

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

Program Department Mennonite College of Nursing

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Title of New Program Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing: Post Master's Sequence

Submission Date Thursday, September 23, 2021

Email kmastro@ilstu.edu

Campus Address Campus Box 5810 Mennonite College Of Nursing

Version 1 **ID** 165

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.

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 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

Post Master's PhD Sequence

This 63-credit hour degree requires:

- 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

* If a master's level statistics course is needed, it may serve as one of the three electives.

3. Provide a description for the proposed program.

- The Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Nursing: Post-Master's Sequence is designed so that a student with an MSN degree or a BSN and a Master's degree in a related field will be able to complete the PhD degree in 3-4 years of study.
- The Post-Master's Sequence is currently offered as the Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Nursing option. It is being submitted as a new sequence due to it being designated as one of two proposed sequences (Post-master's and BSN to PhD) within the PhD Program.
- Students admitted with a Master of Science in nursing (MSN) degree or a BSN with a master's degree in a related field will be required to complete a minimum of 63 semester hours beyond the master's degree.

4. Provide a rationale of proposed program.

MCN currently has 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.

College's current operating budget is adequate to support the program. No additional funding is being requested for this sequence. The Post-Master's Sequence is currently offered at MCN and there are seats available to have more students in each of the courses. This is being submitted as a new sequence for it to serve as one of the two sequences (BSN to PhD and Post-Master's) within the PhD Program. Financial Implication Form is attached.

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.

