



2026-2027

**STUDENT ACADEMIC CATALOG
GRADUATE PROGRAMS**

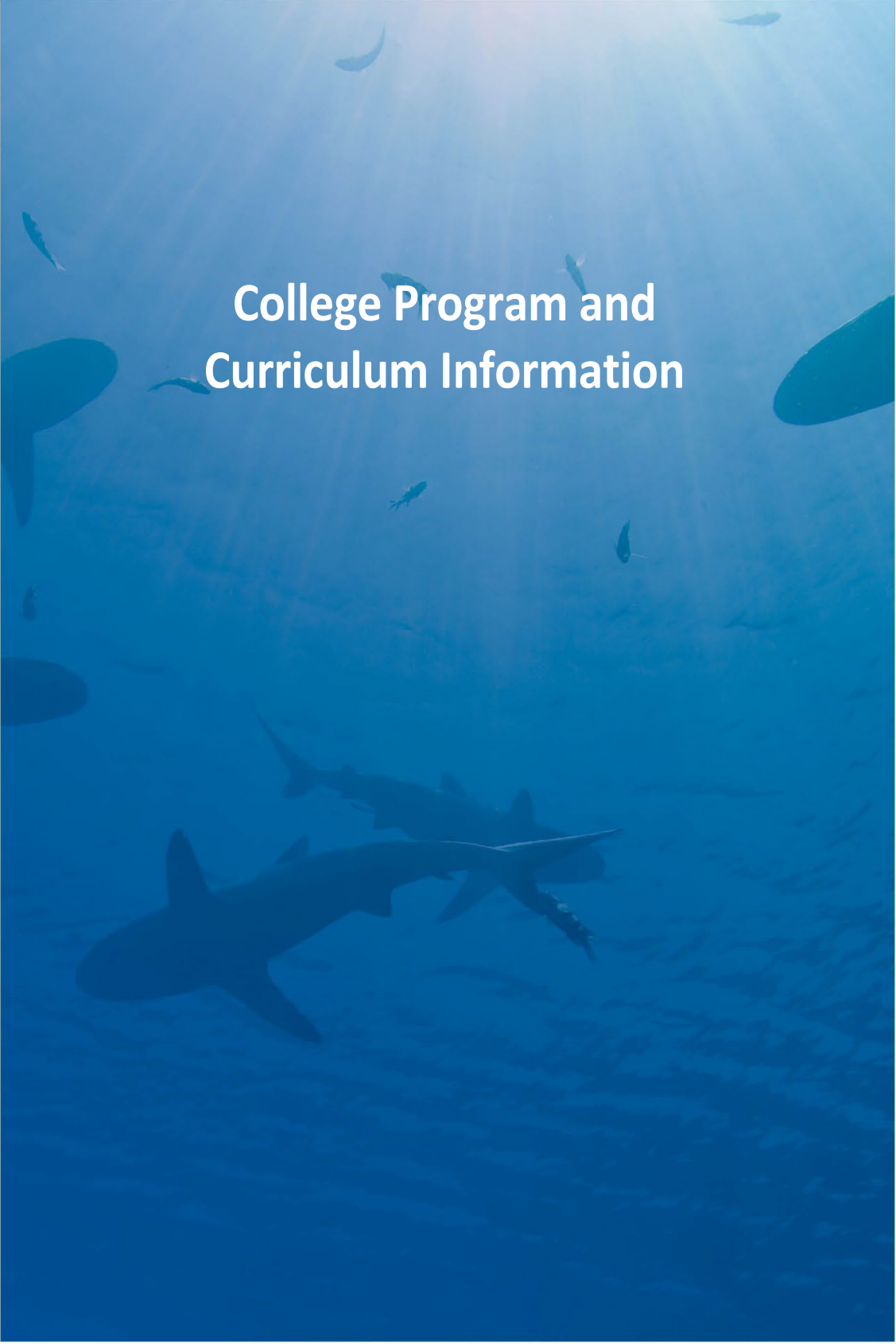
**Ron and Kathy Assaf
College of Nursing**

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An underwater scene with a deep blue background. Sunlight rays filter down from the top. Several sharks are visible, including a large one in the foreground and another slightly behind it. Smaller fish are scattered throughout the water.

College Program and Curriculum Information

Ron and Kathy Assaf College of Nursing



**Stefanie La Manna, Ph.D., M.P.H.,
A.P.R.N., FNP-C, AGACNP-BC
Dean**

Mission Statement

The mission of the Ron and Kathy Assaf College of Nursing—a selective, doctoral-research university—is to deliver innovative academic programs in a dynamic, lifelong learning and research environment fostering integrity, academic excellence, leadership, and community service through engaged students, faculty, and staff.

Accreditation

NSU's baccalaureate degree program in nursing/master's degree program in nursing/Doctor of Nursing Practice program, and postgraduate A.P.R.N. certificate program at Nova Southeastern University's Ron and Kathy Assaf College of Nursing are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (ccneaccreditation.org).

Program Information

The Ron and Kathy Assaf College of Nursing offers a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (B.S.N.) program, Master of Science in Nursing (M.S.N.) programs, two pathways to the Doctor of Nursing Practice (D.N.P.), and two pathways to the Ph.D. in Nursing degree.

For those who wish to enhance their provider role, NSU offers the M.S.N.—A.P.R.N. degree. The M.S.N.—A.P.R.N. degree prepares the graduate to take the national certification examination to become a family, adult-gerontology acute care, or psychiatric-mental health nurse practitioner.

NSU offers also two pathways to the Doctor of Nursing Practice (D.N.P.) for nurses who wish to obtain a doctoral degree. Students may apply to either the B.S.N. to D.N.P. program or directly to the D.N.P. program. The doctoral degree prepares nurses to advance in their A.P.R.N. role or build upon administrative positions in fields such as nurse administration, quality assurance, and community or public health as a nurse. NSU also offers two pathways to the Ph.D. in Nursing degree. Students may apply to either the D.N.P. to Ph.D. or the Ph.D. program. Both are offered in an online format. All programs focus on developing nursing

professionals to assume leadership roles in the complex health care environment.

College Administration

Stefanie La Manna, Ph.D., M.P.H., A.P.R.N., FNP-C, AGACNP-BC

Dean and Associate Professor, Ron and Kathy Assaf College of Nursing
Room 1570, Ext. 21963

Michelle Julian Ph.D., M.S.N., R.N.

