



Student Catalog  
2012-2013



**TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY**  
**HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER™**  
*School of Nursing*



## CATALOG

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

The provisions of this *Catalog* do not constitute a contract, expressed or implied, between any applicant 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 so determine the application to both prospective students and to the students already enrolled.

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





## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>Welcome</b> .....	1
<b>Administration</b> .....	2
Institutional Administration .....	2
<b>Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center (TTUHSC) Mission &amp; Vision</b> .....	3
<b>School of Nursing Mission, Vision, Values, &amp; Strategic Goals</b> .....	4
<b>Brief History</b> .....	4
Texas Tech University & Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center .....	4
Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center School of Nursing .....	4
Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center Accreditation .....	4
School of Nursing Commitment .....	5
School of Nursing Program Accreditation .....	5
<b>School of Nursing Administration</b> .....	6
Dean of Nursing .....	6
Administration and Student Affairs .....	6
Academic Services .....	6
Academic Department .....	6
Regional Deans .....	7
Education Support Services .....	7
<b>Admissions and Student Affairs Contact Information</b> .....	8
Undergraduate Department .....	8
Graduate Department .....	9
Collaborative Program .....	9
Outcomes Management and Evaluation .....	9
<b>Degree Program and Options</b> .....	10
<b>Traditional Undergraduate Department</b> .....	10
Traditional BSN Program .....	10
<b>Non-Traditional Undergraduate Department</b> .....	10
Second Degree BSN Program .....	10
RN to BSN Program .....	10
<b>Graduate Department</b> .....	10
Master of Science in Nursing Leadership Program .....	10
Master of Science in Nursing Education Program .....	10
Doctorate of Nursing Practice .....	10
Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Program (Nurse Practitioner Tracks) .....	11
Master of Science in Nursing Nurse Midwifery Track .....	11
<b>Essential Eligibility Requirements for Participation in the School of Nursing</b> .....	12
<b>Core Curriculum Effective Fall 2012</b> .....	12
<b>Academic Services</b> .....	13
Clinical Practice and Community Engagement .....	13
Research .....	13
Outcomes Management and Evaluation .....	13

<b>Student Life</b> .....	14
Activities, Athletics, Entertainment, and Recreation .....	14
Awards .....	14
Computer Requirements .....	14
Employment .....	14
F Marie Hall <i>SimLife</i> Simulation Center.....	14
Health Services .....	14
Housing.....	15
Preston Smith Library of the Health Science.....	15
Textbooks.....	15
<b>Student Services</b> .....	15
Graduation.....	15
<b>Student Assistance Program</b> .....	15
<b>University Counseling Center</b> .....	16
<b>International (Non-Immigrant) Application Policy</b> .....	16
<b>Financial Information</b> .....	17
Tuition and Fees.....	17
Refund Policies for Tuition and Fees.....	17
Financial Aid.....	17
<b>Scholarships</b> .....	18
<b>Organizations</b> .....	19
Department Advisory Councils (Undergraduate & Graduate).....	19
Mentoring Advanced Practice Students (MAPS) .....	19
<b>Professional Societies</b> .....	19
Iota Mu Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau (International Nursing Honor Society) .....	19
Phi Kappa Phi .....	19
Golden Key .....	19
Student Government Association.....	19
Texas Nursing Student Association .....	19
<b>Additional General Information</b> .....	20
Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).....	20
Confidentiality/Health Insurance Portability & Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPPA) .....	20
Family Educational Rights & Privacy Act (FERPA).....	20
Smoke-Free Campus .....	20
State Privacy Policies.....	20
<b>Other Programs at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center</b> .....	21
Gayle Greve Hunt School of Nursing .....	21
Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences .....	21
Paul L. Foster School of Medicine and TTUHSC School of Medicine .....	21
School of Allied Sciences .....	21
School of Pharmacy .....	21
<b>Undergraduate Department</b> .....	22
Purpose.....	22
Student Learning Outcomes.....	22
Application and Admissions Information .....	22
Application Deadlines .....	22
<b><u>Traditional BSN Department</u></b>	
Admissions Requirements.....	23

Eligibility to take NCLEX-RN Examination.....	23
Excess Undergraduate Credit Hours.....	24
Computer Requirements .....	25
Drug Screening .....	25
Special Student Enrollment.....	25
Non-degree.....	25
Enrollment without Credit/Course Audit.....	25
Provisional Admission.....	25
Readmission.....	25
Prerequisite Courses.....	25
Required Non-Nursing Prerequisite Courses for Traditional BSN Program.....	26
Important Information about Pre-Nursing Course Requirements.....	26
Recognition of Previous Learning .....	27
Transfer of Credit.....	27
Advanced Placement.....	27
Offer of Admission .....	27
Degree Requirements for Students Admitted to Program.....	27
Graduation under a Particular Catalog.....	27
Maintaining Minimum Academic Requirements.....	27
Academic Dismissal.....	27
Comprehensive Examinations .....	28
Residence Credit .....	28
Semester Credit Hours and Course Loads .....	28
Degree Plan.....	28
Generic Degree Plan Traditional BSN Program.....	28
Course Descriptions.....	29
Undergraduate Traditional Program Courses .....	29
<b><u>Non-Traditional Undergraduate Department</u></b>	
<b>Second Degree Web-based BSN Program .....</b>	<b>33</b>
Admissions Requirements.....	33
Eligibility to take NCLEX-RN Examination.....	34
Excess Undergraduate Credit Hours .....	35
Computer Requirements .....	35
Criminal Background Check.....	35
Drug Screening .....	35
Special Student Enrollment.....	36
Non-degree.....	36
Enrollment without Credit/Course Audit.....	36
Provisional Admission.....	36
Conditional Admission .....	36
Readmission.....	36
Transfer Student.....	36
Prerequisite Courses.....	36
Second Degree Web-Based BSN Program .....	36
Important Information about Pre-Nursing Course Requirements.....	37
Recognition of Previous Learning .....	37
Transfer of Credit.....	37
Advanced Placement.....	37
Offer of Admission .....	37
Degree Requirements for Students Admitted to Program.....	38
Graduation under a Particular Catalog.....	38
Maintaining Minimum Academic Requirements.....	38
Comprehensive Examinations .....	38

Residence Credit .....	38
Semester Credit Hours and Course Loads .....	38
Degree Plan.....	38
Sample Degree Plan Second Degree Web Based BSN Program .....	38
Course Descriptions.....	40
Second Degree Web Based BSN Undergraduate Program Courses .....	40
<b>RN-BSN Program .....</b>	<b>42</b>
Admissions Requirements.....	42
Excess Undergraduate Credit Hours .....	42
Computer Requirements & Skills .....	43
Criminal Background Check.....	43
Drug Screening .....	43
Special Student Enrollment.....	43
Non-degree.....	43
Enrollment without Credit/Course Audit.....	43
Provisional Admission .....	43
Conditional Admission .....	43
Readmission.....	43
Transfer Student.....	44
Prerequisite Courses.....	44
Required Non-Nursing Prerequisite Courses for RN-BSN Program .....	44
Important Information about General Education & Associate Degree Course Requirements .....	45
Recognition of Previous Learning .....	45
Transfer of Credit.....	45
Advanced Placement.....	46
Offer of Admission .....	46
Degree Requirements for Students Admitted to Program.....	46
Graduation under a Particular Catalog.....	46
Maintaining Minimum Academic Requirements.....	46
Academic Dismissal.....	46
Residence Credit .....	46
Semester Credit Hours and Course Loads .....	46
Degree Plan.....	47
Sample Degree Plan RN-BSN Program .....	47
Course Descriptions.....	48
RN-BSN Undergraduate Program Courses .....	48

## **Graduate Department**

Introduction.....	50
<b>Master of Science in Nursing (MSN).....</b>	<b>50</b>
Purpose.....	50
Student Learning Outcomes.....	50
Application and Admissions Information .....	50
Application Deadlines .....	50
Admissions Requirements.....	51
Computer Requirements .....	52
Criminal Background Check.....	52
Immunizations .....	52
Drug Screening .....	52
Special Student Enrollment.....	52
Non-degree.....	53
Enrollment without Credit/Course Audit.....	53
Provisional Admission.....	53
Conditional Admission .....	53

Readmission.....	53
Transfer Student from other Educational Institution .....	53
Recognition of Previous Learning .....	54
Transfer of Credit.....	54
Offer of Admission .....	54
Degree Requirements for Students Admitted to Graduate Program .....	54
Graduation under a Particular Catalog.....	54
Maintaining Minimum Academic Requirements.....	54
Majority of Credits.....	54
Requirements for Progression towards the Degree.....	54
Academic Dismissal.....	55
Residence Credit .....	55
Semester Credit Hours and Course Loads .....	55
MSN Degree Course Requirements .....	56
MSN Collaborative TTUHSC-Angelo State (ASU) Degree Course Requirements .....	59
Post Masters Nurse Practitioner Certificate Course Requirements.....	61
RN-MSN Rural Education Leadership Track .....	62
RN-MSN Admission Requirements.....	62
RN-MSN Prerequisite Courses .....	63
RN-MSN Degree Requirements .....	64
<b>Doctorate of Nursing Practice (DNP).....</b>	<b>66</b>
Purpose.....	66
Student Learning Outcomes.....	66
Application and Admissions Information .....	66
Application Deadlines .....	66
Admissions Requirements.....	67
Computer Requirements .....	68
Criminal Background Check.....	68
Immunizations .....	68
Drug Screening .....	68
Special Student Enrollment.....	68
Enrollment without Credit/Course Audit.....	68
Provisional Admission .....	68
Conditional Admission .....	69
Readmission.....	69
Transfer Student.....	69
Recognition of Previous Learning .....	69
Transfer of Credit.....	69
Offer of Admission .....	69
Degree Requirements for Students Admitted to Program.....	70
Graduation under a Particular Catalog.....	70
DNP Clinical Hour Requirements .....	70
Maintaining Minimum Academic Requirements.....	70
Progression in the Graduate Department .....	70
Academic Dismissal.....	70
Residence Credit .....	71
Semester Credit Hours and Course Loads .....	71
DNP Degree Requirements and Course Progression .....	71
<b>Graduate Course Descriptions .....</b>	<b>72</b>
<b>Faculty .....</b>	<b>79</b>





## WELCOME

The Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center School of Nursing is the best choice for a comprehensive, state-of-the-art nursing education.

The School of Nursing is known for its outstanding faculty, and is a pioneer in distance education. At a time when nurses are greatly needed in the state of Texas, our School of Nursing is offering new and innovative educational programs to the next generation of health care professionals throughout Texas. Upon graduation, you will join our alumni in serving hospitals and clinics, influencing state and national policymakers, conducting research and teaching across the nation.

I commend you on your decision to join the Texas Tech family, and wish you a rewarding and successful future.

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

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

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

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

***Ted Mitchell, M.D., President  
Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center***

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***





## TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER

### INSTITUTIONAL ADMINISTRATION

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

Jerry E. Turner, Chairman  
Mickey L. Long, Vice Chairman  
L. Frederick "Rick" Francis  
John Field Scovell  
Nancy Neal  
John Walker  
Larry K. Anders  
Debbie Montford  
John D. Steinmetz

Christina Martinez, Executive Assistant

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

Kent Hance, Chancellor  
Ted Mitchell, MD, President for the Health Sciences Center  
Steven L. Berk, MD, Executive Vice President and Provost  
Elmo Cavin, Executive Vice President for Finance and Administration  
Doug Stocco, PhD, Executive Vice President for Research  
Rial Rolfe, PhD, Senior Vice President for Academic Services  
Chip Shaw, Vice President for Information and Technology and CIO  
Billy U. Philip, Jr., PhD, 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. Mitemeyer -Interim (2006-2007)  
John C. Baldwin, President (2007- 2009)  
Ted Mitchell, President (2010-present)

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

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



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

### **MISSION**

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

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

### **VISION**

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

### **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 in 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 schools of nursing, allied health sciences and the graduate school of biomedical sciences. In 1993, the legislature authorized the establishment of a School of Pharmacy in Amarillo. In addition, allied health sciences 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. The six 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 special effort is made to recruit applicants from West Texas and rural and border communities.

TTUHSC is committed to providing quality education and the development of academics, research, patient care and outreach to meet the health care needs of the 108 counties of West Texas, which comprise 48 percent of the state's total land mass and 11 percent of the population. This 131,000-square-mile service area and population of 2.7 million remains highly underserved by health professionals and accessible health care facilities, despite the substantial and meaningful contribution made by our institution. While education of students and residents remains TTUHSC's primary focus, there has been an important impact on the health status of West Texas. 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 the region's health status has improved significantly.



## **SCHOOL OF NURSING**

### **MISSION**

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

### **VISION**

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

### **VALUES**

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

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

### **BRIEF HISTORY**

The Texas Tech University of Health Sciences Center School of Nursing is the only nursing school on the South Plains that provides baccalaureate, masters, and doctoral education. Since its inception the school has planned innovative degrees to meet the needs of Texas residents. With an expanded selection of educational options offered throughout Texas and beyond, the School of Nursing continues to help bolster the state's nursing workforce by educating more than 1,000 students each year.

The first students were admitted to the Traditional Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) four-year degree on the Lubbock campus August 26, 1981. Additionally, LVN students were admitted to the sophomore year and RN students were admitted to the junior year. Four years later, RN to BSN only 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 Program was launched in Austin/Hill Country and Lubbock in 2005 and is now offered in Abilene, Permian Basin, and El Paso. In 2008, the inaugural cohort of doctoral students was admitted into the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program and in 2009 the Traditional BSN program was expanded to include Abilene, Permian Basin, and El Paso.

The Lubbock campus was renamed in honor of Anita Thigpen Perry, the first lady of Texas in August 2008. The Anita Thigpen Perry School of Nursing is known for innovation in nursing education, excellent student retention and graduation rates, above national average NCLEX scores and producing well-prepared nurses for West Texas and beyond. In October 2010, through a generous donation from the Hunt Family Foundation, successful efforts were made to establish the Gayle Greve Hunt School of Nursing in El Paso. Upon receiving approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board and the Texas Board of Nursing in April, 2011, the Gayle Greve Hunt School of Nursing officially opened as a free-standing school of nursing on September 1, 2011.

## OUR COMMITMENT

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

At the undergraduate level, the School offers traditional and accelerated baccalaureate completion in Abilene, Odessa, and Lubbock. The accelerated baccalaureate in nursing degree is for professionals with baccalaureate degrees in another field. Additionally, RN to baccalaureate degree registered nurses with an associate degree in nursing or diploma nursing preparation is offered in an online degree completion methodology. Specialized nursing preparation is offered at the Master's level in administration, education, and advanced practice roles. The Graduate Program includes educational preparation for Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN), as Nurse Practitioners or Nurse Midwives. Nurse Practitioner Tracks includes family, acute care, adult-gerontology acute care, and pediatric options. The School offers doctoral education through a Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) with a focus on advanced nursing practice and executive leadership.

## ACCREDITATION

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

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

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

In November 1982, the undergraduate program received full accreditation from the Board of Nursing for the State of Texas and in December 1983, the National League for Nursing granted initial accreditation, which was retroactive prior to the first graduation in June 1983. The graduate program received initial accreditation in March 1992. The School of Nursing undergraduate, MSN, and DNP degree programs are currently accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) and the undergraduate programs are accredited by the Board of Nursing for the State of Texas. The CCNE office can be contacted at One DuPont Circle, NW Suite 530, Washington, DC, or by phone at 202.887.6791, or by visiting the CCNE website at [www.aacn.nche.edu](http://www.aacn.nche.edu). The Board of Nursing for the State of Texas can be contacted at 333 Guadalupe #3-460, Austin, Texas, 78701, or by telephone at 512.305.7400.

Upon completion of the course requirements, graduates of the Nurse Midwifery Program are eligible to sit for the American Midwifery Certification Board Exam. The nurse midwifery program holds Initial Accreditation by the Accreditation Commission for Midwifery Education (ACME), formerly the American College of Nurse Midwifery (ACNM) Division of Accreditation. This organization establishes the criteria for pre-accreditation and accreditation of educational programs in Nurse Midwifery in the United States. For more information contact: Accreditation Commission for Midwifery Education, 8403 Colesville Road, Suite 1550, Silver Spring, MD, 20910-6374; by phone at 240.485.1845 or fax at 240.485.1818; or by visiting <http://www.midwife.org>. 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. That accreditation, now offered through the American Nurses Credentialing Center, remains in effect. The official accreditation statement is:

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



## SCHOOL OF NURSING ADMINISTRATION

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School of Nursing

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## **Graduate Department**

### **MSN Program Coordinator**

**Heather Kruk**

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### **MSN Program Coordinator**

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### **Doctor of Nursing Practice Assistant Director Student Affairs**

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(800) 851-8240

Fax (806) 743-2324

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## **Collaborative Programs Contact Information**

### **Collaborative NP Master's Program with**

**Angelo State University**

**Molly Walker, PhD, RN CNS, CNE**

Professor and Coordinator for MSN Program

ASU Station # 10902

San Angelo, TX 76909-0902

**Contact:**

(325)-942-2224 ext. 246

[molly.walker@angelo.edu](mailto:molly.walker@angelo.edu)

## **Outcomes Management & Evaluation**

Paula Simpson

Director of Outcomes Management and Evaluation

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## DEGREE PROGRAMS and OPTIONS

### Traditional Undergraduate Department

#### **Traditional BSN Program**

##### **Department Chair – Kathryn Sridaromont, PhD(c), RNC, MSN**

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

### Non-Traditional Undergraduate Department

#### **Second Degree BSN Program**

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

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

#### **RN to BSN Program**

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

Students who are registered nurses with an associate degree or diploma, the RN to BSN Program (RN-BSN) provides web-based education. The full-time student has the opportunity to complete the degree in two semesters with part-time enrollment as an option. Admissions are granted three times per year for the (Fall, Spring, or Summer terms). Further information about this program can be located in the RN-BSN section of this Catalog. Contact the RN-BSN Coordinator to discuss degree plan options.

### Graduate Department

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

##### **Department Chair – Barbara Cherry, DNSc, MBA, RN, NEA-BC**

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

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

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

Students who complete the MSN with a nursing education focus are prepared to assume a career as a nurse educator within a school of nursing or as a clinical educator in a healthcare setting. The BSN is the required entry level for the MSN in nursing education. Further information about the MSN in nursing education is located in the Graduate Program section of this catalog.

##### Doctorate of Nursing Practice (DNP)

The Doctorate of Nursing Practice (DNP) is a terminal degree designed for post-masters advanced practice nurses and clinical administrative leaders. DNP graduates will have the essential competencies to provide the highest level of clinical care and leadership necessary to advance the healthcare system. For the advanced practice nursing specialty, students must be a masters-prepared nurse practitioner with certification in a primary care area. For the executive leadership specialty, students must be masters prepared with experience in a healthcare leadership position. The primary goal of this doctoral program is to prepare graduates for clinically intensive leadership careers including advanced clinical practice, executive leadership, applied clinical research and faculty teaching roles. The program is designed as a combination of on-line and on-campus intensives. Further information about this program can be located in the Graduate Program section of this catalog.

## **APRN (Advanced Practice Registered Nurse) Program**

**Nurse Practitioner Tracks** (Family, Acute Care, Adult-Gerontology Acute Care, Pediatric)

**Nurse-Midwifery Track**

**Department Chair – Emily Merrill, PhD, RN FNP BC, CNE, FAANP**

Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) is a registered nurse who has completed a graduate degree or postgraduate program that has prepared him/her to practice in one of the four advanced roles (i.e., CRNA, CNM, CNS, or CNP). This includes the advanced knowledge and skills to provide direct patient care in the health promotion and maintenance of individuals.

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

This track 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. However, the scope of practice is not setting specific but rather based on patient care needs.

### Master of Science in Nursing – Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner (AGACNP) and Post-Masters AGACNP Tracks

This track prepares graduates to assume responsibilities for promoting, maintaining, and restoring health to adults who are acutely or critically ill. The patient population includes young adults, adults, and older adults. The scope of practice is not setting specific but rather based on patient care needs.

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

This track prepares graduates to assume a primary care provider role for children, adolescents, and young adults in multiple health care delivery settings including rural and underserved areas. The scope of practice is not setting specific but rather based on patient care needs.

