



SACRAMENTO
STATE

SACRAMENTO STATE MSN PROGRAM INTRODUCTION

For Prospective Students

October 2023

Redefine the Possible™

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

- General master's of science in nursing: advanced clinical/educator
- Provides competencies needed for a variety of roles, including education and leadership
- Not designed for school nurses – if you are a school nurse please visit this link to learn more about our SNC+MSN option: <https://www.cce.csus.edu/school-nurse-credential-program-masters-nursing>

MSN PROGRAM STRUCTURE

- Oriented to working nurses so **hybrid** structure
 - All courses in evenings and primarily online asynchronous, with the exception of NURS 232 and practicum courses.
 - Most courses have one or more synchronous online classes using Zoom
 - All courses require asynchronous online, independent self-study modules and assignments

MSN REQUIREMENTS

- Complete the “Graduate Writing Intensive” course (NURS 209) in first semester
- Advancement to Candidacy after completion of 12 units of core courses
- 33 Units of study with a minimum GPA of 3.0
- All courses require grade $\geq 83\%$
- Completion of the Culminating Experience (N500) in final semester

PROGRAM TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

- All courses use Canvas learning management system
- Microsoft Office (e.g., Word) available for free for all Sacramento State students
- Students should have their own laptop/tablet/desktop to complete assignments
 - Sac State does have computer labs and IT resources
- Students must be able to write at a collegiate level and will learn how to write at the graduate level, using 7th edition APA (American Psychological Association) writing guidelines/format
- Many courses employ Zoom webinar app for live/recorded online classes

MORE COURSE SCHEDULING INFORMATION

- Clinical course placements (NURS 293 & NURS 294) each require 135 hours (Hours subject to change per the new AACN essentials)
 - We try to place students where they work/have potential preceptor
 - We will find placements for students if they do not have potential preceptor
- The first semester orientation will be in-person during the day

REQUIRED COURSES (EACH 3 UNITS) – *EACH ONLY OFFERED IN SPRING OR FALL*

FALL COURSES

- NURS 209: Advanced Role Development in Nursing
- NURS 210: Research: Foundation for Advanced Nursing
- NURS 232: Advanced Physical Assessment
- NURS 215: Community Health Services and Policy
- NURS 213: Seminar in Organizational and Systems Leadership
- NURS 293: Practicum: Organizational and Systems Leadership

SPRING COURSES

- NURS 230: Advanced Concepts in Pathophysiology
- NURS 231: Pharmacology for Advanced Practice
- NURS 214: Educational Program Development in Nursing
- NURS 294: Practicum in Educational Program Development in Nursing
- NURS 500: Culminating Experience

MSN PLAN OF STUDY

- Plan defines what/how many courses you will take each semester
- Most students complete program in two years (4 semesters) or three years (6 semesters)
- Students may select the pacing that works best for their schedules

4 SEMESTER PLAN OF STUDY COMPLETE IN 2 YEARS

Semester 1 Fall	Semester 2 Spring
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• NURS 209: Advanced Role Development in Nursing• NURS 210: Research as the Foundation for Advanced Nursing• NURS 232: Advanced Physical Assessment Across the Lifespan	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• NURS 230: Advanced Concepts in Pathophysiology• NURS 231: Pharmacology for Advanced Practice• NURS 214: Educational Program Development in Nursing
Semester 3 Fall	Semester 4 Spring
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• NURS 215: Community Health Services and Policy• NURS 213: Seminar in Organizational and Systems Leadership• NURS 293: Practicum in Specialized Nursing Process: Organizational and Systems Leadership	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• NURS 500: Culminating Experience• NURS 294: Practicum in Educational Program Development in Nursing

SAMPLE 6 SEMESTER PLAN OF STUDY COMPLETE IN 3 YEARS

Semester 1 Fall	Semester 2 Spring
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• NURS 209: Advanced Role Development in Nursing• NURS 210: Research as the Foundation for Advanced Nursing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• NURS 230: Advanced Concepts in Pathophysiology• NURS 231: Pharmacology for Advanced Practice
Semester 3 Fall	Semester 4 Spring
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• NURS 215: Community Health Services and Policy• NURS 232: Advanced Physical Assessment Across the Lifespan	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• NURS 294: Practicum in Educational Program Development in Nursing• NURS 214: Educational Program Development in Nursing
Semester 5 Fall	Semester 6 Spring
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• NURS 213: Seminar in Organizational and Systems Leadership• NURS 293: Practicum in Specialized Nursing Process: Organizational and Systems leadership	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• NURS 500: Culminating Experience

