4.4.3 Degree Requirements and Curriculum Structure

Degree Requirements and Curriculum Structure

The MSc (Nursing) comprises 20 modular credits and a 40,000 word thesis.
The PhD comprises 28 modular credits and an 80,000 word thesis.

Students will undertake research under the supervision of staff members from NUS Nursing for their period of candidature, at the end of which a thesis will be submitted for examination by the Thesis Examination Panel. In addition to the research component, students are required to fulfil a coursework component comprising of the following:

MSc (Nursing) : 3 core + 1 elective modules
PhD : 3 core + 3 elective modules

Modules taken will be at levels 5000 and 6000 and must be equivalent to at least 4 module credits. Elective modules can be chosen from those offered by NUS Nursing or any School or Research Institutes/Centres affiliated with the National University of Singapore (subject to the university guidelines). These are subject to the approval of the supervisors and the Head of NUS Nursing.

To be confirmed a PhD candidate; a student is required to pass a PhD qualifying examination within two years from the date of admission.

Candidates deemed weak in English by the Alice Lee Centre for Nursing Studies would also have to sit for the Diagnostic English Test and take additional English Language courses conducted by the Centre for English Language Communication.

All PhD candidates are required to take ES5002 (Advanced Level Writing) regardless of their performance in the Diagnostic English Test.

Residency Requirements and Candidature

Residency requirements

All candidates must spend a minimum period of residence in Singapore as follows:

MSc (Nursing) : 6 months (one semester)
PhD : 18 months (three semesters)

Residency requires:
a. Payment of fees;
b. Satisfying all curricular requirements of the programme of study; and
c. Satisfying other departmental requirements such as teaching assistance

Periods of study leave and overseas fieldwork do not count toward residency. In addition, MSc (Nursing) and PhD candidates must be resident during the semester in which they submit their thesis for examination.

Candidature

The following maximum candidature periods are inclusive of periods of approved study leave and leave of absence.

MSc (Nursing) : 36 months (Full-time & Part-time)
PhD : 60 months (Full-time & Part-time)

Continuation and graduation requirements

Continuation

For continuation of candidature, candidates have to meet the following Cumulative Average Point (CAP) set for coursework:

MSc (Nursing) : CAP should not fall below 2.50 for two consecutive semesters or 3.00 for three consecutive semesters
PhD : CAP should not fall below 3.00 for two consecutive semesters or 3.50 for three consecutive semesters

Termination of candidature would result if a student fails to maintain the minimum CAP as stipulated above.

MSc (Nursing) candidate whose CAP falls below 3.00 (but ≥ 2.50), will be issued an academic warning. If the candidate’s CAP again falls below 3.00 in the following semester, he/she will be placed on probation. If the candidate’s CAP remains below 3.00 for the third consecutive semester, the candidate will be issued a letter of dismissal by the Registrar and denied re-admission.

MSc (Nursing) candidates whose CAP falls below 2.50 for two consecutive semesters will be placed on probation for the first semester, followed by dismissal in the second semester.

A PhD candidate whose CAP falls below 3.50 (but ≥ 3.00), will be issued an academic warning. If the candidate’s CAP again falls below 3.50 in the following semester, he/she will be placed on probation. If the student’s CAP remains below 3.50 for the third consecutive semester, the student will be issued a
letter of dismissal by the Registrar and denied re-admission.

PhD candidates whose CAP falls below 3.00 for two consecutive semesters will be placed on probation for the first semester, followed by dismissal in the second semester.

A student may also be issued a warning, placed on probation or be issued a letter of termination for poor performance in the PhD qualifying examination, research thesis, or other programme requirements.

Such a student may appeal the dismissal if there are extenuating circumstances. The appeal must be submitted to NUS Nursing within two calendar weeks of the last day of the release of each semester’s examination results.

Generally, a student is allowed only one such appeal per candidature. If the appeal is rejected, the student will not be readmitted. If the outcome of the appeal is positive, the student will be given one semester in which to achieve the minimum CAP required for continuation and graduation.

**Graduation Requirements**

**MSc (Nursing)**

- Pass three core and one elective modules (with 20 modular credits)
- A CAP of at least 3.00 (B-) in the elective module
- A Satisfactory grade in the three core modules
- Pass the MSc (Nursing) Thesis
- A minimum grade of C+ for all levels of English course(s) where applicable

**PhD**

- Pass three core and three elective modules (with 28 modular credits)
- A CAP of at least 3.50 (B) in the elective modules
- A Satisfactory grade in the three core modules
- Pass the Qualifying Examination comprising of a comprehensive written examination and oral defence of the PhD Thesis proposal
- Satisfactory performance at the annual PhD Symposium (formative assessment)
- Pass the PhD Thesis and Oral Examination
- A minimum grade of C+ for all levels of English course(s), where applicable

**Leave of absence**

The University policies on leave of absence shall apply.

**Examination rules**

The University policies on examination rules shall apply.