Associate Dean of Academic Affairs and Associate Professor
Fort Lauderdale/Davie Campus—Room 1553, Ext. 21984

Chitra Paul Victor, Ph.D., M.B.A., M.D.(A.M.), R.N., CNE

Associate Dean of Academic Programs and Associate Professor
Fort Myers Campus—Room 421, Ext. 41036

Gesulla Cavanaugh, Ph.D., M.S., M.P.H.

Assistant Dean of Research and Associate Professor
Fort Lauderdale/Davie Campus—Room 1555, Ext. 21980

Timothy D. O'Connor, Ph.D., R.N., LNHA

Director of Assessment and Accreditation
Fort Lauderdale/Davie Campus—Room 1571, Ext. 21894

Cheng-Chang Pan, Ph.D., M.B.A., M.A., PMP

Course Design Director and Professor
Fort Lauderdale/Davie Campus—Room 1568, Ext. 21161

Smitha Ajeshm, M.S.N., PMHNP-BC

Program Director of Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PMHNP)
Program and Instructor Miramar Campus—Room 316D, Ext. 29498

Mahalal L. Batto, D.N.P., A.P.R.N., PMHNP-BC, FNP-BC

Program Director of Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP)
Program and Assistant Professor
Palm Beach Campus—Room 220, Ext. 52119

Lyn Peugeot, D.N.P., M.S.N., R.N.

Program Director of Entry B.S.N. Program and Assistant Professor
Fort Lauderdale/Davie Campus—Room 1565, Ext. 21947

Luis Taboada Rodriguez, M.S.N. (Ed), R.N.

Program Director of Entry B.S.N. and Accelerated B.S.N. and Instructor
Fort Myers Campus—Room 428, Ext. 46964

Kimberly Sand, D.N.P., A.P.R.N., ANP-BC

Program Director of Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) Program and Doctor of Nursing Practice (D.N.P.)
Program and Assistant Professor
Tampa Bay Campus—Room 3321, Ext. 45443

Juan Segura, M.D., D.N.P., M.S.H.S.A., A.P.R.N., AGACNP-BC, FNP

Program Director of Advanced Practice Registered Nurse, Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner (AGACNP) Program, and Assistant Professor

Palm Beach Campus—Room 215, Ext. 52122

Sonia Wisdom, Ph.D., M.S.N., R.N., AGACNP-BC

Program Director of Entry B.S.N./A.B.S.N. Program and Assistant Professor

Miami Campus—Room 332, Ext. 55445

Core Performance Standards for Admission and Progress

The Nova Southeastern University Ron and Kathy Assaf College of Nursing is pledged to the admission and matriculation of qualified students and wishes to acknowledge awareness of laws that prohibit discrimination.

Regarding those students with verifiable disabilities, the university will not discriminate against such individuals who are otherwise qualified, but will expect applicants and students to meet certain minimal technical standards (core performance standards) as set forth herein, with or without reasonable accommodation. In adopting these standards, the university believes it must keep in mind the ultimate safety of the patients whom its graduates will eventually serve. The standards reflect what the university believes are reasonable expectations required of health professions students and personnel in performing common functions. Any exceptions to such standards must be approved by the dean of the student's particular college, based upon appropriate circumstances.

The holders of health care degrees must have the knowledge and skills to function in a broad variety of clinical situations and to render a wide spectrum of patient care. In order to carry out the activities described below, candidates for health college degrees must be able to integrate consistently, quickly, and accurately all information received, and they must have the ability to learn, integrate, analyze, and synthesize data.

Honor and integrity of the health professions student and health care professional is essential and depends on the exemplary behavior of individual health care providers in their relations with patients, faculty members, and colleagues. This includes accountability to oneself and to relationships with fellow students, future colleagues, faculty members, and patients who come under the student's care or contribute to the student's training and growth, as well as members of the general public. This applies to personal conduct that reflects on the student's honesty and integrity in both academic and nonacademic settings, whether or not involving an NSU- sponsored activity. All students must have the capacity to manage their lives and anticipate their own needs. Upon accepting admission to NSU, each student subscribes to, and pledges complete observance to, NSU's Student Code of Conduct Policies. A violation of these standards is an abuse of the trust placed in every student and could lead to suspension or dismissal.

Candidates for degrees offered by the Ron and Kathy Assaf College of Nursing must have, with or without reasonable accommodation, multiple abilities and skills including intellectual, conceptual, integrative, and quantitative abilities; interpersonal communication; mobility and strength; motor skills; and hearing, visual, tactile, behavioral, and social attributes. Candidates for admission and progression must be able to perform these abilities and skills in a reasonably independent manner.

Communication

Candidates and students must be able to interact and communicate effectively—with respect to policies, protocols, and process—with faculty and staff members, students, patients, patient surrogates, and administration during the student's educational program. They must be able to communicate effectively and sensitively with patients. Communication includes not only speech, but also reading and writing. Candidates and students must also be able to communicate effectively and efficiently in all written forms with all members of the health care team. They must have interpersonal abilities sufficient to interact with individuals, families, and groups from a variety of social, emotional, cultural, and intellectual backgrounds.

Intellectual, Conceptual, Integrative, and Qualitative Abilities

These abilities include measurement, calculation, reasoning, analysis, and synthesis. Problem-solving—a critical skill—requires all of these intellectual abilities. Candidates and students must have critical thinking ability sufficient for good clinical judgment. This is necessary to identify cause/effect relationships in clinical situations and to develop plans of care. In addition, candidates and students should be able to comprehend

three-dimensional relationships and to understand the spatial relationships of structures. An individual is expected to be able to perform multiple tasks in a dynamic, highly competitive, and challenging learning environment. All individuals are expected to meet their program requirements on a level as determined by NSU administration or the applicable college/program administration.

A student must have sufficient proficiency with English to retrieve information from texts and lectures and communicate concepts on written exams and patient charts; elicit patient backgrounds; describe patient changes in mood, activity, and posture; and coordinate patient care with all members of the health care team. A student must be able to communicate or provide communication in lay language so that patients and their families can understand the patient's conditions, treatment options, and instructions. The student must be able to accurately enter information in the patient's electronic health record, according to each program's requirements.

Motor Skills

Candidates and students should have sufficient motor function to execute movements reasonably required to provide general care and emergency treatment to patients. Examples of emergency treatment reasonably required to some health care professionals are cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), administration of intravenous medication, the application of pressure to stop bleeding, the opening of obstructed airways, and the ability to calibrate and use various pieces of equipment. Such actions require coordination of both gross and fine muscular movements, equilibrium, and functional use of the senses of touch and vision.

