGNITION OF PREVIOUS NURSING LEARNING

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

Transfer of Credit

- Applicants must submit original copies of official college transcripts from all institutions in which the student has enrolled. These transcripts will be reviewed and course work evaluated by the program administrator's office. Final determination regarding applicability of completed course work toward degree requirements lies with the Associate Dean/Department Chair.
- Course equivalencies for transfer credit are assessed based upon the catalog course description or the course syllabus and/or notes provided by the student. Generally, courses of equivalent course content completed with the grade of "C" or higher at any accredited educational institution will be accepted for transfer credit toward degree requirements.

- The School of Nursing accepts courses completed via classroom, internet, correspondence, College Level Examination Program (CLEP) or advanced placement examination for which credit has been awarded and posted on an official transcript from an accredited college or university when determining completion of general education course requirements.
- No more than 54 general education course hours will be transferred, as well as a minimum of 36 hours of basic nursing education courses will be posted, for a total of 90 semester credit hours that may be transferred in fulfillment of RN-BSN degree requirements. (If a basic nursing program has less than 35 hours, details for this should be arranged with the Department Chair.) These transfer hours will be posted upon admission to the School of Nursing by the Registrar's office of TTUHSC, thus the RN-BSN student will be classified as a senior student upon entering TTUHSC School of Nursing.
- Applicants are encouraged to meet with or send transcripts to (fax is acceptable) the Student Affairs office to discuss applicability of transfer credit for degree purposes before submitting their application.

RN to BSN Program Prerequisite Coursework Table

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

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

OFFER OF ADMISSION

Offers of admission will be made from the RN to BSN Degree Department Chair approximately eight weeks following the application deadline. Applicants are required to respond to the offer of admission no later than the deadline stated in the letter offering admission by returning a \$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 PROGRAM

Graduation under a Particular Catalog

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

Maintaining Minimum Academic Requirements

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

Academic Dismissal

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

Residence Credit

The minimum credit required of each undergraduate RN to BSN student is 30 hours at TTUHSC. Final determination for completed course work toward degree requirements is with the Non-Traditional Undergraduate Department Chair.

Semester Credit Hours and Course Loads

The semester credit hour is the unit of measure for credit purposes. Didactic (lecture) hours are measured on a one-to-one basis; clinical hours are measured on a one-to-three basis. Approximately two hours in preparation for each hour of lecture or recitation and an appropriate amount of time for preparation for clinical activity is required. Non-Traditional Undergraduate enrollment in 12 or more credit hours per semester (6 or more credit hours in each summer session or 12 or more credit hours in a full summer session) constitutes full-time enrollment. The number of semester credit hours a student may carry (course load) is regulated by the Non-Traditional Undergraduate Department Chair, taking into account the quality of prior scholastic work performed and the types of courses involved. Permission is needed to enroll in more than 15 semester credit hours. Refer to example course loads in the sample degree plans for the RN to BSN student.

RN to BSN Program:

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

DEGREE PLAN

The following degree plan is provided as a sample degree plan for reference. This degree plan is designed for applicants with a RN license only. The information is provided here only as an overview of a basic course schedule of a full-time student and will vary depending on each student's ability to progress through the program. Degree plans are generally completed by the RN to BSN 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. When necessary, methods for limiting enrollment will be determined by the Non-Traditional Undergraduate Department Chair. All general education courses must be completed prior to enrollment. Students should discuss an appropriate academic and employment workload with the Non-Traditional Undergraduate Department Chair.

Degree plans are designed for completion of the RN to BSN Program either full-time in two semesters or part-time in three semesters. Students shall either select full-time or part-time options at time of enrollment. If a student is unable to complete the program in three semesters, the student must seek approval of the extended degree plan from the RN to BSN Program Director. Approval will only be granted for demonstration of an unexpected life event due to illness or change in job which has disrupted the student's progression of studies. A leave of absence (LOA) may be required until the student is able to return and commit to engaging in studies at a full-time or part-time level. All

degree requirements must be completed in two (2) calendar years from time of matriculation otherwise the student will be dismissed from the Program.

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

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

KEY:

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

Sample Degree Plan - RN to BSN Program

Semester 1		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 4373	Introduction of Evidence	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 4381	Issues and Trends in Nursing	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 4380	Nature of Nursing Theory	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 4374	Nursing Management and Leadership, CL	(3:2.5:0.5 O)
NURS 4383	Legal and Ethical Issues in Healthcare, CL	(3:2.5:0.5 O)
Total Semester Hours		15

Semester 2		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 4376	Population Focused Community Health, CL	(3:2.5:0.5 O)
NURS 4377	Risk Analysis and Implications for Practice, CL	(3:2.5:0.5 O)
NURS 4375	Information Systems and Quality Management	(3:3:0 O)
	Elective	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 4390	Baccalaureate Nursing Practice	(3:3:0 O)
Total Semester Hours		15

Total Credit Hours		30
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RN to BSN PROGRAM COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

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

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

KEY:

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

3000 Level Course

3365. Introduction and Exploration into the Multiple Aspects of Forensic Science (3:3:0 F)

(*Elective) Forensic science has multiple, significant procedures and guidelines which contribute to the medico legal 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.

4000 Level Courses

4308. Global Health Issues in Nursing

(3:3:0 O)
(*Elective) In order to provide competent care for diverse populations, it is important for nurses to have an awareness of global health issues. This course will provide an introduction to global health issues affecting nurses. The student will be exposed to a variety of global issues; including infectious diseases, non-infectious diseases, and non-disease related global issues that impact healthcare in developing and developed countries.

4311. Effective Care Coordination for Seniors

(3:3:0 O)
(*Elective) This course will explore the role of the nurse in care coordination for seniors. Systems of care needed to make care safer, ensure patient/family engagement and promote effective communication/coordination will be discussed in relation to care for seniors.

4315: Fine Arts in Healthcare

(3:3:0 O)
(Elective) This course will explore the physical, mental, and emotional benefits of the fine arts (visual, music, theatre and dance, literature, and folk art) and practical applications to nursing. Students will examine how the fine arts are used to promote healing, alleviate pain, facilitate disease management, enhance health education, communicate emotion, and relieve stress. Systems of care needed to make mental and physical improvement, ensure patient/family engagement and promote effective communication will be discussed in relation to all clinical specialties.

4331. Human Lactation

(3:3:0 O)
(*Elective) This course will examine the biological, environmental, sociological, and

political factors influencing human lactation. Evidence-based guidelines will be discussed in relation to current nursing practice. Field experiences will be required to provide students opportunities to investigate resources within their own communities and to further analyze the unique experience of a lactating mother and her breastfed child.

4363. Foundations of Holistic Nursing

(3:3:0 O)
(*Elective) Students will explore various perspectives related to health and healing processes, including concepts of self-care, presence, intentionality, and integrative modalities as a basis for holistic nursing practice. Contemporary research supporting evidence-based holistic practice is highlighted.

4364. Informatics in Nursing Practice

(3:3:0 O)
(*Elective) Students will explore the various uses of informatics in nursing practice and the healthcare setting including current technology initiatives, use of informatics in a variety of healthcare settings, decision support systems, and the impact of technology on nurse-patient relationships.

4365. Spirituality in Health Practice and Evidence Based Practice

(3:3:0 O)
(*Elective) This course is an exploration of spirituality in health care. Included in this course is an overview of different aspects related to spirituality and an exploration into avenues to strengthen the inclusion of spirituality in health care delivery with a focus on the evidence-based practice foundation for these avenues.

4366. Genomics in Nursing Practice

(3:3:0 O)
(*Elective) This course will increase the ability of the professional nurse to think genetically when approaching a clinical situation or problem that may not appear to be genetic in nature. The course

will examine basic mechanisms of inheritance and transmission of chromosomes and genes, understanding of genetic contributions to human diversity, and information about common inherited genetic disorders and conditions.

4367. Issues in Women's Health

(3:3:0 O)
(*Elective) This course provides the opportunity to explore women's health issues and their implications for health care.

4369. Health Law for the Nurse Leader

(3:3:0 O)
(*Elective) The course will immerse the student in major legal topics that confront nurses in their role as leaders in health care organizations. Students will explore when and how the law impacts the health care arena and the delivery of care.

4373. Introduction of Evidence

(3:3:0 O)
The course addresses pathways for engaging with appropriate evidence to advance the practice of nursing. Basic research concepts and evidence-based practice approaches will be used to prepare the students as consumers of evidence in order to ensure that practice is based on validated evidence. This course provides students with a foundation for evidence-based practice in synthesizing the professional role in nursing. The ability to function as competent consumers of evidence in nursing demands an understanding of what is evidence and basic research principles. This course describes various models of inquiry in nursing. Students will engage in discussions, reading, and evaluation of evidence and research reports to advance the practice of nursing.

4374. Nursing Management and Leadership

(CL)
(3:2.5:0.5 O)
This course builds on management and leadership concepts essential in professional nursing practice in the 21st 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.

4375. Information System and Quality Management

(3:3:0 O)

(Prerequisite: NURS 4374 or Corequisite: NURS 4374) This course will focus on information systems and quality processes to improve healthcare outcomes related to cost, safety, care coordination and quality management. Learning information systems and quality management concepts will prepare the student to function as a nursing leader in a variety of healthcare settings. Content will cover strategies to improve communication and manage information using technology to support decision making to improve patient care and delivery systems.

4376. Population Focused Community Health (CL)

(3:2.5:0.5 O)

(Prerequisites: NURS 4373 or 4380, 4381)

This course emphasizes population-focused nursing and community-oriented approaches to understanding and addressing public health concerns. The focus is on the concepts of population health assessment, planning, implementation, and evaluation of programs to improve community health.

4377. Risk Analysis and Implications for Practice (CL)

(3:2.5:0.5 O)

(Prerequisites: NURS 4374 or 4380, 4373) This course introduces the student to systems analysis as it relates to patient safety and risks reduction. Content will cover the role of the interprofessional healthcare team in identifying potential factors which lead to adverse medication events. Resources at the organizational, federal, state, and private level are reviewed in developing strategies that ensure care for vulnerable populations.

4380. Nature of Nursing Theory

(3:3:0 O)

This course is 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 profession as a practice discipline. Nursing theory is analyzed as a foundation for nursing practice and research.

4381. Issues and Trends in Nursing

(3:3:0 O)

Content focuses on current issues and trends in nursing relevant to the professional role on a local, state, national and international level.

4383. Legal and Ethical Issues in Healthcare

(CL)

(3:2.5:0.5 O)

This course surveys legal and ethical issues related to the interprofessional delivery of healthcare with a focus on the basic principles of nursing jurisprudence and nursing ethics. Patient protections and professional boundaries in various settings are examined as well as the role of codes of ethics in guiding clinical practice and frameworks for ethical decision making. The authority of nurse practice acts and state boards of nursing to regulate practice is reviewed along with landmark court cases that further define the role and duties of the professional nurse.

4388. Client and Peer Teaching

(3:3:0 O)

(***Elective**) 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. This course fulfills the elective requirement of the RN to BSN program.

4390. Baccalaureate Nursing Practice

(3:3:0 O)

(Prerequisites: NURS 4374, 4375, 4380, 4381, 4373, 4383, 4377. Corequisite: NURS 4375, 4376, 4377, 4381, 4383) A capstone course which requires students to integrate principles of patient centered care, interprofessional teamwork, evidence-based practice, quality improvement, informatics, and patient safety through discussion, personal reflection, and development of a professional portfolio.

ACCELERATED BSN PROGRAM

Melinda Mitchell Jones, MSN, JD, RN
Associate Dean and Department Chair

Laura Opton, DHSc, RN, CNE
Second Degree BSN Program Director

Deborah Sikes, DNP, RN, CNE
Veteran to BSN Program Director

ACCELERATED BSN PROGRAM OVERVIEW

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

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

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

Under the guidance of the Associate Dean/
Department Chair for Non-Traditional

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

Second Degree BSN Overview

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

Veteran to BSN Overview

A veteran track for accelerated BSN study in the Second Degree curriculum began in spring of 2016 as the Veteran to BSN with sites located in Amarillo, Dallas, and San Antonio. The goal is to provide veterans with military medical experience, and who may or may not have a prior bachelor's degree, an educational option to begin a career path in professional nursing. New sites will be opening for the 2017 spring term in Abilene and Odessa. To be eligible for consideration of an admission the applicant must be a veteran and can demonstrate recent health care experience in the last 3 years.

