

NURSING

Dual-Titles

Dual-Title Ph.D. in Nursing and Bioethics

Requirements listed here are in addition to requirements listed in GCAC-208 Dual-Title Graduate Degree Programs (<https://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-200/gcac-208-dual-titles/>).

Nursing Ph.D. students may pursue additional training in bioethics through the dual-title Ph.D. program in Bioethics. Students must apply and be admitted to the graduate program in Nursing and the Graduate School before they can apply for admission to the dual-title degree program. Admission to the dual-title is determined upon review of all application materials (forwarded from the College of Nursing) by the admissions committee in Bioethics. Refer to the Admissions Requirements section of the Bioethics Bulletin page. (<https://bulletins.psu.edu/graduate/programs/majors/bioethics/>) Students must apply and be admitted to the dual-title degree program in Bioethics prior to taking the qualifying exam.

To qualify for the dual-title degree, students must satisfy the requirements of the Nursing Ph.D. program. In addition, they must satisfy the requirements described below, as established by the Bioethics program committee. Refer to the Degree Requirements section of the Bioethics Bulletin page. (<https://bulletins.psu.edu/graduate/programs/majors/bioethics/>) Within this framework, final course selection is determined by the student, their Nursing adviser, and their Bioethics program adviser.

The dual-title Ph.D. in Nursing and Bioethics requires a minimum of 1 credit of course work beyond the requirements for the Ph.D. in Nursing (17 credits of the 18 Bioethics credits are part of the current degree requirements in Nursing), as follows:

Code	Title	Credits
Required Courses ¹		
BIOET 501	Perspectives and Methods in Bioethics	3
BIOET 502	Perspectives in Macro-Bioethics	3
BIOET 590	Bioethics Colloquium	1
At least 3 additional BIOET credits at the 500 level.		3
Electives		
8 additional credits from a list of approved electives at the 400 or 500 level, at least two of these courses must be at the 500 level. ²		8
Total Credits		18

¹ These credits can be applied to the Courses for Individual Specialty requirement for the Nursing Ph.D.

² Many of the available electives that students may wish to take are 3-credit courses, so 9 additional credits may be a more typical number for most students. The list of elective courses will be maintained by the Director of the Bioethics Graduate Program in consultation with the Bioethics Program Committee. The Nursing Science core constitutes 7 of these elective credits.

Qualifying Examination

Students must meet the Ph.D. qualifying examination requirements specified by Nursing; a single qualifying examination will be administered that includes assessment of both Nursing and Bioethics. At least one member of the qualifying examination committee must have a Graduate Faculty appointment in Bioethics. Because students must first be admitted to a graduate major program of study before they may apply to and be considered for admission into a dual-title graduate degree program, dual-title graduate degree students may require an additional semester to fulfill requirements for both areas of study and, therefore, the qualifying examination may be delayed one semester beyond the normal period allowable.

Comprehensive Examination

In addition to the general Graduate Council requirements for Ph.D. committees (<http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-600/phd-dissertation-committee-formation/>), the Ph.D. committee of a Nursing and Bioethics dual-title Ph.D. student must include at least one member of the Bioethics Graduate Faculty. Graduate faculty members who hold appointments in both programs may serve in a combined role. If the chair of the committee representing Nursing is not also a member of the Graduate Faculty in Bioethics, the member of the committee representing Bioethics must be appointed as co-chair. The faculty member (or members) affiliated with the Bioethics Program will be responsible for administering a portion of the comprehensive exam that will require the student to demonstrate an understanding of various theoretical and methodological approaches to bioethics, and an ability to apply them to issues and problems (including, where appropriate, practical problems) in their nursing.

Dissertation and Final Oral Examination (the Dissertation Defense)

Upon completion of the doctoral dissertation, the candidate must pass a final oral examination (the dissertation defense) to earn the Ph.D. degree. Students enrolled in the dual-title program are required to write and orally defend a dissertation on a topic that is approved in advance by their Ph.D. committee and reflects their original research and expertise in Nursing and Bioethics. The dissertation must be accepted by the Ph.D. committee, the head of the graduate program, and the Graduate School.

