Murray State University
Master of Science in Nursing

Clinical Nurse Specialist

The Clinical Nurse Specialist is an advanced practice nurse with a concentration in a selected area of clinical nursing. Emphasis is placed on the management, support, and coordination of the care of acutely and critically ill adult patients with episodic illness or acute exacerbation of chronic illness within the context of advanced standards of practice and professional performance. The CNS influences outcomes of client care, nursing personnel activities, and the organizational environment. The CNS is prepared to function as a nurse intensivist, an expert practitioner, educator, researcher, consultant and leader within a variety of settings in secondary and tertiary care.

The CNS in Adult Health option is considered full time with 8 – 11 credits per semester except during summer 1. The curriculum prepares the student to write the AACN critical care-CNS and the adult health-CNS ANCC certification exams. The CNS option is taught 100% on-line; however, students do come to campus 1 – 2 times/semester.

Prerequisites: anatomy, physiology, equivalent to chemistry 111, nursing assessment, nursing research, statistics (descriptive and inferential); GRE minimum 1000

Proposed Schema: 42 credit hours

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<tr>
<th>Fall 1</th>
<th>Spring 1</th>
<th>Summer 1</th>
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<tr>
<td>NUR 673 - 3</td>
<td>NUR 642 - 3</td>
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<td>NUR 641 - 4</td>
<td>NUR 624 - 4</td>
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<td>NUR 603 - 3</td>
<td>NUR 605 - 3</td>
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<th>Fall 2</th>
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<tr>
<td>NUR 623 - 5</td>
<td>NUR 650 - 5</td>
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<td>NUR 631 - 3</td>
<td>NUR 622 - 3</td>
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Note: All degree requirements must be completed within 5 calendar years. Clinical hours = 585 and are based on a 1 credit hour to 3 credit hour ratio.

For more information, contact Dr. Dina Byers, Dina.byers@murraystate.edu or 270-809-6223

Download all application material from our Website: http://www.murraystate.edu/Academics/CollegesDepartments/nursing/MSN.aspx or contact the graduate coordinator Dr. Dina Byers dina.byers@murraystate.edu or (270) 809-6223

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Post-Master’s CNS Certificate

The Clinical Nurse Specialist is an advanced practice nurse with a concentration in a selected area of clinical nursing. Emphasis is placed on the management, support, and coordination of the care of acutely and critically ill adult patients with episodic illness or acute exacerbation of chronic illness within the context of advanced standards of practice and professional performance. The CNS influences outcomes of client care, nursing personnel activities, and the organizational environment. The CNS is prepared to function as an expert practitioner, educator, researcher, consultant and leader within a variety of settings.

The CNS in Adult Health option offers full time as well as part time schedules. The curriculum prepares the student to write the AACN critical care-CNS and the advanced medical-surgical-CNS ANCC certification exams. The CNS option is taught 100% on-line.

31 credit hours
Curriculum

NUR 620 3
NUR 622 3
NUR 623 5
*NUR 641 4
NUR 624 4
NUR 631 3
*NUR 642 3
NUR 650 5
*NUR 673 3

Total 31 credit hours

* These courses may be transferred in if taken the last 5 years and are at the graduate level.