Expected Outcomes of the Program

- Applies scientific theories and research to implement the advanced nursing role.
- Demonstrates competence according to national standards and guidelines in the advanced nursing role.
- Demonstrates knowledge of legal, ethical, fiscal, policy, and leadership issues that impact the delivery of health care in the advanced nursing role.
- Demonstrates knowledge of legal, ethical, fiscal, policy, and leadership issues that impact the advancement of the nursing profession in the advanced nursing role.
- Identifies researchable nursing problems and contributes to research studies for advanced nursing and health care practice.

Admission

- Baccalaureate degree in nursing program accredited by the National League for Nursing Accreditation Commission or Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education. A baccalaureate degree in nursing from a foreign institution must be recognized by The University of Akron.
- 3.00 GPA on a 4.00 scale for BSN and all previous nursing degrees.
- Three letters of reference from a recent employer; a member of the nursing profession; a former faculty member.
- 300-word essay describing professional goals.
- Current unrestricted State of Ohio Registered Nurse license.
- Interview prior to admission to the program.
- Prerequisite course requirements: Graduate Level Statistics.

Admission Procedures

The student should access the online graduate application through the Graduate School webpage. Questions regarding admissions may be directed to the School of Nursing Graduate Program Office (330) 972-7555.

The School of Nursing Graduate Admission and Progression Committee and the Assistant Director of Graduate Programs will review and make decisions for applications. The admit decision will be sent to the Graduate School. Applicants will receive notification of the admission decision via an e-letter from the Graduate School and a letter from the School of Nursing.

Instructional Program

The Master of Science in Nursing curriculum includes a minimum of 30 credit hours of study depending on the specialty track. The advanced practice tracks include Adult/Gerontological Health Nursing, Family Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing, Child and Adolescent Health Nursing (Primary, Acute, Dual), and Nurse Anesthesia. Graduates are prepared for advanced practice as nurse practitioners or nurse anesthetists. The curriculum is based on theory and research both in nursing and in related disciplines. It provides the foundation for doctoral study and for ongoing professional development.

Nursing Core

The curriculum consists of a core of 14 credit hours. These courses encompass advanced theory, evidence-based practice, information management in nursing, health policy, and pathophysiological concepts. Core courses are required of all students.

Note: Students must achieve a "B-" or higher in 8200:608 Pathophysiological Concepts of Nursing Care.

Child and Adolescent Health Nurse Practitioner Primary Health Care Track

The Child and Adolescent Health Nurse Practitioner track (Primary Health Care) (28 credit hours) meets certification requirements through the Pediatric Nursing Certification Board (PNCB). Emphasis is on advanced nursing practice with primary health care needs of children and adolescents.

Note: Students in the Child and Adolescent Health specialties must earn a "B-" or higher in 8200:650 Advanced Pediatric/Adolescent Assessment and 8200:656 Pharmacology for Child and Adolescent Health Nursing.