

# School of Nursing

**Lynn C. Parsons, Director**  
**Cason-Kennedy Nursing Building 201**

The School of Nursing offers the Master of Science in Nursing (M.S.N.) through the Regents Online Degree Program (RODP) and the Master of Science in Professional Science (M.S.) degree in collaboration with the Biology and Mathematical Sciences departments.

## Master of Science in Nursing— Regents Online Degree Program (RODP)

The Master of Science in Nursing degree (M.S.N.) is delivered following the standard protocol established for the delivery of RODP courses and programs. The program includes four concentrations: Nursing Administration, Nursing Education, Nursing Informatics, and Advanced Practice (Family Nurse Practitioner). Courses are offered each semester (Fall, Spring, and Summer) through all six Tennessee Board of Regents universities. The program requires completion of 34–46 semester credit hours depending on the concentration. An undergraduate GPA of 3.0 or above is expected for unconditional admission.

### Nursing Administration (34 hours)

#### Core (15 hrs.)

NURS 6000	Theoretical Foundations
NURS 6001	Health Care Policy
NURS 6002	Advanced Nursing Research
NURS 6003	Advanced Role Development
NURS 6990	Scholarly Synthesis/Research

#### Concentration (15 hrs.)

NURS 6301	Nursing Administration I
NURS 6302	Nursing Administration II
NURS 6303	Health Care Finance
NURS 6304	Human Resources Management
NURS 6305	Quality Management in Nursing and Health Care

#### Practicum (4 hrs.)

NURS 6309	Nursing Administration Practicum
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*Total practice contact hours - 240*

### Nursing Education (39 hours)

#### Core (15 hrs.)

NURS 6000	Theoretical Foundations
NURS 6001	Health Care Policy
NURS 6002	Advanced Nursing Research
NURS 6003	Advanced Role Development
NURS 6990	Scholarly Synthesis/Research

#### Concentration (12 hrs.)

NURS 6201	Theories of Nursing Education
NURS 6202	Teaching Strategies and Evaluation Methods
NURS 6203	Curriculum Design
NURS 6103	Advanced Pathophysiology

#### Clinical Focus Courses (choose 6 hrs. from the following)

##### Adult Health

NURS 6501	Advanced Adult Health Nursing I
NURS 6503	Advanced Adult Health Nursing II

##### Critical Care

NURS 6522	Critical Care I
NURS 6523	Critical Care II

### Pediatrics

NURS 6631	Pediatric Nursing I
NURS 6633	Pediatric Nursing II

#### Practicum (6 hrs.)

NURS 6207	Clinical Focus Practicum
NURS 6209	Nursing Education Practicum

*Total practice contact hours - 360*

*Clinical Focus Practicum - 120; Nursing Education Practicum - 240*

**NOTE:** *Psychology Mental Health and Women's Health and Perinatal Nursing are not currently available.*

### Nursing Informatics (38 hours)

#### Core (15 hrs.)

NURS 6000	Theoretical Foundations
NURS 6001	Health Care Policy
NURS 6002	Advanced Nursing Research
NURS 6003	Advanced Role Development
NURS 6990	Scholarly Synthesis/Research

#### Concentration (15 hrs.)

NURS 6401	Introduction to Health Care Informatics
NURS 6402	Health Care Information Systems Technology Integration
NURS 6403	Project Management in Systems Analysis and Design of Health Care Management Systems
NURS 6404	Project Management in Systems Implementation and Evaluation
NURS 6405	Health Care Data Analysis and Evidence-based Practice

#### Practicum (8 hrs.)

NURS 6407	Informatics Applications I
NURS 6409	Informatics Applications II
NURS 6410	Informatics Practicum

*Total practice contact hours - 240*

### Advanced Practice: Family Nurse Practitioner (46 hours)

#### Core (15 hrs.)

NURS 6000	Theoretical Foundations
NURS 6001	Health Care Policy
NURS 6002	Advanced Nursing Research
NURS 6003	Advanced Role Development
NURS 6990	Scholarly Synthesis

#### Concentration (10 hrs.)

NURS 6101	Advanced Health Assessment
NURS 6102	Advanced Health Assessment - Clinical
NURS 6103	Advanced Pathophysiology
NURS 6104	Advanced Pharmacology

#### Family Nurse Practitioner Courses (17 hrs.)

NURS 6601	Family Nurse Practitioner I
NURS 6602	Family Nurse Practitioner I - Clinical
NURS 6603	Family Nurse Practitioner II
NURS 6604	Family Nurse Practitioner II - Clinical
NURS 6605	Family Nurse Practitioner III
NURS 6606	Family Nurse Practitioner III - Clinical Practicum

#### Practicum (4 hrs.)

NURS 6609	Advanced Family NP Practicum
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*Total practice contact hours - 780*

*(NURS 6102 - 60 contact hours which do not count in certification eligibility requirements)*

For more information, please contact the School of Nursing at (615) 898-2437 or visit [www.tn.regentsdegrees.org/msn/](http://www.tn.regentsdegrees.org/msn/).

## Courses Transferred to Other Programs

The School of Nursing also offers selected graduate courses which may be transferred to programs offering the Master of Science in Nursing. Other courses designed to assist individuals to meet the requirements of the State of Tennessee Board of Nursing for a Certificate of Fitness to practice as an Advanced Practice Nurse are also available. Please contact the School of Nursing for further information.

