College of Nursing

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
Betty N. Adams, Dean

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF
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FACULTY
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Lillian Bernard, Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing
JoAnn P. Blake, Maternal Child Health Nursing
Ruth H. Caggins, Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing
Joyce Franklin-Cook, Family Nurse Practitioner
Jennifer Goodman, Medical Surgical Nursing
Celeste Hammock, Community Health/Occupational Health Nursing
Immaculata Igbo, Cardiovascular Pharmacology
Gloria Rose, Family Nurse Practitioner
Jeffrey T. Sherer, Clinical Pharmacology
Elsa Tansey, Public Health
Annie Wilson, Community Health Practice and Program Planning

PROGRAM HISTORY
The College of Nursing offers a Master’s of Science Degree in Nursing with a family nurse practitioner (FNP) specialty offering. The role of the advanced nurse practitioner in delivering primary health care to diverse clients residing in urban and/or rural communities is emphasized. The program is designed to be completed in five (5) semesters of full time study. A part-time study option is available. The total number of credits required is 53, which includes 780 hours of clinical practice. The curriculum consists of 12 semester hours of core content, 15 semester hours of advanced practice core content and 17 semester hours of family nurse practitioner specialty content. Clinical experiences occur in urban and rural settings.

The Master of Science Degree in Nursing program is organized to meet and/or exceed the requirements of regulatory agencies such as the following: the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, the Board of Nurse Examiners of Texas, the National League for Nursing, the National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculty, and the American Association of Colleges of Nursing. Graduates of the program are eligible to take a national certification.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES
The Master of Science Degree in Nursing will prepare the advanced practice nurse to:
1. Formulate health promotion and disease prevention strategies that empower clients to attain and maintain health and healthy lifestyles.
2. Interpret research findings to implement evidence based nursing outcomes.
3. Appraise nursing and non-nursing theories to use in advancing nursing practice.
4. Integrate ethical decision-making theories into professional practice.
5. Develop an appreciation for human diversity in all clients and health care environments.
6. Demonstrate knowledge of the policy making process as it influences self, the profession and health care system.
7. Apply knowledge and skills that are essential for advanced nursing practice in a variety of settings and the emerging health care system.
8. Incorporate professional values, accountability and responsibility into advanced nursing practice.
ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS
General policies relating to admission to the graduate study, advanced placement, progression, grievance and graduation can be found in the appropriate catalog sections. Also, students must meet the following requirements for admission to graduate study in the Prairie View A&M University College of Nursing:

1. 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).
2. Basic statistics course completed.
3. Basic course in health assessment completed.
4. Current licensure as a registered nurse in the State of Texas or application for licensure in progress.
5. Minimum Grade Point Average of 2.75 on a 4.0 scale in upper division nursing courses.
6. Official report of scores from the Graduate Record Examination (GRE).
7. Two years experience as a Professional Registered Nurse.
8. A letter of reference from each of the following: a former professor of nursing, an immediate supervisor in the most recent health care employment setting, and a registered nurse peer in the work place.

RETENTION AND PROGRESSION
Policies relating to retention and progression are congruent with the general regulations for graduate study and for national certifying organizations:

1. Grading System for Graduate Students
   
   A = 90-100  
   B = 81-89  
   C = 75-80  
   D = 65-74  
   F = below 65  
   I = Incomplete  
   W = Withdrawed officially

2. In order to show satisfactory progress toward an advanced degree, a student must maintain an average grade of “B”. A student who, in any two consecutive semesters or summer terms, has a cumulative grade point average below 3.00 is subject to academic dismissal upon recommendation of the Dean of the College of Nursing to the Dean of the Graduate School.

3. A grade of “B” must be obtained in Advanced Practice core courses (Advanced Pathophysiology, Advanced Pharmacology, Advanced Health Assessment) prior to progressing in the specialty practice courses.

4. Courses with grades of a “C” or below may be repeated only once.

5. A student can receive a grade of “I” (incomplete) in a course with the privilege of finishing the work before the end of one calendar year from the close of the term in which the grade was earned.

   This regulation does not apply to thesis and research credit courses but does apply to terminal project credit courses. A fee, payable to the registrar, is required for the change of grades.

6. An “IP,” in progress, is assigned to thesis and projects provided the student remains enrolled and makes satisfactory progress as certified by the committee chair, dean, and director of the graduate program. The time allotted for removal of the “IP” shall be the same as the maximum time for completion of a degree or certificate.

7. A student must complete requirements for the degree within six consecutive years after the first date of enrollment for graduate study.

8. A student who chooses to withdraw from the College of Nursing Graduate Program for any reason prior to the completion of a semester or summer term after having registered for classes is required to comply with the official withdrawal procedure as defined in the catalog section, “Withdrawal from a Course and from the University.”
GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES
A student who encounters problems arising from course matriculations, advancement to candidacy, degree requirements or general regulations should discuss them first with the advisor. If a student wishes to appeal a decision, the student should first present the grievance to the Dean who may refer the matter to an appeals panel for investigation and a recommended course of action. Appeals that move beyond the Dean, College of Nursing, should be referred to the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs who may refer the matter to the Director, Office of Graduate Programs.

MASTER OF SCIENCE DEGREE IN NURSING PROGRAM
Application for Graduation
To obtain the Master of Science Degree in Nursing from Prairie View A&M University, the student must have:
1. filed a degree plan with the graduate school;
2. successfully completed the semester credit hours of required course work with an average of “B” or above;
3. completed the required practicum with grades of “B” or better; and,
4. met all the general requirements for graduation as outlined in the Graduate Catalog.

DEGREE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS
Core Courses.........................................................................................................................12 SCH
NURS 5013 Theoretical Foundation of Nursing
NURS 5003 Transcultural Family Health Care in Rural and Urban Settings
NURS 5133 Clinical Research
NURS 5713 Health Policy

Advanced Practice Core Courses..........................................................................................15 SCH
NURS 5023 Advanced Pharmacology
NURS 5033 Advanced Pathophysiology
NURS 5042 Role Theory and Ethics in Advanced Practice Nursing
NURS 5214 Advanced Health Assessment with Practicum/Lab
NURS 5763 Financial Management in Advanced Nursing Practice
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Nurse Practitioner Specialty Core Courses...........................................................................17 SCH
NURS 5215 Primary Health Care for the Childbearing/Childrearing Family
NURS 5245 Primary Health Care for the Adult and Elderly
NURS 5257 Management of Complex Health Problems

*Electives...............................................................................................................................3 SCH
Select from:
NURS 5743 Writing for Publication
NURS 5753 HIV/AIDS Issues and Challenges
NURS 5983 Special Topics
NURS 5993 Independent Study

Non-Thesis Option..............................................................................................................6 SCH
NURS 5743 Writing for Publication
One Elective Course

Thesis Option.......................................................................................................................6 SCH
NURS 5803 Thesis: Proposal Writing
NURS 5903 Thesis

Total Degree Requirements.................................................................................................53 SCH
* Selected 5000 level or above courses from other programs may be accepted as electives with petition to and approval from the Program Director.