NURSING, DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

The goal of the PhD program at the Johns Hopkins School of Nursing is to prepare the leaders in nursing science development. Graduates will be prepared for careers as nurse scholars to conduct research that advances the discipline of nursing, health, and health care quality. The school offers an individualized program in selected areas of research congruent with student's area of interest and the expertise of the research faculty. A key feature of the program is an intensive mentored research experience with an active investigator who has an established program of funded research. In addition to the diverse research interests of the School of Nursing faculty, students have access to the entire Johns Hopkins University, which fosters interdisciplinary and international research projects.

Quality is the defining characteristic of academic life at Johns Hopkins and the School of Nursing. Each student completes a core curriculum and works closely with a faculty adviser to complete an individualized course of study that fulfills the student's goals and develops the basis for a program of research. The length of the program is expected to be the equivalent of four to five years of full-time study. Students must complete the program within 7 years.

Funding for PhD Program

Qualified students interested in the PhD program may be eligible to receive tuition and stipend support through the School of Nursing. Complete information is available by contacting the PhD Program Administrator at SON-PhDProgram@jhu.edu

Please Note: In the following Curriculum and Plans of Study, School of Public Health courses (PH.XXX.XXX) are offered on the quarter system and are depicted here as [credits & units] and count accordingly in each school. Course descriptions for the Public Health courses (PH) are available at sis.jhu.edu (http://www.sis.jhu.edu).

Summer Registration

PhD students register for all fall and spring semesters from matriculation to degree completion. The only exceptions are students on an approved leave of absence.

Students will register for the summer semester if they:
1. take a course;
2. complete the preliminary oral exam;
3. defend their dissertation; or
4. graduate (F1 Visa Students).

Students who successfully defended their dissertation within the spring semester, but who will graduate in the summer semester, are not required to register (with the exception of F1 Visa Students).

If a student is not registered for other summer coursework, registering for 1 credit of Dissertation Research is typically sufficient for the summer semester for those students planning their dissertation defense in the summer semester.

Students should work with their faculty mentor, PhD Program Director, and the Registrar's Office to determine their appropriate student status given their activities during the semester. All students should register prior to the first day of classes in all terms.

PhD Program Research Residency Guidelines

The research residency is an important pedagogical aspect of the PhD program regardless of funding source or student status, full or part time. Students should commit to a research residencies each semester – including summer - across the entire period of funding from the JHSON. The purpose of the research residency requirement for the PhD program is to provide full time students with research training. The goal of the research residency is for the student to have experiences in aspects of research that will facilitate embarking on a career of research and scholarship. Given that publication is a vital outcome of any PhD program, the research residency mechanism is an ideal one from which to publish. It is important to point out that not all research training experiences will be the same.

1. Decisions regarding research training experiences ultimately rest with the primary research mentor and the student; however, there are several relevant guidelines, outline on the following page:
   • An average of 15 hours per week (1) should be devoted to the research residency. Ideally, the student will be a part of a research team. Time sheets are available from the PhD Program Administrator to assist in tracking these hours.
   • The range of experiences may include but are not limited to: conceptualization of a study, grant writing, review of literature, data collection, data management, data analysis, preparation of manuscripts, presentations, and laboratory experiences
   • It is highly desirable that the student participate in a variety of research endeavors throughout the residency. There is benefit to be gained from spending “time at task”.

2. Setting goals and objectives for the research residency:
   • It is important to have realistic and objective goals and outcomes to both insure that there are meaningful research training experiences and that research training experiences are documented in the student portfolio.
   • The student and mentor shall devise research training goals for full time year around research training experience as well as each semester the student is a research trainee. It is also recommended that the overall goals are reviewed each semester.
   • Measurable outcomes addressing each goal should be articulated and monitored for achievement. Outcomes that are salient may include: the development of protocols, publications, presentations, and objective evidence of the above-mentioned range of experiences or other experiences that are deemed appropriate.

