



ROBERT E. SMITH  
SCHOOL OF NURSING

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[NURSING.DELTASTATE.EDU](http://NURSING.DELTASTATE.EDU)

Accredited by the National Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education and by the Mississippi Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning

## MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

### ONLINE PROGRAM

Nurse Administrator ▪ Nurse Educator ▪ Nurse Practitioner ▪ Post Master's Options  
Nurse Practitioner Tracks: Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP); Gerontological Nurse Practitioner (GNP); Psychiatric/Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PMHNP) with Adult or Family focus option

**Full-time Study - 2 Years ▪ Part-time Study Available**  
**Non-traditional Class & Clinical Schedule**

- Online courses combined with strategically scheduled campus seminars
- Online classes feature frequent chat and discussion activities with other students and faculty
- Clinical learning opportunities may be scheduled in facilities and agencies near the student's home community with approval of faculty

The Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) provides study beyond the Baccalaureate of Science (BSN) in Nursing. This MSN program offers a degree for those students who have not earned an MSN degree or a certificate option for those students who already hold a master's degree in nursing, but seek another role concentration or certification. The role concentrations are nurse administrator, nurse educator, and family nurse practitioner. Clinical specialties include adult and family. In addition, the Robert E. Smith School of Nursing offers the gerontological and psychiatric mental health (adult and family) nurse practitioner programs of study through the Mississippi Education Consortium for Specialized Advanced Practice Nursing (MECSAPN).

### APPLICATION PROCESS UNDERWAY!!

While the application deadline is February 1<sup>st</sup>, you may apply to the Graduate Nursing Program anytime throughout the year. Once your file folder is complete, you will be notified and an interview scheduled.

### ACCREDITATION

Delta State University Robert E. Smith School of Nursing is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education. Information may be obtained from the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, One Dupont Circle, NW, Suite 530, Washington, DC, 20036-1120, Telephone: 202-887-8476.

### ADA COMPLIANCE STATEMENT

Delta State University is committed to a policy of equal employment and educational opportunity. Delta State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, disability, or veteran status. This policy extends to all programs and activities supported by the University.

**MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING AND POST MASTER'S ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

Students considered for Full Admission to the Graduate Program in the Robert E. Smith School of Nursing must meet the following requirements by February 1<sup>st</sup>:

- Apply to Delta State University Graduate School and meet admission requirements as outlined in the Delta State University Graduate Bulletin.
- Meet admission requirements to the Robert E. Smith School of Nursing Graduate Program as follows:
  - o [MSN degree requirement] Baccalaureate degree in Nursing with a minimum GPA of 3.00 overall.
  - o [Post Master's certificate requirement] Master of Science degree in Nursing with a minimum GPA of 3.00 overall.
  - o Completion of Robert E. Smith School of Nursing Master of Science in Nursing Program Application.
  - o A combined verbal and quantitative score  $\geq 800$  ( $\geq 280$  on new test) analytic score of  $\geq 3.5$  on the Graduate Record Exam [score must have been obtained in the past 5 years].
  - o At least one year of continuous clinical nursing experience as a Registered Nurse for Nurse Administrator and Nurse Educator.
  - o At least one year of continuous clinical nursing experience with patient contact as an RN within the past three years for Nurse Practitioner.
  - o Submission of a Resume' (further information included in application packet).
  - o Completion of an advanced role in nursing statement as noted in the Robert E. Smith School of Nursing Master of Science in Nursing Program Application.
  - o A copy of current licensure or privilege to practice nursing as a Registered Nurse in Mississippi. Individuals who hold a restricted license may or may not be eligible for admission.
  - o Three current ( $< 1$  year) letters of professional/academic reference. At least one reference must be academic in nature.
  - o Completion of an interview with Robert E. Smith School of Nursing faculty prior to admission with a score of 50 or better (application packet must be complete before an interview is scheduled).
  - o A grade of "C" or better on a graduate level pathophysiology course (applies only to nurse practitioner and educator tracks).
- [MSN degree requirement] A grade of "C" or better on an introductory course in statistics.

