The University of North Carolina at Pembroke

McKenzie-Elliott School of Nursing

MSN Program Overview

The MSN program provides registered nurses, with a baccalaureate degree in nursing, with an opportunity to build expertise in a specialized area of practice. The degree requires a total of 39 semester hours of graduate-level coursework. Coursework is offered completely online! Students may enroll as either full-time or part-time students. All students must complete degree requirements within five (5) calendar years of the date of the first registration for graduate study.

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| **Clinical Nurse LeaderSM Specialty Concentration**  This specialty concentration prepares highly skilled nurse leaders who focus on improving quality and safety outcomes for clients or populations of clients. The concentration focuses on the assessment, design, implementation, coordination and evaluation of evidence-based quality improvement solutions at the unit level. Graduates will be eligible to take the clinical nurse leader certification examination, offered by American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN). | | | |
| **Sample Full-Time Plan of Study** | | | |
| **Semester** | **Course #** | **Course** | **Semester Hrs.** |
| Fall | NUR 5000 | Advanced Nursing Concepts in Theory and Practice | 3 |
|  | NUR 5020 | Advanced Pathophysiology | 3 |
|  | NUR 5030 | Advanced Concepts of Pharmacology in Nursing | 3 |
| Spring | NUR 5010 | Research Methods for Evidence-Based Practice | 3 |
|  | NUR 5040 | Advanced Health Assessment and Clinical Decision Making | 3 |
|  | NUR 5100 | Rural Health Care: Theoretical Foundations | 2 |
| Summer | NUR 5110 | Policy, Organization, and Financing of Health Care | 3 |
|  | NUR 5210 | Leadership in Clinical Microsystems | 4 |
| Fall | NUR 5140 | Epidemiology and Global Health | 3 |
|  | NUR 5220 | Care Environment and Clinical Outcomes Management | 3 |
| Spring | NUR 5230 | Clinical Nurse Leader Capstone Practicum | 6 |
|  | NUR 5240 | Master’s Clinical Nurse Leader Research or Action Project | 3 |
|  |  | Total Hours | 39 |

# Admission Requirements

## To be considered for the Master of Science in Nursing with a Clinical Nurse Leader specialization, candidates must submit a completed application with official transcripts of all postsecondary education directly from each institution to The Graduate School and:

* Possess a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from accredited NLN or CCNE School of Nursing.
* Possess a current, valid North Carolina nursing license or a license with multistate practice privileges by authority of the Nurse Licensure Compact.
* Have a minimum undergraduate cumulative grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.
* Submit three letters of recommendation from instructors, supervisors, or professional colleagues, two of which must come from individuals with a minimum of a master’s degree in nursing who can evaluate your potential to undertake a master’s degree program.
* Submit a copy of resume or curriculum vitae of educational and work experience.
* Submit a personal statement which describes development of interest in graduate education in nursing, reason for applying to chosen specialty area, your professional goals and how this specialization will help you achieve them, your academic strengths and areas needing further development, and any special circumstances that you believe require further clarification.
* Evidence of completion of a course in Descriptive/Inferential Statistics with a minimum grade of “C” or higher.

# Contact Information

## For general information on applying, please contact the UNCP School of Graduate Studies: Phone: (910) 521-6271 or 1-866-521-GRAD (4723) or Email: [grad@uncp.edu.](http://www.uncp.edu/co/tuition_fees/tuition_req_fees.htm#grad) For specific program information, please contact the McKenzie-Elliott School of Nursing, Dr. Julie Harrison-Swartz, Director, Post-Licensure Programs Director at 910-775-4509 or email [Julie.harrison-swartz@uncp.edu](mailto:Julie.harrison-swartz@uncp.edu) or Dr. Jennifer Wells, Interim Chair, McKenzie-Elliott School of Nursing at 910-775-4142 or [Jennifer.wells@uncp.edu](mailto:Jennifer.wells@uncp.edu).