Nursing Science and Health-Care Leadership Graduate Group (NSHL)
M.S. and Ph.D. Degree Requirements
Graduate Council Approval: June 05, 2015

M.S. DEGREE PROGRAM

1) Admission Requirements:
   a) Leadership Track:
      • Completed Office of Graduate Studies application
      • Meet the UC Davis requirements for Graduate Admissions
      • Current registered nurse (R.N.) licensure
      • A bachelor’s degree
      • A minimum bachelor’s-degree G.P.A. of 3.0
      • Three letters of recommendation
      • Official transcripts from each institution attended
      • Statement of purpose, personal history, research professional history and future goals
      • The application process may require an interview
      • The G.R.E. is not required.

   Admission is competitive. Online applications are processed through UC Davis Office of Graduate Studies, which coordinates UC Davis graduate degree programs. All applicants must submit a completed Office of Graduate Studies applicant and meet UC Davis requirements for graduate admissions.

   b) Family Nurse Practitioner Track:
      • All Leadership Track requirements listed above
      • A minimum 2.7 G.P.A. in all science prerequisite coursework is required

   Admission is competitive. Students applying for the M.S. – Nurse Practitioner Track must complete a Central Application Service for Physician Assistants (CASPA) application and meet selection criteria. Following that process, a select pool of qualified applicants will receive an invitation to apply for UC Davis graduate admissions. All invited applicants must meet the UC Davis graduate admissions requirements.

Prerequisites:
   a) Leadership Track: NONE

   b) Family Nurse Practitioner Track:
      All prerequisites are required at the college level from an accredited school and must be included on the submitted transcript as part of the Central Application Service for Physician Assistants (CASPA) application process. Each prerequisite is expected to be one full course, either a quarter or a semester, and a minimum of three units, depending on the location where it was completed. Completion of prerequisite course work online is acceptable; however prerequisite course work with a lab component must be completed in-person, at an accredited academic institution. No online lab work is acceptable. Advanced Placement scores awarded in high school do NOT fulfill prerequisites. All prerequisites must be completed with a grade of C or better:
• *One course in Human Anatomy with lab
• *One course in Human Physiology with lab
One course in General Chemistry with lab
(NOTE: Seminar courses will not fulfill this requirement.)
• One course in microbiology or bacteriology with lab
• One course in algebra, calculus or statistics
• One course in English composition
• Two courses in social sciences. Ideal courses provide exposure to human or organizational behavior – such as psychology, sociology, ethnic studies, women’s studies or cultural anthropology (NOTE: Social science courses may be completed in two different subject areas or within the same subject area.)

*It is desired that the human anatomy and human physiology prerequisite courses be completed within the past five years of when you plan to apply. Competitive applicants should self-assess their strengths. If it has been a number of years since courses were completed, applicants may want to consider retaking them.

*Applicants may complete a combined human anatomy and human physiology series course. Series courses are offered in two parts and are completed over the course of two quarters or two semesters. Series courses must be completed in full, and must include an in-person lab component. If applicant only completes one part of the series course, he or she must additionally complete a course in either human anatomy or human physiology to fulfill the requirement. Mammalian or animal will not fulfill this requirement.

Deficiencies: Applicants are not admitted with deficiencies

2) Degree and Plan:
   a) Leadership Track: The M.S. degree will be offered using Plan I which requires a minimum of 30 units of graduate and upper division coursework and a thesis. Twelve of the 30 units must be graduate coursework in the major field. (The Leadership Track program requires more units than the minimum; see requirements below.)

   b) Family Nurse Practitioner Track: The M.S. degree for the Family Nurse Practitioner Track will be offered using Plan II which requires a minimum of 36 units of graduate and upper division coursework of which 18 units must be graduate courses in the major field. The Nurse Practitioner program requires more units than the minimum; see requirements below. A comprehensive final examination in the major subject is required of each candidate. No thesis is required.

3) Course Requirements - Core and Electives

Core Requirements
   a) Leadership Track Core Courses: The Leadership Track requires a minimum of 32 units of core courses as described below. The core courses are:
      • NRS 201: Health Status and Care Systems (4 quarter units)
      • NRS 202: Implementation Science (4 quarter units)
• NRS 203: Leadership in Health Care (4 quarter units)
• NRS 204: Research Skills for Nursing Science and Health-Care Leadership (4 quarter units)
• NRS 206: Community Connections (2-5 quarter units each), taken each of the first 3 quarters (6-15 units total), open to NSHL-MS students only or with consent of the course Instructor of Record.
• NRS 210Y: Applied Health Informatics (4 quarter units)
• NRS 290: Master’s Degree Seminar (2 quarter units each), taken each of the first three to five quarters (6 quarter units minimum). Master’s degree students will also be required to enroll in NRS 290, if offered, while enrolled in NRS 299 (Thesis Research Units). Open to NSHL - MS students only or with consent of the course Instructor of Record.