\*\*Exception to the noted admission requirements may be considered by the Graduate Nursing Program Committee.

Each student will be required to submit a completed health and immunization form provided by the Robert E. Smith School of Nursing, evidence of personal health insurance and malpractice insurance, and current Basic Life Support (BLS) certification (infant, child, adult) after being accepted for admission.

Applicants must comply with Mississippi legislative statues and regulations regarding criminal background checks by having fingerprints taken at an approved health care agency (not a police or sheriff's department) and a criminal background check completed. Any cost of this requirement will be the student's responsibility.

Applicants who want to receive credit for prior nursing course(s) taken at another institution must submit a written request with supporting documentation and credit be negotiated before admission to the Robert E. Smith School of Nursing and not after the student is enrolled.

**All students must have computer and Internet access.**

**NON-DEGREE SEEKING STUDENTS**

**Enrollment in the following courses as a non-degree seeking student is allowed prior to full admission:**

NUR 601 Advanced Theoretical Issues in Nursing and Ethics

NUR 603 Advanced Pathophysiology (pre-requisite for Educator and Practitioner students)

NUR 604 Advanced Health Care Policy and Politics

NUR 686 Elective(s)

## NURSE ADMINISTRATOR

Students applying to this program are registered nurses with a current RN license and a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing or a health-related field. Graduates of this program are prepared to function in the role of administrator in various healthcare settings.

**Full Time Program of Study**  
**Total Program Credit Hours: 44**

Semester	Course	Sem. Hrs.
FALL I	NUR 601 Advanced Theoretical Issues in Nursing and Ethics	2
	NUR 606 Advanced Nursing Research and Evidence Based Practice	3
	NUR 615 Administrative Concepts	2
	NUR 645 Administrative Concepts Practicum	1
	MGT 600 Management Problems	3
	<b>Total Semester Hours</b>	<b>11 hrs.</b>
SPRING I	NUR 604 Advanced Healthcare Policy and Politics	2
	NUR 616 Nursing Administration I	1
	NUR 646 Nursing Administration I Practicum	3
	MBA 505 Productivity Software for Execs.	3
	NUR 687/690 Research Project/Thesis	1/2
	<b>Total Semester Hours</b>	<b>10/11 hrs.</b>
FALL II	NUR 607 Instructional Methodologies	2
	NUR 619 Nursing Administration II	1
	NUR 649 Nursing Administration II Practicum	3
	MGT 605 Human Resource Management	3
	NUR 687/690 Research Project/Thesis	1/2
	<b>Total Semester Hours</b>	<b>10/11 hrs.</b>
SPRING II	NUR 622 Nursing Administration III - Role Synthesis	2
	NUR 652 Nursing Administration III - Role Synthesis Practicum	4
	MGT 620 Recruitment, Selection & Performance Appraisal	3
	*NUR 686 Elective (non-thesis option)	3
	NUR 687/690 Research Project/Thesis	1/2
	<b>Total Semester Hours</b>	<b>13/11 hrs.</b>

\*Elective courses may be appropriately selected from emphasis areas chosen by the student or from other elective courses offered in the Robert E. Smith School of Nursing, as well as appropriate courses from other schools or departments within the University. Electives must be approved by faculty advisor.

### POST MASTER'S NURSE ADMINISTRATOR CERTIFICATE

**Total Program  
Credit Hours: 33**

Students who already have a Master's degree in Nursing may be admitted to selected courses necessary as a nurse administrator.

A certificate is awarded for satisfactory completion of the courses listed in this table.

