



Nursing Administration (MSN)

The department offers a **Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) Administration** designed for those who are interested in leadership and administration as nursing leaders. The degree in nursing administration utilizes knowledge from health and social sciences to address the needs of diverse populations through planned programs, education and advocacy. Demonstrating leadership in the application of interventions and technology related to policy, research, leadership, organization and health care management.

***This program is offered fully ONLINE.**

Admission Requirements

Apply to the UTRGV Graduate College:

Step #1: Submit a UTRGV Graduate Application at www.applytexas.org. The university application fee of \$50 (\$100 for International Applicants) can be paid online by credit card or electronic check (in the online application). All application fees are nonrefundable.

Step #2: Register on the UTRGV Recommenders and Document Upload Webpage (www.utrgv.edu/gradupload). This is where you will request recommenders and upload program requirement documents, and where the graduate office will upload your transcripts. If you do not complete this step, we will not be able to process your application.

Step #3: Request your transcripts and other supporting documentation to be mailed to:

The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley
 The Graduate College
 Marialice Shary Shivers Bldg. 1.158
 1201 W. University Drive
 Edinburg, TX 78539-2999

Review and submit all Program Requirements:

- BS in Nursing or other baccalaureate degree plus the successful completion of Transition to Graduate Nursing course.
- Undergraduate GPA of at least 3.0.
- Official transcripts from each institution attended (must be submitted directly to UTRGV).
- Personal statement detailing professional goals and reasons for pursuing the graduate degree.
- Successful completion of undergraduate statistics course.
- Holding an unencumbered license as a registered nurse in their state of residence.
- Criminal background check.
- Evidence of current immunizations required by the Texas Department of Health for students in health-related programs.

Additional requirements for domestic applicants who attended foreign universities:

- TOEFL or IELTS Language Proficiency Test with minimum scores: 550 on paper-based, 213 on computer based, or 79 on internet-based for the TOEFL; 6.5 for the IELTS. TOEFL and IELTS scores are valid for 2 years. For additional information, [click here](#).
- English translation of educational records.

- Transcript Evaluation by the Foreign Credentials Service of America (FCSA). For additional information, [click here](#).

Additional requirements for international applicants:

- TOEFL or IELTS Language Proficiency Test with minimum scores: 550 on paper-based, 213 on computer based, or 79 on internet-based for the TOEFL; 6.5 for the IELTS. TOEFL and IELTS scores are valid for 2 years. For additional information, [click here](#).
- English translation of educational records.
- Transcript Evaluation by the Foreign Credentials Service of America (FCSA). For additional information, [click here](#).
- Financial Documentation showing sufficient funds (minimum of \$25,000) to cover all expenses (living and academic) for the first year of study. For additional information, [click here](#).
- Immigration documents, including a current copy of your valid passport. For additional information, [click here](#).

Program Contact

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Deadlines

	Fall	Spring	Summer I	Summer II
Domestic	July 1 st	December 1 st	N/A	N/A
International	June 1 st	December 1 st	N/A	N/A

Program Requirements

Required Courses 18

NURS 6208: Nursing Informatics	2
NURS 6301: Theoretical Foundations in Nursing	3
NURS 6302: Research in Nursing	3
NURS 6303: Statistics in Nursing	3
NURS 6382: Evidence-Based Nursing Practice	3
NURS 6474: Leadership, Policy and Population Health	4

Practice Courses 12

NURS 6370: Nursing Administration Concepts and Theories	3
NURS 6371: Health Care Change, Negotiation, and Conflict Resolution	3
NURS 6372: Health Care Finance	3
NURS 6374: Clinical Leadership in Nursing	3

Capstone Requirement

Choose one of the following options:

Thesis	6
NURS 7300: Thesis I Proposal	3
NURS 7301: Thesis II	3

Project 6

NURS 7302: Practice Intervention Project	3
Nursing Elective	3

Total graduate hours for degree: 36

Course Descriptions

NURS 6208: Nursing Informatics [1-3]
This course provides the student the opportunity to use computer applications in nursing and healthcare. **Prerequisite:** Graduate student status.