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

ACCELERATED BSN PROGRAM APPLICATION DATES

Fall 2016	No Admission
Spring 2017	May 1 - July 15
Summer 2017	No Admission

ACCELERATED BSN PROGRAM ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

Admissions Requirements for the Second Degree BSN

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

Academic Requirements

- Previous Bachelor's Degree in Science or Arts (BA or BS) from an accredited college or university;
- GPA of 3.0 overall;
- Science GPA of 3.0 in courses including Chemistry, Anatomy and Physiology I & II, Microbiology, and Pathophysiology;
- Prior to admission offer, applicants must have either completed all 55 credit hours (SCH)

of lower-division general education courses as outlined in the School of Nursing Catalog and posted on the SON Second Degree BSN website or have completed at least 40 of non-nursing prerequisites with proof of enrollment for the remaining prerequisites. Prior to admission offer, applicants must have completed at least three of the five required science classes, which include Pathophysiology, Microbiology, Anatomy and Physiology I, Anatomy and Physiology II, and Chemistry. All prerequisites must be completed prior to the first day of class.

- All general education requirements (core curriculum) and prerequisites must be documented on official transcript prior to the first day of class;
- Submission of TEAS V (or most current version of the Test of Essential Academic Skills) scores no later than the application close date; TEAS V requirements are outlined below:

- Proficient level or higher required in all the following areas: Reading, Math, Science, English and Language Usage;
- Preference will be given to applicants whose TEAS scores are at the exemplary level;
- Score for the TEAS exam older than one year prior to application submission deadline will not be accepted; and
- Students applying can take the TEAS no more than two (2) times per application cycle. If two sets of scores are submitted, the scores will be averaged.

EFFECTIVE SPRING 2018 ADMISSION:

Students applying for admission for Spring 2018 can take the TEAS no more than two (2) times per year (both attempts must occur within the one year period prior to application submission deadline).

- Completion of a medical terminology course (can be for credit or certificate of completion);
- Completion of certified nursing assistant

training. Preference for those certified at time of admission consideration.

- BLS certification prior to first day of class; and

Second Degree BSN Non-Academic Admission Considerations

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

- Rationale for interest in nursing as a professional career choice
- Work history and experience
- Permanent resident of TTUHSC service area county
- First generation college student
- One page resume
- Prior enrollment at Texas Tech University
- Diversity of experience, including proficiency in other languages, knowledge of other cultures, and/or study abroad
- Military service and/or training
- Performance in a face-to-face interview with Second Degree faculty. For those who are invited for an interview, an essay will be required. Professional attire is required for interview.

Admissions Requirements for the Veteran to BSN

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

Academic Requirements

- Minimum overall cumulative GPA of 2.5; preference for overall cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher;
- Preference for science GPA of 3.0 or higher in core courses including Chemistry, Anatomy

and Physiology I & II, Microbiology, and Pathophysiology;

- Prior to admission offer, applicants must have either completed all 59 credit hours (SCH) of lower-division general education courses as outlined in the School of Nursing Catalog and posted on the SON VBSN website or have completed at least 40 of non-nursing prerequisites with proof of enrollment for the remaining prerequisites. Prior to admission offer, applicants must have completed at least three of the five required sciences classes, which include Pathophysiology, Microbiology, Anatomy and Physiology I, Anatomy and Physiology II, and Chemistry. All prerequisites must be completed prior to the first day of classes;
- Submission of TEAS V (or most current version of the Test of Essential Academic Skills) scores no later than the application close date; TEAS V requirements are outlined below:
 - Proficient level or higher required in all the following areas: Reading, Math, Science, English and Language Usage;
 - Preference will be given to applicants whose TEAS scores are at the exemplary level;
 - Scores for the TEAS V exam older than one year prior to application submissions deadline will not be accepted; and
 - Students applying can take the TEAS V no more than two (2) times per application cycle. If two sets of scores are submitted the scores will be averaged

EFFECTIVE SPRING 2018 ADMISSION: Students applying for admission for Spring 2018 can take the TEAS no more than two (2) times per year (both attempts must occur within the one year period prior to application submission deadline).

Veteran to BSN Non-Academic Admission

Considerations

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

- Health Care Specialist Rating (i.e. medic, corpsman, vocational/practical nurse) while in the service. If accepted into the VBSN track, a DD214 showing proof of a medical rating must be submitted. A DD214 can be ordered from the following link: <http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/>.
- Documentation of recent health care experience (within the past three years), either in the military or as a licensed healthcare professional;
- Submission of current BLS certification prior to first day of class;
- Rationale for interest in nursing as a professional career choice;
- Work history and experience;
- Permanent resident of a TTUHSC service area county;
- First generation college student;
- One page resume;
- Prior enrollment at Texas Tech University;
- Diversity of experience, including proficiency in other languages, knowledge of other cultures, and/or study abroad;
- A face-to-face interview – Based upon fulfillment of all eligibility requirements as outlined in the School of Nursing Catalog and posted on the SON website, a determination will be made on an offer of an interview. For those invited for an interview, an essay will be required. Professional attire is expected for the interview.

Meeting Eligibility Requirements

The School of Nursing as a grantee of the College Credits for Heroes requires that all students entering the VBSN track meet specified eligibility requirements as identified below:

- Be a veteran who served in the active military, naval, or air service, and who was discharged or released under conditions other than

dishonorable as specified at 38 U.S.C. §101(2);

ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS TO THE ACCELERATED BSN PROGRAM

NCLEX-RN Examination Eligibility

See NCLEX-RN Examination Eligibility on page 28.

Tuition for Repeated or Excessive Undergraduate Hours

See Tuition for Repeated or Excessive Undergraduate Hours on page 38.

Computer Requirements

See Computer Requirements on page 31.

Criminal Background Checks

See Criminal Background Check Requirements on page 25.

Immunizations

See Immunization Requirements on page 27.

Drug Screening

Drug screenings may be necessary if required by the clinical institution site. The cost of all drug screens are the responsibility of the student.

Provisional Admission

Provisional admission is not available for the Accelerated BSN Program.

Conditional Admission

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

- Baccalaureate degree completion confirmation (Student graduating in current semester and verification is not available until the end of

the semester. Applicable to the Accelerated Second Degree BSN only.)

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

Readmission

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

A student who left with a record not in good standing for disciplinary causes must complete and submit a readmission application to the program's admissions coordinator along with a letter explaining the circumstances resulting in the withdrawal/dismissal and the plan to improve or correct performance if offered readmission. The program's student affairs coordinator will forward the application, the letter, and any available academic records including the most recent transcript to the chair of the Admissions and Progressions Committee. The Admissions and Progressions Committee shall review all such

requests and may take one of the following actions regarding readmission of a student:

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

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

Veterans who are unable to complete a semester due to having been called to active duty may be "readmitted and re-enrolled as a student without penalty or redetermination of admission eligibility within two years following release from the state or federal active military service. If student does not seek readmission within two years of active service, the student will be required to complete admissions process to determine eligibility". (See SON Operating Policy 30.124-Military Service for additional considerations)

Transfer Admission

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

Special Student Enrollment

Under certain circumstances, it may be appropriate for an individual to seek admission as a special non-degree seeking student. This admission is for the purpose of taking a limited

number of courses for one semester only. It is not an avenue for seeking a degree. The individual must receive approval from the Accelerated BSN Admissions and Progressions Committee for enrollment.

Enrollment without Credit/Course Audit

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

ACCELERATED BSN PROGRAM PREREQUISITE COURSE REQUIREMENTS

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

The prerequisite courses listed in the following table for the Accelerated BSN Program also incorporates the 42 hours of the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center Core Curriculum for undergraduate nursing degrees. Please see **Core Curriculum Requirements on page 24** to review the Texas Core Curriculum requirements.

Important Information about Prerequisite Course Requirements

- Pass/Fail grades are not accepted for credit toward degree requirements.
- Applicants may choose to request grades for all non-nursing courses greater than 10 years old not be considered in the GPA for admission. If this option is selected, the credits excluded are not eligible for

prerequisite course consideration and must be retaken for credit. The applicant must have at least 34 credit hours within the past 10 years to use this option.

- Grades earned at all schools attended are calculated in the admission grade point average. The quality points and semester credit hours used to calculate the cumulative grade point average for admission to the School of Nursing are taken from the official transcripts submitted during the application process.

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

Accelerated BSN Program Prerequisite Coursework Table

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

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

OFFER OF ADMISSION

Offers of admission will be made electronically by the Accelerated BSN Programs Admissions and Progressions Committee approximately eight weeks following the application deadline. Applicants are required to respond to the offer of admission no later than the deadline stated in the letter offering admission by returning a \$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.

Second Bachelor's Degree

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

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS FOR STUDENTS ADMITTED TO AN ACCELERATED PROGRAM

Graduation under a Particular Catalog

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

Minimum Academic Requirements

A student must earn a 2.0 in each course in the required curriculum and maintain an overall semester and cumulative GPA of 2.0 or greater. The School of Nursing Student Handbook provides further details regarding academic and graduation expectations.

Maintaining Minimum Academic Requirements

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

Academic Dismissal

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

Comprehensive Exams

In the Accelerated BSN Programs the comprehensive exams are included in the overall assessment of student knowledge in a designated course during the final semester of enrollment.

Residence Credit

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

Semester Credit Hours and Course Loads

The semester credit hour is the unit of measure for credit purposes. Didactic (lecture) hours are measured on a one-to-one basis; clinical hours are

measured on a one-to-three basis. Approximately two hours in preparation for each hour of lecture or recitation and an appropriate amount of time for preparation for clinical activity is required. The Accelerated BSN Programs enrollment in 12 or more credit hours per semester (6 or more credit hours in each summer session, or 12 or more credit hours in a full summer session) constitutes full-time enrollment. The number of semester credit hours a student may carry (course load) is regulated by the Non-Traditional Undergraduate Department Chair/Associate Dean. In determining course load, the Non-Traditional Undergraduate Department Chair/Associate Dean takes into account the quality of prior scholastic work performed and the types of courses involved.

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

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

ACCELERATED BSN PROGRAMS DEGREE PLAN

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

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

KEY:

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

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

Semester 1		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 3215	Basic Skills for Nursing Practice, CL	(2:0.5:4.5 H)
NURS 3380*	Foundational Concepts of Nursing Practice	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 3510	Clinical Foundations of Nursing Practice, CL	(5:0:15 H)
NURS 3307*	Health Assessment, CL	(3:2:3 H)
NURS 3107*	Pharmacology I	(1:1:0 O)
NURS 3325	Essentials for Professional Nursing Practice	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 3326	Evidence Based Practice	(3:3:0 O)
Total Semester Hours		20

Semester 2		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 3385	Concepts of Chronic Care Nursing	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 3520	Chronic Care Nursing Clinical, CL	(5:0:15 H)
NURS 4411	Mental Health Nursing, CL	(4:3:3 H)
NURS 3407	Developing Family Nursing, CL	(4:3:3 H)
NURS 4207*	Pharmacology II	(2:2:0 O)
Total Semester Hours		18

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

Total Credit Hours		61
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Students must earn 61 total credit hours (TCH) to complete the program requirements toward the awarding of a degree of Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN). TCH can be earned through successful completion of 47 semester credit hours (SCH) in traditional program courses and up to 14 prior learning credits (PLC) by successful demonstration of competency in the courses indicated by "". PLC may be awarded in NURS 3380, NURS 3307, NURS 4409, NURS 3107, NURS 4207, and NURS 4104. In order to receive PLCs for Pharmacology (NURS 3107, NURS 4207, and NURS 4104), students must demonstrate competency in Semester 1 and must subsequently enroll in Pharmacology each semester. PLCs may only be awarded to students enrolled in the Veteran to BSN track.

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

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

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

KEY:

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

3000 Level Courses

3107. Pharmacology I (1:1:0 O)

(Corequisites: Enrollment in all first semester courses.) This course introduces principles of pharmacology, drug therapy, classifications of drugs, and nursing implications of pharmacotherapeutics. Legal, ethical, genetic, cultural and life span implications of drug therapy are also explored. Emphasis is on the principles of pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics and pharmacogenetics in the treatment of selected

illnesses. The focus is on utilization of the nursing process concepts in the safe administration of pharmacotherapeutics.

3215. Basic Skills for Nursing Practice (CL) (2:0.5:4.5 H)

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

3307. Health Assessment (CL) (3:2:3 H)

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

3325. Essential Concepts for Professional Nursing Practice (3:3:0 O)

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

3326. Evidence Based Practice (3:3:0 O)

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

3380. Foundational Concepts of Nursing Practice (3:3:0 O)

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

3385. Concepts of Chronic Care Nursing (3:3:0 O)

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

3407. Developing Family Nursing (CL) (4:3:3 H)

(Corequisites: Enrollment in all second semester courses.) Encompasses concepts related to

the safe delivery of evidenced-based nursing care to childbearing families throughout the antepartum, intrapartum, postpartum, and newborn experience. Special emphasis is placed upon clinical experiences providing opportunity to exercise clinical judgment in case studies, simulation, community and acute care settings.

