

**Master of Science in Nursing (MSN)**

Welcome to the Master of Science in nursing program, a part of the Department of Nursing at Southeast Missouri State University. The MSN degree offers a family nurse practitioner (FNP) option and, with sufficient enrollment, a Nurse Educator option.

The University's graduate nursing program is the only graduate nursing program physically located in the region and focuses on the assessment, management, and delivery of health care services to individuals and families across the lifespan. Particular emphasis is directed to health care needs of underserved populations in rural areas. The program is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education.

The MSN program prepares graduates for the delivery of advanced nursing care and for critical investigation, integration, and synthesis of scientific knowledge in advanced nursing practice. MSN preparation provides a foundation for doctoral study.

\*Admission Deadline for each Fall Semester is April 1\*

**Becoming Career Ready...**

/Students become prepared at the master's level within the discipline of nursing as well as receive preparation in an advanced nursing role as a family nurse practitioner or a nurse educator.

/Students are exposed to a variety of teaching modalities including face-to-face instruction, completely online instruction, and heavily blended delivery of instruction.

/Students are expected to complete hands-on experiences in a variety of settings with experienced preceptors in preparation for the family nurse practitioner or nurse educator role.

/Students are eligible, upon graduation within the FNP option, to register for a national certification examination for family nurse practitioners OR upon graduation within the Nurse Educator option and with pre-requisite post-graduation experience, to register for a national certification examination for nurse educators.

/Students learn how to use information systems and technology to enhance the delivery of health care.

**Career Planning**

Southeast graduates of the Family Nurse Practitioner option have a 97% first-time pass rate on the American Nurse Credentialing Center's Family Nurse Practitioner Certification Examination, a nationally normed examination pre-requisite to being recognized or licensed by most State Boards of Nursing in an advanced practice role.

Employment placement for MSN graduates is nearly 100% within the first six months post-graduation.

**Employment Opportunities for MSN Graduates as Appropriate to the Family Nurse Practitioner or Nurse Educator**

- Faculty of Schools of Nursing.
- Ambulatory Practice Sites.
- Community-based Health Centers.
- Rural Health Clinics.
- Day & Home Care Programs.
- Extended Care Facilities.
- Federal Government Agencies.
- Federally-Qualified Health Centers.
- Health Departments.
- Long-term Care Facilities.
- Non-profit Organizations.
- Homeless Shelters.
- Private/For-profit Organizations.
- Nursing Staff Development Programs.

**Admission Requirements**

1. A baccalaureate degree with an upper division major in nursing from a program accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) or the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE)
2. A minimum GPA of 3.25 on a 4.0 scale
3. Current licensure as a registered professional nurse that allows practice within the state of Missouri
4. A grade of 'B' or higher in a course in health assessment or demonstrated proficiency in health assessment which includes physical examination and history taking
5. A grade of 'B' or higher in an introductory course in statistics (graduate or undergraduate)
6. Current CPR (professional level) certification
7. Statement of academic goals and objectives for graduate study/advanced practice
8. Clinical experience as a registered nurse prior to admission is strongly recommended

Note: Continuation into the family nurse practitioner clinical course NS638 requires an exam average of 80% or higher in NS636, NS625, NS628, and a grade of "B" (80%) or better in NS629, and seat availability. In addition, an exam average of 80% or higher is required for NS638 and NS648, and a grade of "B" (80%) or better is required for NS637 and NS647 Clinical Role Practicum.

**Special Options with Major**

Special course fees are required for this program of study.  
[semo.edu/sfs/fee-schedule](http://semo.edu/sfs/fee-schedule)

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This is a guide based on the 2020-2021 Graduate Bulletin and is subject to change. The time it takes to earn a degree will vary based on factors such as dual enrollment, remediation, and summer enrollment. Students routinely meet with an academic advisor and use Degree Works to monitor their progress.

**CURRICULUM CHECKLIST****Nursing Major – 41-43 hours****Core Requirements:**

- NS601 Informatics for Advanced Nursing Roles (3)
- NS602 Quality and Safety in Advanced Nursing Roles (3)
- NS603 Organizational & System Leadership for Advanced Nursing Roles (3)
- NS604 Evidence-Based Practice: Synthesis and Translation (3)
- NS610 Policy, Politics, and Advocacy in Advanced Nursing Roles (3)
- NS625 Advanced Pharmacology (4)
- NS627 Advanced Health Assessment Practicum (0.5)
- NS628 Advanced Health Assessment (3.5)
- NS636 Advanced Pathophysiology (4)
- NS642 Advanced Roles Seminar I (1)
- NS645 Advanced Roles Seminar II (1)

**Choose one option:****Family Nurse Practitioner Option - 14 Hours**

- NS637 Primary Care I Practicum (4)
- NS638 Primary Care I (3)\*
- NS647 Primary Care II Practicum (4)
- NS648 Primary Care II (3)

*\*Requires an exam average of 80% or higher in NS625, NS628, NS636, NS638 and NS648. Requires a minimum grade of B in NS627, NS637, and NS647.*

**Nurse Educator Option - 12 Hours**

- NS635 Nurse Educator Practicum (3)
- NS641 Internship (1)
- NS643 Advanced Nursing Roles I (4)
- NS644 Advanced Nursing Roles II (4)

**Choose one capstone experience:****Non-Thesis Option:**

- MSN Portfolio (0)
- GR698 Comprehensive Written Examination (0)

**Thesis Option:**

- NS694 Thesis (3)
- GR699 Comprehensive Oral Examination (0)

**Degree Requirements**

The MSN curricula are hybrid curricula with courses delivered in heavily blended formats (75-99% of course content online), completely online formats, and face-to-face formats.

The 5-semester FNP Option starts in the fall semester and includes one summer semester with total semester course load varying from 7-10 credit hours per semester. The 7-semester Nurse Educator Option starts in the fall semester and includes two summer semesters with total semester course loads varying from 1-10 credit hours per semester.

A total of 43 credit hours plus successful completion of a capstone experience is required for the Master of Science in Nursing degree within the Family Nurse Practitioner Option. A total of 41 credit hours plus successful completion of a capstone experience is required for the Master of Science in Nursing degree within the Nurse Educator Option.

In the 8.5 clinical credit hours embedded within the total (43) for the FNP Option, students complete 765 clock hours of clinical experiences. In the 6.5 clinical credit hours embedded within the total (41) for the Nurse Educator Option, students complete 585 clock hours of clinical experiences.

Should a student drop from the program for any reason, re-admission or continuation is based upon seat availability.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to meet with the Department of Nursing's Director of Graduate Studies to learn more about the MSN Program and to ask any questions that they may have. Appointments may be made via telephone (573.986.6413) or by email [mtanz@semo.edu](mailto:mtanz@semo.edu).

Additional information may also be found on the MSN web page: <http://semo.edu/nursing/msn/index.html>