### Master of Science in Nursing – Nurse Midwifery and Post-Masters Nurse Midwifery Tracks

This track prepares graduates to assume an advanced care provider role for women of childbearing age and their newborn infants as well as the promotion of health for women.

**All nurse practitioner programs are designed to meet the educational requirements for professional certification. The programs meet the Criteria for Evaluation of Nurse Practitioner Programs as outlined by the National Task Force on Quality Nurse Practitioner Education (NTF) available at <http://www.aacn.nche.edu/leading-initiatives/education-resources/evalcriteria2008.pdf>**

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

- National Certification Board of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners (PNCB) Exam (PNP)
- American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) Exam (ACNP, AGACNP, FNP, PNP)
- American Academy of Nurse Practitioners Certification (AANP) Exam (FNP)

The Nurse-Midwifery track is designed to meet the educational requirements for professional certification.

Upon completion of course requirements for the nurse-midwifery track, graduates of the master's or post master's tracks are eligible to sit for the American Midwifery Certification Board Examination (AMBC).

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

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

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

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

### **CORE CURRICULUM EFFECTIVE FALL 2014**

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, as well as life.

Effective for the Fall of 2014, 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 are core complete in meeting competencies of the 42 semester credit hour curriculum. Objectives for the core curriculum competencies include the following:

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

## ACADEMIC SERVICES

### *Clinical Practice and Community Engagement*

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

Faculty within the School of Nursing may choose development of either a research or clinical studies program. The School of Nursing maintains an active Clinical Studies Program. Faculty participate in the delivery of care to residents of West Texas in many institutions and health care facilities. The School of Nursing operates sites for direct access to services by community clients at the Larry Combest Community Health & Wellness Center (Lubbock). The Larry Combest Community Health & Wellness Center in Lubbock serves medically-underserved populations. This is a Federally Qualified Health Care nurse-managed center, and faculty and staff provide primary care services to clients over the life span. The Larry Combest Community Health & Wellness Center provides essential health care access points for residents of the community who are otherwise unable to obtain the needed services for health promotion and disease prevention. The Larry Combest Community Health & Wellness Center is supported by funding from the School of Nursing, federal grants, and reimbursements from third party payors.

### *Research*

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

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

### *Outcomes Management and Evaluation*

#### **Associate Dean – Yondell Masten, PhD, WHNP-BC, RNC-OB**

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

## STUDENT LIFE

### ***Activities, Athletics, Entertainment, and Recreation***

As a member of the National Collegiate Athletic Association and the Big 12 Conference, Texas Tech provides intercollegiate programs for men and women. As part of the TTU System, TTUHSC students participate in football, volleyball, basketball, baseball/softball, soccer, track and field, golf and tennis with other members of the conference. The other universities of the Big 12 Conference for 2012-2013 are Baylor, Iowa State, Kansas, Kansas State, Oklahoma, Oklahoma State, Texas, Texas Christian University and West Virginia.

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

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

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

### ***Awards***

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

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

### ***Computer Requirements***

A considerable amount of time will be spent utilizing an assigned TTUHSC email account and TTUHSC online resources. In addition, time will be spent accessing online course content via the institutional Learning Management System. A laptop is required for students in the Traditional BSN program and in the Doctorate of Nursing Practice (DNP) program in order to participate in classroom learning activities. RN-BSN and Second Degree students are required to have a desktop or laptop. An Apple iTouch device is required for the Traditional BSN Program and 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree Program. A broadband (fast-internet) enabled personal computer is required for all programs. See <http://nursing.ttuhsu.edu/it/requirements> for specific computer system requirements.

### ***Employment***

The decision to work while enrolled as a student in the School of Nursing rests with the individual student; the school assumes no responsibility for student employment. A student employed in a healthcare agency has responsibility, personally and professionally, to accept and engage in only those activities which fall within the position description for which he/she is qualified and which are not in conflict with legal and accreditation expectations.

### ***F. Marie Hall SimLife Simulation Center***

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

### ***Health Services***

Students enrolled at the Lubbock campus can access Student Health Services through the Family Practice Clinic located at the Medical Pavilion. All students enrolled in TTUHSC are expected to carry personal health insurance. Please visit [www.ttuhsu.edu/student-services](http://www.ttuhsu.edu/student-services) for more information about health services and student insurance.

## ***Housing***

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

## ***Preston Smith Library***

The TTUHSC Libraries of the Health Sciences in Lubbock, Amarillo, El Paso, and Odessa presently contain more than 319,456 bound volumes, of which over 216,589 are located in Lubbock and Odessa. Over 42,152 electronic books are also available. The system has 302 print journal subscriptions and approximately 25,078 electronic journals available at all TTUHSC sites. Over 17,451 audiovisuals are also available system-wide. The libraries feature study carrels, interlibrary loan and photocopy services, reference services, and Internet access/connectivity. The Preston Smith Library of the Health Sciences, a 50,000 square foot facility on the Lubbock campus, features 29 group study rooms and a 60 station Learning Resource Center (LRC).

Numerous online databases are available for use including: MEDLINE, PubMed, CINAHL Plus with Full Text, Nursing Reference Center, Anatomy.tv, Health and Psychosocial Instruments, LEXICOMP, MICROMEDEX, PsycINFO, MedlinePlus, EXAM MASTER Online (NCLEX-RN), Web of Knowledge, Scopus, ERIC, OVID full-text, Cochrane Databases, MDConsult, Science Direct ejournals, as well as general and academic TexShare databases.

Bibliographic tools such as RefWorks and Endnote, full-text electronic journals, and a full array of electronic books are also accessible. 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.

## ***Textbooks***

Courses utilize information from various mediums, including textbooks. Specific textbooks may be required to be purchased by the student. Each semester, the required and optional texts are listed for each course on the following website: <http://nursing.ttuhschool.edu/textbooks>. Students may purchase the texts through a vendor of their choice.

## **STUDENT SERVICES**

TTUHSC Student Services is an institutional centralized information office that provides an array of student support services. This office collaborates with the school student affairs offices to offer assistance to aid in the success of TTUHSC students. For more information, please visit their website at <http://www.ttuhschool.edu/student-services/>

## ***Graduation***

Students planning to graduate **MUST** complete the *Intent to Graduate*. Students should create a “Diploma” address in WebRaider so their diploma will be mailed to the proper address. The diploma address will only be used if the diploma is not picked up at commencement.

Students must be enrolled at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center in the term in which they plan to graduate unless the student has been granted an exception by the dean of the school. SON requires students to be registered for a minimum of 1 hour.

## **STUDENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

The 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. PAS offices are located on the first floor of the East Wing, Room 1A122 of TTUHSC. To schedule an appointment for yourself or a member of your household, Lubbock students can call 806-743-1327 and identify yourself as a SON student. 24-Hour Crisis Line is available for students when the PAS offices are closed. Call 800-327-0328. This number is also the contact number for areas outside of Lubbock. Daytime and evening appointments are available.



## UNIVERSITY COUNSELING CENTER

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

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

Students on the Lubbock campus pay a mandatory student service fee which gives them access to several services on the TTU campus one of which is the University Counseling Center. All of the above services are accessed by calling (806) 742-3674. For the student at a distance, contact your Department Chair for specific assistance.

## INTERNATIONAL (NON-IMMIGRANT) APPLICATION POLICY

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

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

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

- Provide academic records in the original language with certified English translation and United States equivalency.
- ***Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL):*** Students whose predominant tongue is not English must also present a score of at least 560 (paper exam), 220 (computer exam), or 83 (internet) on the TOEFL (This includes permanent residents of the US). The TOEFL requirement may be waived if the student has graduated from a US high school with a minimum of two years attendance or if the student is a citizen of a country where English is the native language.

Countries commonly known to be considered to have English as the predominant language include:

Australia, Canada (except the Province of Quebec), Commonwealth Caribbean countries (Anguilla, Antigua, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, British Virgin Islands, Bermuda, Cayman Islands, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Montserrat, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Trinidad and Tobago, and Turks and Caicos Islands), Ireland, Liberia, New Zealand, United Kingdom (England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, Wales), and the United States.

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

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

## FINANCIAL INFORMATION

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

To enable the student to approximate expenses an estimated average cost per semester the following information is provided from the Financial Aid Office. These estimates are based on the AY 2012-2013 (Fall, Spring, Summer) school year. Please be aware these figures are *only estimates*.

### *Estimated Tuition and Fees per Semester*

	Traditional BSN Track Estimated 15 Semester Credit Hours		RN-BSN Track Estimated 15 Semester Credit Hours		2nd Degree BSN Track Estimated 20 Semester Credit Hours		Graduate Studies Estimated 9 Semester Credit Hours	
	Resident	Non Resident	Resident	Non Resident	Resident	Non Resident	Resident	Non Resident
Tuition	\$ 2,652	\$ 7,890	\$ 2,625	\$ 7,890	\$ 3,500	\$ 10,520	\$ 2,025	\$ 8,019
Fees	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,338	\$ 1,335	\$ 4,058	\$ 4,058	\$ 1,355	\$ 1,355
Books/Supplies	\$ 626	\$ 626	\$ 626	\$ 626	\$ 626	\$ 626	\$ 626	\$ 626
Housing/Food	\$ 3,840	\$ 3,840	\$ 3,840	\$ 3,840	\$ 3,840	\$ 3,840	\$ 4,598	\$ 4,598
Transportation	\$ 1,291	\$ 1,291	\$ 1,291	\$ 1,291	\$ 1,291	\$ 2,581	\$ 1,853	\$ 1,853
Personal/Misc.	\$ 2,737	\$ 2,737	\$ 2,044	\$ 2,044	\$ 4,087	\$ 2,044	\$ 2,929	\$ 2,929
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 12,696</b>	<b>\$ 17,934</b>	<b>\$ 11,764</b>	<b>\$ 17,029</b>	<b>\$ 15,359</b>	<b>\$ 22,379</b>	<b>\$ 14,286</b>	<b>\$ 19,380</b>

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

### *Refund Policies for Tuition and Fees*

Information concerning payments and refunds can be obtained from the TTUHSC Bursar's Office website at <http://www.fiscal.ttuhs.edu/busserv/bursar/> or call 806.743-7867 ext 332 or 333. Fax: 806.743.7873.

### *Financial Aid*

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

**Financial aid award letters to other colleges and universities including TTU are not transferable to TTUHSC. Separate financial aid applications are required for TTU and TTUHSC. Contact the TTUHSC Financial Aid Office during the School of Nursing application process.**

## SCHOLARSHIPS

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

Grace Lasater Allensworth Endowed	Lubbock Women's Club – Helen DeVitt Jones
American State Bank Presidential Endowed	Lubbock Women's Club - Joan Bailey Merritt
Myrna Armstrong and Elizabeth (Hanslik) Montalvo Endowed	Dr. Mary Ann Lubno Endowed
Helen Barber Nurse-Midwifery Endowed	Velma Earline Mitchell Memorial Endowed
Billie Kahtryn Becknal Endowed	Edith J. Mohler Endowed
Jewel Benton Endowed	Nancy Neal Presidential Endowed
Burrell Family Presidential Endowed	Darlene A. and Bill Norton NP Endowed
Carroll Family Memorial Endowed	Nursing Non-Resident
The CH Foundation Elizabeth (Hanslik) Montalvo Endowed	Nursing Resident (Graduate)
James A. "Buddy" Davidson Charitable Foundation	Nursing Resident (Undergraduate)
Ershel A. Franklin Presidential Endowed	Mauryne Overbey Memorial Endowed
E.A. Franklin Trust & Giles McCrary Endowed	Dr. H.G. Parker and Olive Parker
Helene Fuld Trust Endowed	President's Council Endowed
Mildred and Shirley Garrison	Corbett and Cecilla T. Roberts Endowed
Graduate Student Potential	Marshall Verne Ross Foundation
George and Mary Josphine Hamman Foundation	Rushing Family Presidential Endowed
William Hearst Foundation	Sigma Theta Tau International – Iota Mu Chapter
Velma Brandon Heath Endowed	Sherill Skibell Presidential
Viola Elizabeth Holland Endowed	Ima and Preston Smith Endowed
John Hurt Memorial Endowed	Mary Nell Sowell Presidential
Trixie and Erin Janssen Scholarship Endowed	SON Endowed
Louis B. Ketner Memorial Endowed	SON General
Larabee Endowed	William Tinney Endowed
Earline Mills Lewis Endowed	William Wehner Endowed
Mary Elizabeth Lowell Endowed	American State Bank Graduation Award

In addition, there are general scholarships and loans administered by the Financial Aid Office, Student Services Office and Student Government Association for which School of Nursing students are eligible. Some organizations, such as Lubbock Woman's Club and the Lubbock Foundation provide scholarships on a consistent basis for nursing students.

Eligibility for the scholarship is based upon the criteria as established by each donor and the TTUHSC School of Nursing.

For further information regarding scholarships, please contact: School of Nursing Scholarship Office at [sonscholarships@ttuhsc.edu](mailto:sonscholarships@ttuhsc.edu) or call (806) 252-8229.

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

## **ORGANIZATIONS**

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

For purposes of promoting the TTUHSC School of Nursing, four advisory councils exist to maintain open communication between students and administration/faculty/staff: The Undergraduate Department Chair's Advisory Council, The Non-Traditional Undergraduate Department Chair's Advisory Council, the MSN Department Chairs' Advisory Council and the DNP Department Chair's Advisory Council. Through the Department Advisory Councils, student representatives advise the administration on ways to improve the educational process while enrolled in the School of Nursing. Student representatives volunteer or are selected by the Department Chairs to serve on the Department Advisory Councils and are expected to represent their fellow students by bringing forth issues of importance to be addressed by the Council.

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

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

## **PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES**

### ***Iota Mu Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau, the International Nursing Honor Society***

Membership is by invitation and is based on outstanding scholarly activities.

### ***Phi Kappa Phi***

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

### ***Golden Key***

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

### ***Student Government Association***

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

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

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

## **ADDITIONAL GENERAL INFORMATION**

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

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](http://www.ttuhschool.edu/student-services/ada/default.aspx) and the TTUHSC Director of Student Services, Lubbock Campus (806-743-2300). The Director of Student Services, Lubbock Campus will notify the appropriate School of Nursing Department Chair of the student's need for accommodations. Review the TTUHSC ADA policy located on the TTUHSC Student Services website. For further information, see [www.ttuhschool.edu/student-services/ada/default.aspx](http://www.ttuhschool.edu/student-services/ada/default.aspx).

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

The School of Nursing is dedicated to ensuring each student is current in issues as they relate to nursing practice and research. One such regulation includes the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA). Each student is required to provide proof of education in HIPAA training at the beginning of their enrollment in the School of Nursing. 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. Students will receive information regarding HIPAA training and will be asked to sign a Confidentiality Agreement during New Student Orientation. All proof of training will be placed in the student's advising file located in the appropriate Department Chair's Office. Those who cannot show proof will not be allowed to attend clinical. In addition, release of confidential information (including verbal communications, written communications or electronic communications with or about patients or involving patient health information to anyone who does not need the information for treatment, payment or health care operation) is a cause for dismissal from the School.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### ***Gayle Greve Hunt School of Nursing***

The Gayle Greve Hunt School of Nursing was approved by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board and the Texas Board of Nursing in 2011. Currently, 70 students are admitted per academic year into its Undergraduate BSN Program that has a Second Degree Track and a Traditional Track. Both tracks utilize state-of-the-art online technology to deliver evidence-based didactic content. Clinical practicums are provided along with extensive use of simulation technology in an interprofessional and bicultural context to prepare graduates who meet the nursing care needs of the underserved binational El Paso County community.

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

Graduate programs leading to MS and PhD degrees are offered in the Basic Science Departments of Cell Biology and Biochemistry (both Cell and Molecular Biology, Biotechnology, and Biochemistry and Molecular Genetics graduate programs are offered in this department), Microbiology and Immunology, and Physiology. Programs are structured to provide a wide variety of opportunities for the development of special research and teaching interests. Consulting with a faculty advisory committee, each student participates in the design of his or her own course of study.

### ***Paul L Foster School of Medicine and TTUHSC School of Medicine***

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

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

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

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

The School of Pharmacy offers the Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) as its single professional degree. The PharmD is a 4-year professional program, requiring at least two years of pre-professional studies that may be completed at any accredited college or university. The School offers programs in Amarillo, Dallas, 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.

## **UNDERGRADUATE DEPARTMENT**

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

### ***Purpose***

The purpose of the undergraduate program is to prepare generalist nurses who will develop into leaders for the future as they provide competent, compassionate patient care in the rapidly changing health care environment.

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

Upon 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.

Programs: Undergraduate Program offers three programs to obtain the BSN degree: Traditional BSN, RN-BSN, and Accelerated Second Degree BSN.

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

#### **Application Deadlines**

<b>Undergraduate Programs</b>	<b>Fall</b>	<b>Spring</b>	<b>Summer</b>
Traditional	February 1	No Admission	No Admission
***RN-BSN	June 15	October 1	March 15
Accelerated Second Degree	May 25 (Lubbock/Odessa/Abilene)	October 1 (Austin/Hill Country)	No Admission

#### **\*\*\*NEW RN-BSN APPLICATION CYCLE – EFFECTIVE FALL 2013**

<b>Undergraduate Programs</b>	<b>Fall 2013</b>	<b>Spring 2014</b>	<b>Summer 2014</b>
RN-BSN	February 1	June 1	November 1

- Submit a completed application and non-refundable application fee to the Nursing Central Application System (NCAS) and TTUHSC Merlin for admission to the School of Nursing. The total application fee is \$85 if submitted prior to the application deadline of February 1 (fall admission), June 1 (spring admission) or November 1 (summer admission).



## TRADITIONAL UNDERGRADUATE DEPARTMENT

### *Traditional Undergraduate BSN Program*

*Kathryn Sridaromont, PhD(c), RNC, MSN, Department Chair*

#### **Admissions Requirements**

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

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

All BSN applicants are required to:

- Complete all prerequisites by end of the spring semester before fall program entry.
- Submit a completed online application and non-refundable application fee for admission to the School of Nursing. The application fee is \$40, and the application deadline is February 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Submit official transcripts from all institutions in which the student has enrolled.
- Complete the Test of Essential and Academic Skills (TEAS) – (Offered by Assessment Technologies, Inc.) as an admission criteria.
- Submit appropriate documentation, i.e. TOEFL score, if an international student.
- Submit military service documentation.

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

- Extracurricular activities
- Work experience
- Diversity of experience, such as study abroad, knowledge of other cultures, proficiency in other languages
- Permanent resident of TTUHSC service area county
- First generation college student
- Bilingual
- Socioeconomic status
- Prior enrollment at TTU

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

#### **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. The Declaratory Order is a formal disclosure to the BON of an outstanding eligibility issue and permits the BON to make decisions regarding a petitioner's eligibility for licensure prior to entering or completing a nursing program. This Petition should be completed as soon as possible. The review process can take a minimum of 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 Department Chair of the outcome of his/her petition. If one of the following statements applies to you, you must complete a Petition for Declaratory Order.

- For any criminal offense, including those pending appeal, have you: 1) been convicted of a misdemeanor; 2) been convicted of a felony; 3) pled nolo contendere, no contest, or guilty; 4) received deferred adjudication; 5) been placed on community supervision or court-ordered probation, whether or not adjudicated guilty; 6) been sentenced to serve jail or prison time; court-ordered confinement; 7) been granted pre-trial diversion; 8) been arrested or have any pending criminal charges; 9) been cited or charged with any violation of the law; 10) been subject of a court-martial, Article 15 violation or received any form of military judgment/punishment/action?.
- 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? (You may indicate “NO” if you have completed and/or are in compliance with Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses for substance abuse or mental illness.)
- 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?

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

**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](http://www.bon.state.tx.us).

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

### **Excess Undergraduate Credit Hours**

“An institution of higher education may charge a resident undergraduate student tuition at a higher rate than the rate charged to other resident undergraduate students (not to exceed the rate charged to nonresident undergraduate students) **IF:** before the semester begins the student has previously **attempted** coursework at any institution that exceeds by at least 30 hours the number of semester credit hours required for completion of the degree program enrolled in.”

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

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

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

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

### **Computer Requirements**

All students admitted are required to have a laptop computer and an Apple iTouch. Students are required to bring their laptop computer to the classroom for learning activities and testing. See <http://nursing.ttuhscc.edu/it/requirements> for specific computer system requirements.