Course	Sem. Hrs.
NUR 604 Advanced Healthcare Policy and Politics	2
NUR 607 Instructional Methodologies	2
NUR 615 Administrative Concepts	2
NUR 616 Nursing Administration I	1
NUR 619 Nursing Administration II	1
NUR 622 Nursing Administration III - Role Synthesis	2
NUR 645 Administrative Concepts Practicum	1
NUR 646 Nursing Administration I Practicum	3
NUR 649 Nursing Administration II Practicum	3
NUR 652 Nursing Administration III - Role Synthesis Practicum	4
MGT 600 Management Problems	3
MGT 605 Human Resource Management	3
MGT 620 Recruitment, Selection & Performance Appraisal	3
MBA 505 Productivity Software for Executives	3
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>33</b>

## NURSE EDUCATOR

Students applying to this program are registered nurses with a current RN license and a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing or a health-related field. Graduates of this program are prepared to function in the role of educator within academic and/or healthcare settings.

### Full-Time Program of Study Total Program Credit Hours: 45 - 48

Semester	Course	Sem. Hrs.
FALL I	NUR 601 Advanced Theoretical Issues in Nursing and Ethics	2
	NUR 602 Advanced Health Assessment	3
	NUR 625 Advanced Health Assessment Practicum	2
	NUR 606 Advanced Nursing Research and Evidence Based Practice	3
	NUR 623 Teaching and Learning Theory	3
	<b>Total Semester Hours</b>	<b>13 hrs.</b>
SPRING I	NUR 604 Advanced Healthcare Policy and Politics	2
	NUR 605 Advanced Pharmacology	3
	NUR 612 Adult Education I	3
	NUR 642 Adult Education I Practicum	2
	NUR 617 Curriculum Design & Evaluation	3
	NUR 687/690 Research Project/Thesis	1/1
	<b>Total Semester Hours</b>	<b>14 hrs.</b>
FALL II	NUR 607 Instructional Methodologies	2
	NUR 613 Adult Education II	2
	NUR 643 Adult Education II Practicum	2
	NUR 687/690 Research Project/Thesis	1/3
	NUR 621 Role Synthesis (Nurse Educators)	2
	<b>Total Semester Hours</b>	<b>9/11hrs.</b>
SPRING II	NUR 614 Adult Education III	2
	NUR 644 Adult Education III Practicum	2
	NUR 618 Nurse Educator Practicum	4
	NUR 687/690 Research Project/Thesis	1/2
	<b>Total Semester Hours</b>	<b>9/10 hrs.</b>

### \*POST MASTER'S "FAST TRACK" NURSE EDUCATOR CERTIFICATE

#### TOTAL PROGRAM CREDIT HOURS: 11

Students who already have a Master's degree in Nursing may be admitted to selected courses necessary for national certification as a nurse educator.

A certificate is awarded for satisfactory completion of the courses listed in this table.

Course	Sem. Hrs.
NUR 607 Instructional Methodologies	2
NUR 621 Role Synthesis (Nurse Educators)	2
NUR 617 Curriculum Design and Evaluation	3
NUR 618 Nurse Educator Practicum	4
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>11</b>
*NUR 603 Advanced Pathophysiology (3 credit hours) - required pre-requisite	

## FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER

Students applying to this program are registered nurses with a current RN license and a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing or a health-related field. Graduates of this program are prepared to take the Family Nurse Practitioner certification exam and to function as an advanced practice nurse upon successful completion of the exam.

### FULL-TIME PROGRAM OF STUDY TOTAL PROGRAM CREDIT HOURS: 42 - 45

Semester	Course	Sem. Hrs.
FALL I	NUR 601 Advanced Theoretical Issues in Nursing and Ethics	2
	NUR 602 Advanced Health Assessment	3
	NUR 625 Advanced Health Assessment Practicum	2
	NUR 606 Advanced Nursing Research and Evidence Based Practice	3
	NUR 624 Differential Diagnosis in Primary Care	2
<b>Total Semester Hours</b>		<b>12 hrs.</b>
SPRING I	NUR 604 Advanced Healthcare Policy and Politics	2
	NUR 605 Advanced Pharmacology	3
	NUR 630 Family Nurse Practice I	3
	NUR 631 Family Nurse Practice I Practicum	3
	NUR 687/690 Research Project/Thesis	1/1
<b>Total Semester Hours</b>		<b>12/12 hrs.</b>
FALL II	NUR 634 Family Nurse Practice II	3
	NUR 635 Family Nurse Practice II Practicum	3
	NUR 687/690 Research Project/Thesis	1/3
	NUR 620 Role Synthesis (Nurse Practitioners)	2
<b>Total Semester Hours</b>		<b>9/11 hrs.</b>
SPRING II	NUR 638 Family Nurse Practice III	2
	NUR 639 Family Nurse Practice III Practicum	4
	NUR 680 Family Nurse Practitioner Review Course	2
	NUR 687/690 Research Project/Thesis	1/2
<b>Total Semester Hours</b>		<b>9/10 hrs.</b>

