XAVIER UNIVERSITY

A Jesuit, Catholic University in Cincinnati, Ohio

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

INTRODUCTION

The Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) program at Xavier University provides nurses with the opportunity to obtain advanced-level preparation in nursing science. Graduates of the program are prepared to assume professional leadership roles that encompass educational, consultative and managerial functions. They are prepared to design and establish delivery services in response to health care policy changes.

The Master of Science in Nursing curriculum requires a minimum of 36 semester credit hours, 10 of which are in elective courses. Students can either customize their plan of study to meet their personal goals by selecting a minimum of ten semester hours from the available areas of concentrated study or choose to select all electives from one area of concentrated study. Students work closely with their advisor for course selection and scheduling.

DUAL DEGREE OPPORTUNITIES

In addition to the MSN degree the following integrated dual degrees are available: MSN/MBA for students who select the administration concentration, the MSN/MEd for students who select the education or school health nursing concentration, and the MSN/MSCJ for students who select the forensics concentration.

Individuals who have a bachelor's degree in a field other than nursing, and who are not registered nurses, should see page 4 of this fact sheet for more information about the MIDAS program.

RN TO MSN PROGRAM

This option is available for registered nurses who hold an associate of science degree or diploma in nursing and who have a minimum of two years of full-time experience as a registered nurse. The RN to MSN program requires prerequisite bridge courses to facilitate the student's pursuit of graduate study. For further information, see www.xavier.edu/MSN/RN-To-MSN-Program.cfm or the printed RN to MSN fact sheet.

Registered nurses with a diploma or associate degree are eligible for the RN to MSN program. Applicants who are registered nurses with a baccalaureate degree in another field are eligible for the Educational Mobility Option.

EDUCATIONAL MOBILITY OPTION

An educational mobility option is available for RNs who have a bachelor's degree in a non-nursing field. The mobility option was developed to recognize the knowledge of experienced registered nurses without a bachelor's degree in nursing who otherwise are well-qualified for admission to the Master of Science in Nursing program. Students who fit this criteria must present a portfolio instead of the goal statement, including a résumé, documenting professional experiences. Students also must submit the graduate nursing application form and other documents required for application.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

The candidate for the Master of Science in Nursing degree:

1. Synthesizes theoretical and empirical knowledge from the humanities and the sciences, including nursing, and evaluates it for its use in guiding nursing research and practice.
2. Exhibits competence and confidence when assuming role responsibilities as a graduate with advanced-level preparation.
3. Exemplifies moral and ethical leadership through a concern for others, the management of nursing care and a commitment to professional excellence in the delivery of health care and the profession.
4. Evaluates issues and opportunities in health care delivery from ethical, sociopolitical, technological and historical frameworks, while providing leadership for change.
5. Validates and extends nursing knowledge through interpretation of and collaboration in nursing research.
6. Communicates orally and in written form in a scholarly manner.
7. Develops in-depth knowledge in a concentrated area of study.

PREREQUISITES

Applicants to the program should meet the following minimum criteria:

1. Applicants must be licensed registered nurses in the United States, as well as licensed in the state in which they participate in practicum experiences.
2. Completion of an undergraduate statistics course, minimum grade of C.

CURRICULUM

The curriculum consists of a minimum 36 semester credit hours. The core courses include theoretical and practical knowledge that serves as the foundation for advanced nursing education in a variety of roles. The core courses focus on three major themes that are consistent with the philosophy for the graduate program: critical systematic inquiry, professional and personal development, and management of information and resources in a rapidly-changing health care environment. The courses in each concentration are individualized so as to focus on the specific knowledge and skills essential for the roles in which the student is interested.

Nursing Core (12 semester hours)

NURS 501 Theoretical Bases for Nursing Practice (3)
NURS 502 Nursing Research (3)
NURS 505 Health Care Informatics (3)*
*NURS 854 Advanced Informatics (3) (required instead of NURS 505 for students enrolled in the MSN CNL concentration)
NURS 864 Epidemiologic Methods in Health Care (3)

Graduate Support Courses (8 semester hours)

NURS 500 Health Care Ethics for Nursing Leaders (3)
NURS 690 Health Care Policy for Nursing Leaders (2)
NURS 754 Nursing Leadership and Management Concepts (3)

Students select a minimum of 10 semester hours in elective courses. They may customize their plan of study by choosing courses from among the available areas (general studies) or may select one area of concentrated study. See "Concentrations" for further information.

Synthesis and Application (6 semester hours)

NURS 703 Graduate Nursing Practicum I (2)*
NURS 705 Graduate Nursing Practicum II (2) **
NURS 797 Scholarly Project (2)
*NURS 852 CNL Leadership for Quality (2) (required instead of NURS 703 for students enrolled in the MSN CNL concentration.)
**NURS 853 Leadership Practicum for RNs (6) (required instead of NURS 705 and NURS 797 for students enrolled in the MSN CNL concentration.)