### **Drug Screening**

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

### **Special Student Enrollment**

#### **Non-Degree**

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

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

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

#### **Provisional Admission**

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

#### **Readmission**

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

### ***Prerequisite Courses***

#### **Required Non-Nursing Prerequisite Courses for Traditional BSN Program**

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

#### **Texas Success Initiative (TSI)**

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

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

The [TTUHSC Core Curriculum](#) reflects all of the THECB Core Curriculum requirements. The traditional baccalaureate program at the School of Nursing has identified pre-requisite course work to meet the 42 semester credit hour TTUHSC Core Curriculum and the discipline specific course requirements for the Nursing Field of Study.

The pre-nursing course requirements listed below should be completed with a grade of "C" or better in each course. These requirements as detailed in the table below include a total of 57 semester credit hours, can be taken at any regionally accredited college or university, and should be completed prior to enrollment in the first nursing course.

COMMUNICATION	HOURS
English (*ENGL1301, 1302)	6
MATHEMATICS	
Statistics (*MATH1342, 1442, 2342 or 2442)	3
NATURAL SCIENCES	
Anatomy and Physiology (*BIOL2401 & 2402)	8
Chemistry (*CHEM1305 & 1105 or CHEM 1406 or CHEM1411)	4
Microbiology (*BIOL2420 or BIOL2421)	4
Food and Nutrition (*HECO1322 or BIOL1322)	3
HUMANITIES AND VISUAL PERFORMING ARTS	
Visual/Performing Arts (any art, music, drama, or theatre arts course)	3
Humanities (any literature, philosophy, modern or classical language/literature, or cultural studies course)	3
SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES	
United States History (*HIST1301, 1302)	6
<i>Students may substitute 3 credit hours of Texas History for 3 credit hours of American History</i>	
Political Science (*GOVT 2301 & 2302 or GOVT 2305 & 2306)	6
Psychology (*PSY2301)	3
Life Span Growth and Development (*PSY2314)	3
NURSING	
**Introduction to Nursing as a Profession (HUSC3321)	2
**Pathophysiology (BIOL4301 or equivalent)	3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>57</b>

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

\*\* Pre-requisite for beginning first semester course work in Traditional Undergraduate Program

### Important Information about Pre-Nursing Course Requirements

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

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

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

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

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

### **B. Advanced Placement**

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

## ***Offer of Admission***

Offers of admission will be made approximately eight weeks following the application deadline. There are a limited number of positions available each semester. Applicants should respond to the offer of admission no later than the deadline stated in the letter offering admission by returning a \$100 non-refundable placement guarantee fee and the signed response form accepting the offer. Failure to respond by the deadline or participate in a mandatory orientation prior to matriculation results in withdrawal of the offer of admission.

## ***Degree Requirements for Students Admitted to Program***

### **Graduation Under a Particular Catalog**

A student is expected to complete the degree requirements set forth in the School of Nursing *Catalog* in effect at the time the student enters the program. Only with the specific approval of the Department Chair may a different *Catalog* be selected. In no case may a student complete the requirements set forth in a catalog more than seven years old. The *Catalog* is published at least biennially and its provisions are applicable during the stated school year.

BSN (Traditional) students are required to complete 57 hours of pre-requisite courses and 63 hours of nursing courses, totaling 120 credit hours.

### **Maintaining Minimum Academic Requirements**

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

### **Academic Dismissal**

- Making a "D", "F" or "WF" in two or more nursing courses in one semester is cause for academic dismissal.
- Students earning a "D", "F" or "WF" in a third 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 semester or cumulative GPA for two consecutive semesters.
- Making a "D", "F", or "WF" in the same nursing course twice.

## Comprehensive Examinations

Undergraduate students must have a passing score on the comprehensive examination administered in NURS4620. If a student is not successful on the examination, he/she will be required to complete a prescribed remediation program and to repeat the examination.

## Residence Credit

The minimum actual residence credit required of each undergraduate student is 32 hours at TTUHSC, including the final 15 hours in nursing courses taken for a grade. The remaining hours may include transfer credit and correspondence course work. Residence credit as used here means credit for work done while enrolled in and attending classes at TTUHSC and should not be confused with “residence” in the State of Texas for tuition purposes.

## Semester Credit Hours and Course Loads

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

## Degree Plan

Degree plans are generally completed by the Coordinator for the Traditional Undergraduate Program during new student orientation. The degree plan may be revised based on a student’s ability to successfully progress through the curriculum. Course enrollment may be limited based on available resources, including but not limited to availability of clinical sites within the community. The following degree plan is designed for applicants who do not already possess the RN license. It is provided here as an overview of a basic course schedule for full time students. Length of the program will vary depending on the student’s ability to progress through the program. 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 Department Chair.

### Generic Degree Plan Traditional BSN Program

#### YEAR ONE

Fall Semester 1			Spring Semester 2		
Number	Course Name	Credits	Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS3307	Health Assessment	(3:2:3)	NURS3385	Concepts of Chronic Care Nursing	(3:3:0)
NURS3316	Foundational Concepts of Nursing Practice - Didactic	(3:3:0)	NURS3520	Chronic Care Nursing Clinical	(5:0:15)
NURS3620	Foundational Concepts of Nursing Practice - Clinical	(6:0:18)	NURS3320	Pharmacology	(3:1.5:4.5)
NURS3126	Scholarship for Evidence-based Practice I	(1:1:0)	NURS3331	Mental Health Nursing	(3:2:3)
NURS3226	Foundational Aspects of Professional Communication	(2:.5:4.5)	NURS3227	Nursing Care of the Aging Adult	(2:1:3)
Total Credit Hours		<b>15</b>	Total Credit Hours		<b>16</b>

#### YEAR TWO

Fall Semester 3			Spring Semester 4		
Number	Course Name	Credits	Number	Course Name	Credits
NURS4390	Concepts of Acute Care Nursing Didactic	(3:3:0)	NURS4620	Professional Transitions	(6:3:9)
NURS4510	Acute Care Nursing Clinical	(5:0:15)	NURS4320	Professional Role of the Leader and Manager	(3:3:0)
NURS4306	Nursing Care of the Childbearing Family	(3:2:3)	NURS4317	Community and Population Health	(3:2:3)
NURS4307	Aspects of Pediatric Nursing	(3:2:3)	NURS4106	Introduction to Nursing Informatics	(1:1:0)
NURS4206	Scholarship for Evidence-based Practice II	(2:2:0)		Elective	(3)
Total Credit Hours		<b>16</b>	Total Credit Hours		<b>16</b>



## COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

### ***Undergraduate Traditional Program Courses***

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

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

**KEY:** Courses are listed in numerical order.

**(CL)** Concurrent enrollment in a Clinical Section is required.

**(#:#:#)** First # represents the number of credit hours, Second # represents the number of lecture hours per week, Third # represents the number of clinical hours per week.

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

**(V)** Variable Credit.

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### **3000 Level Courses**

**3030. Independent Study in Nursing (V1-6 WE, WB).** (Traditional BSN) (Pre-requisite: Consent of instructor and Department Chair for Undergraduate Traditional Program.) 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 WE, WB).** (Traditional BSN) (Prerequisite: Consent of instructor and Department Chair for Undergraduate Traditional Program) Designed to focus on subjects of special interest to groups of students. May be repeated for credit as topics vary.

**3126. Scholarship for Evidence-based Practice I (1:1:0 WE).** (Traditional BSN) (Corequisites: Admission to the School of Nursing, NURS3226, NURS3307, NURS3316 and NURS3620.) This is an introductory course exploring the theory and methods of evidence based practice with emphasis on its role in providing quality patient-centered care in the medical/surgical setting.

**3226. Foundational Aspects of Professional Communication (CL 2:.5:4.5 WE).** (Traditional BSN) (Corequisites: Admission to the School of Nursing, NURS3126, NURS3316, NURS3307 and NURS3620.) This course is designed to prepare students to communicate effectively in an intra-professional and an inter-professional approach. The focus includes professional therapeutic patient/client communication. The students will be expected to be able to listen, comprehend, and communicate accurate intellectual and affective understanding.

**3227. Nursing Care of the Aging Adult (CL 2:1:3 WE).** (Traditional BSN) (Prerequisites: NURS3126, NURS3226, NURS3307, NURS3316 and NURS3620.) (Corequisites: NURS3320, NURS3331, NURS3385 and NURS3520.) An introduction to concepts of aging with a focus on health promotion, access to healthcare, maintenance of functional capacity and physiologic changes. Includes concepts to improve quality of life during common conditions experienced by the aging adult through interprofessional collaboration.

**3307. Health Assessment (CL 3:2:3 WE).** (Traditional BSN) (Corequisites: Admission to the School of Nursing, NURS3126, NURS3226, NURS3316 and NURS3620.) 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.

**3316. Foundational Concepts of Nursing Practice-Didactic (3:3:0 WE).** (Traditional BSN) (Corequisites: Admission to the School of Nursing, NURS3126, NURS3226, NURS3307 and NURS3620.) This course is an introduction to nursing as a systematic process with emphasis on the knowledge, core to evidence based professional nursing care, utilizing an attitude of clinical reasoning. Emphasis is on recognizing shared commonalities, yet diverse as to age, gender, religion, race, ethnicity, culture, lifestyle, socio-economic class, and sexual orientation, on the client's health care.

**3317. Perioperative Care (3:2:3 WE).** (Traditional BSN) (**\*Elective**) (Prerequisites: NURS3385, NURS3520, NURS3320, NURS3331 and NURS3227, or the consent of the department chair.) This course will introduce concepts basic to care of the surgical patient. The course will include standards of care, nursing roles, basic instrumentation and types of surgical interventions. Finally the course will integrate the nursing process in the preoperative, intraoperative, and postoperative phases of care.

**3318. Oncology (3:1:6 WE).** (Traditional BSN) (**\*Elective**) (Prerequisites: NURS3385, NURS3520, NURS3320, NURS3331 and NURS3227, or the consent of the department chair.) An introduction to nursing in an oncology setting. Concepts in the course include: patient self-advocacy, empathy versus sympathy, the interdisciplinary team in an oncology setting, current and evolving treatments for cancer, cancer prevention, genetic counseling, and the role of the nurse in cancer patient care. Also included are informatics systems, online resources for cancer patients, and the interpretation of objective and subjective patient data in an oncology setting.

**3319. Adult High Acuity Nursing (3:1:6 WB).** (Traditional BSN) (\*Elective) (Prerequisites: NURS4510, NURS4398 and the consent of the instructor.) This course introduces the concepts of acute care nursing in the intensive care and emergency department settings. In addition, the course provides opportunities for students to explore the concepts of teamwork with patients, families, and health care professionals in a dynamic environment. Basic nursing skills are enhanced as the student uses nursing process to refine their clinical judgment and patient care skills while caring for acutely ill patients. Preceptors are used to provide students with intensive care and emergency department clinical hours.

**3320. Pharmacology (CL 3:1.5:4.5 WE).** (Traditional BSN) (Prerequisites: NURS3126, NURS3226, NURS3307, NURS3316 and NURS3620.) (Corequisites: NURS3227, NURS3331, NURS3385 and NURS3520.) This course introduces principles of pharmacodynamics and pharmacotherapy. Included will be classifications of drugs, the use of the nursing process for safe medication administration including legal and ethical standards. Life span, genetic, and cultural implications of drug therapy are explored. Evidenced based practice will be utilized using case studies and simulation of dosage calculations, routes and skills of administration, and methods of documentation.

**3321. Current Concepts of Pharmacology (3:1.5:4.5 WE).** (Traditional BSN) (\*Elective) (Prerequisites: NURS3385, NURS3520, NURS3320, NURS3331 and NURS3227, or the consent of the department chair.) This course is designed to enhance the students understanding of pharmacology in relation to routes and safe medication administration. This course will incorporate previous learned knowledge and skills of safe medication administration and implement concepts in clinical/hospital/simulations setting.

**3331. Mental Health Nursing (CL 3:2:3 WE).** (Traditional BSN) (Prerequisites: NURS3126, NURS3226, NURS3307, NURS3316 and NURS3620.) (Corequisites: NURS3227, NURS3320, NURS3385 and NURS3520.) 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.

**3341. Nursing Care of the Patient Experiencing Cardiac Dysrhythmias (CL 3:1.4:4.8 WE).** (Traditional BSN) (\*Elective) (Prerequisites: NURS3385, NURS3520, NURS3320, NURS3331 and NURS3227, or the consent of the department chair.) This course includes assessment and nursing diagnosis of adult clients experiencing cardiac dysrhythmias. Pathophysiology, therapeutic modalities, patient/family response and nursing implications are emphasized throughout the course. The importance of interdisciplinary collaboration in the care of the patient experiencing cardiac dysrhythmias is stressed. The course incorporates a variety of teaching modalities including interactive computer technology, computer assisted instruction, video, seminars, and clinical observation.

**3357. Holistic Health Practices in Stress Management (3:3:0 WE).** (Traditional BSN) (\*Elective) (Prerequisites: NURS3385, NURS3520, NURS3320, NURS3331 and NURS3227, or the consent of the department chair.) This course is an introduction to holistic health in stress management. Includes the role of the mind, body and universe in attaining high level wellness; stress and its relationship to health; and the interaction of holistic health practices in the management of stress.

**3365. Introduction and Exploration into the Multiple Aspects of Forensic Science (3:3:0 WE).** (Traditional BSN) (\*Elective) (Prerequisites: NURS3385, NURS3520, NURS3320, NURS3331 and NURS3227, or the consent of the department chair.) 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.

**3366. Hospice and Palliative Care (CL 3:2.5:1.5 WE).** (Traditional BSN) (\*Elective) (Prerequisites: NURS3385, NURS3520, NURS3320, NURS3331 and NURS3227, or the consent of the department chair.) This course will utilize readings from sociology, psychology, religion, and medical and nursing sciences as a background for discussing and analyzing therapeutic nursing interventions for care of the terminally ill client. Clinical and experimental techniques will be utilized to promote thought and discussion in order to explore death in its personal, general, and professional significance.

**3367. Violence in Families (CL 3:2:3 WE).** (Traditional BSN) (\*Elective) (Prerequisites: NURS3385, NURS3520, NURS3320, NURS3331 and NURS3227, or the consent of the department chair.) Family violence has multiple, significant consequences for victims and members of families in which violence occurs. Concepts of assessment, intervention, utilization of community resources, and evaluation of violence in families are included.

**3368. High Risk Obstetrics in Nursing (CL 3:2.5:1.5 WE).** (Traditional BSN) (\*Elective) (Prerequisite: NURS4306 or consent of the Department Chair for the Undergraduate Traditional Program.) This course will explore the scope of high risk pregnancy in which the life or health of the mother or fetus is in jeopardy due to complications that are either unique to pregnancy or are due to disorders that coincide with the pregnancy.

**3369. Community Mental Health Nursing (3:3:0 WB).** (Traditional BSN) (\*Elective) (Prerequisites: NURS3385, NURS3520, NURS3320, NURS3331 and NURS3227, or the consent of the department chair.) A study of mental illness in the community for beginning nursing practice. Emphasis on transition of psychiatric-mental health nursing into the community-based mental health care system. Major areas addressed are political and economic perspectives, client advocacy, roles and responsibilities of psychiatric nurses in the community, community-based mental health services, and at-risk populations.

**3371. Legal and Ethical Issues in Healthcare (3:3:0 WE).** (Traditional BSN) (\*Elective) (Prerequisites: NURS3385, NURS3520, NURS3320, NURS3331 and NURS3227, or the consent of the department chair.) An interdisciplinary course surveying major legal and ethical issues in the delivery of healthcare.



**3374. Philosophical Issues and Problems in Human Caring (3:3:0 WE).** (Traditional BSN) (**\*Elective**) (Prerequisites: NURS3385, NURS3520, NURS3320, NURS3331 and NURS3227, or the consent of the department chair.) Exploration of different avenues of approaching philosophical dilemmas in providing care to clients whose behaviors and value systems are difficult to accept. Examines select issues from the standpoints of philosophy and nursing.

**3385. Concepts of Chronic Care Nursing (3:3:0 WE).** (Traditional BSN) (Prerequisites: NURS3126, NURS3226, NURS3307, NURS3316 and NURS3620 (Corequisites: NURS3227, NURS3320, NURS3331 and NURS3520.)) 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.

**3403. Critical Care in Pediatric Nursing Elective (4:2:6 WE).** (**\*Elective**) (Prerequisites: NURS4306 and NURS4307.) (Traditional BSN) This course emphasizes essential nursing concepts of children's health and illness. The focus is on safe professional practice in pediatric critical care settings centering on care appropriate for the child's age and development. Additionally, students will demonstrate ability to reason clinically/use critical thinking by applying evidence based practice in both simulation and clinical setting.

**3520. Chronic Care Nursing Clinical (5:0:15 WE).** (Traditional BSN) (Prerequisites: NURS3126, NURS3226, NURS3307, NURS3316 and NURS3620.) (Corequisites: NURS3227, NURS3320, NURS3331 and NURS3385.) 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 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.

**3620. Foundational Concepts of Nursing Practice-Clinical (6:0:18 WE).** (Traditional BSN) (Corequisites: Admission to the School of Nursing, NURS3126, NURS3226, NURS3307 and NURS3316.) This course is an introduction to nursing as a systematic process with emphasis on the knowledge core to evidence-based professional nursing care, utilizing an attitude of clinical reasoning. Emphasis is on recognizing shared commonalities, yet diverse as to age, gender, religion, race, ethnicity, culture, lifestyle, socio-economic class, and sexual orientation, on the client's health care.

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#### 4000 Level Courses

**4106. Introduction to Nursing Informatics (1:1:0 WE).** (Traditional BSN) (Prerequisites: NURS4206, NURS4306, NURS4307, NURS4398 and NURS4510.) (Corequisites: NURS4317, NURS4320 and NURS4620.) This course will explore the core concepts, skills, and technology used in nursing informatics. The student will examine the use of current technology to promote safe, patient centered, quality care in the global healthcare system.

**4206. Scholarship for Evidence-based Practice II (2:2:0 WE).** (Traditional BSN) (Prerequisites: NURS3227, NURS3320, NURS3331, NURS3385 and NURS3520.) (Corequisites: NURS4306, NURS4307, NURS4398 and NURS4510.) This course focuses on the asking and answering of clinical nursing questions through the synthesis of current literature and analysis of clinical practice guidelines.

**4306. Nursing Care of the Childbearing Family (CL 3:2:3 WE).** (Traditional BSN) (Prerequisites: NURS3227, NURS3320, NURS3331, NURS3385 and NURS3520.) (Corequisites: NURS4206, NURS4307, NURS4398 and NURS4510.) Encompasses concepts related to the safe delivery of quality nursing care to childbearing families. Focuses on application of the nursing process of the childbearing family unit. Special emphasis is placed upon communication within an interdisciplinary team, patient safety including principles of infection control, quality improvement, evidenced based nursing care related to traditional and alternative birth processes, patient centered care with consideration of cultural differences to the childbirth experience and the use of informatics and technology.

**4307. Aspects of Pediatric Nursing (CL 3:2:3 WE).** (Traditional BSN) (Prerequisites: NURS3227, NURS3320, NURS3331, NURS3385 and NURS3520.) (Corequisites: NURS4206, NURS4306, NURS4398 and NURS4510.) This course emphasizes essential nursing concepts of children's health and illness. The focus is on safe professional practice in pediatric acute care and outpatient settings centering on care appropriate for the child's age and development. Additionally, students will demonstrate ability to reason clinically/use critical thinking by applying evidence based practice in both simulation and clinical setting.

**4317. Community and Population Health (CL 3:2:3 WE).** (Traditional BSN) (Prerequisites: NURS4206, NURS4306, NURS4307, NURS4398 and NURS4510.) (Corequisites: NURS4106, NURS4320 and NURS4620.) 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, health promotion and disease prevention.

**4320. Professional Role of Leader and Manager (3:3:0 WE).** (Traditional BSN) (Prerequisites: NURS4206, NURS4306, NURS4307, NURS4398 and NURS4510.) (Corequisites: NURS4106, NURS4317 and NURS4620.) This course incorporates the role of the nurse as a leader and manager in nursing. Students will utilize selected theories and concepts to generate knowledge, skills, and attitudes related to the role of leader and manager. The course provides opportunity for the students to explore the role of the nursing profession in a global healthcare environment.