Strength and Mobility

Candidates and students must have sufficient mobility to attend to emergency codes and to perform such maneuvers as CPR when required. They must have the physical ability to move sufficiently from room to room and to maneuver in small places. Ron and Kathy Assaf College of Nursing students must have the ability to position and move patients.

Hearing

Candidates and students should have sufficient auditory ability to monitor and assess health needs. They must be able to hear information given by the patient in answer to inquiries; to hear cries for help; to hear features in an examination, such as the auscultatory sounds; and to monitor equipment.

Vision

Candidates and students must have visual ability sufficient for observation and assessment necessary in patient care. It must be consistent in many cases with being able to assess asymmetry, range of motion, and tissue texture changes. Ron and Kathy Assaf College of Nursing students must have adequate visual capabilities for proper evaluation and treatment integration. Students must be able to observe the patient and the patient's responses, including body language and features of the examination and treatment, as well as interpret prescriptions and medical orders.

Tactile/Sensory

Students must have sufficient tactile ability for physical assessment. They must be able to perform palpation, functions of physical examination, and/or functions related to therapeutic intervention, including medication administration.

Behavioral and Social Attributes

Students must possess the emotional health required for full use of their intellectual abilities; the exercise of good judgment; the ability to take responsibility for their own actions—with respect to policies, protocols, and processes—with faculty and staff members, students, patients, patient surrogates, and administration

during the student's educational program; the prompt completion of all responsibilities attendant to the diagnosis and care of patients; and the development of mature, sensitive, and effective relationships with the patients. Students must be able to physically tolerate taxing workloads, adapt to changing environments, display flexibility, and learn to function in the face of uncertainties inherent in the clinical problems of many patients. Compassion, integrity, concern for others, interpersonal skills, interest, and motivation are all personal qualities that will be assessed during the education process.

Tuition and Fees

Tuition for 2026–2027 will be posted on the college's website (<https://nursing.nova.edu/admissions/tuition-fees.html>). A Nursing Program General Access Fee of \$145 is required each year, and an NSU Student Services Fee of \$680 per semester (if taking 4 or more credits) or \$340 per semester (if taking less than 4 credits) is also required. Additionally, there is a Technology Fee of \$250 and an A.P.R.N. Lab Fee of \$150 charged per semester (fall, winter, summer).

The acceptance fee is \$500 for M.S.N. and \$500 for D.N.P. and Ph.D. This fee is required to reserve the accepted applicant's place in the class. This advanced payment will be deducted from the tuition payment due by registration day, but is nonrefundable in the event of a withdrawal. It is due within two weeks of an applicant's acceptance.

Graduates requesting nursing curriculum verification forms will be charged \$50 for Continental United States forms and \$125 for International or US Territories/Protectorate forms.

All tuition and fees are subject to change by the board of trustees without notice. Please also visit <https://www.nova.edu/bursar/billing/tuition-fees.html> for information about University-wide fees.

The first semester's tuition and fees, less the previously paid acceptance fee, are due on or before registration day. Tuition for each subsequent semester is due on or before the appropriate registration day. Students will not be admitted until their financial obligations have been met.

Students are responsible for transportation to clinical agencies and other locations related to their program. Students will incur additional costs, such as books, FNSA dues, uniforms, lab coat, and graduation costs.

There are scholarships and grants available for nursing students. The Office of Student Financial Assistance and the Ron and Kathy Assaf College of Nursing are eager to assist you in exploring all your financial aid options. Students can review scholarship opportunities at nursing.nova.edu/students/scholarships.html and speak with a financial aid representative by calling (954) 262-3380. Do not hesitate to ask for help.

Transfer Credits

Refer to the university policy at nova.edu/academic-affairs/forms/transfer-credit-grad-prof-programs-policy.pdf.

Foreign Coursework

Coursework taken at a foreign institution must be evaluated for U.S. institution equivalence by an approved National Association of Credential Evaluation Services (NACES) organization, such as one of the services listed following, unless otherwise indicated in a specific program section.

World Education Services, Inc.

(212) 966-6311 • 800-361-3106 • wes.org

By Postal Mail

WES Reference #

WES Global Documentation Centre
PO Box 2008 STN MAIN
Newmarket, ON, L3Y 0G5
Canada

By Express Courier

WES Reference #
WES Global Documentation Centre
14-145 Industrial Parkway South
Aurora, ON, L4G 3V5
Canada

Josef Silny & Associates, Inc.,
International Education Consultants
7101 SW 102 Avenue
Miami, Florida 33173
(305) 273-1616 • (305) 273-1338 fax
info@jsilny.org • jsilny.org

Educational Credential Evaluators, Inc.
101 West Pleasant Street, Suite 200
Milwaukee, WI 53212-3963
(414) 289-3400 • ece.org

It is the applicant's responsibility to have this coursework evaluated. An official course-by-course evaluation with a cumulative grade point average must be sent directly from the evaluation service to Nova Southeastern University, Enrollment Processing Services, 3300 S. University Drive, PO Box 299000, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33328-2004, for the appropriate college. **Programs using centralized application services should contact the specific application service to check which evaluation services are acceptable in order for their application to be processed.**

GRADUATE NURSING PROGRAM

Master of Science in Nursing—Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (M.S.N.—A.P.R.N.)

The Master of Science in Nursing (M.S.N.)—Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (A.P.R.N.) Program is an online degree program for the registered nurse (R.N.) with a bachelor's degree. Students who enter the M.S.N. program without a B.S.N. degree, but with a B.S. or B.A. degree in another field, will be required to enroll in NSG 5000B—Transition to Advanced Nursing Practice in their first semester of admission to the M.S.N. program. This course is only offered in the fall term. Three concentrations are offered: Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP), Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner (AGACNP), and Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PMHNP). The M.S.N. - A.P.R.N. Program is available as a full-time or flex track curriculum.

- The **Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP)** provides primary care to newborns, infants, children, adolescents, adults, pregnant and postpartum women, and older adults. The focus of care is the family unit, as well as the individuals belonging to the family. Family nurse practitioners practice primarily in ambulatory care settings. A Family Nurse Practitioner Postgraduate Certificate Program is also available.
- The **Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner (AGACNP)** provides care to adults and older adults with acute, critical, and complex-chronic physical and mental illnesses across the entire adult age spectrum, including late adolescents to adults and older adults. AGACNPs can provide services ranging from disease prevention to the critical care needed to stabilize a patient's condition, prevent complications, restore maximum health, and/or provide palliative care. The AGACNP practice focuses on patients who are characterized as physiologically unstable, technologically dependent, and/or highly vulnerable to complications. An Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner Postgraduate Certificate Program is also available.
- The **Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PMHNP)** program is for those nurses interested in providing a full range of primary mental health services in a wide variety of settings. A Psychiatric- Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Postgraduate Certificate Program is also available.

