

RN TO MSN ARTICULATION TRACK

Degree: Master of Science

Major: Nursing

Concentration: RN to MSN Track

Total Hours: 150-153

The RN to MSN Articulation Track is for Associate of Applied Science in Nursing Degree (AASN or ADN) or diploma nurses seeking a Master of Science in Nursing (MSN). The JoAnne Gay Dishman School of Nursing offers the Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) degree in both administration and education concentrations. Licensed Registered Nurses (RNs) in the articulation tracks and graduate program meet course requirements through didactic courses, laboratory activities, practicum, and projects. The RN to MSN track awards a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree upon completion of the undergraduate portion of the track.

MSN Program Goals and Outcomes

- Goal: Program demonstrates evidence of students' achievement in completing the nursing program.
Outcome: 40% of students will graduate within 100% the length of the program
- Goal: The program demonstrates evidence of graduates' achievement in job placement
Outcome: 80% of those seeking employment will be involved in role-related professional practice at 6-12 months post-graduation.
- Goal: The program demonstrates evidence of students' achievement of each End of Program Student Learning Outcome/role-specific professional competency.
Outcomes:
Student Learning Outcome ([SLO](#)) Indirect Method: 90% of MSN graduates are expected to respond, "agree or "strongly agree" (4.0 or higher) to each end of program SLO.
Student Learning Outcome Direct Method: All MSN graduates are expected to achieve end of program SLOs by a combined score of 75% or higher on the culminating Synthesis Project using a standardized rubric.
- Goal: The program demonstrates evidence of students' achievement of role-specific professional competencies
Outcomes:
Professional Competency Indirect Method: 90% of MSN graduates are expected to respond "agree" or "strongly agree" (4.0 or higher) to each end-of-program role-specific professional competency by graduation.
Professional Competency Direct Method: Practicum courses

MSN End-of-Program Student Learning Outcomes

Graduates of the Nurse Educator or Nurse Administrator Tracks of the MSN program will demonstrate the following program outcomes:

- Analyze issues in the context of healthcare policy and finance, including economic, legal, and political factors, to address the healthcare needs of a diverse society.
- Analyze strategies to improve healthcare outcomes equitably across the health continuum for diverse populations in a global setting.

- Utilize research methods, evidence-based practice, and informatics to investigate problems, evaluate outcome data, promote changes, promote safety and health outcomes, and improve nursing practice.
- Translate current and emerging evidence from nursing theoretical frameworks and other sciences to guide decision-making that demonstrates best practices.
- Demonstrate advanced nursing practice roles from professional, organizational, and personal perspectives within an ethical and legal framework.
- Communicate effectively using multiple modalities with diverse individuals, groups, and populations in a global health care environment.
- Contribute to system-level planning, decision-making, and evaluation for disasters and public health emergencies.

Admission

RN to MSN applications are processed through [ApplyTexas \(https://www.applytexas.org/\)](https://www.applytexas.org/). Follow the instructions carefully so that the correct major is chosen (RN-MSN: Registered Nurse to MSN-ONLINE DEGREE). If the wrong major is selected, there can be a delay in the admission decision.

Admission to Lamar University is required as well as admission to the RN-MSN Articulation Track in the Dishman School of Nursing. Official transcripts from other colleges or universities must be evaluated by Lamar University.

To be considered for admission to the RN-MSN Track, the student must:

- Have an Associate of Applied Science in Nursing Degree (AASN or ADN) or diploma in nursing from an approved program.
- Apply and be admitted to Lamar University.
- Current unencumbered RN license to practice professional nursing in the United States or an approved U.S. Territory.
- Must have a "C" or better in ENGL 1301 Composition I, ENGL 1302 Composition II, MATH 1314 College Algebra(Non-Calculus) or MATH 1332 Contemporary Mathematics I, MATH 1342 Elementary Statistical Methods/PSYC 2317 Introduction to Statistical Methods, BIOL 2401 Anatomy and Physiology I, BIOL 2402 Anatomy and Physiology II, BIOL 2421 Microbiology for Science Majors , PSYC 2315 Lifespan Development, and NUTR 1322 Basic Nutrition to be accepted into the program.
- Overall grade point average of 3.0 or above. If grade point average is between 2.85 and 2.99, see requirements for conditional admission allowing them to enroll in 9 hours of nursing courses and must earn a grade of "B" or better to progress in the RN-MSN Track.

