Texas A&M University-Texarkana offers a master's degree in nursing administration. This program is designed for a nurse with a baccalaureate degree in nursing who wishes to assume a leadership role in Nursing Administration.

**Admission Requirements**

- A baccalaureate degree in nursing from an institution of higher education that is both accredited by the appropriate regional accrediting agency and either the NLNAC or the CCNE and a minimum of one year experience as Registered Nurse (RN).
- Current, unencumbered registered nurse license to practice in the State of Texas or licensed in the state where practicums will occur (must show active licensure by the end of the first semester).
- Immunizations, CPR certification, negative drug screen, personal health insurance, and personal nursing liability insurance.
- Criminal background check.
- Completed application and fee payment; official transcripts from each institution attended; résumé; letter of interest, commitment, and purpose for pursuing a master’s degree; and at least two letters of support from supervisors or professional mentors.
- Minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale) in the last 60 hours of undergraduate nursing course work.

Requirements must be submitted to the Graduate Studies Office by the designated deadline of first semester of enrollment.

**Contact:** 903-334-6771 or nursing@tamut.edu

**Accreditation**

The baccalaureate degree program in nursing/master's degree program in nursing at Texas A&M University-Texarkana is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (http://ccneaccreditation.org), 655 K Street, NW, Suite 750, Washington, DC 2001, 202-887-6791.

**Degree Requirements**

Students should refer to their DegreeWorks degree audit in their Web for Students account for more information regarding their degree requirements.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NURS 505</td>
<td>Evidence Based Practice I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 506</td>
<td>Evidence Based Practice II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 507</td>
<td>Healthcare Informatics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 508</td>
<td>Quality Improvement and Safety</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 509</td>
<td>Healthcare Population Health/Health Policy</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 510</td>
<td>Organizational Behavior and Systems Leadership</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 513</td>
<td>Management of Complex Systems in Nursing</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 514</td>
<td>Healthcare Law, Ethics and Policy</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 522</td>
<td>Healthcare Economics and Financial Management</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 525</td>
<td>Capstone Project</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Approved Electives</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Minimum Hours for Degree**

33

**Graduate Courses in Nursing**

**NURS 505. Evidence Based Practice I. 3 Hours.**

The course builds on the student's prior basic knowledge of the research process and the application of evidence to the practice setting. At the graduate level, the nurse translates current evidence and identifies gaps where there is insufficient evidence to support practice. The graduate level nurse, as a result of this course, will lead the process of implementing evidence as the basis for practice at all levels of direct and indirect care. This is the first of two courses. This course emphasizes theory as the foundation for research, ethics in research, and qualitative approaches to research.

**NURS 506. Evidence Based Practice II. 3 Hours.**

This course is the second of two courses focusing on the application of evidence to clinical practice. This course emphasizes the appraisal and application of quantitative research findings, enabling the student to perform a rapid critical analysis, participate in the development of evidence and devise strategies for the implementation of findings. The course emphasizes the application of evidence to aggregate populations. Prerequisite: NURS 505.
NURS 507. Healthcare Informatics. 3 Hours.
This course prepares the student to utilize informatics and healthcare technologies to deliver and enhance patient care through the use of patient care technologies, communication and data management technologies, health care management for evidence based care and education, and electronic health records.

NURS 508. Quality Improvement and Safety. 3 Hours.
This course prepares the student to use the methods, tools, performance measures, culture of safety principles, and quality standards to create a safe patient environment. The student will provide leadership in quality improvement activities in a clinical setting.

NURS 509. Healthcare Population Health/Health Policy. 3 Hours.
Clinical prevention and health promotion is emphasized in this course that prepares the graduate student to improve the health status of populations, particularly those affected by health disparities. The course will assist the student to develop competence in political activism and policy advocacy. The relationship between health care policy and health disparities are discussed as a factor in poor health outcomes. The student will plan strategies for collaboration with other professionals to affect change.