All M.S.N. students take 12 credit hours of core foundational nursing courses. AGACNP, PMHNP, and FNP students take an additional 33-36 credits of specialty courses specific to their concentration. These concentrations are also offered as certificates. Certificate students must have transcript evidence of completion of (1) a master's degree in nursing and (2) three separate, graduate-level courses in advanced pathophysiology, advanced pharmacology, and advanced health assessment from a CCNE- or ACEN-accredited university in a clinical nursing specialty. Admit term for the certificate programs is twice a year. Certificate programs are currently hybrid and will move to an online format starting summer 2027.

Admissions Requirements

Prospective M.S.N.—A.P.R.N. students are selected for admission based on application content, academic record, interview with the program director, professional nursing licensure, and active clinical experience.

Admission to the M.S.N.—A.P.R.N. program requires the following:

- a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) or a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) degree from a regionally accredited college or university*

Nursing degrees must be accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN), the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE), or the Commission for Nursing Education Accreditation (CNEA).

- a minimum, overall, cumulative GPA, as listed below, on a 4.0 scale
- a. For students with less than 24 months of active, independent, nursing practice (not including position residencies or facility orientations), a GPA of 3.0 is required.
- b. For students with 24 months or more of active, independent clinical practice (not including position residencies or facility orientations), an overall minimum GPA of 2.75 in their B.S.N. is required.
- c. For students with a B.S. or B.A. in a field other than nursing, an overall GPA of 3.0 and completion of NSG 5000B, only offered during the fall term, is required.
- AGACNP applicants require a current, unrestricted state of Florida professional nursing (R.N.) licensure. Licensure must remain current in the jurisdiction of the practicum throughout the program.
- FNP and PMHNP applicants require a current, unrestricted professional nursing (R.N.) licensure. Licensure must remain current in the jurisdiction of the practicum throughout the program. at least one year of current clinical experience (direct patient care)

** Students who enter the M.S.N.—A.P.R.N. program without a B.S.N. will be required to enroll in NSG 5000B—Transition to Advanced Nursing Practice in their first semester. This course is only offered in the fall.*

For more information, call the Ron and Kathy Assaf College of Nursing at (954) 262-1975 or 800-356-0026, ext. 21975.

Application Procedures

The NSU Ron and Kathy Assaf College of Nursing participates in the centralized applications service called NursingCAS. NursingCAS does not take part in student selection. The NursingCAS application may be obtained online at nursingcas.org. For more information, call NursingCAS at (617) 612-2880.

The deadline to complete and submit the NursingCAS and NSU applications is August 1 for fall admission and December 19 for winter admission. The Office of Admissions works on a rolling basis. Applications are accepted year-round.

1. Send supporting documents to NursingCAS.

NursingCAS
P.O. Box 9201
Watertown, MA 02471

- a. All official college transcripts from undergraduate, graduate, and professional institutions attended must be sent to NursingCAS directly from those institutions.
- b. M.S.N.—A.P.R.N. students must submit a copy of their active, unencumbered Florida R.N. license for AGACNP and an unencumbered R.N. license for FNP and PMHNP tracks. The license must remain active and unencumbered throughout the length of the program.
- c. Applicants must submit a current curriculum vitae (CV)/résumé.

2. Interview with the program director.

For complete information on foreign coursework, refer to [*“Foreign Coursework” section of this catalog*](#). To speak with a transfer evaluation services counselor or to schedule an appointment, please call (954) 262-8117 or 800-806-3680, ext. 28117.

Progression Requirements

Students are required to be continuously enrolled in the program, taking at least one graduate course each term. All courses must be completed with a minimum grade of B- for credit to be received toward the M.S.N. degree. A course may be repeated once if a grade less than B- is obtained. Only one repeated course can be applied toward the M.S.N. degree. A second course with a grade less than B- will preclude completion of the program and the student will be dismissed from the program.

Graduation Requirements

Attendance is encouraged at the commencement ceremony. To receive an M.S.N.—A.P.R.N. degree, all students must fulfill the following requirements.

- Satisfactorily complete the program requirements for the degree, including all required courses and clinical requirements.
- Attain a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0, with no course with a grade lower than B- applied toward the degree.
- Satisfactorily meet all financial and library obligations.
- Complete the program within 150 percent of the length of the program.

To receive an A.P.R.N. certificate, students must fulfill the following requirements.

- Satisfactorily complete all required courses and clinical requirements for the certificate program for which they are enrolled.
- Attain a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0, with no course with a grade lower than B-.
- Satisfactorily meet all financial and library obligations.

Curriculum Outline

Master of Science in Nursing

M.S.N. Core Courses			Credit Hours
NSG	5000	Advanced Nurse Roles	2
NSG	5111	Evidence and Practice	3
NSG	5220	Health Promotion and Disease Prevention	3
NSG	5130	Health Care Policy and Leadership	3
NSG	5512	Diagnostic Reasoning	1
Total Core Credit Hours			12

In addition to the core M.S.N. courses, the following courses are required to complete the M.S.N.—Advanced Practice Registered Nurse, Family Nurse Practitioner program:

M.S.N.—Advanced Practice Registered Nurse, FNP*			Credit Hours
NSG	5502	Advanced Health Assessment	3
NSG	5510	Advanced Pharmacology	3
NSG	5531	Advanced Pathophysiology	3
NSG	5542	Primary Care Adult I	4
NSG	5549	Primary Care Adult I Clinical (190 clinical hours)	2
NSG	5550	Primary Care Adult II	4
NSG	5559	Primary Care Adult II Clinical (190 clinical hours)	2
NSG	5560	Primary Care Women	2

NSG	5569	Primary Care Women Clinical (95 clinical hours)	1
NSG	5580	Primary Care Pediatrics	2
NSG	5589	Primary Care Pediatrics Clinical (95 clinical hours)	1
NSG	5590	Family Nurse Practitioner Capstone	3
NSG	5599	Family Nurse Practitioner Capstone Clinical (285 clinical hours)	3
		Total Family Nurse Practitioner Credit Hours	33

In addition to the core M.S.N. courses, the following courses are required to complete the M.S.N.—
Advanced Practice Registered Nurse, Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner program:

