Nursing – Graduate Program Overview

UH Manoa Nursing offers master’s and doctoral degrees to prepare nurses with advanced knowledge and skills for the dynamic nursing profession. UHM nurses with graduate preparation provide direct and indirect patient care at an advanced level focusing on adults, families, geriatrics, and population health; conduct research; teach; lead health systems; create public policy; and implement evidence-based solutions in healthcare. Nurses with a master’s or doctoral degree have opportunities to impact the systems level design and implementation of care.

Graduate nursing courses are offered in online, face-to-face, and hybrid (blended) formats.

Degrees

- **Master of Science**: Prepares the nurse for an advanced role in population health.
- **Doctor of Nursing Practice**: Prepares the nurse for specialized advanced nursing practice and organizational leadership.
- **PhD in Nursing**: Prepares the nurse scientist for a career in research.

Specialties

- Advanced Population Health Nursing (Master of Science)
- Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner (DNP)
- Family Nurse Practitioner (DNP)
- Post-Master’s in Organizational Leadership (DNP)
Degree Entry Pathways

- **Non-Nurses with a Non-Nursing Bachelor’s Degree**
  - Graduate Entry Program in Nursing pathway to the MS, DNP, PhD
- **RNs with a Bachelor’s Degree in Nursing**
  - MS, DNP, PhD
- **RNs with an Associate Degree in Nursing and a Non-Nursing Bachelor’s Degree**
  - MS, DNP, PhD
- **RNs with a Master’s Degree**
  - DNP, PhD

Graduate Program Offerings

Master’s Degree Program: Advanced Population Health Nursing (APHN)

30 – 39 credits. Full-time (1 year) or part-time (2 year) study options.

- Bachelor’s to MS*
- RN to MS
- Graduate Entry (GEPN) to MS**

* Post-Baccalaureate students must obtain the RN license by the start of the program.

** GEPN students must complete the pre-licensure year and obtain the RN license by the end of the first semester of the specialty track coursework.

Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) Degree Program: Adult-Gerontology Primary Care
Nurse Practitioner (AGPCNP) or Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP)

77 credits. Full-time (3 year), cohort model.

- Bachelor’s to DNP*
- RN to DNP
- Graduate Entry (GEPN) to DNP**

* Post-Baccalaureate students must obtain the RN license by the start of the program.

** GEPN students must complete the pre-licensure year and obtain the RN license by the end of the first semester of the specialty track coursework.

Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) Degree Program: Post-Master’s in Organizational Leadership

36 – 53 credits. Part-time (2 years), cohort model.

- Master’s to DNP

PhD Degree Program: Nursing

57 didactic credits plus 1 additional credit per semester for dissertation work until completed. Full-time (3 year), cohort model.

- Bachelor’s to PhD*
- RN to PhD
- Graduate Entry (GEPN) to PhD**
- Master’s to PhD

* Post-Baccalaureate students must obtain the RN license by the start of the program.

** GEPN students must complete the pre-licensure year and
obtain the RN license by the end of the first semester of the specialty track coursework.

### Which Terminal Nursing Degree is Right for You?

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<th>DNP</th>
<th>PhD</th>
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<td>A professional practice doctorate integrating evidence based practice, quality improvement, and systems leadership to prepare experts in specialized advanced nursing practice.</td>
<td>A doctorate preparing nursing scholars with a focus on culturally appropriate clinical research aimed at improving the health of people in diverse societies.</td>
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<td><strong>Competencies:</strong> Knowledge and skill in applying and translating research into practice; Leads dissemination and integration of new knowledge in health care organizations. American Association of Colleges of Nursing (2006). <em>The Essentials of Doctoral Education for Advanced Practice Nursing.</em></td>
<td><strong>Competencies:</strong> Knowledge and skill in utilizing theoretical, methodological, and analytical approaches to conduct research and develop knowledge. American Association of Colleges of Nursing (2010). <em>The Research-Focused Doctoral Program in Nursing: Pathways to Excellence.</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Program Outcome:</strong> Leaders in clinical and executive positions translating emerging science and developing policy to improve patient and population-based care.</td>
<td><strong>Program Outcome:</strong> Scientists prepared for a research career in research-intensive environments and health care. Nurses prepared for a faculty research role in academia.</td>
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A practice-application DNP project.

Completion and defense of an original research study (dissertation).

Contact

Christopher P. Stutes, MLA
Graduate Entry Program in Nursing Coordinator

Contact for applicants and enrolled students in the Graduate Entry Program in Nursing (GEPN).

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Raymond Jarman, PhD  
Associate Specialist, Master of Science and PhD Program Advisor

Contact for applicants and enrolled students in the Master of Science and PhD programs.

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DNP Program Coordinator & NEXus Campus Staff Coordinator

Contact for applicants and enrolled students in the DNP
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For questions related to the UH Manoa Graduate Division application, please contact graduate.education@hawaii.edu or 808-956-8544.

For technical assistance with the NursingCAS application, please contact NursingCAS or 617-612-2880.

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The Graduate Entry in Nursing Program (GEPN) Student Advisory
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