

# Graduate Studies Catalog 2008/2009

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Refer to the CSM Undergraduate Academic Catalog for further information regarding college policies.

# 2008/2009 Academic Calendar

# FALL SEMESTER:

August 2008:	
Wed. 13 – Fri. 15	Faculty In-service
Wed. 20	Semester Begins
Sat. 23	MASTER in LEADERSHIP CLASSES BEGIN
Mon. 25	<i>Opening Convocation: Dedication of the 2008-09 Academic Year – 1:00 p.m.</i>
Wed. 27	Last Day to Drop/Add/Late Registration for Day/Evening
September 2008:	
Mon. 1	LABOR DAY HOLIDAY, COLLEGE CLOSED
Sat. 6	MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING CLASSES BEGIN
Mon. 8	Faculty Committee Meetings, 12:45 p.m.
Mon. 15	Academic Division Meetings, 12:45 p.m.
Mon. 22	Faculty Assembly, Meeting Room, 12:45 p.m.
Mon. 29	Faculty Forum (IF NEEDED), Meeting Room 12:45 p.m.
October 2008:	
Fri. 3 – Sun. 5	CSM Celebration Days
Mon. 6	Faculty Committee Meetings, 12:45 p.m.
Mon. 13 – Tue. 14	FALL BREAK - NO CLASSES
Mon. 20	Academic Division Meetings, 12:45 p.m.
Mon. 27	Faculty Assembly, Meeting Room, 12:45 p.m.
Mon. 27 – Fri. Nov. 7	Focused Registration for Spring 2009
November 2008:	
Mon. 3	Faculty Committee Meetings, 12:45 p.m.
Tues, 4	Dissertation submitted to chair for December graduates
Mon. 10	Academic Division Meetings, 12:45 p.m.
Fri. 14	5:00 p.m. – Last Day to Withdraw
Mon. 17	Thanksgiving Luncheon
Mon. 24	Faculty Assembly, Meeting Room, 12:45 p.m.
Tues. 25	Oral defense for December graduates
Wed. 26 – Sun. 30	THANKSGIVING VACATION FOR STUDENTS
Thu. 27 – Fri. 28	THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY, COLLEGE CLOSED
Sat. 29	Thanksgiving Holiday - NO CLASSES
December 2008:	
Mon. 1	CLASSES RESUME
Mon. 1	Faculty Committee Meetings, 12:45 p.m.
Mon. 8	Academic Division Meetings, 12:45 p.m.
Mon. 15	Faculty Forum (IF NEEDED), Meeting Room 12:45 p.m.
Sat. 20	Winter Graduation – 7:00 p.m.
Mon. 22	Graduate Grades Due by 12:00 p.m.
Mon. 22	CHRISTMAS VACATION FOR STUDENTS BEGINS
Tue. 23	Day/Evening Grades Due in IQ Web by 5:00 p.m.
Wed. 24 – Wed. 31	GIFT HOLIDAYS, COLLEGE CLOSED
Sat. 27 – Sun. 28	New Year's Holiday - NO CLASSES
Sat. 21 – Sun. 20	New Teal STIDINGLY - NO CLASSES

# **SPRING SEMESTER:**

# January 2009: Thu. 1

Thu. 1 NEW YEAR'S HOLIDAY, COLLEGE CLOSED

Thu. 1 Fri. 2 Wed. 7 & Thu. 8	New Year's Holiday - NO CLASSES College Offices Open Faculty In corrigo and Mactings
Mon. 12	Faculty In-service and Meetings DAY and EVENING CLASSES BEGIN
Fri. 16	Last Day for Late Day/Evening Registration Drop/Add
Mon. 19	Faculty Committee Meetings, 12:45 p.m.
Mon. 26	Faculty Forum (IF NEEDED), Meeting Room 12:45 p.m.
February 2009:	
Mon. 2	Faculty Committee Meetings, 12:45 p.m.
Mon. 9 Mon. 16	Academic Division Meetings, 12:45 p.m. Faculty Assembly, Meeting Room, 12:45 p.m.
Mon. 23	Faculty Forum (IF NEEDED), Meeting Room 12:45 p.m.
March 2009:	
Mon. 2	Faculty Committee Meetings, 12:45 p.m.
Mon. 9 – Fri. 13 Mon. 16	SPRING BREAK Academic Division Meetings, 12:45 p.m.
Mon. 23	Faculty Assembly, Meeting Room, 12:45 p.m.
Mon. 23 – Fri. Apr. 3	Focused Registration for Summer and Fall 2008
Fri. 27	Dissertation submitted to chair for May graduates
Mon. 30	Faculty Forum (IF NEEDED), Meeting Room 12:45 p.m.
<u>April 2009:</u>	
Fri. 3	5:00 p.m. Last Day to Withdraw
Mon. 6	Faculty Committee Meetings, 12:45 p.m.
Thu. 10 – Mon. 13 Fri. 10	Easter Break - NO CLASSES GOOD FRIDAY, COLLEGE CLOSED
Sat. 11	Easter Holiday -NO CLASSES
Mon. 13	Easter Monday - NO CLASSES
Fri. 17	Oral defense for May graduates
Mon. 20	Academic Division Meetings, 12:45 p.m.
Mon. 27	Faculty Appreciation Luncheon, Meeting Room 12:00 pm
<u>May 2009:</u>	
Mon. 11	Faculty Assembly, Meeting Room, 12:45 p.m.
Mon. 11 – Thu. 14	Final Exam Week
Fri. 15 Sat. 16	Graduate Grades Due by 12:00 p.m. BACCALAUREATE, Our Lady of Mercy Chapel, 5:00 p.m.
Sat. 10	(times subject to change)
	HONORS CONVOCATION, Our Lady of Mercy Chapel, 7:00 p.m.
	(times subject to change)
Sun. 17	GRADUATION, (location TBD), 10:30 a.m.
Mon 19	(times subject to change) Faculty Forum (IF NEEDED), Meeting Room 12:45 p.m.
Mon. 18 Wed. 20	Day/Evening Grades Due in IQ Web by 5:00 p.m.
	Day/Evening Grades Due in IQ web by 5.00 p.m.
SUMMER SESSIONS:	
May 2009:	
Mon. 18	Faculty Meetings – 11:30 a.m.
Sat. 23	Memorial Day Holiday - NO CLASSES
Mon. 25	MEMORIAL DAY HOLIDAY, COLLEGE CLOSED
<u>June, 2009:</u>	

July, 2009:	
Wed. 1	Dissertation submitted to chair for July graduates
Fri. 3	INDEPENDENCE DAY HOLIDAY, COLLEGE CLOSED
Fri. 10	Last day to withdraw "W" from Six-Week session
Thurs. 23	Oral defense for July graduates
Fri. 24	Six-Week Summer Session Ends
Fri. 31	SIX-WEEK SESSIONS Grades Due in IQ Web by 5:00 p.m.

# The College

#### Mission

Committed to the enduring concerns of the Sisters of Mercy, College of Saint Mary is a Catholic university dedicated to the education of women in an environment that calls forth potential and fosters leadership. This mission inspires us to:

- Academic excellence and lifelong learning
- Regard for the dignity of each person
- Attention to the development of mind, body and spirit
- Compassionate service to others

#### Declaration of Open Discourse

In the spirit of intellectual inquiry, College of Saint Mary is committed to the exchange of diverse ideas and viewpoints. In this environment, honest discourse is valued; demeaning remarks are not tolerated. Each member of the campus community is encouraged to:

- •Recognize the basis of her or his own assumptions and perspectives,
- •Acknowledge the assumptions and perspectives of others,
- Promote understanding and respectful dissent

# **Degrees Offered**

Doctorate in Education with emphasis in Health Professions Education

Master of Arts in Teaching Master in Occupational Therapy Master in Organizational Leadership Master of Science in Education Master of Science in Nursing

Post-baccalaureate certificate in Paralegal Studies (holds Bachelor degree in some field)

In accordance with Title IX of the Education Act Amendments of 1972, College of Saint Mary admits women and men into all post-baccalaureate programs, including graduate programs. All students, regardless of gender, are given the same levels of support, guidance and education that have distinguished CSM's all-women's undergraduate programs.

#### Admissions

Applicants desiring admission to College of Saint Mary graduate programs apply through Enrollment Services and must meet the CSM admissions criteria. To apply on-line go to: http://www.csm.edu.

An application consists of the following required items and the program specific requirements.:

- -- A completed College of Saint Mary Graduate Program application form;
- -- Official transcripts of all previous academic work, including verification of bachelor degree held from a regionally accredited institution, (with certified translations and/or evaluations for foreign transcripts) from which undergraduate grade point averages can be computed;
- -- Proof of English competency for international students for whom English is not the first language; and
- -- \$30 non-refundable application fee.

Program specific requirements are as follows:

- Doctorate in Education with an emphasis in Health Professions Education
  - o Current, unencumbered license in a health related profession in Nebraska or compact state, if applicable
  - o Scholarly writing demonstrating ability to do graduate level work (accepted work will have a rubric score of 3.0 or greater.)
  - o Cumulative GPA of 3.0 or greater
  - o Evidence of earned master's degree and an earned bachelor's or master's degree in a health-related field
  - o Two positive references (accepted student will have a rubric score of 3.0 or greater)
- Master of Arts in Teaching
  - o Bachelor degree in a subject area that can be taught at the secondary or middle school level
  - o GPA 2.5 or greater
  - o Pass the Pre-Professional Skills Tests (PPST)
  - o Legal Clearance
- Master in Organizational Leadership
  - o Resume
  - Leadership Essay (\*) (minimum of 500 words addressing reasons for pursuing this degree program and outlining goals for progressing through the program).
- Master of Science in Education
  - o Cumulative GPA of 3.0 or greater
  - o Official transcripts for accredited Bachelor's degree in Education
  - o Verification of teaching certificate (current or lapsed)
  - o Copy of passing PPST scores if not licensed in Nebraska
  - o Two letters of reference from those familiar with your work with students

- o Resume
- o Technology competency test or equivalent coursework

#### Master of Science in Nursing

- o Current, unencumbered Registered Nursing license in Nebraska or compact state;
- Five hundred word (minimum) essay stating applicant's goals related to MSN degree;
- Evidence of earned BSN
- o Cumulative GPA of 3.0 or greater
- o Two professional references: one from an RN. (accepted student will have a score of 3.0 on the 1-4 scale on reference form).

Provisional Admission: If there are any deficiencies in the requirements above, a student may petition the Graduate Council for admission to the program. Provisional admission will be reviewed by the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs at the end of the first semester. If conditions have been successfully met, the provisional admission is removed.

Application materials for the graduate programs are processed by Enrollment Services and then submitted to the program director for review (program director will submit to the Graduate Program Admission Committee suitable applicants for acceptance).

Graduate Program Admission Committee will approve each accepted student. If an applicant meets the criteria for graduate admission, she/he is notified of her/his acceptance in writing by Enrollment Services. Specific graduate programs may require additional applicant materials.

#### **International Students**

College of Saint Mary welcomes and is authorized under federal law to enroll non-immigrant students from outside the United States. All students on an F1 visa must be full-time. Persons who are not United States citizens are required to submit the following:

- International student application form.
- Non-refundable application fee.
- Complete certified copies of records from all secondary schools, colleges and universities attended. These records must be evaluated and translated into English by a credential evaluation service such as World Education Services (http://www.wes.org).
- Certificate of Financial Responsibility (to be sent directly to the College from the applicant's bank).
- Student must meet the following language requirements: a paper score of 550 or above or a computer score of 213 or above on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or a score of 4 or above on the Test of Written English (TWE), or completion of Level 9 at an ESL Language Center.
- After receiving the I-20, international students must pay the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) a \$100 fee (Form I-901). This must be submitted before going to the U.S. Embassy or consulate for visa interview.

NOTE: International students are urged to apply for admission six months to a year before they plan to attend.

#### **Transfer Policies**

Advanced standing may be granted to the student who qualifies for transfer from an accredited graduate program. The number of transferable credit hours is limited by residency requirement. *Twelve hours of transfer may be allowed depending on applicability*. The residency requirement is 2/3 of the master's degree (24 hours) or 2/3 of the Ed.D. degree (30 hours) must be completed at CSM.

The student who wishes to transfer with advanced standing must fulfill the following requirements before being considered for admission: fulfill admission requirements; present a minimum overall grade point average of 3.0. No C's will be accepted; favorable reference(s) from the graduate program from which she/he is transferring; and submit all application materials in advance of admission date.

Credit allowance for graduate courses is considered on an individual basis. The program of study will be developed based on accepted transfer college credits. The following materials may be requested: course syllabi; results of standardized tests; college catalog; and a sample of previous course work. *Credit for prior learning may be accepted but is subject to review for eligibility*.

Procedure: Enrollment Services will secure application credentials and submit them to the Program Director; send a letter to the applicant stating the decision after review by the Program Director; instruct the applicant regarding registration; and inform the applicant of the advisor's name.

The Program Director will evaluate the transcript for transferable course credits. The Program Director will review applicant credentials for satisfactory completion of required courses; academic standing and GPA; course deficiencies, if any; description of courses completed; and recommendations from faculty of transfer school(s). The Program Director will evaluate content of courses; arrange for an interview with student as deemed necessary; make recommendations regarding student's eligibility for admission to the Graduate Admission Committee; and communicate to applicant conditions of admission and the respective plan of study (duplicate copy in student file).

#### Readmission

When a student withdraws or is terminated from any of the graduate programs at CSM, a recommendation will be made by the Graduate Policy committee at the time of withdrawal or termination as to whether the student will be eligible for readmission. Documentation of this recommendation will be kept in the student's advising folder and recorded in the minutes of the Graduate Policy committee.

The student who has withdrawn or has been terminated from any graduate program and wishes to be readmitted will be considered for readmission by the Program Director and the Graduate Admissions Committee according to the following criteria: the recommendation made by the Graduate Policy committee at the time of the student's withdrawal or termination; the amount of time elapsed between withdrawal or termination to anticipated date of readmission; and whether the program is a cohort program of study.

Students who wish to be readmitted to a graduate program must complete the application process through Enrollment Services.

#### **Second Master's Degree**

A student may pursue a second Master's Degree at College of Saint Mary. The degree must be significantly different from the initial degree. A maximum of 12 credits from the initial degree will be accepted toward the CSM degree, upon approval by the program director.

