



**SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS  
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS FORMS**

**Substantive Program Modification Form**

<b>UNIVERSITY:</b>	<b>SDSU</b>
<b>CURRENT PROGRAM TITLE:</b>	<b>Nursing (Ph.D.)</b>
<b>CIP CODE:</b>	<b>51.3801</b>
<b>UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT:</b>	<b>Grad Study – Nursing</b>
<b>BANNER DEPARTMENT CODE:</b>	<b>SGPA</b>
<b>UNIVERSITY DIVISION:</b>	<b>Graduate School</b>
<b>BANNER DIVISION CODE:</b>	<b>3G</b>

**University Approval**

*To the Board of Regents and the Executive Director: I certify that I have read this proposal, that I believe it to be accurate, and that it has been evaluated and approved as provided by university policy.*

Dennis D. Hedge

10/29/2020

\_\_\_\_\_  
Vice President of Academic Affairs or  
President of the University

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**1. This modification addresses a change in:**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Total credits required within the discipline | <input type="checkbox"/> Total credits of supportive course work |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Total credits of elective course work        | <input type="checkbox"/> Total credits required for program      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Program name  | <input type="checkbox"/> Existing specialization                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CIP Code  | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (explain below)                   |

**2. Effective date of change:** 2021-2022 Academic Year

**3. Program Degree Level:** Associate  Bachelor's  Master's  Doctoral

**4. Category:** Certificate  Specialization  Minor  Major

**5. If a name change is proposed, the change will occur:**

- On the effective date for all students
- On the effective date for students new to the program (enrolled students will graduate from existing program)
- Proposed new name:

**6. Primary Aspects of the Modification:**

*Existing Curriculum*

*Proposed Curriculum (highlight changes)*

Pref.	Num.	Title	Cr.Hrs.	Pref.	Num.	Title	Cr. Hrs.
60 Credit Plan				60 Credit Plan			
HSC	631	Biostatistics I	3	HSC	631	Biostatistics I	3
HSC	731	Biostatistics II	3	HSC	731	Biostatistics II	3
NURS	810	Doctoral Seminar	3	NURS	810	Doctoral Seminar	2
NURS	815	Philosophical Basis for Nursing Inquiry	3	NURS	815	Philosophical Basis for Nursing Inquiry	3
NURS	820	Theory Development in Nursing	3	NURS	820	Theory Development in Nursing	3
NURS	825	Qualitative Methods in Nursing Research	3	NURS	825	Qualitative Methods in Nursing Research	3

Existing Curriculum

Proposed Curriculum (*highlight changes*)

