Entry Level Master of Science in Nursing (ELMSN)

In Preparation for RN Licensure

Background
The School of Nursing (SON) has developed learning opportunities designed to give individuals with a baccalaureate degree in another academic discipline the theoretical and applied skills necessary for the professional practice of nursing. The Entry Level Master of Science in Nursing (ELMSN) program requires a full-time, seven semester commitment, including two summers. Graduates of this program will be awarded a master of science in nursing degree and will be eligible to take the examination for licensure as a registered nurse.

Mission Statement
The mission of the School of Nursing is to prepare graduates to enhance the health of underserved and diverse populations. SON promotes educational advancement through uniquely designed programs, community partnerships, scholarly activities, and academic excellence.

Careers
Graduates of the ELMSN program will be eligible to take the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN). The major prepares students to work in entry-level registered nursing positions in a variety of settings, including hospitals, clinics, and surgery centers. In addition, graduates are eligible for Public Health Nurse (PHN) registration, allowing them to work in community health roles such as public health nurse or school nurse.

Program Admission Requirements
The following are required for application to the ELMSN program:
- a complete Graduate Programs Application;
- official transcripts from all previously attended colleges or universities;
- a student essay responding to a specific question;
- two completed reference forms; and
- cumulative 3.0 GPA in all baccalaurate coursework

Applications are reviewed once per year for a fall semester class start. International students should contact the Admissions Office at Metropolitan State University for additional information. Class size is limited to 32 students and acceptance to the ELMSN program is competitive.

Prerequisite Requirements
The ELMSN degree builds on a liberal arts and/or science-oriented baccalaureate degree. In preparation for the ELMSN program, the following eight pre-nursing courses must be completed at any accredited college or university with a cumulative GPA of 3.0:

Prerequisite Courses:
- Chemistry (with laboratory component)
- Human anatomy (with laboratory component)
- Human physiology (with laboratory component)
- Microbiology (with laboratory component)
- Lifespan growth and development (Course must cover the entire lifespan)
- Medical Ethics
- Nutrition
- Statistics. This course must be an upper division or graduate course, and must have been completed in the last four years

The four prerequisites of chemistry, human anatomy, human physiology, and microbiology must be completed at a regionally accredited university or college prior to the application deadline. The four prerequisites of lifespan growth and development, medical ethics, statistics, and nutrition may be pending at the application deadline, but the remaining prerequisites must be completed by the start of the program. Nursing courses build on the prerequisites with mastery of the content in these courses expected. Not all of the prerequisite courses are available at Metropolitan State University. For additional information about course approval and/or petitioning for approval, students should contact the SON.

Required Program Courses:
Students are required to complete 62 credits of nursing coursework; 29 at the undergraduate level and 33 at the graduate level, as follows:
Required Nursing Courses:
NURS 304 Fundamental Concepts of Professional Nursing
NURS 306 Essential Concepts of Pharmacology I
NURS 309 Holistic Nursing Care of the Adult I
NURS 325 Health Assessment
NURS 404 Essential Concepts of Pharmacology II
NURS 405 Essential Concepts of Pharmacology III
NURS 409 Holistic Nursing Care of Women, Children and Families
NURS 410 Applied Pathophysiology
NURS 414 Geriatric Nursing
NURS 460 Mental Health Nursing
NURS 462 Holistic Nursing Care of the Adult II
NURS 603 Integrative Care
NURS 604 Research Methodology
NURS 617 Advanced Health Assessment
NURS 618 Advanced Pathophysiology
NURS 619 Advanced Pharmacology
NURS 646 Nursing Informatics for Advanced Practice
NURS 648 Leadership, Quality & Finance in Nursing
NURS 656 Nursing in the Community
NURS 696 Comprehensive Care Seminar

Some courses are taught in an online or Web-enhanced format.

Required Clinical Courses:
NURS 400P Intensive Practicum I
NURS 600P Intensive Practicum II
NURS 656P Intensive Practicum III
NURS 690P Capstone Practicum

Students are required to travel to clinical sites throughout the Metropolitan area to complete the clinical components of the program.

How to Apply
Prospective students must complete a Graduate Programs Application, which can be found at: http://www.metrostate.edu/applications/drep/files/GradApp.pdf

Additional information about the application process is available at:
http://www.metrostate.edu/msweb/explore/gradstudies/masters/entrylevel/applying.html

Faculty
Metropolitan State University prides itself on its outstanding faculty, which includes full-time resident faculty and a core of community faculty. Faculty members are accomplished in their fields, academically and professionally. All faculty hold advanced degrees in their field, and are professionally trained as advisors.

Academic Advising
All SON programs are supported by the expertise of professional and faculty advisors, who help prospective students explore program options. Upon acceptance to the university, students will be assigned a professional advisor, faculty advisor or both, per program guidelines. Students are strongly encouraged to work with advisors to understand degree requirements and develop plans to achieve their educational and vocational goals. For more information, contact the SON Advising Center at 651-793-1375.

Accreditation
Metropolitan State University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and is a member of the North Central Association. The ELMSN program is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) and approved by the Minnesota Board of Nursing. This program is endorsed by the American Holistic Nursing Certification Corporation.

For More Information
For more information, visit the Metropolitan State Website—http://www.metrostate.edu—or call the School of Nursing at 651-793-1375.

This information is available in alternative formats by calling Disability Services at 651-793-1540 or 651.772.7723 (TTY).