3. It is required that each student include one semester of research training away from the primary mentor during the full-time year around residency during the three-year SON supported course of study and stipend. The decision as to who the student will work with is to rest among the student, primary research mentor and the prospective researcher (Matching students with faculty will be determined collaboratively by the student, primary research mentor, the prospective researcher, and the PhD Program Director):
   • The development of goals and objectives is similarly important for this research training experience.
should discuss with their adviser whether to apply one of their teaching residencies to the teaching practicum (NR.100.543) which is optional within the NECO.

Evaluation: Upon completion of each assigned course, graduate TA and the faculty of the graduate TA are expected to submit their evaluations to the Academic Program Administrator. Completed evaluations will be discussed at the PhD Curriculum Committee to monitor the quality of TA experience and also will be shared with relevant Program Directors to be considered for future TA assignments. TAs and the respective faculty member should be encouraged to include metrics in their course evaluation to assess the effectiveness of the TA.

PhD Student Scholarly Progression
PhD students are required to achieve various milestones (see below) in progressing through the program that culminate in the dissertation. These processes serve to assure quality of the scholarship and rigor of the scientific process.

- Annual Review (https://webapps.nursing.jhu.edu/secure/phd_progress/) with Advisor
- Annual Review with Dissertation Committee
- Comprehensive Examination (http://e-catalog.jhu.edu/nursing/doctoral-degrees/nursing-phd/Comprehensive_Exam_Application.docx)

Johns Hopkins University Mentoring Expectations

Annual Review with PhD Advisor
1. Conducted in the Spring semester annually as the student prepares to complete an academic year (generally late March – early May)
2. Documents to review:
   b. NIH Biosketch (https://grants.nih.gov/grants/forms/biosketch.htm)/CV
   c. Clinical research skills checklist (http://e-catalog.jhu.edu/nursing/doctoral-degrees/nursing-phd/Research_Residency_Goals.docx)
3. Complete online submission of progress (student (https://webapps.nursing.jhu.edu/secure/phd_progress/) and advisor
Annual Review with Dissertation Committee

1. Once the student has entered into candidacy, an annual meeting with the full dissertation committee is highly recommended.
2. A review of student progress – academically and scientifically – along with additional development opportunities should be discussed.

PhD Comprehensive Examination

The PhD Comprehensive Examination is intended to facilitate the judgment of the PhD Curriculum Committee communicating any information including his/her academic difficulties and may be asked to write a letter to the PhD Program Director for approval. A copy of the approval letter is also copied to the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs.

The candidate’s response should thoroughly address each aspect of each question as well as:

i. Reflect accurate, consistent, and appropriate application of concepts to the situation presented in the question.

ii. Show evidence of in-depth application and synthesis of the content of the courses.

iii. Reflect the appropriate use of references, e.g., statistical texts for statistical issues, peer-reviewed journal papers.

6. Results:

a. Students are informed of their results in writing within 30 days after completion of the examination. The letter is copied to the student’s adviser, the chair of the PhD Admissions, Progression and Graduation Committee, and the Registrar’s Office. If the student fails to pass any component of the Comprehensive Exam, the letter is also copied to the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs.

b. Further feedback on students’ performance may be obtained from their advisers.

c. A student who fails the examination may repeat it once. The student should contact his/her academic adviser to discuss his/her academic difficulties and may be asked to write a letter to the chair of the PhD Admissions, Progression and Graduation Committee communicating any information including his/her plan for improvement.
d. The repeat examination must be completed within two years of the original examination.
e. The appeal process for grades applies to this examination.

