Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing

The College of Nursing at the University of Missouri – St. Louis offers a Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing degree. The program helps our graduates pursue theoretical inquiry and conduct original research for the purpose of advancing the knowledge and science of nursing.

Our curriculum follows the standards of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing, and highlights faculty expertise with vulnerable populations and interventions to optimize health of individuals, groups, and communities.

The program prepares graduates to:

• Serve as leaders in nursing and health care

• Function as nurse scientists to advance the practice of nursing and contribute to interdisciplinary knowledge

• Demonstrate scientific competencies that contribute to the discipline of nursing

• Develop knowledge through original research that improves health outcomes or health systems

Core Research Areas

• Promoting health to reduce health disparities among vulnerable groups.

• Optimizing health outcomes for individuals and families affected by chronic illnesses including cardiovascular disease, HIV, and cancer.

• Intervening before and during pregnancy and after birth to improve health outcomes of mothers, fathers, and their infants.

• Using technology, informatics, and healthcare system design strategies to improve care delivery.

Program Options

• Full-time and Part-time BSN to PhD

• Full-time and Part-time MSN to PhD

• Online synchronous and asynchronous classes

Admission Criteria

• Graduate of an accredited BSN program with a minimum GPA of 3.2, or an accredited MSN program with a minimum GPA of 3.5

• Acceptable GRE scores, as determined by the PhD Admissions Committee

PhD Application Process

All applicants must submit the following materials:

• NursingCAS application and fee

• UMSL application for graduate admission and fee

• Official transcripts from all previously attended colleges and universities

• Official Graduate Record Exam (GRE) scores

• Current CV/resume

• Two references

• A two page essay, indicating your professional and nursing research goals

• A copy of your RN License issued by your U.S. state of residence or country of residence

• Interview by invitation

Please visit the NursingCAS website for detailed information about submitting the above-listed materials.

Application Deadline for Fall Enrollment: Priority Application for the PhD Program is due January 15 (for early acceptance) and April 1 if space is available.

International Students: Given the time required to process international applications, all international applicants must apply by the priority deadline of January 15 for admission consideration. Applications submitted after January 15 will be considered for admission in the same or subsequent academic year, depending on the processing time needed.
Part-Time Sample Plan of Study*

**Year 1 Fall**
- N6130 Research, Interventions, and Evidence Based Practice (3)
- N6111 Healthcare Systems, Concepts, and Nursing Theories
- Advanced Pathophysiology or Organizational Behavior (3)
- N7220 Leadership in Practice (3)

**Year 1 Spring**
- N7443 Healthcare Policy (3)
- Elective (3)

**Year 2 Fall**
- N7211 Biostatistics 1 (3)
- N7481 Nursing Science & Theory (3)
- N7403 Development of the Nurse Scientist (3)

**Year 2 Spring**
- N6424 Social Determinants of Health (3)
- N7488 Qualitative Methods (3)
- Elective (3)

**Year 2 Summer**
- Elective (3)

**Year 3 Fall**
- N7212 Biostatistics 2 (3)
- N7490 Design & Methods (3)
- N7491 Advanced Theory Development (3)

**Year 3 Spring**
- N7200 State of Science (3)
- N7495 Mixed Methods Research in Health Care (3)
- Select one (offered every other numbered year)
- N7497: Design, Implementation and Evaluation of Health Interventions (3)
- N7213: Structural Equation Modeling (3) OR Fall Course
- OR Fall Course
- N7496: Seminar in Advanced Qualitative Methods (3)

**Year 3 Summer**
- Cognates* (6)

**Year 4 Fall**
- N7499 Dissertation Research** (3)
- N7499 Dissertation Research (3)

**Year 4 Spring**
- N7499 Dissertation Research (3)
- N7499 Dissertation Research (3)

72 Credit Hour Program

*Progression through the program may vary from the sample plan of study, which is subject to change.
*Can move cognates as needed.
**Can spread out dissertation hours across more semesters.
International students’ full time status varies by visa.
Check with International Studies for advising.
**Part-Time Sample Plan of Study***

**Year 1 Fall**
- N7211 Biostatistics (3)
- N7481 Nursing Science & Theory (3)
- N7403 Development of the Nurse Scientist (3)

**Year 1 Spring**
- N7443 Healthcare Policy (3)
- N7488 Qualitative Methods (3)
- N6424 Social Determinants of Health (3)

