



DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN NURSING (Ph.D.)

COLLEGE OF NURSING AND ALLIED HEALTH

School Of Nursing

Interim Dean: Dr. Jacqueline J. Hill PhD, RN

- **DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN NURSING (PhD)**
- **DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE (DNP)**
- **MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING (MSN)**

Chair: Dr. Cheryl Taylor PhD, RN

P.O. Box 11784
Baton Rouge, LA 70813
School of Nursing Building – Room 107 Phone: (225) 771-2663
Fax (225) 771-3547

FACULTY

Professors:

Janet S. Rami
Ph.D., Research Methodology,
Louisiana State University

Brown, Sandra C.
D.N.S., Nursing
Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center

Spurlock, Wanda R.
D.N.S., Nursing
Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center

Associate Professors

Hill, Jacqueline J.
Ph.D., Educational Leadership Research and Counseling
Louisiana State University

Taylor, Cheryl
Ph.D., Nursing
Texas Woman's University

Assistant Professors:

Stover, Annisa
DNP, Walden University

Adjunct Faculty

Blair, Lewis

Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing (Ph.D.)

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Pharm D, Xavier University, New Orleans

Lewis-Moore, Carolyn
Ed.D. University of Phoenix

Graham, Jamie
DNP, Southern University

Introduction

The School of Nursing offers four (4) degrees: the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN), the Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) with a specialty in family nursing, and role options as administrator, educator, or family nurse practitioner, the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) and the Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D) with a major in nursing.

The School of Nursing is a professional school within the context of higher education. It has as its major focus the preparation of professional nurses and the ongoing development and maintenance of an educational climate of relevancy inclusive of professional culture, research and standards of practice.

Goal Statements

- **Goal I.** Develop and maintain high quality degree programs that focus on and are compatible with the mission of the university, as well as with the needs of the community and the health care system it serves.
- **Goal II.** Provide for an effective research infrastructure to enhance faculty and student scholarship, research, and other creative pursuits.
- **Goal III.** Recruit, hire, develop, and reward highly competent faculty who bring appropriate expertise and who are committed to providing quality-learning opportunities for students.
- **Goal IV.** Provide a leadership role in public service activities.
- **Goal V.** Establish and maintain effective systems of program review and assessment to assure high quality programs. Program reviews will be systematic, ongoing and outcome-oriented.
- **Goal VI.** Place strong emphasis on providing an organizational structure and resources to enhance attainment of educational, research and public service goals

Accreditation

The MSN and DNP programs are approved by the Louisiana State Board of Nursing and are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE). CCNE may be contacted at the following address:

Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education
655 K Street, NW Suite 750
Washington, D. C. 20001
202-887-6791
<http://www.aacnnursing.org/CCNE>

The Ph.D. in Nursing is a research-oriented doctorate that focuses on research related to issues and public policy associated with the health of vulnerable women and children. The program prepares scientists whose research in nursing will extend the knowledge base that informs nursing education, nursing practice, and nursing leadership.

Competencies

Graduates of the PhD in nursing program should be able to:

- Synthesize knowledge from nursing as well as the biological and behavioral phenomena relevant to the discipline of nursing.
- Conduct, and communicate independent research that advances the body of scientific nursing knowledge.
- Integrate advanced knowledge of nursing and related disciplines to construct, analyze, and test theoretical models that are pertinent to the practice of nursing.
- Apply knowledge of philosophical and ethical principles and methods in analyzing health related issues and practice dilemmas.
- Provide leadership for nursing in clinical, academic, and/or political settings.
- Integrate in-depth knowledge of theory and research into a substantive field of study.
- Seek new opportunities for exploring phenomena of concern to nursing and health care.

APPLICATION PROCESS AND MATERIALS

For the fall semester admission applications should be completed and submitted by April 1st. Applications for spring semester should be submitted by November 1.