Dual-Title Ph.D. in Nursing and Clinical and Translational Sciences

Requirements listed here are in addition to requirements listed in GCAC-208 Dual-Title Graduate Degree Programs (<https://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-200/gcac-208-dual-titles/>).

Nursing Ph.D. students may pursue additional training in CTS through the dual-title Ph.D. program in CTS. Students must apply and be admitted to the graduate program in Nursing and the Graduate School before they can apply for admission to the dual-title degree program. Admission to the dual-title is determined upon review of all application materials (forwarded from the College of Nursing) by the admissions committee in CTS. Refer to the Admission Requirements section of the Clinical and Translational Sciences Bulletin page. (<https://bulletins.psu.edu/graduate/programs/majors/clinical-translational-sciences/>) Students must apply and be admitted to the dual-title degree program in CTS prior to taking the qualifying exam.

To qualify for the dual-title degree, students must satisfy the requirements of the Nursing Ph.D. program. In addition, they must satisfy the requirements described below, as established by the CTS program committee. Refer to the Degree Requirements section of the Clinical and Translational Sciences Bulletin page. (<https://bulletins.psu.edu/>)

graduate/programs/majors/clinical-translational-sciences/) Within this framework, final course selection is determined by the student, their Nursing adviser, and their CTS program adviser.

The CTS dual-title requires 26 credits:

Code	Title	Credits
Required Courses		
CTS 590	Colloquium	2
Select 6 credits from the following:		6
CTS 595A	Clinical Science Internship	
CTS 595B	Translational Science Internship	
BMS 571	Graduate Clinical Rotation	
Electives		
18 credits from a list of approved electives in each of the following areas (at least half of which must be at the 500 or 800 level):		
Statistics		3
Epidemiology		3
Bioinformatics		3
Experimental Design and Interpretation		3
Regulatory Environment		3
Scientific Communication		3
Total Credits		26

Of the 18 elective credits required, 12 credits can be double-counted from the required courses for the Ph.D. in Nursing: STAT 500/PHS 520 meets the 3-credit requirement for Statistics, and an additional 9 credits of Individual Specialization Coursework required for Nursing can be selected from the list of CTS approved electives to meet the 3-credit requirements in Epidemiology, Bioinformatics, and The Regulatory Environment. Therefore, dual-title Ph.D. students in Nursing and CTS may require a minimum of 14 credits of additional course work, consisting of approved electives in Experimental Design and Interpretation (3 cr.) and Scientific Communication (3 cr.), 2 credits of CTS 590; and 6 credits of CTS 595A, CTS 595B, or BMS 571.

Qualifying Examination

Students must meet the Ph.D. qualifying examination requirements specified by Nursing; a single qualifying examination will be administered that includes assessment of both Nursing and CTS. At least one member of the qualifying examination committee must have a Graduate Faculty appointment in CTS. Because students must first be admitted to a graduate major program of study before they may apply to and be considered for admission into a dual-title graduate degree program, dual-title graduate degree students may require an additional semester to fulfill requirements for both areas of study and, therefore, the qualifying examination may be delayed one semester beyond the normal period allowable.

Comprehensive Examination

In addition to the general Graduate Council requirements for Ph.D. committees (<http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-600/phd-dissertation-committee-formation/>), the Ph.D. committee of a Nursing and CTS dual-title Ph.D. student must include at least one member of the CTS Graduate Faculty. Graduate Faculty members who hold appointments in both programs may serve in a combined role. If the chair of the committee representing Nursing is not also a member of the Graduate Faculty in CTS, the member of the committee representing CTS must be appointed as co-chair. The faculty member (or members) affiliated with the CTS Program will be responsible

for administering a portion of the comprehensive exam that will require the student to demonstrate an understanding of various theoretical and methodological approaches to CTS, and an ability to apply them to issues and problems (including, where appropriate, practical problems) in their nursing.

Dissertation and Final Oral Examination (the Dissertation Defense)

Upon completion of the doctoral dissertation, the candidate must pass a final oral examination (the dissertation defense) to earn the Ph.D. degree. Students enrolled in the dual-title program are required to write and orally defend a dissertation on a topic that is approved in advance by their Ph.D. committee and reflects their dissertation research and expertise in Nursing and CTS. The dissertation must be accepted by the Ph.D. committee, the head of the graduate program, and the Graduate School.