



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-gerontologic or family health nursing to assume leadership roles in advanced professional nursing. Students are prepared for roles in nursing education or administration/ leadership & management. The graduate program is fully accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE).

Individuals interested in pursuing the nurse practitioner or clinical nurse specialist role preparations need to apply to the post-baccalaureate Doctor of Nursing Practice (BSN-to-DNP) degree option..

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, older adults, and families.
- Synthesize, critique, evaluate and utilize theory to guide advanced nursing roles.
- Synthesize, evaluate, and utilize research to improve client outcomes for adults, older 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.

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 10,500 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 **14 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.

CURRICULUM

After admission to the program, the student must complete approximately 40-41 graduate credits to prepare for the educator or administrator role. Completion of the program usually requires four semesters and a winterim session. For full time students, the first year of courses generally are on Mondays and the second year of courses are on Tuesdays, on campus. The winterim course tends to be online with immersion (on-campus) days. Students choose an adult-gerontologic or family health nursing population focus in addition to the role preparation.

Role preparation requires specific nursing courses that build on a core of nursing knowledge. The course work includes a scholarly project and/or thesis with a public presentation.

Graduate students must earn a grade of C or better in course work and practicum to successfully complete a course.

The second year role preparation courses tend to be offered on an alternate year basis, e.g., 2020-2021, 2022-2023, & 2024-2025 for the educator role; and 2019-2020, 2021-2022, & 2023-2024 for the administrator role.

CORE COURSES/CREDITS

TITLE	CREDITS
Conceptual and Theoretical Foundations	2
Nursing Research: Methods	4
Nursing Research: Application Leadership and Health Policy in Nursing	2
	3

Scholarly Project or Thesis 2-3

POPULATION FOCUS

TITLE CREDITS

Human Responses; and Advanced Theory & Practice of Adults/ Older Adults I 8

OR

Individual/Family and Community Responses; and Advanced Theory & Practice of Family Health I 8

FUNCTIONAL ROLE

PREPARATION: Educator

TITLE CREDITS

Nursing Education I and II 13

Advanced Physiological & Pathophysiological Concepts 3

Advanced Clinical Concepts for Nurse Educators 3

FUNCTIONAL ROLE

PREPARATION: Administrator

TITLE CREDITS

Nursing Administration I and II 13

Cognates (electives) 6

CLINICAL REQUIREMENTS

Seven credits of clinical (approximately 525 hours) are completed in the population focus area (adult-gerontologic or family health) and in the educator or administrator role. 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 contact Dr. Catherine Kenney and submit the following documents by **January 4** for consideration for the following summer term:

- A complete application for graduate admission along with the application fees.
- Official transcripts from all postsecondary institutions previously attended.

- An undergraduate degree in nursing from a nationally accredited (CCNE, NLN, or ACEN) nursing program, with a GPA of 3.0 or higher.
- Evidence of course work in statistics at the undergraduate level.
- Competence in health assessment.
- Three references (using required forms) from individuals who are knowledgeable of the applicant's clinical ability and/or potential for graduate study.
- Resume or vita.
- An essay.
- A complete Demographic Data Form, with population focus indicated.
- Wisconsin Registered Nurse licensure (RN licensure in U.S. required at time of application; WI RN license needed by July 1st following admission).

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

January 4 is the priority application deadline.

Admitted students are required to submit health & immunization/titer requirements, CPR certification at the health care provider level, and background check information. Personal health insurance required.

DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE (DNP)

UW-Eau Claire offers a Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree for individuals pursuing education in advanced practice nursing. The DNP is a clinical doctorate intended for nurses assuming leadership roles in the areas of advanced clinical practice nursing (nurse practitioner or clinical nurse specialist) or nursing administration. The DNP is offered as a post-baccalaureate (BSN-to-DNP) option and as a post-master's (MSN-to-DNP) option. The BSN-to-DNP full-time program plan is for 3 years, with

4- and 5-year part-time options available. The MSN-to-DNP option typically is a part-time two-and-a-half-year program.

Please see the Post-Baccalaureate DNP and Post-Master's DNP fact sheets and University Catalog for more information regarding the DNP program options: www.uwec.ly/conhs

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 is a member institution of The Council of Graduate Schools and is accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

To learn more about the Nursing Graduate Program options available in the College of Nursing and Health Sciences at UW-Eau-Claire, contact:

Dr. Catherine Kenney
Graduate Programs Admissions Coordinator
College of Nursing and Health Sciences

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Or GRADUATE STUDIES OFFICE

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Web: www.uwec.edu/graduate
For general information about the campus and admission to a program:

ADMISSIONS OFFICE

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