As advances in our healthcare system continue to improve and enhance the quality of life and life expectancy, there is a critical need to increase nurse educators in our industry that can prepare nurses at all levels to meet the provision of nursing services that the population will require. Here at Ottawa University, our Master of Science in Nursing program will give you the tools necessary to step into the classroom and produce future leaders in healthcare.

At Ottawa University

With the projected shortage of RNs in concert with the aging population, the demand for well-trained nurse educators and nursing leaders is projected to continue to experience rapid growth. According to the American Nurses Association Fast Facts report (2014), 79,659 qualified applicants were turned away from nursing baccalaureate and graduate programs in 2012 alone due to high nursing faculty vacancy rates. The need to add more opportunities for nurses to obtain their Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) degree presents an opportunity to actively address one of the components contributing to the forecasted nursing shortage with the specialization for Nurse Educators. In addition, the Bureau of Labor and Statistics projects a 16% growth in registered nursing professionals by 2024. This increase will place a larger emphasis on nurses who are prepared for leadership roles. Ottawa University’s MSN program addresses this growing need within the nursing profession as well as the healthcare industry as a whole.

The master’s degree program in nursing at Ottawa University is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, 655 K Street NW, Suite 750, Washington, DC 20001, 202-887-6791.

Education and Qualifications

This program is designed for the registered nurse who has graduated from an accredited nursing program with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree. A current, unrestricted RN license (obtained in the U.S.) is required.

► Current resume.
► Successful completion of a criminal background check.
► Three professional or academic letters of recommendation.
► Career Statement of professional experience and goals in nursing.
► A bachelor’s degree from an accredited nursing program with a minimum cumulative 3.0 GPA (per 4.0 scale) on previous coursework.
## Core Courses

**NRSG 7000  Transition to the Graduate Nursing Role**
Assists the nursing student with transition to graduate study at Ottawa University in order to enhance opportunities for success in the program. Historical perspective of the scientific and theoretical basis of nursing at the graduate level of practice is explored. Emphasis is placed on standards for scholarly writing and linkages between theory, practice, and research in advanced nursing practice. Core competencies vital to all advanced practice roles and health care in complex systems are addressed. In addition, students explore the complex ethical responsibilities that are faced by today's nursing leaders.

**NRSG 7100  Advanced Pathophysiology**
Focuses on advanced physiology and pathophysiology across the life span with emphasis on clinical decision-making when caring for patients with acute and chronic diseases. Disease prevention and health promotion are also emphasized.

**NRSG 7200  Advanced Pharmacology**
Focuses on advanced pharmacotherapeutics across the life span with emphasis on clinical decision-making when caring for patients with acute and chronic diseases. Current issues and best practices in pharmacology are included.

**NRSG 7300  Advanced Health Assessment**
Builds upon the student's previous health assessment knowledge and experience. Emphasis will be placed on holistic assessment, intervention and evaluation using a family-centered approach as well as an exploration of evidence-based strategies for prevention and management.

**NRSG 7400  Research to Improve Quality and Safety for Graduate Nursing**
Builds upon statistics and expands understanding of research methods and critical analysis of the literature as a foundation for evidence-based practice at the graduate level. There is a focus on the evaluation of outcomes and risk analysis to ensure the improvement of safety and quality in the care of diverse populations.

**NRSG 7500  Cultural Diversity, Policy and Advocacy**
Uses the principles of epidemiology to evaluate disease prevention and health promotion data when advocating for health care policies that meet the needs of diverse population groups. In addition, there is a deeper exploration of cultural diversity and cultural humility with a special emphasis on vulnerable populations.

## Nurse Educator Specialization

**NRSG 7601  Foundations for Nurse Educator Practice**
Introduces the theoretical and research base for nurse educator practice in a variety of settings. The nurse educator roles of teaching, service and scholarship are explored and include an emphasis on nurse educators as leaders and change agents who pursue continuous quality improvement within the educational environment. In addition, there is an emphasis on domains of learning and adult learning theory from a learner-centered philosophy. The goal of this approach is to facilitate learner achievement of desired outcomes.

