

Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) Nursing

Degree Program

- MSN to Ph.D. Applicants:
 - MSN to Ph.D. students complete a minimum of 45 post-MSN credit hours and an additional 12 credit hours of dissertation. These 57 credit hours, in addition to 15 credit hours earned from Master's level work, equal the 72 credit hours required for a Ph.D.
- BSN to Ph.D. Applicants:
 - BSN to Ph.D. students complete a minimum of 60 credit hours of graduate-level course work and an additional 12 credit hours of dissertation, which equal the 72 total credit hours required for the Ph.D. program.
- Part-time study is available for either program (MSN-PhD or BSN-PhD).
- Classes are offered online using asynchronous and synchronous methods.

Areas of Study: Nursing Science, Theory and Discipline of Nursing, Nursing Research Methods, Cognates and/or Electives, and Dissertation.

Coursework:

- Nursing Science, Theory, and Discipline of Nursing: 26 or more nursing credits including:
 - Nursing science
 - Advanced nursing theory development and validation
 - Discipline of nursing
- Nursing Research Methods: 12 or more nursing credits including:
 - Quantitative Methods in nursing
 - Qualitative Methods in nursing
 - Biostatistics
- Cognates:
 - All Ph.D. students (BSN-Ph.D. and MSN-Ph.D.) are required to take a minimum of 9 credit hours of cognates in the related area of research. The advisor must approve the cognate to ensure it meets the College of Nursing guidelines.
 - BSN-Ph.D. students must also take 6 credit hours of electives.
- Dissertation: Minimum is 12 credits hours.

Comprehensive Examination: a written and oral examination covering the entire field of nursing.

Dissertation: All students must defend orally a written dissertation proposal to their dissertation committee. A dissertation embodying the results of original research must be accepted by the faculty and the Graduate School.

Program Website: <http://umsl.edu/go/Nursing-PhD>

Application Requirements

1. Complete the UMSL Graduate Application Form: <http://umsl.edu/go/Apply-Now>
2. Ph.D. Nursing Application Materials
 - a. Complete the Nursing Ph.D. Supplemental Application Form through NURSINGCAS: https://apps.umsl.edu/webapps/ITS/Nursing_apps/phd_check.cfm
 - b. Personal Statement indicating overview of professional experiences, motivation, and goals for pursuing a doctoral degree, short and long-term professional goals and proposed research focus. (Approximately 1 page)
3. Two letters of recommendation
 - a. From individuals who can attest to the applicant's likely success in graduate work.
4. A copy of your RN license issued by your U.S. state of residence or country of residence
5. Official transcripts from all universities attended

- a. BSN applicants must have at least a baccalaureate degree at the time they begin the program.
- b. MSN applicants must have at least a baccalaureate and master's degree at the time they begin the program.
6. Entrance examinations
 - a. International applicants must meet minimum requirements on tests of written and spoken English (TOEFL, Minimum 550 or better is desired). International students must also apply through the International Student Services Office.
7. Grade Point Average
 - a. Minimum of 3.25 on 4.0 scale from an accredited baccalaureate or master's nursing program
8. Current CV/Resume outlining previous education, work/volunteer experience, extra-curricular activities, leadership roles, honors and awards
9. Original essay questions providing an overview of your research interests
 - a. Four essays of no more than 300 words each addressing your leadership, understanding and commitment to learning, involvement in activities that give meaning to life, and experience with diversity.

Application Deadline

International Students: January 15

Early Acceptance Deadline: January 15

After January 15, Rolling Admissions until class is full

Students are admitted in the Fall Semester.

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.

Application Fee

\$50 for domestic applicants; \$40 for international applicants

Program Contacts

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