\*Elective courses may be appropriately selected from emphasis areas chosen by the student or from other elective courses offered in the Robert E. Smith School of Nursing, as well as appropriate courses from other schools or departments within the University. Electives must be approved by faculty advisor.

### POST MASTER'S FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER CERTIFICATE TOTAL PROGRAM CREDIT HOURS: 34

A limited number of students who already have a master's degree in nursing may be admitted to selected courses necessary for national certification as a family nurse practitioner.

A certificate is awarded for satisfactory completion of the courses listed in this table:

Course	Sem. Hrs.
NUR 602 Advanced Health Assessment	3
NUR 625 Advanced Health Assessment Practicum	2
NUR 604 Advanced Healthcare Policy & Politics	2
NUR 605 Advanced Pharmacology	3
NUR 624 Differential Diagnosis in Primary Care	2
NUR 630 Family Nurse Practice I	3
NUR 631 Family Nurse Practice I Practicum	3
NUR 634 Family Nurse Practice II	3
NUR 635 Family Nurse Practice II Practicum	3
NUR 638 Family Nurse Practice III	2
NUR 639 Family Nurse Practice III Practicum	4
NUR 620 Role Synthesis (Nurse Practitioners)	2
NUR 680 Family Nurse Practitioner Review Course	2

## GERONTOLOGICAL NURSE PRACTITIONER (GNP)

This track option is offered through the Mississippi Education Consortium for Specialized Advanced Practice Nursing (MECSAPN). Graduates of this program are prepared to take the Gerontological Nurse Practitioner certification exam and to function as an advanced practice nurse upon successful completion of the exam.

### GNP FULL-TIME PROGRAM OF STUDY

#### TOTAL PROGRAM CREDIT HOURS: 43

Semester	Course	Credit Hrs.
Fall I	NUR 601 Advanced Theoretical Issues in Nursing and Ethics	2
	NUR 602 Advanced Health Assessment	3
	NUR 625 Advanced Health Assessment Practicum	2
	NUR 606 Advanced Nursing Research and Evidence Based Practice	3
Spring I	NUR 604 Advanced Healthcare Policy and Politics	2
	NUR 605 Advanced Pharmacology	3
	NUR 687/690 Research Project/Thesis	1/1
	NUR 686 Elective (non-thesis option)	3/0
Summer	NUR 6271 Clinical Management of Older Adults I	2
	NUR 6281 Practicum in Clinical Management of Older Adults I	3
Fall II	NUR 687/690 Research Project/Thesis	1/3
	NUR 620 Role Synthesis (Nurse Practitioner)	2
	NUR 6272 Clinical Management of Older Adults II	3
	NUR 6282 Practicum in Clinical Management of Older Adults II	3
Spring II	*NUR 686 Elective	3
	NUR 687/690 Research Project/Thesis	1/2
	NUR 6273 Clinical Management of Older Adults III	2
	NUR 6283 Practicum in Clinical Management of Older Adults III	4

\*Elective courses may be appropriately selected from emphasis areas chosen by the student or from other elective courses offered in the Robert E. Smith School of Nursing, as well as appropriate courses from other schools or departments within the University. Electives must be approved by faculty advisor.

