

# Master of Science (MS) in Nursing – Entry to the Profession



## Academic Program Guide: 2025-2026 – NEW MEPN Curriculum beginning Fall 2025

This guide is intended as a sample course schedule to help direct student progression. Students must meet regularly with their academic advisor to discuss specific course selections, remaining requirements, and degree options.

| ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS  |               |                            |             |
|---|---------------|----------------------------|-------------|
| Bachelor's degree from any field  |               |                            |             |
| Minimum 3.0 grade point average, both last-60 GPA and prerequisite GPA  |               |                            |             |
| Completion of all prerequisite courses listed below with grades   |               |                            |             |
| PREREQUISITE COURSEWORK (common UA courses provided, see transfer credit articulations for non-UA coursework viability)   |               |                            | UNITS       |
| <b>General Chemistry (1 lecture and 1 lab minimum)</b><br>Choose one sequence option:<br>-CHEM 130 lecture & 130L lab<br>-CHEM 152 (must have taken CHEM 151 prior)<br>-CHEM 162 lecture & 164 lab (must have taken CHEM 161 & 163 prior)<br>-CHEM 142 lecture & 146 lab (must have taken CHEM 141 & 145 prior)<br>-CHEM 182 (must have taken CHEM 181 prior) |               |                            | 4           |
| <b>Human Anatomy &amp; Physiology (2 lectures and 2 labs minimum)</b><br>-PSIO 201 & PSIO 202   |               |                            | 8           |
| <b>Microbiology (1 lecture minimum, lab optional)</b><br>-MIC 205A<br>-Please note: Per CA Board of Nursing, and to be licensed in CA, graduates are required to have completed a microbiology lab (MIC 205L).  |               |                            | 3-4         |
| <b>Nutrition (1 lecture minimum)</b><br>Choose one:<br>-NSC 170C1<br>-NSC 310   |               |                            | 3           |
| <b>Lifespan Human Development (1 lecture minimum)</b><br>Choose one:<br>-HDFS 117<br>-HDFS 200/EDP 200/PSY 200  |               |                            | 3           |
| <b>Statistics (1 lecture minimum, lab optional)</b><br>Choose one:<br>-MATH 163<br>-SBS 200<br>-PSY 230<br>-BIOS 376<br>-MATH 263<br>-HECL 201  |               |                            | 3-4         |
| <b>Apply to program before starting officially. See second page for additional details. All courses require professional program admission</b>  |               |                            |             |
| MEPN PROFESSIONAL PATHWAY   |               |                            |             |
| LEVEL 1 (13 hours)  | Lecture Units | Ind Study Units (Clinical) | Total Units |
| NURS 500: Pathophysiology: Foundations for Nursing Practice   | 3             |                            | 3           |
| NURS 503: Evidence Informed Health Assessment   | 2             | 1                          | 3           |
| NURS 504: Beginning Writing and Research  | 1             |                            | 1           |
| NURS 506: Behavioral Health Nursing Concepts and Practice   | 1             | 1                          | 2           |
| NURS 509: Fundamental Nursing Concepts and Practice   | 2             | 2                          | 4           |
| LEVEL 2 (15 hours)  |               |                            |             |
| NURS 505: Intermediate Writing and Research   | 1             |                            | 1           |
| NURS 511: Nursing Informatics: From Concepts to Practice  | 2             |                            | 2           |
| NURS 522: Application of Adult Nursing Concepts – Medical Surgery I   | 2             | 2                          | 4           |
| NURS 523: Application of Adult Nursing Concepts – Medical Surgery II  | 2             | 2                          | 4           |
| NURS 571: Pharmacology and Nursing Practice   | 4             |                            | 4           |
| LEVEL 3 (13 hours)  |               |                            |             |
| NURS 659: Nursing Research for Evidence-Informed Practice   | 3             |                            | 3           |
| NURS 607: Concepts for Specialty Care Setting   |               | 1                          | 1           |
| NURS 608: Application of Obstetric and Pediatric Nursing  | 2             | 2                          | 4           |
| NURS 610: Application of Complex Adult Medical-Surgical Care  | 3             | 2                          | 5           |
| LEVEL 4 (12 hours)  |               |                            |             |
| NURS 514: Nursing Leadership in Organizational Systems  | 3             |                            | 3           |
| NURS 618: Population Health Nursing   | 2             | 2                          | 4           |
| NURS 620: Preceptorship   | 1             | 4                          | 5           |
| <b>MEPN Degree Total</b>  |               | <b>35</b>                  | <b>19</b>   |
| <b>53</b>   |               |                            |             |
| Total Clinical Hours = 855 (1 Unit of IS = 45 hours of Clinical, or a combination of Clinical, Skills, Simulation and other clinical related activities).   |               |                            |             |
| After graduation, pass NCLEX-RN in order to gain Registered Nurse (RN) licensure. If you are seeking CA licensure, please see above note on microbiology lab.   |               |                            |             |

