Mission
The Master of Science in Nursing (M.S.N.) program at Cedarville University prepares the graduate nurse for advanced practice in nursing. This M.S.N. degree provides in-depth, professional and advanced practice study for nurses to expand their knowledge of health care delivery, clinical expertise, nursing leadership, use of evidence-based research, and academic scholarship grounded in biblical truth. For more information about the M.S.N. program, please visit cedarville.edu/msn

Areas of Focus
Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP)
The Family Nurse Practitioner area of focus prepares advanced practice nurses to provide primary care across the human lifespan. The graduates are qualified to seek national certification and employment as family nurse practitioners. This advanced practice specialty includes assessment, diagnosis, management and treatment of common acute and chronic health problems, health promotion, client and family education, and use of evidence based research for meeting the needs for primary care and prevention.

Global Health Ministries (GHM)
The Global Health Ministries area of focus prepares nurses with expertise in providing population-based care domestically and around the world. This area of focus is a natural fit with the mission of Cedarville University and the School of Nursing. The nurse has advanced knowledge and skills based on world health problems and issues, environmental health, community development, societal structure and policy development. An emphasis is placed on using nursing as ministry through congregational health care, and professional ministries to address global health issues. The graduates are qualified to seek national certification and employment as public health nurses.

Nurse Educator
The Nurse Educator area of focus provides advanced knowledge, clinical expertise and use of evidence-based research as a foundation for preparation as a nurse educator. In addition, students are provided with study of the principles of education to be prepared to teach in health care or educational settings as nurse educators, staff educators, clinical faculty and continuing education providers. With this educational background, the graduates will be qualified to seek national certification as a nurse educator after two years of full-time employment in an academic faculty role.

Program Outcomes
Upon completion of the M.S.N. degree the graduate will:
• Synthesize a biblical worldview underlying the advanced nursing practice roles and responsibilities.
• Integrate knowledge from nursing science and related disciplines as a framework for designing, implementing, and evaluating holistic care, educational needs and program focus.
• Implement scientific inquiry, evidence based practice and scholarly work to evaluate and improve practice and desired outcomes.
• Demonstrate critical judgment, clinical decision making and effective communication skills for advanced nursing practice as part of multidisciplinary or educational team within various environmental contexts.
• Integrate biblical principles into the legal practices and the professional and ethical values essential for advanced nursing practice.
• Analyze cultural, social, economic and political perspectives that influence health care and advanced nursing practice.
• Serve as a leader in advancing health care through use of best practice models.
• Demonstrate competence in advanced nursing practice within the specific area of focus: Family Nurse Practitioner, Nurse Educator or Global Health Ministries.
Program Prerequisites

Students must have completed a minor in Bible or have taken coursework adequate to meet the outcomes of BEGS-6250 Bible Survey for Professionals and BEGS-7250 Foundations of Biblical Theology. Students who have not met this requirement, as determined by the office of the registrar, must enroll in BEGS-6250 and/or BEGS-7250 before or concurrent with other classes during the first year and take at least one Bible class before taking NSG-5060 Bioethics and Spiritual Care in Nursing. Students may receive permission of the instructor to waive this requirement for NSG-5060.

Program prerequisites may be taken at Cedarville University or at another regionally accredited institution.

Course Requirements

Each student will complete 14 semester hours of nursing core courses, 9 hours of advanced practice core, 4 hours of a nursing capstone experience and nursing courses appropriate to the selected advanced nursing practice area of focus. The graduate students complete all clinical courses as precepted practicum experiences. The Family Nurse Practitioner area of focus has a total of 650 clinical hours; the Global Health Ministries area of focus has a total of 450 clinical hours; the Nurse Educator area of focus has a total of 350 clinical hours.

The Master of Science in Nursing Core involves 27 semester hours plus 100 clinical/lab hours including:

**Nursing Core**

- NSG-5000 Theoretical Foundations of Nursing Practice ........ 3
- NSG-5040 Professional Role Development for Advance Practice (for FNP and GHM students) ........ 3
- (Or NSG-5045 Professional Role Development for the Nurse Educator) ......................................................... 3
- NSG-5050 Research for Evidence-Based Nursing Practice ..... 3
- NSG-5060 Bioethics and Spiritual Care in Nursing .......... 2
- NSG-5070 Policies and Strategies for Health Care Delivery .... 3

**Advanced Practice Core**

- NSG-5010 Advanced Physiology and Pathophysiology ........ 3
- *NSG-5020 Advanced Health/physical Assessment and Diagnostic Reasoning .................................................. 3
- NSG-5030 Advanced Pharmacology ................................... 3

* The practicum consists of 50 hours of laboratory and 50 hours of precepted ambulatory or community-based practice.

