Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) with a specialization in

Nursing Informatics

Effective October 9, 2017
Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) with a specialization in

Nursing Informatics

The MSN Nursing Informatics specialization presents contemporary models, theories, research, and best practices for providing nursing care across the lifespan using various health care technologies. The specialization immerses learners into the world of health informatics and explores the depth and breadth of health information systems and how they influence strategic planning, decision making, and clinical project management. The specialization curriculum emphasizes best practices in health informatics essentials, including patient safety, electronic medical records, workflow, meaningful use, change management, and the health information system life cycle.

Capella’s MSN in Nursing Informatics program is aligned to American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) Essentials, Quality and Safety Education for Nurses (QSEN) competencies, and Technology Informatics Guiding Education Reform (TIGER) Initiative Informatics competencies.

Specialization courses are designed to help prepare learners for the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) Informatics Nursing board certification examination, provided that additional eligibility requirements, such as practice experience, are satisfied.

Learners have access to Vila Health™, a virtual health care environment that simulates a system of health, exclusive to Capella. It allows you to practice solving real-world informatics challenges, including improving interoperability, clinical workflow, meaningful use initiatives and population health.

*The BSN, MSN and DNP nursing degree programs at Capella University are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, One Dupont Circle, NW, Suite 530, Washington, DC 20036, (202) 887-6791 http://www.aacn.nche.edu/ccne-accreditation. This guide is intended to provide an overview of the specialization and is subject to change. Your enrollment counselor can provide updates, details, and Capella’s official University Catalog that specifies your program requirements.
## Career Information

### RELATED EMPLOYMENT SETTINGS TO EXPLORE

- Hospital
- Outpatient clinic
- Hospital-based school of nursing
- Private practice
- Long-term care facility
- Home health care agency
- Collaborative medical practice
- Medical center
- Private health records company
- Community health agency
- Community or technical college
- Land-based or online college or university

### RELATED JOB TITLES TO EXPLORE*†

- Clinical informatics analyst
- Manager, health outcomes analytics
- Clinical informatics coordinator
- Clinical workflow analyst
- Systems analyst
- Clinical systems team manager
- Informatics nurse specialist
- Project manager for electronic health records implementation
- Chief nursing informatics officer
- Regional director, clinical informatics

### SPECIALIZATION OUTCOMES

- Interpret clinical nursing practice through the lens of nursing informatics
- Integrate concepts of meaningful use into nursing informatics practice
- Lead the nursing informatics lifecycle
- Optimize workflow to maximize the impact of nursing informatics
- Integrate information technology to align with nursing practice

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* These are examples intended to serve as a general guide. Because many factors determine what position an individual may attain, Capella cannot guarantee that a graduate will secure any specific job title.

† Some positions require licensure and/or other designations. We encourage you to research requirements for your job target and career goals.
Curriculum

- 13 required courses
- Total program credits: 54 quarter credits

PRACTICE IMMERSION REQUIREMENTS

Minimum of 200 practicum hours.

CORE COURSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NHS5004</td>
<td>Communication, Collaboration, and Case Analysis for Master’s Learners</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>NHS6004</td>
<td>Health Care Law and Policy</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NHS6008</td>
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<td>MSN6021</td>
<td>Biopsychosocial Concepts for Advanced Nursing Practice 1</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>MSN6026</td>
<td>Biopsychosocial Concepts for Advanced Nursing Practice 2</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSN6030</td>
<td>MSN Practice Immersion and Capstone†</td>
<td>6</td>
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SPECIALIZATION COURSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MSN6410*</td>
<td>Principles of Nursing Informatics</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSN6412*</td>
<td>Health Informatics Systems Planning, Analysis, Design, and Build for Nursing</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSN6414*</td>
<td>Data Management and Health Care Technology</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSN6416*</td>
<td>Managing the Nursing Informatics Life Cycle</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSN6025*</td>
<td>MSN Practice Immersion†</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Denotes courses that have prerequisite(s). Refer to the course descriptions for further details.

†Learners are responsible for the cost of their travel, accommodations, food, and other expenses associated with this course.

The curriculum incorporates the Essentials of Master’s Education for Advanced Practice Nursing established by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN).

Our competency-based curriculum was built around relevant, real-world health care problems to ensure you’ll gain the skills you need to provide and implement impactful, efficient solutions.