NURS 6301: Theoretical Foundations in Nursing [3-0]

This course provides an examination of the philosophical and theoretical bases underlying concepts and operations inherent to nursing. Theories from behavioral, natural, social and applied sciences are considered with the aim of synthesis in the development and application to nursing theory.

Prerequisite: Graduate student status.

NURS 6302: Research in Nursing [3-0]

This course enables the student to develop a research-oriented approach to the improvement of the profession of nursing. The logic, methods and techniques of the research process are explored from problem formulation to analysis and interpretation. Quantitative and qualitative methodologies are addressed. The student is provided the opportunity to recognize a researchable problem in nursing and to develop a plan for its study.

Prerequisite: Graduate student status, NURS 6303 (or concurrent enrollment).

NURS 6303: Statistics in Nursing [2-3]

This course focuses on the understanding of statistics as it relates to the research process. Both descriptive and inferential statistics are addressed with computer applications to selected research questions and hypotheses.

Prerequisite: Graduate student status, credit for or concurrent enrollment in NURS 6208.

NURS 6370: Nursing Administration Concepts and Theories [3-0]

Concepts and theories related to organizational structure and the administrative process are used to examine the roles and responsibilities of the nurse manager in health care organizations. The influence of environmental, technological and professional forces on the structure and functions of health care and nursing service organization and on the role of the nurse manager is explored. **Prerequisite:** Graduate student status.

NURS 6371: Health Care Change, Negotiation,
and Conflict Resolution [3-0]

This course examines organizational behavior, total quality management, change theory and team building application of implementing change, negotiation and managing conflict in an ever-changing health care environment. The course also addresses empowerment, shared governance and problem solving and negotiation models. **Prerequisite:** Graduate student status.

NURS 6372: Health Care Finance [3-0]

This course presents students with the financial aspects of management across health care settings. Students examine the financial issue in delivery models in such areas as managed care and explore techniques of cost analysis, strategic planning in budgeting and marketing, and forecasting. Analysis of staffing and case mix, regulatory impacts and financial interactions with resource allocations are also included. **Prerequisite:** Graduate student status.

NURS 6374: Clinical Leadership in
Nursing [3-0]

Explores aspects of horizontal and vertical leadership central to the Clinical Nurse Leadership role. Quality management and improvement, communication processes and evidence-based practice initiatives within a microsystem are stressed. Strategies for the efficient use of resources while maintain safe and effective patient care are emphasized.

Prerequisite: Graduate student status.

NURS 6382: Evidence-Based Nursing
Practice [3-0]

This course focuses on clinical reasoning and clinical outcomes, information systems and management, evidence-based practice, and scholarship/scientific writing. It promotes the development of skills in using the research process to define clinical research problems

with application to practice. **Prerequisite:** Graduate student status.

NURS 6474: Leadership, Policy and
Population Health [4-0]

This course explores aspects of horizontal and vertical leadership central to the Clinical Nurse Leadership role. Quality management and improvement, communication processes, and evidence-based practice initiatives within a micro system are stressed. Strategies for the efficient use of resources while maintaining safe and effective patient care are emphasized. Also explored the reciprocity between health care policies and population health, and emphasizes the relationship of behaviors as well as social and political structures to health outcomes.

Prerequisite: Graduate student status.

NURS 7300: Thesis I - Proposal [3-0]

The student completes an individual research project under the direction and supervision of a graduate thesis committee. The thesis defended publicly and approved by a majority of the committee. **Prerequisites:** Credit for or concurrent enrollment in advanced practice clinical courses. NURS 6302 and Graduate student status.

NURS 7301: Thesis II [3-0]

As a continuation of Thesis I, the student completes an individual research project under the direction and supervision of a graduate thesis committee. The thesis is defended publicly and approved by a majority of the committee. **Prerequisite:** NURS 7300.

NURS 7302: Practice Intervention
Project [3-0]

This course is required for non-thesis students. It involves delineation of a problem/issue/project related to the student's clinical or functional area, review of pertinent literature and development of a proposed solution, along with implementation and evaluation. The student will give a written and oral presentation of the project to a selected

audience. May be repeated for credit.
Prerequisites: Credit for, or concurrent enrollment in NURS 6302.