Overview
College of Nursing at the University of Rhode Island offers a Master of Science degree with a nursing education concentration. Its purpose is to prepare nurses to practice as educators in a variety of settings. Graduates assume roles as educators in academia and as community/client educators in health care agencies and community and school-based programs, as well as in staff development in various health care agencies and human resources departments. Students’ needs and career goals are considered in the selection of professional options in this concentration. Opportunity to diversify within the concentration is possible.

Curriculum
The Nursing Education curriculum consists of courses totaling 42 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, 25 credits specific to advanced practice and nursing education and 3 elective credits 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 (10 credits)**
- NUR 503 - Advanced Adult Physical Assessment (4 crs)
- NUR 535 - Pathophysiology for Advanced Practice Nurses (3 crs)
- NUR 582 - Pharmacotherapeutics in Advanced Practice Nursing (3 crs)

**Required Nursing Education Courses (15 credits)**
- NUR 538 - Learning Theories and Educational Strategies for Health Professionals (3 crs)
- NUR 539 - Application of Learning Theories in Professional Practice (3 crs)
- NUR 541 - Advanced Study of Teaching in Nursing Education and Practice (3 crs)
- NUR 542 - Practicum in Nursing Education (6 crs)

**Elective (3 credits)**
Selection should be based on prior knowledge, clinical experience, and career goals. Courses should have an education focus and/or clinical area of interest. Other College of Nursing concentration courses are also acceptable.

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. If you are interested in requesting an assistantship please email gradnursing@etal.uri.edu after you have submitted your application.

Certificate Option
Nurses who have a master’s degree in nursing may pursue advanced preparation in nursing education. A minimum of 12 credits (NUR 538, 541, 590, and an elective of 3 credits at 400 level or higher) are required. These credits of coursework focus on educational assessment, curriculum design, teaching strategies, and evaluation related to teaching in the classroom and clinical areas. The plan of the study is designed for M.S. degree nurses as nurse practitioners, clinical specialists, staff development educators in the community, long term, and outreach settings who aspire to assume a teaching position.

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 specialization 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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Please note: Master’s degree candidates with non-nursing degrees will be evaluated on an individual basis. Completion of challenge of upper-division nursing courses is required prior to acceptance into the master’s program.

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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