



MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

UW-EAU CLAIRE GRADUATE FACT SHEET

INTRODUCTION

The master of science in nursing (MSN) program is designed to prepare students in adult or family health nursing to assume leadership roles in advanced professional nursing. Students are prepared for roles in advanced clinical practice (nurse practitioner or clinical nurse specialist), nursing education or nursing administration. The graduate program is fully accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE).

GOALS AND PURPOSES OF THE PROGRAM

The purposes of the MSN program are to help students achieve expertise in the following areas:

- Analyze, synthesize and apply knowledge from nursing science and other disciplines related to the health of adults and families.
- Synthesize, critique, evaluate and utilize theory to guide advanced nursing roles.
- Evaluate, utilize and design research to improve client outcomes for adults and families.
- Demonstrate expertise in ethically based, advanced clinical decision-making of human responses in diverse populations.
- Integrate leadership and management theories into advanced nursing roles.
- Analyze and synthesize current nursing and health care issues and policies within the context of advanced nursing roles.
- Integrate knowledge and theory of health policy, organizations, and health care financing as a basis for the provision of quality, cost-effective care.

- Assume beginning advanced nursing roles across health care settings demonstrating effective advocacy for diverse populations.
- Engage in lifelong learning and scholarship for the advancement of professional nursing.

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PROGRAM

After admission to the program, the student must complete 40-42 graduate credits to prepare for an education or administration role, or 45-49 graduate credits to prepare for an advanced clinical practice role.

The course work includes a scholarly

PROFILE OF UW-EAU CLAIRE

Founded in 1916, UW-Eau Claire is a top-ranked liberal arts university set on a beautiful campus in the heart of Eau Claire. Approximately 10,000 undergraduate and **500 graduate students** take advantage of the university's innovative curriculum, personal attention and numerous research opportunities. UW-Eau Claire offers 80 undergraduate and **19 graduate degree programs**, which are organized into four colleges: College of Arts and Sciences, College of Business, College of Education and Human Sciences and College of Nursing and Health Sciences. Students enjoy small class sizes taught by expert faculty members – not teaching assistants – and plentiful opportunities to engage in projects that promote critical thinking and prepare students to be engaged citizens and perceptive leaders.

project and/or thesis with a public presentation. Completion of the program usually requires four semesters and up to seven credits taken during the Summer and Winterim sessions. Students specialize in adult or family health nursing and select a role preparation from the following options:

- Advanced clinical practice (nurse practitioner or clinical nurse specialist)
- Nursing education
- Nursing administration

Preparation requires specific nursing courses that build on a core of nursing knowledge. Graduate students must earn a grade of C or better in course work and practicum to successfully complete a course.

CURRICULUM

The required core courses are nursing courses. Students select a specialization in adult or family health nursing and then choose a functional role preparation from education, administration or advanced clinical practice (nurse practitioner or clinical nurse specialist). Together, students and their advisers select cognate courses to augment the student's core knowledge, area of specialization or functional role preparation. Post master's degree options also are available.

CORE COURSES/CREDITS

TITLE	CREDITS
Conceptual and Theoretical Foundations	2
Nursing Research: Methods	4
Nursing Research: Application Leadership and Health Policy in Nursing	2
Scholarly Project or Thesis	3
	2-3

Transitions to Adv. Practice 2

SPECIALIZATION

TITLE	CREDITS
Adult Health I and II and Human Responses	10
Family Health I and II and Individual/Family and Community Responses	11

FUNCTIONAL ROLE

PREPARATION

TITLE	CREDITS
Advanced Clinical Practice I and II NP	12-14
Clinical Nurse Specialist I and Advanced Clinical Practice II	12
Nursing Education I and II	9
Nursing Administration I and II	9
Cognates (varies depending on role preparation)	6-8

CLINICAL REQUIREMENTS

A minimum of 600 clinical practicum hours are required for the advanced clinical practice roles, and at least 500 hours are required for the education and administration roles. These clinical experiences are accomplished under the guidance of a faculty member and a preceptor.

ADMISSION APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

To apply to the MSN program, an applicant must submit the following documents by **January 15** for consideration for the following summer term:

- A complete application for graduate admission along with the application fee.
- Official transcripts from all postsecondary institutions previously attended.
- An undergraduate degree in nursing from a nationally accredited (CCNE or NLN) nursing program, with a GPA of 3.0 or higher.
- Evidence of course work in statistics at the undergraduate level.
- Three references from individuals who are knowledgeable of the

applicant's clinical ability and/or potential for graduate study.

- An essay.
- A complete Demographic Data Form, with specialization and role preparation indicated.
- Wisconsin Registered Nurse licensure.

Practice experience, choice of specialization and role preparation, and residency in an underserved area also may be considered in admission decisions.

Send materials to:
Graduate Admissions
UW-Eau Claire
Schofield Hall 112
Eau Claire WI 54702-4004

DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE (DNP)

Beginning in the summer of 2010, UW-Eau Claire will offer a Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree option for individuals pursuing education in advanced practice nursing. The DNP is a clinical doctorate designed to prepare nurses to assume leadership roles in the areas of advanced clinical practice nursing (nurse practitioner or clinical nurse specialist) or nursing administration. The American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) is requiring the DNP degree to be the entry level of practice for advanced clinical practice nurses by 2015. During the initial years of the UW-Eau Claire DNP program, anticipated to be the 2010-2011 and 2011-2012 academic years, the DNP will be offered as a post-master's option only. It is anticipated that beginning in the 2012-2013 academic year, both MSN-to-DNP and BSN-to-DNP options will be offered.

THE EAU CLAIRE ADVANTAGE

- U.S. News & World Report magazine consistently ranks UW-Eau Claire among the top public regional universities in the Midwest in its annual America's Best Colleges guidebook.

- UW-Eau Claire's reputation as an interactive university has been cited in publications such as Kiplinger's Personal Finance Magazine, Money Magazine, and The Chronicle of Higher Education.
- Four UW-Eau Claire professors, including a nursing professor, have been recipients of Wisconsin Professor of the Year awards.
- UW-Eau Claire is a member institution of The Council of Graduate Schools and is accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.
- Nursing graduate students gain hands-on experiences and research opportunities while working with clients and faculty in on-campus clinical facilities with state-of-the-art technology.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For prospective graduate students, to learn more about the Nursing Graduate Program options available in the College of Nursing and Health Sciences at UW-Eau-Claire, contact:

DR. DEBRA JANSEN

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E-mail: graduate@uwec.edu
Web: www.uwec.edu/graduate

For general information about the campus and admission to a program, contact:

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