Interested persons should:

Request a Graduate Application Package from Southern University Graduate School. An application is also available on the web under the Graduate School home page at www.subr.edu. Completed applications should be submitted to the Graduate School, Southern University Baton Rouge.

Completed applications should include:

- Complete Graduate School Application Form
- Three Letters of Recommendation
- Official undergraduate and graduate transcripts from all colleges and universities attended.
- Official GRE Score Report taken within 5 years of the application
- A two to three page Statement of Interest in Doctoral Study
 - Curriculum Vitae
- Evidence of original scholarship or research in nursing
- Applicants may be asked to interview by phone or come to Campus.
- Scholarly Writing Sample

Completed applications are submitted to the Graduate School.

Applications that meet the minimum standards are referred to SUSON Graduate Nursing Program and are reviewed by the program's Admissions Committee.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS *Regular Admission*

A Master's Degree in Nursing.

1. GPA

A minimum over-all grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale for courses counted toward the student's Master's degree, as indicated by official transcript.

2. GRE

A satisfactory score on the GRE.

3. Statement of Interest

Submission of a 500-1000 word statement of interest that addresses the following:

- a) Applicant's personal goals for doctoral study
- b) Statement of how PhD education is important to the fulfillment of applicant's career goals

4. Submission of Current Curriculum Vitae/ Resume

Dated employment history and clinical practice experience, honors, awards, professional memberships, and scholarly works (such as grants, publications, and presentations)

5. Sample of Scholarly Writing

Scholarly writing sample in health care or nursing research, including any publications or research

6. Interview

An interview of the applicant

7. Completion of a prerequisite master's level statistics course.

8. Evidence of Credentials and Certification

A current unencumbered license to practice nursing in a state or U.S. territory, and eligibility for licensure in Louisiana.

9. Letters of Recommendation

Three letters of recommendation from:

- a) A former faculty member in a graduate nursing program
- b) An employer of advanced level professional in research, education, or leadership/ administration who can attest to applicant's competencies
- c) An individual of the applicant's choice who can attest to the applicant's character, level of integrity, professional traits, and the ability to successfully complete a doctorate in nursing practice program with academic excellence

RETENTION AND PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS:

Students must earn a grade of "B" or above in each nursing course in which they are enrolled in the program to be eligible for progression.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Completion of the required minimal of 60 credit hours of course work with a GPA of 3.0 or above on a 4.0 scale, successful completion of the Qualifying Examination, and acceptance of the dissertation.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS

A financial support package has been designed to attract full-time students. The availability of teaching and research assistantships is based on current needs for part-time clinical nursing faculty and research assistants.

Ph.D. IN NURSING CURRICULUM

The program of study for the Ph.D. in Nursing requires 60 semester credit hours beyond the master's degree: 9 hours of core; 18 hours of research (includes 3 credit hours for a research practicum and 3 credit hours for advanced research); 12 credits for focus of study courses; 9 credits for cognates (700 level and above), and 12 credit hours for dissertation.

Core Courses (9 Hours)

N700	History and Philosophy of Nursing Science	3 credits
N702	Theory Construction in Nursing.....	3 credits
N704	Health Policy, Politics and Economics in Nursing	3 credits

Research Courses (18 Hours)

N710	Advanced Statistics	3 credits*
N712	Advanced Nursing Research.....	3 credits
N714	Population Health Research Methodologies	3 credits
N716	Measurement and Informatics in Nursing Research and Practice.....	3 credit
N720	Research Practicum	3 credits
N799	Advanced Research.....	3 credits

Focus of Study Courses (12 Hours)

N730	Theories and Concepts of Health Behavior and Health Promotion	3 credits
N731	Family Nursing: Theory and Research	3 credits
N732	Issues in Health Care of Vulnerable Women and Children	3 credits
N733	Policy and Strategies for Improving the Health of Vulnerable Women and Children.....	3 credits

Cognates (9 Hours)

Cognates are selected with approval of the student's advisor. They may be selected from, but are not limited to, the following areas: Epidemiology, Nutrition, Sociology, Psychology, Health Care Administration, Health Policy, Social Work, and Nursing.

