MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING PROGRAM
TAKE YOUR CARE TO THE NEXT LEVEL.
Graduate education is a vital component of Ursuline’s mission, offering programs that prepare men and women for lives as intellectuals and advanced professionals. Each program builds on your undergraduate education and provides for continued specialized development in your selected area of study. All graduate programs offer a robust theoretical grounding combined with discipline-specific knowledge. Ursuline professors encourage reflective practice in class discussions and throughout your career. Not only do the graduate programs at Ursuline College address significant issues facing society today, they also prepare you for visionary leadership that will enable you to meet the challenges of the future.

Since 1871, Ursuline College has been widely recognized for its quality education. Ursuline’s graduate programs are rigorous and challenging. At Ursuline, you will benefit from small, interactive classes with faculty who are experts in their fields. These teacher-mentors bring vast knowledge and experience to the classroom as well as a genuine commitment to your success. All graduate programs at Ursuline include hands-on experiences, where you’ll apply classroom learning to your chosen field.
PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Graduate nursing courses are presented in Ursuline’s value-based framework and emphasize the clinical components of advanced practice nursing. All students enrolled in the program take the master’s core courses to enhance clinical reasoning and utilize evidence-based practice. Through the advanced practice core, students develop the knowledge and skills to become advanced practice nurses.

Ursuline College MSN graduates:

- Are leaders in nursing and function in both independent and interdependent roles as colleagues of other health care professionals in a variety of settings
- Value healing interaction as central to practice by integrating the human experience of health, illness and recovery
- Make decisions and take action based on the integration of a strong knowledge base; personal and professional values; and diverse cultural, religious, spiritual and ethical perspectives
- Are advocates for a just society including the promotion of high quality, cost-effective health care for all

The Graduate Nursing program offers advanced practice tracks in the following areas:

- Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner
- Family Nurse Practitioner
- Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner
- Adult-Gerontology Clinical Nurse Specialist

Post Master’s Certificates are also offered in the following areas:

- Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner
- Family Nurse Practitioner
- Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner
- Adult-Gerontology Clinical Nurse Specialist
- Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner
- Subspecialty in Palliative Care
- Subspecialty in Nursing Education

Other options include:

- RN-DNP
- BSN-DNP
- RN-MSN

Ursuline College is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission. In addition, the Graduate Nursing Program in the Breen School of Nursing is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE).
# CURRICULUM

## MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

### Core Curriculum

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NR 532</td>
<td>Introduction to Evidence–Based Practice</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NR 533</td>
<td>Application of Evidence–Based Practice</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NR 535</td>
<td>Health Care Informatics</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NR 540</td>
<td>Advanced Physiology/Pathology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NR 541</td>
<td>Advanced Health Assessment</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NR 542</td>
<td>Advanced Pharmacology</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NR 620</td>
<td>Health Promotion, Maintenance and Restoration</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NR 636</td>
<td>Adult Health Disease Management</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NR 650a</td>
<td>Health Care Policies</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NR 650b</td>
<td>Health Care Organizations and Finance</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NR 650c</td>
<td>Advanced Practice Ethical and Legal Responsibilities</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NR 650d</td>
<td>Advanced Practice Roles and Responsibilities with Social Justice (Diversity) with a culminating project</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Subtotal credits for core courses: **26**

### Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner (39 credits)

An Adult–Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner (AGNP) provides patient care either independently or as part of an adult acute care team. There is an emphasis on health maintenance, disease prevention, counseling and patient education.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
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<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NR 615</td>
<td>Advanced Diagnostics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NR 636</td>
<td>Focused Populations: Gender Specific Health Issues, Geriatrics and Adolescents</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NR 616, 617, 618, 619</td>
<td>Clinical Management Courses/Practicum</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total credits with core courses: **39**

### Family Nurse Practitioner (43 credits)

The Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) track builds in the content from the Adult–Gerontology Nurse Practitioner course work and prepares students to provide primary health care to individuals and families across the life cycle (All courses listed for AGNP plus NR 638).

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NR 638</td>
<td>Advanced Pediatrics with Clinicals</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total credits with AGNP courses and core courses: **43**

### Adult–Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner (45 credits)

Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner (AGACNP) practices in any setting in which patient care requirements include complex monitoring and therapies, high-intensity nursing intervention, or continuous nursing vigilance within the range of high-acuity care. Coursework, clinical experience, and research utilization provide students with the knowledge, values and skills necessary for advanced practice nursing roles.
NR 644     Acute Care Management     5
NR 645     Focused Populations for Acute Care Practitioners     5

Total credits with AGNP courses and core courses     45

**Adult–Gerontology Clinical Nurse Specialist (39 credits)**

Graduates are prepared to assume roles as Adult–Gerontology Clinical Nurse Specialists (AGCNS) to integrate care across the continuum while working to continuously improve patient outcomes and nursing care.

