Master’s Education at MSU College of Nursing: What you need to know

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Michigan State University

- Founded in 1855
- Land Grant University
- Association of American Universities – AAU
Why are you here?

- Undergraduate vs. graduate nursing education
  - Undergraduate education in reality has changed little in structure in the last 100 years
  - Graduate education developed in the 1960’s. The purpose is to produce excellent practitioners who have the skills and know-how to implement and change practice for the benefit of the patient.
- Graduate education in nursing promotes:
  - Nursing as a Profession
  - Leadership
  - Clinical focus
  - Visibility
Master’s Education

- 60-75% of all graduate education is at the Master’s level.
- About 13% of the American nursing workforce holds a Master’s degree
Mission Statement
College of Nursing

The College of Nursing prepares knowledgeable, innovative and caring nurses to improve the health of our global community, and to advance the science of nursing through research and practice innovation.
Master’s Education in the CON

- Three areas of concentration
  - Nurse Practitioner – Hybrid format
    - Family Nurse Practitioner
    - Adult/Gerontological Nurse Practitioner
  - Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS) – Online format
    - Adult/Gerontology with focus on Education
  - Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA) – Face to Face format

- Guided by:
  - The Essentials of Master’s Education for Advanced Practice Nurses (AACN)
  - Specialty Essentials
  - Accredited and approved
Three Curricula With Common Components

- **Core Courses:** Those taken by all Master’s students across concentrations through the online format.
  - NUR 802 – Theory Foundations and Role for the APN (fall)
  - NUR 804 – Statistics for the Healthcare Professional (spring)
  - NUR 806 – Research for the APN (fall)
  - NUR 814 – Health Care Policy and Politics (fall and spring)

- **Shared Courses:** Those in 2 of the 3 concentrations:
  - NUR 807 – Clinical Decision Making (spring)
  - NUR 809 – Applied Pharmacology for the APN (spring, summer) Online format.

- **Research Opportunity:**
Find the answers to your questions!

- Master’s Handbook – The answers to many of your questions
  - Online
  - Home page – nursing@msu.edu
    - Current Students
    - Handbooks
    - MSN handbook
- Evolving document – You will be notified of major changes/additions
The Good, The Bad & The Ugly

STRESSORS

Academic Concerns
Financial Concerns
Family Concerns
Professional Concerns
Professional Expectations
Online Education
Time Management
Etc. Etc, Etc

STRENGTHS
Important University and CON Rules

- Time limitation – 6 years from the date of enrollment to complete course work.
- Failure in a course leads to dismissal- you are allowed to apply for readmission which is determined by the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and the Dean.
- Procedure for changing academic program concentration requires applying to the other program:
  - Change from NP to CNS status
  - Change from CNS to NP status
  - No transfer to the CRNA concentration is permitted
- Decision to move concentrations is dependent on
  - Discussion with faculty advisor
  - Available space in the concentration
  - Submit a new statement of purpose and reason for the change
  - Complete interview by appropriate course faculty
  - Recommendation through regular admission process
Academic Compliance

- Students are expected to have:
  - Satisfactory progress in courses and program curriculum
  - Minimum of a 3.0/4.0 needs to be achieved overall and in each course.
Changing Progression Through the Major

- Moving from full-time to part-time or part-time to full time or
- Change in date of graduation or
- Stopping out for any reason
  - Essential that you meet with your academic advisor and construct a new program completion form
  - Not automatic – dependent on academic and clinical site availability
In the event of unsuccessful completion of a course…

- Readmission to a course is not guaranteed

- Must write to the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs of the College requesting readmission
  - Need to identify the issues which caused you to be unsuccessful and steps that have been taken to alleviate the issues which caused the problem(s)
Academic Support

- Course Faculty
- Academic Advisor
- Student Services Staff
- University Resources
  - Counseling Center
  - Writing Center
  - Library Resources – Heidi Schroeder
- MSN Handbook
- Peers – Don’t underestimate the power of friends
Problems?
Use the Chain of Command!

