Nursing

Master of Science in Nursing

The Master of Science in Nursing is distributed among core, support, and nursing specialty courses. A 36-44 semester hour program (depending on sequence chosen).

All students must successfully complete a synthesis project within the specified capstone course from each sequence. NUR 477 is the capstone course identified for the Family Nurse Practitioner sequence, NUR 483 is the capstone course identified for the Nursing Systems Administration sequence. Those students interested in research and doctoral study may choose to complete a thesis that would result in additional degree hours.

The master's program is developed based on nationally recognized standards for graduate education in nursing. All courses applied toward the degree must be completed at the 400 level or above.

In order to maintain clinical proficiency, students who have completed the final practicum course for their enrolled sequence but who do not meet the requirements for graduation must enroll in ongoing practicum independent study (NUR 400) until graduation. A contract outlining the specific requirements for the Independent Study will be developed between the Director of Graduate Programs and the student.

Mennonite College of Nursing requires that any student receiving a grade of C or below in graduate coursework must repeat the course. Multiple enrollments allowed for a maximum of 3 semester hours.

Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) Sequence

* As of August 2020, please contact the department to determine if applications for the MSN program are being accepted

This 44-hour blended curriculum sequence requires:
- 12 hour core: NUR 401, 403, 405, and 407
- 9 hours support courses: NUR 431, 433, and 437
- 23 hours specialty courses: NUR 471, 473, 475, and 477; the 5 family nurse practitioner courses (NUR 431, 471, 473, 475, and 477) must be taken in sequential order and in consecutive academic terms

Graduates of the program will be eligible to take the certification exam for Family Nurse Practitioners offered through the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) and the American Association of Nurse Practitioners (AANP).

Leadership and Management Sequence

* As of August 2020, please contact the department to determine if applications for the MSN program are being accepted

This 36-hour fully online sequence requires:
- NUR 401, 405, 407, 425, 451, 453, 483, 509, 511, 562 and 565

Doctor of Nursing Practice (D.N.P.)

The DNP program is based on national expectations and competencies for graduates of DNP programs as stated by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing. There are two entry points to the DNP program. Students admitted with a Bachelor of Science in nursing (BSN) degree will be required to complete up to 78 semester hours depending on the sequence selected. Students admitted with a Master of Science in nursing (MSN) degree will be required to complete a minimum of 34 semester hours beyond the master's degree. For students with an MSN who completed the MCN NSA sequence, advanced standing credits may be transferred from the NSA degree. Advanced standing credit will only be granted for courses completed within five years of admission to the doctoral professional practice program. All courses applied to the degree must be completed at the graduate level. Mennonite College of Nursing requires that any student receiving a grade of C or below in graduate coursework must repeat the course. Students may repeat a maximum of 3 semester hours.

A student with a BSN degree will be able to complete the DNP degree in 4 to 5 years depending on the sequence selected. Prerequisites to the DNP curriculum for applicants with a BSN degree include:
- BSN degree from a CCNE (Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education) or an NLN (National League for Nursing)-accredited program
- Minimum grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale for the last 60 semester hours of undergraduate coursework; to include courses in which the student is currently enrolled
- Evidence of satisfactory completion of statistics, nursing research, and physical assessment courses with a grade of a C or better at the baccalaureate level

A student with a MSN degree will be able to complete the DNP degree in a minimum of seven (7) semesters of study. Prerequisites to the DNP curriculum for applicants with a MSN degree include:
Nursing

- MSN degree from a CCNE or NLN-accredited program
- A minimum grade point average of 3.0 for the last 30 hours of graduate or 60 hours of undergraduate coursework; to include courses in which the student is currently enrolled
- Certified and licensed as an advanced practice nurse (certified nurse practitioner, certified clinical nurse specialist, certified nurse midwife, certified registered nurse anesthetist) or have completed a master's degree program in nursing administration/leadership. Other MSN specialties will be considered.
- A graduate level epidemiology course, a graduate level theory course, a graduate level research course, and a master's level statistics course
- Completion of 640 post-BSN clinical hours. Students who do not meet the prerequisite post-BSN clinical hours will be required to register for NUR 560 Advanced Nursing Practice Experience.

