Master of Science in Nursing
Health Systems Leadership (Online)

Concentration Description

The nursing health systems leadership concentration is designed to facilitate the graduate nurse in acquiring the knowledge and skills necessary for leadership positions within a variety of settings in the health-care delivery system. Students in the Health Systems Leadership concentration develop specialized knowledge in leadership, including but not limited to theoretical and operational aspects of nursing leadership, human relations management, population health leadership, health policy, financial management, or nursing informatics. Students take additional courses and participate in a practicum experience with 252 hours total clinical hours in the selected focus area and role preference. Success in this 38-semester hour concentration requires computer proficiency since it is a 100% online offering.

Requirements for Admission

Admission to the Master of Science in Nursing program requires the student to meet the minimum admission requirements for graduate study of the university and the following requirements of the College of Nursing:

- A baccalaureate degree in nursing from an accredited program
- A minimum GPA of 2.7 in undergraduate studies and a minimum GPA of 3.0 in nursing major
  Note: Nursing Leadership may consider an applicant with a GPA less than 2.7 as an admit-by-exception candidate.
- No Graduate Record Examination (GRE) or the Miller Analogies Test (MAT) is required with an earned BSN
- One year of experience as a registered nurse (RN)
- Current non-restricted license to practice as a registered nurse (RN) in North Carolina or an NCSBN-compact state (Individual advisement may be necessary for licensure regulations for online out-of-state students)
- A statement of purpose essay describing the applicant's interest in graduate study, career goals and the MSN degree's relationship to those goals
- Three professional references
- A current resume
- A course in statistics with a grade of "C" or higher

Requirements for Clinical Courses

Information regarding clinical requirements can be found in the ECU College of Nursing Student Handbook at: www.ecu.edu/cs-dhs/nursing/customcf/downloads/handbooks/grad_handbook.pdf. Upon admission, all graduate students are required to complete a criminal background check. Students will receive specific instructions from the Office of Student Services on how to complete this process.

Sample Curriculum Plan: Full-Time (Health Systems Leadership) Fall Start

First-Year Students

Fall Semester

NURS 6080	Theory for the Practice of Advanced Nursing	3
NURS 6081	Research for the Practice of Advanced Nursing	3
NURS 6083	Healthcare, Finance, and Economics	3
	Semester Total	**9**

Spring Semester

NURS 6971	Health Policy, Law and Ethical Decision Making	3
NURS 6974	Financial Management and Decision Making in Nurse Leadership	3
NURS 6988	Population Health Leadership	3
	Semester Total	**9**

Summer Semester

NURS 6082	Influencing Healthcare Quality, Safety and Policy	3
NURS 6973	Contemporary Issues in Human Relations	2
NURS 6984	Advanced Nursing Informatics	3
	Semester Total	**8**
	Year Total	**26**

Second-Year Students

Fall Semester

NURS 6977	Nursing Leadership Practicum I	4
NURS 6983	Theoretical and Operational Perspectives for Systems Leadership	3
	Semester Total	**7**

Spring Semester

NURS 6993	Advanced Nursing Synthesis	1
NURS 6978	Nursing Leadership Practicum II	4
	Semester Total	**5**
	Year Total	**12**
	Curriculum Total	**38**

Sample Curriculum Plan: Full-Time (Health Systems Leadership) Spring Start

First-Year Students

Spring Semester

NURS 6080	Theory for the Practice of Advanced Nursing	3
NURS 6083	Healthcare Finance and Economics	3
NURS 6971	Health Policy, Law and Ethical Decision Making	3
NURS 6983	Theoretical and Operational Perspectives for Systems Leadership	3
	Semester Total	**12**

Summer Semester

NURS 6082	Influencing Health Quality, Safety and Policy	3
NURS 6973	Contemporary Issues in Human Relations	2
NURS 6984	Advanced Nursing Informatics	3
	Semester Total	**8**

Fall Semester

NURS 6081	Research for Advanced Nursing	3
NURS 6974	Financial Management and Decision Making in Nurse Leadership	3
NURS 6977	Nursing Leadership Practicum I	4
	Semester Total	**10**
	Year Total	**30**

Second-Year Students

Spring Semester

NURS 6988	Population Health Leadership	3
NURS 6978	Nursing Leadership Practicum II	4
NURS 6983	Advanced Nursing Synthesis	1
	Semester Total	**8**
	Year Total	**8**
	Curriculum Total	**38**

