

SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCES AND HUMAN PERFORMANCE

DR. LINDA ANDREWS, DEAN

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING (M.S.N.) PROGRAMS

Program Director: Dr. Angela Taylor

The master of science in nursing is designed for students who have graduated from accredited baccalaureate nursing programs with current unrestricted nursing licenses. The program offers emphases in clinical nurse leader and nursing education for full- and part-time students who want to engage actively in meeting the evolving healthcare needs of patients and families. Both programs require thirty-seven credit hours for completion and utilize clinical practicum sites that include hospitals, clinics, and nursing programs in the Central Virginia region.

The emerging role of the clinical nurse leader (CNL) was developed by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing to address emerging patient care needs, with the primary roles of the CNL as a lateral integrator of healthcare services, an advocate for the patient and the healthcare organization, and a quality improvement facilitator. The CNL is an advanced generalist nurse who will continue to provide expert bedside care and provide care management to patients on a unit-based level. The CNL program is intended for nurses who desire to remain in staff nursing positions and aspire to do so with advanced knowledge and education.

The nursing education emphasis addresses nursing faculty shortages as it offers an opportunity to recruit and educate qualified individuals who can assume the responsibilities of faculty and staff development educators. The nurse educator role provides opportunities to conduct research and further nursing education science. It is intended for those nurses who are interested in pursuing a position as a unit-based educator, a staff development educator, or a nursing faculty member.

Students will develop the knowledge and skills necessary to:

- analyze the role of the nurse as leader and follower within the interdisciplinary team;
- demonstrate the ability to use nursing research and evidence-based nursing practice to improve nursing practice and nursing education;
- analyze the effect of external forces such as economics, legislation, politics, technology, globalization, culture, and healthcare policy on the healthcare system;
- incorporate knowledge of ethics, healthcare policy, and economics into practice;
- use oral, written, and electronic communication strategies to communicate effectively with individuals and groups; and
- synthesize knowledge from the sciences, humanities, and nursing to promote optimum nursing care.

CLINICAL NURSE LEADER¹

Students in this program also will:

- use leadership and management skills at the unit level of care to manage complex health care situations;
- apply advanced nursing skills to implement innovative strategies, evaluate patient outcomes, and modify plans of care; and
- apply information technology and economic theories at the unit level of nursing to improve patient outcomes and nursing care.

Core	Hours
	15
NRSG 601 Nursing Theory and Role Development	
NRSG 603 Healthcare Policy and Decision Making	
NRSG 604 Foundations for a Global Society	
NRSG 605 Nursing Leadership and Ethics	
NRSG 610 Nursing Research and Evidence-Based Practice	
 Specialization	 22
NRSG 624 Advanced Patient Management	
NRSG 625 Community Assessment	
NRSG 690 Clinical Nurse Leader Practicum I	
NRSG 692 Clinical Nurse Leader Practicum II	
MBA 643 Health Services Management and Strategy	
MBA 657 Management Information Technology	
<i>Total Hours Required</i>	37

NURSING EDUCATION¹

Students in this program also will:

- develop and implement nursing curricula based on sound educational theory and pedagogical practices;
- apply innovative teaching-learning strategies to the development and implementation of nursing educational programs; and
- apply formative and summative evaluation practices to revise and enhance nursing education.

Core	Hours
	15
NRSG 601 Nursing Theory and Role Development	
NRSG 603 Healthcare Policy and Decision Making	
NRSG 604 Foundations for a Global Society	
NRSG 605 Nursing Leadership and Ethics	
NRSG 610 Nursing Research and Evidence-Based Practice	

Specialization			22
NRSG	612	Teaching and Learning Strategies	
NRSG	613	Assessment Strategies for the Nurse Educator	
NRSG	615	Clinical Readings	
NRSG	618	Curriculum Development and Evaluation	
NRSG	694	Nurse Educator Practicum I: Staff Development	
NRSG	696	Nurse Educator Practicum II: Academic	
		<i>Total Hours Required</i>	37

- ¹ Prior to beginning the final practicum courses, there will be a student evaluation through the comprehensive exam. Specific questions will be geared separately toward the core foundation. In addition, questions will also be posed to each student based on specialty. For the practicum evaluation, the nursing education student will be required to develop, implement, and evaluate components of a nursing course, including both didactic and clinical elements. The clinical nurse leader will be required to develop, implement, and evaluate an evidenced-based nursing practice project. The comprehensive exam and the practicum projects will be graded on a pass/fail basis.

DUAL DEGREE OPTION FOR CLINICAL NURSE LEADER (M.S.N./M.B.A.)

In conjunction with the School of Business and Economics, a dual-major option is available for students who desire to pursue a master of business administration concurrently with a master of science in nursing in order to assume management or administrative positions in healthcare. Participants will work with advisors for each program to fulfill joint degree requirements according to the sample full- and part-time schedules provided on the College website.

DOCTOR OF PHYSICAL THERAPY PROGRAM

Program Director: Dr. Kevin Brueilly

Lynchburg College plans to offer a three-year doctor of physical therapy program beginning fall 2010. Applications are now being accepted for the initial class, and program updates will be posted as available on the web site at <http://www.lynchburg.edu/dpt.xml>. Currently in the pre-application stage, Lynchburg College is seeking accreditation by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education of the American Physical Therapy Association (1111 North Fairfax Street, Alexandria, VA 22314; phone; 703/706-3245; accreditation@apta.org). The program will submit an *Application for Candidacy*, which is the formal application required in the pre-accreditation stage. Submission of this document does not assure that the program will be granted Candidate for Accreditation status nor does it assure that the program will be granted Accreditation.