

Master of Science in Nursing

[At UW-Eau Claire]

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

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

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 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 Winter 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.

Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP)

Beginning in the summer 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 practice nursing (nurse practitioner or clinical nurse specialist) or nursing administration. During the initial years of the 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.

Clinical Requirements

A minimum of 600 clinical practicum hours are required for the advanced clinical practice roles, and at least 500-525 hours are required for the education and administration roles. These clinical experiences are accomplished under the guidance of a faculty member and a preceptor.

To learn more about the Eau Claire Advantage go to www.uwec.edu/advantage

[Core courses/crs.]

Conceptual and Theoretical Foundations, 2 cr.
Nursing Research: Methods, 4 cr.
Nursing Research: Application, 2 cr.
Leadership and Health Policy in Nursing, 3 cr.
Scholarly Project or Thesis, 2-3 cr.
Transitions to Adv. Practice, 2 cr.

Specialization

Adult Health I and II and Human Responses, 10 cr.
Family Health I and II and Individual/Family and Community Responses, 11 cr.

Functional role preparation

Advanced Clinical Practice I and II NP, 12-14 cr.
Clinical Nurse Specialist I and Advanced Clinical Practice II, 12 cr.
Nursing Education I and II, 9 cr.
Nursing Administration I and II, 10 cr.
Cognates (varies depending on role preparation), 6-8 cr.

[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 post-secondary 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 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

For department info contact:

Dr. Debra Jansen, Program Director
Nursing 215
Phone: 715-836-5183
Email: jansenda@uwec.edu

For more information

For more information about graduate programs:

GRADUATE STUDIES

UW-Eau Claire, Schofield 210
Eau Claire, WI 54702-4004
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For more information about campus:

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