CONCENTRATIONS

(Minimum of 10 semester hours)

Administration (10 semester hours)

NURS 634 Nursing Administration in Complex Healthcare Organizations (3)
NURS 636 Financial Management for Nurse Executives (2)
NURS 764 Administrative Informatics (3)
Guided Elective (2)

Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL) (15 semester hours)

NURS 556 Introduction to CNL for RNs (3)
NURS 602 Applying CNL Concepts for RNs (3)
NURS 658 Adv. Clinical Pharmacology for RNs (3)
NURS 680 Adv. Pathophysiology for RNs (3)
NURS 756 Adv. Health Assessment for the RN (3)

Education Concentration (17 semester hours)

NURS 658 Advanced Clinical Pharmacology for RNs (3)
NURS 660 Development of the Adult Learner in Health Care (3)
NURS 664 Teaching Strategies (2)
NURS 670 Roles of the Nurse Educator (3)
NURS 680 Advanced Health Assessment for the RN (3)
NURS 756 Advanced Health Assessment for the RN (3)
Elective Course:
NURS 662 Advanced Technology and Simulation (2)

Forensic Concentration (10 semester hours)

CJUS 439 Criminalistics II or CJUS 449 Criminalistics III (3)
NURS 648 Foundations of Forensic Nursing (4)
NURS 642 Psych/Social/Legal Aspects of Forensics (2)
Elective (1+)

Health Care Law Concentration (10 semester hours)

HSEA 581 Legal Aspects of Health Care (3)
NURS 610 Liability of Health Care Organizations and H.C. Professionals (3)
NURS 611 Medical/Legal Research, Writing & Presentation (2)
NURS 642 Psych/Social/Legal Aspects of Forensics (2)

Informatics Concentration (Minimum of 10 semester hours)

Note: This concentration is under construction
NURS 634 Nursing Administration in Complex Healthcare Organizations (3)
NURS 854 Advanced Informatics (3)
NURS (3) TBA
NURS 695 Special Topics/Guided Study (1+)

School Nurse Concentration (12 semester hours)
Includes school nurse licensure.
See School of Nursing for further information.

ADMISSION

The following items are required for application:

- Unencumbered RN license.
- Graduate nursing application.
- $35 application fee.
- One official transcript from all colleges/universities attended.
- Three professional references (forms provided).
- A one- to two-page writing sample in the form of a professional goal statement. In addition to providing information regarding career goals, this document is reviewed to establish the applicant's professional writing ability. Applicants who are applying for the Educational Mobility Option (for RNs with a bachelor's degree in another discipline) will complete a portfolio instead of the one- to two-page goal statement. The portfolio packet may be obtained by contacting the director for nursing student services.
- International students must submit additional documents for admission as required by the University. Contact the Office of Graduate Services at 513-745-3360 for more information.
- A personal interview may be required.

Individuals may apply online and download all required materials at: http://www.xavier.edu/msn/admission.cfm or request an application packet to be mailed by calling the director for nursing student services at 513-745-4392 or 800-344-GOXU (4698), ext. 4392.

The School of Nursing admits students for the fall semester of each academic year. A minimum of 10 students are accepted for each cohort group. The cohort approach is a unique opportunity for students to attend classes together in a collaborative learning environment.

Although there is no admission test required for the Master of Science in Nursing program, students who plan to pursue the dual MSN/MEd or the MSN/MSCJ will be required to take either the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) or the Miller Analogies Test (MAT). Students who plan to pursue the dual MSN/MBA program will be required to take the Graduate Management Test (GMAT).

FINANCIAL AID

Graduate grant funds are available through Xavier University for students admitted to the program. To be eligible for a grant, students must file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The applications are available online.

Some additional scholarship monies may be available through the School of Nursing. Many nurses take advantage of tuition reimbursement funds offered by their employers. These graduate students can take advantage of the employer reimbursement payment plan offered by the University, which defers tuition payment until the end of the semester.

POST MASTER'S CERTIFICATE PROGRAM: CLINICAL NURSE LEADER

The post master's Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL) certificate program is a 4 semester, 21 credit part-time curriculum that enables experienced nurses with a previous master's degree in nursing to:

1. Complete required course work for the Clinical Nurse Leader.
2. Become eligible to take the CNL certificate exam
3. Receive documentation of the completed course work on an official Xavier University transcript.

More information can be found online at: **http://www.xavier.edu/MSN/Post-Masters-Certificate-Program-MSN-CNL.cfm or e-mail gomez@xavier.edu.**

ACCREDITATION

The MSN program is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE). The address for the CCNE is Department 210, Washington, D.C. 20055-0210. This agency can be reached by calling 202-887-6791. Information on the cost of tuition and fees is made available yearly in a brochure distributed by the Xavier University office of graduate services. Information on the current costs is reported to and made available from the CCNE.

The MSN program is approved by the Ohio Board of Nursing (OBN). The address for the OBN is 17 South High Street, Suite 400, Columbus, Ohio 43215-7410. The organization may also be reached by calling 614-466-3947.

The Xavier University BSN and MSN nursing programs are endorsed by the American Holistic Nurses Certification Corporation (AHNCC). The endorsement by AHNCC permits graduates of the programs to sit for the Holistic Nurse Certification (HNC) examination. Only 13 universities in the nation currently have this endorsement.

BA/BS TO MSN: THE MIDAS PROGRAM

The Master of Science in Nursing: Direct Entry as Second Degree (MIDAS) program at Xavier University is designed for mature, goal-directed individuals who have a bachelor's degree in a discipline other than nursing who desire to be a licensed registered nurse (RN).

The 20-month MIDAS program is a five-semester (including one summer), full-time program of study. Upon successful completion of the program, the student is eligible to sit for the National Council Licensure Exam-Registered Nurse (NCLEX-RN). The student graduates with a Master of Science in Nursing (MSN).

The Xavier MIDAS program is unique in that the program incorporates the new Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL) role. It is a futuristic nursing model developed by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing to prepare at the graduate level new nursing leaders in the health care industry. Graduates of the MIDAS program are eligible to sit for the CNL certification examination.

For more information, request the MIDAS fact sheet or view information online at www.xa1vier.edu/msn/midas.cfm.

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION AND/OR APPLICATION MATERIALS, CONTACT:

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