**4398. Concepts of Acute Care Nursing-Didactic (3:3:0 WE).** (Traditional BSN) (Prerequisites: NURS3227, NURS3320, NURS3331, NURS3385 and NURS3520.) (Corequisites: NURS4206, NURS4306, NURS4307 and NURS4510.) 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 in 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.

**4510. Acute Care Nursing-Clinical (5:0:15 WE).** (Traditional BSN) (Prerequisites: NURS3227, NURS3320, NURS3331, NURS3385 and NURS3520.) (Corequisites: NURS4206, NURS4306, NURS4307 and NURS4398.) This course provides opportunities for students to synthesize generalist nursing roles of provider, manager of nursing care in the clinical and simulated acute care setting. 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.

**4620. Professional Transitions (CL 6:3:9 WE).** (Traditional BSN) (Prerequisites: NURS4206, NURS4306, NURS4307, NURS4398 and NURS4510.) (Corequisites: NURS4106, NURS4317 and NURS4320.) 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.

## NON-TRADITIONAL UNDERGRADUATE DEPARTMENT

### *Accelerated Second Degree BSN Program*

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

#### *Admissions Requirements*

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

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

Under the guidance of the Department Chair of Non-Traditional Undergraduate Department all qualified applicants are carefully evaluated individually and holistically. The El Paso track is directed by the Dean of that School of Nursing. Admission to the nursing program is highly competitive and only the most qualified applicants are selected. Applicants to the Second Degree (Pre- licensure) program can seek admission to the School of Nursing through one entry point in the school's curriculum.

The TTUHSC School of Nursing offers the student the opportunity to complete the degree in three consecutive semesters, with admission for the Lubbock/Permian Basin/Abilene cohorts in August and admission for the Austin/Hill Country cohorts in January each year. Students applying for admission to this program must meet the 3.0 minimum required GPA for our prerequisites, as well as the 3.0 minimum required GPA for our science prerequisites (Chemistry, Pathophysiology, Microbiology, A&P I and A&P II). All non-nursing courses should be completed with a grade of "C" or higher prior to beginning the first nursing course. Students must have completed a minimum of 55 credit hours of prerequisite courses, at the time of application submission. Students may seek exceptions from the Department Chair.

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

- Submit a completed online application and non-refundable application fee for admission to the School of Nursing. The application fee is \$40, and the application deadline is October 1 for Austin/Hill Country and May 25 for Lubbock/Permian Basin/Abilene area.
- Submit a letter from the Dean or Department Chair from any school of nursing attended outlining the applicant's academic standing within that school.
- Submit original copies of official college transcripts from all institutions in which the student has enrolled.
- Submit appropriate documentation, i.e. TOEFL (refer to policy in this catalog).
- Earn previous Bachelor's Degree
- Earn cumulative science and pre-requisite minimum GPA of 3.0 (GPA is a strong predictor of NCLEX success);
- Complete medical terminology course (certificate or transcript should be provided as documentation of completion).
- Complete all required general education courses as a pre-requisite for admission;
- Complete the TEAS standardized exam at proficient level or higher;
- Complete certified nursing assistant program and basic life support (Professional CPR with AED training) prior to making application for admission;
- Provide a written commitment to not seek outside employment during the period of enrollment during the course of study;
- Attend a personal, face-to-face scheduled interview with a member of the Admissions Committee.

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

#### Extracurricular activities

- Work experience
- Diversity of experience, such as study abroad, knowledge of other cultures, proficiency in other languages
- Permanent resident of TTUHSC service area county
- First generation college student
- Bilingual (English/Spanish)
- Socioeconomic status
- Prior enrollment at TTU
- Residence in campus service area

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

#### **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. The Declaratory Order is a formal disclosure to the BON of an outstanding eligibility issue and permits the BON to make decisions regarding a petitioner's eligibility for licensure prior to entering or completing a nursing program. This Petition should be completed as soon as possible. The review process can take a minimum of 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 Department Chair of the outcome of his/her petition. If one of the following statements applies to you, you must complete a Petition for Declaratory Order.

- For any criminal offense, including those pending appeal, have you: 1) been convicted of a misdemeanor; 2) been convicted of a felony; 3) pled nolo contendere, no contest, or guilty; 4) received deferred adjudication; 5) been placed on community supervision or court-ordered probation, whether or not adjudicated guilty; 6) been sentenced to serve jail or prison time; court-ordered confinement; 7) been granted pre-trial diversion; 8) been arrested or have any pending criminal charges; 9) been cited or charged with any violation of the law; 10) been subject of a court-martial, Article 15 violation or received any form of military judgment/punishment/action?.
- 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? (You may indicate "NO" if you have completed and/or are in compliance with Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses for substance abuse or mental illness.)
- 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?

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

**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](http://www.bon.state.tx.us).

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

### **Excess Undergraduate Credit Hours**

“An institution of higher education may charge a resident undergraduate student tuition at a higher rate than the rate charged to other resident undergraduate students (not to exceed the rate charged to nonresident undergraduate students) **IF**: before the semester begins the student has previously **attempted** coursework at any institution that exceeds by at least 30 hours the number of semester credit hours required for completion of the degree program enrolled in.”

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

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

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

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

### **Computer Requirements**

All Second Degree Web-Based BSN Program students will be required to have a computer with broadband (fast internet) access. A smartphone or Apple iPod Touch with specific nursing software is required. Go to <http://nursing.ttuhsu.edu/faq/ipodandiphone.php> for current information.

### **Criminal Background Check**

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

\*\*\* Effective January 2013, the TTUHSC School of Nursing will begin utilizing the Texas Board of Nursing Criminal Background Check Process. Students will receive instruction on this new process prior to matriculation into their programs.

### **Drug Screening**

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

## **Special Student Enrollment**

### **Non-Degree**

Under certain circumstances, it may be appropriate for an individual to seek admission as a special non-degree seeking student. This admission is for the purpose of taking a limited number of courses for one semester only. It is not an avenue for seeking a degree.

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

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

### **Provisional Admission**

Provisional admission is not available for the Second Degree Program.

### **Conditional Admission**

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

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

### **Readmission**

All requests for readmission must be made no later than two months prior to the first day of the semester in which readmission is requested. The Undergraduate Program Committee (UPC) is responsible for overseeing all readmissions to the School of Nursing. A student who left in good standing and seeking readmission shall complete and submit an readmission application showing the expected entry point to the Second Degree Admissions Coordinator. The Admission Coordinator will notify the Chair of the UPC of the request for readmission along with providing the most current transcript, and a summary of the circumstances of the student's withdraw if known. A student who left with a record not in good standing because he or she withdrew for academic or disciplinary causes must complete and submit a readmission application to the Second Degree Admissions Coordinator along with a letter explaining the circumstances resulting in the withdraw and the plan to improve or correct performance if offered readmission. The Admissions Coordinator will forward the application, the letter, and any available academic records including the most recent transcript to the Chair of the UPC. The UPC at the next scheduled meeting 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 available in nursing courses and in sequence to date of action in relation to other readmission applicants, 3) not eligible. The UPC may assign requirements to be met as a condition of enrollment, i.e. readmission on a part-time degree plan.

### **Transfer Student**

Applicants are encouraged to meet with the School of Nursing Department Chair for Non-Traditional Program or the Second Degree Coordinator to discuss applicability of transfer credit for degree purposes.

### ***Prerequisite Courses***

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

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

The Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center core curriculum for undergraduate nursing degrees, which also incorporate Field of Study requirements in nursing, is comprised of 55 semester credit hours as detailed in the following table. To review the Texas Core Curriculum visit [Texas Core Curriculum](#). All general education courses must be completed prior to taking the first nursing course.

## Prerequisite Courses

	HOURS		HOURS
COMMUNICATION English (*ENGL1301, 1302)	6	SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES United States History (*HIST1301, 1302)	6
MATHEMATICS Statistics (*MATH1342, 1442, 2342 or 2442)	3	<i>Students may substitute 3 credit hours of Texas History for 3 credit hours of American History</i>	
NATURAL SCIENCES Anatomy and Physiology (*BIOL2401 & 2402)	8	Political Science (*GOVT 2301 & 2302 or GOVT 2305 & 2306)	6
Chemistry (*CHEM1305 & 1105 or CHEM 1406 or CHEM1411)	4	Psychology (*PSY2301)	3
Microbiology (*BIOL2420 or BIOL2421)	4	Life Span Growth and Development (*PSY2314)	3
Food and Nutrition (*HECO1322 or BIOL1322)	3		
HUMANITIES AND VISUAL PERFORMING ARTS Visual/Performing Arts (any art, music, drama, or theatre arts course)	3	NURSING **Pathophysiology (BIOL4301 or equivalent)	3
Humanities (any literature, philosophy, modern or classical language/literature, or cultural studies course)	3		
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>55</b>

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

\*\* Pre-requisite for beginning first semester course work in Second Degree Web-Based BSN Program

### Important Information about Pre-Nursing Course Requirements

- Pass/Fail grades are not accepted for credit toward degree requirements.
- Applicants may choose to request grades for all non-nursing courses greater than 10 years old not be considered in the GPA for admission. If this option is selected, those credits excluded are not eligible for pre-requisite course consideration. The applicant must have at least 34 credit hours within the past 10 years to use this option.
- Courses taken at Texas Tech University or any other college/university are not used in calculating the TTUHSC grade point average once a student has been admitted to the School of Nursing.
- The School of Nursing accepts courses completed via classroom, internet, correspondence, CLEP (College Level Examination Program) or advanced placement examination for which credit has been awarded and posted on an official transcript from an accredited college or university when determining completion of pre-requisite non-nursing course requirements.

### Recognition of Previous Nursing Learning

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

#### A. Transfer of Credit

- Applicants are encouraged to meet with the School of Nursing Department Chair for Non-Traditional Department or the Second Degree Coordinator to discuss applicability of transfer credit for degree purposes.

#### B. Advanced Placement

- Students who have completed courses in nursing may be eligible to receive advanced placement. Applicants are encouraged to meet with the School of Nursing Department Chair for Non-Traditional Department or the Second Degree Coordinator to discuss applicability of advanced placement for degree purposes.

### Offer of Admission

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



## ***Degree Requirements for Students Admitted to the Program***

### **Graduation Under a Particular Catalog**

A student is expected to complete the degree requirements set forth in the School of Nursing *Catalog* in effect at the time the student enters the program. Only with the specific approval of the Department Chair may a different *Catalog* be selected. In no case may a student complete the requirements set forth in a catalog more than seven years old. The *Catalog* is published at least biennially and its provisions are applicable during the stated school year.

### **Minimum Academic Requirements**

A student must earn a 2.0 in each course in the required curriculum and maintain an overall semester and cumulative GPA of 2.0 or greater. The Pass/Fail option may be used only in courses that exceed the minimum degree requirements. The School of Nursing Student Handbook provides further details regarding academic and graduation expectations.

### **Maintaining Minimum Academic Requirements**

- Maintain a 2.0 GPA for each semester and overall cumulative
- A minimum grade of “C” in all nursing and non-nursing (degree required) courses is required.
- Students earning an overall cumulative GPA or a semester GPA less than a 2.0 in the semester of graduation are ineligible for graduation
- Any student who is unsuccessful (receives grade of “D” or “F”) in any course in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree Program will be academically dismissed from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree Program. The student may seek admission to the Undergraduate Traditional BSN Program by submitting a letter of petition for admission to the Traditional Department Chair. If space is available and the faculty determines the student is a good candidate for the Undergraduate Traditional BSN Program the student will be advised.

### **Comprehensive Examinations**

Undergraduate (prelicensure) students must have a passing score on the ATI comprehensive examination administered in NURS 4310. If the student is not successful on the examination, he/she will be required to meet with the Department Chair 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 Second Degree students are required to complete 55 hours of non-nursing courses and 61 hours of nursing courses.

### **Degree Plan**

Degree plans are generally completed by the program coordinator during the initial advising session with the student. The degree plan may be revised based on a student’s ability to successfully progress through the curriculum. Course enrollment may be limited based on available resources, including but not limited to availability of clinical sites within the community. When necessary, methods for limiting enrollment will be determined by the Department Chair.

#### **Sample Degree Plan 2° w BSN Program SEMESTER ONE**

NURS 3205	CL, Clinical Competence I: Practicum in Basic Skills for Nursing Practice
NURS 3380	Foundational Concepts of Nursing Practice
NURS 3510	CL, Clinical Foundations of Nursing Practice
NURS 3307	Health Assessment
NURS 3408	Pharmacology
NURS 3315	Nursing of the Developing Family
NURS3105	CL, Developing Family Nursing Clinical

***Total Credit Hours: 21***

**SEMESTER TWO**

NURS 3385 Concepts of Chronic Care Nursing  
NURS 3520 CL, Chronic Care Nursing Clinical  
NURS 4312 Child Health Nursing  
NURS 4314 Mental Health Nursing  
NURS 4214 Research  
NURS 4112 CL, Child Health Nursing Clinical  
NURS 4114 CL, Mental Health Nursing Clinical

*Total Credit Hours: 18*

**SEMESTER THREE**

NURS 4316 Health Promotion Teaching in Nursing  
NURS 4317 CL, Community Nursing  
NURS 4318 Management & Leadership in Nursing  
NURS 4398 Concepts of Acute Care Nursing  
NURS 4510 CL, Acute Care Nursing Clinical  
NURS 4219 CL, Clinical Competence II: Practicum in Integration of Nursing  
NURS4310 CL, Synthesis of Nursing Knowledge

*Total Credit Hours: 22*

## COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

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

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

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

**KEY:** Courses are listed in numerical order.

**(CL)** Concurrent enrollment in a Clinical Section is required.

**(#:#:#)** First # represents the number of credit hours, Second # represents the number of lecture hours per week, Third # represents the number of clinical hours per week.

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

**(V)** Variable Credit.

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### 3000 Level Courses

**3105. Practicum in Obstetrical Nursing Care and Developing Families (1:0:3 WE).** (2<sup>nd</sup> Degree) (Prerequisite: Satisfactory completion of NURS3205, 3307, 3408; Corequisite: NURS3380, 3510, 3315) This clinical/laboratory experience provides opportunities to care for clients and families in obstetrical settings using knowledge obtained from the theory courses in developing family nursing.

**3205. Clinical Competence I: Practicum in Basic Skills for Nursing Practice (CL 2:0:6 WE).** (2<sup>nd</sup> Degree) (Prerequisite: 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 WB).** (2<sup>nd</sup> Degree)(Prerequisite: NURS 3205; Corequisites: NURS 3105, 3380, 3510, 3408, 3315) 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.

**3408. Pharmacology (4:4:0 WB)** (2<sup>nd</sup> Degree) (Co-requisites: NURS3205, 3380, 3510, 3307, 3315, 3105) This course introduces principles of pharmacology and drug therapy, classifications of drugs, and nursing implications of pharmacotherapeutics. Legal, ethical, genetic, cultural, and life span implications of drug therapy are explored. Evidence based practice guides students to use critical thinking when addressing expected effects/outcomes of medications, medication safety, routes of administration, dosage calculations, and documentation.

**3315. Developing Family Nursing (3:3:0 WE).** (2<sup>nd</sup> Degree)(Prerequisite: NURS 3205; Corequisite: NURS 3380, 3510, 3307, 3408, 3105.) This course emphasizes nursing concepts related to the childbearing family with emphasis on the neonate and women's health. Family theory, health disparities, and genetics are also explored as a foundation for care delivery. Clinical judgment and reasoning will be required in the application of evidence based nursing care in case studies.

**3380 Foundational Concepts of Nursing Practice (3:3:0 WB)** (2<sup>nd</sup> Degree) (Pre-requisite: 3205; Co-requisites: 3105, 3307, 3408, 3315, 3510.) 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.

**3510 Clinical Foundations of Nursing Practice (CL5:0:15 WE)** (2<sup>nd</sup> Degree) (Pre-requisite: 3205; Co-requisites: 3105, 3307, 3408, 3315, 3380.) 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.

**3385 Concepts of Chronic Care Nursing (3:3:0 WB)** (Pre-requisite: Satisfactory completion of all first semester courses; Co-requisites: 4112, 4114, 4312, 4314, 4214, 3520.) 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.

**3520 Chronic Care Nursing Clinical (CL 5:0:15 WE)** (Pre-requisite: Satisfactory completion of all first semester courses; Co-requisites: 4112, 4114, 4312, 4314, 4214, 3385.) 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 on nursing care through case studies and weekly clinical experiences.

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## 4000 Level Courses

**4214. Research (2:2:0 WB).** (2<sup>nd</sup> Degree) (Prerequisite: Satisfactory completion of all first semester courses; Corequisite: NURS 3385, 3520, 4312, 4314, 4112, 4114) This course will address basic research concepts and explore the relationship of research to theory and evidence based practice. The purpose of the course is to develop skills in critical appraisal and summary of the evidence in order to identify best practices in clinical care.

**4112. Practicum in Pediatric Nursing (CL 1:0:3 WE)** (2<sup>nd</sup> Degree) (Pre-requisite: Satisfactory completion of all first semester courses; Co-requisite: All second semester courses.) This clinical laboratory experience provides opportunities to care for children, families groups and communities in pediatric settings using evidence based knowledge from the theory courses.

**4114. Practicum in Mental Health Nursing (CL 1:0:3 WE)** (2<sup>nd</sup> Degree) (Pre-requisite: Satisfactory completion of all first semester courses; Co-requisite: All second semester courses.) This clinical course provides opportunities for students to plan and provide holistic care for patients in mental health settings using evidence based knowledge.

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

**4310. Synthesis of Nursing Knowledge (CL 3:2:3 WB).** Provides students with an opportunity to assess and analyze own ability to synthesize concepts of nursing care and apply those concepts in simulation and standardized examinations. (Pre- co-requisite: all NURS4000 level courses must be completed or in progress.)

**4312. Child Health Nursing (3:3:0 WB).** (2<sup>nd</sup> Degree) (Prerequisite: Satisfactory completion of all first semester courses; Corequisite: NURS 3385, 3520, 4314, 4214, 4112, 4114) This course emphasizes child health and illness nursing concepts essential for safe professional nursing practice in pediatric acute care and outpatient settings. Growth and development are emphasized. Clinical judgment and reasoning are demonstrated in the application of evidence-based nursing in case studies.

**4314. Mental Health Nursing (3:3:0 WB).** (2<sup>nd</sup> Degree) (Prerequisite: Satisfactory completion of all first semester courses; Corequisite: NURS 3385, 3520, 4312, 4214, 4112, 4114) 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.

**4316. Health Promotion and Education (3:3:0 WB).** (2<sup>nd</sup> Degree) (Prerequisite: Satisfactory completion of all first and second semester courses; Corequisite: NURS 4317, 4318, 4398, 4510, 4310.) This course incorporates health promotion and disease prevention concepts for assessment and intervention with clients across the lifespan. Emphasis is placed on health education planning and teaching plans for patients, families, populations, and communities.

**4317. Community and Population Health Nursing (CL 3:2:3 WB).** (2<sup>nd</sup> Degree) (Prerequisite: Satisfactory completion of all first and second semester courses; Corequisite: NURS 4316, 4318, 4398, 4510, 4219, 4310.) 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.

**4318. Management and Leadership in Nursing (3:3:0 WB).** (2<sup>nd</sup> Degree) (Prerequisite: Satisfactory completion of all first and second semester courses; Corequisite: NURS 4316, 4317, 4398, 4510, 4219, 4310.) This course surveys the role of the nurse as a leader, 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 laws and ethical modalities that impact nursing practice will be included.

**4398 Concepts of Acute Care Nursing (3:3:0 WB)** (Pre-requisite: Satisfactory completion of all first and second semester courses; Co-requisites: 4316, 4317, 4318, 4510, 4219, 4310.) 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.

**4510 Acute Care Nursing Clinical (CL 5:0:15 WE)** (Pre-requisite: Satisfactory completion of all first and second semester courses; Co-requisites: 4316, 4317, 4318, 4398, 4219, 4310.) 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.

## **RN-BSN Program (Licensed RN Students)**

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

Web-based technology is used to provide course delivery for this totally on-line learning program. A concerted effort is made to individualize the program to meet the needs of the learners and classes are exclusively designed for the registered nurse. The RN-BSN Program can be completed in two semesters, with admission in the fall, spring, or summer semesters. If a student elects to attend part-time the program must be completed in two years from the time of initial enrollment.

