

# Master of Science in Nursing

Mount Mercy University's Master of Science in Nursing program is focused on health promotion and disease prevention, and is dedicated to preparing graduates to lead the profession in meeting the challenges of an ever-changing, complex healthcare system. Whether employed in the community or an in-patient setting, nurses will acquire the knowledge and skills to lead, teach, advocate and practice with individuals, families and communities at an advanced level.

The format of the master's nursing degree program allows students to focus on a specific area of interest with the flexibility of taking one class at a time. A full-time student may complete the MSN program in approximately 18 months. This non-thesis program includes a clinical project to be completed within the practicum experience.

The master's degree program in nursing at Mount Mercy recognizes the heritage of the Sisters of Mercy in meeting the needs of others as it prepares nurses in advanced roles in education and health advocacy. Three tracks are available: Health Advocacy, Nursing Administration, and Nursing Education.

MSN students build the necessary skills, for example, to: implement appropriate nursing interventions; integrate knowledge gained from a baccalaureate nursing education with advanced knowledge of health promotion and disease prevention; and engage in critical inquiry.

## Requirements

### Core courses

|   |   |    |
|---|---|----|
| NU 500  | Nursing Theory and Research                                   | 3  |
| NU 501  | Health Care Systems: Leadership, Organizations and Technology | 3  |
| NU 503  | Health Promotion/Disease Prevention                           | 3  |
| NU 504  | Professional Role and Skill Development                       | 3  |
| NU 660  | Professional Practicum  | 3  |
| Track (see below)   |   | 12 |
| Cognates  |   | 9  |
| NU 510  | Advanced Pathophysiology and Pharmacology                     |    |
| NU 512  | Epidemiology  |    |
| NU 513  | Environmental Health  |    |
| NU 514  | Global/International Health                                   |    |
| NU 611  | Principles of Project Management                              |    |
| NU 612  | System Theory & Organizational Design Methodology             |    |
| NU 613  | Medical Family Therapy  |    |
| NU 651  | Technology in Health Care Systems                             |    |
| Any track course other than the primary can be used as a cognate. |   |    |
| Total Hours   |   | 36 |
| Nursing Education Track   |   | 12 |
| NU 621  | Nurse Educator: Roles and Responsibilities                    |    |
| NU 622  | Nurse Educator: Curriculum & Instr Design                     |    |
| NU 623  | Nurse Educator: Teaching/Learning Strategies                  |    |

|                              |  |    |
|------------------------------|--|----|
| NU 624                       | Nursing Educator: Assessment and Evaluation                          |    |
| Health Advocacy Track        |  | 12 |
| NU 631                       | Hlth Advocate: Multicultural Populations                             |    |
| NU 632                       | Hlth Advocate: Assess, Policy Dev & Assurance                        |    |
| NU 633                       | Health Advocate: Community Program Planning and Design               |    |
| NU 634                       | Health Advocate: Leadership and Management                           |    |
| Nursing Administration Track |  | 12 |
| NU 641                       | NA: Leadership & Management in Nursing and Health Care               |    |
| NU 642                       | NA: Financial & Human Resource Management in Nursing and Health Care |    |
| NU 643                       | Methods of Quality Management  |    |
| NU 644                       | Organizational Effectiveness   |    |

## Post-Master's Certificates

The post-master's certificates in nursing at Mount Mercy University assist post-graduate nurses who seek to enhance their expertise and gain competency in an area of nursing not previously studied. Mount Mercy University's post-master's certificate programs in nursing will also strengthen the capability of master's or doctorally prepared nurses who are planning on, or are already involved in, a role expansion or change. Graduate students currently enrolled in the Mount Mercy University MSN program who seek to expand their area of expertise may also obtain a certificate in a program of study in a track in which they are not currently enrolled.

Post-graduate certificates in nursing are available in the following areas:

- Nursing Education
- Health Advocacy
- Nursing Education

### **Admission Requirements to All MMU Post-Graduate Certificate Nursing Program**

- Master's or doctoral (PhD or DNP) degree in nursing from a program accredited by the Collegiate Commission on Nursing Education (CCNE) or National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC)
- Completed online application (includes the following)
- Resume with evidence of relevant professional experience
- Personal statement
- Current RN licensure
- Official transcripts from all schools previously attended. Transcript must include documentation of coursework in statistics
- Criminal background check (prior to the initiation of the practicum experience)
- Two recommendations from professional supervisors, instructors, peers, or colleagues qualified to assess candidate's strengths
- Additional admission requirements related to international students are listed below

\*Do not need to be repeated for current MMU MSN students or within one year of graduation from MMU.

### **Awarding of Certificate**

Students must complete all courses required for the certificate they are seeking with a B- or above. Post-graduate certificate programs may be completed in less than 7 months, but must be completed within 6 years. Time to completion may vary by student, depending on individual progress and credits transferred.

|             |                        |    |
|-------------|------------------------|----|
| NU 660      | Professional Practicum | 3  |
| Total Hours |                        | 15 |

### **Transfer of Graduate Courses**

Upon admission to the post-graduate certificate program in nursing, students may transfer in one graduate course with the approval of the Program Director. The maximum number of transferable credit hours is 3. Credit allowance for graduate courses is considered on an individual basis, however, students must have earned a "B" or higher for the course to be considered.

Course syllabi, college catalog, and a sample of previous course work may be requested for consideration of a class. While enrolled in the post-graduate certificate program at Mount Mercy, students should not enroll for academic credit at other institutions without the permission of the Associate Provost. Approval, via a petition, must be granted prior to a course being taken at another institution and will only be granted for extenuating circumstances.

## **Post-Master's Certificate in Nursing Education**

|             |  |    |
|-------------|--|----|
| NU 621      | Nurse Educator:Roles and Responsibilitie     | 3  |
| NU 622      | Nurse Educator:Curriculum&Instr Design       | 3  |
| NU 623      | Nurse Educator: Teaching/Learning Strategies | 3  |
| NU 624      | Nursing Educator: Assessment and Evaluation  | 3  |
| NU 660      | Professional Practicum                       | 3  |
| Total Hours |  | 15 |

## **Post Master's Certificate in Health Advocacy**

|             |  |    |
|-------------|--|----|
| NU 503      | Health Promotion/Disease Prevention                    | 3  |
| NU 512      | Epidemiology <sup>1</sup>                              | 3  |
| NU 631      | Hlth Advocate: Multicultural Populations               | 3  |
| NU 632      | Hlth Advocate:Asess,PolicyDev&Assurance                | 3  |
| NU 633      | Health Advocate: Community Program Planning and Design | 3  |
| NU 634      | Health Advocate: Leadership and Management             | 3  |
| NU 660      | Professional Practicum                                 | 3  |
| Total Hours |  | 21 |

<sup>1</sup> NU 512 - Epidemiology is highly recommended but not required.

## **Post-Master's Certificate in Nursing Administration**

|        |   |   |
|--------|---|---|
| NU 641 | NA: Leadership & Management in Nursing and Health Care              | 3 |
| NU 642 | NA: Financial & Human Resouce Management in Nursing and Health Care | 3 |
| NU 643 | Methods of Quality Management                                       | 3 |
| NU 644 | Organizational Effectiveness  | 3 |