
Nursing

In the College of Health and Human Services

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Faculty

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General Information

The School of Nursing offers a two-year graduate curriculum leading to the Master of Science degree in nursing.

Graduates of the program will be prepared to function as middle or executive-level nursing administrators, school nurses, nurse midwives clinical specialists, and/or nurse practitioners. There are three concentrations: Community Health Nursing, Advanced Practice Nursing of Adults and the Elderly, and Nursing Systems Administration. Students in the Community Health Nursing Concentration may specialize in Midwifery and OB/GYN Nurse Practitioner, or School Nursing. Students in Advanced Practice Nursing of Adults and the Elderly are prepared as adult/geriatric nurse practitioners and clinical nurse specialists and may specialize in Acute Care/Critical Care. The graduate program requires a minimum of 39 units. The program is designed for either full- or part-time study. All graduates of the program are prepared for beginning roles as nurse researchers and for further educational opportunities in doctoral studies.

A multitude of research opportunities are available to students in the program. The School of Nursing has clinical contracts with all of the leading research and clinical teaching health care agencies within the county. Furthermore, all graduate faculty are doctorally prepared, and students may have the opportunity to be involved in ongoing faculty research projects.

Application for Admission

Students applying for admission to the Master of Science degree in Nursing should submit an application to the School of Nursing and to the University. Applications for the School of Nursing and University are available at <http://nursing.sdsu.edu> and www.csumentor.edu.

Detailed instructions, including application procedures, accompany the School of Nursing application form.

Students for the Midwife and OB/GYN Nurse Practitioner and for the Advanced Practice Nursing of Adults and Elderly programs are admitted for fall semester only and applications must be received by January 15 for fall admission.

Students for all other programs are admitted in the fall and spring semesters of each year. All applicants must file an Application for Admission to the San Diego State University Office of Graduate Admissions and to the School of Nursing.

Admission to Graduate Study

In addition to the general requirements for admission to the University with classified graduate standing, as described in Part Two of this bulletin, a student must satisfy the following requirements before being recommended for admission to a program with classified standing:

1. Have a baccalaureate degree with a major in nursing from a program accredited by the National League for Nursing or Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education. Graduates from baccalaureate programs not having an upper division major in nursing or who have deficiencies will be considered on an individual basis and may be required to enroll in designated undergraduate courses and graduate courses beyond the minimum units necessary for advanced degrees.
2. Have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale in undergraduate upper division courses.
3. Must have satisfactory score on GRE General Test.
4. Have a California license to practice registered nursing.
5. Have a minimum of one year full-time nursing experience in a hospital, ambulatory care facility, or public health agency. For Midwife and OB/GYN Nurse Practitioner applicants, the experience must be in labor and delivery. For the Advanced Practice Nursing of Adults and Elderly, three years of related experience is highly recommended.
6. Have satisfactorily completed Nursing 500, Advanced Health Assessment and Health Promotion, or equivalent physical assessment in undergraduate program with a grade of C or better. (N.S.A. students are exempt from this requirement). Students in the School Nursing Specialization must also have satisfactorily completed Communicative Disorders 540, Hearing Conservation and Audiometry for School Nurses.
7. Have satisfactorily completed a course in statistics. (Statistics 250 or equivalent with a grade of C or better.)

8. Submit three letters of recommendation attesting to capability to do graduate work in nursing.
9. Submit a personal statement.

Conditional Admission

Students who do not satisfy all admission requirements to the School of Nursing may, with special consideration, be admitted in a conditionally classified graduate standing. At the deadline date specified on the conditional form (at time of acceptance), the faculty of the School of Nursing shall recommend to the graduate dean that the student:

1. Be disqualified from further study in the program, or
2. Be continued in conditionally classified status, or
3. Be granted full graduate classified standing.

Special Instructions

Students enrolled in the graduate program in nursing are required to provide their own professional liability insurance (minimum \$1,000,000) and transportation to off-campus health care agencies.