3510. Clinical Foundations of Nursing Practice (CL) (5:0:15 H)

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

3520. Chronic Care Nursing Clinical (CL) (5:0:15 H)

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

4000 Level Courses

4104. Pharmacology III

(1:1:0 O)

(Corequisite: Enrollment in all third semester courses.) The purpose of this course is to promote safety in medication administration, improve clinical judgment and critical thinking in the clinical environment using pharmacology simulation. The student will utilize knowledge from previous pharmacology courses. Pre-requisite: Satisfactory completion of all first and second semester courses.

4207. Pharmacology II

(2:2:0 O)

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

4317. Community and Population Health Nursing (CL)

(3:2:3 H)

(Prerequisites: Satisfactory completion of all first and second semester courses; Corequisite: Enrollment in all third semester courses.) This course emphasizes population-focused nursing and community-oriented approaches essential for understanding and addressing public health concerns. Focus is on the concepts of community and population health nursing practice, epidemiology and disease transmission, comprehensive assessment of risk factors

and health problems, program planning and intervention, environmental health, collaboration with the interprofessional team, health promotion and disease prevention.

4391. Synthesis of Nursing Knowledge (CL)

(3:3:0 O)

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

4398. Concepts of Acute Care Nursing

(3:3:0 O)

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

4401. Child Health Nursing (CL)

(4:3:3 H)

(Prerequisite: Satisfactory completion of all first and second semester courses; Corequisite: Enrollment in all third semester courses) The course emphasizes child health and illness nursing concepts essential for professional nursing practice in pediatric acute care and outpatient settings. Growth and development, health promotion and safety are emphasized.

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

4409. Management and Leadership in Nursing (CL)

(4:3:3 H)

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

4411. Mental Health Nursing

(4:3:3 H)

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

4510. Acute Care Nursing Clinical (CL)

(5:0:15 H)

(Prerequisites: Satisfactory completion of all first and second semester courses; Corequisites: Enrollment in all third semester courses.) This

course provides opportunities for students to synthesize generalist nursing roles of provider and manager of nursing care, in clinical and simulated acute care settings. Clinical judgment and reasoning and therapeutic nursing skills necessary in the acute care delivery are demonstrated in the application of evidence-based nursing care through simulated case studies and weekly clinical experiences.

Graduate Department

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

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



Graduate Programs

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MASTER of SCIENCE in NURSING PROGRAM (MSN)

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

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

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

Pat Allen, EdD, RN, CNE, ANEF, FAAN
Program Director, MSN Nursing Education Track

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

Becky Burpo, MSN, RN, CNM
Program Director, Nurse Midwifery Track

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

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

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

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

Purpose

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

MSN Student Learning Outcomes

Upon program completion, the MSN graduate will have the preparation to:

- Provide patient-centered care in the master's prepared nursing role.
- Work in interprofessional teams to address the needs of patients using master's prepared nursing role skills.
- Employ evidence-based practice (EBP) by

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

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

LEADERSHIP PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Administration Track

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

Education Track

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

Nursing Informatics (NI) Track

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

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

ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSE (APRN) PROGRAM OVERVIEW

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

All students must have a BSN as the minimum RN preparation for admission to the MSN APRN tracks. All APRN programs must meet the educational requirements and standards for professional certification. Nurse Practitioner programs meet the Criteria for Evaluation of Nurse Practitioner Programs as outlined by the National Task Force on Quality Nurse Practitioner Education (NTF). The NTF 4th Edition published in 2012 is available at <http://c.ymcdn.com/sites/www.nonpf.org/resource/resmgr/docs/ntfevalcriteria2012final.pdf>. Nurse Midwifery programs must meet the educational criteria set by the Accreditation Commission for Midwifery Education (ACME).

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

- Pediatric Nursing Certification Board (PNCB) Exam (PNP, both acute care and primary care)
- American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) Exam (AGACNP, FNP, PMHNP, PNP)
- American Academy of Nurse Practitioners Certification Program (AANPCP) (FNP)
- American Midwifery Certification Board

(AMCB) Exam

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

Acute Care Pediatric Nurse Practitioner (AC-PNP) and Post-Master's AC-PNP Tracks

Prepares graduates to assume an advanced care provider role to meet the specialized physiologic and psychological needs of children with acute, complex acute, critical, and chronic health conditions.

Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner (AGACNP) and Post-Master's AGACNP Tracks

Prepares graduates to assume responsibilities for promoting, maintaining, and restoring health to acutely or critically ill adults. The patient population includes young adults, adults, and older adults. Patient care needs and not the setting determine the scope of practice.

Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) and Post-Master's FNP Tracks

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

Nurse Midwifery and Post-Master's Nurse Midwifery Tracks

Prepares graduates to assume an advanced care provider role for population-based focus of women across the reproductive life-cycle and beyond as well as their newborn infants for the first 28 days.

Pediatric Primary Care Nurse Practitioner (PNP-PC) and Post-Master's PNP-PC Tracks

Prepares graduates to assume a primary care

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

Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PMHNP) and Post-Master's PMHNP Tracks

Prepares graduates to assume an advanced care provider role in providing the full range of psychiatric services including the delivery of primary, acute and consultative mental health care services throughout the lifespan.

MSN APPLICATION and ADMISSION INFORMATION

All applicants are selected on a composite evaluation of past academic achievement, personal essay, career achievements and references. Although the materials required for admission consideration vary from one program to another, the general qualities considered are:

- Academic performance and aptitude
- Ability to perform capably in positions of responsibility for self and others
- Potential for leadership in the advanced nursing role

MSN Application Dates

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

Post-Master's Application Dates

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

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

MSN and Post-Master's Application Deadlines

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

Admission Requirements - MSN

All applicants must complete and submit an online application as directed on the MSN website. All applicants must meet requirements listed below for admission consideration:

- Valid unencumbered Texas or Compact RN License
- Baccalaureate nursing degree from a regionally accredited college or university with nursing program accreditation from the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) or accreditation from American Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN), formerly the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC).
- Successful completion of an undergraduate

research and statistics course

- Minimum 3.0 GPA or better (on a 4.0 scale) in upper division undergraduate nursing courses
- BLS Certification
- Computer literacy
- Personal statement / personal essay
- Letters of Reference (3)
- Oath of Residency
- Official transcripts from all institutions formerly attended.

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

- Current CV or Resume
- ONLY for PMHNP applicants: An interview
- ONLY for APRN applicants: Preceptor/Facility Letter of Support
- Applicants to the Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner (AGACNP) track must have at least one (1) year of RN experience in an acute care, intensive care, or emergency department setting within the past five (5) years at the time of application.

- Applicants to the Pediatric Primary and Acute Care Nurse Practitioner (PNP) tracks are required to have at least two (2) years of RN pediatric experience at the time of application. For applicants to the PNP Acute Care track, RN pediatric experience in critical care, ER, or acute care is preferred.
- Applicants to the Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) track must have one (1) year of RN experience prior to application submission to the FNP program.
- Applicants to the Nurse Midwifery (NMW) track are required to have at least one (1) year labor and delivery experience or comparable OB clinical experience within the last five (5) years prior to admission per program director's approval.
- Applicants to the NMW track must provide current documentation of proficiency in electronic fetal monitoring (EFM) and neonatal resuscitation (NRP).
- Applicants to the PMHNP track are not required to have previous nursing experience. Applicants must have a passion for serving those with psychiatric disorders and have the ability to communicate effectively.
- Experience in nursing informatics or information technology is preferred for applicants to the Nursing Informatics track.
- **Effective 7/15/17 for NP Applicants:** Submission of Intent to Precept Form

Admission Requirements - Post-Master's Certificate

All applicants must complete and submit an online application as directed on the MSN website. All applicants must meet requirements listed below for admission consideration:

- Valid unencumbered Texas or Compact RN License
- Master of Science in Nursing degree from a regionally accredited college or university with nursing program accreditation from the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE)
- Minimum 3.0 GPA or better (on a 4.0 scale)
- ACLS/PALS certification (FNP, PNP,

AGACNP)

- NRP (Neonatal resuscitation program) and course in EFM (electronic fetal monitoring) (NMW)
- Personal Goals Essay
- Letters of Reference (3)
- Official transcript for the MSN degree
Note: All transcripts must be from a regionally accredited college or university with nursing program accreditation from the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) or accreditation from American Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN), formerly the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC).
- Applicants to the Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner (AGACNP) track must have at least one (1) year of RN experience in an acute care, intensive care, or an emergency department setting within the past five (5) years at the time of application.
- Applicants to the Pediatric Primary and Acute Care Nurse Practitioner (PNP) tracks are required to have at least two (2) years of RN experience in pediatrics prior to admission. For applicants to the PNP Acute Care track, RN experience in critical care, ER, or acute care is preferred.
- Applicants to the Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) track are required to have one (1) year RN experience prior to application submission to the FNP program.
- Applicants to the Nurse Midwifery (NMW) track are required to have one (1) year of RN experience in labor and delivery or an equivalent OB clinical experience within the last five years prior to admission per program director's approval.
- Applicants to the NMW track must possess current EFM proficiency taken/updated within the last 5 years.
- Experience in nursing informatics or information technology is preferred for applicants to the post-master's Nursing Informatics track.

Although academic criteria are important factors in admission considerations, additional information considered for all applicants will include but is not limited to demographic data, diverse work and life experiences, and unique attributes that would contribute to the profession of nursing. Other non-academic factors considered in the admission decision include but are not limited to:

- Extracurricular activities
- Evidence of leadership in nursing
- Work experience
- Diversity of experience such as study abroad, knowledge of other cultures, proficiency in other languages
- Military service
- Permanent resident of TTUHSC service area
- First generation college student
- Bilingual
- Socioeconomic status

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

Computer Requirements

See Computer Requirements on page 31.

Criminal Background Checks

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

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

The following searches are required for students pursuing clinical training through TTUHSC:

- Criminal History Record Information Search (including all residences for the last seven

years);

- Social Security Number Trace (residential history, state and year SSN issued);
- Sex Offender Registry;
- Office of Inspector General Sanction Report;
- General Services Administration Excluded List;
- Office of Foreign Asset Control; and
- Texas State Exclusion List.

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

Additional background checks are required after a break in enrollment in accordance with [TTUHSC OP 10.20](#).

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

NOTE: Expunged and Sealed Offenses

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

NOTE: Orders of Non-Disclosure

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

Statutes and Rules governing the Petition for Declaratory Order may be found in the Texas Occupations Code §§ 301.257, 301.452-304.454 (Nursing Practice Act), and in the Board Rules and Regulations relating to Nurse Education, Licensure and Practice, 22 TAC §§ 213.27-30 and §§ 217.11-12. These statutes and rules can be located on the BON's website www.bon.state.tx.us. The Nurse Practice Act (<http://www.bon.texas.gov/nursinglaw/npa.html>) was amended during the 2005 Texas legislative session, adding § 301.4535, to authorize the Board of Nursing to deny or revoke licensure to an individual for certain criminal offenses. Under the provision, the BON shall refuse or shall withdraw a license if the person has been convicted of an identified offense or has noted on his or her criminal record a plea of guilty or nolo contendere. The Board of Nursing may consider eligibility for licensure of an applicant after the fifth anniversary of the successful completion of and dismissal from probation or parole. The criminal offenses barring licensure, as defined by Texas Penal Code, include the following: murder; capital murder; reckless manslaughter; kidnapping, unlawful restraint, or unlawful transport of a person for payment and punishable as a felony; sexual assault; aggravated sexual assault; indecency with a child, an elderly or disabled person, perpetrator of family violence, an agreement to abduct a child; the sale or

purchase of a child; robbery; aggravated robbery; an offense that requires the individual to register as a sexual offender; and convictions for similar crimes in a military tribunal.

Immunizations

See Immunization Requirements on page 27.

Drug Screening

Drug screenings may be necessary if required by the clinical institution site. The cost of all drug screens are the responsibility of the student.

SPECIAL STUDENT ENROLLMENT

Non-Degree

Special Student enrollment is not an avenue for seeking a degree. Under certain circumstances, it may be appropriate for an individual to seek admission as a non-degree seeking student. Non-degree Special Student admission is for the purpose of taking a limited number of courses. The applicant must seek approval from the applicable Graduate Department Chair prior to submitting a special student (non-degree) application. The student must also be eligible for admission under the following criteria:

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

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

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

- Submitted special-student application
- Submitted signature page
- Submitted Oath of Residency
- Submitted Basic Life Support (BLS) certification

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

Enrollment without Credit/Course Audit

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

Provisional Admission

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

Conditional Admission

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

- BSN completion confirmation (student graduating in current semester and verification is not available until the end of the

semester)

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

Readmission

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

A student seeking readmission must comply with the following:

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

Student Transfers from Other Educational Institutions

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

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

required to meet the standards for transfer credit

- Complete the majority or over 50% of the required credits to complete the degree at TTUHSC School of Nursing.