b) Family Nurse Practitioner Track Core Courses: The Nurse Practitioner Program requires a minimum of 105 units as described below. Core course work will total at least 68 academic and didactic units plus 10 clinical training units, 24 supervised clinical practice units and 3 units of elective(s). The core courses are:

Academic Core (22 academic units)
• NRS 201: Health Status and Care Systems (4 quarter units)
• NRS 204: Research Skills for Nursing Science and Health-Care Leadership (4 quarter units)
• NRS 210Y: Applied Health Informatics (4 quarter units)
• NRS 242A, B, C: Implementation Science for Clinicians (6 quarter units over 3 quarters)
• NRS 243A: Leadership in Professional Practice (2 quarter units)
• NRS 243B: Leadership in Professional Practice (1 quarter unit)
• NRS 243C: Leadership in Professional Practice (1 quarter unit)

Clinical Didactic (46 didactic units)
• NRS 250: Foundations of Primary Health Care (7 quarter units)
• NRS 251A: Primary Health Care (8 quarter units)
• NRS 251B: Primary Health Care (8 quarter units)
• NRS 251C: Primary Health Care (8 quarter units)
• NRS 251D: Primary Health Care (6 quarter units)
• NRS 260: Foundations of Behavioral Health (1 quarter unit)
• NRS 270: Foundations of Pharmacology (2 quarter units)
• NRS 271 A, B, C: Pharmacology (6 quarter units over 3 quarters)

Clinical Skills (10 clinical units)
• NRS 400: Basic Clinical Skills (2 quarter units)
• NRS 410 A-G Series: Advanced Clinical Skills (7 quarter units over 7 quarters)
• NRS 440: Preparation for Clinical Practice (1 quarter units)

Supervised Clinical Practice (24 Clinical Units)
• NRS 450 A-E Series: Supervised Clinical Practice
• NRS 451-459 Series: Supervised Clinical Practice
Elective Courses: optional

a) Leadership Track: No minimum. Elective courses will be selected with the Faculty Graduate Adviser so as to form an individualized Plan of Study that supports the student’s topic area. Electives may include selections from the following School of Nursing courses:
- NRS 301: Methods for Teaching Nursing and Health Sciences: Use of Simulation
- NRS 302: Methods for Teaching Nursing and Health Sciences: Curriculum and Instruction
- NRS 303: Methods for Teaching Nursing and Health Sciences: Assessment/Evaluation of Learning
- NRS 493A: Improving Quality in Health Care
- NRS 493B: Improving Quality in Health Care
- NRS 493C: Enhancing Patient Safety in Health Care
With Graduate Adviser approval, alternatives may be selected.

b) Family Nurse Practitioner Track: (3 units) Elective courses may be selected (only with the Graduate Adviser approval) so as to form an individualized Plan of Study that supports the student’s topic area.

Physician Assistant (PA) program certificate option – if a nurse practitioner student is interested in applying for a Physician Assistant license and taking the certification examination, they must take additional Clinical Skills course units to meet PA licensing requirements. This is additional clinical profession coursework but does not qualify them for the MHS degree.

Research Units: No minimum

a) Leadership Track: A thesis must be completed. Research units (NRS 299) will be planned and determined by the student and his or her Research Mentor (see section 5 (d) below for details). The thesis will fulfill the capstone requirement. The capstone requirement is evaluated by a committee of three faculty members (see section 5 (d) below).

b) Family Nurse Practitioner Track: No additional requirements.

Summary

a) Leadership Track: Students are required to complete the core coursework (minimum 32 units). Waivers and substitutions for core courses may be granted by exception upon approval of Graduate Adviser and appropriate Office of Graduate Studies authority. Elective coursework is optional and highly recommended, with the approval of the Graduate Adviser. A thesis must be completed. There is no comprehensive examination. A minimum course load is 12 units each academic quarter.
# MS Leadership Summary Course Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Fall Quarter</th>
<th>Winter Quarter</th>
<th>Spring Quarter</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NRS 201: Health Status and Care Systems (4)</td>
<td>NRS 203: Leadership in Health Care (4)</td>
<td>NRS 202: Implementation Science (4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NRS 204: Research Skills for Nursing Science &amp; Health-Care Leadership (4)</td>
<td>NRS 210Y: Applied Health Informatics (4)</td>
<td>Elective(s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NRS 206: Community Connections (2-5)</td>
<td>NRS 206: Community Connections (2-5)</td>
<td>NRS 206: Community Connections (2-5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NRS 290: Master Seminar (2)</td>
<td>NRS 290: Master Seminar (2)</td>
<td>NRS 290: Master Seminar (2)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 2</th>
<th>Fall Quarter</th>
<th>Winter Quarter</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NRS 299: Thesis/research units</td>
<td>NRS 299: Thesis/research units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NRS 290: Master Seminar (2)</td>
<td>NRS 290: Master Seminar (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Advance to Candidacy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Elective(s)</td>
<td>Elective(s)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