### POST MASTER'S GNP CERTIFICATE TOTAL PROGRAM CREDIT HOURS: 29

A limited number of students who already have a master's degree in nursing may be admitted to selected courses necessary for national certification as a Gerontological Nurse Practitioner. A certificate is awarded for satisfactory completion of the following courses:

Semester	Course	Credit Hrs.
Fall I	NUR 602 Advanced Health Assessment	3
	NUR 625 Advanced Health Assessment Practicum	2
Spring I	NUR 604 Advanced Healthcare Policy and Politics	2
	NUR 605 Advanced Pharmacology	3
Summer	NUR 6271 Clinical Management of Older Adults I	2
	NUR 6281 Practicum in Clinical Management of Older Adults I	3
Fall II	NUR 620 Role Synthesis (Nurse Practitioner)	2
	NUR 6272 Clinical Management of Older Adults II	3
	NUR 6282 Practicum in Clinical Management of Older Adults II	3
Spring II	NUR 6273 Clinical Management of Older Adults III	2
	NUR 6283 Practicum in Clinical Management of Older Adults III	4

**PSYCHIATRIC/MENTAL HEALTH NURSE PRACTITIONER (PMHNP) - ADULT**

This track option is offered through the Mississippi Education Consortium for Specialized Advanced Practice Nursing (MECSAPN). Graduates of this program are prepared to take the Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (Adult) certification exam and to function as an advanced practice nurse upon successful completion of the exam.

**PMHNP-ADULT FULL-TIME PROGRAM OF STUDY****TOTAL PROGRAM CREDIT HOURS: 43**

Semester	Course	Credit Hrs.
Fall I	NUR 601 Advanced Theoretical Issues in Nursing and Ethics	2
	NUR 602 Advanced Health Assessment	3
	NUR 625 Advanced Health Assessment Practicum	2
	NUR 606 Advanced Nursing Research and Evidence Based	3
Spring I	NUR 604 Advanced Healthcare Policy and Politics	2
	NUR 605 Advanced Pharmacology	3
	NUR 687/690 Research Project/Thesis	1/1
	NUR 686 Elective (non-thesis option)	3/0
Summer	NUR 6871 Clinical Assessment of Persons with Mental Health Problems I - Adult & Family	2
	NUR 6864 Practicum in Clinical Assessment of Persons with Mental Health Problems I - Adult	3
Fall II	NUR 687/690 Research Project/Thesis	1/3
	NUR 620 Role Synthesis (Nurse Practitioner)	2
	NUR 6872 Clinical Management of Individuals with Mental Health Problems II - Adult & Family	3
	NUR 6865 Practicum in Clinical Management of Individuals with Mental Health Problems II - Adult	3
Spring II	*NUR 686 Elective	3
	NUR 687/690 Research Project/Thesis	1/2
	NUR 6873 Clinical Management of Families and Groups with Mental Health Problems III - Adult & Family	2
	NUR 6863 Practicum in Clinical Management of Families and Groups with Mental Health Problems III - Adult & Family	4

\*Elective courses may be appropriately selected from emphasis areas chosen by the student or from other elective courses offered in the Robert E. Smith School of Nursing, as well as appropriate courses from other schools or departments within the University. Electives must be approved by faculty advisor.

**POST MASTER'S PMHNP-ADULT CERTIFICATE/TOTAL PROGRAM CREDIT HOURS: 29**

A limited number of students who already have a master's degree in nursing may be admitted to selected courses necessary for national certification as a Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (Adult). A certificate is awarded for satisfactory completion of the following courses:

Semester	Course	Credit Hrs.
Fall I	NUR 602 Advanced Health Assessment	3
	NUR 625 Advanced Health Assessment Practicum	2
Spring I	NUR 604 Advanced Healthcare Policy and Politics	2
	NUR 605 Advanced Pharmacology	3
Summer	NUR 6871 Clinical Assessment of Persons with Mental Health Problems I - Adult & Family	2
	NUR 6864 Practicum in Clinical Assessment of Persons with Mental Health Problems I - Adult	3
Fall II	NUR 620 Role Synthesis (Nurse Practitioner)	2
	NUR 6872 Clinical Management of Individuals with Mental Health Problems II - Adult & Family	3
	NUR 6865 Practicum in Clinical Management of Individuals with Mental Health Problems II - Adult	3
Spring II	NUR 6873 Clinical Management of Families and Groups with Mental Health Problems III - Adult & Family	2
	NUR 6863 Practicum in Clinical Management of Families and Groups with Mental Health Problems III - Adult & Family	4
<b>Total Hours</b>		<b>29</b>