RECOGNITION OF PREVIOUS NURSING LEARNING

Transfer Credit

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

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

Students requesting courses to be considered for transfer credit will:

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

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

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

OFFER OF ADMISSION

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

- Applicants must respond to the offer of admission no later than the deadline stated in the letter offering admission
- Submit \$100.00 non-refundable placement fee
- Complete Criminal Background Check online
- Submit evidence of compliance with required immunizations
- Complete Sexual Harassment training online and submit certificate of completion
- Complete required trainings as specified during virtual orientation and on-site orientation
- Failure to respond to admissions offer by the date specified in offer letter may result in withdrawal of the offer of admission.
- All students admitted to the MSN Program are required to attend a mandatory on-campus orientation held at the Lubbock campus prior to the first semester of enrollment.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS FOR STUDENTS ADMITTED TO PROGRAM

(Master of Science in Nursing)

Graduation Under a Particular Catalog

A student is expected to complete the degree requirements set forth in the School of Nursing Catalog in effect at the time the student enters the chosen area of study. Only with the specific approval of the applicable Graduate Department Chair may a different Catalog be selected. Students, in all cases, are prohibited from completing the requirements set forth in a catalog more than seven years old. The Catalog

is published at least biennially and its provisions are applicable during the stated year (September 1st through August 31st). However, a student registering for the first time at TTUHSC during a summer semester is subject to the degree requirements set forth in the Catalog effective for the fall semester immediately following that summer semester.

Maintaining Minimum Academic Requirements

The minimum GPA for continuance in the Graduate Programs is 3.0 overall. Additionally a minimum grade of “B” is required in each course (nursing) required for degree completion. The *TTUHSC School of Nursing Student Handbook* (<http://www.ttuhschoolofnursing.edu/son/handbook.aspx>) provides further details regarding academic and graduation expectations.

Requirements for Progression towards the MSN Degree

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

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

- Students earning a “C” or lower in two or more graduate courses in one semester.
- Students earning a “C” or lower in the same

nursing course twice.

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

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

Residence Credit

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

Majority of Credits

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

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

Semester Credit Hours and Course Loads

The semester credit hour is the unit of measure for credit purposes. Didactic (lecture) hours are measured on a one-to-one basis; clinical hours are measured on a one-to-three basis for nursing education and informatics tracks; clinical hours are measured on a one-to-four basis for the nursing administration track. For nurse practitioner and nurse midwifery clinical courses, clinical hours are measured on a one-to-3.5 basis. Approximately two hours in preparation for each hour of lecture/didactic and an appropriate amount of time for preparation for clinical activities are required. The number of semester credit hours a student may carry (course load) is

regulated by the applicable Program Director. In determining this load, the applicable Program Director takes into account the quality of prior scholastic work performed and the types of courses involved. A student enrolled in nine (9) or more credit hour in the Fall or Spring semester and six (6) or more credit hours in the Summer semester is considered full-time.

DEGREE PLAN

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

Interprofessional Education Requirement

All TTUHSC students, regardless of school affiliation, will be required to complete a

non-credit, online course in interprofessional education. MSN students are required to complete the online course in the first semester of enrollment.

Course Requirements

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

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

MSN Degree Course Requirements for Leadership Programs

MSN Nursing Administration

(Total Credit Hours Required for Completion – 39)

KEY:

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

Required Core Nursing Courses (21 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5326	Research for Advanced Nursing Practice	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5327	Evidence for Advanced Nursing Practice	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5325	Health Policy Essentials for Advanced Nursing Practice	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5324	Population Health Essentials for Advanced Nursing Practice	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5323	Leadership for Advanced Nursing Practice	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5322	Health Informatics for Advanced Nursing Practice	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5345	Advanced Practice Nursing: Application of Pathophysiology	(3:3:0 O)

Specialty Courses (18 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5385	Health Law Survey for the Nurse Executive	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5386	Finance and Budgeting for Nurse Leaders	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5346	The Nursing Administrator: Standards of Excellence, CL	(3:2.5:2 O)
NURS 5347	Administrative Role Development, CL	(3:2.5:2 O)
NURS 5348	Administrative Role Development: The Nurse Administrator as Leader, CL	(3:2:4 O)
NURS 6010	Application of Administrative Practice, CL	(3:0:12 O)

MSN Nursing Education

(Total Credit Hours Required for Completion – 42)

Required Core Nursing Courses (27 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5326	Research for Advanced Nursing Practice	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5327	Evidence for Advanced Nursing Practice	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5325	Health Policy Essentials for Advanced Nursing Practice	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5324	Population Health Essentials for Advanced Nursing Practice	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5323	Leadership for Advanced Nursing Practice	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5322	Health Informatics for Advanced Nursing Practice	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5343	Pharmacotherapeutics for Nurses in Advanced Practice	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5345	Advanced Practice Nursing: Application of Pathophysiology	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5342	Advanced Health Assessment, CL (Required on-campus lab)	(3:2:3.5 O)

Specialty Courses (15 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5314	Leadership in Nursing Education I: Best Practices in Teaching and Technology Integration	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5315	Leadership in Nursing Education II: Best Practices for Curriculum Development and Program Evaluation	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5316	Leadership in Nursing Education III: Best Practices in Assessment and Measurement	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5317	Comprehensive Clinical Care, CL	(3:2:3 O)
NURS 6030	Leadership in Nursing Education IV: Role and Practicum, CL	(3:.5:7.5 O)

MSN Nursing Informatics

(Total Credit Hours Required for Completion – 39)

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

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

MSN Degree Course Requirements for APRN Programs

Family Nurse Practitioner

(Total Credit Hours Required for Completion – 48)

KEY:

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

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

Pre-requisite Nursing Courses (15 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5312	Foundations for Advanced Practice Nursing Role	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5320	Diagnostic Methods for Advanced Nursing Practice, CL (Requires on-campus skills lab)	(3:2:3.5 O)
NURS 5342	Advanced Health Assessment, CL (Requires on-campus skills lab)	(3:2:3.5 O)
NURS 5343	Pharmacotherapeutics for Nurses in Advanced Practice	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5345	Advanced Practice Nursing: Application of Pathophysiology	(3:3:0 O)

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

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

Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner

(Total Credit Hours Required for Completion – 48)

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

Pre-requisite Nursing Courses (15 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5312	Foundations for Advanced Practice Nursing Role	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5320	Diagnostic Methods for Advanced Nursing Practice, CL (Requires on-campus skills lab)	(3:2:3.5 O)
NURS 5342	Advanced Health Assessment, CL (Requires on-campus skills lab)	(3:2:3.5 O)
NURS 5343	Pharmacotherapeutics for Nurses in Advanced Practice	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5345	Advanced Practice Nursing: Application of Pathophysiology	(3:3:0 O)

Population Focus Courses (15 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
▲NURS 5460	Adult-Gerontology Acute Care I, CL	(4:2:7 O)
NURS 5561	Adult-Gerontology Acute Care II, CL	(5:2:10.5 O)
NURS 6652	Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Practicum, CL	(6:1:17.5 O)

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

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

Pediatric Primary Care Nurse Practitioner

(Total Credit Hours Required for Completion – 49)

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

Pre-requisite Nursing Courses (15 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5312	Foundations for Advanced Practice Nursing Role	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5320	Diagnostic Methods for Advanced Nursing Practice, CL (Requires on-campus skills lab)	(3:2:3.5 O)
NURS 5342	Advanced Health Assessment, CL (Requires-on campus skills lab)	(3:2:3.5 O)
NURS 5343	Pharmacotherapeutics for Nurses in Advanced Practice	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5345	Advanced Practice Nursing: Application of Pathophysiology	(3:3:0 O)

Population Focus Courses (16 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5100	Foundations of the Well Child	(1:1:0 O)
▲NURS 5480	Pediatric Primary Care I, CL	(4:2:7 O)
NURS 5581	Pediatric Primary Care II, CL	(5:2:10.5 O)
NURS 6680	Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Practicum, CL	(6:1:17.5 O)

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

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

Acute Care Pediatric Nurse Practitioner

(Total Credit Hours Required for Completion – 51)

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

Pre-requisite Nursing Courses (15 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5312	Foundations for Advanced Practice Nursing Role	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5320	Diagnostic Methods for Advanced Nursing Practice, CL (Requires on-campus lab)	(3:2:3.5 O)
NURS 5342	Advanced Health Assessment, CL (Requires on-campus skills lab)	(3:2:3.5 O)
NURS 5343	Pharmacotherapeutics for Nurses in Advanced Practice	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5345	Advanced Practice Nursing: Application of Pathophysiology	(3:3:0 O)

Population Focus Courses (18 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5100	Foundations of the Well Child	(1:1:0 O)
▲NURS 5500	Pediatric Acute Care I, CL	(5:2:10.5 O)
NURS 5600	Pediatric Acute Care II, CL	(6:2:14 O)
NURS 6690	Pediatric Acute Care III, CL	(6:1:17.5 O)

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

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

Nurse Midwifery

(Total Credit Hours Required for Completion – 51)

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

Pre-requisite Nursing Courses (15 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5312	Foundations for Advanced Practice Nursing Role	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5320	Diagnostic Methods for Advanced Nursing Practice, CL (Requires on-campus skills lab)	(3:2:3.5 O)
NURS 5342	Advanced Health Assessment, CL (Requires on-campus skills lab)	(3:2:3.5 O)
NURS 5343	Pharmacotherapeutics for Nurses in Advanced Practice	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5345	Advanced Practice Nursing: Application of Pathophysiology	(3:3:0 O)

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

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

One (1) year of RN experience in labor and delivery required or selected clinical OB experiences (subject to faculty/admissions council approval) prior to admission.

Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner

(Total Credit Hours Required for Completion – 49)

Required Core Nursing Courses (9 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5326	Research for Advanced Nursing Practice	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5327	Evidence for Advanced Nursing Practice	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5324	Population Health Essentials for Advanced Nursing Practice	(3:3:0 O)

Advanced Practice Nursing Courses (12 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5345	Advanced Practice Nursing: Application of Pathophysiology	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5342	Advanced Health Assessment, CL (Requires-on campus skills lab)	(3:2:3.5 O)
NURS 5343	Pharmacotherapeutics for Nurses in Advanced Practice	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5312	Foundations for Advanced Practice Nursing Role	(3:3:0 O)

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

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

MSN Collaborative TTUHSC- Angelo State University (ASU) Degree Course Requirements

All students need to complete both ASU and TTUHSC applications for admission. Upon receipt of completed application, ASU will evaluate the candidate and, if acceptable for admission to the ASU program, the student should contact Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center School of Nursing for admission information. The Department Chair for the TTUHSC School of Nursing MSN APRN Program in conjunction with the TTUHSC MSN Program Council will determine if the applicant may enter the program. The program requires 30 credit hours from TTUHSC and 18 hours from ASU.

KEY:

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

Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner

(Total Credit Hours Required for Completion – 48)

Required Transfer Courses from Angelo State University (18 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
*NUR 6323	Research Foundation for Advanced Nursing	(3)
*NUR 6312	Evidence-Based Practice and Theory for Advanced Nursing	(3)
NUR 6317	Health Policy and Ethics	(3)
NUR 6324	Advanced Pathophysiology	(3)
NUR 6331	Advanced Health Assessment	(3)
NUR 6318	Pharmacotherapeutics	(3)

Required Nursing Courses from TTUHSC (15 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5312	Foundations for Advanced Practice Nursing Role	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5320	Diagnostic Methods for Advanced Nursing Practice, CL (Requires on-campus skills lab)	(3:2:3.5 O)
NURS 5324	Population Health Essentials for Advanced Nursing Practice	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5323	Leadership for Advanced Nursing Practice	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5322	Health Informatics for Advanced Nursing Practice	(3:3:0 O)

Population Focus Courses (15 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
▲NURS 5460	Adult-Gerontology Acute Care I, CL	(4:2:7 O)
NURS 5561	Adult-Gerontology Acute Care II, CL	(5:2:10.5 O)
NURS 6652	Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Practicum, CL	(6:1:17.5 O)

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

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

Pediatric Primary Care Nurse Practitioner

(Total Credit Hours Required for Completion – 49)

Required Transfer Courses from Angelo State University (18 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
*NUR 6323	Research Foundation for Advanced Nursing	(3)
*NUR 6312	Evidence-Based Practice and Theory for Advanced Nursing	(3)
NUR 6317	Health Policy and Ethics	(3)
NUR 6324	Advanced Pathophysiology	(3)
NUR 6331	Advanced Health Assessment (Required clinical hours)	(3)
NUR 6318	Pharmacotherapeutics	(3)

Required Nursing Courses from TTUHSC (15 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5312	Foundations for Advanced Practice Nursing Role	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5320	Diagnostic Methods for Advanced Nursing Practice, CL (Requires on-campus skills lab)	(3:2:3.5 O)
NURS 5324	Population Health Essentials for Advanced Nursing Practice	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5323	Leadership for Advanced Nursing Practice	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5322	Health Informatics for Advanced Nursing Practice	(3:3:0 O)

Population Focus Courses (16 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5100	Foundations of the Well Child	(1:1:0 O)
▲NURS 5480	Pediatric Primary Care I, CL	(4:2:7 O)
NURS 5581	Pediatric Primary Care II, CL	(5:2:10.5 O)
NURS 6680	Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Practicum, CL	(6:1:17.5 O)

▲ All Pediatric Nurse Practitioner students are required to hold PALS Certification appropriate to their clinical specialty as a prerequisite to NURS 5480.

