

## About the PhD Program

### Program objectives

Upon completion of the PhD program, graduates should be able to:

- Analyze, test, refine and expand the theoretical basis of nursing
- From multiple modes of inquiry, select the most appropriate to conduct research that generates knowledge and advances nursing as a discipline
- Provide leadership as nurse scientists in transforming health and healthcare
- Collaborate with members of other disciplines in theory development, health-related research, and other scholarly activities
- Maintain professional standards, ethical principles and scientific integrity in scholarly activities.
- Communicate the outcomes and implications of scholarly activities to professional and general audiences through multiple modes of dissemination

The over-arching philosophy of our program is individualized education. Each student's program of study is designed to foster his or her unique interests and career goals. The Faculty value community, quality, innovation, and accessibility. We have small classes and committed faculty who are engaged in nursing research and scholarly writing. Our students become part of an exciting community of scholars, devoted to extending and expanding nursing knowledge. Many students have presented formal papers and posters at meetings, have published papers in scholarly journals and contributed chapters to faculty edited books.

### Admission Requirements

1. Follow application instructions found on the program admissions tab.
  2. Hold a master's degree in nursing from a program accredited by the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission or Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education. Some outstanding applicants who are prepared at the bachelor's level in nursing may be considered. In such cases, graduate level courses in nursing theory, clinical specialties, and/or research will be integrated into the formal program of doctoral degree requirements.
  3. Have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.3 on a 4.0 scale for previous college work.
  4. Have successfully completed a basic statistics course and graduate nursing theory and research courses prior to enrollment in the nursing doctoral courses.
  5. Have a personal interview with the College of Nursing PhD program Admissions Committee.
1. Interviews can be conducted by telephone in some cases.



For more information, visit [nursing.utk.edu](https://nursing.utk.edu).

For inquiries and questions, contact [congrad@utk.edu](mailto:congrad@utk.edu).