MS in Nursing

Admission Requirements
Transcripts of all undergraduate and any graduate work must be submitted. In addition to the Graduate College minimum requirements, applicants must meet the following program requirements:

MS in Nursing

- **Baccalaureate Field** Applicants must have a baccalaureate degree in nursing from a CCNE or ACEN accredited program or a baccalaureate degree in another field and have graduated from a nursing program preparing the student for registered professional nursing. Students who are registered nurses but have a baccalaureate degree in a field other than nursing will have additional course requirements at the beginning of their program of study consisting of any or all of the following: NURS 210, NURS 242, and NURS 385.

- **Grade Point Average** At least 3.00/4.00 for the final 60 semester (90 quarter) hours of the first baccalaureate degree.

- **Tests Required** Official GRE test scores are required of applicants with less than a 3.25/4.00 cumulative GPA in their most recently earned (baccalaureate or graduate) degree OR who have a baccalaureate degree in progress. Cumulative GPAs are calculated directly from submitted transcripts. The GRE is waived for applicants with a 3.25/4.00 GPA in their most recently earned (baccalaureate or graduate) degree.

- **Minimum English Competency Test Score**
  - TOEFL 80, with subscores of Reading 19, Listening 17, Speaking 20, and Writing 21 (iBT Internet-based); 60, with subscores of Reading 19, Listening 17, Writing 21 (New Paper-Based—after August 2018); 550 (Institutional Testing Paper-Based—prior to August 2018), OR.
  - IELTS 6.5, with subscores of 6.0 for all four subsections, OR.
  - PTE-Academic 54, with subscores of Reading 51, Listening 47, Speaking 53, and Writing 56.

- **Recommendations** Three references are required as part of the application. All references will be submitted electronically through the University Graduate Application. References must use the College of Nursing Supplemental form which will be emailed to them through the graduate application.

- **Nursing Supplemental Application** Submitted electronically as part of the University Graduate Application. Questions can be viewed prior to application on the College of Nursing website.

- **Current resume or curriculum vitae**

- **Prior Academic Course Work** Applicants must have completed introductory courses in both statistics and research or their equivalent prior to starting the MS program.

- **Other Requirements** Applicants must be licensed to practice as a professional nurse in at least one political jurisdiction prior to enrollment.

Suitable applicants will be contacted by a faculty member or Office of Academic Programs staff member to schedule an interview as appropriate.

Graduate Entry Master of Science Program

- **Graduate Entry Master of Science Program** The graduate entry master of science program is for individuals without previous nursing preparation who hold a baccalaureate degree in a field other than nursing.

- Students complete prelicensure and master’s courses concurrently. Upon successful completion and degree conferal, students will be eligible to take the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN).

- **Baccalaureate Field** Baccalaureate degree in any field.

- **Grade Point Average** At least 3.00/4.00 for the final 60 semester (90 quarter) hours of the first baccalaureate degree.

- **Tests Required** Official GRE test scores are required of applicants with less than a 3.25/4.00 cumulative GPA in their most recently earned (baccalaureate or graduate) degree OR who have a baccalaureate degree in progress. Cumulative GPAs are calculated directly from submitted transcripts. The GRE is waived for applicants with a 3.25/4.00 GPA in their most recently earned (baccalaureate or graduate) degree.

- **Minimum English Competency Test Score**
  - TOEFL 80, with subscores of Reading 19, Listening 17, Speaking 20, and Writing 21 (iBT Internet-based); 60, with subscores of Reading 19, Listening 17, Writing 21 (New Paper-Based—after August 2018); 550 (Institutional Testing Paper-Based—prior to August 2018), OR.
  - IELTS 6.5, with subscores of 6.0 for all four subsections, OR.
  - PTE-Academic 54, with subscores of Reading 51, Listening 47, Speaking 53, and Writing 56.

- **Recommendations** Three references are required as part of the application. All references will be submitted electronically through the University Graduate Application. References must use the College of Nursing Supplemental form which will be emailed to them through the graduate application.

- **Nursing Supplemental Application** Submitted electronically as part of the University Graduate Application. Questions can be viewed prior to application on the College of Nursing website.

- **Current resume or curriculum vitae**

- **Prior Academic Course Work** All prerequisite course work must be completed by the end of the spring semester preceding matriculation into the program. A grade of C or better must be earned in all prerequisite courses. All science prerequisites must be completed within seven years of enrollment. Prerequisite course work can be completed at any college or university (including city/community colleges).