Two (2) years of RN experience in pediatrics required for admission.

Post-Master's Certificate Course Requirements

KEY:

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

Family Nurse Practitioner Post-Master's Certificate

(Total Credit Hours Required for Completion – 30)

Pre- or co-requisites to Required Nursing Courses:

The applicable 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 (30 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5312	Foundations for Advanced Practice Nursing Role	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5320	Diagnostic Methods for Advanced Nursing Practice, CL (Requires on-campus skills lab)	(3:2:3.5 O)
NURS 5342	Advanced Health Assessment, CL (Requires on-campus skills lab)	(3:2:3.5 O)
NURS 5343	Pharmacotherapeutics for Nurses in Advanced Practice	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5345	Advanced Practice Nursing: Application of Pathophysiology	(3:3:0 O)
▲NURS 5440	Primary Health Care I, CL	(4:2:7 O)
NURS 5541	Primary Health Care II, CL	(5:2:10.5 O)
NURS 6660	Family Nurse Practitioner Practicum, CL	(6:1:17.5 O)

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

Applicants to the Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) track must have one (1) year of experience as a RN prior to application submission.

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

(Total Credit Hours Required for Completion – 30)

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 (30 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5312	Foundations for Advanced Practice Nursing Role	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5320	Diagnostic Methods for Advanced Nursing Practice, CL (Requires on-campus skills lab)	(3:2:3.5 O)
NURS 5342	Advanced Health Assessment, CL (Requires-on campus skills lab)	(3:2:3.5 O)
NURS 5343	Pharmacotherapeutics for Nurses in Advanced Practice	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5345	Advanced Practice Nursing: Application of Pathophysiology	(3:3:0 O)
▲NURS 5460	Adult-Gerontology Acute Care I, CL	(4:2:7 O)
NURS 5561	Adult-Gerontology Acute Care II, CL	(5:2:10.5 O)
NURS 6652	Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Practicum, CL	(6:1:17.5 O)

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

Pediatric Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Post-Master's Certificate

(Total Credit Hours Required for Completion – 31)

Pre- or co-requisites to Required Nursing Courses:

The applicable 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 (30 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5312	Foundations for Advanced Practice Nursing Role	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5320	Diagnostic Methods for Advanced Nursing Practice, CL (Requires on-campus skills lab)	(3:2:3.5 O)
NURS 5342	Advanced Health Assessment, CL (Requires on-campus skills lab)	(3:2:3.5 O)
NURS 5343	Pharmacotherapeutics for Nurses in Advanced Practice	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5345	Advanced Practice Nursing: Application of Pathophysiology	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5100	Foundations of the Well Child	(1:1:0 O)
▲NURS 5480	Pediatric Primary Care I, CL	(4:2:7 O)
NURS 5581	Pediatric Primary Care II, CL	(5:2:10.5 O)
NURS 6680	Pediatric Nursing Practicum, CL	(6:1:17.5 O)

▲ All Pediatric Nurse Practitioner students are required to hold PALS Certification prior to the first population focus clinical course.
Two (2) years of RN experience in pediatrics required at the time of application.

Acute Care Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Post-Master's Certificate

(Total Credit Hours Required for Completion – 33)

Pre- or co-requisites to Required Nursing Courses:

The applicable 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 (33 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5312	Foundations for Advanced Practice Nursing Role	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5320	Diagnostic Methods for Advanced Nursing Practice, CL (Requires on-campus skills lab)	(3:2:3.5 O)
NURS 5342	Advanced Health Assessment, CL (Requires on-campus skills lab)	(3:2:3.5 O)
NURS 5343	Pharmacotherapeutics for Nurses in Advanced Practice	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5345	Advanced Practice Nursing: Application of Pathophysiology	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5100	Foundations of the Well Child	(1:1:0 O)
▲NURS 5500	Pediatric Acute Care I, CL	(5:3:10.5 O)
NURS 5600	Pediatric Acute Care II, CL	(6:2:14 O)
NURS 6690	Pediatric Acute Care III, CL	(6:1:17.5 O)

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

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

Nurse Midwifery Post-Master's Certificate

(Total Credit Hours Required for Completion – 33)

Pre- or co-requisites to Required Nursing Courses:

The applicable 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.

Prerequisite Nursing Courses (15 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5312	Foundations for Advanced Practice Nursing Role	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5320	Diagnostic Methods for Advanced Nursing Practice, CL (Requires on campus skills lab)	(3:2:3.5 O)
NURS 5342	Advanced Health Assessment, CL (Requires on campus skills lab)	(3:2:3.5 O)
NURS 5343	Pharmacotherapeutics for Nurses in Advanced Practice	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5345	Advanced Practice Nursing: Application of Pathophysiology	(3:3:0 O)

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

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

One (1) year of RN experience in labor and delivery required or selected OB experiences (subject to faculty/admissions council approval), prior to admission.

Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Post-Master's Certificate (non-APRN)

(Total Credit Hours Required for Completion – 29)

Prerequisites to Required Nursing Courses:

NURS 5345 Advanced Practice Nursing: Application of Pathophysiology, NURS 5342 Advanced Health Assessment and NURS 5343 Pharmacotherapeutics for Nurses in Advanced Practice completed with a grade of “B” or above.

Required Nursing Courses (1 credit hour)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5060	Individual Studies - Advanced Practice Nursing Role	(1:1:0 O)

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

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

(Total Credit Hours Required for Completion – 28)

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.

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

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

(Total credit hours for required for completion- individualized in conjunction with the DNP program director. The following courses will be required to take the PMHNP exam for certification through ANCC)

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.

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

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

Nursing Education Post-Master's Certificate

(Total Credit Hours Required for Completion – 12)

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.

Specialty Courses (21 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5314	Leadership in Nursing Education I: Best Practices in Teaching and Technology Integration	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5315	Leadership in Nursing Education II: Best Practices in Assessment and Measurement	(3:0:0 O)
NURS 5316	Leadership in Education III: Best Practices for Curriculum Development and Program Evaluation	(3:0:0 O)
NURS 6030	Leadership in Nursing Education IV: Role and Practicum, CL	(3:5:7.5 O)

Nursing Informatics Post-Master's Certificate

(Total Credit Hours Required for Completion – 21)

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.

Specialty Courses (21 credit hours)		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS5386	Finance and Budgeting for Nurse Leaders	(3:3:0 O)
NURS 5231	Informatics I: Foundations of Nursing Informatics Specialization: Theories of Practice	(2:2:0 O)
NURS 5332	Informatics II: Health Information Management and Knowledge, CL	(3:2:3 O)
NURS 5333	Informatics III: Information Technology, CL	(3:2:3 O)
NURS 5334	Informatics IV: Health Information Technology Systems Life Cycle, CL	(3:2:3 O)
NURS 5335	Informatics V: Managing and Leading in Informatics, CL	(3:2:3 O)
NURS 6440	Informatics VI: Practicum, CL	(4:1:9 O)

GRADUATE CERTIFICATES

Purpose

The purpose for graduate certificates is to meet the supplemental education needs of professionals. As jobs and job-related responsibilities change, a person often needs additional training in a specific area. A graduate certificate program is a set of courses that provides in-depth knowledge in a subject matter.

OVERVIEW

Graduate Certificate in Rural Community Health

The Graduate Certificate in Rural Community Health is designed for professionals who are practicing or plan to practice in rural counties. Upon completion of the Rural Community Health Certificate, graduates will have the necessary knowledge and skills to excel in a variety of settings in medically underserved areas around the world. This online Graduate Certificate in Rural Community Health is completed in 12 semester credit hours. A 67.5 hour clinical field experience in the principle area of interest is expected as part of the program requirements. Completion of an online orientation module is required.

Graduate Certificate in Global Health

The Graduate Certificate in Global Health is designed for professionals who are practicing or plan to practice in developing countries. Upon completion of the Global Health Certificate, graduates will have the necessary knowledge and skills to excel in a variety of settings in medically underserved areas around the world. This online Graduate Certificate in Global Health is completed in 12 semester credit hours. A 67.5 hour clinical field experience in the principle area of interest is expected as part of the program requirements. Completion of an online orientation module is required.

GRADUATE CERTIFICATE APPLICATION and ADMISSION INFORMATION

Semester	Application Deadline
Spring 2016	August 1, 2015
Fall 2016	February 15, 2015
Spring 2017	August 1, 2016

Graduate Certificate Application Deadlines

Consideration for admission is given to applicants meeting all admission criteria who have submitted all admission requirements by the application deadline as noted below:

Admission Requirements

All applicants must complete and submit an online application as directed on the Graduate Certificate [website](#). All applicants must meet requirements listed below for admission consideration:

- Personal statement
- Letters of reference (3)
- All official transcripts for the bachelor degree or other higher education level degree
- 3.0 GPA
- A resume or CV is required
- Students enrolled at another institution are required to provide a letter of good standing

Non-Academic Admission Considerations

- Ability to perform capably in positions of responsibility for self and others
- Extracurricular activities
- Diversity of experience, such as study abroad, knowledge of other cultures, proficiency in other languages
- First-generation college student
- English as a second language
- Prior enrollment at Texas Tech University
- Evidence of leadership in professional organizations, committees, etc.
- Military service
- Permanent resident of TTUHSC service area county

All applicants will be reviewed in an individual and holistic manner. No single factor will

determine a student's admission. The applicable Department Chair and appropriate programmatic council carefully evaluate all qualified applicants with regard to the applicants' potential for successful completion of the track.

Computer Requirements

See Computer Requirements on page 31.

Criminal Background Checks

See Criminal Background Check Requirements on page 25.

Immunizations

See Immunization Requirements on page 27.

Drug Screening

Drug screenings may be necessary if required by the clinical institution site. The cost of all drug screens are the responsibility of the student.

Course Requirements for Graduate Certificates

KEY:

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

Graduate Certificate in Rural Community Health

(Total Credit Hours Required for Completion – 12)

Required Courses		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5420	Foundations of World Health	(4:4:0 O)
NURS 5421	Issues in World Health	(4:4:0 O)
NURS 5422	Practicum: Application of the World Health Concepts, CL	(4:3:1.5 O)

Graduate Certificate in Global Health

(Total Credit Hours Required for Completion – 12)

Required Courses		
Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS 5420	Foundations of World Health	(4:4:0 O)
NURS 5421	Issues in World Health	(4:4:0 O)
NURS 5422	Practicum: Application of the World Health Concepts, CL	(4:3:1.5 O)

DOCTOR of NURSING PRACTICE PROGRAM (DNP)

Barbara Cherry, DNSc, MBA, RN, NEA-BC
Professor, Associate Dean and Department Chair

Purpose

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

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon program completion, the graduate will be prepared to:

- Integrate nursing science with knowledge from ethics, biophysical, psychosocial, analytical, and organizational sciences to advance health and health care delivery systems.
- Develop and operationalize effective, culturally relevant, and evidence-based care delivery approaches that meet current and future needs of patient populations.
- Design and implement scholarly evidence-based processes to analyze and improve outcomes of care at the practice, health care organization, or population levels.
- Select, use, and evaluate health care information systems and patient care technology to advance quality, patient safety, and organizational effectiveness.
- Exercise leadership to analyze, develop, influence, and implement health policies that advocate social justice, equity, and ethics within all health care arenas.
- Employ interprofessional team building and collaborative leadership skills to create positive change and improve outcomes in complex health care systems.
- Analyze epidemiological, biostatistical, environmental, and other appropriate scientific data to develop culturally relevant and scientifically based health promotion and

disease prevention initiatives.

- Employ advanced levels of clinical judgment, systems thinking, and accountability to design, deliver, and evaluate evidence-based care to improve patient and population outcomes.
- Employ advanced leadership skills, systems thinking, and accountability to design, deliver, and evaluate evidence-based management practices to improve patient, population and health system outcomes.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

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

DNP APPLICATION and ADMISSION INFORMATION

DNP Application Deadlines

Semester	Application Deadline
Fall	No Admission
Spring	No Admission
Summer 2017	January 15, 2017

Consideration for admission is given to applicants meeting all admission criteria who have submitted

all admission requirements by the application deadline to the TTUHSC Registrar's Office, SON Admissions, 3601 4th Street, Stop 8310, Lubbock, Texas 79430.

