

1 2012

Washington State University MAJOR CHANGE FORM - - REQUIREMENTS

(Submit original signed form and <u>TEN</u> copies to the Registrar's Office, zip 1035.) See https://www.ronet.wsu.edu/ROPubs/Apps/HomePage.ASP for this form.

*Submit an additional copy to the Faculty Senate Office, French Administration 338, zip 1038.

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MEMORANDUM

To:

Deb Sellon, PhD Associate Professor WSU Graduate School

From: Roxanne Vandermause, PhD, RN

PhD Program Director WSU College of Nursing

Patricia Butterfield, PhD, RN Dean, College of Nursing

Re: BSN to PhD Curricular plan

Date: 9/4/12

Dear Dr. Sellon,

Attached is a curricular plan for our PhD program addition, detailing admission directly to the PhD program following completion of the BSN degree. Admission criteria are included. It is signed by the Dean of our college and me, director of the PhD program.

Our website information will require little change, other than an addition that says "Select graduates from a BSN program may apply directly to the PhD program; contact the program coordinator for specific information".

Thank you for the review of this information and Graduate School approval to proceed with our recruitment and implementation.

Rational:

Our proposal and rationale build upon recommendations of national bodies in the United States and begin to address the fact that often nurse scholars obtain their PhD late in their careers, when impact upon science in the profession is minimized by time and the level of expertise they can obtain.

(A more detailed rational is within the proposal document).

Washington State University College of Nursing BSN-PhD in Nursing Proposed Curricular Plan

This document describes a proposed BSN-PhD program in Nursing. Currently, the College of Nursing offers the PhD program for students entering with a Master's degree. We would retain entry for approximately 6-12 Master's prepared students to the PhD program; this remains the most common model for programs and student recruitment. The College of Nursing proposes building on the existing program with a new option for exceptional BSN students to earn a PhD without obtaining a Master's degree. Initially, we envision 2-3 select BSN students to enter into the program annually. Our proposal and rationale build upon recommendations of national bodies in the United States and begin to address the fact that often nurse scholars obtain their PhD late in their careers, when impact upon science in the profession is minimized by time and the level of expertise they can obtain.

According to the report from the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) task force on the research-focused doctorate in nursing:

Despite the critical need for nursing scientists and the increase in PhD nursing programs over the past decade, the number of PhD-prepared nurses has not increased proportionally to societal demand or to the increase in PhD programs. Changes are needed to better meet the growing demand for nursing scientists who can develop the science, steward the profession, and educate new nurse researchers. Developing nursing scientists who can function in the areas of research and academia will necessitate updates in curriculums and supportive faculty mentors who are funded and working in interdisciplinary teams. Among the AACN's recommendations and standards for the research-focused doctoral program in nursing is the focus on increasing the pipeline of nurses entering PhD programs by promoting entry into PhD studies earlier in nurses' education and careers. Recommendations also include a strong focus on the importance of appropriate mentoring and an environment fostering the promotion and development of nursing scientists. There is an urgent need in the discipline to increase the numbers and diversity of graduates prepared with PhD degrees to become nurse researchers and faculty members in academe.

http://www.aacn.nche.edu/Education/pdf/PhDTaskForce.pdf

Advantages to offering this program at the WSU CON include:

 WSU CON would join other top-tier universities offering BSN-to-PhD programs for outstanding BSN students to directly earn a terminal degree similar to other health professions (Pharmacy, Physical Therapy, etc). Currently, approximately 50 universities/colleges in the U.S. have accelerated BSN-to-PhD programs. This number is

- expected to grow exponentially in the next decade. WSU CON should consider this proposal to become responsive and formative to changes occurring in higher education.
- Increase opportunities for entry into doctoral education early in one's nursing career by establishing a direct pathway from the BSN to the PhD.
- Graduates of the accelerated program would have many valuable years ahead of them to
 focus on research and help fill faculty roles, thus addressing the significant national
 shortage of doctorally prepared nurses.

