



RN to Master of Science in Nursing

For those who have not earned a bachelors degree in any area



PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

This program is designed for registered nurses who currently hold a Diploma or Associate Degree in Nursing, to enter an accelerated path to the **Master of Science Degree** (if you already hold a bachelors degree in any discipline, you can be admitted directly into the MSN program). The baccalaureate upper division nursing major includes both undergraduate and graduate level courses to satisfy the requirements for the baccalaureate degree. The basis of the **acceleration** is the substitution of graduate nursing credits in place of the traditional baccalaureate nursing credits. This program offers the convenience of taking classes both online and in the traditional classroom setting, incorporating a blend of theory and research with an emphasis on guided clinical practice.



UNIQUE PROGRAM ATTRIBUTES

Faculty: Nursing faculty have received state and national recognition for expertise in their specific fields and are engaged in their clinical practice outside of the university. Faculty specializations and interests include: **Transformational Leadership, Public Health and Epidemiology, Emergency Preparedness, Geriatrics, Disenfranchised Populations, Rural and Urban Health, Pediatric Developmental Disorders.** All of the graduate faculty have achieved their doctoral degrees. Most of our Graduate faculty have received **Statewide Organization Awards for Excellence** and our Chair earned A **Teaching Excellence award** by our faculty will treat you not just as a student, but rather a colleague.



Clinical Practice and Fieldwork: We have established relationships with **leading healthcare organizations** in the region. The curriculum integrates role practicums, clinical immersion experiences and direct patient care opportunities throughout the program. These programs are designed to advance nursing careers to best meet the healthcare needs of our communities.

SACRED HEART UNIVERSITY

5151 Park Avenue • Fairfield, CT 06468 • www.sacredheart.edu

Online Learning: Sacred Heart University's Online Learning is an Internet-based teaching/learning experience. The University uses Blackboard as its electronic delivery and learning platform for all distance learning programs. Blackboard is a web-based system which provides a user-friendly interface with simple point and click access to course content, collaborative workspaces and online resource centers. It is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and allows for easy information interchange between student and instructor.

When you register for an online course, you can expect equivalent content and opportunity for learning comparable to students who take the same course on campus. With a positive attitude, an appropriate place in which to study and a structured schedule to keep you on track, your success with online learning is assured. Please contact the Office of Instructional Technology (203-365-7613) if you have any questions regarding the logistics of taking an online course.

PREREQUISITE COURSES:

Students are required to complete the prerequisite courses listed below either at SHU, a previous institution or through challenge examinations.

SHU Course	Exam	Credits
PS 110 Intro to Psychology	CLEP	3
PS 252 Child Development	CLEP	3
SO 110 Sociological Imagination	CLEP	3
BI 126 Anatomy & Physiology I	Excelsior	3
BI 127 Anatomy & Physiology I LAB		1
BI 128 Anatomy & Physiology II	Excelsior	3
BI 129 Anatomy & Physiology II LAB		1
BI 161 Microbiology	NLN	3
BI 162 Microbiology LAB		1
CH - Chemistry Elective		4
EN 110 Academic Writing	CLEP	3

UNIVERSITY CORE REQUIREMENTS

SHU Course	Exam	Credits
IL 101 Information Literacy		1
ENCC 102 Literary Expressions		3
HICC 101 Historical Pats to Civilization		3
CC 103 Social Sciences		3
CC 104 Truth & Justice Common Good		3
CA 101 Effective Communication	Dept.	3
MA 101 Modern College Math	CLEP	3
MA 131 Statistics for Decision Making	Dantes	3
(Or)		
SO 242 Statistics for Social Research		3
PH 101 Intro to Philosophy		3
RS 101 Intro to religion		3
RS 260 Bioethics		3
(Or)		
PH 258 Medical Ethics		3
Art, Music, History, Literature, Media Studies or Modern Foreign Language		3

UNIVERSITY BSN REQUIREMENTS

SHU Course	Credits
NU 290 Validation for Prior Learning	33
*NU 325 Health Assessment for RN's or Prior Learning Portfolio	3
*NU 375 Populations and Public Health Nursing	4
*NU 385 Case Management and Capstone	4
* NU401 Health Care Policy and Ethics for Contemporary Nursing Practice	3
* NU 430 Principles of Health Care Research for Contemporary Nursing Practice	3
* NU 431 Evidence Based Practice for Quality Care	3
* NU 433 Theory and Professional Roles for Contemporary Nursing Practice	3

*Indicates these courses are available online.

400 level courses are master's level courses which will accelerate your dual degree in this RN-MSN Program.

UNIVERSITY BSN REQUIREMENTS

At the completion of the Above Requirements, students will be awarded a BSN in Nursing and will continue seamlessly into one of the Master of Science Degree Tracks: **Clinical Nurse Leader, Family Nurse Practitioner, or Patient Care Services Administration.**

The MSN courses are 30-33 credits and most are available online.

ADMISSION

This Program is designed for the academically talented student who has experience in Nursing. The criteria for admission include:

- Undergraduate GPA of a 3.0 or better
- Statement of professional goals
- Interview with a graduate nursing faculty
- RN License
- Completed online application
- Official copies of all college transcripts
- Resume
- (2) Strong letters of recommendation

MORE QUESTIONS?

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Please also visit our website for the most up-to-date information on our graduate programs, news and events:
www.sacredheart.edu/graduate.cfm