This specialization does not prepare graduates for licensure as an RN or APRN.

Learners enrolled in the MSN Nursing Informatics and RN-to-MSN Nursing Informatics specializations are required to maintain a current, unrestricted RN license throughout their program.

In North Carolina, Nurse Educators must be certified by the National League for Nursing or complete nine graduate credit hours of educational content coursework before they may teach in an academic setting. For more information about Certification for Nurse Educators (CNE), see the National League for Nursing’s website (http://nln.org/professional-development-programs/Certification-for-Nurse-Educators).

The courses in this program may require live web conferencing activities and/or learner audio/video recordings. Learners who require assistive technology or alternative communication methods to participate in these activities should contact Disability Services to request accommodations.
Core Course Descriptions

NHS5004  Communication, Collaboration, and Case Analysis for Master’s Learners  4 QUARTER CREDITS
This course prepares learners for master’s-level coursework in the School of Nursing and Health Sciences. Throughout the course, learners analyze how the role of the practititionerscholar guides leadership in the health care field and determine the ways in which they can effectively use communication strategies expected of health care professionals. In particular, learners examine the attributes that contribute to effective and ethical health care leadership, including professional collaboration, communication, inclusion, and decision making. Must be taken during the learner’s first quarter. Cannot be fulfilled by transfer.

NHS6004  Health Care Law and Policy  4 QUARTER CREDITS
In this course, learners examine the political, legal, and regulatory issues impacting health care organizations and environments. Learners analyze the effects of health care policy on health care practice and service delivery, with particular emphasis on the strategies used to monitor and maintain legal and regulatory compliance. Learners also identify and apply health care policy and law concepts that promote organizational improvement.

NHS6008  Economics and Decision Making in Health Care  4 QUARTER CREDITS
This course helps learners develop and demonstrate concepts, principles, issues, and trends in health care economics and the economic decision-making practices employed in the health care environment. Learners analyze the political, legal, regulatory, organizational, demographical, and multicultural implications of business decisions on health care economics; explore the ways economic and stakeholder influences affect operational planning and decision making; and practice applying performance monitoring and process management measures as part of the decision-making process. Learners also examine cost-effective problem solving; community- and population-based orientation; and effective use of health care market research, analysis, and assessment.

MSN6011  Evidence-Based Practice for Patient-Centered Care and Population Health  4 QUARTER CREDITS
Learners in this course acquire an understanding of the nature of evidence and its relative value and weight in making clinical decisions that impact patient and population outcomes. In particular, learners assess appropriate methods and analytic approaches in order to investigate, evaluate, and synthesize the best available evidence for potential solutions and innovations.

MSN6016  Quality Improvement of Interprofessional Care  4 QUARTER CREDITS
In this course, learners develop and demonstrate competence in the design, implementation, and evaluation of interprofessional quality improvement initiatives. Learners investigate models for quality improvement, with an emphasis on outcome identification and measurement. Learners also examine quality within the context of patient safety through adverse event and near-miss analyses.

MSN6021  Biopsychosocial Concepts for Advanced Nursing Practice 1  4 QUARTER CREDITS
Learners in this course develop the knowledge, skills, and abilities needed to integrate select biopsychosocial concepts into professional processes that promote quality and cost effective patient and systems outcomes, with particular emphasis on the ways in which these concepts impact the National Academy of Medicine’s six aims of health care improvement: Safe, Effective, Patient-centered, Timely, Efficient, and Equitable.

MSN6026  Biopsychosocial Concepts for Advanced Nursing Practice 2  4 QUARTER CREDITS
Learners in this course develop the knowledge, skills, and abilities needed to integrate select biopsychosocial concepts into professional processes that promote quality and cost effective patient and systems outcomes, with particular emphasis on the ways in which these concepts impact population health, as defined by the Institute for Healthcare Improvement.
Capella’s MSN program uses simulations, group problem solving, and real-time coaching sessions to strengthen the collaboration and communication skills needed by health care leaders.