BOLD = required course  
(#) = course units

**b) Family Nurse Practitioner Track (FNP):** Students are required to complete designated core coursework below. There are no waivers or substitutions for core courses. Elective course work is optional only with the approval of the Graduate Adviser. For Plan II a comprehensive exam must be completed.
## NP Summary Course Schedule

### Year 1

#### Summer, 1st Quarter
- **NRS 243A:** Leadership in Prof Practice (2)

#### Fall, 2nd Quarter
- **NRS 201:** Health Status and Care Systems (4)

#### Winter, 3rd Quarter
- **NRS 243B:** Leadership in Prof Practice (1)

#### Spring, 4th Quarter
- **NRS 243C:** Leadership in Prof Practice (1)

### Didactic Core - FNP/PA Faculty

#### NRS 250:
- Foundations of Primary Health Care (7)

#### NRS 260:
- Foundations of Behavioral Health (1)

#### NRS 270:
- Foundations of Pharmacology (2)

### Clinical - FNP/PA Faculty

#### NRS 400:
- Basic Clinical Skills: Patient Interview (2)

#### NRS 410A:
- Adv. Clinical Skills (1)

### Total Units
- Summer: 14
- Fall: 15
- Winter: 12
- Spring: 13

### Year 2

#### Summer, 5th Quarter
- **NRS 251D:** Primary Health Care, OB, Peds, Inf. Disease, EM (6)

#### Fall, 6th Quarter
- **NRS 410D:** Adv. Clinical Skills (1)

#### Winter, 7th Quarter
- **NRS 242B:** Implementation Science for Clinicians (2)

#### Spring, 8th Quarter
- **NRS 242C:** Implementation Science for Clinicians (2)

### Advance to Candidacy

### Didactic Core - FNP/PA Faculty

#### NRS 271C:
- Pharmacology- MSK, Psych, Optho/Neuro, Heme/Onc (2)

### Clinical - FNP/PA Faculty

#### NRS 410E:
- Adv. Clinical Skills (1)

#### NRS 410F:
- Adv. Clinical Skills (1)

#### NRS 410G:
- Adv. Clinical Skills (1)

### Elective Course
- Variable (3)

### Total Units
- Summer: 13
- Fall: 13
- Winter: 13
- Spring: 12
4) Special Requirements:
   a) Leadership Track: None.
   b) Family Nurse Practitioner Track (FNP): Before entering clinical sites, students are required to complete a criminal background check, health screening, and immunizations. The staff will ensure that students are aware of and satisfy these special requirements.

5) Committees

a) **NSHL Executive Committee:**

Duties of the Executive Committee include the following: Act as the Membership Committee; approve new members and review continuing members for retention in the group. Upon recommendation from the Educational Policy and Curriculum Development Committee, the Executive Committee will submit curriculum changes to Graduate Council for review and approval; determine and implement policy for the good of the Program; and represent the interests of the Program generally to various University and other agencies, in addition to addressing other Group issues as needed.

b) **NSHL Recruitment, Admissions and Fellowship Committee:**

The Recruitment, Admissions and Fellowship Committee shall be responsible for: selecting students for admission; administering financial assistance within the program; recruiting graduate students (and enlisting the services of an ad hoc recruitment committee for this task).

The Family Nurse Practitioner Track has a prescreening committee for their applicants. NSHL Recruitment, Admissions and Fellowship Committee shall have one representative on the FNP pre-screening committee. FNP students will apply through the Centralized Application System for Physician Assistants (CASPA). This specialized system will allow the faculty on the pre-screening committee to select potential FNP students based on the clinical requirements. These students will be interviewed and preselected and then will apply to the NSHL master’s degree program for potential admission to the master’s degree program.

Once the completed application, all supporting material, and the application fee have been received, the application will be submitted to the Admissions and Fellowship Committee. The Admissions and Fellowship Committee consists of at least 3 graduate group faculty members including a chair.

Based on a review of the entire application, a recommendation is made to accept or decline an applicant’s request for admission. That recommendation is forwarded to the Office of Graduate Studies for final approval of admission. Notification of admissions decisions will be sent by Graduate Studies.

c) **NSHL Education Policy and Curriculum Development Committee:**

Duties of the Education Policy and Curriculum Development Committee include the following: making recommendations to the Executive Committee regarding the educational policy and curriculum development of the group; monitoring and
evaluating the quality of courses and curriculum offered under the auspices of the Graduate Group in Nursing Science and Health-Care Leadership; supervising teaching assignments and teaching experiences of graduate students; overseeing the qualifying examination process; developing, coordinating, and facilitating the graduate program series of integrated workshops and seminars.