**Year 1 Summer**
- Cognates* (6)

**Year 2 Fall**
- N7490 Design & Methods (3)
- N7491 Advanced Theory Development (3)
- N7212 Biostats 2 (3)

**Year 2 Spring**
- N7200 State of Science (3)
- N7495 Mixed Methods Research in Health Care (3)
- Select one (offered every other numbered year)
  - N7497: Design, Implementation and Evaluation of Health Interventions (3)
  - N7213: Structural Equation Modeling (3)
  OR Fall Course
- N7496: Seminar in Advanced Qualitative Methods (3)

**Year 2 Summer**
- Cognate* (3)

**Year 3 Fall**
- N7499 Dissertation Research** (3)
- N7499 Dissertation Research (3)

**Year 4 Spring**
- N7499 Dissertation Research (3)
- N7499 Dissertation Research (3)

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**57 Credit Hour Program**

*Progression through the program may vary from the sample plan of study, which is subject to change.*

*Can move cognates as needed.

**Can spread out dissertation hours across more semesters. To obtain full credit, must enroll in 1 credit of dissertation research and can supplement with up to 8 hours of doctoral candidacy credit hours for up to 8 years.**

International students’ full time status varies by visa.
Check with International Studies for advising.

*Updated June 2017*
### Part-Time Sample Plan of Study*

**Year 1 Fall**
- N6111 Healthcare Systems Concepts and Nursing Theories (3)
- N6130 Research, Interventions, and Evidence-Based Practice (3)
- N7220 Leadership in Practice (3)

**Year 1 Spring**
- N7443 Healthcare Policy (3)
- N6424 Social Determinants of Health (3)

**Year 2 Fall**
- N7211 Biostatistics I (3)
- N7403 Development of the Nurse Scientist (3)

**Year 2 Spring**
- N7488 Qualitative Methods (3)
- Elective (3)

**Year 2 Summer**
- Elective (3)

**Year 3 Fall**
- N7481 Nursing Science & Theory (3)
- N7212 Biostatistics II (3)

**Year 3 Spring**
- N7200 State of the Science (3)
- Cognates (3)

**Year 3 Summer**
- Cognates (6)

**Year 4 Fall**
- N7490 Design & Methods (3)
- N7491 Advanced Theory Development (3)

**Year 4 Spring**
- N7495 Mixed Methods Research in Health Care (3)
- Select one (offered every other numbered year)
  - N7497: Design, Implementation and Evaluation of Health Interventions (3)
  - N7213: Structural Equation Modeling (3)
- OR Fall Course
  - N7496: Seminar in Advanced Qualitative Methods (3)

**Year 5 Fall**
- N7499 Dissertation Research** (3)
- N7499 Dissertation Research

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### 72 Credit Hour Program

*Progression through the program may vary from the sample plan of study, which is subject to change.*

*Can move cognates as needed.*

**Can spread out dissertation hours across more semesters. To obtain full credit, must enroll in 1 credit of dissertation research and can supplement with up to 8 hours of doctoral candidacy credit hours for up to 8 years.*

International students’ full time status varies by visa. Check with International Studies for advising.

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Part-Time Sample Plan of Study*

**Year 1 Fall**
N7211 Biostatistics (3)
N7481 Nursing Science & Theory (3)

**Year 1 Spring**
N7443 Healthcare Policy (3)
N7488 Qualitative Methods (3)

**Year 2 Fall**
N7212 Biostats 2 (3)
N7490 Design & Methods (3)

**Year 2 Spring**
N7200 State of Science (3)
N6424 Social Determinants of Health (3)

**Year 3 Fall**
N7403 Development of the Nurse Scientist (3)
N7491 Advanced Theory Development (3)

**Year 3 Spring**
N7495 Mixed Methods Research in Health Care (3)
Select one (offered every other numbered year)
N7497: Design, Implementation and Evaluation of Health Interventions (3)
N7213: Structural Equation Modeling (3)
OR Fall Course
N7496: Seminar in Advanced Qualitative Methods (3)

**Year 4 Fall**
N7490 Cognates (6)

**Year 4 Spring**
N7488 Cognates

**Year 5 Fall**
N7499 Dissertation Research (3)
N7499 Dissertation Research (3)

57 Credit Hour Program

*Progression through the program may vary from the sample plan of study, which is subject to change.
*Can move cognates as needed.
**Can spread out dissertation hours across more semesters. To obtain full credit, must enroll in 1 credit of dissertation research and can supplement with up to 8 hours of doctoral candidacy credit hours for up to 8 years.
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