MSN6030  MSN Practice Immersion and Capstone  6 QUARTER CREDITS
Learners in this course develop their critical thinking skills and gain advanced nursing knowledge in preparation for master's-level nursing practice in a designated specialization. Learners create and implement a personalized practice immersion experience under the supervision of a preceptor at a field site of their choice and demonstrate synthesis of professional and academic growth and practice. Throughout the practice immersion, learners also develop and maintain an electronic portfolio that includes coursework products, demonstrations of competency and outcome achievement, and practice experience documentation (number of hours, preceptor evaluations, achievement of objectives, and contributions to the organization). **Department consent is required for registration. Cannot be fulfilled by transfer.**

Specialization Course Descriptions

**MSN6410  Principles of Nursing Informatics  4 QUARTER CREDITS**
This course provides the framework for nursing professionals who are interested in entering the field of health informatics and acquiring the skills and knowledge necessary for certification. Throughout the course, learners explore the roles, theories, and standards of nursing informatics practice, as well as examine the rules, regulations, and current trends that govern professionals in the field.

**MSN6412  Health Informatics Systems Planning, Analysis, Design, and Build for Nursing  4 QUARTER CREDITS**
In this course, learners analyze and synthesize the various aspects of health/clinical information systems used by nurses to deliver quality health care. In particular, learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to effectively plan, design, build, and implement health/clinical information systems within nursing practice. Course topics include electronic medical records and the importance of accurate workflow application. **Prerequisite(s): MSN6410.**

**MSN6414  Data Management and Health Care Technology  4 QUARTER CREDITS**
Learners in this course analyze the use of data and databases as key drivers in nursing informatics. Throughout the course, learners demonstrate competence in managing and interpreting data in such a way that enhances their roles and decision-making capabilities in today's health care technology environments. **Prerequisite(s): MSN6410.**

**MSN6416  Managing the Nursing Informatics Life Cycle  4 QUARTER CREDITS**
In this course, learners explore the typical life cycle of implementation, testing, evaluating, and supporting both hardware and software applications. Learners also study project and change management principles in relation to the life cycle of a health care information system. **Prerequisite(s): MSN6410 and MSN6412.**

**MSN6025  MSN Practice Immersion  4 QUARTER CREDITS**
Learners in this course develop their critical thinking skills and gain advanced nursing knowledge in preparation for master's-level nursing practice in a designated specialization. Learners create and implement a personalized practice immersion experience under the supervision of a preceptor at a field site of their choice and demonstrate synthesis of professional and academic growth and practice by participating in a community of collaboration, sharing resources, experiences, and practice tips with their fellow learners. Throughout the practice immersion, learners also develop and maintain an electronic portfolio that includes coursework products, demonstrations of competency and outcome achievement, and practice experience documentation (number of hours, preceptor evaluations, achievement of objectives, and contributions to the organization). **Department consent is required for registration. Grading for this course is S/NS. Cannot be fulfilled by transfer.**
Recommended Course Sequence

This recommended course sequence assumes learners take two courses per quarter. Some learners elect to take fewer or more based on workload and the amount of time available for graduate study.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR 1</th>
<th>COURSES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Q1</td>
<td>NHS5004 Communication, Collaboration, and Case Analysis for Master’s Learners</td>
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<tr>
<td>Q2</td>
<td>MSN6011 Evidence-Based Practice for Patient-Centered Care and Population Health MSN6410 Principles of Nursing Informatics</td>
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<td>Q3</td>
<td>MSN6016 Quality Improvement of Interprofessional Care MSN6412 Health Informatics Systems Planning, Analysis, Design, and Build for Nursing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Q4</td>
<td>MSN6021 Biopsychosocial Concepts for Advanced Nursing Practice 1 MSN6414 Data Management and Health Care Technology</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR 2</th>
<th>COURSES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Q5</td>
<td>MSN6026 Biopsychosocial Concepts for Advanced Nursing Practice 2 MSN6416 Managing the Nursing Informatics Life Cycle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q6</td>
<td>NHS6004 Health Care Law and Policy NHS6008 Economics and Decision Making in Health Care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q7</td>
<td>MSN6030 MSN Practice Immersion and Capstone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q8</td>
<td>MSN6025 MSN Practice Immersion</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Financial Aid

Capella University offers assistance to learners who qualify and would like to secure educational funding to help finance their academic program. A number of options are available, given the diverse needs and backgrounds of prospective learners. Options include:

- Federal Direct Stafford Loan Program
- Federal Direct PLUS Loan Program
- Non-federal loans through preferred lenders and financial institutions
- Capella scholarships
- External scholarships
- Veterans’ educational benefits and U.S. armed forces discounts
- Corporate and higher education alliances
- Employer tuition reimbursement

Regarding loan programs, interest rates for Stafford student loans are low compared to other types of consumer loans, and repayment can be deferred until after graduation. In compliance with federal and state laws, Capella University has established policies for all learners regarding satisfactory academic progress, which is necessary for financial aid eligibility.