**NRSG 7602  Teaching Strategies for Today’s Nurse Educator**
Emphasizes the theoretical and evidence base for effective teaching in nursing education. Students will examine and evaluate a variety of traditional and innovative teaching/learning strategies used in didactic, lab and clinical settings and identify best practices. There is an emphasis on creating a learner-centered environment that fosters student engagement, clinical reasoning and critical thinking. Techniques to assess student achievement of learning outcomes are highlighted.

**NRSG 7603  Curriculum Design and Assessment Techniques in Nursing Education**
Explores models for curriculum design, development and evaluation within the context of organizational mission, philosophy, goals, and desired learning outcomes and competencies. There is a focus on internal and external factors influencing the curriculum. Also explores key strategies to enhance critical thinking in the development of instructional design, as well as test construction and item analysis. Analysis of assessment and evaluation data is addressed to facilitate student learning and enhance program effectiveness.

**NRSG 7604  Instructional Technology and Simulation in Nursing Education**
Examines current and emerging instructional technologies and simulation used in a variety of nursing educational settings and e-learning environments, including online. Application, implementation and evaluation of instructional technologies and simulation concepts are explored to enhance understanding of evidence-based interactive learning practices for direct and indirect patient-care roles.

**NRSG 7605  Nurse Educator Practicum**
Comprises the nursing education practicum in selected organization(s) with opportunities to apply educational knowledge, skills and concepts in a guided and transformational context in nursing education. An evidence-based practice approach is used to guide the scholarly project developed in this course and completed in the capstone.

**NRSG 7606  Nurse Educator Capstone**
Focuses on the integration of knowledge with advanced nursing practice competencies in the role of nurse educator to demonstrate attainment of program outcomes. The scholarly project provides validation of the student's ability to translate evidence into practice, improve quality outcomes, advance interprofessional collaboration, embrace diversity, and facilitate change as a nurse leader.

## Nurse Leadership Specialization

**NRSG 7701  Foundations for Nurse Leader Practice**
Introduces the theoretical and research base for nurse leader practice in a variety of settings. There is an emphasis on nurse leaders as scholars and change agents who pursue continuous quality improvement within the health care environment. Professional communication skills such as conflict management and negotiation are addressed. There is a focus on human resource management in health care organizations, including the unique challenges encountered related to staffing, unionism, productivity, and performance evaluation in today's complex health care delivery settings.

**NRSG 7702  Health Information and Systems Management**
Examines the essential components of healthcare information systems and patient-care technology in complex healthcare settings. A systems approach is used to evaluate health care delivery modes and work design in order to improve key performance metrics.

**NRSG 7703  Legal and Ethical Issues for Nurse Leaders**
Explores salient legal and ethical issues faced by nurse leaders. There is a focus on professional accountability, interprofessional communication, advocacy, embracing diversity, and promoting access to healthcare. In addition, evidence-based practice that is based on outcomes measurement and research is addressed.

**NRSG 7704  Business Concepts for Nurse Leaders**
Provides opportunities to examine critical business acumen needed by nurse leaders. Healthcare economics, strategic planning, and financial management topics are explored to enhance the effectiveness of the nurse leader in today's complex health care environments.

**NRSG 7705  Nurse Leader Practicum**
Comprises the nurse leadership practicum focusing on management of outcomes for individuals and populations. An evidence-based practice approach is used to guide the scholarly project developed in this course and completed in the capstone. Strategies to change practice for optimal outcomes are explored.

**NRSG 7706  Nurse Leader Capstone**
Focuses on the integration of knowledge with advanced nursing practice competencies in the role of nurse leader to demonstrate attainment of program outcomes. The scholarly project provides validation of the student's ability to translate evidence into practice, improve quality outcomes, advance interprofessional collaboration, embrace diversity, and facilitate change as a nurse leader.