To be considered for admission "ALL" admission requirements must be received by the TTUHSC as noted below:

DNP Admission Requirements

Applicant must submit the following application requirements for full admission:

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

All DNP Advanced Practice Nursing applicants must meet the following additional requirements:

- Approval by a state nursing board to practice as a nurse practitioner or nurse midwife
- Current certification by a nationally recognized credentialing body as a nurse practitioner or nurse midwife
- Minimum of one year's experience as a nurse practitioner

All DNP Executive Leadership applicants must meet the following additional requirements:

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

Applicants with unique credentials will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Such applicants may be required to complete one or more additional graduate nursing courses.

A comprehensive review of the candidate's application will include consideration of the following factors.

- Academic performance and aptitude
- Career achievements
- Ability to perform capably in positions of responsibility for self and others
- Potential for leadership in the DNP advanced role.

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

- Extracurricular activities
- Evidence of leadership in nursing
- Work experience
- Diversity of experience such as study abroad, knowledge of other cultures, proficiency in other languages
- Permanent resident of TTUHSC service area county
- First generation college student
- Bilingual - English /Spanish
- Military service

All applicants will be reviewed in an individual and holistic manner. No single factor will determine a student's admission. All applicants receiving offers of admission will be required to consent to a criminal background check. A history of criminal conduct or convictions may result in withdrawal of the admission offer. See 'Criminal Background Checks' section of the School of Nursing *Student Handbook* for the school policy. Criminal Background Checks must be received prior to matriculation to the TTUHSC DNP Program. The TTUHSC Criminal Background policy may be found at HSC OP 10.20. <http://www.ttuhs.edu/HSC/OP/OP10>.

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.**

The DNP Program Department Chair, DNP Program Director and the DNP Program Council carefully evaluate all qualified applicants with regard to the applicant's potential for successful completion of the program.

Computer Requirements

See Computer Requirements on page 31.

Criminal Background Checks

A Criminal Background Check (CBC) must be completed prior to enrollment at TTUHSC School of Nursing in compliance with TTUHSC OP 10.20, <http://www.ttuhs.edu/hsc/op/op10/op1020.pdf>. Each student is responsible for the cost of the CBC and any additional fees.

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

The following searches are required for students pursuing clinical training through TTUHSC:

- Criminal History Record Information Search

(including all residences for the last seven years);

- Social Security Number Trace (residential history, state and year SSN issued);
- Sex Offender Registry;
- Office of Inspector General Sanction Report;
- General Services Administration Excluded List;
- Office of Foreign Asset Control; and
- Texas State Exclusion List.

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

Additional background checks are required after a break in enrollment in accordance with [TTUHSC OP 10.20](#).

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

NOTE: Expunged and Sealed Offenses

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

and character.

NOTE: Orders of Non-Disclosure

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

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

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

or disabled person, perpetrator of family violence, an agreement to abduct a child; the sale or purchase of a child; robbery; aggravated robbery; an offense that requires the individual to register as a sexual offender; and convictions for similar crimes in a military tribunal.

Immunizations

See Immunization Requirements on page 27.

Drug Screening

Drug screenings may be necessary if required by the clinical institution site. The cost of all drug screens are the responsibility of the student.

SPECIAL STUDENT ENROLLMENT

Non-Degree

Special Student enrollment is not an avenue for seeking a degree. Under certain circumstances, it may be appropriate for an individual to seek admission as a non-degree seeking student. Non-degree Special Student admission is for the purpose of taking a limited number of courses. The applicant must seek approval from the DNP Program Department Chair prior to submitting a special student (non-degree) application. The student must also be eligible for admission under the following criteria:

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

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

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

- Submitted special-student application
- Submitted signature page and application fee
- Submitted official transcripts from all universities or colleges attended
- Submitted Oath of Residency
- Submitted BLS certification

Special students can take a maximum of six (6) credit hours or nine (9) if approved by the department chair. A special student wishing to apply for full admission to the DNP Program must submit the full application according to the stated deadlines and will be considered for admission with the entire pool of applicants for the time period the application is submitted.

Enrollment without Credit/Course Audit

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

Provisional Admission

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

Conditional Admission

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

Readmission

All requests for readmission must be made prior to the application deadline date for the semester in which readmission is requested. The DNP

Department Chair, DNP Program Director and DNP Program Council are responsible for overseeing all readmissions to the School of Nursing DNP Program. Readmission of a student dismissed or withdrawn for academic or disciplinary causes is also based upon the decision of the Department Chair, DNP Program Director, and DNP Program Council.

A student seeking readmission must comply with the following:

- Submit a letter requesting readmission to the DNP Program.
- Meet all recommendations and requirements set forth by the DNP Department Chair, DNP Program Director and DNP Program Council
- Complete online application and meet admission criteria for full admission

Transfer Student

Students requesting admission to the TTUHSC School of Nursing DNP program as a transfer student from another university must meet the following criteria:

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

RECOGNITION OF PREVIOUS NURSING LEARNING

Transfer Credit

The decision to award transfer of academic credit is made by the DNP Department Chair or DNP Program Director after a thorough review of the

applicant's transcript for evidence of satisfactory course work completion and review of the course catalog descriptions and/or course syllabi as necessary to determine course equivalency. The decision to award transfer credit is based on the TTUHSC Transfer Credit Guidelines and Procedures http://www.ttuhschool.edu/catalog/credit_transfer.aspx. Generally, credits earned at a regionally accredited college or university are accepted for transfer provided course content is equivalent and a grade of "B" or higher has been earned in the course.

The majority, or over 50%, of the required credits toward a TTUHSC School of Nursing graduate degree must be earned at TTUHSC.

Students requesting courses to be considered for transfer credit will:

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

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

OFFER OF ADMISSION

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

- Return Acceptance Form on or before date specified in the offer of admissions letter
- Submit \$100.00 non-refundable placement fee
- Submit evidence of compliance with required immunizations
- Complete Criminal Background Check online
- Completion required trainings as specified during virtual orientation
- Failure to respond to admissions offer by the date specified in offer letter may result in

withdrawal of the offer of admission.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS FOR STUDENTS ADMITTED TO DNP PROGRAM

Graduation Under a Particular Catalog

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

DNP Clinical Hour Requirements

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

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

or more of the following methods:

- Submission of a professional portfolio documenting clinical activities/practice hours and scholarship to meet the criteria for clinical hours for the DNP program. The portfolio may include a resume or CV and a description of the individual's practice experience; academic and specialized programs of study in the student's specialty area; certifications in administration; or additional activities and experiences exemplifying competence in the student's specialty area.
- Students not meeting the clinical hour/practice hour criteria will be evaluated and required to take an independent study course designed to provide an individualized clinical intensive based on the student's background, experience and learning needs to complete the required 1000 clinical hours/practice hours for the DNP degree.

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

Interprofessional Education Requirement

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

Maintaining Minimum Academic Requirements

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

Progression in the DNP Program

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

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

- Students earning a "C" or lower in two or more DNP courses in one semester
- Students earning a "C" or lower in the same DNP course twice
- Students earning a "C" or lower in a second DNP course even though one DNP course has been retaken and a satisfactory grade of "B" or better has been obtained

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

stipulations noted in the "Readmission" section above.

Residence Credit

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

Majority of Credits

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

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

Semester Credit Hours and Course Loads

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

DEGREE PLAN

- Upon initial enrollment into DNP Program, each student is provided with a degree plan, individualized according to the student's program of study and part-time or full-time

enrollment status. The student's individual needs and circumstances (i.e., part-time or full-time enrollment, preference for electives, transfer courses, etc...) are considered when developing the degree plan.

- The DNP Department Chair or Program Director for the track in which the student is enrolled is responsible for approving the degree plan.
- Students are responsible for notifying the DNP Program office anytime the student deviates from the degree plan (i.e., withdraw from a course; fail to register for a course, etc).
- During orientation to the DNP Program, students are advised about the requirements for the specific track or major and the student's responsibility to (a) be knowledgeable about the degree requirements; (b) notify the Graduate Program office if the student deviates from the degree plan; and (c) meet degree requirements for graduation.
- The degree plan serves as the student's guide for course registration each semester.

DNP Degree Requirements and Course Progression

Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) Program

(Total Credit Hours Required for Completion – 45)

KEY:

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

DNP Full Time Degree Plan		
SEMESTER I (5 credit hours)		Credits
NURS 6200	DNP Role Transition I	(2:2:0 H)
NURS 6325	Informatics and Technology to Improve Health Care, CL	(3:2.75:1.5 H)

SEMESTER II (9 credit hours)		Credits
NURS 6310	Practical Application of Statistics in Healthcare	(3:3:0 H)
NURS 6330	Evidence Based Inquiry I	(3:3:0 H)
NURS 6345	Population Health and Epidemiology	(3:3:0 H)

SEMESTER III (8 credit hours)		Credits
NURS 6340	Advancing Policy and Politics in Health Care, CL	(3:2.75:1.5 H)
NURS 6244	Advanced Practice Development, CL	(2:1:6 H)
NURS 6320	Systems Leadership for Effectiveness, Quality and Safety, CL	(3:2.75:1.5 H)

SEMESTER IV (8 credit hours)		Credits
NURS 6201	DNP Role Transition II	(2:2:0 H)
NURS 6350	Financial Intelligence for the DNP Leader	(3:3:0 H)
Advanced Practice Nursing Major		
NURS 7310	Health Innovations in Chronic Illness, CL	(3:2.25:4.5 H)
Executive Leadership Major		
NURS 7311	Leading Teams in Complex Health Care Environments, CL	(3:2.25:4.5 H)

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

SEMESTER VI (6 credit hours)		
NURS 7350	DNP Capstone Seminar and Practice Immersion, CL	(3:1.5:9 H)
NURS 7334	Integrating Community Mental Health into Health Care Systems, CL	(3:2.5:3 H)

GRADUATE PROGRAMS COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

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

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

KEY:

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

5000 Level Courses

5060. Individual Studies (V1-6 H or O)

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

5080. Special Topics (V1-6 H or O)

Designed to focus on subjects of special interest to groups of students. May be repeated for credit as topics vary.

5100. Foundations of the Well Child (1:1:0 O)

This course is designed to explore growth

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

5201. Telehealth and Rural Service Delivery (2:2:0 O)

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

5202. Psychotherapeutic Modalities with Individuals, Families and Groups across the Lifespan (2:2:0 O)

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

5203. Neuroscience & Epigenetics: A Lifespan Approach (2:2:0 O)

(Prerequisite: NURS 5345) This course presents the latest developments in neuroscience and epigenetics as they relate to psychiatric

symptom expression and symptom management throughout the lifespan. Emphasis is placed on neuroanatomical, neurophysiological and epigenetic mechanisms that impact mental health.

5204. Psychopharmacology (2:2:0 O)

(Pre or Corequisite: NURS 5203) This course builds on the student's knowledge of pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics, pharmacotherapeutics and neuroscience in the use of pharmacological and complementary therapies in the targeted management of psychiatric symptoms across the lifespan. Monitoring physiologic and psychiatric treatment response, the use of genetic testing and prevention of comorbid health conditions will be addressed. Prerequisites: NURS 5343 Pharmacotherapeutics for Nurses in Advanced Practice & NURS 5345 Advanced Practice Nursing: Application of Pathophysiology

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

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

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

(Prerequisites: NURS 5312, 5320, 5342, 5343, 5345, EFM and Neonatal Resuscitation Protocol; Corequisite NURS 5470) Examines selected issues/topics that enhance full scope of nurse-midwifery practice beyond the pregnancy and birth phases of the reproductive years. Clinical experiences are planned for family planning, contraceptive management, gynecologic visits-

including peri/postmenopausal visits and primary care.

5307. Diagnostics and Management I: Advanced Mental Health Assessment Across the Lifespan (CL) (3:2:1 O) (52.5 clinical hours)

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

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

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

5314. Leadership in Nursing Education I: Best Practices in Teaching & Technology Integration (3:3:0 O)

(Prerequisite: MSN student enrolled in the Nursing Education track) This course focuses on the nurse educator role by creating the foundational components of learning principles, pedagogical approaches, teaching strategies and information systems technology.

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

(Prerequisite or concurrent enrollment in NURS 5314) This course focuses on the concepts and components of course development,

implementation, evaluation, and revision in academic, continuing nursing education, or staff development settings will be emphasized as critical elements of the nurse educator role.