Advancement to Candidacy

All students must satisfy the general requirements for advancement to candidacy as described in Part Two of this bulletin. Students must satisfactorily complete all four core courses (Nursing 604A, 604B, 608, and 684) with a minimum grade point average of 3.0, and no less than a B- grade in each of the four core courses, and be recommended by the graduate faculty.

Specific Requirements for the Master of Science Degree

(Major Code: 12031)

In addition to meeting the requirements for classified graduate standing and the basic requirements for the master's degree, as described in Part Two of this bulletin, the student must complete an officially approved 39-54.06 unit course of study. The program includes:

1. Twelve units of core courses to include Nursing 604A, 604B, 608, and 684.
2. A minimum of 18-45.06 units of graduate courses in the area of concentration or specialization.
3. Zero to six units of electives.
4. Nursing 799A, Thesis, *OR* Plan B Option, Comprehensive Examination, Nursing 798.

Students in all concentrations may choose between Plan A, Thesis or Project, or Plan B, Comprehensive Examination. The choice of Plan A or Plan B should be made early in the program. Students should consult with the graduate adviser and the concentration chair for current policies. Up to 12 semester units may be accepted in transfer from an accredited School of Nursing.

Community Health Nursing Concentration

Required courses for the Master of Science degree with a concentration in community health nursing are as follows:

Core Courses

	<i>Units</i>
NURS 604A Theoretical and Research Bases of Nursing	3
NURS 604B Theoretical and Research Bases of Nursing	3
NURS 608 Nursing in the Health Care System	3
NURS 684 Information Systems for Nursing	3
	12

Area of Concentration Courses

	<i>Units</i>
PH 601 Epidemiology	3
NURS 630 Community Health Nursing Theory	3
NURS 631 Community Health Nursing Practicum	3
NURS 730 Advanced Community Health Nursing	3
NURS 732 Advanced Community Health Nursing Practicum	3
NURS 736 Seminar in Community Health Problems	3
	18
Electives:	6
NURS 799A Thesis <i>OR</i> NURS 798	3
	39

Specialization as a Midwife and OB/GYN Nurse Practitioner

Required courses for the collaborative San Diego State University and University of California, San Diego, School of Medicine, program of studies leading to a Master of Science degree with a specialization as an OB/GYN Nurse Practitioner/Nurse Midwife. Graduates meet all criteria for certification (licensure by examination) by the California Board of Registered Nursing (OB/GYN Nurse Practitioner, Nurse Midwife), Nurses Association of the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology (OB/GYN Nurse Practitioner), and the American College of Nurse Midwives (CNM).

Core Courses (SDSU)

	<i>Units</i>
NURS 604A Theoretical and Research Bases of Nursing	3
NURS 604B Theoretical and Research Bases of Nursing	3
NURS 608 Nursing in the Health Care System	3
NURS 684 Information Systems for Nursing	3
	12

Community Health Nursing Concentration Courses (SDSU)

	<i>Units</i>
NURS 630 Community Health Nursing Theory	3
NURS 634 Physiology of Pregnancy and Fetal Development	3
NURS 730 Advanced Community Health Nursing	3
PH 651A Legislation and Policy Affecting Women and Children's Health	3
	12

Area of Specialization Courses (UCSD) *

	<i>Quarter Units</i>
Fall Quarter	
N222A Principles of Nurse Midwifery	4
N240AC Family Primary Care 1C	3
N241A Collaborative Role Development	1
N404 Clinical Residency	6
Winter Quarter	
N222B Nurse Midwifery Management	4
N232 Pharmacology	3
N258C Psychosocial and Cultural Issues in Family Health	3
N404 Clinical Residency	6
Spring Quarter	
N222C Complex Problems	4
N241B Collaborative Role Development	1
N404 Clinical Residency	6
	27.06
NURS 799A Thesis <i>OR</i> NURS 798	3
	54.06

* Contact graduate adviser regarding this program.

Specialization as a Family Nurse Practitioner

No new students are being admitted to this program during the 2003-2004 academic year.

