NURSING - PH.D.

College of Nursing
www.kent.edu/nursing

About This Program
Become a Leader in Nursing Research with Kent State’s Ph.D. Program. The Nursing Ph.D. program provides you with the opportunity to contribute to the field of nursing through research, scholarship and teaching. Read more...

Contact Information
• Student Services: Teresa Adams | tadams27@kent.edu | 330-672-8761
• Connect with an Admissions Counselor: U.S. Student | International Student

Program Delivery
• Delivery:
  • In person
• Location:
  • Kent Campus

Examples of Possible Careers and Salaries*
Nursing instructors and teachers, postsecondary
• 17.6% much faster than the average
• 72,900 number of jobs
• $75,470 potential earnings

* Source of occupation titles and labor data comes from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics’ Occupational Outlook Handbook. Data comprises projected percent change in employment over the next 10 years; nation-wide employment numbers; and the yearly median wage at which half of the workers in the occupation earned more than that amount and half earned less.

For more information about graduate admissions, visit the graduate admission website. For more information on international admissions, visit the international admission website.

Admission Requirements
• Active, unrestricted U.S. registered nurse license (international students need to show proof of legal ability to practice as a registered nurse in country of origin)
• Bachelor’s or master’s degree in nursing or related field, or a Doctor of Nursing Practice degree, from an accredited program1
• Minimum overall 3.000 graduate GPA on a 4.000-point scale
• Official transcript(s)
• 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?
• 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 doctorally-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:2
  • Minimum 560 TOEFL PBT score
  • Minimum 83 TOEFL IBT score
  • Minimum 78 MELAB score
  • Minimum 6.5 IELTS score
  • Minimum 55 PTE score
  • Minimum 110 Duolingo English score

1 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.

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

Application Deadlines
• Fall Semester
  • Priority deadline: March 1
• Spring Semester
  • Priority deadline: November 1
• Summer Term
  • Priority deadline: March 1

Applications submitted by these deadlines will receive the strongest consideration for admission.

Program Requirements
Major Requirements

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NURS 70753 DATA SCIENCE AND NURSING 3
NURS 70798 RESEARCH IN NURSING (taken twice) 2 3-5

Post-Baccalaureate Requirements
NURS 70716 INNOVATION AND INTERVENTION RESEARCH 3
NURS 70718 ROLES AND EVALUATION 3
NURS 70739 RESEARCH IN HEALTH DISPARITIES 3

Nursing Science Electives, choose from the following: 2 6-12
BSCI 70195 SPECIAL TOPICS IN BIOLOGY
BSCI 80145 MEDICAL GENOMICS
BST 73011 MULTIVARIATE ANALYSIS IN PUBLIC HEALTH
BST 83013 EXPERIMENTAL DESIGNS IN PUBLIC HEALTH RESEARCH
BST 83014 APPLIED REGRESSION ANALYSIS OF PUBLIC HEALTH DATA
CI 77001 FUNDAMENTALS OF CURRICULUM
COMM 75040 QUALITATIVE RESEARCH METHODS IN COMMUNICATION
CULT 89595 SPECIAL TOPICS IN CULTURAL FOUNDATIONS
EPI 83018 OBSERVATIONAL DESIGNS FOR CLINICAL RESEARCH
EPSY 75524 LEARNING THEORIES
HED 81550 APPLIED THEORY IN HEALTH EDUCATION RESEARCH AND PRACTICE
HED 84050 HEALTH BEHAVIOR
HPM 72015 EMERGING ISSUES IN PUBLIC HEALTH POLICY AND MANAGEMENT
PSYC 70326 CLINICAL ASPECTS OF HEALTH PSYCHOLOGY
PSYC 71307 PSYCHOBIOLOGICAL ASPECTS OF HEALTH PSYCHOLOGY
PSYC 80391 SEMINAR IN CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY
RMS 75522 BASICS OF QUALITATIVE INTERVIEWING
RMS 75533 INTRODUCTION TO NARRATIVE INQUIRY AND ANALYSIS
RMS 78715 SURVEY DESIGN AND APPLIED RESEARCH IN EDUCATION
RMS 78735 STRUCTURAL EQUATION MODELING
RMS 78745 HIERARCHICAL LINEAR MODELING
RMS 85520 MIXED METHODS RESEARCH
RMS 85540 GROUNDED THEORY AND PHENOMENOLOGICAL RESEARCH
RMS 85550 ETHNOGRAPHY AND CASE STUDY RESEARCH
SBS 73018 THEORIES OF PREVENTION SCIENCE
SBS 73019 METHODS OF PREVENTION SCIENCE
SBS 80030 CODING FOR QUALITATIVE RESEARCH
SBS 80040 TRANSCRIBING INDIVIDUAL AND GROUP INTERVIEWS FOR QUALITATIVE RESEARCH
SBS 80100 EMERGING ISSUES IN PREVENTION SCIENCE
SBS 83010 QUALITATIVE METHODS FOR PUBLIC HEALTH RESEARCH
SBS 83011 QUALITATIVE DATA ANALYSIS
SOC 72219 QUALITATIVE METHODS IN SOCIOLOGY
SOC 72221 ADVANCED QUALITATIVE METHODS IN SOCIOLOGY

