



UNIVERSITY of
SAN FRANCISCO



University of San Francisco

nursing

graduate programs





The challenges in healthcare continue to grow and the need for leaders in the profession is greater than ever. In our unsettled and evolving healthcare system, nurses can provide critical leadership and be among the architects of change, with greater emphasis on prevention and universal access to cost-effective, culturally competent, high quality care.

Vision

The School of Nursing at the University of San Francisco advances the mission of the university by preparing professional nurses who provide a moral compass to transform healthcare in order to promote equity and positively influence quality, delivery, and access to care.

Mission

The mission of the School of Nursing is to advance nursing education within the context of the Jesuit tradition. The school uses dynamic and innovative approaches in undergraduate and graduate nursing education to prepare professionals for current and future practice domains. The goal is to effectively link classroom and clinical experiences with expectations for competence, compassion, and justice in healthcare within the context of the highest academic standards.

A Letter From The Dean

What an exciting time for the nursing profession and what a terrific time for the University of San Francisco School of Nursing. The demands that have emerged in healthcare for an increased number of nurses and nurses with advanced educational preparation have created an unprecedented opportunity for the school to contribute to advances in patient care outcomes.

In addition to a vibrant baccalaureate program, the school has expanded its graduate offerings. We offer a master's of science in nursing (MSN) with a Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL) focus. The CNL is an advanced generalist who delivers optimal outcome-based patient care, providing for continuity and optimizing staff's ability to offer high quality care in a cost efficient manner. The MSN program at USF is accessible to nurses with a BSN, RNs with a baccalaureate degree in other disciplines, and RNs with an associate's degree or diploma. In addition, there is a master's entry (ME-CNL) option for individuals with a bachelor's degree in another field who want to become an RN and develop skills as a clinical nurse leader.

Our newest graduate opportunity is the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree program. The DNP at USF is the first such program in California, preparing graduates for advanced practice specialties. The American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN), the professional organization for higher education in nursing, has recommended that by 2015 all nursing specialty preparation should occur at the doctoral level. The DNP is a practice-focused doctorate. The program is designed for nurses with graduate preparation as well as direct access for BSN prepared nurses. Nurses who are prepared in an advanced practice specialty focus on coursework and clinical experiences that extend practice to meet the DNP essentials as outlined by AACN. Nurses who have a generalist master's degree or those with their BSN can pursue specialty practice as nurse practitioners or healthcare system leaders. The program of study is designed to be responsive to the educational and practice preparation of the student. Graduates of the program will be extremely attractive to leadership and clinician roles in the practice setting and, with focused development of their educational acumen, effective and highly sought after by the academic community.

The challenges in healthcare continue to grow and the need for leaders in the profession is greater than ever. In our unsettled and evolving healthcare system, nurses can provide critical leadership and be among the architects of change, with greater emphasis on prevention and universal access to cost-effective, culturally competent, high quality care.

Our motto at USF is "educating minds and hearts to change the world." I am delighted that you are considering joining us on our journey forward.

Sincerely,



Judith F. Karshmer, Ph.D., APRN, BC
Dean and Professor

Master of Science in Nursing

The MSN program at the University of San Francisco is designed to prepare graduates in the role of the Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL). The emerging role of the CNL is a national initiative in response to patient care needs and the current healthcare delivery environments. The CNL is a provider and a manager of care. S/he designs, implements, and evaluates care by coordinating, delegating, and supervising the care provided by the healthcare team, including licensed nurses, technicians, and other health professionals.



