



PHD STUDENT HANDBOOK

2022-2023

University of Florida College of Nursing

In this handbook, PhD students will find information related to the curriculum, academic progression, and graduation from the University of Florida College of Nursing doctoral program.

University of Florida College of Nursing



PhD Student Handbook

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Welcome to your doctoral studies at the University of Florida's College of Nursing! Our goal is to provide you with a rich educational experience in the foundational skills and knowledge required to be a leader in the development of nursing science and research, academia and policy to positively influence health outcomes. As a community of scholars, our program welcomes and promotes diversity and inclusion at all levels, including but not limited to diversity of thought, skills, background, representation, abilities, and beliefs. We sincerely hope that your time as a graduate student is rewarding!

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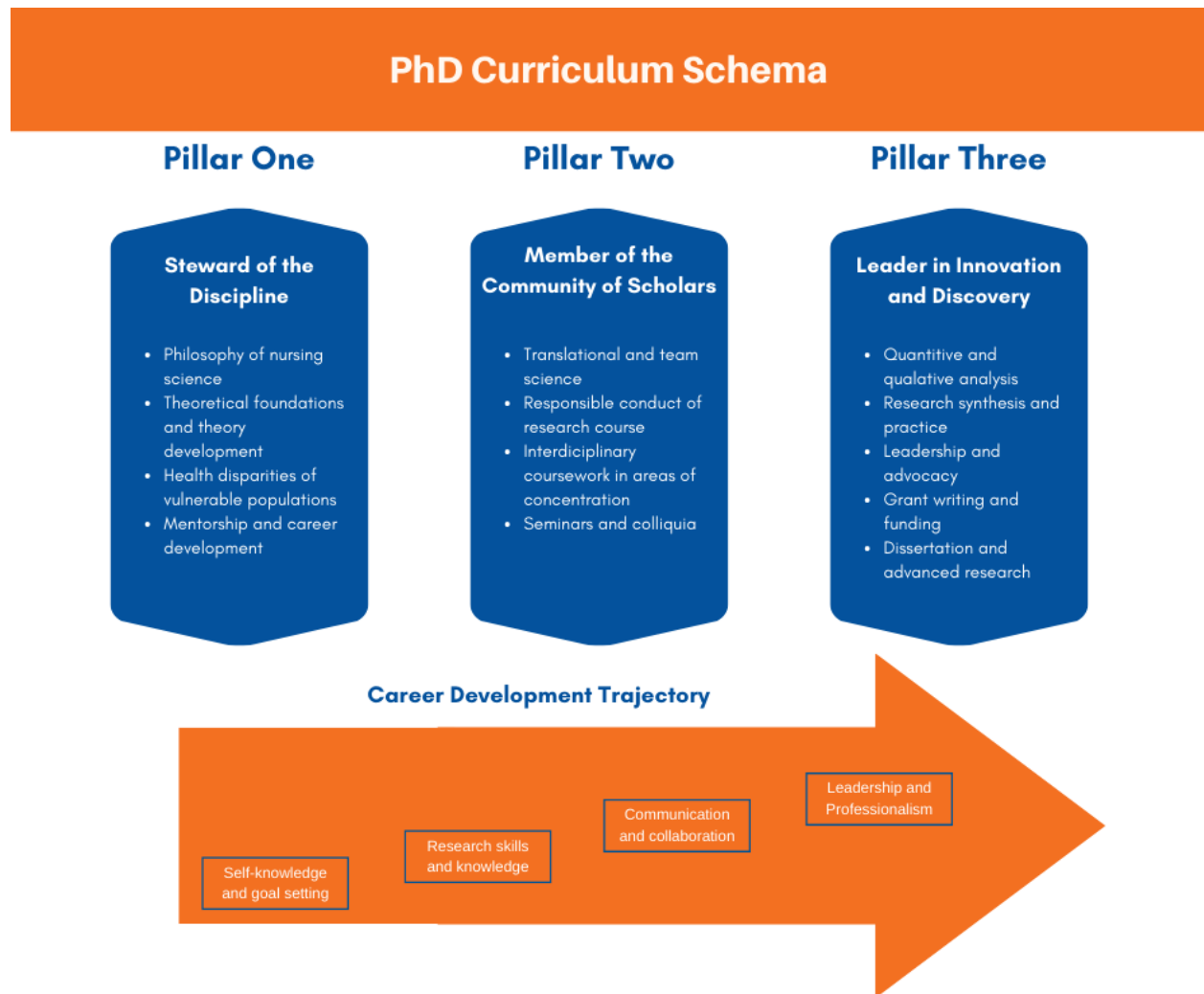
Care. Lead. Inspire

Preface

The PhD in Nursing Science degree is conferred by the University of Florida Graduate School, and is subject to all policies described in the [Graduate Catalog](#) and [Graduate Student Handbook](#). This handbook is designed as a resource guide providing information specific to the College of Nursing PhD program. The Graduate Catalog is the official University of Florida (UF) publication for graduate policies and procedures, and will take precedence if there are any discrepancies between the two publications.

