

NURSING, PH.D.

The Saint Louis University Trudy Busch Valentine School of Nursing's Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing program prepares nurses as scholars and beginning nurse scientists who will contribute to the continued knowledge development of the discipline and profession of nursing.

SLU offers Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Nursing courses on Friday mornings and afternoons with live classes, combining on-campus and distance students.

The Valentine School of Nursing is renowned for excellence in nursing education. U.S. News and World Report consistently ranks our graduate program as a top program in their Best Graduate Schools survey.

Program Highlights

SLU's Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing features:

- Program options for full-time students and working adults
- Bachelor of Science in Nursing (B.S.N.) and Master of Science in Nursing (M.S.N.) entry options, and D.N.P. options for advanced standing
- Responsive faculty who are nationally recognized for teaching excellence, nursing leadership, scholarly research and student mentorship
- Faculty advisors who are individually assigned to mentor each student throughout the program
- An online library
- An online writing center
- State-of-the-art teaching facilities
- Course options to develop as nurse educator scholars
- Opportunities to present at conferences and publish work during the program

Curriculum Overview

Students can enter the Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing program through one of two programs: the post-baccalaureate to Ph.D. track (B.S.N. to Ph.D.), or the post-master's to Ph.D. track (M.S.N. to Ph.D.). Students with a D.N.P. can get advanced standing based on previous doctoral coursework.

Master's courses are taken online. Ph.D. courses are offered live; distance students interact live with faculty and students on campus through online conferencing software.

Most doctoral-level nursing classes are offered on Friday mornings and afternoons during fall and spring semesters. The scheduled time for the class considers students in different time zones. Some courses are taken during the summer. Students attend a research conference each year.

The Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing includes doctoral coursework (plus a maximum of 18 credits accepted from a master's program) and 12 credits of dissertation research. Each student selects their study topic with their research mentor; our graduates have conducted studies on cancer prevention, end-of-life and palliative care issues, health promotion, chronic disease and symptom management, caregiving, population health, and nursing education.

Careers

Our graduates serve as leaders in academic, research, and health care settings across the country.

Tuition

Tuition	Cost Per Credit
Graduate Tuition	\$1,450

Additional charges may apply. Other resources are listed below:

Information on Tuition and Fees (<https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/student-financial-services/tuition/>)

Miscellaneous Fees (<https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/student-financial-services/fees/>)

Information on Summer Tuition (<https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/student-financial-services/tuition-summer-current/>)

Scholarships and Financial Aid

Financing for this program may be available through grants, scholarships, loans (federal and private) and institutional financing plans. For price estimates, please review the SLU cost calculator (<https://www.slu.edu/financial-aid/tuition-and-costs/calculator.php>).

The Saint Louis University Trudy Busch Valentine School of Nursing offers scholarship and graduate research assistantship opportunities (<https://www.slu.edu/nursing/scholarships/assistantships.php>) to eligible graduate students.

For more information, visit the Office of Student Financial Services (<https://www.slu.edu/financial-aid/>).

Accreditation

The Saint Louis University Trudy Busch Valentine School of Nursing is fully approved by the Missouri State Board of Nursing.

The baccalaureate degree program in nursing, master's degree program in nursing, Doctor of Nursing Practice program and post-graduate advanced practice registered nurse (APRN) certificate program at Saint Louis University's Trudy Busch Valentine School of Nursing are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, 665 K Street N.W., Suite 750, Washington, D.C., 20001. The commission's phone number is 202-887-6791.

Learning Outcomes

1. Graduates will be able to articulate multiple perspectives on knowledge development and a broad understanding of research methods.
2. Graduates will be able to critique and synthesize nursing and interdisciplinary knowledge in a substantive area of inquiry.
3. Graduates will be able to generate and disseminate nursing knowledge through research that is innovative, rigorously conducted, ethically sound and culturally sensitive.
4. Graduates will be able to demonstrate leadership by disseminating scientific findings and implications for future research practice and policy.

Requirements

Admission Requirements

The Trudy Busch Valentine School of Nursing adheres to the principles of a holistic admission process in which selection criteria are broad-based and linked to our University's and school's mission and goals. While we do consider academic metrics, we also look at applicant experiences, attributes, potential for success, and how applicants may contribute to the school's learning environment and to the profession.

Ph.D. admissions faculty at the Trudy Busch Valentine School of Nursing evaluate all applications. Successful applications meet the following criteria:

- Post-M.S.N. to Ph.D. - Master's degree in nursing from a program accredited by a nationally recognized accrediting agency or master's degree in related field.
- Post-D.N.P. to Ph.D. - Clinical doctorate in nursing.
- Post-B.S.N. to Ph.D. - Baccalaureate degree in nursing from a program accredited by a nationally recognized accrediting agency.
- Cumulative grade point average of 3.25 on a 4.0 system
- Current, unencumbered registered professional nurse licensure in the state/country of residence/employment or eligibility for licensure in the State of Missouri
- Evidence of high potential for scholarship and leadership in nursing

Application Requirements

- Application form and fee
- Transcript(s)
- Three letters of recommendation
- Résumé/ Curriculum Vitae
- Interview
- Professional goal statement
- To apply for the Ph.D. program at the Valentine School of Nursing, go to <https://nursingcas.org> (<https://nursingcas.org/>) or apply free through SLU Nursing Portal (<https://gradapply.slu.edu/account/register/?r=https%3a%2f%2fgradapply.slu.edu%2fapply%2f>)

Requirements for International Students

All Saint Louis University admission policies and requirements for domestic students apply to international students. International students applying to SLU must also meet the following additional requirements:

- Demonstrate English language proficiency (<https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/office-admission/undergraduate/english-language-proficiency/>)
- Academic records must include an English translation. Unofficial copies may be accepted in some cases for initial admission review, however official copies must be received prior to enrollment. Course-by-course transcript evaluations are accepted and are required in some cases.