Prof.	Num.	Title	Cr.Hrs.	Prof.	Num.	Title	Cr. Hrs.
NURS	830	Quantitative Methods in Nursing Research	3	NURS	830	Quantitative Methods in Nursing Research	3
NURS	835	Ethical Issues Influencing Practice & Research in Health Disciplines	2	NURS	835	Ethical Issues Influencing Practice & Research in Health Disciplines	2
				NURS	845	Measurement and Instrument Evaluation in Health Sciences Research	3
NURS	895	Practicum	3	NURS	895	Practicum	3
NURS	898D	Dissertation	19-22	NURS	898D	Dissertation	23-26
		Electives (Must include one additional statistics or research methods course. Methods or statistics will be found in the title. Graduate students must consult with their advisors prior to registration.)	12-15			Electives (Must include one additional statistics or research methods course. Methods or statistics will be found in the title. Graduate students must consult with their advisors prior to registration.)	9-12
90 Credit Plan				90 Credit Plan			
HSC	631	Biostatistics I	3	HSC	631	Biostatistics I	3
HSC	731	Biostatistics II	3	HSC	731	Biostatistics II	3
NURS	615	Foundations of Advanced Nursing	3	NURS	615	Foundations of Advanced Nursing	3
NURS	670	Health Policy, Legislation, Economics, and Ethics	3	NURS	670	Health Policy, Legislation, Economics, and Ethics	3
NURS	675	Cultural Competence in Healthcare	3	NURS	675	Cultural Competence in Healthcare	3
NURS	810	Doctoral Seminar	3	NURS	810	Doctoral Seminar	2
NURS	815	Philosophical Basis for Nursing Inquiry	3	NURS	815	Philosophical Basis for Nursing Inquiry	3
NURS	820	Theory Development in Nursing	3	NURS	820	Theory Development in Nursing	3
NURS	825	Qualitative Research Methods in Nursing Research	3	NURS	825	Qualitative Research Methods in Nursing Research	3
NURS	830	Quantitative Methods in Nursing Research	3	NURS	830	Quantitative Methods in Nursing Research	3
NURS	835	Ethical Issues Influencing Practice & Research in Health	2	NURS	835	Ethical Issues Influencing Practice & Research in Health	2
NURS	840	Health Promotion Theory and Research in Underserved Populations	3	NURS	840	Health Promotion Theory and Research in Underserved Populations	3
NURS	845	Measurement and Instrument Evaluation in Health Sciences Research	3	NURS	845	Measurement and Instrument Evaluation in Health Sciences Research	3
NURS	895	Practicum	3	NURS	895	Practicum	3
NURS	898D	Dissertation	19-22	NURS	898D	Dissertation	23-26
		Electives (Must include one additional statistics or research methods course. Methods or statistics will be found in the title. Graduate students must consult with their advisors prior to registration.)	27-30			Electives (Must include one additional statistics or research methods course. Methods or statistics will be found in the title. Graduate students must consult with their advisors prior to registration.)	27-30
Total number of hours required for degree			60-90	Total number of hours required for degree			60-90

**7. Explanation of the Change:**

Applications to the Nursing Ph.D. program at SDSU have declined in the last few years. To remain competitive, program changes are proposed as a strategy to increase recruitment of more place-bound students nationally as well as from outside South Dakota and surrounding states.

Since the program was launched in 2005, courses have been taught following an executive weekend model, i.e., one Friday/Saturday face-to-face synchronous session per month (four sessions per class) augmented by additional online activities. Goals of the changes are to promote accessible education for future nurse scientists to pursue the research doctorate in nursing, increase enrollment, create a delivery option comparable to what is available at similar universities across the country, and strengthen research outcomes for faculty and students. Concomitant with these proposed changes, delivery has been converted to all online delivery (with the exception of NURS 810 Seminar as described below), and the executive weekend course delivery model is eliminated.

The college recommends the following curriculum changes within the Nursing Ph.D. Program:

- Reduce NURS 810 Seminar from 3 credits taught face-to-face (1 credit per year over 3 years) to 2 credits (1 credit per year over 2 years) delivered as a required on-campus immersion (face-to-face) experience augmented by distance education or pre- and post-assignments. This delivery format is congruent with trends and typical curriculum requiring a residency experience at other universities with online Nursing Ph.D. Programs. The immersion experience is critical to nurse scientist socialization and provides the opportunity for students to become familiar with faculty and university resources. The expectation is for student presence on campus for a 3-day structured immersion experience and that all college Ph.D. faculty would participate. The course description and learning outcomes are unchanged and can still be accomplished in the revised delivery format. The 1 credit decrease is reassigned to NURS 898 Dissertation.
- Change NURS 845 Measurement and Instrument Evaluation in Health Sciences (3 cr) from an elective to a required course. This had been a required course when the program was started but was changed to an elective several years ago. The faculty have reassessed curriculum and conclude content in this course is essential to quantitative research expertise in the nurse scientist role and is needed to strengthen research outcomes for students and faculty. With this change, program elective credits are decreased by 3 (from 12-15 to 9-12).
- Eliminate NURS 895 Research Practicum. This variable credit course was created when the program was launched to enable students to have an immersion experience with the type of research they are intending to use for the dissertation research while still completing coursework. The 3 credit research practicum gave students planned opportunities to experience all phases of their intended research. Over time, it has become apparent NURS 895 is redundant with dissertation research, and thus it is not necessary to be identified as a separate course. The three credit course is eliminated with the credits subsumed as additional dissertation credits (increased from 19-22 to 23-26).