#### **Tuition Deposit**

Every new student (including readmits) is required to submit a \$100 tuition deposit as an advanced payment on tuition charges. The tuition deposit must be paid prior to registration of classes.

#### **Tuition Deposit Refunds:**

Applicants who pay a tuition deposit for the Summer or Fall semester may request a refund through **May 1** and for the Spring semester through **November 1**. The applicant must request a tuition deposit refund through their Admissions Counselor. A tuition deposit refund form must be filled out by the Admissions Counselor and submitted to the Vice President of Enrollment Management for approval.

If an applicant should change their semester of entrance to a future date, the tuition deposit is only refundable through the deadline of the initial semester it was paid for. For example, if an applicant pays the tuition deposit for Fall and decides to change their semester of entrance to the following Spring, they cannot receive a refund after **May 1**.

#### **Tuition Deposit Moves:**

Each applicant is allowed to move their tuition deposit **one time within a one-year period**. This means that if an applicant pays the tuition deposit for the Fall semester, the deposit can be moved once to either the following Spring, Summer, or Fall. Summer and Fall can be moved interchangeably without it counting as a move. Any tuition deposit can be moved to an earlier semester but the *refund policy will then apply to the earlier semester*.

If an applicant wishes to change their semester of entrance and move their tuition deposit, they must complete this in a timely manner or the tuition deposit will be written off. The deadlines will be consistent with the tuition deposit refund deadlines.

- If an applicant wishes to move the tuition deposit they paid for the Fall/Summer semester to a future semester, they must notify their Admissions Counselor of their intent to change semesters by **November 1**.
- If an applicant wishes to move the tuition deposit they paid for the Spring semester to a future semester, they must notify their Admissions Counselor of their intent to change semesters by **May 1**.

# **Semester Financial Arrangements (SFA)**

All students must make semester financial arrangements before the first day of class. See information on acceptable payment arrangements on the csm.edu web page: http://www.csm.edu/

Programs with cohort groups may have other options available. For more information contact the Bursar at 399-2650.

# **Tuition and Fees**

(Full-time enrollment in the graduate programs is 9 credit hours.) See Undergraduate catalog for information on Master in Occupational Therapy and Certificate in Paralegal Studies.

#### **Doctorate in Education with an emphasis in Health Professions (EdD)**

- Matriculation fee: \$55 (one time fee paid during first semester)
- Technology fee: \$16 per credit hour
- Tuition: \$525 per credit hour
- Estimation of textbook costs: \$900-\$1,000 for entire degree program

#### **Master of Arts in Teaching**

- Matriculation fee: \$55 (one time fee paid during first semester)
- Technology fee: \$16 per credit hour
- Tuition: \$475 per credit hour
- Estimated textbook costs: \$1100 for entire degree program

#### **Master in Organizational Leadership**

- Matriculation fee: \$55 (one time fee paid during first semester)
- Technology fee: \$16 per credit hour
- Tuition: \$15,950
- Estimated textbook costs: \$500-600 for entire degree program

For students who are required to enroll in the graduate level prerequisite course, Survey of Business Concepts, an additional six hours course, additional tuition is charged.

#### **Master of Science in Education**

- Matriculation fee: \$55 (one time fee paid during first semester)
- Technology fee: \$16 per credit hour
- Tuition: \$350 per credit hour
- Estimation of textbook costs: \$800 for entire degree program

#### **Master of Science in Nursing** (36 credit hours)

- Matriculation fee: \$55 (one time fee paid during first semester)
- Technology fee: \$16 per credit hour
- Tuition: \$350 per credit hour
- Estimated textbook costs: \$700 \$900 for entire degree program

# **Tuition Reimbursement from Employers**

Many employers offer tuition reimbursement benefits for their employees. Please check with the human resources specialist in your organization regarding eligibility. The CSM Express Center works closely with companies to facilitate reimbursement.

# **Student Life and Services**

The student development team provides a variety of opportunities for CSM graduate students to become involved in campus life which attends "to the development of mind, body and spirit." Students are encouraged to participate in the many co-curricular services and activities that enhance personal and leadership development. The Graduate Student Policies Handbook contains the guidelines for students to follow while pursuing graduate studies at CSM. All students enrolled at College of Saint Mary are expected to become acquainted with its contents and observe the policies contained within it. Graduate students must download the last page of the document, sign it and submit to your program advisor within your first month of graduate studies at CSM.

#### **Student Development**

**CSM Achievement Center**: The Center provides centralized services to help students improve individual academic performance through advising, career services, and ADA accommodations. The Center provides a "one-stop shop" within an environment that encourages students to attain their full academic potential.

**Campus Living:** Campus housing is restricted to those full time students studying for undergraduate degrees at CSM. However, if a student completed her undergraduate work at CSM and is continuing on as a full-time student for a graduate degree at CSM, she may live in the residence halls for the duration of her graduate studies.

Campus Ministry/Faith Opportunities: As a community of faith, College of Saint Mary provides resources for the spiritual development of its members. Opportunities are offered for weekly liturgy, prayer group, faith-sharing fellowship groups as well as prayer services, Sacrament of Reconciliation, numerous retreats, Faith Forums, spiritual direction, and an annual faith leadership conference. While the Catholic identity of the College shapes the theological and liturgical form of the faith ministry at the College of Saint Mary, students from other religious traditions are welcomed and integral to the planning of programs.

Counseling: CSM partners with Alegent Occupational Health Services (OHS) to provide short-term counseling to all full-time students and their family members free of charge. The Counseling Assistance Program (CAP) is a confidential, 24-hour access service with locations throughout the Omaha metropolitan area, including one near the CSM campus. Students who want to discuss issues that are interfering with academic or personal goals may call CAP (402-398-5566) to set up an appointment. Anxiety, high stress, concern for a friend or depression are among the many reasons students take advantage of this confidential, free service.

**Health Care:** All students should be covered by a comprehensive health insurance plan. International students are required to have health insurance. Further information about obtaining health insurance can be found in the Insurance section of this catalog.

CSM partners with Alegent Occupational Health Service (OHS) to provide limited health services at a reduced rate; these services are the financial responsibility of the students and must be paid for at the time of service. Students may receive health assessments, immunizations and referrals to an Alegent physician for treatment. Alegent OHS is located, near the CSM campus, in Bergan Mercy Hospital at 7500 Mercy Road. Appointments may be made by calling 402-398-6581 between 7:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

#### **Immunization Requirements**

College of Saint Mary requires that all students entering our college for the first time be immunized against measles, mumps, and rubella. As these are preventable and contagious diseases, CSM wants to prevent the possibility of an epidemic. All students must submit accurate immunization records that show evidence of immunity to measles, mumps, and rubella. Submission of this record is mandatory, and failure to comply will result in future registrations being cancelled or restricted. Further specific information is provided in the Graduate Student Policies Handbook.

#### **Drug-Free Campus Policy**

College of Saint Mary standards of conduct prohibit the unlawful possession, use or distribution of illicit drugs and/or alcohol by students on College property or as part of any of the College's activities. "Illicit drug use" means the use of illegal drugs and the abuse of other drugs or alcohol. State and Federal laws, and any applicable city ordinances, pertaining to the possession and use of illicit drugs and alcoholic beverages shall be observed by all College students. By way of illustration, this means that it is a violation of College policy for students to unlawfully purchase, manufacture, possess, consume, use, sell or otherwise distribute such items on campus or during College activities.

Student violations of the standards stated in the above paragraph shall result in disciplinary sanctions, as set forth in the CSM Code of Conduct included here and in the student handbook.

#### **Smoking**

Tobacco use is prohibited in all campus buildings and anywhere on campus property. For the purposes of this policy, smoking is defined as burning any type of tobacco product including, but not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, and pipes. Smokeless tobacco is also prohibited. Organizers and attendees at public events, such as conferences, meetings, public lectures, social events and cultural events, using the college facilities will be required to abide by the College Tobacco Policy. Organizers of such events are responsible for communicating this policy to attendees and for enforcing this policy. Tobacco advertisements are prohibited in college publications or any publications endorsed by the College to be distributed on campus.

#### **General Student Information**

**Lied Fitness Center:** Leisure and fitness activities and intramural sports opportunities are offered at the Lied Fitness Center. The swimming pool, gymnasium, walking track, and training room are available to all CSM students when not in use for classes or other scheduled activities. All those using the center must check in at the front desk, where towels and sports equipment are issued. CSM students with valid ID's may use the Center at no charge; some classes and special activities, or use of the Center by guests of CSM students require payment of a nominal fee.

**I.D. Card:** All students must have a College of Saint Mary identification card. Campus Security personnel as well as other persons in authority may request to see I.D. cards at any time. If an I.D. Card is lost, the student should contact the Campus Information Center immediately for a replacement at a nominal cost. Upon withdrawal from the College, the I.D. Card is to be returned to the Campus Information Center.

**Meals:** The College dining room is open 7 days a week and offers a full board plan for resident students. Non-resident students may also purchase a meal plan or put money on their ID card in the Express Center. Hours of operation are posted in the dining room and published in the Student Handbook. Christina's Place, located in the Hixson Lied Commons sells hot and cold espresso drinks and breakfast and lunch items.

**Notary Public:** For the convenience of the students and the entire College of Saint Mary community, a notary public is available during office hours in the Registrar's Office, Walsh Hall.

**Parking:** All cars must be registered and have a College of Saint Mary sticker placed in the proper position in the vehicle. Fines for violations must be paid in the Express Center. Stickers, maps and parking regulations are available from the Express Center.

**Printing:** The ID card is used to print. Students are allotted a set number of copies to be printed on campus printers each semester. Students may add additional printing to their ID in the Express Center or ATM machine in the Student Commons.

**Solicitations:** The on-campus sale or solicitation of anything (including distribution of samples) is prohibited without prior authorization in writing from the Facilities Coordinator.

#### **Academic Policies**

(All students will be given a Graduate Student Handbook containing additional information.)

#### **Academic Evaluation**

The scale for the percentage method of grading in the Graduate Programs is as follows:

A	93-100
В	85-92
C	77-84

(+ or – grades may be used by some programs)

If the percentage system is used, faculty may not raise or lower the percentage for a grade equivalent. Each faculty may select their own method of grading providing they can document the validity and reliability of the method based on education theory and evaluation literature.

A grade of Incomplete may be used in circumstances when, for serious and unforeseen reasons beyond the student's control; she/he is unable to complete the work of the course. A student needing an extension of time beyond the semester will file with the instructor a written application for a grade of "I" (Incomplete) giving reasons for the request. The form is available in the Express Center. The student must have achieved a passing grade at the time of application and must have completed the majority of assigned work for the course. The student must apply two weeks before the end of the semester. If extenuating circumstances prevent applying within two weeks, document on the application and consideration will be given to waive the two-week deadline. Some courses do not allow for the grade of Incomplete.

If the instructor grants permission, the instructor and student meet to determine:

- 1. The means to be used to complete the work.
- 2. The time limit set for completion, not to exceed six weeks from the time the course concludes. Copies of the completed application will be filed with the Registrar's Office, instructor, student advisor and the student.

If a further extension of time is needed, the student will file, before the deadline, a written application for extension with the instructor, who will in turn seek the permission of the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs. The Associate Dean for Academic Affairs will notify the Registrar's Office of the extension of time, if granted. All Incomplete grades must be removed by the end of the semester following the term in which the Incomplete was received.

If the Incomplete grade is not removed within the specified time, the Incomplete becomes a failing grade of "F".

The Incomplete Research (IR) grade is used for research-in-progress, which may not be complete within one semester. Incomplete Research (IR) grades which are not removed will become an "F".

In addition, if a student receives an incomplete grade in a course where theory and practicum/internship/ preceptorship components must be taken concurrently, both grades will be recorded as incomplete until successful completion of the requirements. For some programs that have a cohort model, incomplete grades are not allowed.

For all graduate programs, the final course grade shall consist of a letter grade. The course objectives derived from the program outcomes of the curriculum for the program are the criteria for evaluating student achievement in both the theory and practicum/internship/preceptorship courses.

#### Attendance

It is the student's responsibility to attend all scheduled classes as well as all practicum, internship, and preceptorship experiences. If the student notifies the faculty member of an absence prior to the course meeting, make-up opportunities may be provided but are not guaranteed. Failure to achieve course outcomes due to absence(s) will result in failure of the course.

#### **Credit for Prior Learning**

Students may have the opportunity to gain credit for college-level learning obtained outside the college setting. Learning is considered college-level if it is generally applicable, includes both a theoretical and a practical understanding of the material and if it meets the following criteria:

- 1. The student can demonstrate that what was learned is equivalent to the achievement levels expected of college work.
- 2. The maximum number of credits to be gained through alternate means is limited to 20 percent of completed study program.
- 3. Credits by alternate means are not considered among the credits to be taken in residence (except for credit by portfolio).
- 4. All requirements for credit granted by alternate means must be completed prior to the beginning of the final semester before graduation.
- 5. After completion of challenge, acceptable grades of "P" (pass), "S" (satisfactory) or a letter grade of C or above will be recorded on the transcript as transfer credit. Credit by portfolio will be recorded as College of Saint Mary credit.

Methods by which college-level learning can be demonstrated include challenge examinations, CLEP examinations, DANTES examinations, and credit by portfolio assessment. Individuals must be enrolled as students at College of Saint Mary to take advantage of these options.

#### Credit by Challenge Examination

Students may earn credit without formal enrollment in courses, subject to availability of this option in specific departments. Courses must be approved by the division chairperson or dean and the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Departments may require laboratory projects, written reports, evidence of satisfactory skilled performance, etc., in lieu of, or in addition to, examination performance.

Procedure: To apply for credit by examination for a course, a student registered at College of Saint Mary must obtain an Alternatives for College Credit Form from the Express Center, obtain written approval from her academic advisor and the chairperson of the department offering the course, pay the required fee, and obtain the approval of the Vice President for Academic Affairs. Upon receipt of an approved request, the chairperson of the department offering the course will be responsible for the following:

1. Establishing the procedure and standards for granting course credit by examinations without enrollment in the course.

- 2. Providing for the administration of the examination, usually through the Achievement Center.
- 3. Notifying the Registrar of the appropriate grade when a student has earned course credit by examination (Alternatives for College Credit Form to be used).

A student may not receive credit by examination for a course that is a prerequisite for a course already taken or for an equivalent college course already taken. Students should plan to take credit by examination early in their college careers, preferably during the first year of matriculation at the College.