A graduate of the CNL program will be able to:

- Design, coordinate, and evaluate care to individuals, families, groups, communities, and populations, understand the rationale for care and competently deliver this care to an increasingly complex and diverse population in multiple environments.
 - Provide care at the point of care to individuals across their lifespan with particular emphasis on health promotion and risk reduction services.
 - Synthesize data, information, and knowledge to evaluate and achieve optimal client outcomes.
 - Ensure that clients, families, and communities are well-informed and included in care planning and act as an informed leader for improving care.
 - Advocate for the client by taking action if decisions or activities are against the wishes or interests of the client; give the client the opportunity to make informed decisions about healthcare before it is provided. Serve as an advocate for the profession and interdisciplinary healthcare team.
 - Use appropriate teaching principles and strategies as well as current information, materials, and technologies to teach clients, groups, and other healthcare professionals under their supervision.
 - Use information systems and technology that put knowledge at the point of care to improve healthcare outcomes.
 - Participate in systems review to improve quality of client care delivery and at the individual level to critically evaluate and anticipate risks to client safety with the aim of preventing medical error.
- Delegate and manage the nursing team resources (human and fiscal) and serve as a leader and partner in the interdisciplinary healthcare team.
 - Assume accountability for the ongoing acquisition of knowledge and skills to effect change in healthcare practice and outcomes and in the profession.

All graduates of the program will meet the AACN CNL master's degree outcome competencies and practice standards and be eligible for certification by the national American Nurses' Credentialing Center (ANCC) as a Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL).

Four curricular tracks are available to those interested in pursuing the MSN in the Clinical Nurse Leader role:

- The Non-Nurse with a Baccalaureate Degree who is seeking entry into the nursing profession (Masters Entry CNL)
- The Registered Nurse who has a Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing (BSN-MSN)
- The Registered Nurse without a Baccalaureate Degree (RN (ADN)-MSN Accelerated Option)
- The Registered Nurse with a Baccalaureate Degree in another discipline (RN-MSN Accelerated Option)

The MSN is offered at USF's main campus in San Francisco. The RN-MSN Option is offered at USF's San Ramon and North Bay Regional Campuses on a rotating basis, and is scheduled to start in Cupertino in January 2010.

CNL Option for the Non-Nurse with a Baccalaureate Degree who is seeking entry into the nursing profession (Master's Entry CNL)

This option is designed for the non-nurse who holds at least a bachelor's degree and who now seeks a nursing career. Coursework prepares students to become licensed as RNs while preparing them to be Clinical Nurse Leaders. The program is comprised of 67 units and is designed to be completed in a year and a half of continuous study with an additional semester devoted to the CNL Internship.

During the last semester of study, students focus on taking primary responsibility for the design, coordination, and management of healthcare by participating in an internship. This clinical application of theoretical knowledge allows students to implement and evaluate an interdisciplinary project that reflects the application of outcome-based practice models of care delivery.



Semester One

NURS 601	Pathophysiology and Pharmacology	4 units
NURS 602	Epidemiology and Evidence-Based Practice	3 units
NURS 603	Assessment	3 units
NURS 605	Assessment Clinical Lab	2 units
NURS 613	Introduction to CNL Role	1 unit
		Total: 13 units

Semester Two

NURS 604	Instructional Systems Design	3 units
NURS 610	Health Promotion	4 units
NURS 611	Clinical Lab	4 units
NURS 612	Advanced Pathophysiology and Pharmacology	3 units
		Total: 14 units

Semester Three

NURS 614	Healthcare Systems Leadership	3 units
NURS 618	Medical-Surgical Nursing I	4 units
NURS 619	Medical-Surgical Clinical Lab	4 units
NURS 634	Nursing Research	3 units
		Total: 14 units

Semester Four

NURS 623	CNL: Team Manager and Leader	1 unit
NURS 629	Financial Resource Management	3 units
NURS 635	Medical-Surgical Nursing II	2 units
NURS 636	Medical-Surgical Clinical Lab	2 units
NURS 637	Pediatric Nursing	2 units
NURS 638	Pediatric Clinical Lab	2 units
		Total: 12 units

Semester Five*

NURS 644	Community and Mental Health	3 units
NURS 645	Integration and Evaluation of Leadership Role	1 unit
NURS 646	Community and Mental Health Clinical Lab	4 units
NURS 648	Healthcare Policy and Ethics	3 units
		Total: 11 units

*Students take the NCLEX/State Boards at the end of Semester Five

Semester Six

NURS 649	Clinical Internship	1 unit
NURS 651	CNL: Role Synthesis	2 units
		Total: 3 units
		Total: 67 units

For a list of prerequisite coursework to be completed before beginning the Master's Entry program, please see page 9.