M.S.N.—Advanced Practice Registered Nurse, AGACNP*			Credit Hours
NSG	5531	Advanced Pathophysiology	3
NSG	5510	Advanced Pharmacology	3
NSG	5502	Advanced Health Assessment	3
NSG	5620	Adult-Gerontology Acute Care I	4
NSG	5629	Adult-Gerontology Acute Care I Clinical (190 clinical hours)	2
NSG	5630	Adult-Gerontology Acute Care II	4
NSG	5639	Adult-Gerontology Acute Care II Clinical (190 clinical hours)	2
NSG	5650	Adult-Gerontology Acute Care III	4
NSG	5659	Adult-Gerontology Acute Care III Clinical (190 clinical hours)	2
NSG	5660	Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Capstone	3
NSG	5669	Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Capstone Clinical (285 clinical hours)	3
		Total Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner Credit Hours	33

In addition to the core M.S.N. courses, the following courses are required to complete the M.S.N.—
Advanced Practice Registered Nurse, Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner program:

M.S.N.—Advanced Practice Registered Nurse, PMHNP*			Credit Hours
NSG	5531	Advanced Pathophysiology	3
NSG	5532	Neurobiology Psychopharmacology	3
NSG	5510	Advanced Pharmacology	3
NSG	5502	Advanced Health Assessment	3
NSG	5710	Psychiatric Management I: Psychopathology and the DSM V	4
NSG	5719	Psychiatric Management I: Psychopathology and the DSM V Clinical (190 clinical hours)	2
NSG	5720	Psychiatric Management II: Developmental Theories for Child and Adolescent Mental Health	4
NSG	5729	Psychiatric Management II: Developmental Theories for Child and Adolescent Mental Health Clinical (190 clinical hours)	2
NSG	5730	Psychiatric Management III: Modalities of Psychotherapy	4
NSG	5739	Psychiatric Management III: Modalities of Psychotherapy Clinical (190 clinical hours)	2
NSG	5790	Psychiatric Care Management Integration Capstone	3
NSG	5799	Psychiatric Care Management Integration Capstone Clinical (285 clinical hours)	3
		Total Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Credit Hours	36

*Courses progress in lock-step order.

Postgraduate Certificates

Maximum time permitted for certificate completion is two years or six semesters. Admit term for the certificate programs is twice a year. Certificate programs are currently hybrid and will move to an online format starting summer 2027.

Advanced pathophysiology, advanced pharmacology, and advanced health assessment courses must be completed prior to enrollment in certificate programs.

Fall and Winter Certificates

Family Nurse Practitioner			Credit Hours
Semester I			
NSG	5542	Primary Care Adult I (170 clinical hours)	6
Semester II			
NSG	5550	Primary Care Adult II (170 clinical hours)	6
Semester III			
NSG	5560	Primary Care Women (85 clinical hours)	3
NSG	5580	Primary Care Pediatrics (85 clinical hours)	3
Semester IV			
NSG	5590	Family Nurse Practitioner Capstone (255 clinical hours)	6

Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner			Credit Hours
Semester I			
NSG	5620	Adult-Gerontology Acute Care I (170 clinical hours)	6
Semester II			
NSG	5630	Adult-Gerontology Acute Care II (170 clinical hours)	6
Semester III			
NSG	5650	Adult-Gerontology Acute Care III (170 clinical hours)	6
Semester IV			
NSG	5660	Adult-Gerontology Acute Capstone (255 clinical hours)	6

Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner			Credit Hours
Semester I			
NSG	5532	Neurobiology Psychopharmacology	3
Semester II			
NSG	5710	Psychiatric Management I: Psychopathology and the DSM V (190 clinical hours)	6
Semester III			
NSG	5720	Psychiatric Management II: Developmental Theories for Child and Adolescent Mental Health (190 clinical hours)	6
Semester IV			
NSG	5730	Psychiatric Management III: Modalities of Psychotherapy (190 clinical hours)	6
Semester V			
NSG	5790	Psychiatric Care Management Integration Capstone (285 clinical hours)	6

Summer Certificates

Family Nurse Practitioner			Credit Hours
Semester I			
NSG	5542	Primary Care Adult I	4
Semester II			
NSG	5550	Primary Care Adult II	4
NSG	5559	Primary Care Adult II Clinical (190 clinical hours)	2
Semester III			
NSG	5560	Primary Care Women	2
NSG	5569	Primary Care Women Clinical (95 clinical hours)	1
NSG	5580	Primary Care Pediatrics	2
NSG	5589	Primary Care Pediatrics Clinical (95 clinical hours)	1
Semester IV			
NSG	5590	Family Nurse Practitioner Capstone	3
NSG	5599	Family Nurse Practitioner Capstone Clinical (285 clinical hours)	3

Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner			Credit Hours
Semester I			
NSG	5620	Adult-Gerontology Acute Care I	4
NSG	5629	Adult-Gerontology Acute Care I Clinical (190 clinical hours)	2
Semester II			
NSG	5630	Adult-Gerontology Acute Care II	4
NSG	5639	Adult-Gerontology Acute Care II Clinical (190 clinical hours)	2
Semester III			
NSG	5650	Adult-Gerontology Acute Care III	4
NSG	5659	Adult-Gerontology Acute Care III Clinical (190 clinical hours)	2
Semester IV			
NSG	5660	Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Capstone	3
NSG	5669	Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Capstone Clinical (285 clinical hours)	3

Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner			Credit Hours
Semester I			
NSG	5532	Neurobiology Psychopharmacology	3
Semester II			
NSG	5710	Psychiatric Management I: Psychopathology and the DSM V	4
NSG	5719	Psychiatric Management I: Psychopathology and the DSM V Clinical (190 clinical hours)	2
Semester III			
NSG	5720	Psychiatric Management II: Developmental Theories for Child and Adolescent Mental Health	4
NSG	5729	Psychiatric Management II: Developmental Theories for Child and Adolescent Mental Health Clinical (190 clinical hours)	2
Semester IV			
NSG	5730	Psychiatric Management III: Modalities of Psychotherapy	4
NSG	5739	Psychiatric Management III: Modalities of Psychotherapy Clinical (190 clinical hours)	2
Semester V			

NSG	5790	Psychiatric Care Management Integration Capstone	3
NSG	5799	Psychiatric Care Management Integration Capstone Clinical (285 clinical hours)	3

Doctor of Nursing Practice (D.N.P.)