PhD Preliminary Oral Examination

PhD Preliminary Oral Exam Form (http://e-catalog.jhu.edu/nursing/doctoral-degrees/nursing-phd/Revised_Preliminary_and_Final_Oral_Exam_Form_2017.docx)

1. Student status: PhD students having successfully completed the written Comprehensive Examination must be registered for at least three credits consisting of two credits dissertation advisement plus one credit dissertation seminar in the fall and spring semesters they are progressing toward the degree (see above for summer semester registration requirements). Part-time students who have completed the Comprehensive Examination must register for two credits dissertation advisement plus one credit dissertation seminar each semester they are progressing toward the degree after completing half (11) the required elective credits. Before undergoing the Preliminary Examination, students must:
a. complete all required and elective coursework;
b. have all incompletes cleared from their record;
c. have completed the Johns Hopkins University Residency requirement of 2 consecutive semesters, fall and spring, full-time study; and
d. be registered the semester of the examination, this includes summer semester.

2. Preliminary Oral Examination Committee Composition: Five members, all with an earned Research Doctorate, all tenured or tenure eligible in Johns Hopkins University:1,2
a. Three SON Faculty members with primary appointment at the SON including the student’s adviser.3
b. One faculty member from outside the SON but within Johns Hopkins University with a rank of associate professor or higher.
c. One committee member from any department or outside of the University pending committee approval.4
d. Two (2) alternate committee members, who will fulfill the requirements above in the event of an absence.

Please note: A maximum of one committee member may join remotely, the student is responsible for scheduling with Multimedia Office.

3. Purpose of Preliminary Oral Examination: The purpose of a preliminary examination is to test the depth and breadth of the student’s knowledge and reasoning abilities. The scope of such an examination cannot, nor should it be, sharply defined. The examination committee can gain a feeling for the limits of the examination by a review of the candidate’s formal course record and by knowledge of the school, group, department, or committee requirements (e.g., whether specific minor as well as major subjects are to be included).

Preliminary Oral Examinations are closed to all but the candidate and examination committee members. (Students are encouraged to arrange for a “Dry Run” presentation for colleagues and faculty input prior to exam.)

4. Conduct of the Preliminary Oral Examination:
a. Chair Selection: The chair is the senior ranking faculty member outside the department of the adviser. If two members have the same ranks, the chair is the one who has been in that rank the longest.
b. Duties of the Chair
   i. Preside at the examination.
   ii. Determine the scope, character, and conduct of the examination before the questioning begins.
   iii. Determine time allotments to inside and outside members of the committee.
   iv. Report the results of the examination to the candidate.
   v. Report the results of the examination to the PhD Admissions, Progression and Graduation Committee immediately after the examination on the form provided for this purpose.
c. Duties of the Members:
   i. Notify the PhD Program Director and Doctoral Program Administrator of inability to appear at designated time.
   ii. Participate in the examination process.
d. Duties of the Alternate:
   i. Notify the PhD Program Director and Doctoral Program Administrator of inability to appear at designated time.
   ii. Participate in the examination process as a committee member if one of the serving members of the committee fails to appear on the date of the examination.
   iii. Alternate members not called to serve as committee members may attend the examination if they wish to do so, but may not ask questions or vote.
e. Dissertation Committee Optional Role: External Reader: An external reader is an individual with an earned research or clinical doctorate who offers additional content and/or methodological expertise but is not a regular member of the dissertation committee. Attendance at the dissertation oral examination is not required for the external reader. If in attendance, he/she may participate in the private portion of the exam at the discretion of the chair, but cannot vote on the outcome of the exam. In addition, the external reader may not be present during the voting.
f. Length of Examination: Examination process will start with a 20-minute presentation on the topic of the student’s proposed dissertation research. The chair will ask for questions from the committee. The student will respond until all members of the committee have completed their questions. The committee will vote by private ballot on its evaluation of the examination with majority ruling. (Total examination period is expected to be about 2 hours.)

