

NURSING: DIRECT ENTRY (M.S.)

<https://chhs.unh.edu/nursing/direct-entry-masters-nursing>

Description

The Direct Entry Master's in Nursing Program is a full-time, five-semester, 63-credit course of study designed for non-RN students who hold a B.S. or B.A. or higher degree in a field other than nursing. The curriculum begins in January and includes two summer sessions. This program offers the Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL) track. The CNL is a role in the field of nursing designed to provide master's-prepared, point-of-care nurse leaders with the ability to manage and solve complex patient problems within a systems framework.

Students graduate as an advanced generalist with a master of science (MS) degree in nursing and upon passing certification examination, as a clinical nurse leader (CNL). Students take the CNL certification examination in their final semester. Students complete a clinical immersion experience in [NURS 952C](#) Clinical Nursing Leadership Clinical, which includes 300 clinical hours. Students are admitted with the stipulation that they must pass NCLEX-RN prior to completion of the program. The stipulation is met once the RN license is received. Students are eligible to take the NCLEX-RN after completing a total of 57 credits of accelerated study. Students conclude their CNL master's preparation in a clinical nurse leader capstone course, [NURS 958](#) Clinical Nurse Leader Capstone, which includes a project and 200 clinical hours. Students take the CNL certification examination in their final semester.

Requirements

Direct Entry Master's in Nursing Degree Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
NURS 801	Health Policy and Nursing Practice	3
NURS 807	Pathophysiology and Pharmacology	4
NURS 811	Clinical Reasoning Through Simulation	2
NURS 813	Health Assessment and Clinical Nursing Theory	4
NURS 813C	Health Assessment and Clinical Nursing (90 clinical hours)	2
NURS 822	Chronic Disease Management	3
NURS 826	Caring for People with Severe and Persistent Mental Illness	2
NURS 826C	Caring for People with Severe and Persistent Mental Illness Clinical (90 clinical hours)	2
NURS 827	Managing Acute and Complex Care of Individuals	4
NURS 827C	Managing Acute and Complex Care of Individuals Clinical (90 clinical hours)	2
NURS 831	Childbearing and Childrearing Families	2
NURS 831C	Childbearing and Childrearing Families Clinical (90 clinical hours)	2
NURS 835	Leadership in Healthcare	3
NURS 844	Population Health	3
NURS 902	Advanced Physical Assessment	2
NURS 908	Advanced Physiology & Pathophysiology Across the Lifespan	3
NURS 952	Clinical Nursing Leadership	2
NURS 952C	Clinical Nursing Leadership Clinical (300 clinical hours)	6
NURS 953	Promoting Quality Management	3
NURS 958	Clinical Nurse Leader Capstone (project plus 200 clinical hours)	6
NURS 968	Foundations of Evidence Based Practice	3
Total Credits		63

Degree Plan

Direct Entry Master's in Nursing Plan of Study

Course	Title	Credits
First Year		
Spring		
NURS 801	Health Policy and Nursing Practice	3
NURS 807	Pathophysiology and Pharmacology	4
NURS 813	Health Assessment and Clinical Nursing Theory ((plus lab))	4
NURS 813C	Health Assessment and Clinical Nursing	2
NURS 968	Foundations of Evidence Based Practice	3
Credits		16
Summer		
NURS 822	Chronic Disease Management	3
NURS 826	Caring for People with Severe and Persistent Mental Illness	2
NURS 826C	Caring for People with Severe and Persistent Mental Illness Clinical	2
NURS 831	Childbearing and Childrearing Families	2
NURS 831C	Childbearing and Childrearing Families Clinical	2
NURS 902	Advanced Physical Assessment	2
NURS 908	Advanced Physiology & Pathophysiology Across the Lifespan	3
Credits		16
Fall		
NURS 811	Clinical Reasoning Through Simulation	2
NURS 827	Managing Acute and Complex Care of Individuals	4
NURS 827C	Managing Acute and Complex Care of Individuals Clinical	2
NURS 835	Leadership in Healthcare	3
NURS 844	Population Health	3
Credits		14
Second Year		
Spring		
NURS 952	Clinical Nursing Leadership	2
NURS 952C	Clinical Nursing Leadership Clinical	6
NURS 953	Promoting Quality Management	3
Eligible for NCLEX-RN		
Credits		11
Summer		
NURS 958	Clinical Nurse Leader Capstone	6
Credits		6
Total Credits		63

Student Learning Outcomes

UNH Nursing Student Learning Outcomes

The goal of the BSN program is to prepare baccalaureate generalist nurses. At the completion of the program, graduates are expected to:

- Synthesize core knowledge from the liberal arts, sciences, and nursing as the foundation of professional practice.
- Integrate knowledge and skills to assess, design, implement, and evaluate nursing care in a safe, compassionate, culturally sensitive, evidence-based manner.
- Engage clients, families, and communities in collaborative decision-making incorporating evidence-based knowledge and anticipatory guidance.
- Employ team leadership and collaborative skills with other health professionals to optimize client and system outcomes.
- Recognize the influence of complex health systems on health care practice and advocate for policies that promote a socially just, patient centered healthcare system.
- Engage in scholarly inquiry to identify, evaluate and integrate the best current practice.
- Integrates health promotion, clinical prevention strategies when providing care at the individual or population level.
- Incorporates principles of patient safety and risk mitigation when using healthcare technology and therapeutics in the provision of care.
- Uses effective written, verbal, and nonverbal communication strategies when engaged in professional practice.
- Embrace professional values embodied in the ANA code of ethics.

In addition to the BSN outcomes above, at the completion of the Master's nursing program, the graduate student is prepared to:

- Serve in a healthcare leadership and change agent role as part of a diverse, complex, and patient-centered health care system.
- Act as a practice scholar to design, direct and evaluate system changes to promote safe, timely, effective, efficient, equitable and patient-centered care.
- Use data analytic methods, information systems and technology to evaluate, integrate and apply knowledge that will improve programs of care, outcomes of care and care systems.
- Use translational science and analytic methods to develop, identify, implement, and evaluate best practices to improve health care and health care systems.
- Design and implement health promotion and clinical prevention strategies across the health/illness continuum to optimize health and disease management.
- Systematically use improvement methods to monitor and evaluate care processes and outcomes and applies data for continuous improvement and safety
- Advocate for social justice through policy, professional and political engagement.
- Applies leadership principles that support inter-professional practice.

In addition to the Master's Outcomes:

The CNL Graduate Will:

- Act as lateral integrator to design, direct, and evaluate system changes to promote safe, timely, efficient, effective, equitable, patient centered care.