

Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing BSN to PhD

Entry into the PhD Program with BSN

The BSN to PhD program is designed to prepare the applicant for a nursing career as either an educator, a researcher, an administrator, or a clinician. It is not designed to prepare a certified nurse practitioner or clinical nurse specialist. Students entering this program receive a PhD nursing degree; **the BSN student completing the PhD degree in nursing does not earn a master's degree.** Students wishing to earn a master's degree must first enter the master's program and complete the requirements before applying to the PhD program.

Admission: The applicant with a BSN will need to meet all the admission requirements for the PhD program and must have 2000 hours of documented clinical nursing practice. In addition, an applicant will need approval from the master's specialty coordinator of the applicant's chosen clinical, administrative, or nursing education specialty.

Program of Study: The program of study for a person entering the PhD program will include a minimum of 82-83 credit hours. The program of study will include all the core courses for the doctoral program, 12 hours of electives, and 18 hours of dissertation study. In addition, the student must select a clinical, administrative, or nursing education specialty at the master's level and complete the credit hours required for the specialty. The credit hours required for completing vary depending on the selected specialty. The specialty areas are Adult Acute Care Nurse Practitioner or CNS, Family Nurse Practitioner, Family Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner, Gerontological Nurse Practitioner, Pediatric Nurse Practitioner or CNS, Women's Health Nurse Practitioner, Nursing Administration, and Nursing Education. Those selecting nursing education must also have co-acceptance in another master's specialty. Taking the BSN entry pathway into the PhD program will shorten the student's program of study for the PhD degree by approximately 20 credit hours.

Changing Programs: If a BSN to PhD student in good academic standing makes a decision not to complete the PhD program and withdraws, he/she will be able to receive a master's degree after completion of 39-45 hours, depending on the specialty. Selected PhD courses will substitute for required courses in the master's program.

Requirements for BSN to PhD: Clinical Specialization

NUSC 6103 Theory in Science
NUSC 6113 Theoretical Systems and Nursing Research
NUSC 6123 Issues Influencing Research
NUSC 6233 Qualitative Methodology in Nursing Research
NUSC 6243 Quantitative Methodology in Nursing Research
NUSC 6254 Data Management and Analysis I
NUSC 6264 Data Management and Analysis II
NUSC 6271 Leadership in Macrosystems
NUSC 6323 Synthesizing the Literature
NUSC 6333 Preliminary Studies and Grant Development
NUSC 5033 Advanced Physiology and Pathophysiology
NUSC 5043 Clinical Pharmacology & Therapeutics in Advanced Nursing Practice
NUSC 5201 and NUSC 5222 Advanced Health Assessment and Diagnostic Reasoning Practicum and Theory
Clinical Theory & Practicum Courses as required by the specialty
Electives 12 hours
Dissertation 18 hours
Minimum Credit Hours 82-83

For those choosing to specialize in administration, the program of study required includes:

NUSC 6103 Theory in Science
NUSC 6113 Theoretical Systems and Nursing Research
NUSC 6123 Issues Influencing Research
NUSC 6233 Qualitative Methodology in Nursing Research
NUSC 6243 Quantitative Methodology in Nursing Research
NUSC 6254 Data Management and Analysis I
NUSC 6264 Data Management and Analysis II
NUSC 6271 Leadership in Macrosystems
NUSC 6323 Synthesizing the Literature
NUSC 6333 Preliminary Studies and Grant Development
NUSC 5052 Community Concepts for Advanced Practice Nursing
NUSC 5083 Technology in Adult Education
NUSC 5111 Introduction to Professional Practice Management
NSUC 5703 Organizational Behavior in Nursing
NUSC 5733 Administration Theory Applied to Nursing Practice
NUSC 5743 Personnel Management in Nursing
NUSC 5753 Law, Policy & Procedure in Healthcare
Electives 12 hours
Dissertation 18 hours
Minimum Credit Hours 82-83

For those choosing to specialize in nursing education, the program of study required includes choosing either a **clinical specialization** or an **administration specialization** as described in the information above and completion of the following courses:

NUSC 6103 Theory in Science
NUSC 6113 Theoretical Systems and Nursing Research
NUSC 6123 Issues Influencing Research
NUSC 6233 Qualitative Methodology in Nursing Research
NUSC 6243 Quantitative Methodology in Nursing Research
NUSC 6254 Data Management and Analysis I
NUSC 6264 Data Management and Analysis II
NUSC 6271 Leadership in Macrosystems
NUSC 6323 Synthesizing the Literature
NUSC 6333 Preliminary Studies and Grant Development
NUSC 5063 Theoretical Foundations of Nursing Education
NUSC 5073 Nursing Education Practicum
NUSC 5083 Technology in Adult Education
NUSC 5093 Technology Practicum
Electives 12 hours
Dissertation 18 hours
Minimum Credit Hours 82-83