d) **M.S. Thesis Committee:**
The student, in consultation with his/her Faculty Graduate Adviser, will nominate a minimum of three faculty to serve on the Thesis Committee. These nominations are submitted to the Office of Graduate Studies for formal appointment in accordance with Graduate Council policy (DDB 80, Graduate Council B.1). The Major Professor serves as chair of the committee and is included as one of the three required faculty members. The Thesis Committee is composed of three faculty members who direct the candidate in research and evaluate whether the thesis is of sufficiently high quality for the degree. All members of the committee must sign to pass the thesis. According to Graduate Council policy, thesis committee members are expected to read and comment on the thesis within four weeks from its submission. When a committee member fails to comply with this deadline, the Graduate Adviser may recommend reconstitution of the committee for the Dean’s approval. This time limit policy does not apply to summer periods for faculty holding nine-month appointments.

e) **Comprehensive Examination Committee:**
The Comprehensive Exam Committee consists of at least three faculty members. This Committee will consist of at least the Graduate Adviser and at least one additional Graduate Group Faculty Member. The Graduate Adviser serves as chair of the committee and can be included as one of the three required faculty members. All members of the Comprehensive Examination Committee must sign to pass the Comprehensive Examination.

6) **Advising Structure and Mentoring**
a) **Leadership Track:** The Major Professor is the faculty member who supervises the student’s research and thesis; this person should serve as the Chair of the Thesis Committee. The student’s Faculty Graduate Adviser, who is nominated by the Chair of the program and appointed by the Dean of Graduate Studies, is a resource for information on academic requirements, policies and procedures and registration information until the Thesis Committee is formed. Mentoring Guidelines can be found in the graduate student guide, available on the Nursing Science and Health-Care Leadership and/or the FNP Program web site. FNP students will have an adviser from the FNP program faculty for the purposes of advising on clinical didactic coursework and clinical training that may be different from the Major Professor.
b) Family Nurse Practitioner Track: The student’s Graduate Adviser, who is nominated by the Chair of the program and is appointed by the Dean of Graduate Studies, is a resource for information on academic requirements, policies and procedures and registration information. Mentoring guidelines can be found in the graduate student guide, available on MyCourses for students.

7) Advancement to Candidacy
a) Leadership Track: Master’s degree students are expected to advance to candidacy during the fall quarter of the second year (fourth quarter). Every student must file an official application for Candidacy for the Degree of Master of Science after completing one-half of their course requirements and at least one quarter before completing all degree requirements.

b) Family Nurse Practitioner Track: Master’s degree students are expected to advance to candidacy during the winter quarter of the second year (seventh quarter). Every student must file an official application for Candidacy for the Degree of Master of Science after completing one-half of their course requirements and at least one quarter before completing all degree requirements.

The Candidacy for the Degree of Master form can be found online at: http://www.gradstudies.ucdavis.edu/forms/. A completed form includes a list of courses the student has and/or will take to complete degree requirements. If changes must be made to the student’s course plan after s/he has advanced to candidacy, the Graduate Adviser must recommend these changes to Graduate Studies. Students must have their Graduate Adviser sign the candidacy form before it can be submitted to Graduate Studies. If the candidacy is approved, the Office of Graduate Studies will send a copy to: the Graduate Adviser, the appropriate graduate staff person, and the student. If the Office of Graduate Studies determines that a student is not eligible for advancement, the department and the student will be told the reasons for the application’s deferral.

8) Thesis and Comprehensive Exam Requirements
a) Leadership Track (Plan I): The thesis should be submitted to the Thesis Committee by the end of winter quarter of year 2 (5th quarter). At the discretion of the student and thesis committee, the thesis may be formatted as an article to be submitted for publication.

b) Family Nurse Practitioner Track (Plan II): Fulfillment of the Comprehensive Examination is the last requirement of the M.S. Plan II. A student may take the comprehensive examination once they have advanced to candidacy and completed all required coursework. For most students, the exam is taken at the end of the 8th quarter. The comprehensive examination requirement is passing an online exam plus a simulated comprehensive physical exam by the student that is administered by the Comprehensive Examination Committee, who are members of the NSHL Graduate Group. The scope of the online exam is the candidate’s clinical coursework and preparation for clinical practice. The Comprehensive Examination Committee’s unanimous vote is required to pass a student on the comprehensive exam and all exam retakes.
If a student does not pass the comprehensive exam, the committee may recommend that the student be reexamined. The second exam must take place within one quarter of the first exam. The format of the second exam is the same as that of the first exam. If a student fails the retake, the second retake will follow the same process as the first retake and must also be completed within one quarter of the first exam. The examination may not be repeated more than twice. A student who does not pass on the second retake attempt is subject to disqualification from further graduate work in the program.

Once passed, the Master’s Report Form is signed by the Program Graduate Adviser and then forwarded to the Office of Graduate Studies. The deadlines for completing this requirement are listed each quarter in the campus General Catalog (available online at the website of the Office of the Registrar or from the Bookstore). A candidate must be a registered student at the time the program submits the form. The program must file the report with Graduate Studies within one week of the end of the quarter in which the student’s degree will be conferred.

