NURSING, M.S. (ACCELERATED)

Saint Louis University’s Trudy Busch Valentine School of Nursing offers a 21-month, five-semester direct-entry accelerated Master of Science in Nursing program that will prepare you to become a clinical nurse leader (CNL).

SLU’s direct-entry accelerated Master of Science in Nursing (AMSN) is the first and only of its kind in Missouri. This 21-month, five-semester program is designed for individuals who are not registered nurses but have already earned a baccalaureate degree in another field. By completing the program, you will graduate with a Master of Science in Nursing and be prepared to sit for both the nursing licensure exam and certification as a clinical nurse leader. In 2019, our NCLEX pass rate was 94%. Students who are reviewing our A.M.S.N. program may also consider our one-year accelerated B.S.N. program (http://catalog.slu.edu/colleges-schools/nursing/nursing-bs-accelerated/).

About Clinical Nurse Leaders

The master’s level coursework of SLU’s direct-entry accelerated Master of Science in Nursing program focuses on the competencies and role development you need to become a clinical nurse leader (CNL). Clinical nurse leaders coordinate the care of a distinct group of patients and actively provide direct patient care in complex situations. They focus on outcomes measurement, risk assessment, quality improvement, interprofessional communication and application of evidence-based practice.

Graduates initially work as staff nurses, with their CNL skill set later allowing them to pursue advanced roles in health care.

Program Highlights

The increasing number and range of opportunities available in nursing today make the accelerated Master of Science in Nursing the perfect second-degree option. Unique features of this program include:

• Nearly 1,000 hours of clinical experience throughout the program
• Excellent clinical experiences at major St. Louis-area hospitals and health care facilities
• Clinicals begin in the first semester of the program.
• Minimum prerequisite course requirements (Human Anatomy, Human Physiology, Microbiology and Statistics)
• Faculty who are nationally recognized for teaching, research, leadership and student mentorship
• State-of-the-art classroom and simulation laboratory facilities

Curriculum Overview

The master’s level coursework of our direct entry accelerated Master of Science in Nursing program focuses on the competencies and role development you need to become a clinical nurse leader (CNL). Clinical nurse leaders coordinate the care of a distinct group of patients and actively provide direct patient care in complex situations. They focus on outcomes measurement, risk assessment, quality improvement, interprofessional communication and application of evidence-based practice.

Careers

Graduates of our direct entry accelerated Master of Science in Nursing often initially work as staff nurses, with their CNL skill set later allowing them to pursue advanced roles in health care.

This is not an advanced practice role. Graduates of this accelerated master’s program will not be prepared for certification as a nurse practitioner but may pursue a post-master’s certificate in that area.

A.M.S.N. graduates are eligible to take the NCLEX-RN, an exam that measures the competencies needed to perform as an effective entry-level nurse. Upon RN licensure, graduates will be eligible to sit for the clinical nurse leader exam offered by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing Commission on Nurse Certification.

Admission Requirements

Saint Louis University 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.

• Previous completion of a prior baccalaureate or higher degree from a regionally accredited (http://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/academic-policies-procedures/regional_accredidation/) U.S. college or university, or an internationally equivalent degree. WES, ECE or equivalently translated transcripts are required for international courses.
• Undergraduate GPA of 3.20 or higher on a 4.00 system in previous college work.
• Completion of the following prerequisite coursework, preferably within the last five years:
  • Microbiology (3 credits)
  • Human Anatomy and Physiology (6-8 credits)
  • Inferential Statistics (3 credits)

Contact slunurse@slu.edu for an unofficial transcript review.

Requirements for International Students

Due to the rigor of this accelerated program, students are recommended to have a 94 iBT and a score of 7.0 on the IELTS for this program. At a minimum, an 80 on the computer-based TOEFL (iBT) or a 6.5 on the IELTS is required to demonstrate students’ English proficiency.

All admission policies and requirements for domestic students apply to international students along with the following:

• Demonstrate English Language Proficiency (http://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/office-admission/undergraduate/english-language-proficiency/)
• Proof of financial support must include:
  • A letter of financial support from the person(s) or sponsoring agency funding the 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 study at the University
• Academic records, in English translation, of students who have undertaken postsecondary studies outside the United States must include the courses taken and/or lectures attended, practical laboratory work, the maximum and minimum grades attainable, the
Application Process
Applying for the direct entry accelerated Master of Science in Nursing program requires careful planning to ensure that all admission requirements are met. You may experience a significant delay in processing if the application instructions are not followed exactly as listed.

Please follow the five steps outlined below to apply:

Step 1 - Application
Submit the application form and fee through either SLU (https://www.applyweb.com/slugrad/) or NursingCAS (https://www.nursingcas.org/).

Note: Students only need to submit one application option. There is no preference by the School of Nursing between the SLU or NursingCAS application.

Step 2 - Transcripts
Option A: If you are completing the application through SLU please submit your official transcripts from all colleges/universities attended in sealed envelopes to:

Saint Louis University
Graduate Admission
DuBourg Hall, Suite 150
One North Grand Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63103

Option B: If you are completing the application through NursingCAS please submit your official transcripts from all colleges/universities attended in sealed envelopes directly to NursingCAS. They will provide instructions when the application is initiated.

Step 3 - Recommendation Forms
Submit two recommendation forms.

Option A: If you are completing the application through SLU you will enter your references email address within the online application. Your references will receive an email with a recommendation form to complete and email back to Saint Louis University.