If the grade point average is between 2.85 and 2.99, students may be admitted on a conditional basis, provided:

- Students will be allowed to enroll in the first nine (9) credit hours of nursing courses.
- Students must pass each course with a "B" or better to progress in the RN-MSN. Track. See the Lamar University Graduate Catalog for more information regarding GPA status and academic probation.
- If the student is unsuccessful in achieving a "B" or better, he/she will be removed from the Dishman School of Nursing RN-MSN Track.

The Admission Process is as follows:

- a. The student should follow the instructions for [ApplyTexas \(https://www.applytexas.org/\)](https://www.applytexas.org/), selecting Online Campus, then the correct degree code (Registered Nurse to MSN - ONLINE DEGREE), and the semester in which the student wants to enroll.
- b. Send official transcripts to the,
Lamar University Admissions Office
P.O. Box 10009
Beaumont, Texas, 77710.
- c. The Lamar University Admissions Office will then determine the student's admission status and what courses will transfer. Admissions will send an email with the decision regarding the student's acceptance to Lamar University.
- d. The Dishman School of Nursing will be notified after admission is complete.
- e. The Dishman School of Nursing will review the students' files and transcripts to determine if the student meets the admission requirements for the RN-MSN Track.
- f. Accepted students will receive a packet by email from the Dishman School of Nursing providing them with details regarding their degree and the requirements necessary to progress in the track. Students will need to review the packet and their degree plan through their degree audit on Self-Service Banner.
- g. After students have reviewed the acceptance packet, they must email their [advisor \(dept_rnbsn@lamar.edu\)](mailto:dept_rnbsn@lamar.edu) confirming their acceptance and schedule an advising appointment.

- A = 100-90 Excellent
- B = 89-80 Good
- C = 79-75 Satisfactory
- D = 74-60 Failure
- F = 59-0 Failure

To remain in the RN-MSN Track, students must earn a grade of "B" or above in the following courses:

- MSNC 5310 Theoretical Foundations
- MSNC 5311 Nursing Research
- MSNC 5319 Advanced Nursing Issues and Health Policy

Students are required to earn a grade of "C" or better in each of the following courses:

- NURS 4316 Comprehensive Holistic Health Assessment
- NURS 4540 Nursing Practice: Care of Communities
- NURS 4550 Nursing Practice: Leadership and Management in the Healthcare System
- NURS 4620 Nursing Practice: Compromised Multiple Health States

Students in the RN-MSN track must maintain a GPA of 3.0 or higher. RN-MSN Track students with GPAs between 2.0 and 2.99 will no longer qualify for the RN-MSN Track but may continue in the RN-BSN Track if they meet the RN-BSN progression policy requirements.

In order to progress in the RN-MSN Track students are required to:

- Maintain a current unencumbered nursing license
- Complete a criminal background screening
- Maintain Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) certification
- Submit to a physical exam completed by their physician
- Provide documentation of current immunizations
- Obtain nursing liability insurance

These requirements are the responsibility of the student and are not included in Lamar University's tuition and fees.

Curriculum Plan for RN to MSN Track

Students are required to begin with MSNC 5310 Theoretical Foundations as their first nursing course in this track and may be taken with or before NURS 4316 Comprehensive Holistic Health Assessment. NURS 4316 Comprehensive Holistic Health Assessment has 3 pre-requisites: BIOL 2401 Anatomy and Physiology I and BIOL 2402 Anatomy and Physiology II and Microbiology (BIOL 2420 Microbiology or BIOL 2421 Microbiology for Science Majors). The remaining BSN-level courses (NURS 4540 Nursing Practice: Care of Communities, NURS 4550 Nursing Practice: Leadership and Management in the Healthcare System, and NURS 4620 Nursing Practice: Compromised Multiple Health States) and MSNC 5311 Nursing Research must be completed before enrolling in MSNC 5319 Advanced Nursing Issues and Health Policy. Statistics (PSYC 2317 Introduction to Statistical Methods or MATH 1342 Elementary Statistical Methods) must be taken before MSNC 5311 Nursing Research. Students are required to earn a passing grade in each nursing course while following the sequence identified for the program of study.