9) Normative Time to Degree
   a) Leadership Track: The normative time to degree for the Nursing Science and Health-Care Leadership M.S. program is five quarters.

   b) Family Nurse Practitioner Track: The normative time to degree for the Nursing Science and Health-Care Leadership M.S program is eight quarters starting with a Summer Quarter.

   Physician Assistant (PA) program certificate option – if a nurse practitioner student is interested in applying for a Physician Assistant license and taking the certification examination, they must take additional Clinical Skills course units to meet PA licensing requirements. This is additional clinical profession coursework but does not qualify them for the MHS degree.
10) Typical Time Line and Sequence of Events
   a) Leadership Track

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Fall Quarter</th>
<th>Winter Quarter</th>
<th>Spring Quarter</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NRS 201: Health Status and Care Systems (4)</td>
<td>NRS 203: Leadership in Health Care (4)</td>
<td>NRS 202: Implementation Science (4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NRS 204: Research Skills for Nursing Science and Health-Care Leadership (4)</td>
<td>NRS 210Y: Applied Health Informatics (4)</td>
<td>Elective(s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NRS 206: Community Connections (2-5)</td>
<td>NRS 206: Community Connections (2-5)</td>
<td>NRS 206: Community Connections (2-5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NRS 290: Master seminar (2)</td>
<td>NRS 290: Master seminar (2)</td>
<td>NRS 290: Master seminar (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>Fall Quarter</td>
<td>Winter Quarter</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NRS 299: Thesis/research units</td>
<td>NRS 299: Thesis/research units</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NRS 290: Master seminar (2)</td>
<td>NRS 290: Master seminar (2)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Elective(s)</td>
<td>Elective(s)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Advance to Candidacy</td>
<td>Thesis due</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Bold** = required course  
(#) = course units
# Family Nurse Practitioner Track

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Summer, 1st Quarter</th>
<th>Fall, 2nd Quarter</th>
<th>Winter, 3rd Quarter</th>
<th>Spring, 4th Quarter</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Academic Core - NSHL Faculty</td>
<td>NRS 243A: Leadership in Prof Practice (2)</td>
<td>NRS 201: Health Status and Care Systems (4)</td>
<td>NRS 243B: Leadership in Prof Practice (1)</td>
<td>NRS 243C: Leadership in Prof Practice (1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Didactic Core - FNP/PA Faculty</td>
<td>NRS 250: Foundations of Primary Health Care (7)</td>
<td>NRS 251A: Primary Health Care- Renal/GU, CV, ENT/Pulm (8)</td>
<td>NRS 251B: Primary Health Care- Gender/Endo, GI, Rheum/Derm (8)</td>
<td>NRS 251C: Primary Health Care- MSK, Psych, Optho/Neuro, Heme/Onc (8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic Core - NSHL Faculty</td>
<td>NRS 250: Foundations of Primary Health Care (7)</td>
<td>NRS 251A: Primary Health Care- Renal/GU, CV, ENT/Pulm (8)</td>
<td>NRS 251B: Primary Health Care- Gender/Endo, GI, Rheum/Derm (8)</td>
<td>NRS 251C: Primary Health Care- MSK, Psych, Optho/Neuro, Heme/Onc (8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Didactic Core - FNP/PA Faculty</td>
<td>NRS 260: Foundations of Behavioral Health (1)</td>
<td>NRS 271A: Pharmacology- Renal/GU, CV, ENT/Pulm (2)</td>
<td>NRS 271B: Pharmacology- Gender/Endo, GI, Rheum/Derm (2)</td>
<td>NRS 271C: Pharmacology- MSK, Psych, Optho/Neuro, Heme/Onc (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Units</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 2</th>
<th>Summer, 5th Quarter</th>
<th>Fall, 6th Quarter</th>
<th>Winter, 7th Quarter</th>
<th>Spring, 8th Quarter</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Academic Core - NSHL Faculty</td>
<td>NRS 204: Research Skills for Nursing Science and Health-Care Leadership (4)</td>
<td>NRS 242B: Implementation Science for Clinicians (2)</td>
<td>NRS 242C: Implementation Science for Clinicians (2)</td>
<td>NRS 410E: Adv. Clinical Skills (1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Units</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Advance to Candidacy
11) Sources of Funding
Master’s degree students may receive funding to support UC Davis student fees/tuition.

12) PELP and Filing Fee status
Information about PELP (Planned Educational Leave) and Filing Fee status can be found in the Graduate Student Handbook:
http://www.gradstudies.ucdavis.edu/students/handbook/1.html
Ph.D. PROGRAM

1) Admission Requirements
Applicants for admission to the Ph.D. program in Nursing Science and Health-Care Leadership must have:
• Completed Office of Graduate Studies application
• Meet the UC Davis requirements for Graduate Admissions
• A bachelor’s degree
• A minimum bachelor’s-degree G.P.A. of 3.0
• Three letters of recommendation
• Statement of purpose, personal history, research professional history and future goals
• The application process may require an interview
• The G.R.E. is not required
• NSHL program Priority Deadlines may vary. The final application deadline is May 31.

a) Prerequisites: None
b) Deficiencies: Applicants are not admitted with deficiencies

2) Dissertation Plan
The Ph.D. will be offered, using Plan B which specifies a three member (minimum) dissertation committee, an optional final oral examination (made on an individual student basis by the dissertation committee), and an exit seminar.