### **Admissions Requirements**

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

- A 2.5 or higher cumulative grade point average in both the general education prerequisites, and the nursing courses is required for admission consideration. All general education prerequisite and nursing courses should be completed with a grade of “C” or higher prior to enrollment.
- All general education prerequisite and nursing courses must be documented on official transcripts prior to enrollment in nursing courses.
- Students must have passed the NCLEX prior to matriculation into the program for full admission.
- Submit verification of valid/current state RN licensure, in good standing with no restrictions or stipulations, including out-of-state RN students.
- Submit a completed application and non-refundable application fee to the Nursing Central Application System (NCAS) and TTUHSC Merlin for admission to the School of Nursing. The total application fee is \$85 if submitted prior to the application deadline of June 15 (fall admission), October 1 (spring admission) or March 15 (summer admission).
- Submit original copies of official transcripts from all institutions in which the student has enrolled.
- Submit appropriate documentation, such as TOEFL scores if an international student.
- Complete general education requirements prior to beginning the first nursing course.

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

- Extracurricular activities
- Work experience
- Diversity of experience, such as study abroad, knowledge of other cultures, proficiency in other languages
- Permanent resident of TTUHSC service area county
- First generation college student
- Bilingual (English/Spanish)
- Socioeconomic status
- Prior enrollment at TTU

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

#### **Excess Undergraduate Credit Hours**

“An institution of higher education may charge a resident undergraduate student tuition at a higher rate than the rate charged to other resident undergraduate students (not to exceed the rate charged to nonresident undergraduate students) **IF:** before the semester begins the student has previously **attempted** coursework at any institution that exceeds by at least 30 hours the number of semester credit hours required for completion of the degree program enrolled in.”

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

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

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

### **Computer Requirements & Skills**

The courses of the RN-BSN Program are conducted online; therefore, students are required to have a personal computer with broadband internet access. Applicants are expected to bring basic skills in the use of a computer and use of Word Office to function independently. To assess skill level go to “Is Online Learning for You?” at <http://nursing.ttuhschool.edu/skills/>. Also, take the Technical Skills Assessment found at <https://sonmedia.ttuhschool.edu/id/assessments/>. If it is found that a student cannot function independently as a on-line student the 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.

### **Criminal Background Check**

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

\*\*\* Effective January 2013, the TTUHSC School of Nursing will begin utilizing the Texas Board of Nursing Criminal Background Check Process. Students will receive instruction on this new process prior to matriculation into their programs.

### **Drug Screening**

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

### **Special Student Enrollment**

#### **Non-Degree**

Under certain circumstances, it may be appropriate for an individual to seek admission as a special non-degree seeking student. This admission is for the purpose of taking a limited number of courses for one semester only. It is not an avenue for seeking a degree.

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

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

#### **Provisional Admission**

RN-BSN candidates may be admitted as provisional students if they demonstrate potential to succeed in the nursing program but have not taken the NCLEX. These designations are noted in the letter of admission, along with the condition for removal of the provision. Students who are admitted provisionally 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 he or she will be granted full admission to the RN to BSN Program. If a student is unsuccessful in passing the NCLEX they will be granted a leave of absence for one semester. If the student has not been licensed during the leave of absence they will be academically withdrawn and encouraged to reapply upon passage of the NCLEX.

#### **Conditional Admission**

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

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

#### **Readmission**

All requests for readmission must be made no later than two months prior to the first day of the semester in which readmission is requested. The Undergraduate Program Committee (UPC) is responsible for overseeing all readmissions to the School of Nursing. A student who left in good standing and seeking readmission shall complete

and submit an readmission application showing the expected entry point to the RN to BSN Admissions Coordinator. The Admission Coordinator will notify the Chair of the UPC of the request for readmission along with providing the most current transcript, and a summary of the circumstances of the student's withdraw if known. A student who left with a record not in good standing because he or she withdrew for academic or disciplinary causes must complete and submit a readmission application to the RN to BSN Admissions Coordinator along with a letter explaining the circumstances resulting in the withdraw and the plan to improve or correct performance if offered readmission. The Admissions Coordinator will forward the application, the letter, and any available academic records including the most recent transcript to the Chair of the UPC. The UPC at the next scheduled meeting 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 available in nursing courses and in sequence to date of action in relation to other readmission applicants, 3) not eligible. The UPC may assign requirements to be met as a condition of enrollment, i.e. readmission on a part-time degree plan.

### **Transfer Student**

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

- Transfer student must be eligible to return to the institution from which he or she is requesting transfer,
- Student previously enrolled in the RN-BSN Program at TTUHSC School of Nursing who has attended another institution of higher education and is seeking to TTUHSC return must apply for admission and will be required to meet the SON pre-requisites for admission and the TTUHSC standards for transfer credit,
- Number of credits completed at TTUHSC to receive a degree must total 25% of the total 120 credits required by the State of Texas to award a bachelor's degree

### ***Prerequisite Courses***

#### **Required Non-Nursing Prerequisite Courses for the RN-BSN Program**

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

#### **Texas Success Initiative (TSI)**

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

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

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

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

The Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center core curriculum for undergraduate nursing degrees incorporates the Field of Study requirements in nursing is comprised of 52 semester credit hours as detailed in the following table.

COMMUNICATION	HOURS
English (*ENGL1301, 1302)	6
MATHEMATICS	
Statistics (*MATH1342, 1442, 2342 or 2442)	3
NATURAL SCIENCES	
Anatomy and Physiology (*BIOL2401 & 2402)	8
Chemistry (*CHEM1305 & 1105 or CHEM 1406 or CHEM1411)	4
Microbiology (*BIOL2420 or BIOL2421)	4
Food and Nutrition (*HECO1322 or BIOL1322)	3
HUMANITIES AND VISUAL PERFORMING ARTS	
Visual/Performing Arts (any art, music, drama, or theatre arts course)	3
Humanities (any literature, philosophy, modern or classical language/literature, or cultural studies course)	3



SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES	
United States History (*HIST1301, 1302)	6
<i>Students may substitute 3 credit hours of Texas History for 3 credit hours of American History</i>	
Political Science (*GOVT 2301 & 2302 or GOVT 2305 & 2306)	6
Psychology (*PSY2301)	3
Life Span Growth and Development (*PSY2314)	3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>52</b>

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

**RN-BSN Program:** 52 Semester Hours from general education requirements courses  
38 Semester Hours awarded for completion of the Basic Nursing Program  
30 Semester Hours from the RN-BSN TTUHSC SON curriculum  
120 Semester Hours BSN

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

### Recognition of Previous Nursing Learning

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

#### A. Transfer of Credit

- Applicants must submit original copies of official college transcripts from all institutions in which the student has enrolled. These transcripts will be reviewed and course work evaluated by the program administrator's office. Final determination regarding applicability of completed course work toward degree requirements lies with the Department Chair.
- Course equivalencies for transfer credit are assessed based upon the catalog course description or the course syllabus and/or notes provided by the student. Generally, courses of equivalent course content completed with the grade of "C" or higher at any accredited educational institution will be accepted for transfer credit toward degree requirements.
- The School of Nursing accepts courses completed via classroom, internet, correspondence, College Level Examination Program (CLEP) or advanced placement examination for which credit has been awarded and posted on an official transcript from an accredited college or university when determining completion of general education course requirements.
- No more than 55 general education course hours will be transferred, as well as a minimum of 38 hours of basic nursing education courses be posted, for a total of 93 semester hours that will be acknowledged for the RN-BSN degree requirements. (If a basic nursing program has less than 38 hours, details for this should be arranged with the Department Chair. These transfer hours will be posted upon admission to the School of

Nursing by the Registrar's office of TTUHSC, thus the RN-BSN student will be classified as a Senior student upon entering TTUHSC SON.

- Applicants are encouraged to meet with or send transcripts to (fax is acceptable) the RN-BSN Coordinator's office to discuss applicability of transfer credit for degree purposes before submitting their application.

### **B. Advanced Placement**

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

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

Offers of admission will be made approximately six weeks following the application deadline. Due to the limited number of positions available each semester, applicants should respond to the offer of admission no later than the deadline stated in the letter offering admission by returning a \$100 non-refundable placement guarantee fee as well as a signed response form accepting the offer. Failure to respond by the deadline results in withdrawal of the offer of admission. Although academic criteria are the most important factors in admission consideration, beginning Fall 2005, additional information considered for all applicants will include, but are not limited to demographic data, diverse work and life experiences, and unique attributes that would contribute to the profession of nursing. The "diversity of experience" category may include, but will not be limited to study abroad, knowledge of other cultures, and proficiency in other languages. All applicants will be reviewed in an individual and holistic manner. No single factor will determine a student's admission.

### ***Degree Requirements for Students Admitted to the Program***

#### **Graduation Under a Particular Catalog**

A student is expected to complete the degree requirements set forth in the School of Nursing *Catalog* in effect at the time the student enters the program. Only with the specific approval of the Department Chair may a different Catalog be selected. In no case may a student complete the requirements set forth in a catalog more than seven years old. The *Catalog* is published at least biennially and its provisions are applicable during the stated school year.

A student must earn a 2.0 in each course in the required curriculum and maintain an overall semester and cumulative GPA of 2.0 or greater. The Pass/Fail option may be used only in courses that exceed the minimum degree requirements. The School of Nursing Student Handbook provides further details regarding academic and graduation expectations.

#### **Maintaining Minimum Academic Requirements**

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

#### **Academic Dismissal**

- Making a "D", "F" or "WF" in two or more nursing courses in one semester is cause for academic dismissal.
- Making a "D", "F" or "WF" in a third nursing course, even when the first two "D"s, "F"s or "WF"s have been replaced by a passing grade upon retaking those courses.
- Earning less than a 2.0 semester or cumulative GPA for two consecutive semesters.
- Making a "D", "F", or "WF" in the same nursing course twice.

#### **Residence Credit**

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

#### **Semester Credit Hours and Course Loads**

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

of lecture or recitation and an appropriate amount of time for preparation for clinical activity is required. The number of semester credit hours a student may carry (course load) is regulated by the Department Chair, taking into account the quality of prior scholastic work performed and the types of courses involved. Permission is needed to enroll in more than 15 semester credit hours. Refer to example course loads in the sample degree plans for the RN-BSN student.

### ***Degree Plan***

The following degree plan is designed for applicants with a RN license only. It is provided here only as an overview of a basic course schedule of a full time student and it will vary depending on each student’s ability to progress through the program. All general education courses must be completed prior to taking the first nursing course. Students should discuss an appropriate academic and employment workload with the RN-BSN Department Chair.

**Sample Degree Plan RN-BSN Program**

	<b>SEMESTER ONE</b>		<b>SEMESTER TWO</b>
NURS 4373	Introduction to Evidence	NURS 4376	Population Focused Community Health
NURS 4381	Issues & Trends in Nursing	NURS 4377	Risk Analysis and Implications for Practice
NURS 4380	Nursing Theory	NURS 4375	Information Systems and Quality Management
NURS 4374	Management and Leadership	NURS XXXX	Nursing Elective
NURS 4383	Legal & Ethical Issues in Healthcare	NURS 4390	Baccalaureate Nursing Practice
	<b>Total Credit Hours: 15</b>		<b>Total Credit Hours: 15</b>

## **COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

### **RN-BSN Undergraduate Program Courses**

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

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

**KEY:** Courses are listed in numerical order.

**(CL)** Concurrent enrollment in a Clinical Section is required.

**(#:#:#)** First # represents the number of credit hours, Second # represents the number of lecture hours per week, Third # represents the number of clinical hours per week.

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

**(V)** Variable Credit.

### **4000 Level Courses**

**4308. Global Health Issues in Nursing (3:3:0 WB) (\*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.

**4331. Human Lactation (3:3:0 WB) (\*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.

**4362. Health Care for Rural Older Adults (3:3:0 WB) (\*Elective)** Focus on important concepts in health and health care among rural elders as a population group. The concept of rurality will be presented not as a dichotomy, but as continuum, focusing on the special needs of rural elders. Emphasis is on the collaborative role of nurses in assisting elders and families in rural settings to negotiate health care delivery systems, using principles for evaluating, managing, and coordinating care of rural elders.

**4363. Foundations of Holistic Nursing (3:3:0 WB). (\*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 WB). (\*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 WB). (\*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 WB) (\*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 WB). (\*Elective)** This course provides the opportunity to explore women's health issues and their implications for health care.

**4368. Conducting Life Review with Elderly Clients (3:3:0 WB). (\*Elective)** Designed to acquaint students with concepts and processes of conducting life review with elderly clients. Included in this course are two primary goals in conducting life review with elderly clients. The first goal is on the emotional level with the outcome being to decrease anxiety and increase the client's sense of satisfaction, pride, and accomplishment about their life. The second goal is on a cognitive level with the outcome being to heighten the client's awareness of the strengths and resources they have used to meet previous life challenges.

**4369. Health Law for the Nurse Leader (3:3:0 WB). (\*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 WB).** 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 (3:3:0 WB).** This course builds on management and leadership concepts essential in professional nursing practice in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Management and leadership theories, roles and functions serve as the foundation for course. Key concepts covered include managing quality using informatics tools and systems, patient safety, staffing, fiscal planning and decision making.

**4375. Information System and Quality Management (3:3:0 WB).** An introduction to information system and quality processes required to monitor and improve healthcare outcomes related to cost, safety, care coordination and quality management. Learning information system 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. (Pre-requisite: Completion of NURS 4374).

**4376. Population Focused Community Health (3:3:0 WB).** 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. (Pre-requisite: Completion of 4373 or 4382, 4380, 4381).

**4377. Risk Analysis and Implications for Practice (3:3:0 WB).** 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. (Pre-requisite: Completion of 4374 or 4378, 4380, 4373 or 4382).

**4380. Nature of Nursing Theory (3:3:0 WB).** 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 WB).** 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 (3:3:0 WB).** This course surveys major legal and ethical issues in the interprofessional delivery of healthcare. The student focuses on basic principles and language of law and ethics, and develops an understanding of value formation and its influence on ethical theories. The role of state nursing boards in regulating practice is reviewed along with landmark court cases affecting the role and duties of the nurse.

**4388. Client and Peer Teaching (3:3:0 WB). (\*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-BSN program.

**4390. Baccalaureate Nursing Practice (3:3:0 WB).** A capstone course which requires students to integrate principles of patient centered care, interdisciplinary teams, evidence-based practice, quality improvement, informatics, and patient safety through discussion, personal reflection, and development of a professional portfolio. (Pre-requisite: Completion of NURS 4374 or 4378, 4375 or 4379, 4380, 4381, 4373 or 4382, 4383, 4377 or 4389; Co-requisite: 4376 or 4387).

## **GRADUATE DEPARTMENT**

***Barbara Cherry, DNSc, MBA, RN, NEA-BC, Department Chair for Leadership Program  
Emily Merrill, PhD, RN, FNP, BC, CNE, FAANP, Department Chair for Advanced Practice  
Registered Nurse (APRN) Program***

### ***Introduction***

The School of Nursing Graduate Program offers the Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) degree and the Doctorate of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree. The MSN degree has the following tracks: Nursing Administration, Nursing Education, Family Nurse Practitioner, Pediatric Nurse Practitioner, Acute Care Nurse Practitioner, Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner and Nurse Midwifery. The Doctorate of Nursing Practice offers the following two specialty areas: Advanced Practice Nursing and Executive Leadership. The School of Nursing also offers a post-MSN certificate in the following role and population foci: family nurse practitioner, pediatric nurse practitioner, acute care nurse practitioner, adult-gerontology acute care and nurse midwifery.

### **Master of Science in Nursing (MSN)**

#### ***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 be prepared 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.

These objectives are met by all MSN students in all program tracks at all sites. The MSN educational program delivery is accomplished by a combination of on-campus classes and web-based technologies.

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

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

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

#### **MSN Application Deadlines**

Consideration for admission is given to applicants who meet all admission criteria and have submitted ALL admission requirements by the application deadline to NursingCAS, the Centralized Application Service for Nursing Programs (<https://portal.nursingcas.org>) AND to the TTUHSC Registrar's Office, SON Admissions, 3601 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Stop 8310, Lubbock, Texas 79430.

**To be considered for admission "ALL" admission requirements must be received by the application deadline noted below (no summer admission):**

	<b>Spring 2013 Admission</b>	<b>Fall 2013 Admission</b>	<b>Spring 2014 Admission</b>
<b>Application Deadline</b>	August 1, 2012	March 15, 2013	August 1, 2013

## **Admission Requirements - MSN**

Applicant must submit the following application requirements for full admission:

- Valid Texas RN License
- Baccalaureate nursing degree from a regionally accredited college or university with nursing program accreditation from the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) or from the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC).
- Successful completion of an undergraduate research and statistics course
- Minimum 3.0 GPA or better (on a 4.0 scale) in upper division undergraduate nursing courses
- BLS Certification
- Personal Statement
- References (3)
- Completed application within the Nursing Centralized Application Service (NursingCAS)  
<https://portal.nursingcas.org>
- Signature Page
- Oath of Residency
- Official transcript for the BSN degree; also include transcripts for the undergraduate research and statistics course if not included on the BSN transcript. (Note: all transcripts must be from regionally accredited colleges or universities with nursing program accreditation from the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) or from the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC)).
- International Students: appropriate documentation – TOEFL score
- Applicants to the Acute Care Nurse Practitioner (ACNP) track must have worked in an acute care, intensive care, or emergency department setting within the past five (5) years and have at least one (1) year of experience working as a registered nurse in critical care prior to admission.
- Applicants to the Pediatric Nurse Practitioner track are required to have one year pediatric experience prior to sitting for the National Certification Board of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners (PNCB) exam.
- Applicants to the Nurse Midwifery track are required to have one year labor and delivery experience prior to admission.

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

- Valid Texas 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, ACNP)
- NRP (Neonatal resuscitation program (NMW))
- Personal Statement
- References (3)
- Completed application within the Nursing Centralized Application Service (NursingCAS)  
<https://portal.nursingcas.org>
- International Students - appropriate documentation, i.e. TOEFL score
- Applicants to the Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner (AGACNP) Track must have at least one (1) year of RN experience in acute care, intensive care, or an emergency department setting within the past five (5) years.
- Applicants to the Pediatric Nurse Practitioner track are required to have one year pediatric experience prior to sitting for the National Certification Board of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners (PNCB) exam.
- Applicants to the Nurse-Midwifery track are required to have one year of RN experience in labor and delivery or an equivalent clinical experience prior to admission.

Although academic criteria are the most 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** applications are reviewed for admission consideration.

### Computer Requirements

All students admitted are required to have a personal computer with broadband internet access. [See http://nursing.ttuhsu.edu/it/requirements](http://nursing.ttuhsu.edu/it/requirements) for specific computer system requirements.

### Criminal Background Check

In compliance with TTUHSC policy, all applicants who have received offers of admission will be required to consent to a criminal background check before being allowed to matriculate. A history of criminal conduct or convictions may result in withdrawal of the admission offer. See the "Criminal Background Checks" section of the SON Student Handbook for the SON policy. The TTUHSC policy may be found at HSC OP 10.20. <http://www.ttuhsu.edu/hsc/op/op10/op1020>.

\*\*\* Effective January 2013, the TTUHSC School of Nursing will begin utilizing the Texas Board of Nursing Criminal Background Check Process. Students will receive instruction on this new process prior to matriculation into their programs.

### Immunizations

All applicants who receive offers of admission will be required to submit evidence of required immunizations. Failure to maintain documentation of the following immunization requirements in the appropriate program office can result in exclusion from clinical practice and a hold being placed on school records. The following information must be on file for a complete immunization record while enrolled in the SCHOOL OF NURSING:

Vaccine	When required
Hepatitis B series (Hep B)	Started by new student orientation, to be completed within 6 months or a titer showing immunity is required.
Measles, Mumps, Rubella vaccine/titer (MMR)	By date of new student orientation, 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)	By date of new student orientation (Adults 29 years of age or younger within the last 5 year).
Tuberculin test (PPD)	By date of new student orientation and annually thereafter.
Tetanus/Diphtheria (Td)	By date of new student orientation (Booster required every 10 years.)
Varicella (Chicken Pox)	By date of new student orientation – 2 doses of vaccine, physician's statement of disease or titer showing immunity are required.

### Drug Screening

Drug Screenings may be required if requested by the institution where the student performs clinical experiences.