Required courses for the collaborative San Diego State University and University of California, San Diego, program of studies leading to a Master of Science degree with a specialization as a family nurse practitioner from San Diego State University and a Certificate as a Family Nurse Practitioner from the University of California, San Diego, School of Medicine are as follows:

Core Courses (SDSU)

	<i>Units</i>
NURS 604A Theoretical and Research Bases of Nursing	3
NURS 604B Theoretical and Research Bases of Nursing	3
NURS 608 Nursing in the Health Care System	3
NURS 684 Information Systems for Nursing	3
	12

Community Health Nursing Concentration Courses (SDSU)

	<i>Units</i>
NURS 610 Pathophysiology in Adults and the Elderly	3
NURS 630 Community Health Nursing Theory	3
NURS 730 Advanced Community Health Nursing	3
	9

Area of Specialization Courses (UCSD)

	<i>Quarter Units</i>
N 232 Pharmacology	3
N 240AC Family Primary Care I-Core	3
N 240AS Family Primary Care I-FNP Spec	2
N 240B Family Primary Care II	4
N 240C Family Primary Care III.	4
N 241A Collaborative Role Development A	1
N 241B Collaborative Role Development B	1
N 258C Psychosocial and Cultural Issues in Family Health	3
N 404 Clinical Residency.	6
N 404 Clinical Residency.	6
N 404 Clinical Residency.	6
	26.08
NURS 799A Thesis <i>OR</i> NURS 798	3
	Total Semester Units 50.08

Applicants to the Family Nurse Practitioner Specialization shall have completed Nursing 500 and 610, or equivalent course prior to beginning the UCSD specialization courses. Students accepted into the specialization have the option of taking Nursing PR 237 Health Assessment at UCSD.

Specialization in School Nursing

Students admitted to the School Nursing Specialization within the Community Health Nursing Concentration will pursue a program of studies leading to a Master of Science in Nursing degree and a School Nurse Services Credential. In addition to the Master of Science degree curriculum, to receive the School Nurse Services Credential, students must complete Nursing 500 and Communicative Disorders 540. Required courses are as follows:

Core Courses

	<i>Units</i>
NURS 604A Theoretical and Research Bases of Nursing	3
NURS 604B Theoretical and Research Bases of Nursing	3
NURS 608 Nursing in the Health Care System	3
NURS 684 Information Systems for Nursing	3
	12

Community Health Concentration Courses

	<i>Units</i>
NURS 630 Community Health Nursing Theory	3
NURS 631 Community Health Nursing Practicum	3
NURS 736 Seminar in Community Health Problems	3
PH 601 Epidemiology	3
	12

Area of Specialization Courses

	<i>Units</i>
NURS 670 School Nursing Management Practices.	3
NURS 672 Primary Health Care of the School Aged Child	3
NURS 674 Health Education for School Nurses	3
SPED 500 Human Exceptionality	3
	12
NURS 799A Thesis <i>OR</i> NURS 798.	3
	Total Units 39

Advanced Practice Nursing of Adults and the Elderly Concentration

(Nurse Practitioner and Clinical Nurse Specialist Preparation)

Specialization in Acute/Critical Care Nursing

All graduates meet requirements for nurse practitioner and clinical nurse specialist certification in California and are eligible to sit for select national certification examinations.

Required courses for the Master of Science degree with a concentration in advanced practice nursing of adults and the elderly and a specialization in acute/critical care nursing are as follows:

Core Courses

	<i>Units</i>
NURS 604A Theoretical and Research Bases of Nursing	3
NURS 604B Theoretical and Research Bases of Nursing	3
NURS 608 Nursing in the Health Care System	3
NURS 684 Information Systems for Nursing	3
	12

Advanced Practice Nursing of Adults and the Elderly Concentration Courses

	<i>Units</i>
NURS 500 Advanced Health Assessment and Health Promotion	4
NURS 610 Pathophysiology in Adults and the Elderly	3
NURS 654 Advanced Practice Nursing: Primary Care I	3
NURS 655 Advanced Practice Nursing: Primary Care Practicum I	6
NURS 656 Advanced Practice Nursing: Primary Care II	3
NURS 657 Advanced Practice Nursing: Primary Care Practicum II.	6
NURS 658 Clinical Pharmacology for Advanced Practice Nursing	2
Prescribed Electives: Three units selected with the approval of the concentration chair.	3
NURS 799A Thesis <i>OR</i> NURS 798.	3
	33

