NURSING, PHD

The mission of the doctoral program of the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing is to develop scholars of the discipline of Nursing capable of building a program of research that advances nursing knowledge and contributes to the health of individuals, families, and communities.

Graduates of this program will serve as leaders at the forefront of nursing research and its translation into practice locally, nationally, and globally. These nurse scientists will create new knowledge and be informed by a nursing perspective to enhance health and to develop and test innovations to improve outcomes of healthcare, with a priority on populations at greatest need.

The foundation of program success is the substantive match between the student and the faculty advisor. The educational experience focuses on the processes of exploring and examining substantive bodies of knowledge. The researcher’s development is fostered through exposure to an array of philosophic and methodological aspects of nursing and related basic and applied disciplines.

Our full-time PhD students are fully funded for the first three years, which includes a living stipend and covers tuition, fees, and health insurance.

For more information: https://www.nursing.upenn.edu/academics/doctor-of-philosophy-in-nursing-phd/

View the University’s Academic Requirements for PhD Degrees (http://catalog.upenn.edu/pennbook/academic-rules-phd).

Curriculum

A total of 22 course units are required for graduation. Students who have completed a related Masters degree prior to starting the PhD program will be awarded 8 course units of transfer credit toward the degree requirements.

Full-time students will take three to four courses each fall and spring semester. Most students complete their coursework within three to four years and then will be on dissertation status until the final dissertation defense.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Course Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NURS 750</td>
<td>Inquiry and Nursing</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 753</td>
<td>Evolving Nursing Science</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 754</td>
<td>Quantitative Research Design and Methods</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 800</td>
<td>Dissertation Seminar I</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 813</td>
<td>Qualitative Paradigm Empirical Nursing Research</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Statistics
Select two courses 1 2

Teaching Residency
NURS 890 Nursing Doctoral Teaching Residency 1

Research Residency
NURS 897 Nursing Doctoral Research Residency 1

Concentration Courses
Select five courses 2 5

MS Courses or General Credit 3 8

Total Course Units 22

1 Students should work with their advisors to select an appropriate statistics sequence from the approved list.
2 Students should work with their advisors to select the appropriate courses.
3 Students should work with their advisors to select the appropriate courses.

Program Milestones

- Qualifying Examination/MS-General Examination
- Candidacy Examination
- Dissertation Status
- Dissertation Defense

The degree and major requirements displayed are intended as a guide for students entering in the Fall of 2019 and later. Students should consult with their academic program regarding final certifications and requirements for graduation.

Sample Plan of Study

Students who enter the PhD program with a master’s degree receive a 8 course unit waiver toward the 22 course unit requirement. Students will take 3-4 courses per semester for the first two to three years before moving into the dissertation phase of the program.