The online Doctor of Nursing Practice (D.N.P.) program at Nova Southeastern University is a practice-focused terminal degree designed to serve post-M.S.N. nurse practitioners, clinical nurse specialists, nurse midwives, nurse educators, and nurse managers/executives. The D.N.P. curriculum features a convenient, online format that builds on current M.S.N. programs by supporting evidence-based practice (EBP), quality improvement, and systems thinking, and reflects the *Essentials of Doctoral Education for Advanced Nursing Practice* (American Association of Colleges of Nursing, 2006).

Students remain engaged in online coursework combined with face-to-face practicum experience that culminates in the student's D.N.P. project. Emphasizing practice that is innovative and based on evidence, the final project reflects the application of the student's research findings.

This online program attracts highly experienced faculty members with advanced preparation and extensive experience in the area of specialization. Faculty members work directly with students to achieve each student's professional nursing goals, and each student will be assigned an adviser to further assist with individualized program guidance. Graduates of the D.N.P. program are prepared to lead and engage in practical, clinically focused scholarship and research utilization.

Bachelor of Science in Nursing to Doctor of Nursing Practice (B.S.N. to D.N.P.)

For R.N.'s with a B.S.N. degree who wish to pursue the highest clinical degree, multiple pathways are available to pursue a D.N.P. Once enrolled, students are eligible to complete components of both the M.S.N. and D.N.P. through one streamlined track. Upon completing the entire curriculum, graduates are awarded both an M.S.N. and a D.N.P. degree.

Students who pursue the A.P.R.N. track complete the clinical courses in online. Concentrations in this track include Family Nurse Practitioner, Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner, or Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner.

Admissions Requirements for D.N.P. and B.S.N.–D.N.P. Students

Prospective D.N.P. and B.S.N. to D.N.P. students are selected for admission based on application content, academic record, curriculum of completed required courses, and professional nursing licensure. Individual student transcripts and writing samples are evaluated by select faculty members, the program director, and/or the associate dean of nursing.

Admissions requirements and application procedures for NSU's Bachelor of Science in Nursing (B.S.N.) degree program can be found at nursing.nova.edu/undergraduate/undergraduate-nursing-admissions.html.

Admission to the D.N.P. program requires

- a master's degree in nursing or a related field from a regionally accredited or internationally accredited school (Nursing degrees must be accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing [ACEN], the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education [CCNE], or the Commission for Nursing Education Accreditation [CNEA].) *
- a minimum, overall, cumulative GPA, as listed below, on a 4.0 scale
 - a. For students with less than 24 months of active, independent, nursing practice (not including position residencies or facility orientations), a GPA of 3.0 is required.

- b. For students with 24 months or more of active, independent nursing practice (not including position residencies or facility orientations), a GPA of 2.75 is required.

** Students who enter the D.N.P. program without an M.S.N. will be required to enroll in NSG 7299—Transition to D.N.P. in the first semester of admission to the program. This course is only offered in the fall.*

Admission to the B.S.N. to D.N.P. program requires

- a minimum, overall, cumulative GPA, as listed below, on a 4.0 scale
- a. For students with less than 24 months of active, independent nursing practice (not including position residencies or facility orientations), a GPA of 3.0 is required.
- b. For students with 24 months or more of active, independent nursing practice (not including position residencies or facility orientations), a GPA of 2.75 is required.
- Students in the B.S.N. to D.N.P. track must meet the A.P.R.N. admission criteria for clinical practice.

Admission to both programs requires

- a current, active, and unencumbered United States R.N. license
- a writing sample (instructions follow)
- a curriculum vitae (CV)/résumé
- official documentation of all supervised, postbaccalaureate practice hours
- an interview with the program director

Application Procedures for D.N.P. and B.S.N.–D.N.P. Students

NSU's Ron and Kathy Assaf College of Nursing participates in the centralized application service called NursingCAS. NursingCAS does not take part in student selection. The NursingCAS application information may be obtained online at nursingcas.org. For more information, call NursingCAS at (617) 612-2880.

The deadline to complete and submit the NursingCAS application is August 1 for fall admission and December 19 for winter admission.

1. Send supporting documents to NursingCAS.

NursingCAS

P.O. Box 9201

Watertown, MA 02471

- a. All official college transcripts from undergraduate, graduate, and professional institutions attended must be sent to NursingCAS directly from those institutions.
- b. Submit a writing sample (use APA 7th edition formatting) directly to NursingCAS discussing a problem or issue you see in your professional practice today that needs to be addressed from a D.N.P. perspective.
- c. Submit a current curriculum vitae/résumé.
- d. Submit a copy of your active, unencumbered United States R.N. license. The license must remain active and current.
- e. Submit official documentation of all supervised, postbaccalaureate practice hours from any regionally or internationally accredited schools attended.

Documentation must be from the program director of the previous postbaccalaureate program and include

the following information on university letterhead:

- date
- university name and department
- applicant's full name
- date and title of degree earned
- specialization earned and total number of preceptor- verified clinical experience hours
- program director's signature
- contact information for follow up, if necessary

For complete information on foreign coursework, refer to [*"Foreign Coursework" section of this catalog.*](#)

Program Progression for D.N.P. and B.S.N.–D.N.P. Students

Students are required to satisfactorily complete all required courses for the program with a grade of B or higher. A student who fails two courses in the program will be dismissed with the second failure. Students must be continuously enrolled in the program.

Graduation Requirements for D.N.P. and B.S.N.–D.N.P. Students

Attendance at graduation ceremonies is encouraged by the department for the fully online programs.

- Satisfactorily complete the program requirements for the degree, including all required courses.
- Attain a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0, with no course with a grade lower than B applied toward the degree.
- Satisfactorily meet all financial and library obligations.
- Satisfactorily complete the D.N.P. project.
- Complete the program within five years.

Curriculum Outlines

Maximum time permitted for the D.N.P. degree completion is 2.66 years or 8 semesters.

Maximum time permitted for the B.S.N. to D.N.P. degree completion is 5.66 years or 17 semesters.

All D.N.P. students are required to attend Virtual Intensive days during each project course. These intensives are one to two days in length. Students will work with an adviser to plan their individual program of study.

If an applicant is an R.N. or B.S.N. with a master's degree in another health-related field, the applicant may enroll in a transitional course (NSG 7299 Transition to D.N.P.) to meet M.S.N. essentials prior to the start of D.N.P. coursework. This course is only offered in the fall semester.

Prior to starting NSG 7451 Project IV: Evaluation, 500 clinical practice hours post Bachelor of Science in Nursing must be completed. These hours may be credited from the M.S.N. program, but must be verified by the university where the student completed the M.S.N. Students focusing on an aggregate/systems/organizational role may also achieve hours by taking NSG 7460 Scholarly Inquiry in Clinical Practice until the 500 hours are completed.