PhD Program Purpose and Objectives

The UFCON PhD program prepares nurse scholars to develop and conduct scientific research that advances the theoretical foundations of nursing practice and health care delivery. The curriculum is organized around three pillars to prepare graduates to assume roles as: stewards of the discipline, members of the community of scholars, and leaders in innovation and discovery. Graduates are prepared with knowledge and skills necessary to generate new nursing knowledge that will allow them to advance the theoretical foundations of practice and health care delivery.



Upon completion of the doctoral program, the PhD graduate is expected to engage in the following activities:

1. Research	Synthesizes and generates knowledge for the discipline of nursing.
2. Scholarly Activity	Disseminates findings to researchers, practitioners and other stakeholders in health care.
3. Leadership	Assumes leadership and advocacy positions to advance health care through nursing science.
4. Ethics	Synthesizes ethical issues and standards related to science and knowledge development.
5. Collaboration	Develops and engages in interdisciplinary teams within the scientific and health care practice communities.

Supervisory Chair and Committee for PhD Students

Upon admission, a Supervisory Chair will be appointed to each student, and serves as a primary mentor throughout the course of PhD study. By the end of the second semester or completion of 12 or more credits, a Supervisory Committee will be formed. The Supervisory Chair and Committee will provide focused mentorship on strategies for developing scholars in nursing, and facilitating successful completion of the program. Steps of the mentoring process are illustrated here ([Link](#) to Attachment #1: Steps of the mentoring process).

The student is responsible for arranging a meeting with the Supervisory Chair to refine the focus of the student's plan for research and review the [Student Checklist for PhD Program Planning](#) regarding PhD student responsibilities. In addition, the student and Supervisory Chair will plan the formation of the Supervisory Committee, development and review of the Individual Development Plan (IDP), mentoring plan, and progress toward goal achievement based on procedures stated in [Policy S-4.07 and S-4.10](#).

1. Formation of the Mentoring Team:

- a. Upon admission, a student will be assigned a Supervisory Chair by the PhD Program Director in consultation with the relevant Department Chair ([Link](#) to Attachment 2: Criteria for selection of Supervisory Committee).
- b. After the student arranges a meeting with the Supervisory Chair, the student submits the approved and signed curriculum plan to the Office of Student Services (Mailing Pauzauskie at mpauzauskie@ufl.edu) to be placed in the student's record. Any changes to the curriculum plan requires submission of a revised curriculum plan form to the Office of Student Services. ([Link](#) to Attachment #3: Individual curriculum plan).
- c. The student can work with the Supervisory Chair, PhD Program Director, and Department Chair to establish a Supervisory Committee during first two semesters if warranted.
- d. The Supervisory Chair will work with the student to establish a Supervisory Committee when they have successfully completed the second semester or at least 12 credits (whichever comes first). At that time a Supervisory Committee is established.

- e. The Supervisory Committee must contain at least four members. At least two must be from the College of Nursing (including chair) and at least one member from outside the College. Ideally the chair has content expertise related to the student's area of concentration and/or research methodology. The student submits the completed Supervisory Committee Appointment Form ([Link](#) to Attachment #4) to the Office of Student Services.
 - f. If the Supervisory Chair needs to be replaced, the Supervisory Chair will meet with the PhD program director and relevant department chair(s) to discuss assignment of a new chair.
2. Development and review of IDP, Mentoring Plan, and Progress Towards Goal Achievement
- a. During the first semester, the student will prepare an IDP. Following Supervisory Chair approval, the student will submit the IDP to the Office of Student Services to be placed in the [UF Graduate School's Student Information System](#) (SIS). The IDP will be updated at least yearly during the spring semester. Students and their Supervisory Chair will meet to discuss the IDP and the CON curriculum plan at least once per academic year for annual evaluation and once per semester to review IDP progress.
 - b. At the end of spring semester, the student will complete a self-evaluation of progress towards achieving IDP goals using the Annual Mentoring Plan and Review of Progress Toward Goals Form ([Link](#) to Attachment #5; Annual Mentoring Plan and Review of Progress Toward Goals) and submit it to their Supervisory Chair who will review. Following Supervisory Chair approval, the student will submit the self-evaluation to the Office of Student Services to be filed in the student's academic records. ([Refer to policy S 4.02: Progression and Annual Evaluation](#)). A sample mentoring plan has been included to use for reference ([Link](#) to Attachment #6: Sample Mentoring Plan).
 - c. Failure to make adequate progress towards achieving goals will result in an unsatisfactory annual evaluation. If this occurs, the student, in collaboration with the Supervisory Committee, will be required to formulate a plan for remediation. Progress will be re-evaluated within 6 months. Faculty evaluations of the student and student self-evaluations will be filed with the student's academic records.

For additional information, refer to University of Florida [Graduate Catalog on Doctor of philosophy requirements](#).