# Credit Through Portfolio Development and Assessment

Steps for developing a portfolio are as follows:

- 1. The student reviews her/his prior learning and notes which experiences are comparable to college level learning. This might encompass such experiences as employment, education (non-credit courses or seminars), volunteer work, recreation and hobbies, civic and political activities, publications travel, awards, organizational involvement, music or theater work, or languages. In documenting these activities or experiences, the student must demonstrate what knowledge or competencies were attained from these learning opportunities and these must be comparable to college level learning. The specific competencies gained must be fully documented.
- 2. The student meets with the advisor and the Portfolio Program Coordinator to review.
- 3. If these experiences appear to have involved college learning, then a portfolio for these experiences may be prepared.
- 4. All portfolios will be bound in a manner described by the Portfolio Program Coordinator and consistent with the academic discipline for which the portfolio is prepared. The portfolio may be a written paper, or other substantive project or product that demonstrates college-level learning as assessed by a faculty review and consistent with the rigor appropriate to that discipline. Any form of portfolio should demonstrate academic excellence with respect to its development, presentation, and delivery.
- 5. A portfolio will generally consist of the following minimum requirements:
  - a. A title page which shall list the course(s) being petitioned together with the name, address, and telephone numbers (work and home) of the student;
  - b. A Table of contents;
  - c. Resume;
  - d. Statement of learning goals;
  - e. Degree plan or program(s) of study;
  - f. Portfolio proposal;
  - g. Divider for each course petitioned. Each section to include:
    - i. Petition for credit;
    - ii. Expanded course description;
    - iii. Essay describing competencies and skills achieved;
    - iv. Supporting documentation (In the event of projects or products that cannot be reduced to writing in an 8 ½ x 11 inch format, photographs, drawings, source codes, or other evidence may be submitted at the discretion and direction of the faculty reviewer to fulfill this requirement.);
    - v. Reviewer's evaluation and grading.

- 6. Portfolio credit must be requested before the end of the first week of classes each semester. The Request for Portfolio Credit form is available in the Express Center. The program director of the discipline involved will appoint a faculty member to evaluate the portfolio. If more than one discipline is involved, additional faculty members may be appointed.
- 7. The portfolio is presented to the Portfolio Program Coordinator and reviewed by the faculty member(s) involved. The final grade will be entered by the faculty member assigned to the portfolio during final grade entry each semester.

The portfolio will be kept on file with the documentation for 30 days after the grade has been posted. When credit is accepted, a letter or pass/fail grade will be given as stipulated in the course petition.

#### Restrictions

Students may not receive credit through Portfolio Development and Assessment for:

- 1. A course that is a prerequisite for a course already taken
- 2. An equivalent college course already taken
- 3. Certain restricted courses (please see the program coordinator for restricted courses)

Students must be degree seeking or seeking certification or recertification and be currently enrolled at College of Saint Mary. A time limit of one traditional semester for completion of the portfolio is allowed. The college policy for incomplete grades may be applied if requested. Students have the opportunity to develop portfolios throughout their academic careers at College of Saint Mary, but may not exceed 20% of the total hours required for their degree. Any credits petitioned and not granted upon first petition may be petitioned again but there must be a sixmonth waiting period. Credit may not be petitioned more than twice.

Note: Credits obtained by these alternative methods, excluding some DANTES examinations, are accepted at College of Saint Mary. Official documentation must be provided in order to obtain these credits. Policies at other educational institutions may vary.

Credit established through Prior Learning and Portfolio Development and Assessment is accomplished through College of Saint Mary initiated outcomes and evaluated by College of Saint Mary faculty, and therefore, will record those credits as being earned from College of Saint Mary.

#### Failing/repeating and Grade Appeal

The academic expectation is that all graduate students will earn superior grades.

A student is required to achieve a minimum grade average of "B" (GPA 3.0) in all graduate courses to be allowed to progress to the next semester of coursework. Master of Organizational Leadership: Students may earn only one "C" during the program of study.

Whenever a student receives a "C" or lower in a graduate course, that student is to be referred to the Graduate Policies Committee by the Program Director. The Committee makes a recommendation concerning the student's progression in the program. This recommendation is sent to the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs for a final decision. A letter stating the final decision is sent to the student by the Associate Dean.

A student may appeal a theory or practicum/internship/preceptorship grade following the procedures available from the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and must begin the process no later than one month after the end of the semester in which the decision was made. This policy applies to all graduate students, including those with ADA accommodations.

#### **Grade Appeal Procedure**

The student shall discuss the grade with the instructor and/or course leader for clarification as to how the coursework was evaluated and discuss the situation with the academic advisor. If the student still has concerns about the evaluation, the student shall make an appointment with the Program Director. The student may obtain a copy of the appeal procedure from the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs.

The Graduate Student Policies Committee Chairperson shall review the written appeal submitted by the student; schedule the Graduate Student Policies Committee meeting; provide the written appeal to the academic advisor, the instructor, and Program Director; arrange to have the student, instructor, and academic advisor at the beginning of the meeting for input or data and to answer questions the committee might have; and preside over the meeting.

- -The Chair of Graduate Student Policies Committee calls the group to order
- -Student presents appeal and circumstances (Time limited to 5 minutes).
- -Instructor presents rationale for grading decision(s) (Time limited to 5 minutes).
- -Graduate Student Policies Committees members may question facts (Time limited to 5 minutes).
- -All non-Graduate student Policies Committee members asked to leave.
- -Committee makes recommendation in writing with brief rationale based on facts.
- -No discussion of the appeal occurs outside the meeting itself.

The Graduate Student Policies Committee will review graduate student appeals and make recommendations to the Associate Dean.

The Vice President of Academic Affairs (VPAA) will be informed by the Associate Dean of the committee's recommendation. The VPAA in consultation with the Associate Dean will make the final decision.

#### **Graduate Program Requirements**

Once a student is admitted to the Graduate Program, the student must complete requirements designated by each program.

#### **Misrepresentation of Student Work**

Academic dishonesty is a serious offense. It is a form of theft and will be treated as such. In keeping with its mission, College of Saint Mary seeks to prepare its students to be knowledgeable, forthright and honest. It expects academic honesty from all its members. Academic honesty includes adherence to guidelines established by the instructor in a given course and prohibits, among other things, plagiarism, cheating, tampering with the work of other students or knowingly furnishing false information.

Plagiarism is the representation of another person's words or ideas as if they were one's own. Examples of plagiarism include submitting a paper in one's own name that was written by someone else, including in a paper sentences or ideas taken from a source without giving credit to that source. Cheating is giving or receiving information or using materials in exams, assignments, and project which it is not allowed. Examples of cheating include copying from another person during an exam, and submitting a laboratory or practicum report based on data not obtained by the student in the manner indicated by the instructor. Collusion is working together with another person in the preparation of work that the instructor expects to be accomplished by the student alone.

In keeping with the values of College of Saint Mary and its philosophy of graduate education, a student is responsible for all required theory, practicum/internship/preceptorship experiences and assignments. Any misrepresentation of coursework, practicum/internship/preceptorship expectations or any other assignments will be considered by the Graduate Student Policies Committee for disciplinary action. Such misrepresentation may be cause for dismissal (Refer to Policy 2.1).

# **Progression and Graduation**

When students have substantially finished their programs, a program of study may require the students to pass a comprehensive evaluation covering the coursework in their program of study. If the program requires it, the comprehensive evaluation should be completed six months prior to completion of the thesis/capstone project or the Research Proposal of the dissertation.

A Comprehensive Evaluation Committee of graduate faculty will determine the satisfactory completion of the evaluation. The expectations of the comprehensive evaluation include the following items:

- The chair of the Comprehensive Evaluation Committee prepares the evaluation with input from faculty within the program of study. The evaluation may take a variety of formats; take-home, on campus, or oral.
- The evaluation should assess the extent the student meets the core competencies of the program of study. The format is not limited to the content of a single course but rather covers the entire program of study and integrates concepts from a variety of topics.
- The Comprehensive Evaluation will be used to assess completion of program outcomes. A student who fails the comprehensive evaluation may repeat the evaluation one time if approved by the Comprehensive Evaluation Committee.

The Graduate Student Policies Committee will review any student who enrolls, but does not successfully complete classes for two semesters. This behavior may result in dismissal from the graduate program.

The Graduate Student Policies Committee will review any students with a current semester or cumulative GPA below 3.0 on an individual basis.

Academic success is only one requirement for progression in the Graduate Programs. The student must meet Professional Conduct Policy of the Student Handbook. Each candidate for

graduation from Graduate Studies must complete the required credit hours outlined in the Academic Catalog. A student may request an incomplete as outlined in the Academic Catalog unless it is a cohort program.

#### **Program Completion Time-Frame**

Completion of the program of study within six years is expected for the Master degrees. There is a two year maximum for the Master in Organizational Leadership. Completion of the program of study within eight years is expected for the doctorate degree. It is required that doctorate students remain continuously enrolled during dissertation work. Any extensions to this time frame may result in repeating coursework as recommended by the Graduate Student Policies Committee and approved by the Dean of Graduate Council.

Master degree students may not have more than six credits remaining to complete in the summer to participate in the May commencement and hooding ceremonies. All coursework must be completed before the next academic year begins. Doctorate seeking students must successfully complete their oral defense to participate in commencement.

#### Release of Records

Any student may personally inspect, review, and at the student's expense, have a copy made of her/his CSM records (except another school's transcript). Where information regarding a student is commingled with that relating to other students, the student may receive an oral report of her/his own information only.

Listed below are all of the records presently kept by the College. A student wishing to examine any record should make a request from the appropriate administrator. Requests must be in writing; the record will be made available within 10 days.

Student Record	Administrator
Academic Record	Registrar
Department Record	Advisor/Program Director*
Discipline Record	Student Development
Student Statement	Financial Services
Financial Aid Record	Financial Aid**
Graduation Checklist	Academic Advisor
Health Record	Alegent Occupational Health
Individual Plan of Study	Associate VP for Academic Affairs
Approval of Research Proposal	Associate VP for Academic Affairs
Approval of Comprehensive Evaluation	Associate VP for Academic Affairs

<sup>\*</sup>Where a student has declared a major, the student should file a request with the program director or her/his advisor.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Students may not examine any item revealing financial information about their parents.

In order to protect a student's right to privacy, the College will not make any personally identifiable records available without the student's written consent. However, records may be released to CSM officials, other schools where the student has applied for admission, certain government officials, and certain persons in connection with an application for financial aid. For further information, see the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act in the Academic Catalog, online at <a href="https://www.csm.edu">www.csm.edu</a>.

The first copy of a transcript is provided free of charge; additional copies may be requested for a charge of \$5.00 each.

#### Withdrawal

A student officially withdrawing from the College during an academic term is to obtain a withdrawal slip from the Registrar's Office or the Express Center. The student's Academic Advisor must sign the withdrawal slip. A student must visit with Financial Aid (if applicable) so they are aware of any financial repercussions. Refunds are determined by the date of the official withdrawal. A withdrawal is considered official when the written notice, after being signed by the designated personnel, is returned to the Registrar's Office. If a student does not withdraw from classes, the student will receive failing grades on the transcript.

A student who voluntarily withdraws from a graduate program is not assured of readmission. Any commitment to the student will be given in writing and will be pending space availability.

# **Financial Aid**

#### **Financial Assistance**

Students who are interested in applying for financial assistance must complete a **Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)** each year so that need may be reviewed annually. Be sure to include the CSM **school code 002540** on your FAFSA.

#### Types of Financial Assistance

**Federal Stafford Loans** are loans provided by lenders that students could borrow while in school. A student must be enrolled in at least 6 credit hours per semester to obtain a Stafford loan. These loans are not credit based and must be repaid. There are two types of Stafford loans:

- **Subsidized Stafford** loans are awarded to students based on financial need. The federal government pays the accrued interest while the student is in school.
- Unsubsidized Stafford loans are not need based. Interest accrues on this loan immediately and students are encouraged to make the interest payments while in school.

**Alternative Loans:** These are credit-based loans that students or their parents may apply for from private lenders.

#### How to Apply

- 1. Students must be accepted for admission to College of Saint Mary.
- 2. Students must file a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). CSM's school code is 002540.

#### Satisfactory Progress Policy for Financial Aid Recipients

To maintain eligibility for all types of financial aid, satisfactory academic progress towards completion of a degree must be maintained while students attend College of Saint Mary. Satisfactory progress for financial aid recipients is defined below.

- 1. Degree-seeking students must maintain a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of at least a 3.0.
- 2. Degree-seeking students must successfully complete at least two-thirds of the cumulative credit hours they attempt.
  - a. To earn hours at CSM, one must receive a grade of A, B, or C. All other grades including F, I, W, AF, AF, or AU do not earn hours.
  - b. Classes from which a student withdraws after the drop/add period count as attempted but not earned hours. Therefore, withdrawing from classes after the drop/add period will negatively affect a student's ability to satisfy the hours earned standard.
- 3. c. The maximum timeframe for receiving financial aid is based upon the College of Saint Mary's required timeframe for completing the masters or doctorate program. Accepted transfer credit will count as both attempted and earned hours.
- 3. Students may not exceed 150 percent of the program requirements measured in credit hours attempted. For example:

#### Financial Aid Probation

Students who fail to meet the GPA requirement and/or have not completed two-thirds of the cumulative credit hours attempted at CSM will be placed on financial aid probation. Students

with a probationary status are allowed one probationary term in which to demonstrate satisfactory academic progress.

# Financial Aid Suspension

Students who fail to meet the GPA requirement and/or have not completed two-thirds of the cumulative credit hours attempted at CSM after the probationary term will be placed on financial aid suspension. Students not maintaining satisfactory progress are not eligible to receive federal Stafford or Graduate PLUS federal or state grants, loans, or employment. Students who reach the maximum timeframe of 150 percent of their masters or doctorate program requirements are not eligible for financial aid.

#### Financial Aid Reinstatement

Financial aid eligibility is reinstated when the GPA requirement and two thirds of the credit hours attempted at CSM are successfully completed. If financial aid suspension is due to reaching the maximum time frame of 150 percent, the financial aid will not be reinstated.