Sample Curriculum Plan: Part-Time (Health Systems Leadership) FALL Start

First-Year Students

Fall Semester

NURS 6080	Theory for the Practice of Advanced Nursing	3
NURS 6081	Research for the Practice of Advanced Nursing	3
	Semester Total	**6**

Spring Semester

NURS 6083	Healthcare Finance and Economics	3
NURS 6082	Influencing Healthcare Quality, Safety, and Policy	3
	Semester Total	**6**

Summer Semester

NURS 6984	Advanced Nursing Informatics	3
	Semester Total	**3**
	Year Total	**15**

Second-Year Students

Fall Semester

NURS 6974	Financial Management and Decision-Making in Nursing Leadership	3
NURS 6983	Theoretical and Operational Perspectives for Systems Leadership	3
	Semester Total	**6**

Spring Semester

NURS 6971	Health Policy, Law, and Ethical Decision Making	3
NURS 6988	Population Health Leadership	3
	Semester Total	**6**

Summer Semester

NURS 6973	Contemporary Issues in Human Relations	2
	Semester Total	**2**
	Year Total	**14**

Third-Year Students

Fall Semester

NURS 6977	Nursing Leadership Practicum I	4
	Semester Total	**4**

Spring Semester

NURS 6993	Advanced Nursing Synthesis	1
NURS 6978	Nursing Leadership Practicum II	4
	Semester Total	**5**
	Year Total	**9**
	Curriculum Total	**38**

Sample Curriculum Plan: Part-Time (Health Systems Leadership) SPRING Start

First-Year Students

Spring Semester

NURS 6080	Theory for the Practice of Advanced Nursing	3
NURS 6081	Research for the Practice of Advanced Nursing	3
	Semester Total	**6**

Summer Semester

NURS 6973	Contemporary Issues in Human Relationships	2
NURS 6082	Influencing Healthcare Quality, Safety, and Policy	3
	Semester Total	**5**

Fall Semester

NURS 6083	Healthcare Finance and Economics	3
NURS 6974	Financial Management and Decision-Making in Nursing Leadership	3
	Semester Total	**6**
	Year Total	**17**

Second-Year Students

Spring Semester

NURS 6971	Health Policy, Law, and Ethical Decision Making	3
NURS 6988	Population Health Leadership	3
	Semester Total	**6**

Summer Semester

NURS 6973	Advanced Nursing Informatics	3
	Semester Total	**3**

Fall Semester

NURS 6977	Nursing Leadership Practicum I	4
NURS 6983	Theoretical and Operational Perspectives for Systems Leadership	3
	Semester Total	**7**
	Year Total	**15**

Spring Semester

NURS 6993	Advanced Nursing Synthesis	1
NURS 6978	Nursing Leadership Practicum II	4
	Semester Total	**5**
	Year Total	**5**
	Curriculum Total	**38**

Requirements for Graduation

- All graduate students are required to maintain a grade average of "B."
- Graduation application must be submitted at least one semester prior to completing the degree requirements as stated in the graduate catalog.
- Students who do not register for courses for a semester must complete an electronic readmission form (available at www.ecu.edu/gradschool/ and in the Graduate School Office).
- All graduate students complete a comprehensive assessment at the end of their program in NURS 6993.
- MSN students are required to keep graduate program/health requirements and liability insurance requirements up to date throughout their clinical courses.

The master's program at East Carolina University is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education. (CCNE) 655 K Street, Suite 750, Washington, DC 20001. Phone: 202.887.6791

The University

East Carolina University (ECU), a public, four-year university established in 1907, is located in Greenville, North Carolina. ECU has 11 degree-granting colleges/school/institutes. Serving a large rural population in the coastal region of the state, ECU is one of 17 constituent institutions within the University of North Carolina (UNC) System. ECU accomplishes its mission - to be a national model for the students' success in public service and regional transformation - through education, research, creative activities and service. As of Fall 2018, ECU is the fourth largest institution in the UNC System. ECU is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) to award baccalaureate, master's, and doctoral degrees. The UNC System is governed by a Board of Governors, which delegates significant responsibility to ECU's Board of Trustees. The Carnegie Commission on Higher Education classifies ECU as a Doctoral University: Higher Research Activity. In 2010 and 2015, ECU received the Community Engagement Classification from the New England Resource Center for Higher Education.

For more information, contact ECUNursingGradPrgms@ecu.edu

East Carolina University is committed to equal educational opportunity and does not discriminate against applicants, students, or employees based on race, color, national origin, religion, gender, age, creed, sexual orientation, or disability.
An equal opportunity/affirmative action employer, which accommodates the needs of individuals with disabilities.

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