CNL Option for the Registered Nurse who has a Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing (BSN-MSN)

The CNL program for the Registered Nurse builds on baccalaureate nursing education and clinical experience while focusing on leadership. The program is comprised of 31 core units and is designed to be completed in five semesters of full-time study as outlined at right in the MSN Core Courses section.

CNL Option for the Registered Nurse without a Baccalaureate Degree (ADN-MSN)

The RN-MSN accelerated degree program is designed for the registered nurse who holds an Associate's Degree in Nursing or a Hospital Diploma and has now decided to pursue graduate nursing education. Students do not earn a BSN degree but progress directly to the MSN. The program is comprised of 55 units and is designed to be completed in eight semesters.

CNL Option for the Registered Nurse with a Non-Nursing Baccalaureate Degree

This CNL track incorporates the previous baccalaureate coursework of the RN while supplementing it with graduate-level education in nursing for a 37-unit program.

All MSN options are designed for the working professional; classes will be offered once a week and supplemented by Internet instruction.

MSN CORE COURSES

NURS 602	Principles of Epidemiology	3 units
NURS 603	Assessment	3 units
NURS 604	Instructional Systems Design	3 units
NURS 612	Advanced Pathophysiology and Pharmacology	3 units
NURS 613	Introduction to CNL Role	1 unit
NURS 614	Healthcare Systems Leadership	3 units
NURS 628	CNL Role: Decision Making	1 unit
NURS 629	Financial Resource Management	3 units
NURS 633	CNL Role: Team Manager and Leader	1 unit
NURS 639	Nursing Inquiry	4 units
NURS 647	CNL Role: Role Synthesis	2 units
NURS 648	Healthcare Policy and Ethics	3 units
NURS 649	Clinical Internship (RN-CNL)	1 unit

RNs with an ADN take the following courses in addition to the MSN CORE

NURS 501	Transitions in Nursing	3 units
NURS 505	Community Nursing	3 units
NURS 506	Community Nursing Practicum	3 units
NURS 507	Nursing Management and Leadership	3 units
NURS 508	Nursing Management Practicum	3 units
PSCA 500	Professional Writing	4 units
PSPH 500	Social Ethics	4 units

RNs with a Baccalaureate Degree in a Non-Nursing field take the following courses in addition to the MSN CORE

NURS 505	Community Nursing	3 units
NURS 506	Community Nursing Practicum	3 units

Doctor of Nursing Practice

A number of societal, scientific, and professional developments have stimulated a major paradigm change in graduate education in nursing:

- the rapid expansion of knowledge underlying practice
- increased complexity of patient care
- national concerns about the quality of care and patient safety
- shortages of nursing personnel
- demands for a higher level of preparation for nurses to design and evaluate best practices
- shortages of nursing faculty, and
- the increasing educational expectations for the preparation of other health professionals

The DNP program at the University of San Francisco will prepare graduates for advanced nursing practice. Graduates of the program will be attractive as nursing faculty recruits. Students who wish to certify as advanced practice nurses will take courses to meet competencies as family nurse practitioners.

These factors have led to the establishment of the standard set by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) that by 2015 all advanced practice nursing specialty preparation should be at the doctoral level.

The School of Nursing at the University of San Francisco has designed a vital, responsive Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program for the baccalaureate-prepared nurse and the nurse with a master's degree. The program of study for students with a bachelor's degree is 89-91 units, depending on track, and takes three to four years to complete full-time. The program for the nurse with specialty preparation as an advanced practice nurse takes into account previous academic coursework and clinical experiences and the required number of units are adjusted accordingly. Course schedules are designed for both full- and part-time students and are responsive to the needs of the working nurse professional. Graduates of the program will meet the AACN outcome competencies and practice standards, including the completion of 1000 hours of supervised clinical practice, the successful passing of a comprehensive exam, and the completion of a DNP evidence-based practice project.



