

Jefferson College of Health Sciences, Roanoke, VA

Master of Science in Nursing

Introduction

The purpose of the Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) program is to prepare nurses for leadership roles within healthcare organizations and clinical and academic education; to influence the provision of high quality healthcare; initiate and manage change; and contribute to improving nursing knowledge and practice.

The graduate program is built upon the foundation of baccalaureate education. Graduate nursing education provides an opportunity for professional nurses to develop specialty practice in the areas of education or management to meet the needs of an evolving healthcare delivery system. A common core of knowledge provides a foundation for nurses in education and management roles. This core includes the Essentials of Master's Education for Advanced Practice Nursing and the Institute of Medicine reports on health professions education. The MSN program at JCHS has two specialties: Nurse Clinician Educator and Nursing Systems Management.

In the Nurse Clinician Educator specialty, students analyze and apply theories of learning, engage in educational assessment and evaluation, develop innovations in curricular concepts, instructional theory, and methods to competently select and apply available educational technology when appropriate. Students develop expertise in health education and promotion, patient education, professional development and/or college teaching.

In the Nursing Systems Management specialty, students develop the knowledge and skills needed in an evolving healthcare environment. Students analyze and apply organization and leadership theory, develop expertise in the areas of personnel and financial management, quality improvement, and evidence-based practice. In addition, the student, through didactic and supervised practice, gains the competencies required to implement change within complex healthcare environments using collaborative, interdisciplinary teams.

Accreditation

The Master of Science in Nursing program is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (One DuPont Circle, NW, Suite 530, Washington, DC 20036. Phone: 202-887-6791).

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MSN Program Outcomes

Graduates of the Master of Science in Nursing program will be able to

1. analyze and integrate theories of education, leadership, nursing, and other disciplines to guide professional role development and nursing practice,
2. devise, implement, and evaluate policies, strategies, and models to promote health, prevent disease, and provide quality care,

3. model the use of ethical and legal principles to guide decision making in nursing practice and policy development,
4. integrate teaching and learning theories and research to design learning experiences that promote health, enhance practice, and foster role development,
5. provide leadership that ensures healthcare that reflects caring and regard for the dignity and diversity of others,
6. formulate and promote effective collaboration and communication strategies,
7. synthesize principles of leadership and management to improve healthcare, incorporating systems level planning and quality improvement practices,
8. integrate appropriate technology to improve practice, education, and management in healthcare systems,
9. contribute to nursing knowledge through the integration and application of research findings from nursing and related fields,
10. synthesize social, cultural, financial, legal, and political influences to identify opportunities to improve nursing practice, healthcare, and education, and
11. attain a level of scholarship congruent with professional role development and preparation for doctoral study,

Program of Study

The MSN Program of Study is designed to accommodate the needs of both full and part time adult professionals. A typical course meets on campus in a classroom setting 2-5 times during a semester. To reduce the number days that the student travels to campus, efforts are made to schedule course meetings for all courses on one day. The remainder of the course work is accomplished via distance education. Exceptions to this are the nursing residency courses. The student will work with assigned faculty throughout the entire semester to complete these requirements.

Master of Science in Nursing: Nursing Systems Management

Program of Study (36 credit hours)

The following is a sample plan of full time study, the actual order in which classes are taken may vary. A part time plan of study may be developed with a faculty advisor.

PREFIX COURSE TITLE CREDITS

Semester 1

NSG 502 Healthcare Systems and Policy 3

NSG 517 Quality Outcomes in Healthcare 3

NSG 549 Organizational Theory and Process 3

Total Credits: 9

Semester 2

IPE 509 Research and Evidence-Based Practice 3

NSG 506 Nursing Theory and Role Development 3

NSG 649 Organizational Planning and Marketing 3

Total Credits: 9

Semester 3

IPE 507 Ethical and Legal Practice in Healthcare 3

NSG 655 Financial Management of Healthcare 3

NSG 660 Human Resource Management 3

Total Credits: 9

Semester 4

NSG 665 Administrative Data and Information
Management 3

NSG 671C Administrative Residency 3

NSG 695 Master's Project 3

Total Credits: 9

Total Credits 36

Credits from Interprofessional

Education Courses:

6

Credits from Nursing Courses 30

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