Dissertation Research (12 Hours)

N800	Dissertation Research	12 credits
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TOTAL 60 Hours

**With the advisors permission, course substitution is allowed.*

N 798 Qualifying Examination

Students must apply to take the qualifying examination after completion of at least 36 credit hours of course work with a minimum GPA of 3.00, and no Grade below "B" in nursing courses.

The qualifying examination will include content from core, research, focus of study, and cognate courses.

Admission to Candidacy

Successful completion of the qualifying examination and an approved dissertation topic qualifies students to apply for admission to doctoral candidacy.

Dissertation Proposal

Students must present and defend their dissertation proposal to their doctoral committee upon successful advancement to candidacy. Once the doctoral committee approves the dissertation proposal, the student can begin the data collection process.

Dissertation Defense

This is the final oral examination of the completed dissertation and it is under the supervision of the student's doctoral committee.

Time Limit

All program requirements for the Ph.D. must be completed within eight years from the date the first credit hours are earned. All doctoral work must be completed within five calendar years after the student passes the qualifying examination.

FULL-TIME PLAN OF STUDY

The example is for full-time students entering in the Fall Semester.
Fall Semester Year I

N700	History and Philosophy of Nursing Science.....	3 credits
N710	Advanced Statistics	3 credits
N730	Theories and Concepts of Health Behavior and Health Promotion.....	3 credits
N704	Health Policy, Politics and Economics in Nursing.....	3 credits

Spring Semester Year I

N712	Advanced Nursing Research	3 credits
N714	Population Health Research Methodologies.....	3 credits
N716	Measurement and Informatics in Nursing Research and Practice.....	3 credits

Summer Semester Year I

Elective 1 cognate	3 credits
Elective 2 cognate.....	3 credits

Fall Semester Year II

N702	Theory Construction in Nursing.....	3 credits
N731	Family Nursing: Theory and Research.....	3 credits
N732	Issues in Healthcare of Vulnerable Women and Children.....	3 credits

Spring Semester Year II

N733	Policy and Strategies for Improving the Health of Vulnerable Women and Children.....	3 credits
N720	Research Practicum.....	3 credits
Elective	3 Cognate	3 credits

Summer Semester Year II

N799	Advanced Research.....	3 credits
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Fall Semester Year III

N798	Comprehensive Examination.....	3 credits
N800	Dissertation Research.....	3-15 credits

Spring Semester Year III

N800	Dissertation Research
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Summer Semester Year III

N800	Dissertation Research
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SMED 739 Applied Statistics, PPOL 700 Quantitative Methods I or an equivalent course for transfer at the 700 level may be substituted for N710

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

700. HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY OF NURSING SCIENCE (CREDIT, 3 hours). Overview and critical analysis of the historical and contemporary views of knowledge development and science. The development of nursing as a discipline is examined from a historical perspective.

702. THEORY CONSTRUCTION IN NURSING (CREDIT, 3 hours). Foundation for generating nursing theory for professional practice focusing on the relationship between theory construction and research. Emphasis is on generation, testing, and formulation of a theory for professional practice and analysis of existing health and nursing theories. Strategies for analysis and derivation of concepts, statements, and theories, are practiced. Meta-theories and grand theories are examined and critiqued. (Prerequisite: N700)

N704 HEALTH POLICY, POLITICS AND ECONOMICS IN NURSING (CREDIT, 3 hours). Interrelated areas concerning the nurse's role in health care policy. Topics include examination of health care policy, policy analysis, and the political process. Issues that currently shape health care policy development and future policy, and their implications for nursing and health care are explored. The nurse's involvement in influencing health policy formulation, legislation, and regulations are discussed.