## Courses in Nursing [NURS]

- 5035 Special Topics.** Three credits. Explores selected nursing topics in depth. Specified topic offered each semester according to student interest and faculty availability.
- 5055 Informatics for the Health Care Professional.** Three credits. Present and potential impact of health care and nursing informatics on the nursing and allied health care disciplines and how informatic tools and systems can assist in providing solutions to health care education and practice. Emphasis on the provider's role as a leader and advocate in this rapidly emerging field.
- 6005 Advanced Independent Health Care Study.** One to three credits. Students pursue individual interests in the health care arena by contracting with an instructor and documenting the plan of learning as well as its fulfillment.



- 6101 Advanced Health Assessment.** Three credits. Prerequisite: Undergraduate adult physical assessment course. Physical assessment skills and clinical practice related to evaluation of the health status of the adult client. Refines physical assessment skills learned at the undergraduate level. Predictable pathological findings and the mechanisms underlying these findings in selected diseases. Emphasis on differentiating normal and abnormal findings and on techniques used to distinguish the abnormal. Two lecture hours and two clinical hours per week.
- 6103 Advanced Pathophysiology.** Three credits. An exploration and analysis of scientific knowledge relevant to selected pathophysiological states confronted in health care management. Basis for the foundation of clinical decisions related to selected diagnostic tests and the initiation of therapeutic regimens. Pathophysiology across the lifespan correlated with clinical diagnoses and management.
- 6104 Advanced Pharmacology.** Three credits. Advanced pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics of commonly used drug categories analyzed in depth with consideration to safe, quality, cost effective drug therapy for client care. Emphasis on pharmacologic therapy management by nurse clinicians in independent and collaborative practice for clients across the lifespan. Prescriptive guidelines included.
- 6400 Introduction to the Clinical Health Care Environment.** Two credits. For M.S. in Professional Science informatics professionals without a clinical health care background. Topics include an overview of the health care industry with a cursory analysis of the various players and their roles, as well as current issues in health care delivery. Students with two or more years of clinical health care experience are not required to take this course and may choose an elective.
- 6401 Introduction to Health Care Informatics.** Three credits. Prerequisite: Digital literacy. Foundation to informatics study providing the theoretical framework for information management within various health care setting. Topics include an overview of health care information systems and applications and national health care information management initiatives.
- 6402 Health Care Information Systems and Technology Integration.** Three credits. Pre/Corequisite: NURS 6401. Corequisite: Instructor/advisor permission. Foundations of information system hardware and software interaction inclusive of the structure and function of networks and the Internet. Offers preparation for leading technology integration projects in practice. Additional topics will include computer hardware found in health care information systems, interface standards, and human-computer interaction such as ergonomics and workflow analysis.
- 6403 Project Management in Systems Analysis and Design of Health Care Management Systems.** Three credits. Prerequisite: NURS 6407. Explores project management concepts and skills related to the analysis and design of information systems. Topics include project management, systems lifecycle and solution design, vendor and system selection, and evaluating solutions against strategic objectives.
- 6404 Project Management in Systems Implementation and Evaluation.** Three credits. Prerequisite: NURS 6403. Explores project management concepts and skills related to the implementation and evaluation of information systems. Topics include project management, systems testing, implementation strategies, and solution evaluation.
- 6406 Health Care Data Analysis and Evidenced-based Practice.** Three credits. M.S.N. prerequisite: NURS 6002 and 6402. M.S. in Professional Science prerequisite: STAT 5140 and NURS 6402. Complex data analysis within the health care environment with

emphasis on health care practice outcomes for quality improvement. Principles of data collection, organization, statistical analysis, and interpretation presented. Data analysis used as a tool for problem identification and data mining.

- 6407 Informatics Applications I.** Two credits. Prerequisite: NURS 6402. Integrates informatics concepts with tools used in health care informatics practice. Topics include database design, concept mapping, workflow analysis, and solution modeling.
- 6409 Informatics Applications II.** Two credits. Prerequisite: NURS 6404. Integrates further informatics concepts with tools used in health care informatics practice. Topics include Web applications, Web site and media design, and data presentation.
- 6410 Informatics Practicum.** Four credits. Opportunity to gain informatics-related experiences in the health care setting. Students will complete a minimum of 200 hours in the clinical setting, functioning under the supervision of an informatics professional. Specific learning objectives developed based upon the clinical placement. Students eligible to write the ANCC certification exam following this course.
- 6522 Core Concepts in Critical Care - Part I.** Two to three credits. Focuses on the interrelatedness of major organ systems in health and disease. Physiology, pathophysiology, system failure, and clinical management integrated to provide advanced knowledge necessary to deliver care to critically ill patients. Includes cellular metabolism, the neurological system, the gastrointestinal system, and the hepatic system.
- 6523 Core Concepts in Critical Care - Part II.** Two to three credits. Focuses on the interrelatedness of major organ systems in health and disease. Physiology, pathophysiology, system failure, and clinical management integrated to provide advanced knowledge necessary to deliver care to critically ill patients. Includes the cardiovascular system, the hematologic system, and electrolyte balance.
- 6525 Electrocardiography for Critical Care Nurses.** Three credits. A systematic approach to the interpretation of cardiac dysrhythmias and 12-lead electrocardiographic abnormalities. Disturbances of automaticity and conductivity are summarized, including electrocardiographic characteristics, hemodynamic consequences, and therapeutic interventions of sinus, atrial, junctional, and ventricular arrhythmias and conduction abnormalities. An overview of 12-lead, 15-lead, and 18-lead electrocardiograms is presented as a foundation for recognizing abnormalities, such as myocardial infarction patterns and bundle branch blocks.
- 6991 Scholarly Synthesis in Informatics.** Three credits. Opportunity to synthesize informatics theory and skill into clinical practice. Students will complete a total of 200 clinical practice hours in health care facilities of their choice. Students will identify a specific project within the health care setting, identify learning objectives with the faculty and preceptor, implement the project, and then evaluate the project.