5. Results of the Examination: Students who successfully pass the examination will become PhD Candidates. The examination may result in one of the following outcomes:
a. If the candidate receives an unconditional pass (a majority of favorable votes), the committee is to be considered discharged.
b. If the candidate receives a conditional pass, the removal of the condition is to be reported to the School of Nursing PhD Admissions, Progression and Graduation Committee by the chair in writing, after which the committee is considered discharged.
c. If the candidate fails, the examination committee, through the chair, is requested to recommend a course for future action:
   i. No re-examination.
   ii. Re-examination by the same committee.
   iii. Re-examination in written form and conducted by the same committee.
iv. Re-examination by a new committee. If the recommendation is for a new committee, at least one outside member of the original committee shall be appointed to the new committee.

The committee may recommend whatever action in its judgment seems desirable, taking into consideration the background of the student, his or her prior performance and future potential, and reactions to oral questioning. The School of Nursing PhD Admissions, Progression and Graduation Committee will be guided by these recommendations, and will assume responsibility for whatever actions are taken. Stipulations and/or Re-examination: If there is a recommendation for re-examination, the examination can be repeated once, but only once, and must be repeated within one calendar year. The committee may also make recommendations for the conduct of the proposed research that do not affect the outcome of the examination; the student’s adviser will help him/her incorporate such recommendations into the proposal.

1. Faculty who do not have an earned Research Doctorate (e.g., DNP, MD), are not tenure-eligible (e.g., Practice-Education Track), or are from outside the University, must have Curriculum Vitae (CV) submitted to School of Nursing PhD Admissions, Progression and Graduation Committee for approval.

2. Each committee may include only 1 member who is not on faculty at Johns Hopkins University. Faculty members at other institutions and adjunct faculty must be reviewed and approved by the School of Nursing PhD Admissions, Progression and Graduation Committee prior to participation in the Oral Examination. Occasionally, one adjunct or one scientist faculty member, but not both, may serve on the Committee. Neither may serve as the Chair.

3. SON faculty members are defined as those having primary appointment in the Johns Hopkins School of Nursing.

4. Each committee may include only 1 member who is not on faculty at Johns Hopkins University. Faculty members at other institutions and adjunct faculty must be reviewed and approved by the School of Nursing PhD Admissions, Progression and Graduation Committee prior to participation in the Oral Examination. Occasionally, one adjunct or one scientist faculty member, but not both, may serve on the Committee. Neither may serve as the Chair.

**PhD Program Dissertation and Final Oral Examination**

**PhD Program Dissertation and Final Oral Examination Form**
(http://e-catalog.jhu.edu/nursing/doctoral-degrees/nursing-phd/Revised_Preliminary_and_Final_Oral_Exam_Form_2017.docx)

1. **Student status:** PhD candidates in the School of Nursing must be registered for at least 3 credits per semester (not including summer, unless defending during the summer semester) after passing the preliminary oral examination until taking the final oral examination. Specifically, students are to take no less than NR.100.890 Dissertation Seminar, 1 credit, and NR.100.899 Dissertation Research, 2 credits, both fall and spring semester unless they are on an approved leave of absence. The student must be registered the semester prior to the examination. All students must complete all requirements for the PhD Degree within seven (7) years of matriculation (excluding any Leaves of Absence).

**Nota Bene:** If students are the holders of a research training grant (such as NRSA), they must also comply with the academic requirements of that award.

2. **Dissertation and Final Oral Examination Committee Composition:** Five members, all with an earned Research Doctorate, all tenured or tenure eligible in Johns Hopkins University.1,2
   a. Three (3) SON Faculty members (this includes the adviser).
   b. One (1) faculty member from another JHU PhD granting school/department/program with the rank of associate or full professor. One committee member from any department or outside of the University pending committee.
   c. One (1) faculty member from inside or outside the SON or JHU pending Committee approval.
   d. Two (2) alternate committee members, who will fulfill the requirements above in the event of an absence.