3) Course Requirements: 50 units of coursework are required

a) Core Courses: 50 units
Core course work will total 50 units. The core courses are:

• NRS 201: Health Status and Care Systems (4 units)
• NRS 202: Implementation Science (4 units)
• NRS 203: Leadership in Health Care (4 units)
• NRS 205ABC: Research Design in Nursing and Health Care (10 units total, taken in all quarters of the first year)
• NRS 210Y: Applied Health Informatics (4 units)
• NRS 291: Doctoral Seminar – 2 units per quarter, to be taken in all quarters preceding the Qualifying exam, i.e. 6 quarters – (12 units)
• A series in 3 research methods courses to be determined by the student and their graduate advisor (12 units)
b) **Elective Courses: No minimum, optional.**
Elective courses will be selected with the Graduate Adviser so as to form an individualized Plan of Study that supports the student’s topic area. Electives may include selections from the following teaching courses:
- NRS 301: Methods for Teaching Nursing and Health Sciences: Use of Simulation. (4 units)
- NRS 302: Methods for Teaching Nursing and Health Sciences: Curriculum and Instruction. (4 units)
- NRS 303: Methods for Teaching Nursing and Health Sciences: Assessment/Evaluation of Learning. (4 units)
- With Graduate Adviser approval, alternatives may be selected.

c) **Research Units:** No minimum Research units (NRS 299) are stipulated. The program of research and appropriate units of NRS 299 will be planned and determined by the student with his or her Research Mentor.

d) **Summary**
A minimum course load is 12 units each academic quarter. The core courses total 50 units; electives and dissertation research (NRS 299) units will be planned and determined by the student and his or her Research Mentor. Waivers and substitutions for core courses may be granted by exception upon approval of Graduate Adviser and appropriate Office of Graduate Studies authority. Elective course work is optional but highly recommended, with the approval of the Graduate Adviser.
## PhD Summary Course Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Fall Quarter</th>
<th>Winter Quarter</th>
<th>Spring Quarter</th>
<th>Summer Sessions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>NRS 201: Health Status and Care Systems (4)</td>
<td>NRS 203: Leadership in Health Care (4)</td>
<td>NRS 202: Implementation Science (4)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NRS 205A: Research Design in Nursing and Health Care (4)</td>
<td>NRS 205B: Research Design in Nursing and Health Care (4)</td>
<td>NRS 205C: Research Design in Nursing and Health Care (4)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Methods Course (4)</td>
<td>Methods Course (4)</td>
<td>Elective(s)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NRS 291: Doctoral Seminar (2)</td>
<td>NRS 291: Doctoral Seminar (2)</td>
<td>NRS 291: Doctoral Seminar (2)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Elective(s)</td>
<td>Elective(s)</td>
<td>Elective(s)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>NRS 291: Doctoral Seminar (2)</td>
<td>NRS 291: Doctoral Seminar (2)</td>
<td>NRS 291: Doctoral Seminar (2)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Methods Course (4)</td>
<td>Elective(s)</td>
<td>Elective(s)</td>
<td>Qualifying exam by end of fall Advance to Candidacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Elective(s)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>NRS 299: Dissertation/research</td>
<td>NRS 299: Dissertation/research</td>
<td>NRS 299: Dissertation/research</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Bold = required course**  
( # ) = course units

### 4) Special Requirements
Graduate students may be appointed a maximum of 9 quarters in one or a combination of academic titles prior to advancement to candidacy; a student may not be appointed to a tenth term if she/he has not advanced to candidacy. No additional requirements, other than requirements specific to completion of the dissertation can be placed upon students after they have passed the Qualifying Exam.
5) Committees

a) **NSHL Executive Committee:**
Duties of the Executive Committee include the following: Act as the Membership Committee: Approval of new members and review of continuing members for retention in the group. Upon recommendation from the Educational Policy and Curriculum Development Committee will submit curriculum changes to Graduate Council for review and approval. Determine and implement policy for the good of the Program and to represent the interests of the Program generally to various University and other agencies. Address other Group issues as needed.

b) **NSHL Recruitment, Admissions and Fellowship Committee:**
Duties of the Recruitment, Admissions and Fellowship Committee include the following: Select students for admission and for financial assistance within the program. Responsible for recruiting graduate students, and shall enlist the services of an ad hoc recruitment committee for this task.