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

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

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

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

5320. Diagnostic Methods for Advanced Nursing Practice (CL) (3:2:3.5 O)

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

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

(Prerequisite: enrollment as a MSN student) This course will engage the student in the examination of information and technology concepts, theories, and skills necessary to optimally communicate, manage knowledge, minimize error, and support health care decisions. Students will learn to apply

information and communication technologies to integrate and coordinate patient care; examine data management systems to improve outcomes of care; and utilize evidence-based care and health education to manage health information. Principles of information and cognitive science will provide the foundation for integrating concepts of healthcare information, health care delivery, decision-support, and the ethical and secure management of information in the advanced practice nursing role.

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

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

5324. Population Health: Essentials for Advanced Nursing Practice (3:3:0 O)

(Prerequisite: enrollment as a MSN student) This course addresses the theoretical basis for population and environmental health, the principles of epidemiology, models/frameworks of health and health management systems and major population health concepts foundational to advanced nursing practice.

5325. Health Policy: Essentials for Advanced Nursing Practice (3:3:0 O)

(Prerequisite: enrollment as a MSN student) This course addresses health policy, financing,

and advocacy roles implemented by the MSN-prepared nurse, as well as professional issues for MSN-prepared nurses. Local, state, and national policies; legal and regulatory processes; and professional nursing issues impacting health care delivery are examined.

5326. Research for Advanced Nursing Practice (3:3:0 O)

(Perquisite: enrollment as a MSN student) This core course focuses on developing an understanding of fundamental aspects of research critique and common approaches to design and conduct of research relevant to nursing. While qualitative and quantitative approaches are introduced this course, the understanding and use of statistics in the context of research and research critique is emphasized.

5327. Evidence for Advanced Nursing Practice (3:3:0 O)

(Prerequisite: NURS 5326) This course promotes understanding and use of theory while focusing on methods underlying evidence based approaches to nursing practice. Selected theories that are relevant to evidence based nursing practice will be critiqued for usefulness and application in an effort to link theory, evidence, and practice. Practice problems form the basis for examining evidence application in nursing.

5332 Informatics II: Health Information Management and Knowledge (CL) (3:2:3 O)

(Pre or Corequisites: NURS 5322, 5231) This course establishes the major concepts with foundational emphasis on understanding nomenclature and vocabularies. Students will understand data transformation, beginning with raw sources and generating information, knowledge, and wisdom. This will be a practically oriented course with opportunity for hands on data analysis using healthcare data from the clinical setting, work with clinical decision support and analytic toolsets, and EHRs.

5333. Informatics III: Information Technology (CL) (3:2:3 O)

(Pre or Corequisites: NURS 5322, 5231) This course addresses the nursing informaticist's role in computer science and in supporting hardware, software, communication, and network technologies. Human-computer interaction and related concepts are addressed. Practical hands-on experiences in programming and managing technical aspects of the healthcare information technology support systems will reinforce the nursing informaticist's role.

5334. Informatics IV: Health Information Technology Systems Life Cycle (CL) (3:2:3 O)

(Pre or Corequisites: NURS 5231, 5333) This course emphasizes the role of the nursing informaticist in system development life cycle (SDLC), mastering skills necessary for the role in all phases of the development life cycle of health information technology. The SDLC concepts covered include system planning, analysis, implementation, and testing. Competencies related to project management, system selection and deployment, as well as developing and deploying system requirements documentation, RFIs and RFPs will be covered.

5335. Informatics V: Managing and Leading in Informatics (CL) (3:2:3 O)

(Pre or Corequisites: NURS 5333, 5334) This course will focus on the nursing informaticist's leadership role in organizations, as well as local, state and national policy agendas addressing an evolving utilization of health information technology and health information exchange within the industry. Additionally, the course will cover business management concepts necessary for nursing informaticists within the healthcare setting further emphasizing project management, strategic planning, budget planning and business planning processes. Quality

improvement methods will be emphasized to enhance information systems through leading teams to achieve quality.

5342. Advanced Health Assessment (CL)
(3:2:3.5 O)

Building upon basic physical assessment and history taking knowledge and skills, this course focuses on knowledge and clinical skills required for advanced practice nursing. Requires on campus skills lab.

5343. Pharmacotherapeutics for Nurses in Advanced Practice
(3:3:0 O)

This graduate course focuses on application of pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic principles to medication regimens for patients, male and female, across the life span. Students will utilize assessment data and evidence-based protocols to guide safe prescriptive decision-making in a master's prepared nursing role.

5345. Advanced Practice Nursing: Application of Pathophysiology
(3:3:0 O)

Study of the physiologic basis of disease for advanced practice nursing. Emphasis is on application of pathophysiologic concepts to the recognition of pathologic conditions and the management of clients with a variety of health problems across the life span.

5346. The Nursing Administrator: Standards for Excellence (CL)
(3:2.5:2 O)

(Prerequisite: Admission to the Graduate Program, Nursing Administration track) This course provides an overview of the current, major forces driving nursing services toward quality and nursing administrators toward competence. The focus is to develop an appreciation for the numerous quality initiatives that influence how nursing leaders lead their areas of accountability toward better patient care.

5347. Administrative Role Development (CL)
(3:2.5:2 O)

(Prerequisite: NURS 5346) The focus of this course is on creation of an effective workplace in which safe patient care can occur. The traditional elements of managing are the avenues through which learners gain insight into the effectiveness and influence of the administrative role.

5348. Administrative Role Development: The Nurse Administrator as Leader (CL)
(3:2:4 O)

(Prerequisite: NURS 5347) This course centers on interpreting the social and political impact on the organization and the issues that influence how the nurse administrator enacts the role of leader.

5385. Health Law Survey for the Nurse Executive
(3:3:0 O)

(Prerequisite: MSN student enrolled in Nursing Administration specialty track.) Students will explore legal issues and government regulations impacting the health care arena and the delivery of care. Topics in the law and impinging ethical issues are explored using court cases and clinical case studies.

5386. Finance and Budgeting for Nurse Leaders
(3:3:0 O)

(Prerequisite: MSN student enrolled in the Nursing Administration specialty track.) This course is designed to provide graduate students with information and skills for developing budgets and managing financial issues in health care facilities, clinics, independent practice or a nursing unit.

5420. Foundations of World Health
(4:4:0 O)

This course provides a conceptual and ethical foundation for rural community and global health practice. Students are introduced to the fundamental social, political, and economic determinants of health in rural communities and developed/developing countries. A multi-

professional approach to teaching the course concepts is employed.

5421. Issues in World Health
(4:4:0 O)

The course focuses on the rural/global burden of disease and the pattern of disease variations within and among communities/countries. The course explores management of disease and the empowerment of people within their communities to manage their health with limited resources. A multi-professional approach to teaching the course concepts is employed.

5422. Practicum: Application of the World Health Concepts (CL)
(4:3:1.5 O)

This course focuses on clinical application for improving health in rural/global health communities. Students will complete a project and clinical experience in an approved global/rural health setting under the supervision of a TTUHSC faculty member.

5440. Primary Healthcare I (CL)
(4:2:7 O)

(Prerequisites: NURS 5312, 5320, 5342, 5343, 5345) This is a didactic and clinical course that builds upon concepts and skills derived from prerequisite courses. Advanced practice nursing (APRN) students will integrate theoretical and evidence-based knowledge of assessment, diagnosis, treatment, and evaluation of patients with acute and chronic health problems across the lifespan. The focus is on development of critical thinking and decision making skills necessary for the provision of safe and effective primary health care in the nurse practitioner role.

5460. Adult-Gerontology Acute Care I (CL)
(4:2:7 O)

(Prerequisites: NURS 5312, 5320, 5342, 5343, 5345, ACLS Certification.) This course is designed to develop a beginning theoretical and research based knowledge of assessment diagnosis, and

treatment of adult and geriatric patients with acute and chronic health problems. Emphasis will be placed on applying this knowledge to the assessment and management of both health and illness states including disease prevention. Clinical activities focus on enhancing health assessment skills, delineating differential diagnoses, and learning initial clinical management of clients experiencing acute and chronic health problems. The role and competencies of the Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner will be examined.

5470. Nurse Midwifery I – Antepartum Care Management (CL)
(4:2:7 O)

(Prerequisites: NURS 5342, 5343, 5345, EFM and Neonatal Resuscitation Protocol; Co-Requisite: NURS 5304) Utilizes the Nurse Midwifery management process in provision of comprehensive prenatal care for women experiencing normal childbearing. Emphasis is placed on the assessment for maternal and fetal well-being with screening for deviations from normal that would require consultation/collaboration and/or referral. Educational needs and social/cultural contexts are included. The practicum includes Nurse Midwifery Management of women experiencing childbearing.

5480. Pediatric Primary Care I (CL)
(4:2:7 O)

(Prerequisites: NURS 5100, 5312, 5320, 5342, 5343, 5345). This didactic and clinical course builds upon concepts and skills derived from prerequisite courses. Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Primary Care (PNP-PC) students will develop advanced practice skills in caring children from birth through young adult including well child assessment and prevention/management of common pediatric acute illnesses and chronic conditions. Students will develop advanced practice skills in comprehensive assessment, diagnosis, and management strategies that reflect current evidence based practice. The focus is on

development of critical thinking and decision-making skills necessary for the provision of safe and effective care of children.

5500 Pediatric Acute Care I (CL)

(5:2:10.5 O)

(Prerequisites: NURS 5100, 5312, 5320, 5342, 5343, 5345) This course focuses on care of children with acute, complex acute, and chronic, illness across the entire pediatric age spectrum, from birth to young adult. Students will develop advanced practice skills in comprehensive assessment, diagnosis, and management strategies that reflect current evidence based practice. Students will have opportunities to implement the role of the acute care pediatric nurse practitioner across the continuum of care settings.

5541. Primary Healthcare II (CL)

(5:2:10.5 O)

(Prerequisite: NURS 5440) This course is a didactic and clinical course that builds upon the study of advanced practice nursing (APRN) concepts and skills derived in Primary Care I (NURS5440). APRN students will integrate theoretical and evidence-based knowledge of assessment, diagnosis, management, and evaluation of patients with acute and chronic health problems across the lifespan. The course focuses on APRN role development and synthesis of data from a variety of sources to make clinical decisions regarding appropriate management, consultation, or referral necessary for the provision of safe and effective care.

5561. Adult-Gerontology Acute Care II (CL)

(5:2:10.5 O)

(Prerequisite: NURS 5460) This course is designed to build on major components critical to the knowledge of diagnosis, treatment, and evaluation of adult and geriatric patients with acute and chronic health problems. Clinical experiences include a spectrum of care ranging from disease prevention to acute and critical care management. Clinical practice focuses on research-based clinical decision-making processes in close

collaboration with preceptors.

5571. Nurse Midwifery II – Intrapartum/ Postpartum/Newborn Care (CL)

(5:2:10.5 O)

(Prerequisite: NURS 5470) Allows the student to study, analyze, and apply the concepts of the Nurse Midwifery Management process for the intrapartum/postpartum care of women and care of the newborn. The course focuses on attainment of assessment and management skills in assuming responsibility for planning and providing Nurse Midwifery Management care for normal intrapartum patients with continuity of care into the postpartum, and newborn care up until the first 28 days of life.

5581. Pediatric Primary Care II (CL)

(5:2:10.5 O)

(Prerequisite: NURS 5480) This course emphasizes the role of the Primary Care Pediatric Nurse Practitioner (PC-PNP) in managing acute and chronic health conditions across the entire pediatric age spectrum from birth to young adult. The student will assimilate and apply knowledge from prerequisite courses. The focus of this course is to formulate diagnoses, develop family centered treatment and evaluation plans, and use evidence to provide expert pediatric care.

5600 Pediatric Acute Care II (CL)

(6:2:14 O)

(Prerequisite: NURS 5500)

This course emphasizes the role of the Acute Care Pediatric Nurse Practitioner (AC-PNP) as a member of an interprofessional team managing complex acute, critical and chronic, illness across the entire pediatric age spectrum, from birth to young adult. The student will assimilate knowledge from prerequisite courses. Emphasis is placed on formulating diagnoses, treatment plans, and use of evidence to provide expert pediatric clinical care. The student will perform consultations and make referrals in a variety of setting.

5603. Evidence-based Management of Adults with Mental Health Disorders (CL)

(6:3:3 O) (157.5 clinical hours)

(Prerequisites: NURS 5307, 5204, 5327. Pre or co-requisites: NURS 5202, 5201) This course provides the essential knowledge and theoretical foundations for assessing, diagnosing, and managing adult and geriatric clients who have dysfunctional coping patterns and psychiatric disorders. This course provides an integrated learning experience during which the student implements the role of the psychiatric-mental health nurse practitioner in the clinical setting utilizing current evidence-based practice guidelines along with targeted, individualized care management. Emphasis is given to mental health promotion and collaboration with clients, their support systems and the interprofessional team.