## PSYCHIATRIC/MENTAL HEALTH NURSE PRACTITIONER (PMHNP) - FAMILY

This track option is offered through the Mississippi Education Consortium for Specialized Advanced Practice Nursing (MECSAPN). Graduates of this program are prepared to take the Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (Family) certification exam and to function as an advanced practice nurse upon successful completion of the exam.

### PMHNP-FAMILY FULL-TIME PROGRAM OF STUDY/TOTAL PROGRAM CREDIT HOURS: 43

Semester	Course	Credit Hrs.
Fall I	NUR 601 Advanced Theoretical Issues in Nursing and Ethics	2
	NUR 602 Advanced Health Assessment	3
	NUR 625 Advanced Health Assessment Practicum	2
	NUR 606 Advanced Nursing Research and Evidence Based	3
Spring I	NUR 604 Advanced Healthcare Policy and Politics	2
	NUR 605 Advanced Pharmacology	3
	NUR 687/690 Research Project/Thesis	1/1
	NUR 686 Elective (non-thesis option)	3/0
Summer	NUR 6871 Clinical Assessment of Persons with Mental Health Problems I - Adult & Family	2
	NUR 6861 Practicum in Clinical Assessment of Persons with Mental Health Problems I - Family	3
Fall II	NUR 687/690 Research Project/Thesis	1/3
	NUR 620 Role Synthesis (Nurse Practitioner)	2
	NUR 6872 Clinical Management of Individuals with Mental Health Problems II - Adult & Family	3
	NUR 6862 Practicum in Clinical Management of Individuals with Mental Health Problems II - Family	3
Spring II	*NUR 686 Elective	3
	NUR 687/690 Research Project/Thesis	1/2
	NUR 6873 Clinical Management of Families and Groups with Mental Health Problems III - Adult & Family	2
	NUR 6863 Practicum in Clinical Management of Families and Groups with Mental Health Problems III - Adult & Family	4
<b>Total Hours</b>		<b>43</b>

\*Elective courses may be appropriately selected from emphasis areas chosen by the student or from other elective courses offered in the Robert E. Smith School of Nursing, as well as appropriate courses from other schools or departments within the University. Electives must be approved by faculty advisor.

### POST MASTER'S PMHNP-FAMILY CERTIFICATE/TOTAL PROGRAM CREDIT HOURS: 29

A limited number of students who already have a master's degree in nursing may be admitted to selected courses necessary for national certification as a Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (Family). A certificate is awarded for satisfactory completion of the following courses:

Semester	Course	Credit Hrs.
Fall I	NUR 602 Advanced Health Assessment	3
	NUR 625 Advanced Health Assessment Practicum	2
Spring I	NUR 604 Advanced Healthcare Policy and Politics	2
	NUR 605 Advanced Pharmacology	3
Summer	NUR 6871 Clinical Assessment of Persons with Mental Health Problems I - Adult & Family	2
	NUR 6861 Practicum in Clinical Assessment of Persons with Mental Health Problems I - Family	3
Fall II	NUR 620 Role Synthesis (Nurse Practitioner)	2
	NUR 6872 Clinical Management of Individuals with Mental Health Problems II - Adult & Family	3
	NUR 6862 Practicum in Clinical Management of Individuals with Mental Health Problems II - Family	3
Spring II	NUR 6873 Clinical Management of Families and Groups with Mental Health Problems III - Adult & Family	2
	NUR 6863 Practicum in Clinical Management of Families and Groups with Mental Health Problems III - Adult & Family	4
<b>Total Hours</b>		<b>29</b>