Once the completed application, all supporting material, and the application fee have been received, the application will be submitted to the Admissions and Fellowship Committee. The Admissions and Fellowship Committee consists of at least 3 graduate group faculty member including a chair. Based on a review of the entire application, a recommendation is made to accept or decline an applicant’s request for admission. That recommendation is forwarded to the Office of Graduate Studies for final approval of admission. Notification of admissions decisions will be sent by Graduate Studies.

c) **NSHL Education Policy and Curriculum Development Committee:**
Duties of the Education Policy and Curriculum Development Committee include the following: Recommendations regarding the educational policy and curriculum development of the group. Monitoring and evaluating the quality of courses and curriculum offered under the auspices of the Graduate Group in Nursing Science and Health-Care Leadership. Supervision of teaching assignments and teaching experience of graduate students. Oversee the qualifying examination process. Developing, coordinating, and facilitating the graduate program series of integrated workshops and seminars.

d) **Qualifying Examination Committee:**
The student, in consultation with his/her Major Professor and Faculty Graduate Adviser, will nominate five faculty to serve on the Examination Committee and will designate a chair of the committee. These nominations are submitted to the Office of Graduate Studies for formal appointment in accordance with Graduate Council policy (DDB 80. Graduate Council B.1.). The Major Professor normally chairs the dissertation committee and as such, cannot serve as chair of the Qualifying Examination committee. All committee members are required to stay for the entire exam. If there are any unanticipated or unavoidable absences, the Chair will report them and provide specific details for a plan to complete the exam within 72 hours, when all committee members may attend. If the Chair is absent, remaining members shall wait a reasonable time, attempt to contact the Chair, and then suspend the
exam. In this case, the Chair shall report the result as “No Examination” and provide a detailed explanation of the circumstances. A rescheduled exam must be conducted in the same manner and format intended for the original exam.

e) **Dissertation Committee:**
The Major Professor and the Graduate Adviser, in consultation with the student will nominate a minimum of three faculty to serve on the Dissertation Committee. These nominations are submitted to the Office of Graduate Studies for formal appointment in accordance with Graduate Council policy (DDB 80, Graduate Council B.1.). The Major Professor may serve as chair of the committee if s/he is not chair of the Qualifying Examination committee, and is included as one of the three required faculty members. The Dissertation Committee is composed of three faculty members who direct the candidate in research and pass upon the merits of the dissertation. According to Graduate Council policy, reading committee members are expected to read and comment on a dissertation within four weeks from its submission. When a committee member fails to comply with this deadline, the Graduate Adviser may recommend reconstitution of the committee for the Dean’s approval. This time limit policy does not apply to summer periods for faculty holding nine-month appointments.

6) **Advising Structure and Mentoring**

The **Major Professor** is the faculty member who supervises the student’s research and dissertation; this person may serve as the Chair of the Dissertation Committee.

The **Graduate Adviser**, who is nominated by the Chair of the program and appointed by the Dean of Graduate Studies, is a resource for information on academic requirements, policies and procedures, and registration information.

The **Mentoring Guidelines** will be found in the graduate student handbook that will be made available to students on the online Learning Management System.

7) **Advancement to Candidacy**
The student is eligible for Advancement to Candidacy after successful completion of all graduate program degree requirements, after passing the Qualifying Examination, and must have maintained a minimum GPA of 3.0 in all course work undertaken except those courses graded S or U. Advancement usually occurs after the 6th and before the end of the 7th quarter. The student must file the appropriate paperwork with the Office of Graduate Studies and pay the candidacy fee in order to be officially promoted to Ph.D. Candidacy. Refer to the Graduate Council Web site for additional details regarding the doctoral Qualifying Examination at http://graduatestudies.ucdavis.edu/gradcouncil/Doctoral%20Qualifying_Examination.

The **Qualifying Exam**
Passing this exam makes a student eligible to advance to candidacy. After verifying that all required coursework has been completed satisfactorily, the Graduate Adviser (in consultation with the student) will recommend a Qualifying Examination committee to Graduate Studies for approval (see details in section 5.c. above). The Qualifying
Exam will take place after the 6th and before the end of the 7th quarter. Prior to the Qualifying Exam, the student, in consultation with his/her Research Mentor, will prepare a Research Proposal (dissertation prospectus). The Research Proposal will include a) a statement of the research problem, b) a pertinent literature review, and c) an explanation of the appropriate research method(s). The proposal will be submitted to the Qualifying Examination Committee members at least two weeks prior to the proposed Oral Examination date.

The intent of the Oral Qualifying Examination will be to determine whether the student is adequately prepared and intellectually independent enough to conduct doctoral level research. The Qualifying Exam must evaluate the student’s command of the field, ensuring that the student has both breadth and depth of knowledge, and must not focus solely on the proposed dissertation research. In addition, the Qualifying Exam provides an opportunity for the committee to provide important guidance to the student regarding his or her chosen research topic, as determined by the Research Proposal (dissertation prospectus) submitted. The Qualifying Exam will rigorously examine the student’s command of relevant literature, relevant methodology, research project design, and the capacity to improvise solutions to possible roadblocks that might arise, in addition to the fundamentals of coursework required for the degree.