**Nursing Capstone**

- NSG-6300 Master's Project I and ........................................ 2
- NSG 6350 Master's Project II ........................................... 2
- (Or NSG-6400 Master's Thesis I and) ................................. 2
- NSG-6450 Master's Thesis II ............................................ 2

Areas of Focus Course Requirements

**Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) Course Requirements**

Course requirements involve 43 semester hours plus 650 clinical/lab hours including:

- *NSG-6015 Advanced Practice in the Care of Older Adults for FNP ................................................................. 1
- NSG-6020 Advanced Concepts in the Care of Adults .......... 3
- *NSG-6025 Advanced Practice for the Care of Adults for FNP 1
- NSG-6030 Advanced Concepts in the Care of Women ....... 3
- *NSG-6035 Advanced Practice for the Care of Women for FNP 1
- NSG-6040 Advanced Concepts in the Care of Children .......... 3
- *NSG-6045 Advanced Practice in the Care of Children for FNP 1

* A precepted practicum experience of 150 hours is required.

**Global Health Ministries (GHM) Course Requirements**

Course requirements involve 42 semester hours plus 450 clinical/lab hours including:

- Master of Science in Nursing Core ................................................. 27
- Global Health Ministries Focus Area ........................................... 15
- NSG-6200 Philosophy and Theology of Health, Healing and Illness ................................................................. 3
- NSG-6210 Global Health and Vulnerable Populations .......... 3
- NSG-6220 Epidemiology .......................................................... 3
- NSG-6230 Population-Based Health Care Management .... 3
- *NSG-6240 Practicum I ............................................................... 2
- *NSG-6250 Practicum II ............................................................. 1

* A precepted practicum experience of 200 hours is required.

**Nurse Educator Course Requirements**

Course requirements involve 41 semester hours plus 350 clinical/lab hours including:

- Master of Science in Nursing Core ............................................. 27
- Nurse Educator Focus Area ..................................................... 14
- NSG-6100 Foundations of Nursing Education .................. 3
- NSG-6110 Teaching Methods and Strategies .................... 3
- NSG-6120 Evaluation in Nursing Education ....................... 3
- *NSG-6130 Teaching Practicum I ............................................ 1
- *NSG-6140 Teaching Practicum II ......................................... 1

Choose one of the following clinical focus areas ................. 3

- NSG-6010 Advanced Concepts in the Care of Older Adults .. 3
- NSG-6020 Advanced Concepts in the Care of Adults .......... 3
- NSG-6030 Advanced Concepts in the Care of Women .......... 3
- NSG-6040 Advanced Concepts in the Care of Children ....... 3

* A precepted practicum experience of 150 hours is required.
Licensure/Certification
The graduates of the Family Nurse Practitioner area of focus are qualified to seek national certification and employment as family nurse practitioners. The graduates of the Global Health Ministries are qualified to seek national certification and employment as public health nurses. The graduates of the Nurse Educator area of focus are qualified to seek national certification as a nurse educator after two years of full-time employment in an academic faculty role.

Admissions Standards
Cedarville University invites applications for the M.S.N. program to graduates from accredited baccalaureate nursing programs, who are able to present strong academic records and a testimony of faith in Jesus Christ. Each candidate will be reviewed on an individual basis.

In addition to general admission requirements listed in the Academic section of this catalog, students must meet the following requirements:

1. Meet all program prerequisites. Students not meeting program prerequisites or admission standards may be considered for conditional admission to the program.
2. A current resume.
3. Have earned a B.S.N. undergraduate grade point average of 3.00 or higher on a 4.00 scale.
4. Official transcripts of a baccalaureate degree in nursing from an accredited program. Transcripts must show completion evidence of an undergraduate nursing research course and undergraduate statistics course.
5. Completed Bible minor or have taken course work adequate to meet the outcomes of BEGS-6250 Bible Survey and BEGS-7250 Foundations of Biblical Theology. Those not meeting this requirement must take BEGS-6250 and/or BEGS-7250 before or concurrent with other classes during the first year and one Bible course before taking NSG-5060 Bioethics and Spiritual Care in Nursing. Students may receive permission of the instructor to waive this requirement for NSG-5060.
6. Evidence of computer proficiency or plan for learning informatics skills.
7. Evidence of current unrestricted licensure as a registered nurse in the United States for clinical experience in the United States.
8. Completion of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) is optional; however, taking the GRE may strengthen a graduate application.
9. Clinical work experience as a registered nurse (RN) is highly recommended.
10. Interview with nursing faculty.