## MEPN INFORMATION

Our Master of Science in Nursing – Entry to the Profession of Nursing (MS-MEPN) program is tailor made for students holding university degrees in other fields who want to become registered nurses. Program options are available in both Gilbert and Tucson and you will train with community clinical experts in all specialty areas. For more information, please see <https://www.nursing.arizona.edu/mepn>

## MEPN ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

All requirements and deadlines are subject to change. See MS-MEPN website at <https://www.nursing.arizona.edu/mepn-apply>

- Bachelor's degree in any field
  - Applicants may have their degree in progress at the time of application but must provide proof of graduation prior to the start date of MS-MEPN itself. Applicants who end up not graduating, or graduating after MS-MEPN has started, will have admission revoked.
- Prerequisite coursework completed with grades of C or higher. Additionally, grades must be posted by application deadline.
- Minimum last-60 grade point average of 3.0
- Minimum prerequisite grade point average of 3.0
- Minimum score of 75 on [HESI A2 Exam](#) (Math, Reading Comprehension, Vocabulary, and Biology) or Minimum 75% cumulative score for the [ATI TEAS Exam](#) (Science, Math, Reading, English, and Language Use)
- Admission to the University of Arizona graduate college as a degree-seeking student

**Nursing College admission is based on a holistic review of criteria, including:**

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Prerequisite GPA</b><br>(Highest grade for each prerequisite course) | Prerequisite GPA of a minimum 3.0 GPA for all prerequisite courses, with a minimum grade of 'C' or better in each required course. If a prerequisite course is repeated, the highest grade earned will be utilized in the calculation.   |
| <b>Last-60 units GPA</b>  | The last 60 units are taken based on the grades earned in your most recent coursework taken at regionally accredited institutions. This includes both undergraduate and graduate level coursework, but does not include grades without weight (S,P,F, audits, etc.). The GPA is calculated on a semester-by-semester check until a minimum of 60 semester units have been totaled.   |
| <b>Optional Experience</b>  | Optional experiences that may be included to increase application strength include: healthcare experience, volunteerism, transferable non-healthcare experiences, and leadership experiences.  |
| <b>HESI or TEAS Admissions Assessment</b>                               | HESI or TEAS Admissions Assessment is required (please choose one): <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Students must take the HESI Admissions Assessment with a 75% minimum score based on a single attempt. Details on nursing website regarding score expirations and considerations: <a href="#">HESI A2 Exam</a></li><li>2. Students must take the TEAS Admissions Assessment with a 75% minimum score based on a single attempt. Details on nursing website regarding score expirations and considerations: <a href="#">ATI TEAS Exam</a></li></ol> |

### **Direct Admission for U of A, ASU and NAU Alumni**

MS-MEPN Direct Admission is available to students who earned a:

- Bachelor of Science Degree within the last 10 years from The University of Arizona, Arizona State University or Northern Arizona University
- Minimum 3.00 cumulative undergraduate GPA
- Minimum 3.50 prerequisite GPA
- Students who meet the MS-MEPN Direct Admit criteria above will not be required to take the HESI exam, nor submit a NursingCAS application.

To determine if you are eligible for MS-MEPN Direct Admission, please complete the MS-MEPN Direct Admit Eligibility Review Form, [this form](#). Please note: 5 out of the 7 prerequisite courses must be complete before you are eligible for review. Submitted forms will be reviewed, and eligible students will receive further instructions, including the completion of the University of Arizona GradApp application. Be advised of the Direct Admission [application deadlines](#) for each semester.

### **Competitive Application Deadlines for MS-MEPN**

Students seeking admissions to the MS-MEPN program must apply through [Nursing CAS](#) and the [UA Graduate College](#) by the relevant deadlines listed on the [MS-MEPN website](#) at **11:59pm EST**.

If enrolled at the time of application and given admissions offer, applicants must maintain their 3.0 last-60 GPA and prerequisite GPA minimum after completion of any in-progress coursework.

Applicants may have their degree in progress at the time of Fall start application but must provide proof of August graduation prior to the start date of MS-MEPN itself. Applicants may have their degree in progress at the time of Spring start application but must provide proof of December graduation prior to the start date of MS-MEPN itself. Applicants may have their degree in progress at the time of Summer start application but must provide proof of May graduation prior to the start date of MS-MEPN itself. Applicants who end up not graduating, or graduating after MS-MEPN has started, will have admissions rescinded.

For current information on admissions requirements, please visit [MS-MEPN Admissions](#).