The Qualifying Examination consists of an oral examination of approximately 2-3 hours in length, with only the student and entire committee present, and the decision-making process immediately following. Outcomes: The Committee, having reached a unanimous decision, shall inform the student of its decision as: Pass (no conditions may be appended to this decision), Not Pass (the Chair’s report should specify whether the student is required to retake all or part of the examination, list any additional requirements, and state the exact timeline for completion of requirements to achieve a “Pass”), or Fail. If a unanimous decision takes the form of Not Pass or Fail, the chair of the Qualifying Examination committee must include in its report a specific statement, agreed to by all members of the committee, explaining its decision and must inform the student of its decision. A student who receives a Not Pass may retake the examination one additional time within one quarter following the initial attempt. With confirmation from the Qualifying Examination committee, the re-examination may include written or oral revision of the Research Proposal, and an oral examination covering the same and/or additional questions as were addressed in the initial attempt. After a second examination, a vote of Not Pass is unacceptable; only Pass or Fail is recognized. Only one retake of the qualifying examination is allowed. A student who receives a Fail is not eligible for reexamination, and a recommendation will be made to the Dean of Graduate Studies for dismissal from the program.

8) Dissertation requirements
The doctoral dissertation is intended to demonstrate the candidate’s ability to execute independent research. Ph.D. students will be required to meet with their established dissertation committee at least twice a year, to provide a progress report and for feedback. In keeping with a number of peer schools, NSHL Ph.D. candidates may elect to present the dissertation research in the form of 2-to-3 publishable papers. If using this option, the final dissertation product must also contain an introduction and summary to create a comprehensive document. A final examination may be required by the dissertation
committee, decided on a student-by-student basis. An exit seminar is required for all students. Students must file their dissertation and complete all the forms required by the Office of Graduate Studies found at (http://www.gradstudies.ucdavis.edu/students/degree_candidates.html).

9) Normative Time to Degree
The normative time to advancement to candidacy will be six quarters for students who enter without a Master’s degree. Students who enter the program with a Master’s degree will be evaluated as per UC Davis policy for relevant transfer credits, and their time to advancement to candidacy may be appropriately shortened. Course Units (maximum of 12) are potentially eligible as transfer credits towards the Ph.D. as long as the units have not already been used to satisfy the requirements for another degree. It is anticipated that students will take four years to complete the Ph.D. program from start to finish.

Students enrolled in the NSHL M.S. program who subsequently decide to pursue a Ph.D. degree must apply to the NSHL Ph.D. program for admission via the Office of Graduate Studies online admission application. If such a student has completed the core courses (NRS 201, NRS 202, and NRS 203) as an M.S. student, and is admitted to the Ph.D. program, said student will be required to complete the doctoral seminar (NRS 291) series as well as the doctoral research courses (NRS 205ABC). The master’s seminar series will not serve as a substitute for the doctoral seminar. With NSHL Graduate Adviser approval, the student will be required to complete an appropriate methods series as well as other electives in preparation for the Ph.D. qualifying examination.
10) Typical Time Line and Sequence of Events
Course requirements are generally completed by the end of Quarter 5 or 6 and the Qualifying exam is completed by the end of the second year (Quarter 6 or 7).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Fall Quarter</th>
<th>Winter Quarter</th>
<th>Spring Quarter</th>
<th>Summer Sessions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>NRS 201: Health Status and Care Systems (4)</td>
<td>NRS 203: Leadership in Health Care (4)</td>
<td>NRS 202: Implementation Science (4)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NRS 205A: Research Design in Nursing and Health Care (4)</td>
<td>NRS 205B: Research Design in Nursing and Health Care (4)</td>
<td>NRS 205C: Research Design in Nursing and Health Care (4)</td>
<td>Methods Course (4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NRS 210Y: Applied Health Informatics (4)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>Elective</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NRS 291: Doctoral Seminar (2)</td>
<td>NRS 291: Doctoral Seminar (2)</td>
<td>NRS 291: Doctoral Seminar (2)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Methods Course (4)</td>
<td>Methods Course (4)</td>
<td>Elective(s)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Elective(s)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Preparation for the Qualifying Examination</td>
<td>Qualifying exam by end of summer Advance to Candidacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>NRS 299: Dissertation/research</td>
<td>NRS 299: Dissertation/research</td>
<td>NRS 299: Dissertation/research</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Bold** = required courses  
(#) = course units
11) **Sources of funding**
Doctoral students may receive funding to support fees/tuition and living expenses.

12) **PELP and Filing Fee status**
Information about PELP (Planned Educational Leave) and Filing Fee status can be found in the Graduate Student Handbook:
http://www.gradstudies.ucdavis.edu/students/handbook/1.html.

13) **Leaving Program Prior to Completion of the Ph.D. Requirements**
Should a student leave the program prior to completing the requirements for the Ph.D., he or she will not be eligible to receive the NSHL M.S. degree, unless said student has been enrolled in the master’s program and has fulfilled all the requirements for the M.S. degree program (see masters section).