# Financial Aid Appeals

Students with extenuating circumstances may request a waiver of the satisfactory progress policy for financial aid recipients. A written request detailing the circumstances and documentation of the circumstances must be submitted to the Director of Financial Aid. The request for a waiver will be reviewed and a written response will be delivered to the student. Extenuating circumstances may include:

- a. Serious illness or injury
- b. A death in the immediate family
- c. Documented circumstance beyond student's control.

Students who have questions about the satisfactory progress policy for financial aid recipients or any of the procedures may contact the CSM Express Center.

#### Disbursement of Aid

Upon the return of a signed award letter to the CSM Express Center, the financial aid award for each semester is deducted from assessed tuition and fee charges. Loans, grants and scholarships are credited to the student's account after the first week of classes. Most students realize the many benefits of a simplified and uniform student loan delivery system called Electronic Funds Transfer, or EFT. This arrangement enables a lender to disburse loan proceeds electronically to the College, which in turn credits the individual student accounts. For students using non-EFT lenders, it is the student's responsibility to endorse financial aid checks in the Express Center.

Federal guidelines require all first-time borrowers of Stafford Loans at CSM to complete entrance counseling before their loans can be applied to their student accounts.

Students who receive outside scholarships, vocational rehabilitation or any other outside assistance should inform the College as early as possible. It is important that Financial Aid be notified of outside assistance, as it will be considered in the financial aid process.

#### Renewal of Aid

All financial aid awards are made for a given academic year. To be considered for financial aid for upcoming years, students must reapply and submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Priority will be given to those who submit their paperwork by March 15. CSM's school code is 002540.

#### Student Appeals

The Financial Aid Appeal Committee renders decisions on student appeals and/or grievances that pertain to financial aid awards and/or institutional aid awards. Students who wish to appeal an award decision are asked to complete the Professional Judgment Form to describe the basis for the appeal and return it to the CSM Express Center. All appeals will then be directed to the committee for review and final decision.

#### Financial Aid Rights and Responsibilities

Students benefiting from financial assistance in the pursuit of education have the privilege of certain rights and assume specific responsibilities relating to their assistance.

#### **RIGHTS**

Applicants for financial aid have the right to know the following:

- 1. What financial aid programs are available to them at College of Saint Mary and the eligibility requirements for federal, state, and institutional awards
- 2. Deadlines for submitting applications for each of the financial aid programs
- 3. How financial aid is disbursed.
  How eligibility and financial need are determined
- 4. How decisions are made concerning distribution, and the basis for those decisions
- 5.4. How the student's financial need is determined (this includes how the cost of attendance is calculated)
  - How and when funds are disbursed
- 6.5. What additional resources were considered in the calculation of need
- 7. How much of the student's financial need, as determined by the institution, has been met
- 8. About the various programs in the student aid package
- 6. Consequences of withdrawing from a class(es) either officially or unofficially
- 9.7. About the institution's federal Return of Title IV Funds policy
- 10. What portion of the financial aid must be repaid and what portion is grant assistance
- 118. What the interest rate is on loans, the total amount to be repaid, the length of time to repay the loan, and when the repayment begins
- 129. How College of Saint Mary determines satisfactory progress and what happens if the student does not meet the requirement
- 10. Availability of federal student assistance funds for study abroad programs

#### RESPONSIBILITIES

Students have the responsibility to do the following:

- 1. Complete the FAFSA each year after January 1 and filing previous year's taxes all the application forms accurately
- Submit the application materials
   Sign and return the award letter in a timely manner and to the correct
   location
- 3. Provide correct information (misreporting on the FAFSA financial aid forms and Stafford and PLUS Loan Master Promissory Notes is a violation of Federal law)
- 4. Read and understand all forms that are being signed
- 5. Keep copies of all the forms for their own records

- 6. Accept the responsibility for all agreements that are signed
- 7. Perform the work that is agreed upon by accepting a work opportunity
- 8. Be aware of, and comply with, deadlines for application and reapplication for assistance
- 9. Be aware of the institution's federal Return of Title IV Funds policy
- 10. Be aware of Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress requirements and maintain those requirements

#### College of Saint Mary Return of Title IV Funds

Federal regulations require that an institution's refund policy be available to all students. The following information is provided by College of Saint Mary in compliance with the Higher Education Amendments of 1998 amending the Higher Education Act of 1965, Federal regulation 34CFR 668.22, signed into law on October 7, 1998.

The withdrawal date is considered to be the date of official withdrawal. If the student does not officially withdraw, the withdrawal date is considered to be the midpoint of the payment period, unless documentation exists in financial aid that the student attended through a later date. If this is the case, the last date of attendance will be used for the refund calculation.

The refund amount is determined using the following procedure:

- 1. Determine institutional charges (institutional charges include tuition and fees; room and board is included only if the student is living on-campus).
- 2. Determine amount of Title IV financial aid received and subject to return.
- 3. Calculate the percent of the payment period completed by dividing the number of days attended by the total number of days in the payment period. This is the percentage of Title IV aid earned.
- 4. The percent of unearned Title IV aid is calculated by subtracting the percentage of earned Title IV aid from 100%. The amount of unearned Title IV aid is calculated by multiplying the amount of Title IV aid received and subject to return (step two) by the percentage of unearned Title IV aid. If the percentage calculated in step three is less than or equal to 60%, then that percentage is the percentage of Title IV aid. If the percentage calculated in step three is greater than 60%, then the percentage of earned Title IV aid is 100%.
- 5. The amount of Title IV aid is calculated by College of Saint Mary is calculated by multiplying the total institutional costs (step two) by the percentage of unearned Title IV aid.
- 6. The lesser of the unearned aid amount (step five) or the dollar amount of the unearned percentage of institutional costs (step six) equals the amount the institution returns to the Title IV programs. Any refund amount is applied in the following order: Unsubsidized Stafford Loan, Subsidized Stafford Loan, Federal Perkins Loan, Federal PLUS Loan, Federal Pell Grant, Academic Competitiveness Grant, National SMART Grant, Federal SEOG, and other, in compliance with Federal regulations.
- 7. The amount of aid a student must return (if any) is calculated by subtracting the amount the institution returns (step seven) from the unearned aid amount (step five). Any refund amount is applied in the following order: Unsubsidized Stafford Loan, Subsidized Stafford Loan, Federal Perkins Loan, Federal Graduate PLUS Loan, Federal Pell Grant, Academic Competitiveness Grant, National SMART Grant, Federal SEOG, and other, in compliance with Federal regulations.

# **Graduate Programs**

# Doctorate in Education with an emphasis on Health Professions Education (Ed.D)

The purpose of the Doctorate in Education program is to prepare health professionals to be educators, leaders and educational researchers for higher education, continuing education, professional development and patient education. Graduates will be able to facilitate learning by utilizing evidence-based teaching methods and strategies in a variety of learning environments, conduct educational research in the health professions, generate new knowledge and serve as leaders in health education and research.

**Program Description:** Curricular Overview of the Doctorate of Education Program with an emphasis on Health Professions Education

- 1. Master's degree (36 hours); Eligibility for transfer of master's credits will be determined by Associate Dean for Academic Affairs.
- 2. Cognates (6)
  - a. Leadership in Educational Organizations; or Legal Issues in Education
  - b. Academic Integrity
- 3. Research Tools (9-12)
  - a. Students must demonstrate expertise in both qualitative and quantitative research methods. Students should have multiple experiences in designing, conducting, interpreting, and communicating research. Research tools should also include educational measurements and evaluation, computer-assisted analysis, and research methodologies.
- 4. Major Study (18 hours minimum. It is understood that some students may need more than 18 hours to achieve outcomes.)
  - a. Education coursework
    - Teaching and Learning Theories
    - Curriculum Design and Program Planning
    - Teaching and Learning Concepts
    - Assessment & Evaluation Strategies for Educators
    - Dissertation Readings
    - Seminar in Doctoral Studies
  - b. Research Proposal

#### **Graduation Requirements**

81 credits are needed to complete the degree.

Comprehensive Evaluation - When the coursework has been substantially finished, a comprehensive evaluation **must be passed**. The Comprehensive Evaluation Committee will supervise the requirement.

Dissertation - The dissertation is a major research project under the direction of a committee of graduate faculty. The expectation for a dissertation is to further develop an interest derived from the cognates or major studies. Students will be expected to defend the dissertation orally. Residency Requirements - 30 of the last 45 hours must be taken at College of Saint Mary.

Classes are listed below or through appropriate substitute courses approved by the advisor. EDU – Education, PHL – Philosophy, HCE – Healthcare Education

#### Courses

**EDU 823: Leadership in Educational Organizations (3)** This graduate level course characterizes best practices of leadership in educational institutions. Systems theory and organizational best practices form the framework for this course. Concepts such as accreditation, governance, strategic planning, higher education law and academic quality improvement processes will be studied in a variety of academic organizations to include higher education, professional development, continuing education and patient education. (Cross listed as EDU 723)

**EDU 842**: **Statistics** (3) This graduate level course prepares the graduate student to utilize statistics within a major research project. Descriptive and inferential statistics are studied. Topics include probability theory, various distributions, data description, confidence intervals, sampling designs, quality control and hypothesis testing including z test; t test; correlation and regression; Chi-square; F test and Analysis of Variance; and other parametric and nonparametric statistics. (Cross listed as EDU 542)

**EDU 853: Legal Issues in Education (3)** This graduate level course introduces the legal system and various sources of law that impact educational institutions and their relationships with students, faculty, employees, governing bodies, and corporate partners. Students learn to find and analyze education law including judicial decisions, state and federal statutes, state and federal constitutional provisions, and administrative regulations. Readings and cases cover the development of the rights and responsibilities of public and private institutions, evolving theories of academic freedom, student admissions, faculty employment and tenure, due process of law, separation of church and state and conflict resolutions. Students are encouraged to choose an issue of interest for concentrated research and study.

**HCE 821:** Curriculum Design (3) This graduate level course focuses on designing curriculum in diverse learning environments using evidence-based theories and concepts as well as relevant standards and criteria for evaluation. Development, implementation and evaluation of a continuing education program for staff, patient or public education also is emphasized. (Cross listed as EDU 621 and NUR 621)

HCE 831: Dissertation Readings in Health Professional Education (3) This graduate level course requires the student to conduct a scholarly research literature review specific to a selected aspect of health professional education in a variety of settings (higher education, continuing education, professional development or patient education). Each student will conduct a thorough literature review with depth and breadth. There is the potential that the readings can be useful in

defining and designing the literature review for the dissertation. Topics will be selected in conjunction with the graduate faculty.

- HCE 832: Assessment and Evaluation Strategies for Educators (3) This graduate level course focuses on best practice principles for educational and research assessment and evaluation in higher education, continuing education, professional development and patient education. Various methods for designing, conducting, and analyzing assessments and evaluations of outcomes on multiple levels including individual student, class, course, curriculum, program and educational organization will be appraised. (Crosslisted as EDU 632 and NUR 632)
- **HCE 838:** Methods of Data Collection (3) This course prepares the graduate student to design, critique and implement a variety of self-report data collection methods. Designs interviews, questionnaires and scales such as Likert scales, Semantic Differential scales, structured and unstructured questioning, critical incidents, and others. Application of data collection design principles to higher education, continuing education, professional development or patient education is expected.
- **HCE 845: Teaching and Learning Theories (3)** This graduate level course focuses on the theoretical underlying principles of the teaching-learning process. Various theorists in the behavioral, cognitive and humanistic categories of learning theories will be compared and contrasted. Application of principles to higher education, continuing education, professional development or patient education is expected.
- HCE 846: Teaching and Learning Practicum (3) This graduate level course focuses on the implementation of the educator role in the health professions through the application of teaching and learning theories and concepts for a chosen learner population in higher education, staff development, continuing education or patient education. The role will be analyzed and applied in collaboration with an education preceptor in the health professions. Evidence-based teaching strategies will be developed into a comprehensive teaching plan to engage learners in inquiry and overt, active learning and implemented to meet mutually determined outcomes for the individual learning, group or organizations.
- **HCE 852: Doctoral Seminar (3)** This experiential graduate level course provides the doctoral student with the opportunity to thoroughly examine an activity related to higher education pedagogy. In conjunction with the graduate faculty advisor, the student will design and implement a specific teaching related activity that is unique and meaningful.
- HCE 855: Teaching and Learning Concepts (3) This graduate level course examines the role of the educator in health professional programs through the application of teaching and learning concepts. Evidence-based teaching strategies to engage learners in inquiry and overt, active learning will be foundational in creating a stimulating learning environment to meet mutually determined outcomes for the individual learner, group, or organization. Application of principles to either higher education, continuing education, professional development, or patient education is expected.
- **HCE 862**: **Research Methods (3)** Evidenced-based inquiry processes will provide the student with tools for conducting a major research project. Topics include conceptualizing a research

study, designs for research, methodology, data collection, analysis of data, communicating results and utilizing research findings. Application of research methods to higher education, continuing education, professional development or patient education is expected. (Cross listed as EDU 662 and NUR 562)

- HCE 864: Quantitative Research Methods (3) The graduate student will explore various quantitative research designs. Topics include experimental, (quasi-experimental and time series) and nonexperimental designs (ex post facto, correlational, retrospective, prospective and path analytic). Application of quantitative research in higher education, continuing education, professional development or patient education is expected.
- **HCE 866:** Qualitative Research (3) The graduate student will explore various qualitative research traditions. Topics include characteristics of qualitative designs and the major traditions (ethnography, phenomenology, hermeneutics, grounded theory, ethnomethodology, case study, biography, and historical analysis). Application of the principles of qualitative research to either higher education, continuing education, professional development or patient education is expected.
- HCE 959: Research Proposal (3) This course prepares the student to identify the dissertation topic, establish the research question, complete the literature review and plan the methodology for the dissertation requirement related to higher education, continuing education, professional development or patient education. At the completion of the course the student will be prepared to present the proposal to the dissertation committee for approval.
- **HCE 999: Dissertation (12)** This course requires the successful doctoral student to complete an original action research dissertation under the supervision of a dissertation committee of graduate faculty and chaired by an expert in the topic of research. Successful students will defend the dissertation orally. The research must meet all standard expectations of doctoral research and have approval of the dissertation committee prior to data collection.
- **PHL 824: Academic Integrity (3)** This applied ethics course examines the implications of several influential philosophical theories for a broad range of questions bearing on research, teaching, role expectations, the allocation of health care resources, and contemporary biomedical dilemmas in organizations of higher education, continuing education, professional development or patient education. (Cross listed as PHL 624)

# **Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT)**

This accelerated program (42 credit hours) is a fast track to teaching which allows men or women with four-year degrees to become certified as middle and/or secondary school teachers in Nebraska after only one year of classroom work. It is possible for a candidate to complete the coursework in one year with an additional 16 to 20 weeks for student teaching. Classes are offered on Saturday and online and begin every three weeks.

