



Program of Study: Bridge to Master of Science in Nursing

Program Description

This Master of Science in Nursing bridge program is designed for registered nurses with a bachelor's degree in health sciences or other related fields. The program is intended to meet the needs of adult learners who already possess a bachelor's degree and an RN license who desire to pursue a graduate degree in nursing. Courses in the bridge program are a blending of RN to BSN core courses that are considered essential requisites to graduate study. Upon completion of bridge courses from the BSN core, students enter one of five emphases offered for the Master of Science in Nursing.

Additional Admission Requirements

In addition to the general Undergraduate Admission Requirements listed in the Academic Catalog, the following admission requirements must be met. Candidates must provide evidence of a current, unencumbered license in the state of residence upon admission to the program and for the duration of their study. In addition to the general Graduate Admission Requirements listed in the Admission Policy and Procedure section, all MSN Bridge Program candidates must provide evidence of a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited program reflecting a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or above (on a 4.0 scale).

Bridge to MSN Courses:

Course Number	Course Title	Course Description	Credits
NRS 430V	Professional Dynamics	This course is a bridge course for the RN returning to formal education for the baccalaureate degree in nursing. The course focuses on differentiated nursing practice competencies, nursing conceptual models, professional accountability, integrating spirituality into practice, group dynamics, and critical thinking. Emphasis is placed as well on writing and oral presentation skills.	3
NRS 434V	Health Assessment	This course focuses on methods of health history taking, physical examination skills, documentation, and health screening. The course emphasizes the individual as the client, functional health patterns, community resources, and the teaching learning process.	3
HLT 362V	Applied Statistics for Health Care Professionals	This introductory course on statistical concepts emphasizes applications to health care professions. The course is designed to prepare students to interpret and evaluate statistics and statistical methods used in published research papers and to make decisions about the appropriateness of specific statistical methods in a variety of settings. Areas of emphasis will include introduction to analysis of variance, regression, and graphical presentation; experimental design; descriptive statistics; sampling methods; and z, t, and chi-square.	3

NRS 433V	Introduction to Nursing Research	This course promotes the use of research findings as a basis for improving clinical practice. Quantitative and qualitative research methodologies are presented. Emphasis is on the critical review of research studies and their applications to clinical practice. An overview of evidence-based practice is provided. This course is designated as a GCU Writing Intensive Course. Prerequisite: PSY 363, BIO 363, or HLT 362.	3
NRS 427V	Concepts in Community and Public Health	This course focuses on the community as a large system of people of varying cultures, spiritual values, geographic norms, and economic conditions, all influenced by social-legal-political variables that impact individual and community health. There is particular attention paid to vulnerable subgroups in the community. Emphasis is placed on critical analysis, using epidemiological data and functional health pattern assessments to plan and intervene in areas of health promotion and disease prevention.	3
NRS 410V	Pathophysiology and Nursing Management of Clients' Health	This course is designed to enhance the working RN's existing understanding of the pathophysiological processes of disease as they affect clients across the lifespan. The interrelationship of structural and functional reactions of cells and tissues to genetic alterations and injurious agents provide the foundation for comprehending clinical manifestations and treatment protocols. Critical thinking and nursing management will be enhanced through the use of case studies that integrate nutritional and pharmacological concepts. The understanding of environmental and biological risk factors will provide the nurse with the knowledge to provide health promotion and prevention education.	3

Total Bridge to MSN Credits: 18