Area of Specialization Courses

	<i>Units</i>
NURS 751 Advanced Practice Nursing: Acute/Critical Care Theory and Technology	3
NURS 753 Advanced Practice Nursing: Acute and Critical Care Practicum	3
	6
	Total Units 51

Nursing Systems Administration Concentration

Required courses for the Master of Science degree with a concentration in nursing systems administration are as follows:

Core Courses		<i>Units</i>
NURS 604A	Theoretical and Research Bases of Nursing	3
NURS 604B	Theoretical and Research Bases of Nursing	3
NURS 608	Nursing in the Health Care System	3
NURS 684	Information Systems for Nursing	3
		12
Area of Concentration Courses		<i>Units</i>
NURS 620	Foundations of Nursing Administration Practice	3
NURS 622	Quality Improvement and Program Evaluation in Nursing Systems Organization	3
NURS 624	Nursing Care Systems and Personnel Management	3
NURS 724	Nursing Systems Administration Practicum	3
NURS 726	Advanced Nursing Systems Administration Practicum	3
NURS 797	Research	3
PH 645	Health Economics	3
PH 742B	Financing Health Systems and Services	3
		24
Electives	3
NURS 799A	Thesis <i>OR</i> NURS 798	3
		42

School Nurse Services Credential

(Credential Code: 00600)

San Diego State University offers curricula leading to the School Nurse Services Credential. This authorizes the holder to serve as a school nurse. For information concerning the credential, the student is referred to the School of Nursing office, HT-58.

The School Nurse Services Credential has been approved by the Commission on Teacher Credentialing.

All applicants seeking admission to the School Nurse Services Credential program must be admitted to the University and accepted as a classified postbaccalaureate student. Satisfactory completion of the program requires an overall GPA of 3.0 with individual course grades above 2.0.

Standards for Admission

1. Baccalaureate degree in nursing or related field (including community health nursing).
2. Current California Registered Nurse License.
3. Required admission and planning interview with program adviser.
4. Have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale in undergraduate upper division courses.
5. One year experience as a registered nurse within five years of application.
6. Undergraduate community health nursing course.

Program

The following program elements are required of all health services credential candidates: (31 units).

	<i>Units</i>	
NURS 500	Advanced Health Assessment and Health Promotion	4
NURS 670	School Nursing Management Practices	3
NURS 672	Primary Health Care of the School-Aged Child	3
NURS 674	Health Education for School Nurses	3
NURS 900	Current Concepts in Community Health Nursing	3
NURS 901	Family Health Theory and Nursing Practice	3
NURS 902	Primary Health Care School-Aged Child Practicum	3
C DIS 540	Hearing Conservation and Audiometry for School Nurses	3
SPED 500	Human Exceptionality	3
Electives:	Three units to be selected with approval of adviser.	

Courses Acceptable on Master's Degree Programs in Nursing (NURS)

UPPER DIVISION COURSES

500. Advanced Health Assessment and Health Promotion (4)

Three lectures and three hours of laboratory.
Prerequisite: Consent of graduate or credential adviser.
Physical and psychosocial assessment techniques, health promotion strategies for select populations.

596. Special Topics in Nursing (1-3)

Prerequisites: Completion of 30 upper division units in nursing or graduate status; 3.0 grade point average.

Selected topics in the practice of nursing. May be repeated with new content. See Class Schedule for specific content. Limit of nine units of any combination of 296, 496, 596 courses applicable to a bachelor's degree. Maximum credit of six units of 596 applicable to a bachelor's degree. Maximum credit of three units of 596 applicable to a master's degree. Maximum combined credit of six units of 596 and 696 applicable to a 30-unit master's degree.