Option B: If you are completing the application through NursingCAS they will provide instructions when the application is initiated.

Step 4 - Resume
Attach your professional resume within the SLU or NursingCAS application.

Step 5 - Professional Goal Statement
Attach your professional goal statement within the SLU or NursingCAS application. The goal statement should outline your anticipated nursing career trajectory for five years after graduating and include an explanation of why you've decided on that path. The statement should be one-to-two pages and double-spaced.

Application Deadline
Although the application deadline is July 1, students are strongly encouraged to apply and submit all supporting documents by Feb. 1, as space is limited.

Review Process
The Valentine School of Nursing admits students on a rolling basis, typically beginning in February, and there is a deadline to accept an offer of admission.

Scholarships and Financial Aid
Financing for this program may be available through grants, scholarships, loans (federal and private) and institutional financing plans.

For more information, visit the student financial services office online at https://www.slu.edu/financial-aid/.

Accreditation
The Trudy Busch Valentine School of Nursing at Saint Louis University offers scholarship and graduate research assistantship opportunities to eligible graduate students. Additionally, most nursing students will participate in a tuition assistance program provided through their employer.

Learning Outcomes
1. Graduates will be able to implement collaborative strategies to provide ethical, high quality, safe, effective, patient-centered care.
2. Graduates will be able to use scholarly inquiry including evidence-based practice and research application to improve decision-making and health outcomes.
3. Graduates will be able to integrate advanced competencies, skills, theories, and cultural sensitivity in relationships with patients and professionals.
4. Graduates will be able to design culturally sensitive patient care that includes health promotion and disease prevention.
5. Graduates will be able to facilitate the improvement of health care through leadership within health care systems and communities.
6. Graduates will be able to demonstrate competence in a specialized area of advanced practice nursing that builds on foundational nursing knowledge.
7. Graduates will be able to utilize health care informatics and technologies to support practice.
8. Graduates will be able to advocate for policies that improve the health of the public and the profession of nursing.
Requirements

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<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 4600</td>
<td>Pharmacology in Nursing</td>
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<td>NURS 5010</td>
<td>Nursing Strategies in Physiological Health Alterations</td>
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<td>NURS 5015</td>
<td>Nursing Strategies in Psychosocial Health Alterations</td>
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<td>NURS 5020</td>
<td>Health Care Systems &amp; Policy</td>
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<td>NURS 5025</td>
<td>Informatics and Quality Improvement</td>
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<td>NURS 5035</td>
<td>Foundations in Nursing Care</td>
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<td>NURS 5080</td>
<td>Advanced Pharmacology</td>
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<td>NURS 5115</td>
<td>Advanced Health Assessment for the Generalist Nurse</td>
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<td>NURS 5145</td>
<td>Nursing Strategies for Health Promotion</td>
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<td>NURS 5170</td>
<td>Advanced Pathophysiology</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>NURS 5205</td>
<td>Evidence-Based Practice for the Advanced Generalist Nurse</td>
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<td>HCE 5500</td>
<td>Ethics in Nursing &amp; Health Care</td>
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<td>NURS 5601</td>
<td>Clinical Studies I</td>
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<td>NURS 5602</td>
<td>Clinical Studies II</td>
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<td>NURS 5603</td>
<td>Clinical Studies III</td>
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<td>NURS 5604</td>
<td>Advanced Clinical Studies</td>
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<td>NURS 5605</td>
<td>Practicum in Clinical Leadership</td>
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<td>NURS 5606</td>
<td>Clinical Nursing Leadership for Advanced Generalists</td>
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<td>NURS 5607</td>
<td>Advanced Synthesis of Nursing Concepts</td>
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<td>NURS 5608</td>
<td>Physiological Adaptations of the Complex Client</td>
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<td>Total Credits</td>
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Non-Course Requirements

Students will complete 1000 clinical hours.

Continuation Standards

Students must maintain a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.00 in all graduate/professional courses.

Roadmap

Roadmaps are recommended semester-by-semester plans of study for programs and assume full-time enrollment unless otherwise noted.

Courses and milestones designated as critical (marked with !) must be completed in the semester listed to ensure a timely graduation. Transfer credit may change the roadmap.

This roadmap should not be used in the place of regular academic advising appointments. All students are encouraged to meet with their advisor/mentor each semester. Requirements, course availability and sequencing are subject to change.

Course | Title                                         | Credits |
Year One | | |
| Fall | | |
| !NURS 4600 | Pharmacology in Nursing                       | 3       |
| !NURS 5115 | Advanced Health Assessment for the Generalist Nurse | 3       |
| !NURS 5170 | Advanced Pathophysiology                     | 3       |

Spring

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<th>Credits</th>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 5145</td>
<td>Nursing Strategies for Health Promotion</td>
<td>3</td>
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Total Credits 65

Licensure Examination

Graduates are eligible to apply to take the professional licensure examination; however, the Missouri Nurse Practice Act, Chapter 335.066, states, “Completion of an educational program leading to a degree or diploma in nursing does not guarantee eligibility to write the licensure examination.” Background checks are required of applicants for clinical rotations and again to apply for licensure.

Contact Us

Apply for Admission (http://www.slu.edu/admission/)

For additional admission questions please contact,

Emily Boyd
Retention Specialist
SLU Valentine School of Nursing
314-977-8995
slunurse@slu.edu