Overview
College of Nursing at the University of Rhode Island offers a Master of Science degree with an acute care nurse practitioner concentration with a focus in adult-gerontology. Its purpose is to educate acute care nurse practitioners capable of providing health care to acutely ill individuals and their families in a variety of health care settings. This program is partially funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources (HRSA). Upon completion of either the master’s program or the post-masters certificate option, students will be eligible to take the American Nurses Credentialing Center– Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner (ANCC - AGACNP) certification exam.

Curriculum
The Acute Care Nurse Practitioner (Adult-Gerontology Focus) curriculum consists of courses totaling 44 semester credit hours. Of these, 14 credits are in nursing core courses consisting of philosophy and theories in nursing practice, research, leadership, and role development. In addition, 30 credits in the area of primary health care and related courses are required. The program culminates with a written comprehensive examination and the submission of a substantial scholarly work involving significant independent study which is referred to as the major paper. This requirement is an extension of work completed from prior coursework in the master's program.

Required Master’s Core Courses (14 credits)
- NUR 660 - Philosophical & Theoretical Bases of Nursing Science (4 crs)
- NUR 651 - Advanced Methods in Nursing Research I (Qualitative Methods) (3 crs)
- NUR 652 - Advanced Methods in Nursing Research II (Quantitative Methods) (3 crs)
- HDF 527 - Social and Health Care Policy (3 crs)
- NUR 520 - Graduate Study Seminar (1 cr)

Required Advanced Practice Courses for Acute Care (12 credits)
- NUR 503 - Advanced Adult Physical Assessment (4 crs)
- NUR 509 - Advanced Assessment for ACNP Practice (2 crs)
- NUR 535 - Pathophysiology for Advanced Practice Nurses (3 crs)
- NUR 582 - Pharmacotherapeutics in Advanced Practice Nursing (3 crs)

Required Acute Care Nurse Practitioner Courses (18 credits)
- NUR 565 - ACNP I: Adult (3 crs)
- NUR 566 - ACNP Practicum I: Adult (3 crs)
- NUR 567 - ACNP II: Adult (3 crs)
- NUR 568 - ACNP Practicum II: Adult (6 crs)
- NUR 590 - Directed Advanced Study & Practice (3 crs)

Clinical Practice
Clinical practice is available in a variety of settings - hospital emergency departments, critical and acute care hospital units. Preceptorship on a one-to-one basis is provided by nurse practitioners and physicians. Students manage a patient caseload with increasing independence as they progress in the program. The practicum experiences are planned with the student, taking into consideration the student’s interests, learning needs, employment plans, and acute care nurse practitioner competencies.

Part Time and Full Time Study
Students take 1 or 2, 3 credit courses per semester for part-time and 3 courses for full-time. Students may choose to move through courses in a two-and-one-half to a five-year time frame.
Transportation
A car is necessary to reach the various clinical practice locations in the cities and rural areas. A local bus service connects the University to most major health service facilities, shopping, and service centers, but the bus routes and schedules may not always be convenient for the graduate student.

Tuition and Fees
Additional information on tuition and a full breakdown of fees can be located on the Enrollment Services Tuition and Fees webpage.

Financial Aid
A variety of traineeships, graduate assistantships and loans are available to help finance graduate education. More information can be found on the Graduate School Financial Support webpage.

Certificate Option
Nurses who have a master’s degree in nursing may pursue advanced preparation in acute and critical care settings (e.g., intensive care units, emergency departments, hospitalist services, specialty services, and acute care rehabilitation hospitals). A minimum of 18 credits (NUR 565, 566, 567, 568, and 590) and 500 clinical hours are required. Prerequisite courses for the certificate program include NUR 503, 509, 535, and 582. Comparable courses from other institutions may satisfy these requirements.

Application Deadlines
Your completed application package, including supporting materials, is due by February 15th for Fall start and October 15th for Spring start. Applications missing materials such as test scores, transcripts, resumes, or personal statements will not be reviewed. We recommend submitting your online application by no later than two weeks prior to the deadline which gives your references two weeks to complete their recommendations.

Masters Admission Requirements
- Admission to the Graduate School. Directions can be found on the College of Nursing - How to Apply webpage.
- Minimum GPA of 3.0
- Baccalaureate degree in nursing accredited by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing or the National League for Nursing with an upper-division major in nursing.
- Eligibility for RN licensure in Rhode Island
- Positive recommendations
- Statement of purpose which reflects writing ability and goals for pursuing advanced study in nursing
- Two years of clinical nursing experience, relevant to the concentration applied for, prior to enrollment in the advanced practice clinical courses.
- A basic statistics course is a prerequisite for NUR 652.

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The mission of the URI College of Nursing can be found at www.uri.edu/nursing/about/
To view the University catalog please go to: www.uri.edu/catalog/
To apply please go to: www.uri.edu/gsadmis/ and click “Apply Online Now!”

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