  - General Chemistry with laboratory, Inorganic Chemistry, Organic Chemistry, or Biochemistry (4 hours)
  - Microbiology (3 hours)
  - Human Anatomy and Physiology I and II with laboratory (8 hours)
  - Introduction to Research Methods (3 hours)\(^a\)

- **Other Requirements** Applicants must be interviewed by a faculty member. Suitable applicants will be contacted to schedule an interview as appropriate.

\(^a\) Courses that fulfill this prerequisite are typically offered in the psychology or sociology department at four-year colleges or universities and cover the design, execution, analysis, and interpretation of research. The title of the course should include “Research Methods”. Introduction to Statistics does NOT fulfill this requirement.
**Degree Requirements**

In addition to the Graduate College minimum requirements, students must meet the following program requirements:

- **Minimum Semester Hours Required** At least 34 hours are required to complete the Master of Science degree for students who hold a baccalaureate degree in nursing. Students who are registered nurses but have a baccalaureate degree in a field other than nursing complete additional course requirements. A minimum of 77 hours is required for individuals without previous nursing preparation who hold a baccalaureate degree in a field other than nursing.

- **Course Work**

  **Course** | **Title**
  --- | ---
  NURS 511 | Epidemiology & Statistics for Evidence-Based Practice
  NURS 515 | EBP 1: Theoretical Foundations for Evidence-Based Practice
  NURS 516 | EBP 2: Implementing Evidence-Based Practice
  NURS 517 | Leadership, Policy, and Interprofessional Collaboration: Effecting Change in Complex Health Systems
  NURS 518 | Quality and Safety Through Health Technologies
  NURS 519 | Health Equity and Social Determinants
  NURS 532 | Comprehensive Health Assessment for Advanced Nursing Practice
  NUPR 520 | Clinical Synthesis Practicum for the Advanced Generalist

Students can either take NURS 531, NURS 534, and NURS 535 (advanced science) if they plan to go on for their DNP, or they can take College of Nursing courses in one of the postbaccalaureate certificate programs below.

- **Teaching/Learning in Nursing and Health Sciences Certificate**
- **School Nurse Certificate**
- **Sleep Health Certificate**
- **Advanced Practice Palliative Care Certificate**

- **Registered Nurses with Non-Nursing Baccalaureate Degree**

  Complete the following at the beginning of the program of study:

  - **NURS 212** Health Assessment and Communication
  - **NURS 242** Concepts and Processes in Contemporary Nursing
  - **NURS 385** Nursing Care of Populations (RN to BSN)

  Credit may be awarded for some of these course requirements following review by the Graduate Admissions and Academic Standards Committee and approval of the director of graduate studies.

- **Graduate Entry Students without a Nursing Background**

  Complete the following prelicensure course work:

  - **NURS 403** Cultural Fluency, Communication, and Ethics
  - **NURS 404** Integrated Health Care: Concepts and Skills
  - **NURS 406** Integrated Health Care: Community
  - **NURS 408** Integrated Health Care: Adult/Older Adult
  - **NURS 412** Integrated Health Care: Women, Children and Family
  - **NURS 414** Integrated Health Care: Mental Health
  - **NURS 421** Pathophysiology
  - **NURS 422** Pharmacology
  - **NUPR 405** Integrated Practicum I
  - **NUPR 410** Integrated Practicum II
  - **NUPR 415** Integrated Practicum III
  - **NUPR 416** Integrated Practicum IV
  - **NUPR 420** Clinical Synthesis

- **Comprehensive Examination** None.

- **Thesis, Project, or Course-Work-Only Options** Course work only.

- **Other Requirements** Students are required to provide documentation of immunizations, background check results, drug screens, HIPAA training, CPR certification, and current nursing license. Please see the College of Nursing website for specific requirements for each program (http://www.nursing.uic.edu/current-students/practicum-requirements). All information must be submitted before students are allowed to register for courses.

**Interdepartmental Concentrations**

Students earning a graduate degree in this department may complement their courses by enrolling in select concentrations after consulting with their graduate advisor. Interdepartmental concentrations available for this degree include:

- **Women's Health** (http://catalog.uic.edu/gcat/colleges-schools/nursing/womens-health-conc)