All applicants will be evaluated individually based on prior educational work as well as current experience. Their programs of study will be designed to include additional coursework, if necessary, to position them to achieve the educational objectives of the curriculum.

DNP Program Requirements

The DNP Leadership Sequence

This 64-semester hour fully online sequence requires:

- 27 hours of core courses: NUR 401, 405, 407, 451, 509, 511, 562, 564, 565
- 16 hours of specialty courses: NUR 425, 453, 483; 569, 563
- 2 hours of advanced nursing practice experience: NUR 560
- 6 hours of statistics and applied data management: NUR 409, 535
- 6 hours of in-depth clinical residency experience: NUR 550, 552, 554
- 7 hours of scholarly project courses: NUR 539, 543, 545, 547
- A minimum of 1,000 clinical hours upon completion

The DNP Family Nurse Practitioner Sequence

This 78-semester hour hybrid sequence requires:

- 27 hours of core courses: NUR 401, 405, 407, 451, 509, 511, 562, 564, 565
- 32 hours of specialty courses: NUR 431, 433, 437, 471, 473, 475, 477
- 6 hours of statistics and applied data management: NUR 409, 535
- 6 hours of in-depth clinical residency experience: NUR 550, 552, 554
- 7 hours of scholarly project courses: NUR 539, 543, 545, 547
- A minimum of 1,000 clinical hours upon completion

The Post-Master's DNP Sequence

This minimum of 34-semester hour fully online sequence requires:

- 18 hours of core courses: NUR 451, 509, 511, 562, 564, 565
- 3 hours of applied data management: NUR 535
- 6 hours of in-depth clinical residency experience: NUR 550, 552, 554
- 7 hours of scholarly project courses: NUR 539, 543, 545, 547
- A minimum of 1,000 clinical hours post-baccalaureate degree

The Illinois State University residency requirement will be followed and may be fulfilled in the following ways:

DNP students meet the residency requirement upon successful completion of NUR 543 and NUR 550 taken in their final fall semester of the program followed by successful completion of NUR 545 and NUR 552 in their final spring semester. These two semesters are completed consecutively and in sequence according to prerequisites.

Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing (Ph.D.)

The Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing program is a blended curriculum consisting of 66 semester hours beyond the master's degree. The Doctor of Philosophy degree prepares nurse researchers to serve the public health by designing and conducting
research on relevant clinical, educational, health systems and/or health policy topics.  

**Program Requirements**

This 66-hour blended curriculum degree requires:

- 27 hour core: NUR 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 511, 513, 515, 530
- 6 hours research practica: NUR 523, 526
- 9 hours statistics and measurement: NUR 540, 541, 544
- 9 hours: elective courses
- 15 dissertation hours: All students must successfully complete a dissertation comprised of original research.
- Other university requirements for Ph.D. degrees are listed elsewhere in this catalog.

Mennonite College of Nursing requires that any student receiving a grade of C or below in graduate coursework must repeat the course. Multiple enrollments allowed for a maximum of 3 semester hours.

**Non-Degree Graduate-Level Certificates**

**Post-Master’s Family Nurse Practitioner Certificate**

Coursework for the Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) post-master’s certificate is determined for each student following an assessment of the applicant's graduate nursing education transcript. Candidates for the post-master’s FNP certificate are required to complete a minimum of 26 credits in Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University, including NUR 431 and 23 hours of specialty courses in the FNP sequence.

**School Nurse Graduate Certificate**

The School Nurse Graduate Certificate program is a fully online 10 credit hour certificate that meets the Illinois State Board of Education certified Professional Educator License (PEL) and certified school nurses requirements. The certificate will be a full-cost recovery, post baccalaureate program open to school nurses with an unencumbered Illinois Registered Nurse license and 2 years of relevant nursing experience. Theory courses will be offered in the summer followed by a 3 credit hour clinical practicum during the fall semester. 10 total hours are required to complete this graduate certificate.

3.00 GPA or above is required to graduate with this graduate certificate.

Required courses (10 hours): NUR 416, 417, 418

**Nursing Courses:**
[coursefinder.illinoisstate.edu/directory/nur/](coursefinder.illinoisstate.edu/directory/nur/)

**All Courses:**
[coursefinder.illinoisstate.edu/directory/](coursefinder.illinoisstate.edu/directory/)