

EARN YOUR ONLINE PSYCHIATRIC MENTAL HEALTH NURSE PRACTITIONER DEGREE (PMHNP) FROM SOUTHERN MISS!

**90%+ ONLINE****TRUSTED FACULTY****MILITARY FRIENDLY****AFFORDABLE**

NURSING (PSYCHIATRIC MENTAL HEALTH NURSE PRACTITIONER) MSN

Graduate

You are academically ready to take your passion for nursing to the next level, but a traditional classroom education is not compatible with your busy schedule. Fortunately, The University of Southern Mississippi provides a viable option with our online psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner degree (PMHNP).

This convenient and affordable online degree can be completed within six semesters! It prepares graduate nurses with the tools necessary to provide care to mental health patients. Our program is focused on individual, group, and family intervention. It provides a scientific and research-based curriculum to prepare our practitioners for the professional world.

Advisors are ready to guide you through this next step in your life; join USM today! This is your life, plus college.

Check out some of the jobs our graduates landed after earning their degree.

- Psychiatric Registered Nurse
- Behavioral Health
- Nurse Practitioner (Mental Health Outpatient)
- Primary Care Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse
- Staff Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse
- RN Psychiatric Mental Health House Supervisor
- Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Care Coordinator
- Staff and Clinical Psychiatric Mental Health RN
- Psych/Behavioral Nurse

Alternately, USM also offers a [Family Nurse Practitioner online degree \(MSN\)](#).
Your future starts at Southern Miss!

COURSES

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

The generic Master of Science in Nursing degree requires a minimum of 92 undergraduate credit hours that include 30 hours of credit for lower-division nursing courses. The student must complete 22 hours of upper division nursing courses with a GPA of 3.0 or better. Students declare their emphasis area at the time of admission to the program. All candidates for the degree must complete a minimum of 30 semester hours of coursework leading to the Master of Science in Nursing Degree. Students seeking admission to the Family Nurse Practitioner Program must meet the additional requirements for admission and complete a minimum of 45 semester hours of coursework. Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner students must complete a minimum of 46 semester hours of coursework. Academic progression policies are the same for all master's degree students. **A comprehensive exam is required.** The students must complete the entire program of study and have a 3.0 GPA in order to receive a degree.

If a student has a felony conviction, the student may not be able to complete the degree because the student may not be able to perform the clinical experience.

ADDITIONAL NOTE

Please note that the above information is meant to be a guide and is not official. For further information regarding courses for this degree, see the University Bulletin.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- + Where can I complete my clinical work?**
Clinical work can be completed at an approved state of Mississippi facility.
- + Can this degree be completed fully online?**
Online Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Degree courses can be complete fully online, but two campus visits in your first semester are required.
- + Are there additional fees?**
Additional course fees may apply to the online Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Degree. Fees range between \$30 – \$250.
- + What degree plans does the Master's Program at the USM College of Nursing offer?**
The College of Nursing offers two online programs: Family Nurse Practitioner and Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner.
- + How long are the programs?**

The program length varies with each program.

Family- 45 semester hours

Psych- 48 semester hours

+ Do you offer an RN-MSN program?

Yes, however upon completion, students in this particular program do not receive a Bachelor's of Science in Nursing.

+ How many students will be accepted?

Again, the number of students accepted varies with each program, the number of applications received, and the overall standing of those applicants. Each year the numbers can be different, but for the standard we allow 40-50 students into the Master's Program each fall.

+ When is the deadline to apply?

The online Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Degree program only offers admission in the fall, and the application deadline to apply is March 1st for all Master's programs.

+ Where do I apply?

Applicants should apply to the USM graduate school here:

- <http://apps.usm.edu/graduate-school/grad-school-apps/>

+ What are the admission requirements (Specific to the College of Nursing programs)?