Students must submit financial documents to be issued an I-20 for their F-1 visa application. Proof of financial support must include:

- A letter of financial support from the person(s) or sponsoring agency funding the student's time at Saint Louis University
- A letter from the sponsor's bank verifying that the funds are available and will be so for the duration of the student's study at the University

Application Deadlines

The priority deadline is February 1st for international students and June 1st for domestic students.

Review Process

Applicants are considered on a rolling basis. An application answer may be expected after two weeks. There is a deadline to accept an offer of admission.

Program Requirements

Post-Bachelor of Science in Nursing Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
Required Courses		
HCE 5500	Ethics in Nursing& Health Care	2
NURS 5140	Health Promotion	3
NURS 5170	Advanced Pathophysiology	3
NURS 5200	Gen Research Methods	3
NURS5/6XXX	Graduate Elective	3
NURS 6805	Introduction to Applied Statistics for Healthcare Research	3
NURS 6800	Theory Development in Nursing and Healthcare	3
NURS 6801	Research Issues in Health Promotion, Disease Prevention, and Health Equity	3
NURS 6802	Measurement of Variables for Nursing and Health Research	3
NURS 6804	Research Issues in Care of Acute and Chronically Ill Populations	3
NURS 6809	Advanced Quantitative Methods in Nursing and Healthcare Research	3
NURS 6810	Qualitative Methods in Nursing and Health Research	3
NURS 6812	Scientific Integrity in Nursing and Health Research	1
NURS 6813	Knowledge Development in Nursing	3
NURS 6806	Applied Statistics for Research I	3
NURS 6807	Applied Statistics II	3
Concentration Electives		6
NURS 6xxx Area of concentration enhancing the dissertation research or the nurse faculty role option		
Dissertation Research		12
NURS 6999	Dissertation Research (taken over multiple semesters, 12hrs total)	
Total Credits		63

Post-Master of Science in Nursing Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
Required Courses		
NURS 6800	Theory Development in Nursing and Healthcare	3
NURS 6801	Research Issues in Health Promotion, Disease Prevention, and Health Equity	3
NURS 6802	Measurement of Variables for Nursing and Health Research	3

NURS 6804	Research Issues in Care of Acute and Chronically Ill Populations	3
NURS 6806	Applied Statistics for Research I	3
NURS 6807	Applied Statistics II	3
NURS 6809	Advanced Quantitative Methods in Nursing and Healthcare Research	3
NURS 6810	Qualitative Methods in Nursing and Health Research	3
NURS 6812	Scientific Integrity in Nursing and Health Research	1
NURS 6813	Knowledge Development in Nursing	3
Concentration Electives		6
NURS 6xxx Area of concentration enhancing the dissertation research or the nurse faculty role option		
Dissertation Research		12
NURS 6999	Dissertation Research (taken over multiple semesters, 12hrs total)	
Total Credits		46

Continuation Standards

Students must maintain a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 in all graduate/professional courses, and achieve a B in required nursing PhD courses.

Roadmap

This roadmap is just one example of a semester-by-semester plan of study for this program. There are other plans students can and do take. The plan of study for each particular student is established in consultation with each student’s academic advisor; *this roadmap does not replace academic advising appointments.*

Roadmap notes:

- This Roadmap assumes full-time enrollment unless otherwise noted.
- Courses/Milestones marked with an “!” are critical and must be completed in the semester listed in the Roadmap to ensure a timely graduation.
- Course availability and sequencing are subject to change.

Course	Title	Credits
Year One		
Fall		
Participation in Orientation on campus in August		
NURS 6800	Theory Development in Nursing and Healthcare	3
NURS 6813	Knowledge Development in Nursing	3
Credits		6
Spring		
Participation in Midwest Nursing Research Society Conference		
NURS 6809	Advanced Quantitative Methods in Nursing and Healthcare Research	3
NURS 6810	Qualitative Methods in Nursing and Health Research	3
Credits		6

Summer		
NURS 6812	Scientific Integrity in Nursing and Health Research	1
Credits		1
Year Two		
Fall		
NURS 6801	Research Issues in Health Promotion, Disease Prevention, and Health Equity	3
NURS 6806	Applied Statistics for Research I	3
Credits		6
Spring		
Participation in Midwest Nursing Research Society Annual Conference (or approved research conference)		
NURS 6804	Research Issues in Care of Acute and Chronically Ill Populations	3
NURS 6807	Applied Statistics II	3
Credits		6
Summer		
ELECTIVE- area of concentration		3
Written Comprehensive Examination		
Credits		3
Year Three		
Fall		
NURS 6802	Measurement of Variables for Nursing and Health Research	3
ELECTIVE - area of concentration		3
Credits		6
Spring		
Participation in Midwest Nursing Research Society Annual Conference (or approved research conference)		
NURS 6999	Dissertation Research	3
Credits		3
Summer		
NURS 6999	Dissertation Research	3
Credits		3
Year Four		
Fall		
NURS 6999	Dissertation Research	3
Credits		3
Spring		
Participation in Midwest Nursing Research Society Annual Conference (or approved research conference)		
NURS 6999	Dissertation Research	3
Credits		3
Total Credits		46

Contact Us

Apply for Admission (<https://nursingcas.org/>)

For additional admission questions, please contact the School of Nursing’s recruitment and enrollment staff:

314-977-8995
slunurse@slu.edu