Admission criteria for the Accelerated Program:

- BSN degree from a nationally accredited program with GPA 3.5 or higher
- GRE analytical writing test
- State RN licensure
- Acceptance by the WSU Graduate School
- Statement of professional goals
- Satisfactory written and phone interview
- Example of scholarly work
- Current resume
- TOEFL score recommended by WSU for students from countries without English as a primary language
- Three letters of reference describing the applicant's potential to succeed in doctoral study. One letter should be from someone other than a BSN faculty member.

We recognize the importance of careful selection and mentoring of the BSN to PhD students. They must understand the challenges and varied research experience required in a doctoral program. They must have established goals and outcome plans consistent with this level of education. The students will be assigned mentors and advisors who will work closely with each student to help plan program progression and to develop programs of study relevant to their areas of research interest.

The WSU CON is well **e**stablished as a provider of generic undergraduate, RN to BSN, Master's and PhD education in nursing. A new Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program will begin in August 2012 with a BSN to DNP cohort of students. As the largest provider of graduate nurses in Washington State, and among the top in the western region, we are well-positioned to identify BSN graduates who will be ready and motivated for the challenges of a doctoral program.

Students will complete two semesters (13 credits) of courses that will provide a bridge from the BSN to PhD coursework. These courses are in *italics* in the table below. All of these courses are currently offered in the Master's or DNP curriculum, so new course development is not needed and the students will benefit from exposure to other graduate students in nursing. The students then take the current PhD in nursing requirements of 46 credits of core course work, 6 credits of electives, and 20 credits of NURS800 dissertation work. Students will therefore complete a minimum of 85 total credits for program completion. The curriculum is designed to be delivered over 9 semesters, with additional time which is variable for the dissertation work. Focus is on core areas of nursing science (N), research (R), education (E), and analytical (A) courses. The curricular plan follows:

Semester	Courses Taught (Credits)		
Fall 1	NURS 503	(2) Scientific Inquiry in Nursing (R)	
	NURS 554	(3) Epidemiological & Biostatistics for Advanced Practice(N)	
Spring 1	NURS 504	(3) Evidence Based Practice (R)	
	NURS 507	(2) Health Care Policy Analysis (N)	
	NURS 526	(3) Analytic Foundations for Health Sciences (A)	
Summer 1	NURS 534	(1) Research Seminar: Grant Development and Critique (R)	
	NURS 535	(2) Philosophy of Nursing Science (N)	
	NURS524	(2) Foundations of Methodological Applications for Health Sciences	
Fall 2	NURS 536	(2) Nursing Theory: Foundation for Knowledge Development (N)	
	NURS 588	(3) Research Inquiry: Quantitative Methods I (R)	
	NURS565	(3) Information Management for Clinical Practice (A)	
Spring 2	NURS 527	(3) Association, Group Difference, and Regression Techniques for	
		Health Sciences (A)	
	NURS 572	(2) Nursing Science: Research & Theory of Chronic Conditions (N)	
	NURS 587	(3) Research Inquiry: Qualitative Methods I (R)	
Summer 2	NURS 574	(2) Nursing Science: Research & Theory of Acute Conditions (N)	
	NURS 589	(2) Psychometrics in Health Care Research (R)	
	NURS 591	(2) Mixed Methods for Outcome Evaluation (R)	
	NURS 799	(1) Dissertation Seminar (R)	
Fall 3	NURS 521	(3) Learning, Teaching and Evaluation in Nursing (E)	
	NURS 584	(2) Theory & Policy Development in Systems of Health Care	
		Delivery (N)	
6	NURS 528	(3) Multivariate Statistical Techniques for Health Sciences (A)	
Spring 3	NURS 523	(3) Educational Issues and Curriculum Analysis (E)	
	NURS 593	(1) Preliminary Examination Seminar (R)	
	NURS529	(3) Analytical Seminar for Health Sciences (A)	
Spring 1,2,	NURS 585	(1) Faculty Role Seminar (E)	
or 3	NURS 586	(2) Faculty Role Practicum (E)	
(taught even			
numbered			
years)			

NURS 503 Scientific Inquiry in Nursing: Scientific inquiry applied to theoretical and philosophical foundations in nursing.

