

New Graduate Program (Majors, Sequences, Certificates) Proposal
Illinois State University - Graduate Curriculum Committee

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Title of New Program Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing: BSN to PhD Sequence

Proposed Starting Catalog Year 2022-2023

Associated Course Proposal(s):

Delete Graduate Course proposal NUR 513 titled *Ethical, Legal and Professional Issues in Research*

Revise Graduate Course proposal NUR 515 titled *Dissertation Proposal Design*

1. Proposed Action

New Major

✓ New Sequence

New Certificate

✓ More than 50% of courses in this program are Distance Education

Sequence Major

Nursing

2. Provide Graduate Catalog copy for new program.

Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing Program

Degree Offered: Ph.D.

The Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing program consists of 75 credit hours beyond the baccalaureate degree or 63 credit hours beyond the master's degree. This program primarily consists of online asynchronous course work with some online synchronous sessions most semesters. The Doctor of Philosophy degree prepares nurse researchers to serve the public health by designing and conducting research on relevant clinical, educational, health systems and/or health policy topics.

There are two entry points to the PhD program. In the BSN to PhD sequence, students admitted with a Bachelor of Science in nursing (BSN) degree will be required to complete a minimum of 75 credit hours. In the post master's PhD sequence, students admitted with a BSN and a Master of Science (in nursing or other related area) degree will be required to complete a minimum of 63 credit hours. All courses applied to the degree must be completed at the graduate level. Mennonite College of Nursing requires that any student receiving a grade of C or below in graduate coursework must repeat the course. Students may repeat a maximum of 3 credit hours.

A student with a BSN degree will be able to complete the PhD degree in 4 years. Prerequisites to the PhD curriculum for applicants with a BSN degree include:

- BSN degree from a CCNE (Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education) or an ACEN (Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing) accredited program
- Minimum grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale for the last 60 semester hours of undergraduate coursework; this includes courses in which the student is currently enrolled
- Evidence of satisfactory completion of statistics and nursing research, with a grade of a C or better at the baccalaureate level

A student with a BSN and a master's degree in nursing or a related field will be able to complete the 63 credit hours required for a PhD degree in a minimum of 3 years. A master's level statistics course or completion of the MCN statistics proficiency exam with a minimum score of 80% is required. Prerequisites to the post master's PhD sequence include:

- MSN degree from a CCNE or ACEN-accredited program, or a master's degree in a related field
- A minimum grade point average of 3.0 for the last 30 hours of graduate or 60 hours of undergraduate coursework; this includes courses in which the student is currently enrolled

BSN to PhD Sequence

This 75-credit hour degree requires:

- 12 hours of beginning graduate course work: NUR 401, NUR 407, NUR 409, NUR 509
 - 24 hour core: NUR 502, NUR 503, NUR 504, NUR 505, NUR 506, NUR 507, NUR 511, NUR 515
 - 6 hours research practica: NUR 523, NUR 526
 - 9 hours statistics and measurement: NUR 540, NUR 541, NUR 544
 - 9 hours: elective courses
 - 15 dissertation hours: All students must successfully complete a dissertation comprised of original research.
 - Enrollment in the non-credit colloquium course (NUR 530) every fall and spring semester throughout the program
 - Other university requirements for Ph.D. degrees are listed elsewhere in this catalog.
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3. Provide a description for the proposed program.

- **The proposed program is a BSN to PhD program. A student with a BSN degree will be able to complete the PhD degree in 4 to 5 years depending on the number of classes taken per semester. This is a fully-online program which consists of 75 semester hours.**
 - **The BSN to PhD curriculum are online and currently offered in part in the BSN to DNP sequence and current post-master's PhD in Nursing program. This is being submitted as a new sequence.**
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4. Provide a rationale of proposed program.

We currently have the post-master's PhD in Nursing program but have decreased the hours by 3 in an attempt to be more competitive with other universities offering both options to earn a PhD in nursing and increase enrollment in our program. We have developed a BSN to PhD sequence in part to attract nurses earlier in their career to the degree program. This may help with the nursing faculty shortage.

5. Describe the expected effects of the proposed program on existing campus programs (if applicable).

None

6. Describe the expected curricular changes required, including new courses. If proposals for new courses that will be or have been submitted, please reference those related proposals here:

No new courses just revisions to current courses.

NUR 515 Revised

NUR 513 deleted as content will be assumed in NUR 515 and some is already being taught in other courses such as NUR 502 and NUR 506.

7. Anticipated funding needs and source of funds.

None

8. **No** Does this program count for teacher education?

9. **The following questions must be answered.**

Yes Have you confirmed that Milner Library has sufficient resources for the proposed program?

N.A. Have letter(s) of concurrence from affected departments/schools been obtained?
A departments/school is affected if it has a program with significant overlap or if it teaches a required or elective course in the program.