**EDU 501 Technology in the Classroom (3)** Students learn strategies for integrating instructional technology in curriculum planning and implementation. After receiving instruction in their use, students plan learning activities that include instructional media, the Internet, web page construction, production and organizational software, and multimedia programs in classrooms. In addition to computers, students use video equipment, digital cameras, and scanners in preparing their lessons. Methods for managing classrooms with varying levels of equipment are addressed. In this course, students create online portfolios that illustrate their progress through the teacher preparation program. Appropriate use of instructional technology is integrated into instruction and pedagogy.

**EDU 512 Educational Psychology (3)** This graduate course involves the study of teaching/learning processes. Students learn the nature of educational psychology and applications of major learning theories. They identify specific relations among learning and characteristics of learners, including cognitive, language psychosocial and moral development. Discussion centers on thinking skills, problem solving and motivation in the classroom. Students learn strategies used in assessment and evaluation of learning. Field experiences include 20 hours in an environment that matches the desired level of anticipated certification. A research paper focused on a specific issue related to assessment is a requirement for this course. Appropriate use of instructional technology is integrated into instruction and pedagogy.

**EDU 520 Lifespan Development (3)** The comprehensive study of theoretical perspectives of human growth and development which focuses primarily on adolescents and their levels of development. It draws from current social science research in examining the complex array of social, psychological, cultural and physical, intellectual, emotional, social, academic and moral forces that combine to determine each individual's life course. Critical thinking, technology and communication skills will be used to enhance the learning experience. Applications to real world settings and successful passage through the life course will be emphasized.

**EDU 527 History, Philosophy and Trends in Education (3)** Compare philosophical foundations of historical and contemporary education and consider current issues using an informed discussion centered approach. Assess political and social trends, laws, proper conduct and penalties for teachers, and shifts and technological changes related to contemporary and future educational planning. Discussions and extensive readings center on all levels of education from preschools to secondary schools. Students write a philosophy of teaching paper and prepare a major research paper. Appropriate use of instructional technology is integrated into instruction and pedagogy.

**EDU 540 Guidance and Classroom Management (3)** This graduate course discusses philosophical differences of discipline and behavior intervention. Positive discipline strategies

and techniques for all age groups are reviewed and practiced in order to assist each student in becoming a confident and effective facilitator. Special focus examines the needs and special concerns of behaviorally impaired/emotionally disturbed children and youth. Class readings, discussions and lectures provide a strong knowledge base. Students research the effect of classroom environment on learning. Appropriate use of instructional technology is integrated into instruction and pedagogy.

**EDU 551 Teaching Reading, Middle and Secondary (3)** This course is designed to provide teachers with an understanding of developmental processes of reading and study techniques in middle grades and secondary education. Students identify Nebraska and national standards and assessment techniques used in middle and secondary settings. Clinical activities focus on learners who struggle within the reading process. Reading behaviors necessary for successful reading and effective strategies used in reading applications in content areas are emphasized. Implementation of knowledge of this curriculum is achieved in a practicum of 40 hours. Appropriate use of instructional technology is integrated into instruction and pedagogy.

**EDU 552 Teaching Language Arts (online) (3)** Students explore the nature and structure of language and language acquisition. Philosophical approaches to teaching listening, speaking and spelling are presented for all levels of learners within the middle and secondary classroom, including those with special needs as well as gifted. Techniques for enhancing written expression are emphasized. Practical experiences of 20 hours are provided in local schools. Students create an in-depth lesson plans in the six areas of language arts. Appropriate use of instructional technology is integrated into instruction and pedagogy.

**ENG 562 Literature for Young Adults (3)** This graduate course includes the study traditional and contemporary works written for or about young adults. The works studied will be evaluated for their artistic merit and for their insights into the adolescent development. Students will design strategies to encourage appreciation of literature and motivation for becoming life-long readers. Topics include the nature of teen-age readers, genres and use of young adult literature in the classroom. Students create an extensive teaching unit using young adult literature. Appropriate use of instructional technology is integrated into instruction and pedagogy.

**EDU 575 Human Relations in a Multicultural Society (3)** Students in this graduate course identify characteristics of various ethnic and social groups which relate to learning, working and living in our pluralistic society. Focus is on social factors such as discrimination, diversity, equity, racism, sexism, and ethnic and socioeconomic pluralism and their influence on American schools and classrooms. Students develop strategies for assisting people living and learning jointly in our pluralistic society. Lectures and learning activities are delivered by faculty members and guest speakers. Appropriate use of instructional technology is integrated into instruction and pedagogy.

**EDU 571/572 Student Teaching (5)** Supervised teaching experience under the direction of a college faculty member and a classroom teacher in the student's intended teaching area. (To be taken concurrently with EDU 595.)

Appropriate use of instructional technology is integrated into instruction and pedagogy.

EDU 595 Student Teaching Seminar (2) The student teacher seminar is to provide an opportunity and environment for student teachers and college faculty to share and discuss problems, successes, teaching methods and innovations of mutual interest. Student teachers are encouraged to share their ideas, insights and observations for the benefit of others in the seminar. Students will learn strategies for career planning and seeking professional employment. Emphasis will be placed on professionalism, organization skills and ethical behaviors for successful employment in a teaching career. Appropriate use of instructional technology is integrated into instruction and pedagogy.

SPE 501 Introduction to Special Education (3) Introduction to Special Education is a required course for all who are certified to teach in Nebraska. Students examine various areas of exceptionality, including learners who are identified as gifted and talented, mentally handicapped, behaviorally disordered, visually impaired, hearing impaired, language disordered, autistic, physically handicapped and other health impaired. Legal definitions, litigation, characteristics, etiology, prevalence and educational adaptations for each exceptionality are investigated, as well as issues confronting individuals across the lifespan will be addressed. Prereferral alternatives, referral systems, multi-disciplinary team responsibilities, the Individual Education Plan process, placement procedures, various service delivery systems and family issues will also be examined. Appropriate use of instructional technology is integrated into instruction and pedagogy.

# **Master of Occupational Therapy (MOT)**

Occupational therapists are essential team members in today's health care continuum. They assist persons of all ages who experience problems in their occupational performance of self-care, home management, work, education, or leisure. Such services are provided to individuals through medical, health, and social service community programs. The occupational therapist provides services of assessment, intervention, case management, education, advocacy, research and consultation in a variety of health care, school, and community settings.

#### The Program

The combined Bachelors/Master in Occupational Therapy (OT) is a five-year program. Students must pass through a timeline for professional progress review during their studies in the OT program. This review consists of minimum grade point average, letter of intent, portfolio review, and professional behaviors' checklist. The process involves the student evaluating her strengths and areas of concern, under the guidance of a faculty advisor, with the student's success potential based on objective criteria reflective of characteristics deemed important for success in the OT curriculum and the profession. The details of the professional progress review are contained in the OT program student handbook and discussed with the student during the first semester of study.

College of Saint Mary's program requires courses from different areas: biological science, behavioral science, core/general education, and occupational therapy. Each lab course requires 2 hours per credit/week. Clinical/Fieldwork experiences require 4 hours per credit/week. Fieldwork experiences play a vital role in the curriculum by providing opportunities for experiential learning. Level I fieldwork opportunities are initiated in the third year to begin synthesis of academic concepts into practical application. Level II fieldwork/clinical take place in the spring and summer of the graduate year and are arranged by College of Saint Mary's Academic Fieldwork Coordinator. All OT students must *complete* their Level II Fieldwork within 18 months following completion of academic course work. Students should prepare to be in the clinic full time away from Omaha during most of their fieldwork. All travel and living expenses incurred are the responsibility of the students.

# **Program Objectives**

Educational outcomes of the OT Program upon graduation include: (1) the preparation of competent entry-level occupational therapists; (2) the fostering of attitudes supportive of professionalism, lifelong learning, service, and respect for others that will continue post-graduation; (3) the provision of a balanced curriculum of general education and professional course work, with campus co-curricular activities for the enhancement of mind, body, and spirit; and (4) the development of interpersonal and professional communication skills.

#### Accreditation

The Occupational Therapy Program is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA), located at 4720 Montgomery Lane, P.O. Box 31220, Bethesda, MD 20824-1220, phone (301) 652-AOTA (www.aota.org). Graduates of the program will be eligible to sit for the national certification examination for the Occupational Therapist administered by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT). After successful completion of this exam, the individual will be an Occupational Therapist, Registered (OTR). Most states require licensure in order to practice. State licenses are usually based on the results of the NBCOT

Certification Examination. A felony conviction may affect a graduate's ability to sit for the NBCOT certification examination, attain state licensure, or complete fieldwork.

#### Admission to Occupational Therapy

Students applying to the occupational therapy program must first meet the entrance requirements set for College of Saint Mary as set forth in the "Admissions" section of this catalog. Admission to the occupational therapy program requires additional requirements to those of regular college admission.

# High school graduates with no college credits must meet the following criteria:

- 1. High school grade point average of 3.0 or above on 4.0 scale.
- 2. ACT composite score of 21 or above.
- 3. Successful completion of high school chemistry and biology and three years high school math.
- 4. Exemption from or successful completion of the Mathematics Competency Examination and the English Competency Examination.

# College transfer students must meet the following criteria:

- 1. Completion of 12 credits required in the occupational therapy program. Developmental courses cannot be counted toward fulfillment of this 12-hour requirement. A minimum grade of C is required for successful transfer.
- 2. One required science course must be included in the above mentioned 12 hours.
- 3. A cumulative college quality point average of 3.0.

Transfer students accepted into the OT Program may transfer credits that satisfy program requirements according to criteria available in the Registrar's office. Students who have graduated from high school more than five years prior to application to the program must meet transfer criteria.

#### Progression in the Program

In order to progress from one semester to the next, the student must complete the curriculum in the prescribed sequence. A student who fails an occupational therapy course will be required to repeat the course before progressing to the next sequence. The student may repeat only one occupational therapy or biological science course. The student must maintain an overall cumulative quality point average of 3.0, earn a minimum grade of C in all natural and biological science courses, and earn a grade of C or P in each occupational therapy course. A grade below C is considered failing. The student must comply with the occupational therapy program policies and ethical standards of the profession. The occupational therapy program reserves the privilege of retaining only those students who, in the judgment of the faculty, satisfy the requirements of scholarship, health and personal suitability for occupational therapy.

Options at College of Saint Mary for students who are unable to progress in the MOT Program are addressed in the OT Student Handbook.

# **Requirements for Clinicals/Fieldwork Practicums**

#### 1 Performance Standards:

Successful completion of fieldwork courses depends on the ability to think critically and to use the occupational therapy process, which includes communication, motor and interpersonal abilities.

Technological adaptations can be made for some disabilities; however, a student must perform in a safe and reasonably independent manner. It is not acceptable to use a trained intermediary, as a student's judgment may be influenced by someone else's observations.

#### 2. CPR Certification:

Prerequisite to and concurrent with all fieldwork courses.

3. <u>Investigative Background Report:</u>

Prerequisite upon admission to O.T. Program. A background check is required of all students during the junior year.

4. <u>Health Record Requirements:</u>

Prerequisite to and concurrent with all fieldwork courses. The O.T. Program requires additional immunizations, drug, or health screenings as needed to meet clinical agency requirements. In addition, the student must show proof of personal medical insurance prior to clinical assignment. The student is responsible for any expense incurred in completing this process. The student may be stopped out of fieldwork courses at any time if not in compliance with this policy.

5. After 128 hours of coursework has been completed and before graduate level classes, students will receive a Bachelor in Rehabilitation Studies. The MOT Degree will be awarded after successful completion of all coursework.

Combined Bachelor/Master in Occupational Therapy Degree. Second degree seeking students who already have a bachelor degree will not receive the Bachelor in Rehabilitation Studies degree, only the Master in Occupational Therapy.

**Major Sequence:** (55 Semester hours)

OTH 101, 201, 303, 315, 325, 326, 336, 327, 337, 363, 364, 373, 375, 415, 435, 416, 417, 438, 425, 428, 437, 445, 446, 448, 450, 475, 476, 490.

**Graduate** (35 semester hours)

OTH 526, 576, 591, 651, 652, 673, 693, 674, 675, 690, 676, 595.

**Supporting Field:** (16-18 semester hours)

BIO 220, 221, 222, 223, 362, 365; CHM 100 or CHM 102/104.

**Supporting Courses:** (15 semester hours)

PSY 220, 233, 240, 410; BUS 323. **Core Curriculum:** (41 semester hours)

ENG 101; COM 212; PSY 101; PHL 350; IDC 101; SOC; ETH 200; MTH 242; ELA; PED; and Core Curriculum electives (6 credit hours each in Theology, Fine Arts, History, and upper level English).

# **Master in Occupational Therapy**

# 101 Introduction to Occupational Therapy (3)

This introductory course is designed to assist students to develop an identity with the profession by providing a general description and history of the profession, knowledge of the philosophy of human occupation, awareness of professional and ethical behaviors, and an overview of the scope of occupational therapy practice. The roles and responsibilities of the occupational therapist in various practice areas, as well as the uniqueness of the profession are explored. Prerequisites: None.