GRADUATE COURSES

604A. Theoretical and Research Bases of Nursing (3)

Integration of theory and research in nursing. Focus on theory development, testing, and evaluation. Research process in nursing including design, analysis, and utilization for professional nursing practice. (Formerly numbered Nursing 604.)

604B. Theoretical and Research Bases of Nursing (3)

Prerequisite: Nursing 604A.
Integration of theory and research in nursing. Focus on research ethics, measurement, publishing, and grant writing in professional nursing practice.

608. Nursing in the Health Care System (3)

Nursing in a changing health care delivery system. Organizational, economic, political, and professional concepts relevant to design and delivery of nursing care.

610. Pathophysiology in Adults and the Elderly (3)

Prerequisite: Consent of graduate adviser.
Physiologic alterations associated with acute and chronic illness in adults and the elderly as a basis for primary prevention and medical and nursing interventions.

620. Foundations of Nursing Administration Practice (3)

Analysis of communication concepts appropriate to a variety of complex nursing and health care delivery systems.

622. Quality Improvement and Program Evaluation in Nursing Systems Organizations (3)

Evaluation theories and concepts within a nursing care delivery system and health care organization. Concepts of quality management, consistent with accreditation criteria and professional standards of practice.

624. Nursing Care Systems and Personnel Management (3)

Prerequisites: Nursing 604A and 608.

Issues related to personnel resources, staff development, staff utilization and collective bargaining in health care agencies and nursing care systems.

630. Community Health Nursing Theory (3)

Prerequisite: Nursing 604A.

Family and systems theory, group dynamics, change process, application of ethnoscience to nursing process in the community setting.

631. Community Health Nursing Practicum (3)

Nine hours per week.

Prerequisite: Concurrent registration in Nursing 630.

Experience working with individuals and families of a selected community group applying theoretical knowledge within framework of nursing process.

634. Physiology of Pregnancy and Fetal Development (3)

Prerequisite: Nursing 604A.

Analysis of physiologic alterations during pregnancy and fetal development as a basis for advanced health assessment and interventions in the childbearing population.

654. Advanced Practice Nursing: Primary Care I (3)

Prerequisites: Nursing 500, 604A, 610, 684. Concurrent registration in Nursing 655.

Primary care management of adults and elderly with acute and chronic health problems. Role of advanced practice nursing in health promotion and treatment of illness in primary care and specialized settings.

655. Advanced Practice Nursing: Primary Care Practicum I (6)

Eighteen hours of laboratory per week.

Prerequisite: Concurrent registration in Nursing 654.

Supervised clinical experiences providing primary care to adults and elderly in diverse clinical settings.

656. Advanced Practice Nursing: Primary Care II (3)

Prerequisites: Nursing 654 and 655. Concurrent registration in Nursing 657.

Primary care management of adults and elderly with acute and chronic health problems. Contemporary role and psychosocial issues in advanced practice nursing of adults and elderly.

657. Advanced Practice Nursing: Primary Care Practicum II (6)

Eighteen hours of laboratory per week.

Prerequisites: Nursing 654 and 655. Concurrent registration in Nursing 656.

Supervised clinical experiences providing primary care to adults and elderly in diverse clinical settings.

658. Clinical Pharmacology for Advanced Practice Nursing (2)

Prerequisite: Consent of graduate adviser.

Pharmacologic knowledge and skills needed to manage drug therapy in various clinical settings. Emphasis on factors affecting drug selection; parameters to be monitored to determine drug effectiveness; rationale for continuing, modifying or discontinuing drug therapy.

670. School Nursing Management Practices (3)

Prerequisite: Admission to master's degree program in nursing or health services credential.

Management of school health services program; designed for school nurse with emphasis on professional and organizational systems.

672. Primary Health Care of the School Aged Child (3)

Prerequisite: Nursing 500.

Primary health care of the child and adolescent with emphasis on common health problems, chronic illness, drugs, behavioral problems, and the battered child.

674. Health Education for School Nurses (3)

Prerequisite: Nursing 672.

Prepares school nurse to be an active participant in school health education with emphasis on planning and presentation of health instructional material focused on disease prevention and health promotion.

