

## Official Program Outline



**HERZING**<sup>®</sup>  
— UNIVERSITY —

### **MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING-DIRECT ENTRY (MSNDE)**

#### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

The Master of Science in Nursing program with a direct entry pathway prepares students who have earned a non-nursing baccalaureate degree to obtain a registered nurse license and practice as an MSN nurse generalist in a variety of settings once state licensure is attained. The program focuses on care for patients across the lifespan and in diverse environments. Learning will include didactic, simulation, laboratory, and clinical learning opportunities. The program emphasizes the use of innovative technologies and preparation for assuming leadership roles. Clinical opportunities will provide the students to become an effective member of the interprofessional healthcare team through practice experiences that provide direct patient care in diverse areas.

#### **PROGRAM OUTCOMES**

Upon completion of their program, the student should be able to:

1. Prioritize patient-centered care using clinical judgment and the nursing process. (Knowledge for Nursing Practice, Person-Centered Care)
2. Collaborate with patients, families and team members to provide safe and culturally competent care. (Population Health, Quality and Safety)
3. Integrate evidence-based practice within diverse clinical settings to deliver optimal care. (Scholarship, Systems-Based Practice)
4. Minimize risk of harm to patients and providers through both systems effectiveness and individual performance. (Quality and Safety)
5. Use informational technology to communicate, mitigate error, support decision making, and manage patient care. (Informatics and Healthcare Technologies)
6. Evaluate quality improvement processes to enhance patient outcomes. (Quality and Safety)
7. Integrate professionalism and advanced leadership skills within the interdisciplinary healthcare environment. (Interprofessional Partnerships, Professionalism, Personal, Professional, and Leadership Development)
8. Analyze national and global policies, legislative concepts, and economics to address population outcomes. (Professionalism)

#### **POTENTIAL OCCUPATIONAL TITLES**

Potential occupational titles for this program include, but are not limited to, registered nurse.

#### **PROGRAM CONTENT**

A minimum of 60.00 semester credit hours is required.

- A minimum of 77.00 semester credit hours is required for students who have not met the undergraduate pre-requisite core courses.

#### **THIRD PARTY TESTING**

Assessment and remediation are critical components of nursing education. Students in the nursing program may

be required to take third-party, standardized, proctored exams in an electronic format throughout the curriculum. Students may be required to go to a third-party testing site to complete exams. Standardized tests are valid and reliable predictors of success on the NCLEX examination and provide valuable feedback concerning student strengths and weaknesses. Student learning outcome data identifies content areas that require remediation, allowing faculty to personalize student support and intervention. Courses that utilize third-party exams will incorporate the points earned on the test as a percentage of the final grade earned for the course as specified in the course syllabus.

### **MSNDE Nursing Curriculum Progression Milestone Exams and Policy**

The purpose of the nursing progression milestone exams and policy is to ensure preparation of the student for the NCLEX exam. This process validates knowledge acquisition and application through standardized, third-party exams. Students will be required to complete three progression milestone exams at key points in the curriculum as well as an exit exam during the final semester. Each progression milestone exam is a comprehensive assessment of all content covered in the program up to exam administration.

**Progression Milestone exam #1** is administered after or while completing NSG520, NSG521, NSG 522.

**Progression Milestone exam #2** is administered after or while completing NSG526, NSG527, NSG528.

**Progression Milestone exam #3** is a Pharmacology exam and will be administered during the semester prior to NSG632 and NSG635.

If the \*benchmark score on the first formal attempt is not attained, a plan for remediation will be developed in collaboration with the faculty/program chair/NCLEX coach and a second attempt will be provided.

If the student is below the \*benchmark score on the second attempt, the student cannot enroll in the next semester clinical courses. The student will be enrolled in any outstanding general education courses as well as a nursing remediation course to provide remediation of content. At the end of the 8-week remediation course, students will be provided a final attempt to demonstrate competency.

**Students who are successful on the final retake exam will be rescheduled by Registrar Services**

**Students who are unsuccessful on the final retake exam will be dismissed from the nursing program and provided advisement on alternative program pathways.**

### **RN Exit Exam**

The exit exam will cover content from all nursing courses, is reflective of NCLEX readiness and is administered in the final semester. Students will take practice assessments during the NSG635 course, in conjunction with individualized remediation and completion of assignments focused on NCLEX readiness. This is followed by a final exit exam. Students who are unable to reach the \*benchmark score on the exit exam will receive an Incomplete (I) grade for their NSG 635 course and will be required to successfully reach this benchmark on the final exit exam by the second week of the subsequent semester to resolve the (I) grade.