NURS 504 Evidence Based Practice: Research process as foundational to both conduct of scientific inquiry and utilization of findings.

NURS 507 Health Care Policy Analysis: Analysis of health care system policy; exploration of issues of clinical management and community resource utilization including advocacy techniques.

NURS 521 Learning, Teaching and Evaluation in Nursing: Theories, frameworks, and methods used in teaching, learning, and assessment in nursing education. Develop evidence-base practices to improve educational outcomes.

NURS 523 Educational Issues and Curriculum Analysis: Exploration of curriculum history, development, future predictions; program evaluation, instructional resources, leadership, and policy development in academic and service settings.

NURS 524 Foundations of Methodological Applications for Health Sciences: Introduction to qualitative and quantitative methods in current health care literature to become acquainted with language of research, statistics, and interpretation.

NURS 526 Analytic Foundations for Health Sciences: Quantitative methods, research and statistics in current health care literature. Required preparation must include college-level statistics course.

NURS 527 Association, Group Difference, and Regression Techniques for Health Sciences: Application of quantitative techniques to explore relationships and group differences among variables supporting research questions in health science research. NURS 528 Multivariate Statistical Techniques for Health Sciences: Application of quantitative techniques to explore relationships and predict group membership among variables, supporting research questions in heath science investigations.

NURS 529 Analytical Seminar for Health Science: Seminar and guided study to survey research techniques and to explore in depth research methods used for health science research.

NURS 534 Research Seminar: Grant Development and Critique: Seminar course that focuses on the sections of a grant proposal for clinical research, potential sources of funding for research and dissertation work, and the critical review of grant proposal. Students will lead selected class discussions and conduct a mock grant review session.

NURS 535 Philosophy of Nursing Science: Examine and analyze the **s**tructure and organization of fields of knowledge in science including historical and philosophical tenets of inquiry.

NURS 536 Nursing Theory: Foundation for Knowledge Development: Theory development analysis, theory critique, nursing knowledge examination, impact of theory on nursing science, applied to student's phenomenon of interest.

NURS 554 Epidemiological Approaches to Community Health: Epidemiologic application to health; implications for health promotion, disease prevention; focus: knowledge and skills required to obtain and use databases.

NURS 565 Information Management for Clinical Practice: Application/evaluation of nursing informatics; information systems to support clinical research, practice, administration and education.

NURS 572 Nursing Science: Research & Theory of Chronic Conditions: Analyzes concepts, theories, and research relevant to preventing and managing chronic conditions across the life span.

NURS 574 Nursing Science: Research & Theory of Acute Conditions: An overview of research methods, procedures and analysis of acute phenomena in nursing with a focus on vulnerable populations.

NURS 584 Theory & Policy Development in Systems of Health Care Delivery:

Examination of health care delivery systems in the U.S. and worldwide, addressing barriers to care, social justice, vulnerability, access disparity.

NURS 585 Faculty Role Seminar: Analysis of current issues related to the faculty role in nursing education.

NURS 586 Faculty Role Practicum: Analysis, development and enactment of selected aspects of the faculty role.

NURS 587 Research Inquiry: Qualitative Methods I: Qualitative methodologies, issues, and techniques of data collection, analysis, and interpretation. Issues of ethics and bias will be addressed.

NURS 588 Research Inquiry: Quantitative Methods I: Quantitative methodologies, issues, and techniques of data collection, analysis, and interpretation.

NURS 589 Psychometrics in Health Care Research: Theoretical/practical application of psychometric theory and techniques for constructing/analyzing/testing instruments to measure nursing/educational interventions/outcomes.

NURS 591 Mixed Methods for Outcome Evaluation: Outcomes and evaluation in nursing and healthcare will be addressed from both qualitative and quantitative methods and application perspective.

NURS 593 Preliminary Examination Seminar: Students will examine methods to synthesize knowledge from courses to present and analyze scholarly nursing science knowledge.

NURS 799 Dissertation Seminar: Establish best practices for doctoral research and presentation.

BSN-PhD Proposed Curricular Plan 8-12-2012