Degree Requirements & Curriculum
PhD In Nursing Science

The PhD in Nursing Science program requires 41 credit hours of coursework plus 9 credit hours of dissertation. Students are required to work with their advisor to develop a plan of study. The initial plan must first be approved by the academic advisor and then the PhD in Nursing Science Program Committee by the end of the first semester of study in the program.

In addition to coursework, degree completion requires successful completion of a written comprehensive examination, successful defense of the dissertation proposal and successful defense of the dissertation.

Please refer to the Graduate Program Policy Manual for more specific details about these processes and selection of examination and dissertation committees. Students are expected to complete the program in seven years.

Curriculum

Coursework will be specified in the student's plan of study and must include the following:

Core Courses (13 credits):
NURS 810: Philosophical and Theoretical Basis of Nursing Science (3)
NURS 833: Nurse Scientist Special Topics Seminar I (1)
NURS 834: Nurse Scientist Special Topics Seminar II (1)
NURS 835: Nurse Scientist Special Topics Seminar III (1)
NURS 841: Philosophical and Theoretical Basis of Nursing Education (3)
NURS 842: Nursing Higher Education: Structure, Processes, & Outcomes (3)
NURS 850: Dissertation Proposal Seminar (1)

Research/Methods/Analysis Courses (16 credits):
Statistics from EDUCATION, PSYCHOLOGY, SOCIOLOGY (6)
NURS 812: Responsible Conduct of Research (1)
NURS 814: Advanced Quantitative Research in Nursing Science (3)
NURS 816: Advanced Qualitative Research in Nursing Science (3)
Research Methodology Course (3): Course offered by other departments and is relevant to student's research focus, determined with academic advisor and with approval of course faculty.

Cognates (12 credits):
Electives taken to build substantive knowledge in area of dissertation topic. (12)
Electives are intended to enhance and broaden the student's scholarly involvement, build an inter-professional team of advisors, and contribute to successful completion of the dissertation, determined with academic advisor and with approval of course faculty.

Pre-Candidacy Study NURS 964: (3-12credits P/F)
Research and readings in preparation of dissertation topic and/or comprehensive examination for doctoral students before admission to candidacy but after completion
of all required course work

Dissertation (9 credits):
NURS 969: Doctoral Dissertation (9)
NURS 999: Dissertation Sustaining (if needed)

UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE. | College of Health Sciences
SCHOOL OF NURSING

Degree Requirements & Curriculum

PhD In Nursing Science

Full Time Sample Curriculum

Year 1

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
NURS 810	3	NURS 816	3
NURS 812	1	NURS 833	1
NURS 814	3	Statistics II	3
Statistics I	3	Cognate	3

Year 2

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
NURS 834	1	NURS 835	1
Research		NURS 841	3
Methodology	3	NURS 842	3
Cognate	3	Cognate	3
Cognate	3		

Comprehensive Exam (Spring)

Year 3

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
NURS 850	1	NURS 969	3
NURS 969 *OR*	3		
NURS 964:			
Pre-Candidacy	3-12		
Study			

Year 4

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
NURS 969	3	NURS 969	3
		OR	
		NURS 999	

Year 5

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
NURS 999 (if needed)			

Part Time Sample Curriculum

Year 1

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
NURS 810	3	NURS 816	3
NURS 812*	1	NURS 833	1
Statistics I	3	Statistics II	3

*online course

Year 2

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
NURS 814‡	3	NURS 835	1
NURS 834‡	1	NURS 841**	3
Cognate	3	NURS 842**	3

Year 2 designated residency year; fulfill RA‡/TA** requirements

Year 3

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
Cognate	3	Research	3
Cognate	3	Methodology	
		Cognate	3

Year 4

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
NURS 850	1	NURS 969	3
NURS 964	3		

Comprehensive Exam (Fall)

Year 5

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
NURS 969	3	NURS 969	3

Year 6

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
NURS 999	3		