Doctor of Nursing Practice

D.N.P. Courses			Credit Hours
NSG	7020	Healthcare Policy and Advocacy	3
NSG	7131	Epidemiology Advancing Global Health	3
NSG	7135	Healthcare Information Systems and Outcomes Management	3
NSG	7300	D.N.P. Roles, Leadership, and Collaboration	3
NSG	7350	Leadership in Complex Healthcare Systems	3
NSG	7400	Nursing Science for Clinical Practice	3
NSG	7431	Project I: Mentored Scholarship (150 practicum hours)	5
NSG	7444	Project II: Project Plan (150 practicum hours)	4
NSG	7445	Project III: Implementation (150 practicum hours)	3
NSG	7451	Project IV: Evaluation (150 practicum hours)	3
NSG	7040	Biostatistics I	3
Minimum Total Credit Hours			36

B.S.N. to D.N.P.

B.S.N.—D.N.P.—Family Nurse Practitioner			Credit Hours
NSG	5531	Advanced Pathophysiology	3
NSG	5220	Health Promotion and Disease Prevention	3
NSG	7300	D.N.P. Roles, Leadership, and Collaboration	3
NSG	5510	Advanced Pharmacology	3
NSG	5502	Advanced Health Assessment	3
NSG	5512	Diagnostic Reasoning	1
NSG	5542	Primary Care Adult I	4
NSG	5549	Primary Care Adult I Clinical (190 clinical hours)	2
NSG	7400	Nursing Science for Clinical Practice	3
NSG	5550	Primary Care Adult II	4
NSG	5559	Primary Care Adult II Clinical (190 clinical hours)	2
NSG	7040	Biostatistics I	3
NSG	5580	Primary Care Pediatrics	2
NSG	5589	Primary Care Pediatrics Clinical (95 clinical hours)	1
NSG	5560	Primary Care Women	2
NSG	5569	Primary Care Women Clinical (95 clinical hours)	1
NSG	7431	Project I: Mentored Scholarship (150 practicum hours)	5
NSG	7131	Epidemiology Advancing Global Health	3
NSG	7444	Project II: Project Plan (150 practicum hours)	4
NSG	7135	Healthcare Information Systems and Outcomes Management	3
NSG	7350	Leadership in Complex Healthcare Systems	3
NSG	5590	Family Nurse Practitioner Capstone	3
NSG	5599	Family Nurse Practitioner Capstone Clinical (285 clinical hours)	3
NSG	7445	Project III: Implementation (150 practicum hours)	3
NSG	7020	Healthcare Policy and Advocacy	3
NSG	7451	Project IV: Evaluation (150 practicum hours)	3
Total Family Nurse Practitioner Credit Hours			73
Clinical/Practicum Hours			1,455

B.S.N.—D.N.P.—Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner			
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NSG	5531	Advanced Pathophysiology	3
NSG	5220	Health Promotion and Disease Prevention	3
NSG	7300	D.N.P. Roles, Leadership, and Collaboration	3
NSG	5510	Advanced Pharmacology	3
NSG	5502	Advanced Health Assessment	3
NSG	5512	Diagnostic Reasoning	1
NSG	5620	Adult-Gerontology Acute Care I	4
NSG	5629	Adult-Gerontology Acute Care I Clinical (190 clinical hours)	2
NSG	7400	Nursing Science for Clinical Practice	3
NSG	5630	Adult-Gerontology Acute Care II	4
NSG	5639	Adult-Gerontology Acute Care II Clinical (190 clinical hours)	2
NSG	7040	Biostatistics I	3
NSG	5650	Adult-Gerontology Acute Care III	4
NSG	5659	Adult-Gerontology Acute Care III Clinical (190 clinical hours)	2
NSG	7431	Project I: Mentored Scholarship (150 practicum hours)	5
NSG	7131	Epidemiology Advancing Global Health	3
NSG	7444	Project II: Project Plan (150 practicum hours)	4
NSG	7135	Healthcare Information Systems and Outcomes Management	3
NSG	7350	Leadership in Complex Healthcare Systems	3
NSG	5660	Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Capstone	3
NSG	5669	Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Capstone Clinical (285 clinical hours)	3
NSG	7445	Project III: Implementation (150 practicum hours)	3
NSG	7020	Healthcare Policy and Advocacy	3
NSG	7451	Project IV: Evaluation (150 practicum hours)	3
		Total Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner Credit Hours	73
		Clinical/Practicum Hours	1,455

B.S.N.–D.N.P.—Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner			
NSG	5531	Advanced Pathophysiology	3
NSG	5220	Health Promotion and Disease Prevention	3
NSG	7300	D.N.P. Roles, Leadership, and Collaboration	3
NSG	5510	Advanced Pharmacology	3
NSG	5532	Neurobiology Psychopharmacology	3
NSG	5502	Advanced Health Assessment	3
NSG	5512	Diagnostic Reasoning	1
NSG	5710	Psychiatric Management I: Psychopathology and the DSM V	4
NSG	5719	Psychiatric Management I: Psychopathology and the DSM V Clinical (190 clinical hours)	2
NSG	7400	Nursing Science for Clinical Practice	3
NSG	5720	Psychiatric Management II: Developmental Theories for Child and Adolescent Mental Health	4
NSG	5729	Psychiatric Management II: Developmental Theories for Child and Adolescent Mental Health Clinical (190 clinical hours)	2
NSG	7040	Biostatistics I	3
NSG	5730	Psychiatric Management III: Modalities of Psychotherapy	4
NSG	5739	Psychiatric Management III: Modalities of Psychotherapy Clinical (190 clinical hours)	2

NSG	7431	Project I: Mentored Scholarship (150 practicum hours)	5
NSG	7131	Epidemiology Advancing Global Health	3
NSG	7444	Project II: Project Plan (150 practicum hours)	4
NSG	7135	Healthcare Information Systems and Outcomes Management	3
NSG	7350	Leadership in Complex Healthcare Systems	3
NSG	5790	Psychiatric Care Management Integration Capstone	3
NSG	5799	Psychiatric Care Management Integration Capstone Clinical (285 clinical hours)	3
NSG	7445	Project III: Implementation (150 practicum hours)	3
NSG	7020	Healthcare Policy and Advocacy	3
NSG	7451	Project IV: Evaluation (150 practicum hours)	3
		Total Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Credit Hours	76
		Clinical/Practicum Hours	1,455

Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing (Ph.D.)