### Special Student Enrollment

Special Student enrollment is not an avenue for seeking a degree. Under certain circumstances, it may be appropriate for an individual to seek admission as a non-degree seeking student. This admission is for the purpose of taking a limited number of courses. The applicant must seek approval from the Department Chair prior to submitting a special student (non-degree) application. The student must also be eligible for admission under the following 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 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 & application fee
- Submitted official transcripts from all universities or colleges attended
- Submitted Oath of Residency
- Submitted BLS certification

Six semester credit hours is the maximum number that can be taken as a special student. A special student wishing to apply for full admission to the Graduate 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 who wish to audit a course for no grade must obtain approval from the Department Chair. Students who audit a course will not be listed on the class roll, and no notation of the audit will be made on the student's transcript. Students who are enrolled for 12 semester credit hours or more may audit a course without paying an additional fee. All other students must pay a \$10 fee for auditing a course.

**Provisional Admission**

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

**Readmission**

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

A student seeking readmission must comply with the following:

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

**Student Transfers from other Educational Institutions**

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

- Eligible to return to the institution from which he or she is transferring
- Complete a full application to the MSN program by the deadlines specified for the semester of transfer to TTUHSC
- Student previously enrolled in the graduate program at TTUHSC School of Nursing who has attended another institution and is seeking to return must apply for readmission; 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 Learning***

### **Transfer Credit**

The decision to award transfer of academic credit is made by the Department Chair 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. 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 has 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\orientation fee
- Complete Criminal Background Check online
- Submit evidence of compliance with required immunizations
- Complete Sexual Harassment training online and submit certificate of completion
- Failure to respond to admissions offer by the date specified in offer letter may result in withdrawal of the offer of admission.

## ***Degree Requirements for Students Admitted to the Graduate Program – 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 program. Only with the specific approval of the Department Chair may a different Catalog be selected. In no case may a student complete the requirements set forth in a catalog more than seven years old. The *Catalog* is published at least biennially and its provisions are applicable during the stated school year.

### **Maintaining Minimum Academic Requirements**

The minimum GPA for continuance in the graduate program is 3.0 overall. Additionally a minimum grade of “B” is required in each course (nursing and non-nursing) required for degree completion. The TTUHSC School of Nursing Student Handbook provides further details regarding academic and graduation expectations.

### **Majority of Credits**

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

### **Requirements for Progression Towards the MSN Degree**

- Grades are reviewed each semester and progression in the Graduate Program is determined by the Department Chair and Graduate Program Committee.
- 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 that course one time only pursuant to recommendation of course faculty.
- Students earning an overall cumulative GPA or a semester GPA less than a 3.0 in the semester of graduation/completion are ineligible for graduation/completion.

**Academic Dismissal:**

Dismissal from TTUHSC School of Nursing Graduate Program will result from the following circumstances:

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

**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.

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

## MSN Degree Course Requirements

### ***MSN Leadership in Nursing Education***

(All Online Courses): (Semester Credit Hours Required for Completion – 42)

Key:

- (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.
- T Traditional course methodology
- WE Web-enhanced combination of face-to-face and on-line
- WB Web-based – completely on-line
- \* Elective Courses are offered at select times as faculty and interest are present.
- (V) Variable Credit

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

NURS 5326	Research for Advanced Nursing Practice (3:3:0) WB)
NURS 5327	Evidence for Advanced Nurse Practice (3:3:0 WB)
NURS 5325	Health Policy Essentials for Advanced Nursing Practice (3:3:0 WB)
NURS 5324	Population Health Essentials for Advanced Nursing Practice (3:3:0 WB)
NURS 5323	Leadership for Advanced Nursing Practice (3:3:0 WB)
NURS 5322	Health Informatics for Advanced Nursing Practice (3:3:0 WB)
NURS 5343	Pharmacotherapeutics for Nurses in Advanced Practice (3:3:0 WB)
NURS 5345	Advanced Practice Nursing: Application of Pathophysiology (3:3:0 WB)
NURS 5342	Advanced Health Assessment (CL 3:1.5:5.25 WB) Requires on-campus lab

#### **Specialty Courses:**

NURS 5314	Leadership in Nursing Education I: Best Practices in Teaching & Technology Integration (3:3:0 WB)
NURS 5315	Leadership in Nursing Education II: Best Practices in Assessment & Measurement (3:3:0 WB)
NURS 5316	Leadership in Nursing Education III: Best Practices for Curriculum Development & Program Evaluation (3:3:0 WB)
NURS 5317	Comprehensive Clinical Care (3:2:1)
NURS 6030	Leadership in Nursing Education IV: Role and Practicum (CL 3:5:7.5 WB)

### ***MSN Leadership in Nursing Administration***

(Semester Credit Hrs Required for Completion – 39)

Key: CL = Clinical; WB = Web-Based (on-line course); WE = Web-Enhanced; T = Traditional)

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

NURS 5326	Research for Advanced Nursing Practice (3:3:0) WB)
NURS 5327	Evidence for Advanced Nurse Practice (3:3:0 WB)
NURS 5325	Health Policy Essentials for Advanced Nursing Practice (3:3:0 WB)
NURS 5324	Population Health Essentials for Advanced Nursing Practice (3:3:0 WB)
NURS 5323	Leadership for Advanced Nursing Practice (3:3:0 WB)
NURS 5322	Health Informatics for Advanced Nursing Practice (3:3:0 WB)
NURS 5345	Advanced Practice Nursing: Application of Pathophysiology (3:3:0 WB) Elective (3)

#### **Specialty Courses:**

NURS 5386	Finance and Budgeting for Nurse Leaders
NURS 5346	The Nursing Administrator: Standards of Excellence (3:3:0 WB)
NURS 5347	Administrative Role Development (3:3:0 WB)
NURS 5348	Administrative Role Development: The Nurse Administrator as Leader (3:3:0 WB)
NURS 6010	Application of Administrative Practice (3:0:9 WB)

## MSN Degree Course Requirements for Nurse Practitioner Track

### ***Family Nurse Practitioner***

*(Semester Credit Hours Required for Completion-48)*

Key: CL = Clinical; WB = Web-Based (on-line course); WE = Web-Enhanced; T = Traditional)

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

NURS 5326	Research for Advanced Nursing Practice (3:3:0 WB)
NURS 5327	Evidence for Advanced Nurse Practice (3:3:0 WB)
NURS 5325	Health Policy Essentials for Advanced Nursing Practice (3:3:0 WB)
NURS 5324	Population Health Essentials for Advanced Nursing Practice (3:3:0 WB)
NURS 5323	Leadership for Advanced Nursing Practice (3:3:0 WB)
NURS 5322	Health Informatics for Advanced Nursing Practice (3:3:0 WB)

#### **Pre-requisite Nursing Courses**

NURS 5312	Foundations for Advanced Practice Nurse Role (3:3:0 WB)
NURS 5320	Diagnostic Methods for Advanced Nursing Practice (CL 3:1.5:5.25 WB) Requires on campus lab
NURS 5342	Advanced Health Assessment (CL 3:1.5:5.25 WB) Requires on campus lab
NURS 5343	Pharmacotherapeutics for Nurses in Advanced Practice (3:3:0 WB)
NURS 5345	Advanced Practice Nursing: Application of Pathophysiology (3:3:0 WB)

#### **Population Focus Courses**

▲NURS 5440	Primary Health Care I: Advanced Assessment, Pathology, and Management (CL 4:2:7 WB)
NURS 5541	Primary Health Care II: Advanced Role Application (CL 5:2:11)
NURS 6660	Nursing Practicum: Requires a portion of clinical hours in medically underserved and/or rural setting. (CL 6:1:17)

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

### ***Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner***

*(Semester Credit Hours Required for Completion-48)*

Key: CL = Clinical; WB = Web-Based (on-line course); WE = Web-Enhanced; T = Traditional)

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

NURS 5326	Research for Advanced Nursing Practice (3:3:0 WB)
NURS 5327	Evidence for Advanced Nurse Practice (3:3:0 WB)
NURS 5325	Health Policy Essentials for Advanced Nursing Practice (3:3:0 WB)
NURS 5324	Population Health Essentials for Advanced Nursing Practice (3:3:0 WB)
NURS 5323	Leadership for Advanced Nursing Practice (3:3:0 WB)
NURS 5322	Health Informatics for Advanced Nursing Practice (3:3:0 WB)

#### **Pre-requisite Nursing Courses**

NURS 5312	Foundations for Advanced Practice Nurse Role (3:3:0 WB)
NURS 5320	Diagnostic Methods for Advanced Nursing Practice (CL 3:1.5:5.25 WB) Requires on campus lab
NURS 5342	Advanced Health Assessment (CL 3:1.5:5.25 WB) Requires on campus lab
NURS 5343	Pharmacotherapeutics for Nurses in Advanced Practice (3:3:0 WB)
NURS 5345	Advanced Practice Nursing: Application of Pathophysiology (3:3:0 WB)

#### **Population Focus Courses**

▲NURS 5460	Adult-Gerontology Acute Care I (CL 4:2:7 WB)
NURS 5561	Adult-Gerontology Acute Care II (CL 5:2:11 WB)
NURS 6652	Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Practicum (CL 6:1:17 WB)

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▲ 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 5 years in acute care, ICU, or ER required for admission to the Adult-Gerontology Acute Care track.

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## ***Pediatric Nurse Practitioner***

*(Semester Credit Hours Required for Completion-48)*

Key: CL = Clinical; WB = Web-Based (on-line course); WE = Web-Enhanced; T = Traditional)

### **Required Core Nursing Courses**

NURS 5326	Research for Advanced Nursing Practice (3:3:0) WB)
NURS 5327	Evidence for Advanced Nurse Practice (3:3:0) WB)
NURS 5325	Health Policy Essentials for Advanced Nursing Practice (3:3:0) WB)
NURS 5324	Population Health Essentials for Advanced Nursing Practice (3:3:0) WB)
NURS 5323	Leadership for Advanced Nursing Practice (3:3:0) WB)
NURS 5322	Health Informatics for Advanced Nursing Practice (3:3:0) WB)

### **Pre-requisite Nursing Courses**

NURS 5312	Foundations for Advanced Practice Nurse Role (3:3:0) WB)
NURS 5320	Diagnostic Methods for Advanced Nursing Practice (CL 3:1.5:5.25) WB) Requires on campus lab
NURS 5342	Advanced Health Assessment (CL 3:1.5:5.25) WB) Requires on campus lab
NURS 5343	Pharmacotherapeutics for Nurses in Advanced Practice (3:3:0) WB)
NURS 5345	Advanced Practice Nursing: Application of Pathophysiology (3:3:0)WB)

### **Population Focus Courses**

▲NURS 5480	Pediatric Primary Health Care I (CL 4:2:7) WB)
NURS 5581	Pediatric Primary Health Care II (CL 5:2:11) WB)
NURS 6680	Pediatric Nursing Practicum (CL 6:1:17) WB)

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

## **Nurse-Midwifery Course Requirements**

### ***Nurse-Midwifery***

*(Semester Credit Hours Required for Completion-51)*

Key: CL = Clinical; WB = Web-Based (on-line course); WE = Web-Enhanced; T = Traditional)

### **Required Core Nursing Courses**

NURS 5326	Research for Advanced Nursing Practice (3:3:0) WB)
NURS 5327	Evidence for Advanced Nurse Practice (3:3:0) WB)
NURS 5325	Health Policy Essentials for Advanced Nursing Practice (3:3:0) WB)
NURS 5324	Population Health Essentials for Advanced Nursing Practice (3:3:0) WB)
NURS 5323	Leadership for Advanced Nursing Practice (3:3:0) WB)
NURS 5322	Health Informatics for Advanced Nursing Practice (3:3:0) WB)

### **Pre-requisite Nursing Courses**

NURS 5312	Foundations for Advanced Practice Nurse Role (3:3:0) WB)
NURS 5320	Diagnostic Methods for Advanced Nursing Practice (CL 3:1.5:5.25) WB) Requires on campus lab
NURS 5342	Advanced Health Assessment (CL 3:1.5:5.25) WB) Requires on campus lab
NURS 5343	Pharmacotherapeutics for Nurses in Advanced Practice (3:3:0) WB)
NURS 5345	Advanced Practice Nursing: Application of Pathophysiology (3:3:0) WB)

### **Population Focus Courses**

▲NURS 5304	Foundation for Nurse-Midwifery (CL 3:1:3.5) WB)
NURS 5470	Nurse Midwifery I-Antepartum Care Management (CL 4:2:7) WB)
NURS 5571	Nurse Midwifery II—Intrapartum/Postpartum/Newborn Care Management. (CL 5:2:11) WB)
NURS 6620	Nursing Midwifery Practicum Integrated Practice (CL 6:1:17) WB)

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▲ All Nurse-Midwifery students are required to hold ACLS certification and complete a NRP (neonatal resuscitation program) prior to first population focus clinical course.

**Applicants to the Nurse-Midwifery track are required to have one year of RN experience in labor and delivery or selected OB experiences subject to faculty/admissions committee approval, prior to admission.**



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

All students will complete the ASU and TTUHSC application for the joint program. Upon receipt of completed application, ASU will evaluate the candidate and, if acceptable for admission to the ASU program, ASU will forward a copy of the completed application to the TTUHSC School of Nursing Graduate Program Coordinator. The Department Chair for the TTUHSC School of Nursing APRN Program in conjunction with the TTUHSC MSN Committee will determine if the applicant may enter the program. The program requires 30 credit hours from TTUHSC and 18 hours from ASU.

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### ***Family Nurse Practitioner***

(Semester Credit Hours Required for Completion-48)

Key: CL = Clinical; WB = Web-Based (on-line course); WE = Web-Enhanced; T = Traditional)

#### **Required transfer courses from Angelo State University (18 credit hours)**

*NUR 6356	Statistical Analysis in Health Care Research (3)
*NUR 6313	Theoretical Foundations of Advanced Nursing (3)
NUR 6317	Health Policy and Ethics (3)
NUR 6301	Research Design and Methodology (3)
NUR 6324	Advanced Pathophysiology (3)
NUR 6331	Advanced Health Assessment (3) requires clinical hours
NUR 6318	Pharmacotherapeutics (3)

#### **Required Nursing Courses from TTUHSC (30 credit hours)**

NURS 5312	Foundations for Advanced Practice Nurse Role (3:3:0 WB)
NURS 5320	Diagnostic Methods for Advanced Nursing Practice (CL 3:1.5:5.25 WB) Requires on campus lab
NURS 5324	Population Health Essentials for Advanced Nursing Practice (3:3:0 WB)
NURS 5323	Leadership for Advanced Nursing Practice (3:3:0 WB)
NURS 5322	Health Informatics for Advanced Nursing Practice (3:3:0 WB)
▲NURS 5440	Primary Health Care I: Advanced Assessment, Pathology, and Management (CL 4:2:7 WB)
NURS 5541	Primary Health Care II: Advanced Role Application (CL 5:2:11)
NURS 6660	Nursing Practicum: Requires a portion of clinical hours in medically underserved and/or rural setting. (CL 6:1:17)

\*NUR 6356 and NUR 6313 together meet the requirement for NURS 5327 at TTUHSC

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

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### ***Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner***

(Semester Credit Hours Required for Completion-48)

Key: CL = Clinical; WB = Web-Based (on-line course); WE = Web-Enhanced; T = Traditional)

#### **Required transfer courses from Angelo State University (18 credit hours)**

*NUR 6356	Statistical Analysis in Health Care Research (3)
*NUR 6313	Theoretical Foundations of Advanced Nursing (3)
NUR 6317	Health Policy and Ethics (3)
NUR 6301	Research Design and Methodology (3)
NUR 6324	Advanced Pathophysiology (3)
NUR 6331	Advanced Health Assessment (3)
NUR 6318	Pharmacotherapeutics (3)

\*NUR 6356 and NUR 6313 together meet the requirement for NURS 5327 at TTUHSC

#### **Required Nursing Courses from TTUHSC (30 credit hours)**

NURS 5312	Foundations for Advanced Practice Nurse Role (3:3:0 WB)
NURS 5320	Diagnostic Methods for Advanced Nursing Practice (CL 3:1.5:5.25 WB) Requires on campus lab
NURS 5324	Population Health Essentials for Advanced Nursing Practice (3:3:0 WB)
NURS 5323	Leadership for Advanced Nursing Practice (3:3:0 WB)
NURS 5322	Health Informatics for Advanced Nursing Practice (3:3:0 WB)
▲NURS 5460	Adult-Gerontology Acute Care I (CL 4:2:7 WB)
NURS 5561	Adult-Gerontology Acute Care II (CL 5:2:11 WB)
NURS 6652	Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Practicum (CL 6:1:17 WB)

▲ 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 5 years in acute care, ICU, or ER required for admission to the Adult-Gerontology Acute Care track.

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## ***Pediatric Nurse Practitioner***

*(Semester Credit Hours Required for Completion-48)*

Key: CL = Clinical; WB = Web-Based (on-line course); WE = Web-Enhanced; T = Traditional)

### **Required transfer courses from Angelo State University (18 credit hours)**

*NUR 6356	Statistical Analysis in Health Care Research (3)
*NUR 6313	Theoretical Foundations of Advanced Nursing (3)
NUR 6317	Health Policy and Ethics (3)
NUR 6301	Research Design and Methodology (3)
NUR 6324	Advanced Pathophysiology (3)
NUR 6331	Advanced Health Assessment (3)
NUR 6318	Pharmacotherapeutics (3)

### **Required Nursing Courses from TTUHSC (30 credit hours)**

NURS 5312	Foundations for Advanced Practice Nurse Role (3:3:0 WB)
NURS 5320	Diagnostic Methods for Advanced Nursing Practice (CL 3:1.5:5.25 WB) Requires on campus lab
NURS 5324	Population Health Essentials for Advanced Nursing Practice (3:3:0 WB)
NURS 5323	Leadership for Advanced Nursing Practice (3:3:0 WB)
NURS 5322	Health Informatics for Advanced Nursing Practice (3:3:0 WB)
▲NURS 5480	Pediatric Primary Health Care I (CL 4:2:7 WB)
NURS 5581	Pediatric Primary Health Care II (CL 5:2:11 WB)
NURS 6680	Pediatric Nursing Practitioner Practicum (CL 6:1:17 WB)

\*NUR 6356 and NUR 6313 together meet the requirement for NURS 5327 at TTUHSC

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

## Post Masters Nurse Practitioner Certificate Course Requirements

### ***Family Nurse Practitioner Post Masters Certificate***

*(Semester Credit Hours Required for Completion-30)*

Key: CL = Clinical; WB = Web-Based (on-line course); WE = Web-Enhanced; T = Traditional)

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

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

#### **Required Nursing Courses**

NURS 5312	Foundations for Advanced Practice Nurse Role (3:3:0 WB)
NURS 5320	Diagnostic Methods for Advanced Nursing Practice (CL 3:1.5:5.25 WB) Requires on campus lab
NURS 5342	Advanced Health Assessment (CL 3:1.5:5.25 WB) Requires on campus lab
NURS 5343	Pharmacotherapeutics for Nurses in Advanced Practice (3:3:0 WB)
NURS 5345	Advanced Practice Nursing: Application of Pathophysiology (3:3:0 WB)
▲NURS 5440	Primary Health Care I: Advanced Assessment, Pathology, and Management (CL 4:2:7 WB)
NURS 5541	Primary Health Care II: Advanced Role Application (CL 5:2:11 WB)
NURS 6660	Nursing Practicum-A portion of clinical must be completed in medically underserved settings. (CL 6:1:17 WB)

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

### ***Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner Post Masters Certificate***

*(Semester Credit Hours Required for Completion-30)*

Key: CL = Clinical; WB = Web-Based (on-line course); WE = Web-Enhanced; T = Traditional)

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

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

#### **Required Nursing Courses**

NURS 5312	Foundations for Advanced Practice Nurse Role (3:3:0 WB)
NURS 5320	Diagnostic Methods for Advanced Nursing Practice (CL 3:1.5:5.25 WB) Requires on campus lab
NURS 5342	Advanced Health Assessment (CL 3:1.5:5.25 WB) Requires on campus lab
NURS 5343	Pharmacotherapeutics for Nurses in Advanced Practice (3:3:0 WB)
NURS 5345	Advanced Practice Nursing: Application of Pathophysiology (3:3:0 WB)
▲NURS 5460	Adult-Gerontology Acute Care I (CL 4:2:7 WB)
NURS 5561	Adult-Gerontology Acute Care II (CL 5:2:11 WB)
NURS 6652	Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Practicum (CL 6:1:17 WB)

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

### ***Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Post Masters Certificate***

*(Semester Credit Hours Required for Completion-30)*

Key: CL = Clinical; WB = Web-Based (on-line course); WE = Web-Enhanced; T = Traditional)

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

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

#### **Required Nursing Courses**

NURS 5312	Foundations for Advanced Practice Nurse Role (3:3:0 WB)
NURS 5320	Diagnostic Methods for Advanced Nursing Practice (CL 3:1.5:5.25 WB) Requires on campus lab
NURS 5342	Advanced Health Assessment (CL 3:1.5:5.25 WB) Requires on campus lab
NURS 5343	Pharmacotherapeutics for Nurses in Advanced Practice (3:3:0 WB)
NURS 5345	Advanced Practice Nursing: Application of Pathophysiology (3:3:0 WB)
▲NURS 5480	Pediatric Primary Health Care I (CL 4:2:7 WB)
NURS 5581	Pediatric Primary Health Care II (CL 5:2:11 WB)
NURS 6680	Pediatric Nursing Practicum (CL 6:1:17 WB)

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

## ***Nurse-Midwifery Post Masters Certificate***

*(Semester Credit Hours Required for Completion-33)*

Key: CL = Clinical; WB = Web-Based (on-line course); WE = Web-Enhanced; T = Traditional)

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

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

### **Pre-requisite Nursing Courses**

NURS 5312	Foundations for Advanced Practice Nurse Role (3:3:0 WB)
NURS 5320	Diagnostic Methods for Advanced Nursing Practice (CL 3:1.5:5.25 WB) Requires on campus lab
NURS 5342	Advanced Health Assessment (CL 3:1.5:5.25 WB) Requires on campus lab
NURS 5343	Pharmacotherapeutics for Nurses in Advanced Practice (3:3:0 WB)
NURS 5345	Advanced Practice Nursing: Application of Pathophysiology (3:3:0 WB)

### **Population Focus Courses**

▲NURS 5304	Foundation for Nurse-Midwifery (CL 3:1:3.5 WB)
NURS 5470	Nurse Midwifery I-Antepartum Care Management (CL 4:2:7 WB)
NURS 5571	Nurse Midwifery II—Intrapartum/Postpartum/Newborn Care Management. (CL 5:2:11 WB)
NURS 6620	Nursing Midwifery Practicum Integrated Practice (CL 6:1:17 WB)

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▲ All Nurse-Midwifery students are required to complete a NRP (neonatal resuscitation program) prior to first population focus clinical course.