3. **Student Responsibilities:**
   a. Consult with the adviser regarding the composition of the Dissertation Committee.
   b. Procure agreement of the faculty members to serve on the Examination Committee and arrange a time suitable to all members (including alternates) at least 60 days before exam.
   c. Initiate Oral Exam for the PhD Degree form to obtain approval of Dissertation Committee composition and members from the PhD Admissions, Progression, and Graduation Committee at least 60 days in advance of the exam. The Oral Exam for the PhD Degree form should be accompanied by CVs of proposed dissertation committee members meeting any of the following criteria: (a) holds a non-Research Doctorate, (b) not tenured or tenure-eligible at Johns Hopkins University, or (c) does not have a primary faculty appointment at Johns Hopkins University. Form and accompanying CV(s) should be submitted to the PhD Admissions, Progression, and Graduation Committee for approval at least 60 days in advance of the scheduled exam.
   d. Obtains JHMIIRB approval or Animal Research Committee approval (with adviser as PI of record) before initiating dissertation research.
   e. Executes research under the supervision of dissertation adviser.
   f. Keeps adviser informed of progress while conducting research, requesting meetings with adviser and Dissertation Committee members as appropriate.
   g. Writes the dissertation according to the “SON Guidelines for Writing the PhD Dissertation.”
   h. After obtaining adviser’s approval, initiates scheduling for Final Oral Examination.
   i. Submit dissertation to Dissertation Committee at least 3 weeks before anticipated Final Oral Examination.
   k. Prepares a manuscript to include at least some of the results of the dissertation to be submitted to an appropriate journal before graduation.

4. **Purpose of Dissertation and Final Oral Examination:** While the purpose of the preliminary oral examination is to test the depth and breadth of the student’s knowledge and reasoning abilities in areas germane to the dissertation, the major focus of the final oral examination is the dissertation. Questions should be relevant to or based on the dissertation research including implications of the results.
5. Conduct of the Dissertation and Final Oral Examination
   a. Chair Selection: The Examination Committee chair will be the most senior ranking member of the committee within the University. If two members have the same ranks, the chair is the one who has been in that rank the longest. However, if the most senior member is also the student’s adviser, the second most senior-ranked member will be the Examination Committee chair.
   b. Duties of the Chair:
      i. Preside at the examination.
      ii. Determine the scope, character, and conduct of the examination before the questioning begins in concert with the Dissertation Chair (adviser).
      iii. Determine time allotments to members of the committee.
      iv. The chair is responsible for enforcing time limits and not exceeding 2 hours in total.
      v. The student adviser reports the results of the examination to the PhD Program Director and the Executive Vice Dean immediately after the examination on the form provided for this purpose.
   c. Duties of the Members:
      i. Notify the PhD Program Director and Doctoral Program Administrator of inability to appear at designated time.
      ii. Participate in the examination process.
   d. Duties of the Alternate:
      i. Notify the PhD Program Director and Doctoral Program Administrator of inability to appear at designated time.
      ii. Participate in the examination process as a committee member if one of the serving members of the committee fails to appear on the date of the examination.
      iii. Alternate members not called to serve as committee members may attend the examination if they wish to do so, but may not ask questions or vote.

Dissertation Committee Optional Role — External Reader: An external reader is an individual with an earned research or clinical doctorate who offers additional content and/or methodological expertise but is not a regular member of the dissertation committee. Attendance at the dissertation oral examination is not required for the external reader. If in attendance, he/she may participate in the private portion of the exam at the discretion of the chair but cannot vote on the outcome of the exam. The external reader is not present during the voting.

Length of Examination: The examination process will begin with a 30-minute public presentation followed by 10 minutes of questions from the audience. The committee then meets in private with the candidate for questions. The chair will ask for questions from the committee. The student will respond until all members of the committee have completed their questions. The committee will vote by private ballot on its evaluation of the examination with majority ruling (total time not to exceed 2 hours).