The online Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Nursing Program is a terminal degree. The program coursework is online with a required, with a required annual synchronous summer institute. Attendance at the virtual summer institute is mandatory and required until students begin their comprehensive examinations. To progress in the Ph.D. program, students must take a minimum of one course per semester, being continuously enrolled with no more than one semester taken off per year.

Ph.D. students take seven semesters of Ph.D. courses. The comprehensive exam is taken during the eighth semester. Once students have successfully passed the comprehensive examination, they proceed to their dissertations. A minimum of 9 credit hours of dissertation is required.

For further information, call the Ron and Kathy Assaf College of Nursing at (954) 262-1975 or 800-356-0026, ext. 21975.

Doctor of Nursing Practice to Doctor of Philosophy (D.N.P. to Ph.D.) Program

The D.N.P. to Ph.D. program is designed for nurses who have completed the D.N.P. degree through an accredited school (CCNE, ACEN, CNEA) and have an interest in further advancing their education to complete a Ph.D. The program begins in the winter semester. It is nine semesters (37 credit hours) of coursework. The comprehensive exam is taken during the sixth semester, followed by a minimum of three semesters (9 credit hours) of dissertation. The classes are online, and there is a Summer Institute held virtually. (D.N.P. to Ph.D. students will attend two summers.) The Summer Institute occurs once per year, generally in late May or early June, and attendance is required.

Admission to the Ph.D. program requires

Prospective Ph.D. in Nursing and D.N.P. to Ph.D. students are selected for admission based on application content, academic record, and professional nursing licensure.

- a master's degree in nursing or a related field from a regionally or internationally accredited school
- The M.S.N. degree program must be accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN), the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE), or the Commission for Nursing Education Accreditation (CNEA). If applicants do not have a master's degree in nursing, and their master's degree is in a related field, they must have a B.S.N. degree.
- a minimum master's degree GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale
- an unencumbered, active, R.N. license (must remain current in the jurisdiction of the practicum throughout the program)
- a writing sample submitted directly to NursingCAS
 - published or unpublished paper for D.N.P. to Ph.D. applicants using APA 7th edition formatting (250 words minimum)
 - professional writing sample using APA 7th edition formatting (including headings for each section) for Ph.D. applicants (250 words minimum)
- a résumé or curriculum vitae
- an interview by the program director

Application Procedures

NSU's Ron and Kathy Assaf College of Nursing participates in the centralized applications service called NursingCAS. NursingCAS does not take part in student selection. NursingCAS applications may be obtained online at nursingcas.org. For more information, call NursingCAS at (617) 612-2880.

The deadline to complete and submit the NursingCAS and NSU applications will be March 1 for fall admission. Applications are accepted year-round.

1. Send supporting documents to NursingCAS.

NursingCAS
PO Box 9201
Watertown, MA 02471

- a. All official college transcripts from undergraduate, graduate, and professional institutions attended must be sent to NursingCAS directly from those institutions.
- b. Applicants must submit a current curriculum vitae (CV)/résumé.
- c. Applicants must submit a copy of their active, unencumbered United States R.N. license. The license must remain current throughout the program.
- d. Applicants must submit a professional writing sample using APA 7th edition formatting, including headings for each section.

For complete information on foreign coursework, refer to [*"Foreign Coursework" section of this catalog.*](#)

Program Progression

Students are required to satisfactorily complete all required courses for the program with a grade of B or higher. A student who fails two courses in a program may be dismissed with the second failure.

Graduation Requirements

Attendance at graduation ceremonies is encouraged by the department.

- Satisfactorily complete the program requirements for the degree, including all required courses.
- Attain a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0, with no course with a grade lower than B applied toward the degree.
- Satisfactorily meet all financial and library obligations.
- Satisfactorily complete the dissertation.
- Complete the program within 6 years.

Curriculum Outlines

Maximum time permitted for Ph.D. program degree completion is 9.33 years or 28 semesters. Maximum time permitted for D.N.P. to Ph.D. program degree completion is 7.66 years or 23 semesters.

Attendance is required for a mandatory, virtual summer institute that includes an orientation session. This summer institute is usually held at the end of May or the beginning of June for all accepted students and students completing their first and second year.

Ph.D. in Nursing

Semester I			Credit Hours
NSG	7040	Biostatistics I	3
NSG	7090	Philosophy of Science	3
Semester II			
NSG	7050	Biostatistics II	3
Semester III—Summer Institute			
NSG	7000	Theory Development	3
NSG	7130	Qualitative Research Design	3
Semester IV			
NSG	7060	Tests and Measurements	3
NSG	7100	Quantitative Research Design	3
Semester V			
NSG	7270	Doctoral Inquiry: Seminar I	2
NSG	7600	Grants and Publications	3
Semester VI—Summer Institute			
NSG	7280	State of the Science: Seminar II	2
NSG	7730	Advanced Qualitative Research Methods (3 didactic/1 research intensive)	4
Semester VII			
NSG	7403	Advancing Nursing Science	3
NSG	7700	Advanced Quantitative Research Methods (3 didactic/1 research intensive)	4
Semester VIII			
NSG	7290	Comprehensive Examination: Seminar III	1
Semester IX			
NSG	7340*	Dissertation (continuing as necessary)	3
Semester X			
NSG	7340*	Dissertation (continuing as necessary)	3
Semester XI			
NSG	7340*	Dissertation (continuing as necessary)	3
Total Credit Hours			49

**Minimum of 9 credit hours of dissertation are required for the degree. Additional credits can be taken as needed.*

D.N.P. to Ph.D. in Nursing

Courses			Credit Hours
NSG	7090	Philosophy of Science	3
NSG	7050	Biostatistics II	3
NSG	7730	Advanced Qualitative Research (3 didactic/1 research intensive)	4
NSG	7700	Advanced Quantitative Research (3 didactic/1 research intensive)	4
NSG	7060	Tests and Measurements	3
NSG	7600	Grants and Publications	3
NSG	7270	Doctoral Inquiry: Seminar I	2
NSG	7280	State of the Science: Seminar II	2
NSG	7403	Advancing Nursing Science	3
NSG	7290	Comprehensive Examination: Seminar III	1

NSG	7340 *	Dissertation	3
NSG	7340 *	Dissertation	3
NSG	7340 *	Dissertation	3
		Total Credit Hours	37

**Minimum of 9 credit hours of dissertation are required for the degree. Additional credits can be taken as needed.*