RN TO MSN FOR REGISTERED NURSES WITHOUT A BACHELOR'S DEGREE

INTRODUCTION

The RN to MSN curriculum at Xavier University is designed for experienced registered nurses who seek a high-quality program that efficiently meets their need to obtain an MSN degree in a timely manner. Students in this program are registered nurses without a bachelor's degree in any field who have a minimum of two years of full-time nursing practice. Applicants must demonstrate leadership potential, motivation, specific career goals and an excellent academic record. It is expected that applicants will have completed foundational courses in their basic training prior to entering the program. These courses would include content in the following areas: anatomy and physiology, microbiology, chemistry, sociology, general psychology, developmental psychology and health assessment skills. Foundational content will be validated through the portfolio. Prerequisite courses that build on previous education and work experience are required as preparation for the graduate program.

The RN to MSN curriculum incorporates adult learning principles and recognizes prior academic coursework, continuing education and clinical expertise. Students are provided with individualized attention, and every effort is made to assist them in their area of specialized interest.

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.

CURRICULUM

Upon completion of prerequisite courses, the student may matriculate into the graduate program, **which consists of a minimum of 36 semester hours.** RN to MSN students enter graduate courses in the fall semester as a cohort group.

Prerequisite Courses (15 to 18 semester hours)

Statistics (3) **OR**	NURS 490 Analysis of Healthcare Information (3)
PHIL 100	Ethics as Introduction to Philosophy (3)
THEO 111	Theological Foundations (3)
ENGL 101	English Composition (3)*
NURS 442	The Community as Partner: A Transcultural Approach (3)
NURS 496	Professional Development II (3)

*ENGL 101 English Composition may be waived based on review of the student's writing skills and/or completion of an English composition course within the last five years.

Admission to the graduate courses is contingent upon completion of all prerequisite courses and a minimum 3.00 cumulative grade point average in courses completed at Xavier.

The Master of Science in Nursing 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 | 8 for MSN CNL)

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 Advanced Clinical Pharmacology for RNs (3)
NURS 680 Advanced Pathophysiology for RNs (3)
NURS 756 Advanced 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 Pathophysiology 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 Health Care 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)

NURS 634 Nursing Administration in Complex Healthcare Organizations (3)
NURS 764 Administrative Informatics (3)
NURS 854 Advanced Informatics (3)
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 and diploma schools of nursing attended.
- Three reference forms (forms provided).
- Portfolio providing a detailed description of previous work experience (applicants are required to have a minimum of two years of full-time nursing experience).

Applicants must be licensed registered nurses in the United States. Applicants must be licensed in the state in which they will participate in clinical experiences.

A personal interview may be required.

International students must submit additional documents for admission as required by the University. Contact the office of graduate services at 513-745-3360 for further information.

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

RN to MSN students are eligible for the dual MSN/MEd (education concentration) or the dual MSN/MSCJ (forensics concentration). Although there is no admission test required for the Master of Science in Nursing program, students who plan to pursue one of these dual degree programs are required to take either the Graduate Record Exam (GRE) or the Miller Analogies Test (MAT). Note: Admission to the dual degree programs is a separate process. RN to MSN students are eligible to apply to the desired dual degree program in the final semester of the MSN program.

FINANCIAL AID

Graduate grant funds are available through Xavier University for students admitted to the program. In order to be eligible for a graduate grant, students are required to file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). FAFSA applications can be filed online.

Some additional scholarship monies may be available through the school of nursing. Many nurses take advantage of employer 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.

ACCREDITATION

The MSN program is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE). The address for the CCNE is One Dupont Circle, NW, Suite 530, Washington, D.C., 20036. This agency can be reached by calling 202-887-6791. 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 Ohio Board of Nursing is 17 South High Street, Suite 400, Columbus, Ohio 43215-7410. This agency can be reached by calling 614-466-3947.

Xavier University nursing programs are endorsed by the American Holistic Nursing Certification Corporation (AHNCC). This endorsement by AHNCC permits graduates to sit for the Holistic Nurse Certification (HNC) examination. Only 14 universities in the nation currently have this endorsement, and the Xavier University RN to MSN program is one of the first graduate programs with this outstanding endorsement. This agency can be contacted at 811 Linden Loop, Cedar Park, Texas 78613 or visit their web site at www.ahncc.org.

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION AND/OR APPLICATION MATERIALS, CONTACT:

Director for Nursing Student Services
School of Nursing
Xavier University
3800 Victory Parkway
Cincinnati, Ohio 45207-7351
513-745-4392 or 800-344-GOXU ext. 4392
gomez@xavier.edu
www.xavier.edu/rn_msn.cfm

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