

# FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY™

## Graduate Programs—PROGRAM CHANGE REQUEST

UGPC APPROVAL \_\_\_\_\_

UFS APPROVAL \_\_\_\_\_

CATALOG \_\_\_\_\_

DEPARTMENT: CHRISTINE E. LYNN COLLEGE OF NURSING

COLLEGE: NURSING

PROGRAM NAME:

BSN/MS DUAL DEGREE PROGRAM

**EFFECTIVE DATE**

(PROVIDE TERM/YEAR)

SUSPEND ADMISSION: SUMMER 2013

TERMINATE PROGRAM: SPRING 2015

PLEASE EXPLAIN THE REQUESTED CHANGE(S) AND OFFER RATIONALE BELOW AND/OR ATTACHED:

TERMINATE PROGRAM: B.S.N./M.S. DUAL DEGREE PROGRAM

SUSPEND ADMISSION SUMMER 2013 AND TERMINATE PROGRAM SPRING 2015; ALL CURRENT STUDENTS WILL HAVE GRADUATE D BY THIS TIME.

RATIONALE: CHANGES IN CURRICULUM RELATED TO ACCREDITATION HAS REDUCED NEED FOR PROGRAM; EXTERNAL REVIEWER RECOMMENDED REDUCTION OF PROGRAMS. SEE TERMINATION OF BS TO MS DUAL DEGREE PROGRAM ADDENDUM.

CURRENT CATALOG DESCRIPTION OF PROGRAM ATTACHED.

Faculty contact, email and complete phone number:

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Consult and list departments that might be affected by the change and attach comments.

None

Approved by:

Department Chair: Kamathy Edwards

College Curriculum Chair: Beth King RN PhD

→ College Dean: Marlaene Smith

UGPC Chair: \_\_\_\_\_

Graduate College Dean: \_\_\_\_\_

UFS President: \_\_\_\_\_

Provost: \_\_\_\_\_

Date:

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Email this form and syllabus to [UGPC@fau.edu](mailto:UGPC@fau.edu) **one week before** the University Graduate Programs Committee meeting so that materials may be viewed on the UGPC website prior to the meeting.

### Termination of BS to MS Dual Degree Program Addendum

The College of Nursing is recommending termination of the Dual Degree Program. The BS to MS Program was designed to offer a unique opportunity to study nursing at an advanced level. The curriculum was designed for RNs to achieve both a BSN and MS in nursing in a **shorter time** than it would normally take to earn both degrees.

Currently the curriculum allows for 15 hours of open nursing electives in Phase II of the program plan. Based on the preferred Master's Track, students were able to complete up to **12 credits hours** of graduate level work to meet the undergraduate nursing elective requirement as outlined below:

Phase II Courses - BSN Course Completion			
Nursing Situations with Individuals, Families, and Groups	NUR	4607	4
Nursing Practice Leadership	NUR	4836	3
Upper Division Elective Courses			6
Upper Division Humanities			3
Nursing Electives			15

As a result of recent changes in the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) Master's Essentials, **9 of the 15 credits** must now be completed as the following required undergraduate courses:

NUR 3145 Pharmacotherapeutics 3 credits
NUR 4125 General Pathophysiology 3 credits
NUR 3065 Nursing Situations: Health Assessment Modalities 2 credits
NUR 3065L Nursing Situations: Health Assessment lab 1 credit

As a result of these changes, the BS-MS Dual Degree option **no longer provides** students an opportunity to earn both degrees in a **significantly shorter time** than it would normally take to earn both degrees.

In addition, our recent external program reviewer recommended that the college reduce the number of programs offered to more efficiently utilize faculty and resources.



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**COMBINED PROGRAM**

**B.S.N./M.S. Program Requirements**

This dual degree program allows nurses with associate degrees to enter and earn the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (B.S.N.) and the Master of Science with Major in Nursing (M.S.) degrees at the same time. Both degrees are awarded upon successful completion of the entire program. The B.S.N. is not awarded prior to the M.S. This degree option combines requirements for the current RN to B.S.N. program (with some adjustments related to master's level courses) and all requirements for the master's program with specialty preparation of the student's choice. The dual degree option requires a minimum of 70 credits with at least 30 credits of post-baccalaureate work. All current M.S. specialty tracks are available to the B.S.N./M.S. student; however, admission into the dual degree does not guarantee admission into the limited access Nurse Practitioner tracks.

**Prerequisite Coursework for Transfer Students**  
 Students transferring to Florida Atlantic University must complete both lower-division requirements (including the requirements of the Intellectual Foundations Program) and requirements for the college and major. Lower-division requirements may be completed through the A.A. degree from any Florida public college, university or community college or through equivalent coursework at another regionally accredited institution. Before transferring and to ensure timely progress toward the baccalaureate degree, students must also complete the prerequisite courses for their major as outlined in the *Transfer Student Manual* (see [www.fau.edu/registrar/tsm.php](http://www.fau.edu/registrar/tsm.php)).

All courses not approved by the Florida Statewide Course Numbering System that will be used to satisfy requirements will be evaluated individually on the basis of content and will require a catalog course description and a copy of the syllabus for assessment.

**Guidelines**

1. Admission to the B.S.N. level requires 1) a 2.75 GPA 2) an RN license and 3) a grade of "C" or better in all required prerequisite courses.
2. Students will first apply to the B.S.N. program and are considered undergraduates until B.S.N.-level requirements are met.
3. Students may study full or part time.
4. A specific course applies to only one of the degree programs.
5. Students apply to the M.S. program after completing the first three courses in the sequence listed below. Nurse Practitioner applicants have additional required courses. See track descriptions for details. M.S.-level admission is granted pending successful completion of upper-division nursing courses with a grade of "B" or better. A GPA of 3.0 is required for admission to the master's program. Students who do not have a GPA of 3.0 must take the Graduate Record Examination (GRE). Students complete all requirements for the M.S. track of their choice. Individual advisement is required.
6. Students choosing to "opt out" of the program before completion of the M.S. program or who are not accepted into the M.S. program can complete the B.S.N. by satisfying all current requirements for the RN to B.S.N. program.
7. Students in all M.S. options will need to take at least 30 credits beyond the B.S.N. level for the M.S. degree.

Required B.S.N.-Level Courses		
Introduction to Nursing as Discipline and Profession	NUR 3115	3
Nurse as Scholar	NUR 4805	3
Nursing Research	NUR 4165	3
Nursing Situations with Individuals, Families and Groups in Communities	NUR 4607	4
Nursing Practice Leadership	NUR 4836	3
Arts and humanities and free electives		6
Nursing electives (may include graduate nursing courses; courses taken to complete these credits do not count toward the minimum of 30 graduate credits required beyond the B.S.N.)		12