School of Nursing

http://www.odu.edu/nursing
3009 Health Sciences Building
757-683-4298
Karen Karlovecz, Chair

The program leading to the Master of Science in Nursing is designed to prepare graduates with expertise in theory, research, and advanced nursing practice. Through academic courses and clinical experiences, graduate students are prepared to meet the present nationwide demand for nurses in advanced practice, leadership and education as well as to pursue doctoral study. The master’s program in nursing is fully accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education.

Students in the program may specialize in a variety of roles. All specialties emphasize development of the nursing role through advanced theory and research. The program strives to instill in its graduates leadership responsibility, professional commitment, and a holistic approach to health and nursing care.

The number of credits required for the Master of Science in Nursing degree varies and reflects the number of hours in the core plus the hours required for certification in a specialty. The nurse anesthesia role option requires 82 credits. The family nurse practitioner role option requires 47 credit hours. There is a joint program with Shenandoah University in nurse midwifery that is 47 credits. Adult-Gerontology Clinical Nurse Specialist/ Educator program is 45 credits.

Admission to the Graduate Program

In addition to meeting University and college requirements, applicants must have:

1. Completed a baccalaureate degree with an upper-division major in nursing from a National League for Nursing accredited college or university program, or Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education accredited college or university program or the equivalent.
2. Demonstrated graduate potential by satisfactory scholastic achievement in the baccalaureate nursing program (grade point average of 3.00 on a 4.00 scale).
3. Completed an undergraduate course in statistics.
4. Completed a health assessment component (undergraduate)
5. Attained a satisfactory score on the Miller Analogies Test (MAT) or the Graduate Record Examination (GRE), taken within the past five years. Test scores are waived with a GPA of 3.5 or above. Scores are not required for DNP applicants.
6. A current license as a registered nurse.
7. At least one year of recent clinical nursing experience. Applicants for the nurse anesthesia role must have at least a minimum of one year (2080 hours) of full time nursing experience in an intensive care unit within the 2 years prior to application.
8. Presented three letters of professional reference, including one from the dean or a member of the nursing faculty in the baccalaureate program in nursing and two from the most recent employer.
9. Submission of a short essay (500 to 700 words) describing professional and academic goals, and how graduate study in nursing will contribute to the fulfillment of these goals.

An interview may be advised for prospective students. Students applying to the nurse anesthesia program should contact the director of the nurse anesthesia program at (757) 368-4171. For full consideration, applications for the nurse anesthesia program must be submitted by October 1 of the year prior to the August starting date. Applications for the FNP and Nurse Midwifery programs must be submitted by March 1 and applications for the Adult Gerontology Clinical Nurse Specialist/Nurse Educator program must be submitted by May 1.

Degree Requirements

In addition to general University requirements, the following apply to candidates for the Master of Science in Nursing degree:

1. Only degree-seeking students may take graduate nursing courses.
2. Only full-time study is available for all MSN roles except for the Nurse Executive/Administrator. Full time and part time study is available for the DNP roles. Contact the graduate nursing office regarding study options for each program at (757) 683-4298.
3. A written comprehensive examination covering the program of study is required by the final semester of study for MSN students not electing to complete a thesis. A student must be registered in the semester the comprehensive exam is taken.
4. The student must make arrangements three months in advance to take a nursing course with a laboratory or practicum component to assure appropriate and available placement for the learning experience. Arrangements are made through the Student Clinical Services Coordinator.
5. The B grade (3.00) is the minimal acceptable grade for all courses with a NURS or NURA prefix or any course required for the degree for continuation in the master’s or doctoral program. Satisfactory performance in the laboratory or practicum component of a nursing course is required. Students achieving less than a B grade (3.00) in a nursing course may request an opportunity from the role program director to repeat the course once. Two course failures will result in termination from the nursing program. Students may not progress with an incomplete in prerequisite courses as listed in the curriculum plan.

Additional requirements such as physical exams, CPR certification, immunization requirements, professional liability insurance, computer competencies and technical standards and background checks for the School of Nursing are also available in the Nursing Student Handbook and on the School of Nursing web page.