#### 201 Foundations of Health Care (3)

This course is designed to teach OT students basic knowledge of medical language, knowledge concerning health care system, delivery, and documentation of OT services. Students will learn the language of medicine, including basic roots, prefixes, suffixes, combining forms and abbreviations, definition of selected medical, surgical, and therapeutic terms. Students will also

learn reimbursement mechanisms within health care related services, policy, advocacy and documentation of such services. Prerequisites: OTH 101

# **303 Foundation of Therapeutic Reasoning (2)**

This course introduces select theories, models of practice, and frames of reference that have been developed and used in the practice of occupational therapy. The Occupational Therapy Practice Framework is used as the basis for teaching OT practice and process. This course establishes the foundation for occupational therapy practice and the application of critical thinking and clinical reasoning skills. Pre-requisite: OTH 101

#### 315 Life Span - Early (3)

This course will focus on the tangible (the child's performance capacity) and intangible (volition, multi-cultural considerations, legislation / systems) factors that influence development during infancy and early childhood. Commonly encountered diagnoses that affect children prenatally through early childhood will be discussed to gain an understanding of how these conditions affect occupational role performance at each stage of development. Conceptual models for prevention, intervention, and management are explored to assist in understanding client needs and team management of conditions. Pre-requisites: OTH 101, PSY 220

#### 325 Life Span – Adolescence (3)

This course continues the study of children from early childhood through adolescence. Normal and abnormal cognitive, psychosocial, and sensorimotor development patterns and characteristics are examined. Advanced evaluation, treatment techniques, and strategies for facilitating positive change emphasizing the role of human occupation for individuals up to age 21 is practiced. Students are given opportunities to directly observe pediatric clients and apply therapeutic strategies. Critical thinking/problem solving in real clinical environments is encouraged in a format that incorporates principles of cultural competence, knowledge of the law and its impact on school system vs. medical practice, and family centered care. Pre-requisite: OTH 315

#### 326 Occupational Performance Capacity and Media (2)

The course facilitates the exploration of the occupational nature of humans by analyzing the variety of performance skills and client factors necessary for task completion. Areas of study include motor, process and communication/interaction skills. Emphasis is placed on activity and task analysis as it relates to an individual's chosen roles and routines. Pre-requisite: OTH 303

#### 327 Psychosocial Issues in OT (3)

This is an opportunity to evaluate therapeutic approaches and strategies for the prevention, intervention, and management of psychosocial needs in a variety of contexts. Knowledge of DSM IV classifications, psychotropic medications, and multicultural issues are basic to the OT's interaction with other mental health providers. Standardized and non-standardized methods will be used to analyze the client's occupational performance, personal causation, values, and interests. Synthesis of programs for personal adjustment will include occupations, group approaches, and community integration efforts. Pre-requisites: OTH 303, PSY 410, PSY 233

#### 336 Occupational Performance Capacity and Media Lab (1)

Laboratory component of OTH 326 Occupational Performance Capacity; to be taken concurrently.

#### 337 Psychosocial Issues in OT Lab (1)

Laboratory component of OTH 327 OT, Volition, and Psychosocial Adjustment Lab; to be taken concurrently.

#### 362 Kinesiology (3)

This course is an in-depth study of the musculoskeletal system with emphasis on anatomical, biomechanical, and physiological components. Principles of functional human motion will be analyzed. Performance capacity will be assessed through muscle palpation, range of motion measurement and manual muscle testing. Pre-requisites: BIO220 and BIO222.

#### 363 Movement Lab (1)

This laboratory course is an in-depth study of the musculoskeletal system with emphasis on anatomical, biomechanical and physiological components. Principles of functional human motion will be analyzed. Performance capacity will be assessed through muscle palpation, range of motion measurement and manual muscle testing. Laboratory component of BIO 362

# **364 Cognitive and Perceptual Lab (1)**

This experiential course is the 2<sup>nd</sup> of two courses that facilitates student exploration of occupational performance by analysis of its components including the areas of sensorimotor, cognition, cognitive integration, perception, and vision. These components will be examined along with their effects on context. Emphasis is on perceptual, cognitive, social and cultural components. To be taken concurrently with OTH 363.

#### 365 Neuroscience (3)

Course emphasis is the organization and function of the nervous system related to movement science. Course content will include the foundations of neuroscience, application of neuroanatomy and neurophysiology to clinical syndromes and behaviors typically seen in the practice of Rehabilitation Therapies. Pre-requisites: BIO220 and BIO222.

#### 373 Fieldwork I Seminar (1)

This seminar course prepares the student for level l fieldwork experiences, orientates the student to the OT Fieldwork Manual, assists students in getting requirements for fieldwork completed and discusses professional issues. Note writing, interpersonal communication, portfolio development, professional behavior checklist and issues pertaining to fieldwork will also be covered. Pre-requisite: Junior status.

#### 375 Fieldwork Level IA (1)

Practicum experience designed to place students in a clinical setting to enrich didactic course work. Students will have an opportunity to enhance skills in observation, interview, and task analysis. Focus will be on observational and documentation skills. Integrates a seminar format with clinical interaction. Discussion of student experiences will be fostered to maximize and compare information/observations gained. In addition, development of professional skills and behaviors will be addressed during seminar sessions. Concurrent with OTH 315. Prerequisite: OTH 373

#### 415 Life Span - Adult (3)

This course seeks to develop understanding and empathy of the subjective experience of adults caused by conditions resulting in physical/functional impairments in performance capacity. Evaluation methods, theoretical approaches, and OT interventions will be practiced and analyzed for appropriate application for remediation, compensation or adaptation of performance capacity. Pre-requisites: OTH 326, BIO 365, BIO 362

# 416 Occupational Exploration and Intervention (3)

This course analyzes the theories and techniques utilized to enhance and facilitate human involvement in occupations. Strategies for assessment and intervention are evaluated across performance skills and contrasting various frames of reference used in the field. Emphasis is given to neurological conditions and motor control theories. Discussion and critique of

neurologically based models including Rood, Brunnstrom, NDT, PNF, and Carr and Shepherd is also stressed. During laboratory time specific treatment approaches related to motor control will be demonstrated and practiced. Pre-requisites: OTH 326, BIO 365, BIO 362

### 417 Health Promotion (3)

This course examines the link between health, prevention of health problems, increased life satisfaction, and behavior patterns and lifestyles. The role of the occupational therapist as an educator is investigated and skills in patient education are developed. Emphasis is placed on the role of the occupational therapist in wellness prevention and healthy lifestyles. The OT's focus is purposeful and meaningful occupations; balance of rest, work, and play; and healthy interaction with the environment. Strategies and interventions include joint protection, ergonomics, work simplification, and well elderly programs.

Pre-requisites: OTH 303, OTH 326

## 425 Life Span - Elderly (3)

Evaluation of the effect of aging, the impact of medical conditions and the adjustability of environmental factors are preliminary to enhancing the occupational performance of the elderly. The client's volitional thoughts and feelings must be recognized, habits identified, and performance capacity assessed. Relating occupational identity and competence will support a treatment plan leading to occupational adaptation for the elderly individual. Pre-requisite: OTH 415

## **428 Splinting Principles and Practice Lab** (2)

This laboratory course will integrate the use of biomechanical principles with the knowledge of occupational therapy practice. Emphasis is given to the development and refinement of OT skills for designing, selecting, and fabricating orthotic devices and to enhance work, self care and play. **Prerequisites:** OTH 415, BIO 362

# 435 Life Span – Adult/Lab (1)

Laboratory component of OTH 415 Life Span – Adult; to be taken concurrently.

## **437 Educational Principles (3)**

This course provides the foundation for systematically designing, implementing, and evaluating learning experiences used in the education of clients, family and caregivers, students, colleagues, community members and self. Other major content areas of this course include instructional design, methods, skills, and media; evaluation; and education and supervision of students during experiential activities. Pre-requisite: OTH 418, Senior Status.

## 438 Assessment of Performance Lab (2)

Laboratory course designed to facilitate knowledge and practical skills in the administration and interpretation of occupational therapy assessments used for obtaining in-depth knowledge of a client's performance skills and their relation to the performance areas of ADL, work, and play. Emphasis is given to correct documentation of assessment results and recommendations for intervention. This course is set up for active learning and clinical problem solving through interactions with clients, other students and case studies. Active comparison, discussion, and critique of assessment tools will be completed. **Prerequisites:** OTH 326, OTH 327, Concurrent with OTH 415

## 445 Life Span – Elderly/Lab (1)

Laboratory component of OTH 425 Life Span – Elderly; to be taken concurrently.

## 446 Occupational Exploration and Intervention Lab (1)

Specific treatment approaches related to motor control will be demonstrated, practiced and assessed. To be taken concurrently with OTH 416. Prerequisite: OTH 362, BIO 365.

## 448 Assistive Technology Principles and Practice (2)

This course will integrate the use of biomechanical principles with the knowledge of occupational therapy practice. Emphasis is given to the development and refinement of OT skills for adapting tools, equipment, environments, low technology equipment, and activities for therapeutic use. Designing, selecting, and fabricating assistive technology devices to enhance work, self care and play. Prerequisites: OTH 415, BIO 362

## **450 Occupation Seminar (1)**

This course is a reflection on the meaning and use of occupation in the discipline of occupational therapy. Student will take a historical and international look at occupation. Prerequisite: Senior status.

## 475 Fieldwork Level IB (1)

The practicum experience allows for reinforcement of clinical skills, professional behaviors, and integration of occupational therapy theory into practice. Focus will be on continuing to develop observational and treatment, planning skills, as well as development of clinical reasoning skills. This course integrates a seminar format with clinical on experience. Seminars will focus on discussion of the students' experience with different settings and conditions. Concurrent with OTH 327, Pre-requisite: OTH 375.

## 476 Fieldwork Level IC (1)

Problem analysis and observations on assigned populations will require in depth integration of classroom concepts and actual hands on patient treatment under the strict guidance of assigned supervisor. This course incorporates a seminar format to discuss aspects of the experience, reinforce professional behaviors and instruct in documentation principles and methods. Prerequisite: OTH 376 Concurrent with OTH 415.

## 490 Principles of Occupational Therapy Research (3)

This course is the first in a two-part progression in enhancing skills as a consumer of research and in designing a research project. The emphasis is on the development of research skills, including critical analysis of professional literature. This course will examine the application of research to clinical practice and the feasibility of executing research in clinical settings. The development of the ability to design and implement beginning research studies that evaluate clinical practice and service delivery are taught. Pre-requisites: PSY 240, MTH 242, OTH 427

## **526 Life Span Patterns (3)**

This course examines how the dynamic process of occupation continues to change throughout life and how to facilitate positive adaptive change in an individual. Development and maintenance of organized patterns is studied, along with understanding of the change processes underlying development. Occupational therapy's role in the tasks of occupational adaptation, namely identity and competence, is studied in various contexts. Emphasis is on problem solving to guide the individual to explore new occupations, experience achievement, and seek competency in activities of daily living, work, and play. This course will correlate the tenets of occupational science with occupational therapy. Pre-requisite: OTH 415

# 576 Fieldwork Level ID (1)

Practicum experience in selected community settings and nontraditional/ emerging areas of practice. Opportunity to design and provide client centered services to address unmet needs for underserved individuals, groups, populations or programs. Emphasis is placed on problem analysis and critical thinking. This course incorporates a seminar format to discuss aspects of students' experience. Pre-requisites: OTH 417, OTH 475, graduate status

## 591 Selected Studies in Occupational Therapy (3)

Students will have an opportunity to evaluate, research, and analyze specialty areas of occupational therapy practice. This course allows the student to gain in-depth knowledge in a selected area of interest. Self directed learning is emphasized under the guidance of an OT advisor. Pre-requisite: Graduate Status.

# 595 Advance Study in OT (1-3)

This graduate level course requires the student to research literature on a specific topic related to OT or to complete an additional level 1. Fieldwork assignment of their choice. Topics and/or projects will be selected in conjunction with the graduate faculty. This course will reinforce information learned throughout the curriculum.

# 651 Advanced Theory – Clinical Reasoning (3)

This course incorporates the advanced application and evaluation of specific models of practice and frames of reference as related to Occupational Therapy practice. Critical thinking, clinical reasoning, and high level oral and written communication are emphasized. Application and synthesis of previously learned information in traditional and unique methods allows for the integration of knowledge and develops a high level of clinical reasoning. Pre-requisite: OTH 303, OTH 476, Graduate Status

# 652 Management and Leadership (4)

This course studies the specialized management and leadership strategies, techniques, and skills utilized in occupational therapy practice. Emphasis is on development of a model for delivery of occupational therapy services in a new or expanding program, private practice, or emerging practice area. Other topics include marketing, leadership, supervision, documentation, reimbursement, advocacy, due process and appeals systems. Pre-requisite: BUS 323, Graduate Status

# 673 Fieldwork Seminar (1)

This seminar course prepares the student for level II fieldwork experiences, NBCOT boards, and professional issues. Resume writing, interviewing skills, portfolio development, and licensure will also be covered. Pre-requisite: Graduate status.

## 674 Fieldwork Level IIA (6) and 675 Fieldwork Level IIB (6)

Nine hundred sixty (960) hours of supervised non-classroom experiences are required. The student therapist will provide client contact and practical application of occupational therapy intervention in a hospital, community agency, school system, or non-traditional setting. Recommended areas of practice include psychosocial dysfunction and physical dysfunction. Each student's experience will reflect current practice with clients across the lifespan with a variety of diagnoses. These courses facilitate learning the role of occupational therapist and development of clinical skills, clinical reasoning skills, and reflective practice at an entry level. Pre-requisite: Completion of all didactic coursework.

# 676 Fieldwork Level IIC (3-6)

This optional fieldwork rotation will take place in an area of student interest or in a specialty area that the student had not experienced on their previous Level II Fieldwork rotations. The student therapist will provide client contact and practical application of OT intervention in a hospital, community agency, school system, or non-traditional setting. This experience will reflect current practice with clients across the lifespan with a variety of diagnosis and will facilitate learning the role of the OT and development of clinical skills, clinical reasoning skills and reflective practice at an entry level.

## 690 OT Research (3)

This is the second course in the three-part research progression. This course emphasizes the enhancement of research skills and includes the application of research to OT practice. Emphasis is on consulting with an experienced researcher in relationship to the research design, problem solving and community involvement. Students will complete the practical portion of carrying out their research during this course.

## 693 Occupational Therapy Research Capstone (2)

This is the third course in the three-part research progression. Emphasis is on consulting with an experienced researcher in relationship to the research design and analysis, writing skills required for publication or research reports, and securing grant funds. Through a capstone project demonstration of beginning competence in outcome studies or other research is exhibited. It culminates in presentation of the research projects. Pre-requisites: OTH 690, Graduate Status.

# **Master in Organizational Leadership (MOL)**

This 36-credit hour graduate program is committed to the growth and development of individuals in business, particularly women, and advances the practice and development of effective leadership for the benefit of employees and employers in business and industry and society as a whole.

**Mission Statement**: This graduate program focuses on principles of effective leadership, is committed to the growth and progression of professionals in business, and advances the practice and development of leadership for the benefit of society. This commitment calls forth authenticity, self-confidence, self-reliance, agency, and the ability to inspire and influence others to affect positive change within individuals, groups, and organizations.

