# Comparison of MSN Specializations

## School of Nursing Mission Statement
Grantham University School of Nursing Faculty is committed to transforming nursing through the provision of an innovative advanced nursing education that removes barriers such as accessibility, deployment, and discrimination. The School of Nursing provides an asynchronous online learning community for students from diverse cultures to expand the evidence-based practice of professional nursing through transformational leadership leading to improved health outcomes in a global society.

## MSN Program Description:
The Master of Science in Nursing Program prepares the registered professional nurse with additional knowledge and expertise that builds on the foundation of baccalaureate education and practice. The Master of Science Program is evidence-based and developed according to best practices from the following professional standards: National League for Nursing (NLN) Competencies for graduate nursing education; Quality and Safety in Education for Nurses (QSEN) Competencies; American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) Essentials of Graduate Nursing Education. The didactic portion of the course contains both core courses that are taken by all students in the program and track-specific courses that reflect the area of specialization. Practice experiences in the curriculum utilize both direct human interface and indirect learning situations which allow the student to apply concepts in the course to clinical scenarios in a simulated environment. All students are required to complete a capstone project that reflects the specialization track.

## MSN Program Outcomes
- Combine theory and research-based knowledge from nursing and the sciences as they relate to the interdisciplinary team when designing, coordinating and evaluating quality patient care.
- Integrate nursing and related sciences into the delivery of advanced nursing care to diverse populations.
- Assess high-level communication skills when involved with patients and professionals both within and outside the healthcare field.
- Incorporate concepts of advanced practice nursing when making nursing diagnoses and critical thinking decisions about educational and therapeutic interventions.
- Formulate career management strategies, including self-advocacy, to enhance professional growth.
- Design nursing care for a clinical or community based population based on cultural diversity, biophysical, psychosocial and organizational needs.

### Nursing Education Specialty Track
This specialization prepares the professional registered nurse to understand emerging trends and roles in nursing education in both academic and healthcare environments. Tenure, promotion, governance, academic freedom and ethical concerns will be investigated. All MSN students will be required to complete a major project paper at the conclusion of their final specialization courses.

### Nursing Management and Organizational Leadership Specialty Track
This specialization prepares the professional registered nurse to demonstrate the knowledge and skills acquired through a variety of experiences as a nurse leader/administrator in a healthcare environment. This specialization emphasizes emerging trends in healthcare and the world health systems, government and political influence on the provision of healthcare and developmental and accrediting trends within healthcare institutions. All MSN students will be required to complete a major project paper at the conclusion of their final specialization courses.

### Nursing Informatics Specialty Track
This specialization prepares the professional registered nurse to utilize technology and electronic database systems in the management of data. This specialization focuses on information systems, the management, analysis, and utilization of data to improve patient outcomes, the maintenance of security of data and compliance with all regulatory entities. All MSN students will be required to complete a major project paper at the conclusion of their final specialization courses.

### Nursing Case Management Specialty Track
This specialization prepares the professional registered nurse to deliver personalized services to patients. Students learn how to improve patient care outcomes through patient referrals, and evaluation of the healthcare system and its ability to meet patient needs. Students gain knowledge and clinical expertise in case management and working in health maintenance organizations. All MSN students will be required to complete a major project paper at the conclusion of their final specialization courses.
### MSN Nursing Education Career Options

**MSN Careers:**
- Nurse Faculty
- Nurse Educator
- Clinical Instructor
- Patient Educator
- Staff Development Educator
- Continuing Education Provider
- Public Health Education

**Settings:**
- Nursing Schools of Multiple Settings
- Hospitals
- Community health agencies
- Home care agencies
- Long-term care facilities

**Associations:**
- National League for Nursing
  61 Broadway, 33rd Floor
  New York, NY 10006
  (800) 669-1656
  www.nln.org
- American Association of Colleges of Nursing
  One Dupont Circle, #530
  Washington, DC 20036
  (202) 463-6930
  www.aacn.nche.edu
- American Society for Training and Development
  1640 King Street, Box 1443
  Alexandria, VA 22313
  (703) 683-8100
  www.astd.org
- National Nursing Staff Development Organization
  7794 Grow Drive
  Pensacola, FL 32534
  (800) 489-1995
  www.nnsdo.org

### MSN Leadership Career Options

**MSN Careers:**
- Nursing Faculty
- Nurse Manager
- Clinical Coordinator
- Nursing Director
- Nursing Administrator
- Community Outreach Administrator
- Risk Manager
- Nursing Home Administrator

**Settings:**
- Hospitals
- Community health agencies
- Home care agencies
- Long-term care facilities

**Associations:**
- National League for Nursing
  61 Broadway, 33rd Floor
  New York, NY 10006
  (800) 669-1656
  www.nln.org
- American Organization of Nurse Executives
  155 N. Wacker Drive. Suite 400
  Chicago, IL 60606
  Phone: 312-422-2800
  Fax: 312-422-4503
  Email: aone@aha.org

### MSN Nursing Informatics Career Options

**MSN Careers:**
- Nursing Informatics Educator
- Informatics Specialist
- Informatics Technology Design and Development
- Clinical Information Systems Manager
- Clinical Data Analyst
- Technology Researcher for Clinical Informatics
- EHR/EMR Clinical Development and Education Coordinator
- Informatics Administration

**Settings:**
- Online using distance learning technology
- Colleges and universities
- Community colleges
- Hospital-based schools of nursing
- Technical colleges
- Hospitals
- Community health agencies
- Information Management Healthcare Organizations
- Government Healthcare Organizations
- Military Healthcare Organizations
- Community Healthcare Organizations

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- National League for Nursing
  61 Broadway, 33rd Floor
  New York, NY 10006
  (800) 669-1656
  www.nln.org
- Case Management Society of America (CMSA)
  6301 Ranch Drive
  Little Rock, AR 72223
  Phone: 800-216-2672
  www.cmsa@cmsa.org

### MSN Nursing Case Management Career Options

**MSN Careers:**
- Home Healthcare
- Third Party Payer Organizations
- Social Services Administration
- Healthcare Administration
- Long Term Care In-patient and Outpatient Services
- Rehabilitation Services
- CMS Services (Medicare/Medicaid Services)

**Settings:**
- Government agencies
- Community health agencies
- Home care agencies
- Long-term care facilities

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### MSN Case Arrangement

**8 week terms**
- Asynchronous Online Curriculum
- Online Practice Experience (PE)

**Support:**
- Faculty
- Student Advisors
- Teaching and Learning Center (TLC)
- Free Library Resource: MyEBSCOhost
- Learning Center Resources for Students
- 24 hour Help Desk for technical support

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### Practicum Requirements

**Practice Experience (PE):**
- 225 hours
- 6 Courses: 4 Core Courses
  2 Courses specific to specialty track

### Program Completion

- Minimum completion time (two courses/term) = 18 months
- Maximum (one course is considered full-time) = 24 months

Time to completion may vary by student, depending on individual progress.

RN to MSN option available: 25 credit hours of bachelor’s program must be completed with a 3.0 GPA or better.

No BSN conferred. Student chooses one of the MSN specialty tracks for completion of the master’s degree.