If they are unable to resolve the (I) grade by the second week of the subsequent semester, the grade will convert to an (F) grade and the student will be placed on “Approved Break” for the remainder of the semester, during which time they must remain actively engaged in formal remediation. This will cause a delay in program completion and graduation. Students should discuss the implications of being on “Approved Break” with their financial aid advisor.

*\*Threshold benchmark scores required to pass the milestone or exit exams are based upon national student performance data and may be changed at any time by the university.*

## DOSAGE CALULCATION EXAMS

Dosage calculation exams are required at multiple points throughout the program. A student who is unable to pass any of the exams will not be allowed to progress without completion of remediation and demonstration of competency as evidenced by reaching the required score on a final dosage calculation exam attempt.

## REQUIRED UNDERGRADUATE PRE-REQUISITE CORE COURSES

17.00 semester credit hours are required.

The following courses, or the equivalent, must be successfully completed prior to entry in the core nursing courses:

Course Number	Course Name	Prerequisites/Corequisites	Semester Credit Hours
MA 320	Statistics	MA 109	3.00
SC 154	Anatomy and Physiology I for Nurses		4.00
SC 166	Microbiology		3.00
SC 186	Chemistry		3.00
SC 254	Anatomy and Physiology II for Nurses	SC 154	4.00

Note: Students must earn a "B" or better in both the SC 154 Anatomy and Physiology I for Nurses and SC 254 Anatomy and Physiology II for Nurses courses.

## REQUIRED COURSES IN NURSING

60.00 semester credit hours are required.

Course Number	Course Name	Prerequisites/Corequisites	Semester Credit Hours
NSG 520	Pathophysiology & Pharmacology		4.00
NSG 521	Fundamental Concepts & Health Assessment	/NSG522	5.00
NSG 522	Clinical I	/NSG 521	2.00
NSG 523	Medical Surgical Nursing I	NSG 520, NSG 521, NSG 522/NSG 525	4.00
NSG 524	Mental Health Nursing	NSG 520, NSG 521, NSG 522/NSG 525	3.00
NSG 525	Clinical II	NSG 520, NSG 521, NSG 522/NSG 523, NSG 524	3.00
NSG 526	Family Nursing	NSG 523, NSG 524, NSG 525/NSG 528	4.00
NSG 527	Medical-Surgical Nursing II	NSG 523, NSG 524, NSG 525/NSG 528	5.00
NSG 528	Clinical III	NSG 523, NSG 524, NSG 525/NSG 526, NSG 527	3.00
NSG 621	Clinical IV	NSG 526, NSG 527, NSG 528	3.00
NSG 625	Nursing Informatics and Healthcare Technology		3.00
NSG 630	Leadership	NSG 680	3.00
NSG 631	Synthesis I	NSG 526, NSG 527, NSG 528	3.00

Course Number	Course Name	Prerequisites/Corequisites	Semester Credit Hours
NSG 632	Synthesis II	NSG 526, NSG 527, NSG 528, NSG 621, NSG 631/NSG 635	2.00
NSG 633	Safety and Quality		3.00
NSG 635	Integration of Concepts	NSG 526, NSG 527, NSG 528, NSG 621, NSG 631/NSG 632	3.00
NSG 660	Scholarly Practice		3.00
NSG 680	Population Health	NSG 660	4.00

Distribution of Contact Hours by Course					
Course or Category	Lecture	Lab	Clinical	Total Contact Hours	Credits
Undergraduate Pre-Requisites, or Equivalent					
MA 320	45.00			45.00	3.00
SC 154	45.00	30.00		75.00	4.00
SC 166	30.00	30.00		60.00	3.00
SC 186	30.00	30.00		60.00	3.00
SC 254	45.00	30.00		75.00	4.00
Nursing Courses					
NSG 521	75.00			75.00	5.00
NSG520	60.00			60.00	4.00
NSG 522		45.00	45.00	90.00	2.00
NSG 660	45.00			45.00	3.00
NSG 523	60.00			60.00	4.00
NSG 524	45.00			45.00	3.00
NSG 525			135.00	135.00	3.00
NSG 633	45.00			45.00	3.00
NSG 526	60.00			60.00	4.00
NSG 527	75.00			75.00	5.00
NSG 528			135.00	135.00	3.00
NSG 625	45.00			45.00	3.00
NSG 625			135.00	135.00	3.00
NSG 680	60.00			60.00	4.00
NSG 631	30.00		45.00	75.00	3.00
NSG 632			90.00	90.00	2.00
NSG 635	45.00			45.00	3.00
NSG 630	45.00			45.00	3.00
<b>Totals</b>	<b>885.00</b>	<b>165.00</b>	<b>585.00</b>	<b>1635.00</b>	<b>77.00</b>