Master of Science in Nursing – Family Nurse Practitioner Role

Micah Scott, Program Director

The family nurse practitioner (FNP) role prepares graduate students to provide a full range of primary care services to individuals and families throughout the life span. In collaboration with other health care professionals, graduate students provide health promotion, health maintenance and restorative care to well, at-risk, and chronically ill clients and their families. Student clinical experiences are provided in a variety of primary care settings. Successful completion of the program qualifies students to register for the AANP or ANCC examination for certification as a family nurse practitioner.

Degree Requirements

Full-time curricula are available. No FNP course may be taken unless admitted to the FNP program. Unless specifically stated, all courses in the previous semester must be completed before taking courses in the subsequent semesters. Course work must be completed according to the full-time curriculum. The following courses are prerequisites to all FNP content course and clinical courses and are taken in the first semester of enrollment.

NURS 661 Pharmacotherapeutics for Primary Health Care Providers 3
NURS 670 Advanced Pathophysiology 3
NURS 671 Advanced Physical Assessment 1
NURS 672 Advanced Physical Assessment Laboratory 1

FNP Full Time Curriculum

First Semester (Fall)

NURS 610 Theoretical Foundations for Nursing Practice 3
NURS 661 Pharmacotherapeutics for Primary Health Care Providers 3
NURS 670 Advanced Pathophysiology 3
NURS 671 Advanced Physical Assessment 1

Old Dominion University 1
NURS 672 Advanced Physical Assessment Laboratory 1
NURS 719 Family and Community Primary Care Assessment 1

Second Semester (Spring)
NURS 611 Research Design 3
NURS 663 Health Promotion and Maintenance 2
NURS 664 Primary Care for Women 3
NURS 665 Advanced Family Nursing I Practicum 2
NURS 762 Advanced Family Nursing I: Management of Acute Illnesses 3

Third Semester (Summer)
NURS 613 Issues in Advanced Nursing Practice 3
NURS 621 Aging in the 21st Century 3
NURS 705 Primary Care Approaches for Children 3
NURS 764 Advanced Family Nursing II Practicum 4

Fourth Semester (Fall)
NURS 765 Advanced Family Nursing II: Management of Chronic Illnesses 3
NURS 767 Advanced Family Nursing III Practicum 5
NURS 768 Nursing Seminar in Complex Health Problems 1
NURS 690 M.S.N. Comprehensive Examination 0

Total Hours 47

Master of Science in Nursing – Nurse Anesthesia Role
Nathaniel Apatov, Program Director

The Master of Science in Nursing program in nurse anesthesia is an 82-credit, 28-month program beginning in late August. During the first year, the program is designed to introduce students to the basic theoretical knowledge and skills necessary for advanced nursing practice in nurse anesthesia. The first 12 months of the program are primarily didactic. The last 16 months of the program are the clinical component comprised of both general and regional anesthesia techniques for surgery and clinical specialties such as eyes, ears, nose and throat, neurosurgery, vascular surgery, open heart, obstetrics, trauma, and organ transplants. During this phase of the program, the student returns to the classroom on a weekly basis for extensive clinically related study.

Upon successful completion of the 28-month program, the graduate receives the M.S.N. degree, and becomes eligible to write the National Certifying Examination for Nurse Anesthetists given by the Council on Certification of Nurse Anesthetists. Graduates successfully completing this exam become Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs).

A prerequisite for enrollment in the first year first semester is degree seeking status and admission to the MSN–Nurse Anesthesia track. Successful completion of courses in the previous semester is a prerequisite for enrollment in the next semester. All courses within a semester are corequisites and must be taken together.

