

Master of Science in Nursing



THE UNIVERSITY
OF TAMPA

Master of Science in Nursing

- Family Nurse Practitioner
- Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner

UT's Department of Nursing prepares advanced practice nurses for roles as primary care providers. Opportunities in a variety of settings strategically position nurse practitioners to enhance access to excellent health care for all. The program's nursing paradigm emphasizes the importance of holistic assessment, cultural congruency and consumer inclusion and collaboration in health care planning and delivery. The department also offers an online Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP).

A Degree in High Demand

Nursing is one of today's fastest-growing fields. The Bureau of Labor Statistics reports a 45 percent increase in new positions for advanced practice registered nurses by 2029. As the nation's health care system undergoes a period of rapid change, nurse practitioners will be in increasing demand as primary care providers and clinical leaders.

The University of Tampa's Department of Nursing is committed to helping meet this demand through its esteemed graduate nursing program. Designed for students who possess current licensure as registered nurses in the state of Florida, the MSN program offers two concentrations: family nurse practitioner and adult-gerontology primary care nurse practitioner. The in-depth curriculum emphasizes clinical experience, critical thinking and leadership. Small classes

promote active learning. Students benefit from individualized attention from faculty and close interactions with their peers. A high priority is placed on the mentoring role of faculty, who are recognized internationally for their expertise and contributions. They enjoy collaborative relationships with experts in numerous health disciplines, providing MSN students and alumni with access to a valuable professional network.

Experienced preceptors assist students in fine-tuning essential skills for clinical practice. Preceptors are actively engaged in community practice settings and provide real-world lessons and advice about the scope of practice available to graduates. Students are prepared for a variety of primary care and clinical management roles as nurse practitioners.

Ranked Among the Best in the U.S.

UT MSN program was ranked among the best programs in the country in the 2023-2024 edition of "Best Graduate Schools" by U.S. News and World Report. Rankings are based on faculty resources, research activity, quality assessment, student selectivity and master's program size.

Clinical Affiliations

UT's Department of Nursing maintains formal affiliations with more than 200 Tampa Bay area health care facilities, providing students with expanded educational experiences and broad clinical exposure.

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FACULTY highlights



Susan Berg, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC
Graduate program director/associate professor

Graduate nursing program director Susan Berg is a family nurse practitioner with expertise in ear, nose and throat disorders, clinical procedures, urgent care and gerontology. Courses she teaches include Clinical Pharmacology, Genomics and APN Clinical Practice, Primary Care Procedures and Introduction to Pathophysiology.



Romuald Delacroix, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC
associate professor

Romuald Delacroix is a primary care family nurse practitioner who has worked in various clinical settings including family primary care practice, urgent care, addiction medicine and jail. His areas of research include second victim phenomena, medical errors, addiction medicine and care of incarcerated patients.

Admission Guidelines

Students can be admitted as full degree seeking status or pre-MSN status.

Full degree seeking admission

- Bachelor's degree in nursing
- Current Florida RN license
- 3.0 GPA
- Applicants must meet one of the following requirements:
 - Earn a minimum total score of 300 or higher on the GRE and 4.0 on the analytical writing section OR
 - Complete NUR 600 Scholarly and Professional Communication in Nursing (can be taken as part of the program if admitted)

- Required courses completed with a "B" or better:
 - General statistics course
 - NUR 415 Nursing Leadership and Management
 - NUR 432 Introduction to Nursing Research

Pre-MSN admission

- Bachelor's degree in an area other than nursing
- Current Florida RN license
- 3.0 GPA
- Applicants must meet one of the following requirements:
 - Earn a minimum total score of 300 or higher on the GRE and 4.0 on the analytical writing section OR
 - Complete NUR 600 Scholarly and Professional Communication in Nursing (can be taken as part of the program if admitted)
- Five prerequisite courses are required prior to starting the graduate-level curriculum. Students may complete these at another university with director permission. Required courses (completed with a "B" for better):
 - General statistics course
 - NUR 322 Contemporary Issues in Health Care

-NUR 415 Nursing Leadership and Management

-NUR 422 Principles in Community Health

-NUR 432 Introduction to Nursing Research

Post-master's admission

A student with a previously earned MSN may apply for admission to the post-master's program to complete requirements for the adult-gerontology primary care nurse practitioner or family nurse practitioner concentrations. Courses taken more than seven years prior to admission will not be applied toward the post-master's certificate.

Application requirements

- Application form and fee
- Copy of current Florida RN license
- Official transcripts from each university or college attended
- Two professional or academic references
- Professional résumé
- Personal statement
- A minimum of one year direct patient care experience within the past five years
- International applicants must submit scores for the TOEFL or IELTS if English is not their native language

Required upon admission

- Proof of current Florida RN licensure
- Proof of liability insurance coverage at the advanced practice level
- Proof of current BLS certification
- A physical exam and proof of current immunizations
- Results of T.B. skin test or chest X-ray
- Official background check

Transfer credit policy

A maximum of 9 graduate-level credit hours may be taken at other regionally accredited institutions. No credits taken more than seven years prior to application will be accepted.