DNP Program for Master's Prepared Nurses with Advanced Practice Specialties

Profound and unprecedented change in healthcare has created a need for knowledgeable and innovative clinicians and nurse leaders. Career opportunities for nurses with 21st century leadership skills have never been greater. The DNP program is designed to prepare students to assume leadership and clinician roles across the continuum of care delivery in the emerging healthcare delivery system.

The program prepares the graduate for advanced nursing practice, defined by AACN (2004) as *any form of nursing intervention that influences healthcare outcomes for individuals or populations, including the direct care of individual patients, management of care for individuals and populations, administration of nursing and healthcare organizations, and the development and implementation of health policy.*

The program of study includes class and clinical courses that link the expansion of scientific knowledge with a focus on practice that is innovative and evidence-based across a variety of settings relevant to the specialty. Clinical experiences are developed to assure that they are consonant with each individual's career path and specialty competencies.

DNP Program for Master's Prepared Nurse Generalists

Students who have completed their MSN as a generalist choose a specialty focus in the DNP program as either a family nurse practitioner (FNP) or healthcare systems leader (HSL). The FNP track prepares the DNP graduate to practice in an expanded role to provide primary healthcare to individuals, families, and/or groups in a variety of settings. The FNP acts independently and in collaboration with other healthcare professionals to deliver healthcare services. With completion of the doctoral program, the FNP is prepared to assume leadership roles across the in the emerging healthcare delivery system. The HSL track prepares the DNP graduate to lead practice at the highest level in an increasingly complex healthcare system. The HSL works collabora-

tively to promote evidence-based healthcare that is safe, effective, and patient-centered with a focus on quality and high-level patient care outcomes. Systems transformation is the center of the HSL's advanced practice.

DNP Program for Nurses with Baccalaureate Degrees

Nurses with baccalaureate degrees earn the MSN as part of the DNP program of study. Students choose either the family nurse practitioner (FNP) or healthcare systems leader (HSL) track. A given track determines the focus of the clinical experiences required in the MSN portion of the program. Students in the FNP track work in primary care, while those in the HSL track can choose from across an array of inpatient, outpatient, or community-based settings. FNP track prepares the DNP graduate to practice in an expanded role to provide primary healthcare to individuals, families, and/or groups in a variety of settings. The FNP acts independently and in collaboration with other healthcare professionals to deliver healthcare services. With completion of the doctoral program, the FNP is prepared to assume leadership roles across the emerging healthcare delivery system. The HSL track prepares the DNP graduate to lead practice at the highest level in an increasingly complex healthcare system. The HSL works collaboratively to promote evidence-based healthcare that is safe, effective, and patient-centered with a focus on quality and positive patient care outcomes. Systems transformation is the center of the HSL's advanced practice.

Our faculty believes in the principles of adult learning, with individualized, interactive experiences designed to foster lifelong learning. Courses in the program combine distance learning with traditional classroom experiences. Students enrolling in the program must have access to e-mail and the Internet to complete the distance learning assignments.

Required Courses for all BSNs in DNP Program

NURS 602	Principles of Epidemiology	3 units
NURS 603	Assessment	3 units
NURS 604	Instructional Systems Design	3 units
NURS 612	Advanced Pathophysiology and Pharmacology	3 units
NURS 613	Introduction to the CNL Role	1 unit
NURS 614	Healthcare Systems Leadership	3 units
NURS 628	CNL Role: Decision Making	1 unit
NURS 629	Financial Resource Management	3 units
NURS 633	CNL Role: Team Manager and Leader	1 unit
NURS 639	Nursing Inquiry	4 units
NURS 647	CNL Role: Role Synthesis	2 units
NURS 648	Healthcare Policy and Ethics	3 units
NURS 649	Clinical Internship (RN-CNL)	1 unit