Nurse Anesthesia Full Time Curriculum
First Semester (Fall)
NURS 611 Research Design 3
NURS 646 Structure and Function for Advanced Nursing Practice I 3
NURA 660 Pharmacotherapeutics for the Nurse Anesthetist 3
NURA 650 Medical Physical Sciences 3
NURA 654 Professional Aspects of Anesthesia 3
Second Semester (Spring)
NURS 610 Theoretical Foundations for Nursing Practice 3
NURS 647 Structure and Function for Advanced Nursing Practice II 3

NURS 651 Pharmacology of Anesthesia Drugs 4
NURS 652 Principles of Anesthesia Practice I 4

Third Semester (Summer)
NURS 653 Principles of Anesthesia Practice II 4
NURS 754 Anesthesia Practicum 4
NURS 648 Disease Processes for Advanced Practice 3
NURS 671 Advanced Physical Assessment 1
NURS 672 Advanced Physical Assessment Laboratory 1

Fourth Semester (Fall)
NURS 655 Principles of Anesthesia Practice III 4
NURS 755 Clinical Practicum A 6

Fifth Semester (Spring)
NURS 756 Clinical Practicum B 10

Sixth Semester (Summer)
NURA 754 Clinical Practicum C 10

Seventh Semester (Fall)
NURA 758 Clinical Practicum D 10
NURS 690 M.S.N. Comprehensive Examination 0

Total Hours 82

Master of Science in Nursing - Adult Gerontology Clinical Nurse Specialist/ Educator Role
Tina Haney, Co-Program Director
Pamela Sharp, Co-Program Director

The School of Nursing offers a curriculum leading to the degree of Master of Science in Nursing with an advanced practice area of Adult Gerontology Clinical Nurse Specialist/Educator. The program of study prepares students as expert clinicians in the application of evidence-based knowledge within the realms of nursing interventions, teaching and research. Students also receive preparation as nurse educators, and are therefore dually prepared for clinical and academic roles.

The program requires course content in theory, research, education, Adult Gerontology CNS professional and clinical cores, and the advanced practice area with a selected secondary focus. Applicants are admitted for either full-time or part-time study and can begin in fall. The curriculum is designed to prepare nurses as Adult Gerontology Clinical Nurse Specialists with a secondary clinical focus in an area of their choice. Graduates of this program are eligible to sit for the American Nurses' Association (ANCC) Adult Gerontology Clinical Nurse Specialist Certification Exam.

Adult Gerontology Clinical Nurse Specialist/Educator Full Time Curriculum
First Semester (Fall)
NURS 610 Theoretical Foundations for Nursing Practice 3
NURS 670 Advanced Pathophysiology 3
NURS 671 Advanced Physical Assessment 1
NURS 672 Advanced Physical Assessment Laboratory 1
NURS 661 Pharmacotherapeutics for Primary Health Care Providers 3

Credit Hours 10

Second Semester (Spring)
NURS 611 Research Design 3
NURS 638 Adult-Gerontology Clinical Nurse Specialist I: Introduction to Practice 2
NURS 639 Adult-Gerontology Clinical Nurse Specialist Practicum I: Role Socialization 3
NURS 615 Ethical Concepts and Issues in Advanced Practice Nursing 2
NURS 630  Nursing Curriculum Design and Program Evaluation 3

Credit Hours 13

Third Semester (Summer)
NURS 656  Adult-Gerontology Clinical Nurse Specialist II: Transition to Practice 2
NURS 657  Adult-Gerontology Clinical Nurse Specialist Practicum II: Role Transition 3
NURS 676  Professional, Ethical and Legal Concepts of Nursing Education 3
NURS 621  Aging in the 21st Century 3

Credit Hours 11

Fourth Semester (Fall)
NURS 732  Health Care Populations, Diversity and Outcomes 3
NURS 632  Instructional Delivery Methods and Learner Assessment 3
NURS 634  Nurse Educator/Faculty Internship I Classroom Instruction 2
NURS 703  Adult-Gerontology Clinical Nurse Specialist Practicum III: Role Synthesis 3
NURS 690  M.S.N. Comprehensive Examination 0

Credit Hours 11

Total Credit Hours 45

**Master of Science in Nursing - Nurse Midwifery (cooperative program with Shenandoah University)**

Program Director

Julianna Fehr, Shenandoah University Coordinator

The Master’s in Nursing, with specialization in nurse midwifery, is a joint program with Shenandoah University. The two-year program includes advanced practice nursing content offered by Old Dominion University in the Hampton Roads region at eight distance sites in Virginia during the first year. The second year in the midwifery program is at Shenandoah University. The Master of Science in Nursing is awarded by Old Dominion University and a certificate of midwifery specialty is awarded by Shenandoah University. Graduates are eligible to take the national midwifery certification examination. The program is full time study.