6. Results of the Examination: The examination may result in one of the following outcomes:
   a. If the candidate receives an unconditional pass (a majority of favorable votes), the committee is to be considered discharged.
   b. If the candidate receives a conditional pass, the exact terms of the condition are to be reported on the examination form, i.e., what course(s), if any, need to be taken, in what time frame the condition(s) should be met, and any other pertinent information that will point out clearly to both the student and the faculty how to satisfy the condition(s). As soon as all conditions have been met, the chair of the Examination Committee must report the removal of the condition in writing to the Doctor of Philosophy Board. The committee is then discharged. The removal of the condition is to be reported to the PhD Program Director and the Executive Vice Dean by the Dissertation Committee chair via the written “Reader’s Report,” after which the committee is considered discharged.
   c. If the candidate fails, the Examination Committee, through the chair, is requested to recommend a course for future action:
      i. No re-examination.
      ii. Re-examination by the same committee.
      iii. Re-examination in written form and conducted by the same committee.
      iv. Re-examination by a new committee. If the recommendation is for a new committee, at least one outside member of the original committee shall be appointed to the new committee.
   d. The two committee members designated by the PhD Admissions, Progression and Graduation Committee as Doctor of Philosophy Board Readers will be responsible for approving the final Readers’ Report after the student has finished all revisions. The report shall be submitted to the School of Nursing Registrar’s Office with a copy to the PhD Program Director and the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs.

1 Faculty who do not have an earned Research Doctorate (e.g., DNP, MD), are not tenure-eligible (e.g., Practice-Education Track), or are from outside the University, must have Curriculum Vitae (CV) submitted to School of Nursing PhD Admissions, Progression and Graduation Committee for approval.
2 Each committee may include only 1 member who is not on faculty at Johns Hopkins University. Faculty members at other institutions and adjunct faculty must be reviewed and approved by the School of Nursing PhD Admissions, Progression and Graduation Committee prior to participation in the Oral Examination. Occasionally, one adjunct or one scientist faculty member, but not both, may serve on the Committee. Neither may serve as the Chair.

Dissertation Guidelines for Manuscript Format

1. Chapter 1
   - Integrated knowledge of field, identification of gaps in the selected science and provision of a theoretical foundation for the research
2. Chapter 5
   - Concise summary tying work together
   - Discussion of the contribution this research makes to the related field of science (new knowledge)
   - Complete list of references
3. Appendices (optional):
   - Analysis not in manuscripts (tables, and/or narrative)
   - Instruments
   - Methods details not in manuscript
**Guidelines**

1. A minimum of three manuscripts ready for submission to a peer reviewed journal
2. Student must be first author
3. Subject must be student’s original research
4. Subject to approval of Dissertation Committee
5. Can be a combination of manuscript types, (at least one must be data-based, two data-based manuscripts are encouraged if the data allows for this) such as:
   a. Literature review article
   b. Methodological
   c. Concept analysis and/or theory application
   d. Instrument development
   e. Results

   May also be results from three separate but related experiments

6. Timing: Articles must be produced while the student is matriculated in the SON PhD Program

**Example of Reference List Format**


International Committee on Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE) (2010) *Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts*  

Submitted to Biomedical Journals, www.icmje.org/urm_main.html  


**Note:** All dissertations are required to be submitted in electronic format. For specific requirements and additional information on the electronic theses or dissertation (ETD) submission process, please visit the Johns Hopkins Sheridan Library website at www.library.jhu.edu/library-services/electronic-thesesdissertations/ (http://www.library.jhu.edu/library-services/electronic-thesesdissertations/).

To comply with copyright law, it is important that you do not include journal proofs or printed articles unless you receive permission from the journal in which your work has been published. You should include the word processing format (i.e., MSWord) in the dissertation. Be sure to include the full citation for the manuscript, indicating it has been published, has been accepted for publication, or under review as appropriate.