Digital course materials covered by the quarterly resource kit fee offer advantages such as immediate mobile access to books; fast, easy full-text search of materials; digital note-taking; and peer collaboration through note sharing.

Tuition and Fees

This tuition estimate is effective July 10, 2017, and is subject to change. For current pricing, visit the Capella University website at www.capella.edu.

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<tr>
<th>TUTION/FEE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuition per credit</td>
<td>$425</td>
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<tr>
<td>Resource kit per quarter</td>
<td>$125</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

There are many financial aid options available to help you offset tuition costs.

Contact an enrollment counselor at 1.888.CAPELLA (227.3552) to discuss your financial aid opportunities.
Academic Leadership

F. Patrick Robinson, PhD, RN, FAAN
Dean

Dr. Patrick Robinson serves as the dean of the School of Nursing and Health Sciences at Capella University. Prior to joining Capella, Dr. Robinson served as Senior Vice President of Academics for Orbis Education, Dean of Curriculum and Instruction at Chamberlain College of Nursing, Executive Assistant Dean of the University of Illinois at Chicago College of Nursing, and Chair of the Department of Health Management and Risk Reduction at the Niehoff School of Nursing at Loyola University Chicago. Additionally, Dr. Robinson is a fellow of the American Academy of Nursing (FAAN). He holds a BSN and MSN from Indiana University, a PhD in Nursing Science from Loyola University Chicago and has completed a post-doctoral fellowship in biobehavioral nursing research at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

Christy Davidson, DNP, RN
Associate Dean and Director of Nursing

Dr. Christy Davidson serves as associate dean and director of nursing for Capella University’s School of Nursing and Health Sciences. Dr. Davidson has been with Capella since 2010, and has been a registered nurse for almost 18 years, having previously served as a staff nurse, clinical nurse specialist, legal nurse consultant, and nurse manager. Her areas of specialty and interest include women’s and children’s health, leadership and management, and quality improvement. Dr. Davidson holds a DNP in Leadership from the University of South Alabama and holds both an MSN in Adult Health and a BSN from the University of Mobile.

Constance Hall, EdD/CI, RN
Faculty Chair

Dr. Constance Hall serves as the faculty chair for graduate nursing. Dr. Hall brings over twenty-five years of nursing education and clinical nursing experience to her new role. Her career has included nursing service administrative positions, faculty, and academic leadership roles. She has demonstrated expertise in nursing education curriculum development and her area of research focuses on nursing students’ perceptions of stress producing situations. Dr. Hall holds both an EdD/CI in Leadership with a specialty in curriculum and instruction and an MSN in Educational Leadership from the University of Phoenix, School of Advanced Studies. She also holds a BA in Biology from Hendrix College.
Important Information about the educational debt, earnings, and completion rates of students who attended this program: http://capellaresults.com/assets/includes/gainfulemployment/cta/GE/GE15/masters/MSN_Informatics_gedt.html.

Move Forward with Capella University

WORKING SCHOLARS
Capella provides an online, flexible learning environment for working adults who are also determined scholars. That connection between academic and professional work infuses the entire Capella experience—from the faculty we recruit to the course projects you complete. The theories discussed in the courseroom are designed to develop working knowledge for everyday situations.

AN ACCREDITED UNIVERSITY
Our accreditation* is an assurance to students, employers, and the public that Capella University meets or exceeds established standards for quality of faculty, curriculum, and learner services. It is also an important factor in the ability to transfer credits among higher education institutions. Regional accreditation, the type held by Capella, is the most common type for major public, state, and private institutions in the United States.

VALUING YOUR KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE
Adults bring a wealth of experience and learning to their education. Capella courses are designed to bring out your perspectives just as you gain from others’ ideas. Your knowledge can also be worth time and money: An enrollment counselor can help you estimate how much of your prior learning may apply toward your Capella degree program.

*ACCREDITATION
Capella University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission.

HIGHER LEARNING COMMISSION
https://www.hlcommission.org
800.621.7440

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