(Prerequisite: N700, N710, N712, N730)

710. ADVANCED STATISTICS (CREDIT, 3 hours). Principles of bivariate and multivariate regression and correlation are studied. Emphasis is on the application of these techniques in the analysis of nursing and health-related data. Course substitution is allowed with consent of the program. (Prerequisite: Graduate Level Statistics Course)

712. ADVANCED NURSING RESEARCH (CREDIT, 3 hours). The relationship of theoretical perspective and the design of nursing research. Critical analysis, research rigor, qualitative and quantitative methods, Meta-analysis, and other methodologies are presented. Alternative designs are discussed in consideration of underlying assumptions, ethical issues, design sensitivity and threats to validity. Hypotheses relating to current nursing problems are derived and appropriate methodology is applied. (Prerequisite: N700, N710, N730)

714. POPULATION HEALTH & RESEARCH METHODOLOGIES (CREDIT, 3 hours). Application and critical analysis of quantitative and qualitative research methodologies in the study of health issues in vulnerable persons. Emphasis is on appropriateness of methodology to various research questions and/or problems formulation. Sampling frameworks, types of samples, sampling errors and biases for designs will be addressed. (Prerequisite: N712)

716. MEASUREMENT & INFORMATICS IN NURSING RESEARCH AND PROACTIVE H (CREDIT, 3 hours). Critical analysis of principles and theories of measurement. Instrumentation, analysis of existing data, reliability and validity are emphasized. Various approaches to measurement and scaling, techniques of instrument construction, and procedures for the critical evaluation of instruments are stressed. (Prerequisite: N712 and N714)

720. RESEARCH PRACTICUM (CREDIT, 3 hours). Application/implementation of the research process in an ongoing research project. Students will develop methodological or substantive expertise in research while working with a scientist at a Research Center. Emphasis will be placed on the interdisciplinary aspects of health research and teamwork. Dissemination of research findings and grant writing are stressed. (Prerequisite: N710, N712, N714, N716)

730. THEORIES AND CONCEPTS OF HEALTH BEHAVIOR AND HEALTH PROMOTION (CREDIT, 3 hours). Examination of health, health seeking behaviors and barriers to health care of vulnerable populations (i.e. women and children). Included are theoretical and empirical approaches to understanding the impact of culture, economics, and the environment of health. Research on health promotional behaviors of vulnerable individuals, families, and communities is incorporated in the development of interventions that promote, maintain or restore health. Emphasis is placed on the nurse's role in helping individuals to monitor and improve their health and quality of life.

731. FAMILY NURSING: THEORY AND RESEARCH (CREDIT, 3 HOURS). Examination of family theories and research from nursing and related disciplines. Focus will be directed toward examination of factors that impact vulnerable families. (Prerequisite: N700, N702, N730)

N732. ISSUES IN HEALTH CARE OF VULNERABLE WOMEN AND CHILDREN (CREDIT, 3 hours). Focus on theory, research and interventions for actual or potential health problems in women and children across the life span.

733. POLICY AND STRATEGIES FOR IMPROVING THE HEALTH OF VULNERABLE WOMEN AND CHILDREN (CREDIT, 3 hours). An in-depth analysis of health policy, research and community-based intervention strategies for women and children. Students conduct a critical analysis of health policies and scientific knowledge related to the health of women and children. (Prerequisites: N731, N732, N702)

798. DOCTORAL QUALIFYING EXAMINATION, (Credit 0 hours).

799. ADVANCED RESEARCH (CREDIT, 3-15 hours). Discussion of practical and philosophical problems associated with dissertation research. (Prerequisite: N710, N712, N714, N716, N720)

800. DISSERTATION RESEARCH (CREDIT, 3-15 hours). The dissertation is an original research study completed in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Ph.D degree. Guidelines for the dissertation have been developed by Southern University's graduate school and will be given to the student. (Prerequisite: Completion of all course work and passing of the Qualifying Examination).