The master's degree in Organizational Leadership is:

- a personal and professional investment that will last a lifetime;
- a degree designed for working women (men are eligible to enroll);
- a cohort program that offers a competitive career advantage.

The program is designed to encourage professional and personal development of participants through experiential and active learning that is relevant and transferable to the circumstances in the organizations in which they work. Using the experience, expertise, and varying opinions of participants is viewed as a valuable component of the cohort program. Scholarly research, group tasks, individual assignments and student involvement in teaching and tutoring result in a collaborative approach, thus offering the opportunity for an enhanced learning experience.

Individuals who possess a baccalaureate degree can complete this organizational leadership program in less than 10 months while continuing a full-time work schedule.

## **MOL Program Features**

The content, administration, and implementation of this program were designed specifically to meet the needs of working professionals. The MOL program focuses on women and leadership:

- blends an understanding of business functions and strategic thinking with an understanding of the leadership process and the development of leadership skills;
- enhances participant self-awareness, self-control, and self-confidence through experiential learning in simulated leadership and teamwork situations;
- integrates learning through the development of practical leadership skills combined with intellectual depth and rigor;
- and offers continuous performance assessment and feedback to the participants to facilitate application of key leadership skills and organizational contributions.

The Master in Organizational Leadership program is a 36-credit hour program delivered in six 6-credit hour modules. The program is completed in less than 10 months and is designed as a cohort program, with all students enrolling in the program in the fall and completing it together in the early summer. Classes meet on Saturdays.

MOL 599 Survey of Business Concepts for Women Professionals (6) This survey course is the foundation module for the MOL program, highlighting components of business and focusing on management concepts used in organizational environments. The purpose of this course is to provide the student with a broad base of business knowledge applicable to leadership applications for women.

(This module is required of all students who have not earned bachelor's degrees in business administration or business leadership or who have not completed a series of required business courses from an accredited institution. The Graduate Council reviews applicants' admissions files and submits decisions regarding this requirement to the program director. This module cannot be used to meet the 36-hour degree requirement and will be taken the summer prior to beginning the program.)

## MOL 600 Leadership, Women and You (6)

**Leadership:** The course begins with an examination of various leadership theories and the practice of leadership in a range of settings from profit to not-for-profit, large to small, and domestic and international. Intellectual, psychological, political and social sources of leadership will be examined to understand the theoretical foundation and practical application from a woman's perspective. The course will study a framework developed for high-achieving women, including: acting authentically; making connections, controlling one's destiny (agency); achieving wholeness, and gaining self-clarity.

**Women:** Literature by, for, and about women will provide the foundation for examination from the perspective of what this material suggests as alternative concepts regarding the structure of an organization, interpersonal interaction, styles of leadership and ways of behaving in an organizational setting. Does the glass ceiling, an invisible barrier that determines the level to which a woman can rise in an organization, exist? If so, how do women break through this obstruction?

You: After completing a selection of self-assessment instruments, the results will be discussed. Students will use these results as a basis for designing their personal leadership development plan. This development plan outlines the needs on which they will concentrate on strengthening during their time in the program. Students will learn how to learn at a higher level; develop analytical and creative thinking skills; become active listeners and communicators; manage stress and time; plan, set goals and priorities; present information; understand scholarly research; conduct research; and write scholarly papers.

MOL 610 Traits, Charismatic, Situational, Functional, Transactional, and Transformational Leadership (6) Basic theories of leadership will be examined, not as competing approaches, but as contributions to effective thinking regarding leadership opportunities. Special attention will be given to contemporary theories, including transformational leadership. Transformational leadership theory utilizes elements of reciprocal leadership – it is relational, produces real change, and elevates others into their better selves – components that complement a feminine approach to leading. Substitutes for leadership and how they can be used while developing leadership in an organization will be discussed. The

dysfunctional side of leadership will be considered, for example, narcissism and Machiavellianism.

MOL 620 Team Leadership for Women (6) The basic components of group evolution and performance will be examined in depth, including fundamentals of group interaction, determinants of effective team decisions, leadership functions and roles in decision groups, and appointed and emergent leaders. The course will also focus on leading a group to become a team leading effective teams, and leading self-managed teams. A specific focus on how women can overcome barriers to become more effective team leaders is included.

MOL 630 Social and Ethical Responsibility and Conflict Resolution (6) This module will identify the most common ethical dilemmas of leadership and prevailing ethical perspectives. An in-depth examination will be made of the extent and relative influence of government, competitors, labor unions, consumers, society's expectations, and the personal values of leaders on the decisions made in an organization, incorporating a female perspective on social responsibility. Participants will be provided the opportunity to continue their development of communication and negotiating skills based on concepts of conflict resolution for women in a variety of settings—including those of business, government, cross-cultural, and international arenas.

MOL 640 Power and Influence in Organizations (6) This module focuses on a detailed examination of the sources and uses of power and influence, as well as how power and influence are attained, used, and lost. Power, as it relates to leadership for women, is about regulating the relations of individuals to each other. Power is defined as being the potential influence over the attitudes and behaviors of one or more targeted individuals and influence being the degree of actual change in attitude and behavior. Influence tactics affective for women in leadership situations are studied. Special attention will be given to the components and processes of empowerment for women. Opportunities to influence and be influenced will be provided and the results examined for outcomes and consequences.

MOL 650 Organizational Leadership for Women (6) The nature of organizational politics and opportunities to assess and develop guidelines for desired political skills for women provides the basic structure for the work in this capstone module. The learning objective involves designed opportunities for the individual to advance the process of developing skills to effectively influence an organization toward a high-performance culture in a significantly changing environment staffed by an increasingly diverse workforce by utilizing the concepts involved in a learning organization model.

# **Master of Science in Education (MSE)**

The Teacher Education Master of Science Program is based on the philosophy that learning and growing as a teacher and leader in education is best accomplished when knowledge of theory and practice is balanced by appreciation of creativity and understanding gained through diverse experiences in schools. The faculty believes that is important that candidates' knowledge of theory and practice culminate in personal reflection on that learning. It is important that educators genuinely understand and appreciate the numerous ways in which children learn, express and apply knowledge and learning so that all children in their classes progress. Candidates will not only read and write about education, but will also demonstrate their ability to put their knowledge into action.

## **Program Description**

The Master of Science in Education has three different tracks.

- Specialization in Assessment Leadership (EDU 662, EDU 542, EDU 621, EDU 603, EDU 632, EDU 650, EDU 651, EDU 652, EDU 653, EDU 672, EDU 695)
- Specialization in English as a Second Language (ESL) EDU 662, EDU 542, EDU 621, EDU 603, EDU 632, EDU 515, EDU 520, EDU 506, EDU 525, EDU 573, EDU 695)

#### Courses

**EDU 506 Intercultural Communications (3)** This course emphasizes skills you can utilize throughout your and personal and professional life by preparing you to effectively communicate both within small group settings and one-on-one communication. It is based on a study of self-perceptions and verbal/non-verbal communication moving through audience analysis. Effective interpersonal communication is the key to success in any career field. The course will provide an overview of cultural issues related to second language learners. This knowledge will include an understanding of how language and culture are inseparable, the parents' beliefs of the educational system, and how to create an inclusive, linguistically, and culturally rich learning community where students take risks and learn how to work independently and collaboratively in the educational setting.

**EDU 515 Teaching ESL (3)** This course will provide an understanding of first language development and of second language acquisition. This knowledge will include an understanding of basic research of second language acquisition and instructional strategies that promote second language development. This course will provide a variety of methods and strategies that can be utilized to differentiate instruction to meet the needs of second language learners in a content area class. This course will provide a brief overview of basic federal and state laws related to limited English proficient students. This course will provide instruction on the methodology and strategies for teaching reading and writing to second language learners, including both students who are literate and those who are non-literate in their first language. This course will provide an overview of assessment tools used to measure second language acquisition. This knowledge will include an understanding of intake and placement procedures, and federal requirements related to No Child Left Behind.

**ENG 520 Linguistics for Teachers (3)** This course is a study of the structure of the English language which includes units of lexicography, semantics, and dialects. Linguistics for Teachers

focuses on how knowledge of the way languages work will directly benefit the teaching of English Language Learners. The course covers the linguistic components of language, providing an opportunity for teachers to explore the relevance of linguistics to second/foreign language teaching and learning. The course provides an overview of linguistic, socio linguistic and psycholinguistic analyses as they pertain to the language proficiency and academic achievement of ELL students. Topics to be addressed include pragmatics, semantics, syntax, morphology, phonology, language variation, first language acquisition, second language acquisition, and written language, language.

**EDU 525 Assessment of ESL (3)** This course is designed to acquaint educators with assessment instruments and evaluation procedures including language proficiency testing, entry and placement procedures, theories of second language acquisition, and selection, development, and evaluation of curriculum based on language proficiency. This knowledge will include an understanding of federal requirements related to No Child Left Behind.

**EDU 542 Statistics (3)** This course prepares the graduate student to utilize statistics within a major research project. Descriptive and inferential statistics are studied. Topics include probability theory, various distributions, data description, confidence intervals, sampling designs, quality control and hypothesis testing including *z* test; *t* test; correlation and regression; Chisquare; *F* test and Analysis of Variance; and nonparametric statistics. (Cross listed as EDU 842)

EDU 560 Teaching Middle & Secondary Students (3) The course components emphasize middle school and secondary instruction for the changing early and later adolescent. Instruction provides an educational response to the development needs and characteristics of students between the ages of ten and fifteen and fifteen and nineteen. It is designed to address intellectual, physical, emotional, and social needs of these learners. It emphasizes skills and understandings that result in the provision of effective learning environments for these students. Instruction explores teaching methods, learning styles, motivation, teaming and classroom management, planning and presenting techniques, and student evaluation. Students complete a teaching practicum of 40 hours in a middle or secondary school.

**EDU 573 ESL Practicum (3)** The practicum will provide educators who are planning to teach ESL in the public and private schools with an opportunity to interact with ESL teachers and students in classroom and other appropriate settings. Practicum students will develop understanding of the world of ESL, the challenges confronting teachers, students, and administration, and the resources available to address them. Focus of the practicum is practical application of knowledge and skills of teachers of ESL students, and the development of those skills.

**EDU 603 Leadership in Educational Organizations (3)** The purpose of this course is to provide an examination of theories and research related to leadership in educational organizations. Students will examine major schools of thought regarding leadership theory and organizational theory and will focus on concepts that inform an understanding of how leadership occurs in educational organizations. It is intended to provide students with both an overview of the theoretical basis for meeting the challenges of organizational leadership as well as practical application of the constructs.

EDU 621 Curriculum Design and Program Planning (3) Using sound principles of curriculum development and instructional design, implementation and evaluation, students learn to create a meaningful and significant teaching-learning environment for all students. Students will examine effective practices, procedures and theories for the development, implementation and evaluation of quality curriculum. A major focus of the course is the theoretical relationship among curriculum, instruction and assessment as a basis for creating and evaluating standards-based curriculum. Approaches to standards-based curriculum and assessment are explored and applied to PK-12 classrooms. Current issues and theories about curriculum are analyzed throughout the course. (Many components of this course are in an on-line format.) Students will examine researched best teaching practices and apply them. (Cross listed as NUR 621 and HCE 821)

**EDU 632 Assessment and Evaluation Strategies (3)** This course provides an introduction to best practice principles for educational assessment and evaluation in PK -12 education, continuing education and staff development. Various methods for designing, conducting, and analyzing assessments and evaluations of outcomes on multiple levels including individual student, class, course, curriculum, program and educational organization will be studied and analyzed. Students will explore underlying selection, construction, administration, and interpretation of educational tests, including the constructs of reliability and validity and how to apply them. (Cross listed as NUR 632 and HCE 832)

**EDU 650 Assessment Leadership (3)** This course is focused on the relationship between assessment and learning. Educators will learn to make instructional and curricular decisions based on what students need to learn and how to assess that learning. Learning activities will include development and implementation of genuine authentic and traditional assessments.

EDU 651 Large Scale Assessments (3) Prerequisite: (simultaneous enrollment in EDU 652) This course provides professional educators the opportunity to reflect on their school-wide and district assessment beliefs and practices. Activities and discussions focus on understanding the context within which large scale assessment occurs, understanding and applying specific assessment methods, and communicating about student and organizational achievement. The course is designed to stimulate thought and provide specific opportunities through which educators can improve their current assessment practices.

EDU 652 Classroom Assessments (3) Prerequisite (simultaneous enrollment in EDU 651) This course provides professional educators the opportunity to reflect on their classroom assessment beliefs and practices. Activities and discussions focus on understanding the context within which our work in classroom assessment occurs, understanding and applying specific assessment methods, and communicating about student achievement. The course is designed to stimulate thought and provide specific opportunities through which teachers can improve their current assessment practices.

**EDU 653 Analysis and Dissemination of Data (3)** This course is designed to acquaint education leaders with major methods and techniques of evaluation used to assess and report growth, development, and academic achievement of learners in grades Pre-K - 16, including interpretation and dissemination of standardized test information.

**EDU 662 Research Methods (3)** Evidenced-based inquiry processes will provide students with tools for conducting a major research project. Topics include conceptualizing a research study, designs for research, methodology, data collection, analysis of data, communicating results and utilizing research findings. Application of research methods to PK-12 education, continuing education, or staff development is expected. (Cross listed as HCE 862 and NUR 562)

**EDU 672 Practicum/Action Research in Assessment (3)** Educators implement assessment knowledge and skills acquired through program coursework in genuine educational settings. Through electronic discussion, students share experiences and results of their projects and receive assistance from instructors.

**EDU 695 Capstone Project (6) Prerequisite: Advisor Approval** Students individually explore a problem or issue within their area of educational practice. Similar in weight to a thesis, but more flexible, this final project should synthesize and apply concepts acquired in the graduate program. The student will work closely with an academic advisor throughout the project. Evaluation will focus on the quality and professionalism of applied research and writing; analytical, management, critical and creative thinking; problem-solving skills; and an oral presentation.

# **Master of Science in Nursing (MSN)**

The Master of Science in Nursing degree program is designed to prepare Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) graduates as educators and leaders in higher education, continuing education, staff development or patient education. Graduates will incorporate evidence-based educational methods and strategies within the specialty area and advanced practice role of academic nursing educator. This degree provides a foundation for a future educational doctoral degree.

