Qatar Health Care Environment

One of the major components of the Qatar National Health Strategy is a cancer strategy that identifies the immediate need for advanced practice nurses in the areas of oncology and palliative care. The major provider of health care services in Qatar is Hamad Medical Corporation (HMC). To date, HMC’s hiring of advanced practice nurses (masters and PhD prepared) in oncology and palliative care is from overseas (England, U.S.A., Canada) to fill the immediate need.

The State of Qatar’s healthcare system is undergoing a major transformation. An ambitious healthcare strategy has been set out which includes an upgrading of the education level of health professionals. Nursing is one area that requires advanced healthcare practitioners to meet the reforms proposed.

This UCQ Master of Nursing program focuses on the clinical area of oncology. Local nurses who graduate from the program will be qualified to take on advanced practice roles with HMC to contribute to evidence-informed, high quality cancer care.

For more detailed information, please visit:
ucalgary.edu.qa/prospective
Master of Nursing - focus in oncology

Advanced practice

The University of Calgary — Qatar offers a course-based Master of Nursing, Advance Practice degree in partnership with Hamad Medical Corporation. New student intake is in January each year. In support of the Qatar National Cancer Strategy, the focus of the program is oncology nursing.

Admission Requirements

Prospective students are required to apply for admission to the University of Calgary — Qatar. Recommendations for admission must also be approved by the Faculty of Graduate Studies at the University of Calgary (Calgary, Canada).

Admission requirements are as follows:

1. A bachelor’s/baccalaureate degree in nursing
2. A grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 or above
3. Successful completion of one undergraduate 3.0 credit course in research methodology
4. At least one undergraduate 3.0 credit course in statistics
5. Qualify for sponsorship with HMC

Preferred attributes:

1. In the context of our partner relationship with Hamad Medical Corporation, preference will normally be given to Qatari applicants who meet admission requirements
2. Qatari permanent residents are also encouraged to apply
3. A preferred minimum of two years (full time or equivalent) clinical experience in oncology nursing
4. Capacity to speak Arabic fluently
5. Successful applicants would be required to sign a scholarship contract with HMC. Obligations include commitment to take up an assigned Clinical Nursing Specialist post for three years upon graduation. Benefits packages are also included

Program Details

This is a full-time program and will require a high level of commitment to learning, self-direction, and self-discipline. High levels of scholarship, inquiry, and academic writing are required of students throughout the program. There are both theory and practicum based courses in the program.

The anticipated schedule is as follows (subject to change).

Year One

January – April
NURS 605: Philosophical Foundations for Advanced Nursing Practice
NURS 611: Theoretical Knowledge and Advanced Nursing Practice
NURS 627: Academic Scholarly Writing

May – June
NURS 609: Applied Statistics for Nursing Research
Nursing Elective in Oncology

September – December
NURS 621: Quantitative Designs and Analysis
NURS 683: Qualitative Designs and Analysis
NURS 629: Evidenced Based Nursing

Year Two

January - December
NURS 633: Leadership in Advanced Nursing Practice and Practicum I
NURS 634: Advance Nursing Practice: Practicum II
Nursing Elective in Oncology
Final Exit Exam

Note: The final examination will be an oral defense of the summative project which is culminated from the two practicum courses (Nursing 633 and 634) in the student’s field of study (oncology).

Required Supporting Documents for Application to the Program

1. Transcripts from all post-secondary institutions attended.
2. A copy of undergraduate degree.
3. Two references — one from someone capable of assessing your academic and research ability (normally an academic), and one from someone who can attest to your nursing practice and expertise.
4. Proof of English language proficiency (minimum scores on the following: TOEFL score of 600 (written) or 100 (internet-based); IELTS score of 7.0; MELAB score of 83; exempt score on UCQ Accuplacer; or completion of Level 4 on the English for Academic Programs (EAP).
5. Proof of current cardio-pulmonary resuscitation at the Basic Rescuer or Basic Cardiac Life Support Level “C”.
6. A letter of intent describing your desired clinical focus within oncology (1-2 pages).
7. A current resume.

Contact Information

Anticipated intake each January is nine students.

For additional information on sponsorship please contact Ms. Charlotte Haider at HMC at chaider@hmc.org.qa.

For specific program/admissions related questions please contact Melissa Manuel at UCQ at mmanuel@ucalgary.edu.qa.