**Nurse Midwifery Full Time Curriculum**

First Semester (Fall) (ODU)
NURS 610  Theoretical Foundations for Nursing Practice 3
NURS 661  Pharmacotherapeutics for Primary Health Care Providers 3
NURS 670  Advanced Pathophysiology 3
NURS 671  Advanced Physical Assessment 1
NURS 672  Advanced Physical Assessment Laboratory 1
NURS 719  Family and Community Primary Care Assessment 1

Second Semester (Spring) (ODU)
NURS 611  Research Design 3
NURS 663  Health Promotion and Maintenance 2
NURS 664  Primary Care for Women 3
NURS 658  Advanced Nursing Practice in Women’s Health I 2

Third Semester (Summer) (ODU)
NURS 613  Issues in Advanced Nursing Practice 3
NURS 621  Aging in the 21st Century 3

Fourth Semester (Fall) (SU)
NURS 695  SU Nursing (Primary Care of Women) 6

NURS 695  SU Nursing (Comprehensive Antepartal Care) 6
Fifth Semester (Spring) (SU)
NURS 695  SU Nursing (Midwifery Practicum) 6
NURS 695  SU Nursing (Comprehensive Perinatal Care) 6
Sixth Semester (Summer) (SU)
NURS 695  SU Nursing (Advanced Nurse-Midwifery Role Development) 6

Total Hours 47

**BS-MSN-DNP: Nurse Executive**

Nancy Sweeney, Program Director

The BS-MSN-DNP program prepares students with the knowledge and skills to move into leadership positions within hospitals and healthcare organizations. The program focuses on the American Organization of Nurse Executive (AONE) guidelines for executive practice as well as the AACN DNP Essentials. The course content focuses on leadership skills, fiscal and human resource management, working with vulnerable populations, magnet achievement, organizational research, and emerging technologies. Students participate in practicum experiences throughout the program. Students are eligible to take the national AONE certifying exam upon completion.

**BS-MSN-DNP Full Time Curriculum**

Courses for MSN Degree
First Semester Spring
NURS 710  Leadership in Complex Systems and Organizations 3
NURS 717  Strategic Leadership Practicum 3
NURS 740  Strategic Leadership 3
NURS 780  Financial Issues in Nursing Administration 3
Second Semester Summer
NURS 709  Evidence-Based Research and Theories for Nursing Practice 3
NURS 712  Evidence Based Management for Quality Healthcare 3
NURS 716  Organizational Leadership Practicum 3
NURS 735  Organizational and Management Theory 3
Third Semester Fall
NURS 615  Ethical Concepts and Issues in Advanced Practice Nursing 2-3
or NURS 732  Health Care Populations, Diversity and Outcomes 2-3
NURS 718  Practicum Immersion for Novice Nurse Executives 3
FOUN 722  Introduction to Applied Statistics and Data Analysis 3
NURS 690  M.S.N. Comprehensive Examination * 0

Total Hours 32-33

* After successful completion of the Comprehensive Exam, M.S.N. degree will be awarded.

Courses for D.N.P. Degree *
Fourth Semester (Spring)
NURS 800  DNP I: Introduction to Healthcare Disparities, Vulnerable Populations, and Epidemiology 2
NURS 805  Application of Practice-Based Research Methods 2
NURS 816  DNP Executive Practicum I 2-3
Fifth Semester (Summer)
NURS 806  Proposal Development and Database Management  4
NURS 817  DNP Executive Practicum II  3-5

Sixth Semester (Fall)
NURS 807  Informatics and Healthcare Technology  3
NURS 814  Competitive Resource Design and Utilization  3
NURS 818  DNP Executive Practicum III  3-5

Seventh Semester (Spring)
NURS 809  Advocacy for Healthcare Public Policy for Advanced Practice  3
NURS 819  DNP Executive Practicum IV  3-5
NURS 890  DNP Nursing Capstone  3

Total Hours  31-38

* Total credit hours for the BS to DNP Nurse Executive Program is 62-63 hours. Total credit hours could increase depending on the number of practicum hours needed.

