Graduates are prepared to:

Advance the art and science of nursing and to assume leadership positions in the profession
Take responsibility for shaping and advancing healthcare, with a goal of improving individual, family and population health through the integration of theory, research, and evidence-based practice.

Outstanding Features

- Competitive graduate assistantships
- Area of study defined by applicant’s fit with research expertise of Nursing and Interdisciplinary faculty
- School of Nursing areas of research emphasis:
  - Aging/Healthy Aging
  - Symptom Science, Self Management
  - Community Based Research/Health Disparities
- Interdisciplinary resources at UD and Delaware Health Sciences Alliance campuses of A.I. duPont Hospital for Children, Christiana Care Health Systems, and Thomas Jefferson University
- Breadth of curriculum ranging from nursing research in bio-behavioral and clinical sciences to health services
- First PhD in Nursing Science program in the State of Delaware
- Individualized attention in small cohort of students
- Immersion in the research process through assistantships on funded studies
- Higher education in nursing course content paired with teaching assistantships
- Full-time study allows completion of coursework, comprehensive exams and dissertation in three to four years
- Seven years allotted for part-time students to complete requirements
- Students may enter post-BSN or with a master’s degree

Program Director

Dr. Barbara Habermann, Nannie Longfellow Professor of Nursing Science and Associate Dean for Translational Research
General Course information

Core Courses (13 credits):
NURS 810: Philosophical & Theoretical Basis of Nursing Science
NURS 849: Philosophy Theory & Curriculum in Nursing Education
NURS 843: Policy & Finance for Health Care Delivery
NURS 839: Nurse Scientist Seminar I
NURS 850: Dissertation Proposal Seminar
NURS 870: Writing for Dissemination

Research/Methods/Analysis Courses (16 credits):
Statistics from ED, PSYCH, SOC
NURS 812: Responsible Conduct of Research (online)
NURS 814: Advanced Quantitative Research in Nursing Science
NURS 816: Advanced Qualitative Research in Nursing Science
Research Methodology Course (offered by other departments, relevant to student’s research focus)

Cognate electives (12 - 24 credits)*

Dissertation (9 credits)
NURS 969: Doctoral Dissertation

*Students entering post BSN will take 24 credits, post MSN students will take 12 credits.

Admission requirements & Criteria

Applicants must have completed a minimum of 3 credits undergraduate and 3 credits graduate level statistics and will adhere to the University’s Office of Graduate Studies procedures using the online admission process accessible at: http://grad.udel.edu/apply/

- BSN from an accredited college/university (minimum GPA 3.0) if entering as a masters prepared student. MS in nursing or other health related discipline from an accredited college/university (minimum GPA 3.5)
- Active Registered Nurse license
- Written statement of goals & objectives
- Three letters of recommendation
- A curriculum vitae or resume
- An interview with PhD Program Director and/or Program Committee member prior to admission

The School of Nursing PhD Program Committee makes an admission decision after reviewing the completed application.

Application Deadline: February 1st

- Admission decisions anticipated by March 1st for entry of fall cohort of students
- Acceptance of offer of admission must be made by April 30th for entry of fall cohort of students

“The UD PhD in Nursing Science has strengthened my resolve to be a life-long learner. There is so much that we, as nurse scholars, have to contribute to our profession and the body of nursing knowledge.”
- Robbi Alexander, PhD (2015)

“The University of Delaware PhD in Nursing Science Program offered me this extraordinary opportunity to explore my research and educational interests! Small, face-to-face doctoral classes allowed for meaningful and intellectual exchanges. Research and other scholarly assignments permitted me to use my clinical knowledge while also challenging me to think in new and exciting ways.”
- Ron Castaldo, PhD (2015)