MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

Admission Requirements
All applicants must meet the general requirements for admission to the Graduate School.

In addition to these general requirements, the College of Nursing requires the following for unconditional admission to the master’s program.

1. A current unencumbered license to practice professional nursing in the USA.
2. A basic statistics course.
3. A baccalaureate degree with an upper division major in nursing from a program accredited by a nationally recognized nursing accrediting body.
4. A minimum grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 (B average) in the last 60 semester credit hours of course work toward the undergraduate nursing degree and a minimum GPA of 3.0 (B average) in all prior graduate course work.

Applicants who do not meet these criteria but have a minimum GPA of 2.5 in the last 60 semester credit hours of course work toward the undergraduate nursing degree may be considered for provisional admission on an individual basis. Factors that may be considered in the admission decision are: GPA on any prior graduate course work, scholarly activities, professional leadership, and work history.

For applicants who have a baccalaureate degree in nursing and a master’s degree in another field (or more than one graduate degree), the grade point average from all previously earned degrees and post graduate work can be considered in making the admission decision.

Individuals who have a master’s degree in nursing may seek admission to a post-master’s certification program in one of four areas: nurse practitioner, nursing/health systems management, or nursing education.

Applicants who wish to transfer from another nursing program must provide evidence of eligibility to continue in the previous nursing program. Nine semester hours for programs requiring 39-44 semester hours, 12 semester hours for programs requiring 45 or more semester hours, may be transferred, if approved. A grade of B or higher in each course is necessary for semester credit hours to be considered for transfer.

Master’s program applicants must submit their program application and all transcripts to the Office of Admissions Processing by one of the following dates in order to be considered for timely review for admission.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester for Admission</th>
<th>Submit application no later than</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>May 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring (Houston Campus only)</td>
<td>September 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer</td>
<td>February 1</td>
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</table>

Prior to enrollment in clinical nursing courses the student must show proof of:

1. professional liability insurance purchased through a TWU student professional liability group policy.
2. unencumbered licensure to practice professional nursing in Texas.
3. current required immunizations.
4. Basic Life Support (BLS) for health care providers.
5. criminal background check and drug screening.
6. Proof of health insurance meeting requirements of clinical affiliates.

Prior to enrollment in the first clinical nursing course, it is recommended that the student have completed the equivalent of one year of full-time clinical experience in the specialty area for which they have applied. Students may be required to meet additional clinical agency requirements such as drug testing, criminal background screening, and evidence of health insurance at any time during their enrollment.

All Nursing Health Systems Management and all nursing education majors are required to have a current unencumbered RN license in the state of residence. Students residing outside the state of Texas may not be able to be placed in practicum in selected states and should establish what limitations exist prior to enrolling in a course requiring a practicum.

Readmission - Master’s Program
An individual who has been unsuccessful in meeting the progression requirements, after being admitted to the master’s program in the College of Nursing, is eligible to apply to the College of Nursing and be considered for admission as a new student in the master’s program after a period of six years.

Programs of Study (40-46 semester credit hours)
Total Hours Required
The total semester credit hours required vary depending on the track the student selects. All students complete a minimum of 40 to 46 semester credit hours.

Special Requirements

1. A grade of B or better is required in all required courses. A student who has earned a grade of less than B (C, D, F or WF) in two required courses at the graduate level or who has earned a grade of less than B (C, D, F or WF) twice in the same graduate level required course will be removed from the nursing program. For the purpose of removal from the nursing program, a grade of less than B is counted as a grade of less than B even if the course has been successfully repeated.

2. Students admitted to the master’s program provisionally, based on low GPA, must complete the first 12 semester credit hours of graduate courses with grades of B or better in each course; at least 9 semester credit hours must be in nursing courses. A provisionally admitted student will be dismissed from the program if a grade of C or lower is made in any course during the probationary period.

3. For the M.S. graduate who is unsuccessful on a certification examination and is accepted for the re-education process, if the student earns a grade of C or below (D, F, or WF) in one of the required re-education courses, he/she will not be allowed to continue in the re-education process.