Nurse Educator Certificate

Carolyn Rutledge, Associate Chair for Graduate Programs

The Nurse Educator Certificate program is designed to offer nurses with at least one graduate degree in nursing the opportunity to earn academic credit while gaining valuable knowledge and practical experience related to teaching in entry-level or graduate nursing education programs.

Nurse Educator Certificate Full Time Curriculum

NURS 632  Instructional Delivery Methods and Learner Assessment  3
NURS 630  Nursing Curriculum Design and Program Evaluation  3
NURS 634  Nurse Educator/Faculty Internship I Classroom Instruction  2
NURS 676  Professional, Ethical and Legal Concepts of Nursing Education  3

Total Hours  11

Nurse Executive Certificate/Health Science Executive Certificate

Carolyn Rutledge, Associate Chair for Graduate Programs

This program is designed for students to develop competency in serving in a nurse executive or MBA role with a health science focus within healthcare organizations, hospitals and ambulatory care settings. The core courses in this program cover the basic knowledge of Informatics, Leadership, Evidence-Based Management, and Competitive Resources Design and Utilization. The program is offered to MBA, DNP and PhD students or by special permission of the instructor.

Nurse Executive/Health Science Executive Certificate Full Time Curriculum

NURS 710/810  Leadership in Complex Systems and Organizations  3
NURS 712/812  Evidence based Management for Quality Healthcare  3
NURS 707/807  Informatics and Healthcare Technology  3
NURS 714/814  Competitive Resource Design and Utilization  3

Total Hours  12

Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) - Advanced Practice (Post Master's)

Carolyn Rutledge, Associate Chair for Graduate Programs

The Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree will provide additional education for advanced practice nurses in:

1. Advanced diagnostics and practice skills;
2. Care of the underserved and increasingly diverse population; and
3. Incorporation of emerging care technologies. The program may be completed as a full-time or part-time student and is distance friendly.

In order to graduate from Old Dominion University’s DNP Program, a student must have successfully completed all 36 post-masters credit hours of required course work, including an evidence-based capstone project and all clinical practice. It will take a full-time student four semesters (spring, summer, fall and spring) to complete the program. A part-time student will complete the DNP program in seven semesters (spring, summer, fall, spring, summer, fall, and spring.)

DNP Advanced Practice Full Time Curriculum
First Semester (Spring)

NURS 800  DNP I: Introduction to Healthcare Disparities, Vulnerable Populations, and Epidemiology  2
NURS 802  The Business of Advanced Nursing Practice  3
NURS 805  Application of Practice-Based Research Methods  2
NURS 865  DNP Clinical Practicum I  2

Second Semester (Summer)

NURS 801  DNP II: Roles and Responsibilities for Transforming Practice  3
NURS 806  Proposal Development and Database Management  4
NURS 866  DNP Clinical Practicum II  2

Third Semester (Fall)

NURS 803  Leadership and Interprofessional Practice in Healthcare  3
NURS 807  Informatics and Healthcare Technology  3
NURS 867  DNP Clinical Practicum III  3

Fourth Semester (Spring)

NURS 809  Advocacy for Healthcare Public Policy for Advanced Practice  3
NURS 868  DNP Clinical Practicum IV  3
NURS 890  DNP Nursing Capstone (DNP Capstone)  3

Total Hours  36

Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) – Nurse Executive (Post-Master's)

Nancy Sweeney, Program Director

The Nurse Executive role prepares top level nurse executives for leadership positions in a health system. The program outcomes are consistent with the American Organization of Nurse Executive guidelines for nurse executive practice. Content focuses on executive leadership skills, working with vulnerable populations, fiscal and human resource management, quality magnet achievement, emerging technology, and organizational research in clinical issues. Students participate in executive internships throughout the program in their home area. Upon program completion, graduates are eligible to take the national certification examination.

DNP Nurse Executive Full Time Curriculum
First Semester (Spring)

NURS 800  DNP I: Introduction to Healthcare Disparities, Vulnerable Populations, and Epidemiology  2
NURS 805  Application of Practice-Based Research Methods  2
NURS 810  Leadership in Complex Systems and Organizations  3
NURS 816  DNP Executive Practicum I  2-3
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