## **RN – MSN Rural Education Leadership Track**

The **RN to MSN Rural Educational Leadership Track** is a collaborative program between TTUHSC School of Nursing's graduate and undergraduate programs and is designed for registered nurses who have an associate degree or diploma in nursing and wish to pursue a graduate degree focused on nursing education. This rigorous "bridge" program moves the student directly from Bachelor's level courses to Master's level courses and is completed through on-line course offerings and practicum experiences. The associate degree/diploma student does not receive the BSN degree but instead progresses towards graduating with the MSN degree. The RN – MSN track requires 57 semester credit hours to complete.

### ***RN – MSN Admission Requirements***

Applicants must submit the following application requirements for full admission:

- Graduate from an associate degree/diploma in nursing program accredited by the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC).
- Completion of all general education requirements for the BSN (55-58 credits) as noted in the following section
- Cumulative GPA average of 3.0 or higher in basic nursing program and general education requirements
- Valid RN License
- BLS Certification
- Personal Essay
- References (3)
- Signature Page
- Oath of Residency
- Official Transcripts from all regionally accredited colleges and universities
- International Students – appropriate documentation, i.e. TOEFL score

Although academic criteria are the most 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
- 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)
- Socioeconomic status
- Prior enrollment at TTU\TTUHSC

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

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 as noted for the MSN Graduate Program application deadlines.**

### *Prerequisite Courses*

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

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

#### **Texas Success Initiative (TSI)**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

RN-MSN Track:	55	Semester Hours from general education requirements courses
	38	Semester Hours awarded for completion of the Basic Nursing Program
	12	Semester Hours from the RN-BSN TTUHSC SON curriculum
	45	Semester Hours from the MSN TTUHSC SON curriculum
	<hr/>	
	150	

### **Important Information about Pre-Nursing Course Requirements**

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

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

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

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

- Applicants must submit original copies of official college transcripts from all institutions in which the student has enrolled. These transcripts will be reviewed and course work evaluated by the Department Chair. Final determination regarding transfer credit of completed course work toward degree requirements is determined by the Department Chair. Course equivalencies for transfer credit are assessed based upon the catalog course description and/or the course syllabus. Generally, courses of equivalent course content completed with the grade of “C” or higher for 4000-level and lower course work at any regionally accredited educational institution will be accepted for transfer credit toward degree requirements.
- The decision to award transfer credit is based on the TTUHSC Transfer Credit Guidelines and Procedures.
- 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 a regionally accredited college or university when determining completion of general education course requirements.
- No more than 55-58 general education course hours will be transferred, as well as a minimum of 38 hours of basic nursing education courses, for a total of 93 semester hours, will be acknowledged for the RN-MSN degree requirements. (If a basic nursing program has less than 38 hours, details for this should be arranged with the Department Chair. These transfer hours will be posted upon admission to the School of Nursing by the Registrar’s office of TTUHSC, thus the RN-MSN student will be classified as a Senior student upon entering TTUHSC SON.
- Applicants are encouraged to meet with or send transcripts to (fax is acceptable) the Graduate Program Coordinator to discuss applicability of transfer credit for degree purposes before submitting their application.

## RN–MSN Degree Requirements

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

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

Key: CL = Clinical; WB = Web-Based (on-line course); WE = Web-Enhanced; T = Traditional)

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

- NURS 4382 Aspects of Nursing Research (3:2:3 WB)
- NURS 4395 Gateway to Advanced Professional Practice (3:3:0 WB)
- NURS 4378 Nursing Management and Leadership I (3:3:0 WB)
- NURS 4379 Nursing Management and Leadership II (3:3:0 WB)

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

- NURS 5326 Research for Advanced Nursing Practice (3:3:0) WB)
- NURS 5327 Evidence for Advanced Nurse Practice (3:3:0 WB)
- NURS 5325 Health Policy Essentials for Advanced Nursing Practice (3:3:0 WB)
- NURS 5324 Population Health Essentials for Advanced Nursing Practice (3:3:0 WB)
- NURS 5323 Leadership for Advanced Nursing Practice (3:3:0 WB)
- NURS 5322 Health Informatics for Advanced Nursing Practice (3:3:0 WB)
- NURS 5343 Pharmacotherapeutics for Nurses in Advanced Practice (3:3:0 WB)
- NURS 5345 Advanced Practice Nursing: Application of Pathophysiology (3:3:0 WB)
- NURS 5342 Advanced Health Assessment (CL 3:1.5:5.25 WB) Requires on campus lab Elective (3)

#### **Specialty Courses:**

- NURS 5314 Leadership in Nursing Education I: Best Practices in Teaching & Technology Integration (3:3:0 WB)
- NURS 5315 Leadership in Nursing Education II: Best Practices in Assessment & Measurement (3:3:0 WB)
- NURS 5316 Leadership in Nursing Education III: Best Practices for Curriculum Development & Program Evaluation (3:3:0 WB)
- NURS 5317 Comprehensive Clinical Care (3:2:1)
- NURS 6030 Leadership in Education IV: Role and Practicum (CL 3:5:7.5 WB)



## **Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP)**

***Barbara Cherry, DNSc, MBA, RN, NEA-BC, Department Chair for Leadership Program***

### ***Purpose***

The purpose of the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) Program is to provide the highest level of professional nursing education via a terminal degree in nursing practice preparing graduates to deliver the highest quality patient-centered care as leaders and members of interprofessional teams, emphasizing evidence-based practice, patient safety, quality improvement approaches, informatics, and population health.

### **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.

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

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

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

### **DNP Application Deadlines**

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

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

	<b>Fall</b>	<b>Spring</b>	<b>Summer 2013</b>
<b>DNP Application Deadline</b>	<b>No admission</b>	<b>No admission</b>	<b>January 15, 2013</b>

## **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 from 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 College Transcripts (BSN or ADN to MSN degree or equivalent, MSN, Post Master's Certificate)
- 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
- Current certification by a nationally recognized credentialing body as a nurse practitioner
- Minimum of one year's experience as a nurses 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.**

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

All applicants will be reviewed in an individual and holistic manner. No single factor will determine a student's admission. All applicants who receive offers of admission will be required to consent to a criminal background check. A history of criminal conduct or convictions may result in withdrawal of the admission offer. See 'Criminal Background 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 Department Chair, DNP Program Director and the DNP Committee carefully evaluate all qualified applicants with regard to the applicant's potential for successful completion of the program.

## Computer Requirements

All students admitted are required to have a personal computer with broadband internet access. [See http://nursing.ttuhs.edu/it/requirements](http://nursing.ttuhs.edu/it/requirements) for specific computer system requirements.

## Criminal Background Check

In compliance with TTUHSC policy, all applicants who have received offers of admission will be required to consent to a criminal background check before being allowed to matriculate. A history of criminal conduct or convictions may result in withdrawal of the admission offer. See the "Criminal Background Checks" section of the SON Student Handbook for the SON policy. The TTUHSC policy may be found at HSC OP 10.20. <http://www.ttuhs.edu/hsc/op/op10/op1020>.

## Immunizations

All applicants who receive offers of admission will be required to submit evidence of required immunizations. Failure to maintain documentation of the following immunization requirements in the appropriate program office can result in exclusion from clinical practice and a hold being placed on school records. The following information must be on file for a complete immunization record while enrolled in the SCHOOL OF NURSING:

Vaccine	When required
Hepatitis B series (Hep B)	Started by new student orientation, to be completed within 6 months or a titer showing immunity is required.
Measles, Mumps, Rubella vaccine/titer (MMR)	By date of new student orientation, 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)	By date of new student orientation (Adults 29 years of age or younger within the last 5 year).
Tuberculin test (PPD)	By date of new student orientation and annually thereafter.
Tetanus/Diphtheria (Td)	By date of new student orientation (Booster required every 10 years.)
Varicella (Chicken Pox)	By date of new student orientation – 2 doses of vaccine, physician's statement of disease or titer showing immunity are required.

## Drug Screening

Drug Screenings may be required if requested by the institution where the student performs clinical experiences.

## Special Student Enrollment

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

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

## Enrollment without Credit/Course Audit

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

## Provisional Admission

If the requirements for full admission are not met, provisional admission may be available. Students who do not meet the minimum requirement for admission are evaluated by the DNP Committee. Provisional admission requires the student to enroll in 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 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 Department Chair, DNP Program Director and DNP Committee are responsible for overseeing all readmissions to the School of Nursing DNP Program. Readmission of a student who has been dismissed or who withdrew for academic or disciplinary causes is also based upon the decision of the Department Chair, DNP Program Director, and DNP Committee.

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 Department Chair, DNP Program Director and DNP Committee
- Complete online application and meet admission criteria for full admission

### **Transfer Student**

Students requesting admission to the TTUHSC SON 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 he or she 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 has 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 Learning***

#### **Transfer Credit**

The decision to award transfer of academic credit is made by the Department Chair 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. 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 has 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\orientation fee
- Submit evidence of compliance with required immunizations
- Complete Criminal Background Check online
- Complete Sexual Harassment training online and submit certificate of completion

- Failure to respond to admissions offer by the date specified in offer letter may result in withdrawal of the offer of admission.

### ***Degree Requirements for Students Admitted to the 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 program. Only with the specific approval of the Department Chair may a different *Catalog* be selected. In no case may a student complete the requirements set forth in a *Catalog* more than seven years old. The *Catalog* is published at least biennially and its provisions are applicable during the stated school year.

#### **DNP Clinical Hour Requirements**

All DNP students must complete a total of 1000 clinical hours from a combination of clinical hours achieved in their master's program and in the DNP program. Qualified nurse practitioner applicants are expected to have had a minimum of 500 clinical hours in their nurse practitioner master's program in order to meet requirements for recognition or licensure and national certification, as appropriate, for their 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 who hold a MSN in nursing administration or other MSN specialty area, or master's degree in a related field must provide evidence of the number of clinical hours achieved in their master's program. To ensure students meet the required minimum 1000 clinical hours additional clinical learning opportunities are offered via one or more of the following methods.

- Submission of a professional portfolio that documents clinical activities 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 their specialty area; certifications in administration; or additional activities and experiences that exemplify competence in their specialty area.
- Students who do not meet the clinical hour criteria will be evaluated and required to take an independent study designed to provide an individualized clinical intensive based on their background, experience and learning needs to complete the required 1000 clinical hours for the DNP degree.

Clinical experiences 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 from which the student can achieve defined learning objectives. Clinical experiences may take place in the student's place of employment if the experience clearly provides an opportunity to achieve specified learning objectives. School of Nursing faculty may serve as preceptors.

#### **Maintaining Minimum Academic Requirements**

The minimum GPA for continuance in the graduate program is 3.0 overall. Additionally a minimum grade of "B" is required in each course (nursing and non-nursing) required for degree completion. The TTUHSC SON Student Handbook provides further details regarding academic and graduation expectations.

#### **Progression in the DNP Program**

- Grades are reviewed each semester and progression in the DNP Program is determined by the Department Chair, DNP Program Director and DNP Committee.
- 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 that course one time only pursuant to recommendation of course faculty.
- Students earning an overall cumulative GPA or a semester GPA less than a 3.0 in the semester of graduation/completion are ineligible for graduation/completion.

#### **Academic Dismissal:**

Dismissal from TTUHSC 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.**  
 Students who are academically dismissed 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.

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

**DNP Degree Requirements and Course Progression**

(45 semester credit hours required)

(WE = Web-enhanced)

**DNP Full Time Degree Plan**

<b>SEMESTER I</b>	
N6200	DNP Role Transition I (2:2:0 WE)
N6310	Practical Application of Statistics in Healthcare (3:3:0 WE)
<b>SEMESTER II</b>	
N6325	Informatics & Technology to Improve Health Care (3:3:0 WE)
N6330	Evidence Based Inquiry I (3:3:0 WE)
N6345	Population Health and Epidemiology (3:3:0 WE)
<b>SEMESTER III</b>	
N6340	Advancing Policy and Politics in Health Care (3:3:0 WE)
N6244	Advanced Practice Development (CL 2:1:6 WE)
N6320	Systems Leadership for Effectiveness, Quality and Safety (3:3:0 WE)
<b>SEMESTER IV</b>	
N6201	DNP Role Transition II (2:2:0 WE)
N6350	Financial Operations and Budget Management (3:3:0 WE)
<b>Advanced Practice Nursing Major</b>	
N7310	Health Innovations in Chronic Illness (CL 3:2.25:4.5 WE)
<b>Executive Leadership Major</b>	
N7311	Leading Teams in Complex Health Care Environments (CL 3:2.25:4.5 WE)
<b>SEMESTER V</b>	
N7332	Evidence-Based Inquiry II (3:3:0 WE)
<b>Advanced Practice Nursing Major</b>	
N7320	Integrating Complementary & Alternative Modalities (CAM) into Health Care Systems (CL 3:2.25:4.5 WE)
N7330	Integrating Community Mental Health into Health Care Systems (CL 3:2.25:4.5 WE)
<b>Executive Leadership Major</b>	
N7331	Population Health at the Organizational and Public Policy Level (CL 3:2.25:4.5 WE)
N7321	Health Care Economics and Finance (CL 3:2.25:4.5 WE)
<b>SEMESTER VI</b>	
N7350	Capstone Project and Seminar (CL 3:2:6 WE)
N7351	DNP Practicum and Seminar (CL 3:2:6 WE)

## GRADUATE DEPARTMENT COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Graduate courses are delivered via traditional, Web-enhanced (combination of face-to-face and online), and Web-based (completely online) 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.
- (CL)** Concurrent enrollment in a Clinical Section is required.
  - (#:#:#)** First # represents the number of credit hours, second # represents the number of didactic hours per week, third # represents the number of clinical hours per week.
  - T** Traditional course methodology
  - WE** Web-enhanced combination of face-to-face and on-line
  - WB** Web-based – completely on-line
  - \*** Elective Courses are offered at select times as faculty and interest are present.
  - (V)** Variable Credit
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### 4000 Level Courses (for RN-MSN Track)

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

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

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

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

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### 5000 Level Courses

**5060. Independent Study (V1-6 T, WB, WE).** 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.

**5111. The Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) Role: Foundation for Advanced Practice Nurse (1:1:0 WB).** This course is a study of 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 issues related to health promotion and disease prevention. Course activities include observation, discussion, and analysis of experiences.

**5222. Diagnostic Methods and Procedures for Advanced Practice (CL 2:1:3.5 WB).** This course is designed for students preparing for the Advanced Practice Registered Nursing (APRN) role as a nurse practitioner or nurse midwife. Selected clinical diagnostic laboratory, imaging tests, and selected procedures practiced by APNs will be presented. Clinical decision making for selecting appropriate tests or procedures, and interpretation of diagnostic test results is addressed. Students will use evidence based research to appropriately gather, interpret and manage objective diagnostic clinical data to manage various health problems across the life span. Requires on campus skills lab.

**5303 Quality Sciences in Healthcare (3:3:0 WB) (\*Elective).** This course explores quality improvement science and the role of the professional nurse as a member of an intra-professional quality improvement team. The course content covers traditional and emerging processes. In addition, organizational leadership systems, environments that drive quality, and most importantly, the patient experience, all serve as the foundation for the course.

**5304. Foundation for Nurse Midwifery (CL) (3:2:3.5 WB).** 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 and contraceptive management. (Pre-Requisite: NURS5312, NURS5320; NURS5342, NURS5343 NURS5345, ACLS and Neonatal Resuscitation Protocol; Co-Requisite NURS5470).

**5306 Pathophysiology of Obesity (3:3:0 WB)** Study of the cellular, systemic, and whole-body physiological effects of obesity and weight control efforts. Emphasis is on the analysis and application of research findings pertaining to obesity for professional practice in assessing and managing the health care problems of overweight people across the life span.

**5312. Foundations for Advanced Practice Nursing Role (3:3: 0 WB)** This course is a study of 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 issues. Course activities include observation, discussion, and analysis of experiences.

**5314. Leadership in Nursing Education I: Best Practices in Teaching & Technology Integration (3:3:0 WB).** Pre-Requisite: enrollment in MSN 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 in Assessment & Measurement. (3:3:0 WB).** Pre-Requisite or concurrent enrollment: 5314. This course focuses on measurement theory and its practical application in assessment of learning outcomes. Didactic, clinical and simulation learning environments are evaluated.

**5316. Leadership in Nursing Education III: Best Practices for Curriculum Development & Program Evaluation (3:3:0 WB)** Pre-Requisite or concurrent enrollment: 5315. 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.

**5317. Comprehensive Clinical Care (3:2:1).** Prerequisite: MSN student in enrolled in the nursing education specialty 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.

**N5320. Diagnostic Methods for Advanced Nursing Practice (CL) (3:1.5:5.25 WB)** 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 WB).** Prerequisites: enrollment as an 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 WB).** Prerequisites: enrollment as an 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 WB).** Prerequisites: enrollment as an 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 WB).** Prerequisites: enrollment as an 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 WB).** Prerequisite: Enrollment as an 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 WB).** Prerequisite: NURS 5326 (Research for Advanced Nursing Practice). 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.

**5330. Theories and Therapies (3:3:0 WB).** This course focuses on assessment and analysis of theories. Non-nursing and nursing theories are critiqued for a more in-depth knowledge base of theory structure, usefulness, and application.

**5342. Advanced Health Assessment (CL) (3:1.5:5.25 WB).** Building upon basic physical assessment and history taking knowledge and skills, this course focuses on knowledge and clinical skills required for advanced practice nursing. Requires on campus skills lab.



**5343. Pharmacotherapeutics for Nurses in Advanced Practice (3:3:0 WB).** This graduate course focuses on application of pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic principles to medication regimens for patients across the life span. Students will utilize assessment data and evidence-based protocols to guide safe prescriptive decision-making in an advanced nursing role. In addition, students are expected to integrate cultural, ethical, legal, and regulatory considerations in the planning process. Evaluation of the therapeutic effects and potential adverse effects of classes of medications is included.