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**Program Requirements**

**Curriculum**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Core Courses 1</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>NR.110.800</td>
<td>Philosophical Perspectives in Health</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NR.110.814</td>
<td>Scientific Perspectives in Nursing</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NR.110.815</td>
<td>Qualitative Research Designs and Methods</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>NR.110.809</td>
<td>Quantitative Research Design and Methods</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NR.110.816</td>
<td>Mixed Methods Research Designs</td>
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<tr>
<td>NR.110.827</td>
<td>Grant Writing</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NR.110.828</td>
<td>Measurement in Health Care Research</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NR.110.891</td>
<td>Responsibilities &amp; Activities of the Nurse Scientist</td>
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**Statistics Courses**

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<tr>
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<td>Statistical Methods in Public Health I</td>
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<tr>
<td>PH.140.622</td>
<td>Statistical Methods in Public Health II</td>
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**Elective Courses 2**

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<td>NR.110.810</td>
<td>Theory &amp; Concepts of Health Behavior and Health Promotion</td>
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<tr>
<td>NR.110.811</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>NR.110.818</td>
<td>Special Topics in Violence Research</td>
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<td>NR.110.824</td>
<td>Stress and Stress Response</td>
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<td>NR.110.830</td>
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<td>NR.110.832</td>
<td>Writing for Publication</td>
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<tr>
<td>NR.110.835</td>
<td>Current Issues and Trends in Cardiovascular Health Promotion Research</td>
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<td>NR.110.836</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>NR.110.537</td>
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<tr>
<td>PH.140.624</td>
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**Dissertation (3 credits per semester until completion of dissertation)**

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<tr>
<td>NR.110.899</td>
<td>Dissertation</td>
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**Total Credits** 57

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1 PhD students will be required to repeat a course if they earn a grade below a B (83%) for core nursing courses, and a grade below a C (73%) in non-nursing core courses. PhD students can repeat more than one course one time.

2 Electives can be taken through any division of Johns Hopkins University including the School of Public Health, School of Medicine, School of Engineering, and all of the Social Science Departments. Some SON elective courses are offered every other year. Please check with the Academic Program Coordinator regarding course offerings. Independent study credits do not count toward the 22 credits of electives required. Students may apply up to 6 credits of a 500 level course offering (in or outside the SON) toward their doctoral program requirements. The PhD Curriculum Committee has assigned 9 credits for the completion of the NIH Summer Genetics Institute, which may be applied to the PhD Program elective requirement.

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**Sample Program of Study**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tr>
<td>NR.110.800</td>
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### Credits

**First Semester**

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<tbody>
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<td>Quantitative Research Design and Methods</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PH.140.621</td>
<td>Statistical Methods in Public Health I</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PH.140.622</td>
<td>Statistical Methods in Public Health II</td>
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**Second Semester**

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<tr>
<td>NR.110.814</td>
<td>Scientific Perspectives in Nursing</td>
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<tr>
<td>NR.110.815</td>
<td>Qualitative Research Designs and Methods</td>
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<td>NR.110.816</td>
<td>Mixed Methods Research Designs</td>
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<td>NR.110.828</td>
<td>Measurement in Health Care Research</td>
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**Third Semester**

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<td>NR.110.827</td>
<td>Grant Writing</td>
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**Fourth Semester**

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<td>Dissertation Seminar</td>
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<td>NR.110.899</td>
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**Fifth Semester**

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<td>NR.110.899</td>
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<td>NR.110.891</td>
<td>Responsibilities &amp; Activities of the Nurse Scientist</td>
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**Sixth Semester**

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<td>NR.110.899</td>
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**Total Credits**

1 PhD students will be required to repeat a course if they earn a grade below a B (83%) for core nursing courses, and a grade below a C (73%) in non-nursing core courses. PhD students can repeat more than one course one time.

### Learning Outcomes

Upon graduation from the PhD program, students will:

- Possess knowledge and skills in theoretical, methodological, and analytic approaches that will enable them to conduct research to discover and apply knowledge in nursing science, health, and health care.
- Assume a leadership role in nursing and in the broader arena of health care both nationally and internationally.