Culminating Requirement
NURS 80199 DISSERTATION I 1 30

Minimum Total Credit Hours for Post-Baccalaureate Students 90
Minimum Total Credit Hours for Post-Master's Students 73

1 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, until all requirements for the degree have been met.
2 Elective courses support the student’s research interest and are selected with the approval of the student’s academic advisor. Two 3-credit hour doctoral-level courses will supplement the student’s program of study in a substantive area of research or specific method of research, including advanced statistical approaches, or assist the student with career goals following graduation.

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.

Progression Requirements
• Students who do not earn a minimum B grade in a course must repeat it and cannot take other courses that require that course as a prerequisite until the course is successfully retaken. Students who do not earn a minimum B grade in the second attempt may be dismissed from the Ph.D. degree.

Graduation Requirements
• Minimum B grade required in all courses to earn the Ph.D. degree.
• Passage of the candidacy examination
• Submission and successful defense of a dissertation

Students with a D.N.P. degree may receive permission to have coursework waived if supported by the appropriate and recent coursework; however, maximum 12 credit hours may transfer to the Ph.D.. The waiver of each prerequisite until the course is successfully retaken. Students who do not earn a minimum B grade in the second attempt may be dismissed from the Ph.D. degree.

Roadmap
This roadmap is a recommended semester-by-semester plan of study for this major. However, courses designated as critical (!) must be completed in the semester listed to ensure a timely graduation.

Semester One
NURS 70710 HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY OF NURSING SCIENCE 2
NURS 70711 SCIENTIFIC WRITING 2
NURS 70712 RESEARCH DESIGN FUNDAMENTALS 2
NURS 70713 ADVANCED STATISTICS I 2
Credit Hours 8

Semester Two
NURS 70715 THEORY CONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT IN NURSING 3
NURS 70740 ADVANCED STATISTICS II 3
NURS 70742 ADVANCED QUALITATIVE METHODS FOR HEALTH SCIENCES 4
Nursing - Ph.D.

NURS 70798 RESEARCH IN NURSING 2
Credit Hours 12

First Summer Term
NURS 70714 LEADERSHIP FOR NURSING SCIENCE 3
NURS 70716 INNOVATION AND INTERVENTION RESEARCH 3
Credit Hours 6

Semester Three
NURS 70741 ADVANCED STATISTICS III 3
NURS 70798 RESEARCH IN NURSING 3
Nursing Science Elective 3
Credit Hours 9

Semester Four
NURS 70718 ROLES AND EVALUATION 3
NURS 70739 RESEARCH IN HEALTH DISPARITIES 3
NURS 70753 DATA SCIENCE AND NURSING 3
Nursing Science Elective 3
Credit Hours 12

Second Summer Term
Nursing Science Elective 3
Credit Hours 3

Semester Five
NURS 70743 ADVANCED QUANTITATIVE METHODS FOR HEALTH SCIENCES 4
Nursing Science Elective 3
Credit Hours 7

Semester Six
NURS 70744 PROPOSAL DEVELOPMENT 3
Credit Hours 3

Semester Seven
NURS 80199 DISSERTATION I 15
Credit Hours 15

Semester Eight
NURS 80199 DISSERTATION I 15
Credit Hours 15

Minimum Total Credit Hours: 90

Program Learning Outcomes

Graduates of this program will be able to:

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

Full 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 interprofessional innovative scholarly endeavors and to assume leadership roles in the profession.