SAMPLE 8 SEMESTER PLAN OF STUDY COMPLETE IN 4 YEARS

Semester 1 Fall	Semester 2 Spring
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NURS 209: Advanced Role Development in Nursing • NURS 210: Research as the Foundation for Advanced Nursing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NURS 214: Educational Program Development in Nursing
Semester 3 Fall	Semester 4 Spring
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NURS 215: Community Health Services and Policy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NURS 230: Advanced Concepts in Pathophysiology • NURS 231: Pharmacology for Advanced Practice
Semester 5 Fall	Semester 6 Spring
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NURS 232: Advanced Physical Assessment Across the Lifespan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NURS 294: Practicum in Educational Program Development in Nursing
Semester 7 Fall	Semester 8 Spring
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NURS 213: Seminar in Organizational and Systems Leadership • NURS 293: Practicum in Specialized Nursing Process: Organizational and Systems Leadership 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NURS 500: Culminating Experience



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THE CULMINATING EXPERIENCE - N500

- Complete all pre-requisite coursework with a minimum GPA of 3.0
- Final semester in program
- Enroll in N500 - 3 unit course
- 3 options:
 - Comprehensive Exam (most common)
 - Project
 - Thesis

THE COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION

- 30 page problem-solving paper completed independently during final semester
- Graded independently by three faculty as Credit/No Credit using criteria defined in Comprehensive Examination Scoring Rubric
- Only two attempts are allowed

PROGRAM COMPLETION/ TRANSFER OF UNITS

- All requirements for graduation must be completed within 7 years of starting graduate coursework
- Only 6 units of graduate course credits are transferrable from another graduate program

APPLICATION DETAILS

- **Application period is October 1 to March 1**
- We will **not** notify applicants of incomplete applications
- Be sure to submit all transcripts, including courses in progress
- Application requires purpose statement and two letters of recommendation
- Keep copies of everything
- We notify by email regarding admission status and other important communication so check your email for messages from us

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

- Sac State Graduate Nursing Website:
<https://www.csus.edu/college/health-human-services/nursing/graduate-program.html>
- Office of Graduate Students website:
<https://www.csus.edu/graduate-studies/>
- CSUS Catalog: <http://catalog.csus.edu/>

PROGRAM ACCREDITATION/ SYSTEMS

- Nationally accredited by Commission on College Nursing Education (CCNE); awarded 10 year reaccreditation in spring 2020
- Adheres to CA Board of Registered Nursing regulations
- Aligns with Graduate Learning Outcomes for Sacramento State Office of Graduate Studies
- Graduate Curriculum Committee: engages in curriculum development, revision, and reviews student petitions/academic issues
- Faculty: mostly tenured/ tenure track, full-time, teach across all nursing programs

COURSE OBJECTIVES ALIGN WITH GRADUATE STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES (GSLOs) AND NATIONAL STANDARDS

- I. Synthesizes evidence from nursing and other academic disciplines to continually improve the delivery of nursing care across diverse settings.
- II. Analyzes organizational and systems leadership skills to promote quality and safe health care.
- III. Designs a quality improvement and safety project within a health care system.
- IV. Integrates translation research concepts and evidence into diverse practice settings to improve health care outcomes.
- V. Integrates meaningful data from nursing, computer, communication and information sciences to coordinate and improve care.

GRADUATE STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES (GSLOs) CONTINUED

- VI. Analyzes health care policy and advocates through the development process to improve health and health care.
- VII. Utilizes relationship centered leadership to build and sustain collaborative, inter-professional teams to coordinate care.
- VIII. Integrates clinical prevention and population health concepts in the design and delivery of health care.
- IX. Demonstrates advanced depth and breadth of nursing and related sciences, and integrates this knowledge into practice.
- X. Applies theoretical models or frameworks to formulate nursing interventions and to improve health outcomes at the individual, organizational, or systems level.

CONTACTS AND SUPPORT

For support with application processes:

- grad_admissions@csus.edu

For questions about the program:

- rntobsn@csus.edu