- **Course Faculty**

- **Program Coordinator/Director**
  - NP – Dr. Patty Peek
  - CNS – Dr. Kathy Poindexter
  - CRNA – Dr. Henry Talley

- **Director of Graduate Clinical Programs** – Dr. Katherine Dontje

- **Associate Dean for Academic Affairs** – Dr. Teresa Wehrwein
Required Compliance

Each Master’s student in the College of Nursing is **required** to be **continuously** compliant in the following areas during the entire time in the College of Nursing regardless of whether clinical courses are being taken:

- Criminal Background Check
- Proof of current Health Insurance
- *Current licensure to practice as a registered nurse in the State of Michigan – Renewable in March every 2 years
- *Health Care Providers Life Support Certification
  - American Heart Association Basic Life Support for Health Care Providers or
  - Red Cross CPR for the Professional Rescuer
- *HIPAA - online
- *Bloodborn pathogen training - online

* Denotes required renewal
Immunizations

- Measles, Mumps Rubella (MMR)
- Varicella
- Hepatitis B
- Tetanus (Td)*
- Seasonal Influenza*
- Tetanus and Pertussis (TdaP)*
- Polio
- TB Test*

* Denotes Annual Renewal
Required Compliance

- Compliance status for each student in the Master’s program is checked monthly.

- Notified of deficiencies either by Olin Health Center – University Physician’s Office or from the secretary for the Master’s Program or both
  - Colleen Wager – 432-0474

- Lack of persistent non-compliance may result in **required withdrawal** from classes or **dismissal from the program** at the Director’s discretion.
Responsible Conduct of Research

- Evidence of the successful completion of training must be submitted by the student to the Master’s Program Secretary.
- Students who fail to demonstrate successful completion of annual training requirements are considered in academic jeopardy.
- Students who fail to demonstrate successful completion of annual training requirements will jeopardize scholarship and grant awards.
Responsible Conduct of Research Certification

- **Year I:** HIPAA, IRB plus course materials
- **Year II:** HIPAA, plus two hours of selected modules
- **Year III:** HIPAA and IRB renewal
- **Year IV:** HIPAA and individually developed plan with advisor for continued compliance
Course and Program Evaluation

- Students are key informants of quality
  - SIRS
  - Clinical/Internship site evaluations
  - Preceptor evaluation
  - End of program evaluation
  - Graduate success
ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

- Academic Honesty
- Intellectual Property
- Intellectual Integrity
- Plagiarism

- This is an important and serious matter

- University link:
  https://www.msu.edu/~ombud/academic-integrity/index.html
Plagiarism

- **Largest source** of abuse of academic integrity

- Intentional vs. non-intentional

- Becoming more visible because
  - More common?
  - Boundaries more vague
  - More detectable

» Posner, 2007
What is it?

- Unauthorized use of ideas
- Copyrighted vs. non-copyrighted material
- When in doubt, give credit.

Writing in the Curriculum

• An expectation of CON, MSU
• A professional obligation
• Important that writing be on an intellectual and format level for possible publication in a professional journal.
Participate!

- Opportunities to have a voice in college decisions
  - Graduate program committee
  - Faculty practice committee
  - Student Nurses Association

- Alpha Psi chapter of Sigma Theta Tau
Life after the MSN Degree!

- Doctoral education at MSU:
  - PhD
    - Research focused to develop the science of nursing
  - DNP
    - Practice focused to change and improve the practice of nursing
THOU SHALT NOT……

……park in the patient parking lot of the Clinical Center!!!!!

- Student Parking in Lot 91.
  - See link. [http://police.msu.edu/regulations/facstaff.pdf](http://police.msu.edu/regulations/facstaff.pdf)
Safety at the University

- Important to know policies
- Be aware of your surroundings
- Be aware of room exits
- Where to go in an emergency
- How to handle yourself at clinical experiences
- Link to university information: http://admissions.msu.edu/campuslife/safety.asp
QUESTIONS?