Required DNP CORE for all Candidates

NURS 701	Applied Data Analysis	3 units
NURS 702	Epidemiology	3 units
NURS 704	Healthcare Informatics	3 units
NURS 705	Scholarly Communication	3 units
NURS 711	Evidence-Based Practice in Healthcare	3 units
NURS 715	Theory for Healthcare	3 units
NURS 716	Advanced Practice Roles	2 units
NURS 754	Policy and Ethical Implications for Healthcare	3 units
NURS 755	Leadership in Complex Adaptive Systems	3 units
NURS 763	Management of Financial Resources	3 units
NURS 765	Project Management	3 units
NURS 789	DNP Project	1 unit
NURS 795	DNP Residency	3-5 units

HSL Specialization Track

NURS 764	Advanced Management of Financial Resources	3 units
NURS 783	Organizational Theory & Research	3 units
NURS 784	Management of the Internal Environment	3 units
NURS 786	Management of the External Environment	3 units
NURS 790-793	HSL Practicum I-IV*	5-20 units

FNP Specialization Track

NURS 707	Applied Drug Therapy	3 units
NURS 706	Advanced Physiology and Pathophysiology	3 units
NURS 730/731	Advanced Assessment and Clinical	5 units
NURS 740/741	Primary Care I and Clinical	6 units
NURS 750/751	Primary Care II and Clinical	6 units
NURS 770/771	Primary Care III and Clinical	6 units
NURS 780/781	Primary Care IV and Clinical	6 units
OR		
NURS 796	Clinical Practicum for Current APN*	2-8 units

*Actual required practica will be based on previous coursework.

The BSN to DNP track is designed for students with a bachelor's degree in nursing who wish to pursue a career at the doctoral level. In accordance with the AACN requirement that specialized nursing practice take place at the Doctoral level, USF's BSN to DNP program will prepare the baccalaureate nurse, with or without clinical experience, for advanced practice. The program is 94 units, which includes MSN coursework in the CNL role and advanced practice training.

The MSN to DNP program is comprised of a minimum of 42 units and can be completed on a full-time or part-time basis. Full-time students take three to four courses each term and may complete the program in as little as a year. Each student completes a residency as well as practicum experiences that directly relate to his or her chosen career path.

DNP coursework is offered on alternating weekends allowing students to continue working while completing the program.



Application Process

Information about School of Nursing admissions requirements, financial aid, and scholarships can be found at <http://www.usfca.edu/nursing/admissions.html>

Priority application deadlines for the Registered Nurse tracks of the MSN program are June 15 for the fall term, October 15 for the spring term, and February 15 for the summer term.

The non-nurse track of the MSN program begins in the spring and summer terms; the application deadline is October 15 for the spring and February 15 for the summer.

Priority application deadlines for the DNP programs are June 15 for the fall term and October 15 for the spring term.

Online application forms are available at www.usfca.edu/graduate.

Admission Requirements

Applicants must submit evidence of the ability to do quality, graduate-level work. The following materials are considered in the review of applications:

For admission to the Graduate Programs, the School of Nursing requires the following:

- 3.0 GPA
- A written goal statement
- Two signed letters of recommendation for the MSN Program, or three signed letters of recommendation for the DNP program.
- A résumé
- One copy of official transcripts from all colleges and universities attended for the MSN Program, or one copy of an official transcript from the college/university where the highest degree was obtained for the DNP Program.
- A completed application form and fee
- International students must submit an official TOEFL score (600 minimum score on the paper test or 100 INB is required) and a Certificate of Finance.
- Nurse applicants must hold a valid R.N. license in California and provide the license number.

For admission to the Master's Entry CNL Program, the School of Nursing also requires the following:

- Human Anatomy Lecture and Lab (4 units)
- Human Physiology Lecture and Lab (4 units)
- Microbiology Lecture and Lab (4 units)
- General Psychology (3 units)
- Developmental (Lifespan) Psychology (3 units)
- Introduction to Sociology (3 units)
- Statistics (3 units)
- College Writing (3 units)
- Public Speaking (3 units)
- Human Nutrition (2 units)

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Outside California: 800.CALL.USF

One Stop Enrollment and Financial Services: 415.422.6303

To Apply Online: www.usfca.edu/grad/applyonline



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