684. Information Systems for Nursing (3)

Two lectures and three hours of laboratory.

Information systems and information management in all aspects of nursing practice including client care, administration, research and education. Ethics of computer use and influence of information technology on client care. User skills.

696. Seminar in Selected Topics in Nursing (1-3)

Intensive study in specific areas of nursing. May be repeated with new content. See Class Schedule for specific content. Maximum credit three units applicable to a master's degree. Maximum combined credit of six units of 596 and 696 applicable to a 30-unit master's degree.

724. Nursing Systems Administration Practicum (3)

Nine hours of laboratory.

Prerequisites: Nursing 622 and concurrent registration in Nursing 624.

Provides observation and guided administrative experience specific to the role and function of the first level nurse manager in a selected health care system. Needs and individual objectives of the student are integrated into the experience.

726. Advanced Nursing Systems Administration Practicum (3)

Nine hours of laboratory.

Prerequisite: Nursing 724.

Provides observation and guided administrative experience specific to the role and function of the executive level manager in a selected health care system. Individual needs and objectives of the student are integrated into the experience.

730. Advanced Community Health Nursing (3)

Prerequisite: Nursing 630.

Nursing assessment and analysis of community characteristics, including social, cultural and economic factors. Design of programs which meet the needs of particular ethnic groups and health aggregates for health promotion and disease prevention.

732. Advanced Community Health Nursing Practicum (3)

Prerequisite: Concurrent registration in Nursing 730.

Leadership role and planning function of a community health nurse specialist in a selected community setting.

736. Seminar in Community Health Problems (3)

Prerequisite: Advancement to candidacy in health related disciplines

Interdisciplinary analysis of community based health practice problems.

751. Advanced Practice Nursing: Acute/Critical Care Theory and Technology (3)

Prerequisites: Nursing 656 and 657. Concurrent registration in Nursing 753.

Role of advanced practice nurse in acute/critical care settings. Problems and interventions with acutely and critically ill adults and elderly. Emphasis on research-based interventions, psychosocial responses, standards of practice, expanding technologies, and continuation of care to the home.

753. Advanced Practice Nursing: Acute and Critical Care Practicum (3)

Nine hours of laboratory.

Prerequisite: Concurrent registration in Nursing 751.

Care management activities of acute and critical care advanced practice nurse: research-based care of select adult and elderly clients and families; consultation in coordination of client care; interdisciplinary collaboration; evaluation of care based on standards of practice.

797. Research (1-3) Cr/NC/RP

Prerequisite: Advancement to candidacy.

Independent research in a specialized subject. Maximum six units applicable to a master's degree.

798. Special Study (1-3) Cr/NC/RP

Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

Independent study. Maximum credit six units applicable to a master's degree. For students using Plan B, Comprehensive Examination is limited to three units.

799A. Thesis (3) Cr/NC/RP

Prerequisite: An officially appointed thesis committee and advancement to candidacy.

Preparation of a project or thesis for the master's degree.

799B. Thesis Extension (0) Cr/NC

Prerequisite: Prior registration in Thesis 799A with an assigned grade symbol of RP.

Registration required in any semester or term following assignment of RP in Course 799A, in which the student expects to use the facilities and resources of the University. Also student must be registered in the course when the completed thesis is granted final approval.

900. Current Concepts in Community Health Nursing (3)

Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

Contemporary roles of community health nurse. Appropriate use of community resources for program development, strategies for inter-agency communication, networking, ethnic issues, family and systems theory, and major stressors affecting school community and families of the school-aged child and adolescent.

901. Family Health Theory and Nursing Practice (3)

Prerequisite: Admission to health services credential program and Nursing 900.

Nursing interventions within the school setting for complex families with school-aged children and adolescents.

902. Primary Health Care of School-Aged Child Practicum (3)

Twelve hours of practicum.

Prerequisites: Nursing 500 and 672.

Application of theory to a select population of school-aged children and adolescents. Provides direct experience in clinical nursing management of common health problems and developmental disabilities.

