

MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 16, 2006

TO: Dr. Ernest J. Yanarella
Chair, Senate Council

FROM: Dr. Carolyn A. Williams
Dean, College of Nursing

SUBJECT: Application for Graduate Certificate in Public Health Nursing

The faculty of the College of Nursing has approved and submit for your approval a proposal for a Graduate Certificate in Public Health Nursing. This proposal is for Masters of Science in Nursing degree students who are enrolled in a specialty track other than public health nursing, nursing students involved in the College of Public Health graduate programs, or post baccalaureate students in nursing. It will be 12 credits in length.

Effective Date: Fall, 2006

Rationale for proposal:

The primary purposes for this request are to increase the supply of nurses who are prepared to work in public health and to encourage interdisciplinary collaboration among public health workers.

This is a revision of an earlier memo of April 25, 2005, with changes as recommended by the Senate Council in their meeting on February 6, 2006.

Thank you for your consideration of this proposal.

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY
COLLEGE OF NURSING

Proposal for Graduate Certificate in Public Health Nursing

Purpose: This proposal is for a Graduate Certificate in Public Health Nursing for Masters of Science in Nursing degree students who are enrolled in a specialty track other than public health nursing, nursing students involved in the College of Public Health graduate programs, or post baccalaureate students in nursing. It will be 12 credits in length.

Background:

According to the most recent national data available only 18% of all nurses currently work in community/public health and only 11% of those hold advanced degrees. In Kentucky, the total community/public health nurse population represents only 3% of the total nurse work force. There is a shortage of prepared nurses who can meet the demands of the public health system. Kentucky is increasing its community focused care with an emphasis on revitalizing the public health focus and offering services related to the core functions of public health (Spears, 2003). The nursing role of the future in Kentucky calls for registered nurses who can provide leadership in implementing the core public health functions, who can work as peers in interdisciplinary teams, who can integrate clinical knowledge with knowledge of community resources, and who can plan for the management of care of aggregates along a continuum of care. This option will provide expanded organized learning opportunities for nurses earning or who wish to earn a Master's of Science in Nursing degree who are specializing in a clinical area (such as a clinical nursing specialty or a nurse practitioner specialty) but want to enhance their understanding of the field of public health. It will also be available for post baccalaureate students who may want to explore study in public health nursing.

Director of the Graduate Certificate in Public Health Nursing:

The Director of the Graduate Certificate shall be the Director of Graduate Studies for the Masters of Science in Nursing degree program, Dr. Julie Sebastian. Course enrollments will be managed and agreed upon by the Director of Graduate Studies and course faculty. This will allow for effective enrollment management in the courses.

Certificate Requirements:

1. Enrollment in the Master's of Science in Nursing degree program at the University of Kentucky College of Nursing or enrollment as a post-baccalaureate student;
2. Enrollment in the College of Public Health
3. A 3.0 or greater graduate GPA if a masters student in Public health or nursing; or the consent of the Director of Graduate Studies if a newly admitted or post-baccalaureate student;
4. If a post baccalaureate student or a College of Public Health nursing student:
 - a. Immunization information
 - b. Copy of RN license.

Progression Requirements:

1. Maintenance of a 3.0 graduate GPA.

Required Courses:

Students selecting the Graduate Certificate in Public Health Nursing shall complete a minimum of 12 credit hours. Epidemiology will be a pre or co-requisite for NUR 732. For students enrolled in other specialty areas in the MSN program Epidemiology may serve as the student's elective in the primary track if approved by their graduate faculty advisor. Students are expected to consult with their graduate faculty advisors in the College of Nursing when selecting the elective course.

	<u>Total Credits</u>	
	<u>Didactic</u>	<u>Clinical</u>
Epidemiology	3 cr.	0 cr.
NUR 732 Adv. Practice Public Health Nursing: Assessment	2 cr.	+ 1 cr.
NUR 733 Adv. Practice Public Health Nursing: Policy Development	2 cr.	+ 1 cr.
NUR 734 Adv. Adv. Practice Public Health Nursing: Assurance	<u>2 cr.</u>	+ <u>1 cr.</u>
	9	+ 3 = 12

For each of the nursing courses there will be a one credit hour clinical component.

Certificate Completion:

Students will be certified by the Director of Graduate Studies as having completed the certificate once they have completed the 12 credit hour curriculum and achieved a 3.0 GPA or better over the 12 credit hours, and if enrolled in a masters program, or other graduate courses an overall GPA of 3.0 or better.

Reference:

Spears, E. (2003). Personal Communication, Kentucky Cabinet for Health Services Training Branch, Frankfort, KY.