The final, capstone course for the B.S.N. portion of the track is MSNC 5319 Advanced Nursing Issues and Health Policy, and upon successful completion of the course, students apply to graduate with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (provided all other course requirements are complete) before continuing to the remaining graduate-level nursing courses in the track.

Students are required to consult with an RN-MSN Articulation Track [Advisor \(dept_rnbsn@lamar.edu\)](mailto:dept_rnbsn@lamar.edu) before each semester to discuss the best options for their academic progress. Students may enroll on a full time or part-time basis.

Progression in the RN to MSN Track

The grading scale for nursing courses in the RN-MSN Track is as follows:

Transfer Credits

An official transcript evaluation by Lamar University is required for all transfer credits. Transfer credits that are not equivalent to Lamar University credits must be evaluated on an individual basis by the appropriate department. Credit earned at other regionally accredited institutions will be considered for transfer to Lamar University based on the policies outlined in the [Transfer Credit Evaluation \(https://www.lamar.edu/catalog/undergraduate-admissions/#transfereval\)](https://www.lamar.edu/catalog/undergraduate-admissions/#transfereval) section of the Lamar University Undergraduate Admissions Process and Requirement section of this catalog for more information. Transfer of graduate-level credits is addressed under the [Academic Policies of the College of Graduate Studies \(https://www.lamar.edu/catalog/graduate-academic-policies/#acadpol\)](https://www.lamar.edu/catalog/graduate-academic-policies/#acadpol) of the Graduate Academic Policies and Procedures section of this catalog. Technical credits will not be accepted

by the Dishman School of Nursing. Please speak with an advisor regarding questions about technical credit courses.

Code	Title	Hours
General Education Core Curriculum		
<i>Communication</i>		
ENGL 1301	Composition I	3
Select one of the following:		3
COMM 1315	Public Speaking I	
COMM 1321	Business and Professional Speech	
FREN 1311	Beginning French I	
SPAN 1311	Beginning Spanish I	
<i>Mathematics</i>		
MATH 1332	Contemporary Mathematics I ^A	3
<i>Life and Physical Sciences</i>		
BIOL 2401	Anatomy and Physiology I	4
BIOL 2402	Anatomy and Physiology II	4
<i>Language, Philosophy and Culture</i>		
Select one of the following:		3
ENGL 2300	Ethics and Literature	
ENGL 2322	British Literature	
ENGL 2326	American Literature	
ENGL 2331	World Literature	
ENGL 2376	African-American Literature	
<i>Creative Arts</i>		
Select one of the following:		3
ARTS 1301	Art Appreciation	
ARTS 1303	Art History I	
COMM 1375	Film Appreciation	
COSC 1324	The Art of Computer Game Development	
DANC 2304	Dance Appreciation	
MUSI 1306	Music Appreciation	
MUSI 1310	History of Rock and Roll	
PHIL 1330	Arts and Ideas	
THEA 1310	Theatre Appreciation	
<i>American History</i>		
Select one from:		6
HIST 1301	U S History I 1763-1877	
HIST 1302	U S History II Since 1877	
HIST 2301	Texas History	
<i>Government/Political Science</i>		
POLS 2301	Intro to American Government I	3
POLS 2302	Intro/American Government II	3
<i>Social/Behavioral Sciences</i>		
Select one of the following:		3
BULW 1370	Business Environment and Public Policy	
ECON 1301	Principles and Policies	
ECON 2301	Principles of Economics I Macro	
ECON 2302	Principles of Economics II Micro	
INEN 2373	Engineering Economics	
PSYC 2301	General Psychology	
SOCI 1301	Introduction to Sociology	
<i>Component Area Option</i>		