Preparation for Advanced Practice

Clinical Resources

The University's active role within the community ensures expanded educational experiences in a wide range of clinical settings. UT nursing students benefit from formal affiliations with more than 200 clinical agencies and practices.

An advisory board of community leaders assists the Department of Nursing with the planning and evaluation of UT's nursing programs. Members represent agencies in the community, educational institutions, and nursing organizations. Input and feedback from employers of UT graduates help to invigorate the curriculum and to provide opportunity for enhancement and expansion to meet the needs of the community.



Transcultural Health Care

MSN students have the opportunity to participate in international travel courses led by the Department of Nursing to places like Ghana (shown above), Costa Rica and the Dominican Republic. Students conduct patient consultations with local providers and assist with diagnosing and creating treatment plans for diseases such as malaria and typhoid.

MSN Curriculum

Core Nursing Courses

NUR 600 Scholarly and Professional Communication in Nursing

NUR 601 Professional Issues and the Nurse Practitioner

NUR 618 Advanced Health Assessment and Clinical Reasoning

NUR 618/L Advanced Health Assessment and Lab

NUR 620 Knowledge Generation and Validation in Advanced Practice

NUR 645 Clinical Pharmacology

NUR 647 Health Promotion and Disease Prevention for Families and Communities

NUR 655 Advanced Pathophysiology

Clinical Courses:

NUR 677 Healthcare Management of the Adult Client

NUR 687 Healthcare Management of Infants, Children and Adolescents

NUR 682 Healthcare Management of Women

NUR 680 Healthcare Management of Older Adults

NUR 675 Practicum in Adult Primary Care

NUR 676 Practicum in Older Adult Primary Care

NUR 685 Practicum in Infants, Children and Adolescents Primary Care

NUR 686 Practicum in Women's Primary Care

Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Concentration

Clinical Courses:

NUR 677 Healthcare Management of Adults

NUR 682 Healthcare Management of Women

NUR 680 Healthcare Management of Older Adults

NUR 675 Practicum in Adult Primary Care

NUR 676 Practicum in Older Adult Primary Care

NUR 686 Practicum in Women's Primary Care

Practicum courses each require a minimum of 192 hours of supervised clinical practice.



State-of-the-Art Clinical Facilities

The Department of Nursing is housed on two floors of UT's Jenkins Health and Technology Building, opened in fall 2018.

The department's simulation laboratory, featuring more than a dozen realistic medical manikins, allows nursing skills to be taught and practiced in a safe, risk-free environment.

Students gain valuable practice in acute hospital and long-term care settings, with medical supplies and equipment similar to those used in real health care facilities. In addition, there are two ICU simulation labs that include authentic emergency equipment. Six patient examination rooms — similar to those in a primary care office — allow both students to practice their health assessment and physical exam skills.

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student profile

**Anaidiel Beltran '13 BSN, MSN candidate
cardiac ICU nurse, Tampa General Hospital**

"As a graduate of UT's BSN program, I'd always said that if I decided to pursue a graduate degree, I'd come back to UT. I also wanted all my classes to be in-person, and UT was one of the MSN programs that offered that. The nursing faculty here is very diverse, with experience in different specialties and unique knowledge and strengths. The program also does an excellent job in finding the best clinical placements for students. My goal is to work in primary care, or women's health primary care. I strongly believe primary care providers are at the forefront for educating patients."

Accreditation

The baccalaureate degree program in nursing, the master's degree program in nursing, the post-graduate APRN certificate programs, and the doctor of nursing practice program at The University of Tampa are accredited by: **Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE)** (ccneaccreditation.org). The department holds membership in the Council of Baccalaureate and Higher Degree Programs in the National League for Nursing and in the American Association of Colleges of Nursing.

Scholarships and Assistantships

A variety of scholarships are available to graduate nursing students. These include:

- Blue Cross and Blue Shield Endowed Scholarship
- Eugene H. McNichols Endowed Scholarship

MSN students may also apply for a half-time graduate assistantship, which provides a pro-rated tuition waiver and stipend. Academically qualified students will be invited to apply. Learn more at ut.edu/msn/financialinformation or ut.edu/graduatefinancialaid.

Student Organizations

The **Delta Beta Chapter-at-Large of Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing** was founded in 1980 at the University of South Florida and rechartered in 2000 to include The University of Tampa. Delta Beta sponsors an annual research program, scholarships and research grants, and promotes scholarly work in the community.



About UT

The University of Tampa is a medium-sized, private university offering more than 200 undergraduate and graduate programs of study. Richly diverse, UT is the school of choice for approximately 11,000 students from all 50 states and most of the world's countries.

Visit ut.edu/msn for more information about the Department of Nursing and MSN program.