NURS 510. Organizational Behavior and Systems Leadership. 3 Hours.
This course prepares the student to apply complexity theory and systems thinking, leadership theory, characteristics of organizational behavior and value-driven healthcare within the culture of an organization. The emphasis is on developing the ability to create collaborative relationships, provide leadership to affect change, and improve organizational functioning in the provision of safe, quality care.

NURS 512. Healthcare Economics and Finance. 3 Hours.
The focus in this course is on the financial impact of administrative and management decisions across health care organizations. Students will explore the interconnectivity between finance and other aspects of health care such as safety and quality through evidence in economics and cost accounting, budgeting, staffing effectiveness and legal/ethical issues.

NURS 513. Management of Complex Systems in Nursing. 3 Hours.
This is a practicum course in which the student practices in a leadership role under the supervision of a preceptor. The student will manage a nursing unit, communicate and collaborate interprofessionally, assist in budget preparation/management, make staffing decisions, participate in quality improvement strategies, and evaluate care outcomes. This course requires 90 hours of practicum experience.

NURS 514. Healthcare Law, Ethics and Policy. 3 Hours.
The student will analyze a variety of ethical and legal dilemmas commonly encountered in the educational, managerial/administrative role and apply a framework for decision-making. A discussion of health care programs that affect and result from policy, the interaction of stakeholders in the real world, and an examination of the health care system of other countries enables the student to better understand the US healthcare system.

NURS 520. Administrative Theories. 3 Hours.
Theories of leadership and organizational behavior as they apply to the health care arena are explored. A personal philosophy of nursing leadership applicable to a wide variety of roles will be identified. It focuses on implementation of strategies for change while analyzing the probable consequences of alternative plans and actions. Major content includes (but is not limited to) preparing the environment for change, professional and organizational communications, policy development, contracting, negotiating, and delegating. Prerequisite: Student must have graduated with a BSN and be admitted to the MSN program.

This course focuses on providing the nurse administrator/manager with a basis for understanding the fiscal status of health care organizations. The nurse executive role in financial management, strategic planning and marketing, quality assurance, and risk management initiative for health care organizations is explored. Prerequisite: Student must have graduated with a BSN and be admitted to the MSN program.

NURS 525. Capstone Project. 3 Hours.
In the clinical capstone, the student will implement and evaluate a clinical proposal/clinical project in the practice setting based on best evidence. The purpose of the project is to integrate the knowledge and theory gained in graduate nursing courses to improve an aspect of patient care. At the completion of the project, the student will present results in an oral presentation and in a professional paper suitable for publication. Prerequisite: NURS 522 and NURS 513.

NURS 526. Capstone Project II. 2 Hours.
This is the second of two courses in which the student plans and implements a clinical proposal/clinical project. In this course, the student will implement, evaluate and disseminate findings of the proposal developed in NURS 525. Prerequisite: NURS 525.

NURS 589. Independent Study in Nursing. 3 Hours.
This course provides individual instruction. Students may repeat the course when topics vary.

NURS 591. Research Project. 3 Hours.
This course involves the investigation of a selected nursing problem for a chosen theoretical perspective under the direction of a Faculty Research Advisor. The student will enroll for two consecutive semesters, enrolling for 3 hours each semester until the project is completed and successfully defended. ONLY 6 SCH may apply toward degree requirements. If additional time is needed to complete, then the student must enroll for 3 SCH for each additional semester until course requirements are met. This course may be done as a group project of no more than 2 or 3 students.
NURS 599. Independent Research. 1-6 Hours.
This course is an independent research in Nursing conducted by a student under the guidance of a doctorally prepared Nursing faculty member of his or her choice. The student may conduct research in the clinical practice area and assist with literature searches, data gathering, data entry and analyses, and dissemination of results. SCH and hours are by arrangement and, with a change in content, this course may be repeated for credit. Prerequisite: NURS 505 or by instructor consent.

Faculty
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