

**The University of North Carolina at Pembroke
Department 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 in a hybrid format, meeting face-to-face once every three weeks with remainder 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.

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's 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.
- Note: For graduates of BSN programs of greater than 5 years, it is recommended that an additional course or continuing education offering be completed prior to enrolling in the following graduate courses: Advanced Health Assessment, Advanced Pathophysiology, and Advanced Pharmacology.

Contact Information

For general information on applying, please contact the UNCP School of Graduate Studies and Research: Phone: (910) 521-6271 or 1-866-521-GRAD (4723) or Email: grad@uncp.edu. For specific program information, please contact the Department of Nursing, Dr. Julie Harrison-Swartz, Director, Graduate Programs or Dr. Cherry Beasley, Interim Chair, Department of Nursing: Phone: (910) 775-4509 or Email: julie.harrison-swartz@uncp.edu.
Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PF0sgXNVb-8>