5604. Evidence-based Management of Children & Adolescents with Mental Health Disorders (CL)

(6:3:3 O) (157.5 clinical hours)

(Prerequisites: NURS 5307, 5204, 5327. Pre or co-requisites: NURS 5202, 5201) This course provides the essential knowledge and theoretical foundations for assessing, diagnosing, and intervening in dysfunctional coping patterns and psychiatric disorders in children and adolescents. This course provides an integrated learning experience during which the student implements the role of the psychiatric-mental health nurse practitioner in the clinical setting utilizing current evidence-based practice guidelines along with targeted, individualized care management. Emphasis is given to mental health promotion and collaboration with the child and adolescent, their support systems and the interprofessional team.

6000 Level Courses

6001. Graduation Station

(0:0:0 O)

Prerequisites: Student must be in their last semester of enrollment prior to graduation. Students are required to enroll in this course in the semester in which they are scheduled to graduate. The course serves as the vehicle for students to pay their graduation fee and complete the School of Nursing's Graduation Assessment. There is no tuition charged for this course, the student does not generate semester credit hours for the course, and the course is not graded.

6010. Application of Administrative Practice (CL)

(3:0:12 O)

(Prerequisite: successful completion of the administrative course sequence; authorization from a clinical agency willing to support the practice experience.) This course provides learners with the opportunity to implement ideas into a practice setting. It is designed to allow learners to use ideas from the literature, their peers, conferences and other approved sources to create an application project designed to change practice from a clinical or administrative perspective.

6030. Leadership in Education IV: Role and Practicum (CL)

(3:.5:7.5 O)

(Prerequisite: NURS 5314, 5315, 5316)

Immersion in all leadership aspects of the faculty role in an academic, CE, or staff development setting with guidance of a preceptor.

6200. DNP Role Transition I

(2:2:0 H)

(Prerequisite: Doctorate of Nursing Practice Student) The course is designed to provide students with the opportunity to engage in extensive self-assessment of leadership strengths and emotional intelligence and develop action

plans for personal growth through self-directed learning. Self-knowing and reflective leadership are essential attributes of transformation leaders in complex health care systems.

**6201. DNP Role Transition II
(2:2:0 H)**

(Prerequisite: NURS 6200) 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.

**6244. Advanced Practice Development (CL)
(2:1:6 H)**

This course prepares the DNP student to gain a deeper understanding of emerging knowledge and issues in a distinct specialty area related to the Capstone Project topic. The student will have the opportunity to engage in collaboration with other experts and specialists in the topic area and to develop advanced reasoning skills. Students will determine with faculty guidance specific goals for individualized advanced practice experiences.

**6310. Practical Application of Statistics in Health Care
(3:3:0 H)**

(Prerequisite: Doctorate of Nursing Practice student) The course will provide the basics of statistical analysis, measurement theory and data management. The course will focus on the application of statistics to health services research and to clinical healthcare settings. The students will have hands-on experience using SPSS statistical software in computer labs with data preparation, statistical analysis, and data display. Statistical tests covered in the course will range from simple T-test through multiple regressions with an introduction to statistical modeling.

**6320. Systems Leadership for Effectiveness, Quality and Safety (CL)
(3:2.75:1.5 H)**

(Prerequisite: Doctorate of Nursing Practice student) The course will explore the scientific underpinnings of leadership, organizational effectiveness and quality improvement. Students will be provided with strategies and tools for transformational leadership and systems thinking in complex adaptive systems including effective communication, process analysis, measuring and tracking quality and safety data, and facilitating change to improve health outcomes.

**6325. Informatics and Technology to Improve Health Care (CL)
(3:2.75:1.5 H)**

(Prerequisite: Doctorate of Nursing Practice student) The course will explore health care informatics and methods to apply information technology to clinical care for improving patient safety, quality and the health of the population. Students will learn information technology and research methods that collect appropriate and accurate data to generate evidence for practice and to inform and guide the design of databases to generate meaningful evidence for nursing practice.

**6330. Evidence Based Inquiry I
(3:3:0 H)**

(Prerequisite: Doctorate of Nursing Practice student) The course will prepare students to integrate evidence based practice in clinical settings after careful evaluation of best evidence. Emphasis will be placed on synthesizing and evaluating a specific body of evidence for merit and generalizability to the clinical setting and transforming practice problems into answerable questions. Students will begin developing their capstone project in this course.

**6340. Advancing Policy and Politics in Health Care (CL)
(3:2.75:1.5 H)**

(Prerequisite: Doctorate of Nursing Practice student) The course provides opportunities for nursing leaders to value the political processes that influence policy decisions through analyzing public policies, health policies, and legislation at the organizational, local, state, national, and international level. This course includes opportunities to advocate and participate in political and policy-making processes for a health issue in the student's area of interest and career trajectory.

**6345. Population Health and Epidemiology
(3:3:0 H)**

(Prerequisite: Doctorate of Nursing Practice student.) This course provides a comprehensive investigation into the application of public health and epidemiology principles. Emphasis will be placed on using technologically advanced clinical information systems that aggregate patient data so that group and/or population-based clinical profiles, practice patterns and variations, genetic problems, and health disparities can be identified, analyzed and compared to regional and national benchmark norms and data bases.

**6350. Financial Intelligence for the DNP Leader
(3:3:0 H)**

(Prerequisite: Doctorate of Nursing Practice student.) The course is designed to increase the nurse leader's understanding of health care economics and financing mechanisms as well as to advance skills in managing financial issues, developing budgets, making sound financial decisions, and managing projects to achieve strategic goals in health care. Students will gain hands-on experience in analyzing financial statements, developing business plans, establishing procedures for accurate charging mechanisms, and educating patient care teams on financial implications of patient care decisions.

6440. Informatics VI: Practicum (CL) (4:1:9 O)

(Pre or Corequisites: NURS 5334, 5335) This practicum experience is designed to be a comprehensive and integrated application of the curriculum which will allow the students to demonstrate professional competency in nursing informatics in a clinical health information technology specialty area of interest. The clinical field experience will be focused on a Capstone major project deliverable involving practice oriented research, quality improvement, clinical decision support, analytics, programming or other major project in specialty area of interest approved by faculty.

**6500. Interprofessional Collaboration in Management of the Complex Psychiatric Patients Across the Lifespan (CL)
(5:2:3 O) (157.5 clinical hours)**

This capstone course focuses on interprofessional collaboration in the management of clients with complex and comorbid mental health disorders including crisis interventions and stabilization. Additionally, the prevention and management of co-occurring chronic health conditions such as diabetes, heart disease and COPD will be addressed in optimizing the client's overall health. (Prerequisites: NURS 5201, 5603, 5604)

**6620. Nursing Practicum Integrated Practice (CL)
(6:1:17.5 H)**

(Prerequisite: NURS 5571) Applies knowledge and skills gained in the preceding courses across the reproductive and postmenopausal life span including the childbearing cycle, as well as initial care of the newborn up until the first 28 days. Nurse Midwifery Management of common deviations and collaborative management of selected complications are included. Emphasis is on increasing independence of practice and comprehensiveness of care. Expected achievement includes integration of components of nurse midwifery practice to a selected population while assuming increasing responsibility and independence.

6652. Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Practicum (CL)

(6:1:17.5 O)

(Prerequisite: NURS 5561) This course emphasizes clinical practice and role development to prepare the graduate to implement the full scope of the adult-gerontology acute care NP role. Clinical activities allow for immersion in the advanced practice nursing role. Function and responsibility on selected topics of the advanced practice role are addressed.

6660. Family Nurse Practitioner Practicum (CL)
(6:1:17.5 O)

(Prerequisites: NURS 5440, 5541) This course provides a clinical immersion experience to integrate and synthesize the APRN role. APRN students will integrate theoretical and evidence-based knowledge of assessment, diagnosis, management, and evaluation of patients with increasingly complex acute and chronic health problems across the lifespan. Issues related to APRN responsibilities and competencies are addressed.

6680. Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Practicum (CL)

(6:1:17.5 O)

(Prerequisite: NURS 5581) This course provides a clinical immersion experience to integrate and synthesize the Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) role for the Primary Care Pediatric Nurse Practitioner (PC-PNP). Issues related to APRN responsibilities, competencies, and scope of practice for the PC-PNP are included.

6690 Pediatric Acute Care III (CL)

(6:1:17.5 O)

(Prerequisite: NURS 5600) This course provides a clinical immersion experience to integrate and synthesize the Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) role for the Acute Care Pediatric Nurse Practitioner (AC-PNP). Issues related to APRN responsibilities, competencies, and scope of practice for the AC-PNP are included.

7000 Level Courses

7310. Health Innovations in Chronic Illness (CL)

3:2.25:4.5 H)

(Prerequisites: Concurrent enrollment in or completion of DNP core leadership courses and DNP core evidence-based science courses.) The course provides the opportunity for advanced exploration of theory and evidence-based research underlying the adoption of healthy lifestyle behaviors in the prevention, management and palliative care of chronic disease. Students will apply and evaluate theories and principles of healthy behavior change in individuals, families and/or communities in rural and urban settings.

7311. Leading Teams in Complex Health Care Environments (CL)

(3:2.25:4.5 H)

(Prerequisites: Concurrent enrollment in or completion of DNP core leadership courses and DNP core evidence-based courses.) Leading and managing interprofessional groups, as well as nursing groups, is a critical leadership skill. Numerous strategies exist to develop teams. This course focuses on knowing oneself as a leader, forecasting future needs, understanding the team, coaching others, balancing data driven decisions with innovation, and valuing the complexity of the evolving healthcare environment.

7321. Health Care Economics and Finance (3:3:0 H)

(Prerequisites: Concurrent enrollment in or completion of DNP core leadership courses and DNP core evidence-based courses.) This course is designed to provide an in-depth look at the economics of U.S. health care and major issues that have prompted the current attempt at health care reform. Health care represents nearly fifteen percent of the U.S. Gross Domestic Product, and more importantly, has profound effect on almost all individuals. Resources in the health care industry are scarce and a source of conflict. This course will attempt to utilize many

traditional tools of economics to illustrate how limited resources can be applied to the health care sector. Additionally, certain health care related topics pertaining to other industrialized and developed countries will be discussed. Students will be introduced to a variety of economic theories, models and tools that will facilitate the understanding of the breadth of subjects introduced during the semester.

7331 Population Health at the Organizational and Public Policy Level (CL)

(3:2.25:4.5 H)

(Prerequisites: Concurrent enrollment in or completion of DNP core leadership courses and DNP core evidence-based courses.) The course provides nurse leaders in the DNP role with the skills to evaluate care delivery models and strategies related to community, environmental, occupational, cultural and socioeconomic dimensions of health. Students will learn to access and analyze population-level health data, design evidence-based interventions at the organizational and public policy level, and predict and analyze outcomes to improve population health.

7332. Evidence Based Inquiry II

(3:3:0 H)

(Prerequisite: NURS 6330) The course will build on Evidence Based Inquiry I, refining the student's ability to evaluate and synthesize evidence for integration into clinical practice. Emphasis will be placed on translating the evidence into actual clinical or management practice as well as creating an environment for the integration of evidence based practice within an organization. Students will further develop their capstone project in this course.

7334. Integrating Community Mental Health Concepts into Health Care Systems (CL)

(3:2.5:3 H)

(Prerequisites: Concurrent enrollment in or completion of DNP core leadership courses and DNP core evidence-based courses.) The course uses the field of integrative health care as a venue

for developing the student's role to improve health care for rural and vulnerable populations who have limited access to conventional health services by introducing change within existing health care systems. Students are provided the opportunity to observe, analyze, and experience various culturally-based modalities and non-traditional health practices. Critical reviews of the application of evidenced based research approaches to examine the effectiveness and safety of CAM in advanced nursing practice will be synthesized within an analysis of health care systems.

7350. DNP Capstone Seminar and Practice Immersion (CL)

(3:1.5:9 H)

(Prerequisites: Concurrent enrollment in or completion of DNP 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.



Faculty

Acton, Cindy, DNP, RN, NEA-BC

Associate Professor, Director of the MSN Nursing Administration Track – BSN (West Texas A&M), MSN (West Texas A&M), DNP (Case Western Reserve University)

Allen, Patricia, EdD, RN, CNE, ANEF, FAAN

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Instructor - MSN (University of Ghana), BSN (University of Ghana)

Bargainer, Ruth, MSN, RN

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Assistant Professor – BSN (New Mexico State University), MSN (University of Texas at El Paso)

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2016 - 2017 Catalog Addendum

REVISED 8.1.16

- P 95: MSN Nursing Education course requirement table updated
- P 127: Edit to course description NURS 5315
- P 128: Edit to course description NURS 5316

REVISED 11.2.16

- P 45: Added Fall 2017 application date
- P 125: Wrong course number listed. Changed NURS 7330 to NURS 7334
- P 137: Wrong course number listed. Changed NURS 7330 to NURS 7334