

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

The program objectives are designed to accomplish a Master of Science Degree through three degree programs: family nurse practitioner, nurse educator and nurse administration. Upon completion of the program, the graduate is prepared to:

- Use evidenced-based research to enhance nursing practice and promote healthy communities and diverse populations.
- Collaborate with others to influence the social, political and economic trends in health care delivery and health policy.
- Analyze ethical, legal, and professional standards within the health care system.
- Incorporate professional values, accountability, and responsibility into advanced nursing practice, education and administration.
- Integrate knowledge, theories and professional standards of nursing and related disciplines into advanced nursing roles.
- Demonstrate competency in an advanced nursing role in serving a cultural, ethnical and technological diverse society.
- Deliver specialized care to culturally diverse populations through health promotion, disease prevention and health maintenance activities.

DEGREE OFFERINGS

Master of Science (MSN) Family Nurse Practitioner

The Family Nurse Practitioner degree prepares advanced-practice nurses to provide primary health care to clients, families and communities. Students take core and advanced courses covering theoretical foundations for nursing practice, advanced pathophysiology, advanced pharmacology, nursing research and advanced health assessment. Nurse practitioner specialty courses emphasize the care of women and children, adult, and geriatric patients and their families. The total number of credit hours required is 53, which includes 780 hours of clinical practice. The curriculum consists of 14 semester hours of core content, 10 semester hours of advanced practice core content, 20 semester hours of nurse practitioner specialty content, 3 semester hours of electives and 6 semester hours of either thesis or non-thesis option. Clinical experiences occur in urban and rural settings. This course of study prepares nurses to take the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Family Nurse Practitioner Certification Examination or the American Academy of Nurse Practitioner Certification Examination.

DEGREE OFFERINGS (cont'd)

Master of Science (MSN) Nurse Administration

The Nurse Administration degree prepares nurses to serve in a variety of leadership and managerial roles within the health care delivery system. The Nurse Administration curriculum consists of 14 semester hours of core content, 12 semester hours of nurse administration specialty content, 9 semester hours of electives in business or health informatics, or a combination, and 6 semester hours of either thesis or non-thesis option. Business courses provide the student the opportunity to learn business skills that further enhance their administrative backgrounds, where health informatics courses provide a background in the area of informatics. The course of study prepares nurses to take the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Certification Examination in Nursing Administration, Advanced.

Master of Science (MSN) Nurse Education

The Nurse Education degree prepares nurses to teach in a variety of settings including the teaching of patients and their families, nursing students, nursing staff and health consumers. Through a four course sequence, students gain necessary teaching knowledge and skills to prepare them to become nurse educators, a complex role that requires both pedagogical and clinical competency. The nurse education track requires students to complete 14 semester hours of core content, 12 semester credit hours in Nurse Education courses, 10 semester hours in advanced practice core courses, a 120 hour teaching practicum, and 6 semester hours of either a thesis or non-thesis option. This course of study prepares nurses to take the National League for Nursing Certified Nurse Education Examination.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

The general policies relating to admission of graduate students to the College of Nursing are consistent with those of the Graduate School. Applicants applying for admission to graduate study in the Prairie View A&M University College of Nursing must hold a baccalaureate degree in nursing from a program accredited by the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC) or the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE), hold a current license as a registered nurse in the State of Texas or have an application for licensure in progress and be employed as a professional nurse for at least one year.

The applicant must also meet the following criteria for admission for graduate study in the College of Nursing:

1. Submit an application for admission and official transcripts covering all periods of enrollment in institutions of higher education to the Graduate School and the College of Nursing.