Time Limit
Semester credit hours older than six years, including transfer courses, cannot apply toward the master’s degree. If a student in one of the certificate options is practicing as an advanced practice nurse and is currently credentialed by the Texas Board of Nursing as an advanced practice registered nurse, the advanced pathophysiology,
pharmacotherapeutics, and advanced assessment courses may have been completed no more than 15 years earlier.

**Final Examination**

Oral examination of the completed professional or clinical project (course work optional).

**Nurse Practitioner Program of Study (46 semester credit hours for major)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>SCHs</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NURS 5013</td>
<td>Theoretical Foundations of Nursing Practice</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 5024</td>
<td>Research and Quality Improvement in Nursing</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 5003</td>
<td>Health Policy and Health Promotion</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 5333</td>
<td>Advanced Pathophysiology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 5663</td>
<td>Pharmacotherapeutics for Advanced Nursing Practice</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 5644</td>
<td>Advanced Assessment/Differential Diagnosis</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 5002</td>
<td>Advanced Practice Nursing Role</td>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 5001</td>
<td>Advanced Practice Nursing Seminar</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
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</table>

**Area of Specialty Clinical Courses**

Select an area of specialty from the following: 23

**Adult Gerontology Acute Care**

- NURS 5005  Adult/Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner I
- NURS 5015  Adult/Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner II
- NURS 5683  Nurse Preceptorship I
- NURS 5025  Adult/Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner III
- NURS 5695  Nurse Preceptorship II

**Adult Gerontology**

- NURS 5525  Adult/Gerontology Nursing I
- NURS 5505  Adult/Gerontology Nursing II
- NURS 5515  Adult/Gerontology Nursing III
- NURS 5683  Nurse Preceptorship I
- NURS 5695  Nurse Preceptorship II

**Family**

- NURS 5625  Family Health Nursing I
- NURS 5605  Family Health Nursing II
- NURS 5615  Family Health Nursing III
- NURS 5683  Nurse Preceptorship I
- NURS 5695  Nurse Preceptorship II

**Pediatric**

- NURS 5325  Child Health Nursing I
- NURS 5305  Child Health Nursing II
- NURS 5315  Child Health Nursing III
- NURS 5683  Nurse Preceptorship I
- NURS 5695  Nurse Preceptorship II

**Women's Health**

- NURS 5425  Women's Health Nursing I
- NURS 5405  Women's Health Nursing II
- NURS 5415  Women's Health Nursing III

**Nursing Health Systems Management Program of Study (42 semester credit hours for major)**

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<tr>
<td>NURS 5003</td>
<td>Health Policy and Health Promotion</td>
<td>3</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Specialty Area Clinical Courses**

- NURS 5544  Organizational Assessment Practicum | 4 |
- NURS 5543  Outcomes Assessment Practicum        | 3 |
- NURS 5553  Fiscal Assessment Practicum           | 3 |
- NURS 5554  Health Systems Management Challenges and Opportunities | 4 |

**Select one of the following emphasis areas** 18

**Emphasis: Health Care Administration**

- HCA 5493  Performance Measurement and Quality in Health Care Administration
- HCA 5223  Strategic Planning in Healthcare
- HCA 5623  Economics of Health Care
- HCA 5533  Management Accounting for Health Care Organizations

**Practicum Supporting Courses or Approved Electives**

**Emphasis: Business**

- BUS 5263  Organizational Behavior in Business Administration
- BUS 5273  Human Resource Administration
- BUS 5433  Managerial Accounting
- BUS 5963  Management Operations

**Nursing Education Program of Study (40 semester credit hours)**

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</table>

**Specialty Area**

- NURS 5203  Theoretical Bases for Nursing Education | 3 |
- NURS 5253  Curriculum Design and Management in Nursing | 3 |
- NURS 5273  Measurement and Assessment in Nursing | 3 |
- NURS 5294  Teaching Practicum in Nursing | 4 |
<table>
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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NURS 5244</td>
<td>Clinical Specialization: Nurse Educator</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 5263</td>
<td>Educational Communication and Technologies of Education</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>or NURS 5283</td>
<td>Evaluation Models for Curriculum Management</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
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