

Master of Science in Nursing for RNs:



UNC
SCHOOL OF NURSING

Program Overview

Registered Nurses, with an Associate's Degree or Diploma in Nursing, are eligible to apply directly to The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Nursing's Master's Program. This option allows nurses interested in advanced practice nursing to move more directly into roles such as certified nurse practitioners, clinical specialists, or nurse managers.

Students choose one of the following advanced practice areas:

- Adult Nurse Practitioner
- Family Nurse Practitioner
- Health Care Systems Specialist (Administration, Outcomes Management, Education, or Informatics)
- Pediatric Nurse Practitioner
- Pediatric Clinical Nurse Specialist
- Psychiatric-Mental Health Clinical Nurse Specialist
- Psychiatric-Mental Health CNS/Nurse Practitioner
- Women's Health Care Nurse Practitioner
- Women's Health Care Clinical Nurse Specialist

The nursing component of the RN-MSN program includes three undergraduate nursing courses, plus 39-42 graduate credits, including courses in the professional, research and clinical cores, as well as the student's chosen advanced practice area. The three required undergraduate courses must be completed before progressing to the master's clinical courses.

Full-time and part-time study options are available for master's students. Once the BSN courses are completed, full-time students normally complete the master's program in four academic semesters and one summer. Part-time students may complete the master's program in six semesters with some summer work, depending on the specific advanced practice area of study selected by the student.

A variety of clinical experiences is available in each advanced practice area. Every effort is made to place students in or near their home communities or in settings most desired by the students for their clinical experiences.

ADMISSION

Registered nurses will need to complete 51 college-level credits including specific pre-nursing courses prior to enrollment in the master's program. (Students may apply prior to completing the courses, with a plan to complete them prior to acceptance. Please call for more specific information.)

Applicants must meet University Graduate School admissions requirements as well as requirements of all master's applicants to the School of Nursing.

Registered nurse applicants will complete the integrated Graduate School/MSN Application, which requires competitive scores on the Graduate Record Exam (GRE). A minimum GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale (using only courses that make up the 51 credits required for admission) is expected.

Applicants should also have one year minimum practice as an RN prior to enrollment.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Applicants will need to complete 51 college-level credits prior to enrollment. These courses may be taken at any accredited college or university. The grade point average used for admission purposes will be calculated using these 51 credits. Below is a list of the prerequisites.

English Composition	3 credits
Humanities (e.g., history, fine arts, literature, philosophy)	9 credits
Biological Sciences, including Anatomy and Physiology	12 credits
Other Sciences (e.g., chemistry, physics)	6 credits
Human Growth and Development	3 credits
Other Social Sciences (e.g., psychology, sociology, anthropology)	12 credits
Statistics (must NOT be older than 10 years of matriculation to the RN-MSN Program)	3 credits
Elective (humanities, science or social science)	<u>3 credits</u>
TOTAL	51 credits

RN-MSN SPECIFIC CURRICULUM

RN-MSN students will take the following three undergraduate level courses once admitted to the RN-MSN Program but prior to enrolling in any master's level clinical course:

NURS 490 Conceptual Bases of Professional Nursing Practice (3 credits)

Selected concepts and theories are explored as a basis for making judgments and decisions in nursing practice. Critical thinking skills are developed as an essential component of professional practice.

NURS 491 Improving Nursing Practice: Application of Concepts, Theories, and Research (3 credits)

This course emphasizes analysis of clinical problems which affect the nursing care of selected populations. Students also apply the nursing process, therapeutic communication skills, and teaching-learning principles in clinical situations.

NURS 494 Community Health Nursing for the Public's Health (6 credits)

Prepares RN students for population-focused practice in community health nursing. Analyses and applications of selected theories, and health promotion/protection and disease prevention strategies are emphasized.

Please request a catalog insert for a specific master's advanced practice area for a detailed listing of the master's-level courses required.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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