Admissions Process
Applicants should follow steps 1-5 under “How to Apply” in the Admissions section of this catalog. Personal interviews with nursing faculty are required. Applicants who present satisfactory evidence of their ability to perform at the graduate level of study are admitted to the graduate nursing program at Cedarville University.

Financial Aid and Scholarships
Financial aid opportunities are available as grants and loans through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. To address the shortage of nurses and nursing faculty the U.S. government, under Titles VII and VIII of the Public Health Service Act, provides scholarship and loan repayment programs. Students may receive nursing traineeships to cover costs of tuition, books and fees. The Nurse Faculty Loan Program is also available to provide financial support for students enrolled in an advanced education nursing program to prepare for a position as a nurse faculty member. This program is available to both full-time and part-time students, covers tuition, fees, books, lab expenses, and other reasonable education expenses with loan forgiveness given for years of employment in a faculty role. The University financial aid office and School of Nursing provide financial aid counseling for the M.S.N. students. Once CCNE accreditation is obtained the School of Nursing will apply for these funds. Federal aid is available to students who meet established requirements and complete the required forms. For additional information, visit cedarville.edu/gradaid and cedarville.edu/msn

Academic Advising
Upon admission into the M.S.N. program, each student is assigned a faculty advisor. The faculty advisor provides supervision and guidance for the students throughout the length of study.

Accreditation
The M.S.N. program is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools and authorized by the Ohio Board of Regents. The School of Nursing is pursuing accreditation from the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE).

Course Sequencing
See the Master of Science in Nursing website (cedarville.edu/MSN) for course sequencing and completion options information.

Course Load
Assuming that proficiency requirements have been satisfied, a minimum of 41-43 semester hours is required for graduation in the M.S.N. program.

Clinical Requirements
Clinical requirements associated with NSG-5020 Advanced Health/Physical Assessment and Diagnostic Reasoning and all subsequent clinical courses include:

- Successful completion of the pre-requisite courses and enrollment in the co-requisite courses as specified in this graduate catalog
- Earned a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher in graduate courses at Cedarville University
- Valid “No Record” FBI criminal background check including fingerprinting
- Obtain current certification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR)
- Provide appropriate health information.
- Evidence of current immunization status including Mantoux for TB
- Level of health consistent with safe nursing practice
- Evidence of liability insurance
- Level of technology sufficient for access to facilitate efficient use of tracking system (as determined by faculty)
- Provide evidence of personal health insurance

Tuition Cost
Tuition cost for the M.S.N. program for the 2012–13 academic year is $515 per semester hour.
Transfer Credits
Transfer credits are allowed for up to nine semester hours. The Dean of the School of nursing and the Director of the Graduate Nursing Programs are responsible for evaluating all requests for transfer credit within the M.S.N. program. Courses will be evaluated on an individual basis on the following criteria:
- The course is equivalent to the required course offered in the M.S.N. program.
- The course was completed not more than seven years prior to the time of the transfer request.
- The courses were taken at an accredited college/university.
- Courses transferred from institutions where quarter hours are awarded will be using the standard quarter hour/semester hour calculation.

Graduation Requirements
In addition to general graduation requirements listed in the Academic section of this catalog, students seeking the M.S.N. degree must fulfill the following:
- Complete all requirements of the M.S.N. program.
- Maintain a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.0.
- Successfully complete and defend a Master's thesis or project.
- Obtain approval from the faculty advisor for the student portfolio.
- Complete all requirements for the M.S.N. program within seven years after matriculation in the program.

Program Delivery
The M.S.N. program is designed to be flexible and responsive to student needs. The M.S.N. courses will be offered in a hybrid format with a combination of face-to-face and online modalities.

Housing Options
See the Campus Services section for more detailed housing information. For information on meals see the Campus Services section.