NR 601     Adult Health Management     3
NR 640     Teaching and Evaluation     3
NR 611, 612, 613, 614     Clinical Management Courses/Practicum     4

Total credits with core courses     39

**POST MASTER’S CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION**

A student may obtain a post master’s certificate as an Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner, Family Nurse Practitioner, Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner, Adult-Gerontology Clinical Nurse Specialist, Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner, Nurse Educator or Palliative Care Practitioner. To obtain a post master’s certificate, a student must take the associated specialty courses. In addition, a student must document completion of advanced practice core courses (Advanced Physiology, Advanced Health Assessment and Advanced Pharmacology) and demonstrate course work completion as an Adult Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner or Family Nurse Practitioner. A GAP analysis is completed for all post MSN applicants.

**Adult–Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner**

NR 644     Acute Care Management     5
NR 645     Focused Populations for Acute Care Practitioners     5

**Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner**

Students will develop skills in the assessment and diagnosis of mental illness in the child, adolescent and adult populations. It emphasizes the use of healing interaction in communication with individuals dealing with mental health disorders when initiating and evaluating treatment plans, understanding the major classes of psychotropic drugs and their indications for use in the treatment of various psychiatric disorders across the lifespan, and the professional roles and responsibilities of the advanced practice nurse.

NR 670     Neurobiology and Psycho-Pharmacology across the Lifespan     3
NR 671     Systems Interventions for Individuals and Groups with Practicum     3
NR 672     Psychiatric Diagnostics and Management of Adults with Practicum     5
NR 673     Psychiatric Diagnostics and Management of Children with Practicum     5
POST MASTER’S CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION / SUBSPECIALTY

Palliative Care

The Palliative Care subspecialty is offered to students preparing for advanced practice roles or as a post master’s for MSN prepared nurses.

NR 633  Foundations of Palliative Care I  4

Nursing Education

The Nursing Education subspecialty is offered for students preparing to be an Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner, Family Nurse Practitioner or Adult-Gerontology Clinical Nurse Specialist. A post master’s nurse may also take the education courses to receive a nurse educator certificate.

NR 639  Curriculum  3
NR 640  Teaching and Evaluation  3
NR 641  Teaching Practicum  3

For more information about our graduation rates, the median debt of students who completed the program, and other important information, please visit our website at http://www.ursuline.edu/Academics/Nursing/Graduate/tracks.html.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Students applying for admission must meet both the general requirements for admission to all graduate programs and the specific requirements of the particular program of study. For the MSN program, admission requirements are as follows:

General Admission Requirements

1. Application for Graduate Studies including the essay of 500 – 1,000 words. Application for admission may be submitted in online at ursuline.edu/apply.
2. Non-refundable $25 application fee.
3. All official transcript(s) for baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution and any additional undergraduate or graduate academic coursework whether or not credit was earned, the program was completed, or the credit appears as transfer credit on another transcript, including one that verifies completion of an accredited baccalaureate program in nursing. Transcript(s) must be forwarded to the Office of Graduate Admission directly by the issuing institution.
4. Evidence of ability to do graduate work as indicated by a recommended 3.0 GPA shown on the applicant’s transcript(s).
5. Three recommendations utilizing the required recommendation form. Recommendations should be written by appropriate professionals attesting to the suitability of the applicant for graduate work in the particular field. The recommendation form is available online at ursuline.edu/recommendation or by request from the Office of Graduate Admission. Preferred references include: one from a previous instructor, one from an advanced practice nurse and one from a work supervisor.
Program-Specific Admission Requirements

1. Current, unencumbered Ohio Registered Nurse license.
2. A current resume reflecting a minimum of one year work experience as a registered nurse. Nursing experience must be within the past two years.

International students, in addition to the above criteria, must also comply with Ursuline College’s procedures for admission as an international student. Visit www.ursuline.edu/Admission/Graduate/requirements.html for more information.

Application Deadline

Applicants are urged to initiate formal application as far as possible in advance of the semester or term in which they plan to enroll. Graduate nursing courses begin in the fall and spring semesters. Post master’s courses will vary depending on the student’s need.

The demand for Advanced Practice Nurses is ever-increasing in Northeast Ohio. In fact, CNBC ranks the nurse practitioner as the number 1 fastest-growing career for college graduates based on data from the US Bureau of Labor Statistics. Job growth of 35% is expected for NPs and other advanced practice registered nurses from 2014 to 2024. Advanced Practice Nurses will play a critical role in healthcare reform. Ursuline College’s graduate nursing program provides students with the opportunity to become practice ready leaders in the field.