## **Program Description**

The MSN program has three core courses (nine credit hours) relating to research, theories and critical issues, and academic integrity (ethics). The major (education) in the MSN program has six educational courses (18 credit hours) specifically relating to preparing the graduate for the advanced practice role of nurse educator. There are two cognate courses (six credit hours): statistics and leadership. The major project (three credit hours) provides the MSN student an opportunity to apply the knowledge, skills, and values acquired throughout the MSN program. The total hours for the MSN program is 36 semester credit hours.

## **Graduation Requirements**

Major Project - The major project experience is under the direction of the graduate faculty. The expectation for the major project is to further develop an interest derived from the MSN studies. Students will be expected to present the project in a scholarly manner. Examples include a thesis or planning and implementing a substantial educational endeavor.

Research Components - Students must demonstrate beginning skills in qualitative and quantitative research methods. Students should have experiences in designing, conducting, interpreting and communicating research. Research tools should also include educational measurements and evaluation and computer assisted analysis and research methodologies.

Residency Requirements - 24 of the 36 hour MSN program must be taken at College of Saint Mary.

#### **Courses**

**NUR 531: Directed Readings in Nursing Education (3)** This graduate level course requires the student to conduct a scholarly research literature review specific to a selected aspect of nursing education. Each student will conduct a thorough literature review with depth and breadth. There is the potential that this course can be useful in defining and designing the literature review for the major project. Topics will be selected in conjunction with the graduate faculty. Prerequisites: Graduate level standing

**EDU 542: Statistics (3)** This graduate level course prepares the graduate student to utilize statistics within a major research project. Descriptive and inferential statistics are studied. Topics include probability theory, various distributions, data description, confidence intervals, sampling designs, quality control and hypothesis testing including *z* test; *t* test; correlation and regression; Chi-square; *F* test and Analysis of Variance; and nonparametric statistics. Prerequisites: Admission to program (Cross Listed as EDU 842)

- **EDU 723: Leadership in Educational Organizations (3)** This graduate level course characterizes best practices of leadership in higher education institutions. Systems theory and organizational best practices form the framework for this course. Concepts such as accreditation, governance, strategic planning, higher education law and academic quality improvement processes will be studied in a variety of academic organizations to include higher education, staff development, continuing education and patient education. Concurrent: NUR 655: Practicum in Nursing Education NUR 659: Major Project in Nursing Education (Cross Listed as EDU 823)
- **NUR 562: Research Methods (3)** Evidenced-based inquiry processes will provide the student with tools for conducting a major research project. Topics include conceptualizing a research study, designs for research, methodology, data collection, analysis of data, communicating results and utilizing research findings. Application of research methods to higher education, continuing education, staff development or patient education is expected. Prerequisites: Admission to MSN program Concurrent: EDU 542: Statistics (Cross listed as EDU 662 and HCE 862)
- **NUR 568: Theories and Critical Issues in Nursing (3)** This course examines theories and concepts that are foundations of nursing and health care. A wide-range of theories from nursing and other disciplines will be analyzed in relation to their applicability to evidenced-based practice. Critical issues affecting health care delivery and outcomes will also be examined. Prerequisites: NUR 562: Research Methods, EDU 542: Statistics. Concurrent: NUR 569: Teaching and Learning Theories and Concepts, PHL 624: Academic Integrity
- **NUR 569: Nursing Education: Teaching and Learning Theories and Concepts (3)** This graduate level course examines the role of the nurse as educator through the application of teaching and learning theories and concepts across a variety of settings in nursing education, health care and the community. Evidence-based teaching strategies to engage learners in inquiry and overt, active learning will be foundational in creating a stimulating learning environment to meet mutually determined outcomes for the individual learner, group or organization.

  Prerequisites: NUR 562: Research Methods, EDU 542: Statistics Concurrent: NUR 568: Theories and Critical Issues in Nursing, PHL 624: Academic Integrity
- **NUR 621: Curriculum Design and Program Planning (3)** This graduate level course focuses on designing nursing curriculum in diverse learning environments using evidence-based theories and concepts as well as relevant standards and criteria for evaluation. Development, implementation and evaluation of a continuing education program for staff, patient or public education also is emphasized. Prerequisites: NUR 569: Teaching and Learning Theories and Concepts Concurrent: NUR 632: Assessment and Evaluation Strategies in Education, NUR 637: Teaching Strategies and Technology in Nursing Education (Cross Listed as EDU 621 and HCE 821)
- **NUR 632: Assessment and Evaluation Strategies in Education (3)** This graduate level course focuses on best practice principles for educational assessment and evaluation in higher education, continuing education, staff development and patient education. Various methods for designing, conducting, and analyzing assessments and evaluations of outcomes on multiple levels including individual student, class, course, curriculum, program and educational organization will be appraised. Prerequisites:

  NUR 569: Teaching and Learning Theories

and Concepts Concurrent: NUR 621: Curriculum Design and Program Planning, NUR 637: Teaching Strategies and Technology in Nursing Education (Cross listed as EDU 632 and HCE 832)

**NUR 637: Teaching Strategies and Technology in Nursing Education (3)** This course focuses on the application of evidence-based student-centered teaching strategies in diverse learning settings. Integrating educational technology within the learning environment also is a component of the course. Prerequisites: NUR 569: Teaching and Learning Theories and Concepts Concurrent: NUR 621: Curriculum Design and Program Planning NUR 632: Assessment and Evaluation Strategies in Education

NUR 655: Nursing Education: Teaching and Learning Practicum (3) This graduate level course focuses on the implementation of the nurse educator role through the application of teaching and learning theories and concepts for a chosen learner population in nursing higher education, staff development, continuing education or patient education. The role will be analyzed and applied in collaboration with a master's prepared nurse educator preceptor. Evidence-based teaching strategies will be developed into a comprehensive teaching plan to engage learners in inquiry and overt, active learning and implemented to meet mutually determined outcomes for the individual learner, group or organization. Prerequisites: NUR 621: Curriculum Design and Program Planning, NUR 632:Assessment and Evaluation Strategies in Education, NUR 637: Teaching Strategies and Technology in Nursing Education Concurrent: NUR 659: Major Project in Nursing Education, EDU 723: Leadership in Educational Organizations.

**NUR 659: Major Project in Nursing Education (3)** The major project provides the opportunity for the student to apply the knowledge and skills acquired throughout the MSN program. The student will develop, implement, and evaluate a substantial educational endeavor related to nursing education, staff development, continuing education or patient education within the context of an organization. Evidence-based practice and research will be utilized throughout the program. Prerequisites: NUR 621: Curriculum Design and Program Planning, NUR 632: Assessment and Evaluation Strategies in Education, NUR 637: Teaching Strategies and Technology in Nursing Education. Concurrent: NUR 655: Practicum in Nursing Education, EDU 723: Leadership in Educational Organizations

PHL 624: Academic Integrity (3) This applied ethics course examines the implications of several influential philosophical theories for a broad range of questions bearing on research, teaching, role expectations, the allocation of health care resources, and contemporary biomedical dilemmas in organizations of higher education, continuing education, staff development or patient education. Prerequisites: NUR 562: Research Methods, EDU 542: Statistics Concurrent: NUR 568: Theories and Critical Issues in Nursing NUR 569: Teaching and Learning Theories and Concepts (Cross listed as PHL 824)

# Certificate in Paralegal Studies (must hold Bachelor degree in another field).

The goals of the Paralegal Studies Program are:

- 1. Paralegal majors will demonstrate comprehensive understanding of selected areas of substantive and procedural law.
- 2. Paralegal majors will demonstrate an understanding of the paralegal profession and its ethical dimensions.
- 3. Paralegal majors will demonstrate effective legal research and writing skills.
- 4. The paralegal Studies Program will be recognized as a center of excellence for paralegal education.

College of Saint Mary's Paralegal Studies Program offers three routes to a degree in the paralegal field: Associate or Bachelor's degree programs, plus a Certificate for students who already hold a Bachelor's degree in another field. Each degree option includes a broadly based liberal arts curriculum plus a required component of law courses. Students study substantive areas of the law plus legal research and writing, litigation and ethics. The Program Director and Assistant Director are lawyers, and all law classes are taught by attorneys.

**Major Sequence:** 26 hours including: LAW 101, 110, 200, 210, 220 and 230; any two selected from LAW 300, 310, 320, 330, 340, 350, and 359; and any three selected from LAW 410, 420, 430, 440 and 450 (LAW 470 is recommended as an elective); and any one selected from ACC 161, PHL 105, and 220.

**Supporting Courses:** 9 hours including BIS 101 or 220; any one selected from COM 210, HSV 231, and

PHL 105; and any one selected from ACC 161 or PHL 220, A grade of C must be earned in all law courses.

See Undergraduate Catalog for course descriptions. http://www.csm.edu/CSM Catalog/

# **Faculty**

#### Deanna Acklie

Associate Professor of Education B.A., University of Nebraska, Kearney M.A., University of Nebraska, Kearney Ph.D., University of Nebraska, Lincoln

#### Karla Bergan

Assistant Professor of Creative Arts & Communication
B.S., Nebraska Wesleyan University
M.A., University of Nebraska, Lincoln
Ph.D., University of Nebraska, Lincoln

### James M. Burger

Professor of Human Services/Psychology B.S., Loyola University of Chicago M.A., University of Nebraska, Lincoln Ph.D., University of Nebraska, Lincoln

#### Mary Kay Dobrovolny, RSM

Assistant Professor of Theology B.S., Creighton University M.A., Catholic Theological Union Ph.D, Vanderbilt University

## **Donna Ehrlich**

Associate Professor of Health Professions B.S., Friends University, Kansas M.S., Friends University, Kansas Ph.D., Nova Southeastern University

#### **Thomas Freeman**

Assistant Professor of Biology B.S., Texas Tech University M.S., Texas Tech University Ph.D., Texas Tech University

#### **Kristin Haas**

Assistant Professor of Occupational Therapy B.S., University of Nebraska, Lincoln M.O.T., Midwestern University O.T.D, University of Saint Augustine

## **Phyllis Higley**

Assistant Professor of Biology B.S., Cornell University M.S., Iowa State University Ph.D., Iowa State University

#### **Bette-B Bauer**

Associate Professor of English B.A., Mills College M.A., San Francisco State University Ph.D., University of Oregon

#### **Sally Bisson**

Associate Professor of Paralegal Studies B.A., University of Nebraska, Omaha J.D., University of Nebraska, Lincoln

### Jing Chang

Assistant Professor in Mathematics Bachelors of Electrical Engineering, China Masters of Information Engineering, China Masters of Mathematics, Tennessee Tech Univ Ph.D., Southern Illinois Univ

#### Judith Ann Eby, R.S.M.

Assistant Professor of Theology B.A., Xavier University M.A., University of Dayton Ph.D., St. Louis University

## **Melanie Felton**

Associate Professor of Education B.S., Iowa State University M.S., Iowa State University Ph.D., University of Nebraska, Lincoln

### Fermín García

Assistant Professor of Spanish B.A., University of Nebraska M.A., University of Nebraska Ph.D., University of Nebraska

#### **Peggy Lee Jensen Hawkins**

Professor of Nursing B.S.N., University of Nebraska M.S.N., University of Nebraska Ph.D., University of Nebraska

#### Rebecca Hoss

Assistant Professor of Human Services and Psychology B.A., Creighton University, Omaha M.A., University of Texas, Austin Ph.D., University of Texas, Austin

#### **Peter Ilich**

Assistant Professor of Chemistry B.S., University of Sarajevo, Bosnia M.S., Yale University Ph.D., Rudier Boskovic Institute, Croatia

#### **Brena Mauck**

Assistant Professor of Biology B.S. Fort Hays Kansas St. College B.S., Washburn University, Topeka, KS M.B.A., Washburn University, Topeka, KS Ph.D., Wright State University, Dayton, OH

#### Patricia J. Morin

Professor of Nursing B.S.N., University of Nebraska M.S.N., University of California-San Francisco Ph.D., University of Nebraska, Lincoln

#### Sr. Aline Paris, R.S.M.

Assistant Professor of Theology B.A., Trinity College, Burlington, VT M.A., St. Michaels College, Winooski, VT D.M., Catholic Theological Union

#### Shari M. Prior

Associate Professor of Philosophy B.A., Syracuse University Ph.D., University of Iowa

#### Sue Schlichtemeier-Nutzman

Assistant Professor of Business B.A., University of Nebraska, Lincoln M.A., University of Nebraska, Lincoln Ph.D., University of Nebraska, Lincoln

#### **Mark Scott**

Assistant Professor of English B.A., University of Colorado M.A., Rutgers University Ph.D., Rutgers University

## Carol Stoecklin, R.S.M.

BA, Mercy College of Detroit MTS, St. John's Provisional Seminary MA, St. Louis University Ph.D., St. Louis University

#### Lois Linden

Assistant Professor of Nursing B.S., Midland Lutheran College M.S.N., University of Minnesota Ed.D., College of Saint Mary

## **Tammy Moerer**

Assistant Professor of Master in Organizational Leadership B.S., University of Nebraska at Kearney M.S., University of Nebraska, Omaha Ph.D., University of Nebraska, Lincoln

#### **Ganesh Naik**

Assistant Professor of Chemistry B.S., University of Mumbai, India M.S., University of Mumbai, India Ph.D., University of Mumbai, India

#### **Christine Pharr**

B.A., Mount Marty College M.A., University of South Dakota Ph.D., University of Idaho

#### **Jennifer Reed-Bouley**

Associate Professor of Theology Service Learning Coordinator B.A., University of Notre Dame M.A., Loyola University, Chicago Ph.D., Loyola University, Chicago

### Merryellen Schulz

Associate Professor of Education B.A., Wayne State College M.S.Ed., University of Nebraska, Omaha Ph.D., University of Nebraska, Lincoln

## Sr. Maryanne Stevens, R.S.M.

Professor of Theology B.A., College Misericordia M.A., Saint Louis University Ph.D., Boston College

#### **Callie Watson**

Assistant Professor for Occupational Therapy B.A., Hastings College B.O.T. Creighton University O.T.D., Creighton University

# Molly Wernli

Assistant Professor of Psychology B.A., University of Nebraska, Omaha M.A., University of Nebraska, Omaha Ph.D., University of Nebraska, Lincoln

# Catherine A. Dunn-Whittinghill

Assistant Professor of Paralegal Studies B.A., Trinity University J.D., Catholic University of America