ENGL 1302	Composition II	3
MATH 1342	Elementary Statistical Methods	3
or PSYC 2317	Introduction to Statistical Methods	
Required Courses for Undergraduate Major		
<i>Additional Required Courses</i>		
BIOL 2421	Microbiology for Science Majors ^B	4
NUTR 1322	Basic Nutrition	3
PSYC 2315	Lifespan Development	3
Elective		3
Elective		3
Elective		1
<i>R.N. to M.S.N. Transition Courses</i>		
MSNC 5310	Theoretical Foundations ¹	3
MSNC 5311	Nursing Research	3
MSNC 5319	Advanced Nursing Issues and Health Policy ²	3
<i>B.S.N. Completion Courses</i>		
NURS 4316	Comprehensive Holistic Health Assessment	3
NURS 4620	Nursing Practice: Compromised Multiple Health States	6
NURS 4540	Nursing Practice: Care of Communities	5
NURS 4550	Nursing Practice: Leadership and Management in the Healthcare System	5
<i>Escrowed Nursing Courses ³</i>		
NURS 3540	Concepts of Professional Nursing	5
NURS 3241	Practicum: Concepts of Professional Nursing	2
NURS 3110	Nursing Simulation Lab I	1
NURS 3330	Principles of Pharmacology	3
NURS 3520	Care of Adults	5
NURS 3221	Practicum: Care of Adults	2
NURS 3320	Care of Behavioral Health Client	3
NURS 3231	Practicum: Care of Behavioral Health Client	2
NURS 3112	Nursing Simulation Lab II	1
NURS 4560	Care of the Parent-Child Family	5
NURS 4261	Practicum: Parent-Child Family	2
Required Courses for Graduate Major		
<i>M.S.N. Core Courses</i>		
MSNC 5395	Evidence-Based Practice I	3
MSNC 5396	Evidence-Based Practice II	3
<i>Concentration</i>		
Select one concentration		19-22
Total Hours		145-148

A Though MATH 1332 is preferred, MATH 1314, 2311, 2312 & 2413 will also be accepted

B BIOL 2420 will also be accepted

¹ Must be **first** nursing course in BSN degree.

² Must be **last** nursing course in BSN degree.

³ Escrowed credit will be awarded in the last semester of the undergraduate portion of this track.

Note: Must have a "C" or better in ENGL 1301 Composition I, ENGL 1302 Composition II, MATH 1314 College Algebra(Non-Calculus) or MATH 1332 Contemporary Mathematics I, MATH 1342 Elementary Statistical Methods or PSYC 2317 Introduction to Statistical Methods, BIOL 2401

Anatomy and Physiology I, BIOL 2402 Anatomy and Physiology II, BIOL 2420 Microbiology or BIOL 2421 Microbiology for Science Majors, PSYC 2315 Lifespan Development, NUTR 1322 Basic Nutrition, and all RN-MSN core courses to be accepted and progress in the program.

Concentrations

Nursing Administration

Code	Title	Hours
MSNA 5221	Nurse Leader Practicum I	2
MSNA 5232	Nurse Leader Practicum II	2
MSNA 5300	Business Principles for Nurse Leaders	3
MSNA 5320	Role Development Nurse Leaders	3
MSNA 5321	Strategic Plan in Healthcare Delivery	3
MSNA 5323	Health Information Systems for Nurse Leaders	3
MSNA 5331	Quality Resource Management for Nurse Leaders	3
MSNA 5344	Population Health for Advanced Nursing Roles	3
Total Hours		22

Nursing Education

Code	Title	Hours
MSNE 5350	Role Development, Learning Theory and Teaching Strategies for Nursing Educators	3
MSNE 5330	Advanced Assessment for Nurse Educators	3
MSNE 5351	Curriculum Design	3
MSNE 5254	Nurse Educator Practicum I	2
MSNE 5352	Measurement & Evaluation	3
MSNE 5255	Nurse Educator Practicum II	2
MSNE 5349	Advanced Pathophysiology for Nurse Educators	3
MSNE 5356	Advanced Pharmacology for Nurse Educators	3
Total Hours		22

Other

Upon completion of required undergraduate courses, students may apply to receive a Bachelor of Science in Nursing before progression to the remaining graduate courses in their concentration of choice, Nursing Education or Nursing Administration.

Hours

Undergraduate - 120 Hours

Graduate - 37 Hours