- Graduated from a baccalaureate program accredited by the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission or the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education.
- GPA of 3.0 in undergraduate nursing courses.
- Submission of scores on the verbal and analytical sections of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE).
- Admission to the Graduate School at USM.
- Completion of an introductory course in statistics.
- Submission of three letters of reference from individuals familiar with the applicant's academic and professional background and experience in nursing practice, specifying in detail the applicant's capabilities for graduate study and for future practice as an advanced practice nurse.
- Proof of current unrestricted Mississippi RN license.
- Proof of Current CPR certification, Criminal Background Check and/or affidavit, hepatitis immunization, TB skin test, Tdap.

*NO medical records should be sent to Student Services in the College of Nursing until they have been notified of acceptance.

+ Do we offer a part-time plan of study?

Yes, the Department of Advanced Practice allows part-time plans of study to better serve the nursing community and help balance work with furthering one's education. Each program allows for a part-time track.

+ Do we offer Post-Master Certificates?

Students who have earned a master's degree in nursing are able to enroll in post-master's coursework to complete requirements needed for nurse practitioner certification.

All students entering the nurse practitioner tracks must complete a graduate level course in advanced pathophysiology, advanced pharmacology and advanced health assessment for nurse practitioners.

+ What are the descriptions of the three programs?

Family Nurse Practitioner

The online program of study is designed to prepare graduate nurses to provide primary health care in rural and urban community health settings. Upon completion of the program, the graduate is qualified to apply for certification as a nurse practitioner with the American Nurses Credentialing Center and the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners. Students continue the full-time program of study for four semesters.

Adult Gerontological Nurse Practitioner

The online program of study is designed to prepare graduate nurses to provide health care and address the specialized needs of the adult population in rural and urban community health settings.

Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner

The online program of study is designed to prepare graduate nurses to provide adult mental health care in diverse community health settings. Study is focused on individual group and family interventions. Upon completion of the program, the graduate is qualified to apply for the certification examination as a nurse practitioner. The online Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Degree program of study may be taken full-time or part-time. Students may complete the full-time program of study in six semesters.

+ What is the curriculum?

Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner

All students admitted to the Family Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Program take courses from the graduate core as well as PMHNP courses. The core courses are designed to enable the student to study the problems and concerns of a specialized area of nursing from a theoretical perspective. Core courses may be completed on a part-time basis prior to admission to the PMHNP program. All students also take a designated number of courses from their area of study. These courses provide students with the opportunity to develop competence and expertise as a psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner.

+ What is the difference between didactic and clinical coursework?

Didactic coursework involves critical thinking and theory development in regards to the certain program. Core courses in the graduate programs are considered didactic. Clinical coursework is taught in conjuncture with an already established Nurse Practitioner usually in the student's home area. This nurse practitioner is referred to as a "preceptor." Each program requires an established amount of hours to be logged with a preceptor in order to sufficiently pass the clinical courses.

- + What are the costs?**
For **pricing** information, [click here](#). For **financial aid** information, [click here](#). For detailed **tuition** information, [click here](#).
- + What other online degrees are offered by Online at Southern Miss?**
Please visit our programs page here: <https://online.usm.edu/programs/>
- + Are you a military veteran or service member?**
If yes, visit online.usm.edu/military for more information on how Southern Miss can serve you and your needs. We will help you with funding and scholarship information, admissions, and course enrollment.
- + Will other classes besides the ones listed in degree requirements count towards my degree?**
Other classes that aren't listed may count towards your online Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Degree once your transcript has been evaluated and posted.
- + Do online students pay out-of-state tuition?**
No, online students pay resident tuition. For information about pricing, [click here](#).
- + Are you a military veteran or service member?**
If yes, visit online.usm.edu/military for more information on how Southern Miss can serve you and your needs. We will help you with funding and scholarship information, admissions, and course enrollment.
- + How long does it take to complete the psychiatric nurse practitioner degree?**
Full-time students can complete this degree within 6 semesters.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

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Post-Master's Certification is available for MSN graduates who desire to obtain additional education in this emphasis area.

