NURSING - PH.D.

College of Nursing
Henderson Hall
Kent Campus
330-672-7930
nursing@kent.edu
www.kent.edu/nursing

Description
The Ph.D. degree in Nursing prepares nurse scientists to develop methods to advance health, health care and the nursing profession. Graduates are expected to lead and promote innovative scholarly endeavors within and across disciplines, and to assume leadership roles in the profession.

The Ph.D. degree in Nursing is offered jointly between Kent State University and the University of Akron, which allows students the opportunity to take advantage of academic study, faculty and resources at both universities. Diploma and transcripts are issued from the university to which the student was admitted.

Fully Offered At:
• Kent Campus

Admission Requirements
• Active, unrestricted Ohio registered nurse license (international students need to show proof of legal ability to practice as a registered nurse in country of origin)
• Bachelor’s and master’s degrees in nursing, or a Doctor of Nursing Practice degree, from an accredited program
• Minimum overall 3.000 graduate GPA on a 4.000 point scale
• Official transcript(s)
• GRE scores (must be less than five years old at the time of application)
• Résumé or curriculum vitae
• Essay (two pages, single-spaced) addressing the following questions:
  • Why do you want to pursue a Ph.D. in nursing?
  • What are your professional goals?
  • How have you been involved in research, publications and professional presentations?
  • How have you been involved in professional organizations?
  • What are your research interests?
  • Why are you interested in these research areas?
  • How could research—and specifically your research—in these areas advance science?
• Sample of written work
• Three letters of reference from health care professionals or academic faculty members who can speak to the applicant’s professional and academic abilities (two of the three references from doctoral-prepared individuals are preferred)
• Interview
• English language proficiency - all international students must provide proof of English language proficiency (unless they meet specific exceptions) by earning one of the following: 1

1. Minimum 560 TOEFL PBT score (paper-based version)
2. Minimum 83 TOEFL IBT score (Internet-based version)
3. Minimum 78 MELAB score
4. Minimum 6.5 IELTS score
5. Minimum 55 PTE score

For more information about graduate admissions, please visit the Graduate Studies admission website. For more information on international admission, visit the Office of Global Education’s admission website.

A bachelor’s degree in a closely related health field may be considered if the applicant has a master’s degree in nursing or a D.N.P. degree from an accredited program. A master’s degree in a closely related field may be considered if the applicant has a bachelor’s degree in nursing from an accredited program.

International applicants who do not meet the above test scores may be considered for conditional admission.

Program Learning Outcomes
Graduates from this program will be able to:

1. Generate new knowledge that contributes to the advancement of health, health care and nursing science.
2. Disseminate advances in scientific knowledge.
3. Use collaborative, interdisciplinary and innovative approaches to knowledge generation.
4. Assume leadership roles in health care and education as researchers, educators and advanced clinicians.
5. Serve as stewards of the body of knowledge for the discipline of nursing.

Program Requirements

Major Requirements

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<th>Code</th>
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<th>Credit Hours</th>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 70705</td>
<td>FOUNDATIONS OF RESEARCH METHODS IN NURSING</td>
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<td>NURS 70710</td>
<td>HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY OF NURSING SCIENCE</td>
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<td>NURS 70715</td>
<td>THEORY CONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT IN NURSING</td>
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<td>NURS 70720</td>
<td>INTRODUCTION TO NURSING KNOWLEDGE DOMAINS</td>
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<td>NURS 70725</td>
<td>QUANTITATIVE RESEARCH METHODS IN NURSING</td>
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<td>NURS 70727</td>
<td>ADVANCED HEALTH CARE STATISTICS I</td>
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<td>NURS 70730</td>
<td>QUALITATIVE RESEARCH METHODS I</td>
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<td>NURS 70745</td>
<td>ADVANCED TOPICS IN QUANTITATIVE RESEARCH METHODS</td>
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<tr>
<td>or NURS 70747</td>
<td>ADVANCED METHODS FOR NURSING RESEARCH:APPLICATION OF QUANTITATIVE METHODS</td>
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<td>NURS 70751</td>
<td>NURSING SCIENCE SEMINAR I</td>
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NURS 70752  NURSING SCIENCE SEMINAR II  3
NURS 80199  DISSERTATION I  30
Cognate Areas  6
Minimum Total Credit Hours:  72

1 Advanced topic or method is selected with the approval of student’s advisor.
2 Each doctoral candidate, upon admission to candidacy, must register for NURS 80199 for a total of 30 credit hours. It is expected that a doctoral candidate will continuously register for Dissertation I, and thereafter NURS 80299, each semester, including summer, until all requirements for the degree have been met.
3 Cognate areas support the student’s research interest and are selected with the approval of the student’s academic advisor. Two courses are required, of which 3 credit hours must be from discipline outside of nursing, and 3 credit hours may be within or outside of nursing.

Candidacy Examination
At the conclusion of coursework, students sit for the candidacy examination. The examination provides the basis for evaluation of the student’s readiness for completing the dissertation. Students must successfully pass candidacy and a proposal defense before beginning dissertation work.

Graduation Requirements
• Minimum B grade in all courses.  
• Passage of the candidacy examination
• Submission and successful defense of a dissertation

1 If a course must be repeated, the student cannot take other courses that require that course as a prerequisite until the course is successfully retaken. If the student retakes the course and does not earn a minimum B grade, the student may be dismissed from the Ph.D. degree.