**5345. Advanced Practice Nursing: Application of Pathophysiology (3:3:0 WB).** 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 (3:3:0 WE).** Prerequisite: Admission to the Graduate Program. 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 (3:3:0 WE).** 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 (3:3:0 WE).** 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.

**5349. Perspectives in Obesity (3:3:0 WB)** Study of the biological, psychological, and socio-cultural responses to obesity and weight control efforts. Emphasis is on the analysis and application of research findings pertaining to obesity for professional practice across the life span.

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

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

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

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

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

**5378. Primary Health Care for Women (CL) (3:1.85:4.0 WB).** (\*Elective) Prerequisite: NURS 5342 or consent of instructor. Presents the theoretical and clinical basis for advanced practice nursing management of the woman who is essentially well or who has non-acute health problems. Emphasis is on the integration of primary health care screening, preventive health care, and health care promotion. Selected health problems common to women across the age continuum are addressed. Requires on campus skills lab.

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

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

**5388. Holistic Nursing for Advanced Practice (3:3:0, WB) (\*Elective)** Students will examine holistic nursing practices used to promote health and healing among individuals and groups, including self care, and integrative modalities. Students are encouraged to explore their personal views of healing and holistic nursing practice in the context of integrating holistic modalities into practice and research. Students will have the opportunity to review models of holistic care and critically review research evidence to develop a plan for applying evidence based holistic modalities in selected advance nursing practice roles.

**5389. Knowledge Development through Evidence-Based Practice and Informatics (3:3:0 WB).** (\*Elective) This course combines the essentials of nursing informatics with the theory and methods of evidence-based practice to explore clinical nursing questions, synthesize research findings and analyze clinical practice guidelines.

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

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

**5440. Primary Healthcare Practice I: Advanced Assessment, Pathology, and Management for FNP's (CL) (4:2:7 WB).** Prerequisite: NURS 5312, NURS 5320, NURS 5342, NURS 5343, NURS 5345. This course includes major concepts and therapies required in the development, implementation and evaluation of primary healthcare. Clinical practice focuses on application of nursing theory, pathophysiological and epidemiological concepts and exploration of nursing therapies, skills and techniques essential to the provision of primary healthcare.

**5450. Acute Care Nurse Practitioner Concepts and Diagnostic Skills I: Adult (CL) (4:2:7 WB).** Prerequisite: NURS 5111, NURS 5222, NURS 5342, NURS 5343, NURS 5345 and ACLS certification. This course is designed to develop a beginning theoretical and research based knowledge of diagnosis, treatment, and evaluation of adults with acute and chronic health problems. Emphasis will be placed on applying this knowledge to the management of patients with disorders of selected body systems. Clinical activities focus on enhancing history and physical skills, delineating differential diagnoses, and learning initial clinical management of clients experiencing acute and chronic health problems. Basic role components of the Acute Care Nurse Practitioner will be introduced.

**N5460. Adult-Gerontology Acute Care I (CL) (4:2:7 WB).** 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. (Pre-requisites: NURS5312, NURS5320, NURS5342, NURS5343, and NURS5345 and ACLS Certification)

**5470. Nurse Midwifery I – Antepartum Care Management (CL) (4:2:7 WB).** 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. (Pre-Requisite: NURS5342, NURS5343, NURS5345, ACLS and Neonatal Resuscitation Protocol; Co-Requisite: NURS5304).

**5480. Pediatric Primary Health Care I (CL) (4:2:7 WB).** Prerequisite: NURS 5312, NURS 5320, NURS 5342, NURS 5343, NURS 5345, PALS certification. Designed to develop theoretical and research-based knowledge of child health issues and well-child assessment of infants, children, and adolescents in the context of family and cultures, the course develops advanced practice skills in comprehensive assessment, as well as, management strategies reflecting current nursing and medical knowledge and practice.

**5541. Primary Healthcare Practice II: Advanced Role Application for FNP's (CL) (5:2:11 WB).** Prerequisite: NURS 5440. Study of nursing role components critical to primary healthcare. Identification of facilitators for and barriers to the implementation of primary healthcare. Clinical practice involves collaboration and implementation of primary healthcare role in selected healthcare settings.

**5551. Acute Care Nurse Practitioner Concepts and Diagnostic Skills II: Adult (CL) (5:2:11 WB).** Prerequisite: NURS 5450. This course is designed to build on major components critical to the knowledge of diagnosis, treatment, and evaluation of adults with acute and chronic health problems. Clinical practice focuses on research- based decision- making process in close collaboration with preceptors.

**5561. Adult-Gerontology Acute Care II (CL) (5:2:11 WB).** 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) (5:2:11 WB).** 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 the newborn. 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 through postpartum and newborn care.

**5581. Pediatric Primary Health Care II (CL) (5:2:11 WB).** Prerequisite: NURS 5480. Designed to further develop theoretical and research-based knowledge of diagnosis, treatment, and evaluation of pediatric patients with acute and chronic health problems, the course develops advanced practice skills and comprehensive assessment and management strategies reflecting evidence-based nursing/medical knowledge and practice.

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## 6000 Level Courses

**6001 Graduation Station (0:0:0). 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) (3:0:9).** Prerequisites: successful completion of the administrative course sequence; authorization from a clinical agency willing to support the practice experience. This course provides learners with the opportunity to implement ideas into a practice setting. It is designed to allow learners to use ideas from the literature, their peers, conferences and other approved sources to create an application project designed to change practice from a clinical or administrative perspective.

**6030 Leadership in Education IV: Role and Practicum (CL) (3:5:7.5 WB).** Prerequisite: NURS 5314, 5315, and 5316. Immersion in all leadership aspects of the faculty role in an academic, CE, or staff development setting with guidance of a preceptor.

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

**6200 DNP Role Transition I (2:2:0 WE). Prerequisites: 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 WE). Prerequisites: N6200 DNP Role Transition I.** As a follow-up to Role Transition I, the course will engage students in a reassessment of their leadership strengths and emotional intelligence after completing two full semesters of course work. Students will revisit their plans for personal growth and self-directed learning in an on-going process of personal leadership development as well as identifying ways to promote leadership development for future health care leaders.

**6244 Advanced Practice Development (CL) (2:1:6 WE).** 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 Healthcare (3:3:0 WE). Prerequisites: 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 (3:3:0 WE).** Prerequisites: 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 & Technology to Improve Health Care (3:3:0 WE).** Prerequisites: 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 WE).** Prerequisites: 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 & Politics in Health Care (3:3:0 WE).** Prerequisites: 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 & Epidemiology (3:3:0 WE).** Prerequisites: 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 Operations & Budget Management (3:3:0 WE).** Prerequisites: 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.

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

**6352 Contemporary Issues in Nursing Leadership and Management (3:3:0 WE). Elective,** Prerequisites: Concurrent enrollment in or completion of DNP core leadership courses and DNP core evidence-based courses. This course is designed to explore current and emerging issues that leaders in nursing administration must address. These issues build on prior course work and projects.

**6620 Nursing Practicum Integrated Practice (6:1:17 WB).** (Pre-Requisite: NURS5571) Applies knowledge and skills gained in the preceding courses across the life span, including the childbearing cycle. 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.

**6650 Acute Care Nurse Practitioner IV: Role and Practicum (CL) (6:1:17 WB).** Prerequisite: NURS 5551. This course emphasizes clinical practice. Clinical activities allow for immersion in advanced role. Function and responsibility of selected topics of the advanced practice role are addressed.

**6652 Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Practicum (CL) (6:1:17 WB).** 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 emersion in the advanced practice nursing role. Function and responsibility on selected topics of the advanced practice role are addressed.

**6660 Family Nurse Practicum (CL 6:1:17 WB).** Prerequisite: NURS 5541. This course provides a clinical immersion experience to integrate and synthesize the APRN role. Issues related to APRN responsibilities and competencies are addressed. Students are required to complete a portion of the practicum in an underserved or rural area.

**6680 Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Practicum (CL 6:1:17 WB).** Prerequisite: NURS 5581 and successful completion of required clinical and functional courses. . This course provides a clinical immersion experience to integrate and synthesize the APRN role. Issues related to APRN responsibilities and competencies are addressed. Pediatric nurse practitioner students are required to complete a portion of practicum in an underserved or rural area.

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## 7000 Level Courses

**7310 Health Innovations in Chronic Illness (CL 3:2.25:4.5 WE)** 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 WE).** 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.

**7320 Integrating Complementary & Alternative Modalities (CAM) into Health Care Systems (CL 3:2.25:4.5 WE).** Prerequisites: Concurrent enrollment in or completion of DNP core leadership courses and DNP core evidence-based courses. The course uses the field of complementary and alternative health care as a venue for developing the student's role to improve health care by introducing change within existing health care systems. Students are provided with the opportunity to gain knowledge, analyze, observe and experience various CAM modalities. Critical reviews of the application of evidenced based research approaches to examine the effectiveness and safety of CAM in advanced nursing practice will be synthesized within an analysis of health care systems.

**7321 Health Care Economics & Finance (CL 3:2.25:4.5 WE).** 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.

**7330 Integrating Community Mental Health Concepts into Health Care Systems (CL 3:2.25:4.5 WE).** 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.

**7331 Population Health at the Organizational & Public Policy Level (CL 3:2.25:4.5 WE).** 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 WE).** Prerequisites: NURS6330 Evidence Based Inquiry I. 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.

**7350 Capstone Project & Seminar (CL 3:2:6 WE).** 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.

**7351 DNP Practicum & Seminar (CL 3:2:6 WE).** Prerequisites: Completion of DNP advanced APN or executive leadership specialization course. The course provides an end of program practice immersion experience to integrate and synthesize the essentials necessary to demonstrate competency in an area of specialized nursing practice in the DNP role. Proficiency may be acquired through a variety of methods such as in-depth case studies, patient or practice contact hours, completing and demonstrating specified projects or competencies, or a combination of these elements. Students share issues related to implementation of the DNP role in a seminar format.

## TTUHSC SCHOOL OF NURSING FACULTY

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**Hogan, LaMicha, RN, MSN, FNP-C**, Assistant Professor-Diploma (Methodist Hospital), BSN (Lubbock Christian University), MSN (West Texas A&M University)

**Johnson, Lori, RN, MSN**, Instructor – ADN (South Plains College), BSN (West Texas A&M University), MSN (Lubbock Christian University)

**Johnson, Vicki, RN, PhD**, Associate Professor, BSN (Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center) MSN (Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center), PhD (University of Health Sciences Center at San Antonio).

**Johnson, Patricia Francis, DNP, RN**, Assistant Professor– BS (Texas Tech University), ASN (Miami Dade Community College), BSN (Lubbock Christian University), MSN (Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center), DNP (Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center)

**Jones, Melinda Mitchell, MSN, JD, RN**, Associate Professor, Department Chair for Non-Traditional Undergraduate Department – BSN (Baylor University), MSN (University of North Carolina), JD (Texas Tech University School of Law)

**Ketner, Kenneth Laine, PhD**, Charles Sanders Peirce Interdisciplinary Professor, Paul Whitfield Horn Professor Texas Tech University – PhD (University of California at Santa Barbara)

**Kineman, Dawn, MSN, RN**, Instructor – BSN (Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center), MSN (Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center)

**Lacy, Darlene, RN, PhD, BC, CNE**, Assistant Professor – Diploma (Northwest Texas Hospital SON), BSN (West Texas State University), MSN (West Texas State University) PhD (Texas A & M College Station)

**Lee, Molly, RN, MSN**, Assistant Professor – BSN (Midwestern State University), MSN (University of Texas at Arlington)

**Lowrance, Toni, RN, MSN**, Instructor – BSN (Lubbock Christian University), MSN (Lubbock Christian University)

**Masten, W. Yondell, PhD, WHNP-BC, RNC-OB**, Interim Dean, Professor & Associate Dean, Outcomes Management and Evaluation – Diploma (Methodist Hospital), BS and BSN (West Texas State University), MS (Texas Tech University), MSN (University of Texas at Austin), PhD (Texas Tech University), Post Master's WHNP (University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston)

**McBride, Susan, RN, PhD**, Professor – BSN (University of Texas at Arlington), MS (Texas Woman's University), PhD (Texas Woman's University)

**McClanahan, Chris, RN, MSN, CEN**, Instructor – EMT-B (New Mexico Junior College), EMT-I, EMT-P (Texas Tech University), ADN (South Plains College), BSN (Lubbock Christian University), MSN (Lubbock Christian University)

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**McMurry, Linda, RN, DNP**, Assistant Professor & Executive Director Larry Combest Community Health and Wellness Center – BSN (Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center School of Nursing), MSN (Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center), DNP (Texas Tech University Health Science Center)

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**Mercer, Debra, MSN, RN, ACNP-BC**, Assistant Professor – BSN (University of Washington), MSN (University of Arkansas Medical Services)

**Merrill, Emily, PhD, RN, FNP, BC, CNE, FAANP**, Professor & Department Chair for Advanced Practice RN Program – BS (University of Oklahoma), MS (Texas Woman's University) , Post-Masters FNP (Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center), PhD (Texas Woman's University)

**Merritt, Pearl, EdD, MS, MSN, RN** Professor and Regional Dean, BSN (McMurry University), MSN (Abilene Christian University), EdD (Texas Tech University).

**Miller, Joyce M., DNP, RN, WHCNP-BC, FNP-BC** Associate Professor – BSN (Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center), MSN WHCNP (University of Texas at El Paso), DNP (Case Western Reserve University)

**Miller, Virginia G., PhD, RN, FNP-BC**, Associate Professor – BSN (The Ohio State University), MSN (West Virginia University), PhD (The University of Texas at Austin)

**Moore, Amy, DNP, RN, FNP-C**, Assistant Professor and Site Coordinator – ADN (Western Oklahoma State College), BSN (West Texas A&M University), MSN/FNP (West Texas A&M), DNP (University of Colorado)

**Moseley, Kelly, DHSc, RN, MSN**, Assistant Professor – BSN (San Angelo State University), MSN (San Angelo State), DHSc (Nova Southeastern University)

**Opton, Laura, RN, MSN, CNE**, Assistant Professor and Second Degree Program Coordinator – BSN (Texas Tech University Health Science Center), MSN (Lubbock Christian University)

**Owen, Donna C., PhD, RN, CNE** Professor, BA-Biology (Case Western Reserve University), BSN (Case Western Reserve University), MS (Boston University), PhD (Case Western Reserve University)



**Platner, Lisa, RNC-OB, MSN**, Instructor – BSN (Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center), MSN (Texas Tech University Health Science Center), EdD in progress (North central University)

**Rogge, Mary Madeline, APRN, PhD, FNP BC**, Associate Professor – BSN (Texas Woman’s University), MA (Ball State University), PhD (The University of Texas in Austin), Post Masters FNP (Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center)

**Rose, Jan, MSN, RN**, Assistant Professor – BSN (Texas Woman’s University), MSN (Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center)

**Saunders, Jana, PhD, RN, PMHCNS-BC**, Professor – BSN (University of New Mexico), MSN (University of Virginia), PhD (Georgia State University)

**Schnetter, Vicki, RN, MS**, Assistant Professor and Site Coordinator – ADN (Iowa Central Community College), BSN (Arizona State University), MSN (Arizona State University)

**Silvers, Charlotte, RN, MSN**, Assistant Professor and Site Coordinator – BSN (Texas Tech University Health Science Center), MSN (Texas Tech University Health Science Center)

**Sridaromont, Kathryn L., PhD(c), RNC, MSN**, Associate Professor and Department Chair of Traditional Undergraduate Program – Diploma (Hotel Dieu School of Nursing), BSN (Incarnate Word College), MSN (University of Texas System School of Nursing)

**Strahan, Carol A., MSN, RN, CCRN, CEN**, Instructor and Retention Counselor – BSN (Baylor University), MSN (Lubbock Christian University)

**Sun, Grace, RN MSN FNP BC**, Instructor – BS (University of California, Berkeley) BSN (Johns Hopkins University), MSN (Johns Hopkins University)

**Thal, Wendy, DNP, RN, FNPC, CEN**, Associate Professor – BS (Texas Tech University), Diploma (Lubbock Methodist School of Nursing), BSN (Lubbock Christian University), MSN (West Texas A&M University), DNP (University of Arizona)

**Thomas, Elizabeth (Betsy), RNC, PhD, MPH**, Assistant Professor – Diploma (Samaritan Hospital School of Nursing), BSN (Virginia Commonwealth University), MSN (Troy State University), MPH (University of Arizona), PhD (University of Arizona)

**Thomas, Laura, RN, MSN, CNE**, Assistant Professor – BS (Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center), MSN (Lubbock Christian University)

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**Veesart, Amanda, RN, MSN**, Instructor and Clinical Site Coordinator – BSN (Lubbock Christian University), MSN (Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center)

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**Wilkinson, Crystal J., RN, DNP, CNS-CH**, Assistant Professor – BSN (Beth-el College of Nursing), MSN (University of Texas)

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**Wise, Tiffani, RN, MSN**, Instructor and Coordinator – BSN (Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center), MSN (Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center)

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## Part Time Faculty 2012

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**Boyd, Sandra, RN, MS** - BSN (Wayne State University), MS (University of Houston)

**Boyett, Lara, DNP, RN, ACNP, FNP** - BSN (The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston), MSN (The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston) DNP (Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center)

**Branham, Steven, PhD, RN, CS, FNP BC, ACNP BC**, Assistant Professor – BSN (University of Phoenix), MSN (University of Texas Medical Branch-Galveston), ACNP (The University of Texas Medical Branch), FNP (Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center)

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**Dean, Margaret RN, CS-BC, GNP-BC, MSN** – BSN (West Texas A&M University), MSN (West Texas A&M University)

**Farren, Elizabeth A., RN, PhD** – BSN (Northern Illinois University), MSN (University of Tennessee-Knoxville), PhD (University of North Texas)

**Fenton, Mary V., RN, DrPH, FAAN, ANP** – BSN (University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, Texas), MS (University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan), DrPH, (University of Texas School of Public Health, Houston, Texas)

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**Harmon, Vera, RN, PhD** – BSN (State University of New York), MS (State University of New York), PhD (Texas A&M University)

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**Kearney, Kathleen M, RN, MSN, JD** – BSN (Boston College), MSN (Emory University), JD (Suffolk University Law School)

**Kowalski, Karren, PhD, RN, FAAN** – BSN (Indiana University), MSN (University of Colorado), PhD (University of Colorado)

**Litterer, Karen, RN, MSN** – BSN (Baylor University), MSN (Texas Tech University HSC)

**Mixson, Kathleen L., RN, MSN, JD** – ADN (San Bernardino Valley College), BS (Texas Woman's University), MS (Texas Woman's University), JD (Southern Methodist University School of Law)

**Morris, Heather, RN, MSN, NP-C** - BSN (Texas Tech University HSC), MSN (Texas Tech University Health Science Center), FNP (Texas Tech University Health Science Center)

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**Portugal, Elizabeth Ann, RNC, MSN, CNM** – MSN (University of Texas at El Paso), BSN (University of Texas at El Paso), Associate Degree (El Paso Community College)

**Rake, Jo, RN, MSN, CNA** – BSN (Hardin Simmons University), MSN (Abilene Christian University)

**Ritzert, Barbara, RN, PhD** – BSN (Texas Women's University), MSN (Texas Women's University), PhD (Texas Women's University)

**Seth, Shelly, MSN, MBA, CWON, FNP-C, ACNP, BC** - BSN (West Texas A&M University), MSN (West Texas A & M University), MBA (Wayland Baptist University), FNP (West Texas A&M University), ACNP (Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center)

**Spitzer, Roxanne, RN, PhD, MBA** – BSN (Adelphi University), MBA (Claremont Graduate University), MSN (Columbia University), PhD (Claremont Graduate University)

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**Stuart, Christine, CNM, WHNP-BC, MSN** – BS (Texas Woman's University), MSN (Texas Woman's University)

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**Wigmans, Farinaz, MBA, MSBA, PhD** – MBA (Texas Tech University), MSBA (Texas Tech University), PhD (Texas Tech University)

**Yoder-Wise, Patricia S., RN, BC, EdD, NEA-BC, FAAN, ANEF** – BSN (The Ohio State University), MSN (Wayne State University), EdD (Texas Tech University)