PhD Program Milestones (Based on a Full-time Plan of Study)

First (Fall) Semester

1. By the first week of the semester, the student will send the following documents to the Supervisory Chair and request a meeting to review and finalize the:
 - a. [Student Checklist for PhD Program Planning](#)
 - b. [Individual curriculum plan](#). This curriculum plan should meet the credit criteria set by the Graduate School, include all College of Nursing core courses, and have a minimum of three courses in the student's identified area of concentration. It should be noted that course credit hours for NGR 7979 and NGR 7980 may vary depending on the student's research and other planned coursework. Most important is the total number of credit hours (MSN/PhD = 68, BSN/PhD = 90).
 - c. [Preliminary Individual Development Plan \(IDP\)](#)
2. Following the initial meeting with the Supervisory Chair, the student will make revisions, if necessary, complete the signature page on the IDP, and submit an electronic copy of the entire IDP AND the curriculum plan documents to the Graduate Programs Advisor in the Office of Student Services (OSS), Mailing Pauzauskie at mpauzauskie@ufl.edu.
3. The student and Supervisory Chair will meet at least 1 time per semester to review progress towards IDP goals.

Second (Spring) Semester

1. The Supervisory Chair will work with the student to establish a Supervisory Committee when they have successfully completed the second semester or at least 12 credits (whichever comes first). At that time a Supervisory Committee is established. The student submits the completed Supervisory Committee Appointment Form ([Link](#) to Attachment #4) to the OSS.
2. At the end of the spring semester, the student will complete a self-evaluation of progress towards achieving IDP goals and submit it to their Supervisory Chair at least one week prior to meeting with the Supervisory Chair. The student and Supervisory Chair will review the self-evaluation, plan goals, and discuss progression in the PhD program. ([Refer to policy S 4.02: Progression and Annual Evaluation](#)).
3. The student will coordinate a meeting of the Supervisory committee to review and approve the curriculum plan, updated IDP, and progression plan.

Third (Summer) Semester

1. The Supervisory Chair will complete the annual evaluation and meet with the student after providing them with a copy of the evaluation form. After the Supervisory Chair and student signs the form, the student will submit the form to the OSS for inclusion in the student's records.

Fourth (Fall) Semester

1. The student will coordinate a meeting of the Supervisory Committee to discuss the CON curriculum plan and IDP at least once per academic year for annual evaluation and once per semester to review IDP progress.

Fifth (Spring) Semester

1. The student will coordinate a meeting with the Supervisory Committee to:
 - (a). update the IDP and once approved, will submit the updated IDP to the OSS;
 - (b). decide on format of, and prepare for the Qualifying Exam and discuss the format of the dissertation.

Sixth (Summer) Semester

1. The Supervisory Chair will complete the annual evaluation and meet with the student after providing them with a copy of the evaluation form. After the Supervisory Chair and student signs the form, the student will submit the form to the Office of Student Services for inclusion in the student's records.

Seventh (Fall) Semester

1. Coordinate the schedule of the written portion and date and time of the oral portion of the Qualifying Exam with the Supervisory Committee and submit the Progression in Doctoral Studies Evaluation Form to the OSS.
2. The student will confirm with the OSS that all required reservations have been scheduled and will communicate the information to the Supervisory Committee.
3. The student will coordinate a meeting of the Supervisory Committee to discuss the CON curriculum plan and IDP at least once per academic year for annual evaluation and once per semester to review IDP progress.

Eighth (Spring) Semester and Subsequent Semesters

1. The student will coordinate a meeting of the Supervisory Committee to discuss the CON curriculum plan and IDP at least once per academic year for annual evaluation and once per semester to review IDP progress.
2. Prepare for dissertation defense by:
 - (a). Coordinate the schedule of the written portion and date and time of the oral portion of the dissertation defense with the Supervisory Committee and submit

the Progression in Doctoral Studies Evaluation Form to the OSS.

(b). The student will confirm with the OSS that all required reservations have been scheduled and will communicate the information to the Supervisory Committee.

3. Complete the [UF Graduate School's Degree Application Form](#) and the Degree Candidate Status Verification Form by the published deadlines.

Progression and Annual Evaluation of PhD Students

A. Progression Requirements

1. Students must maintain at least a 3.00 truncated GPA and have passing grades in all course work (passing grades for graduate students are A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, and S).
2. Students who receive an incomplete (I), which has zero grade points, for any course must be assigned a grade prior to completion of the next semester. Otherwise, the student will not meet criteria for progression in the program.
3. Students with less than a 3.00 truncated GPA or receiving a U in NUR 7979 or NUR 7980 may not hold an assistantship or fellowship per UF Graduate School Policy.
4. Students must have on file in the Office of Student Services evidence of compliance with Student Health Policy (S-1.01) and Security Requirements Policy (S-1.17) and current CPR certification (if required).

B. Annual Evaluation of Progress

1. An annual evaluation will be conducted by the Supervisory Committee Chair during the summer semester of each year. The student and Supervisory Chair will meet for an evaluation of program progression annually or additionally if necessary (see numbers 4 and 5 below).
2. The student will be given a [copy of the written evaluation](#).
3. A copy of the written evaluation will be sent to the Office of Student Services to be placed on file as part of the student's academic record.
4. When an evaluation results in an unsatisfactory progress rating, the Supervisory Chair will notify the PhD Program Director immediately.
5. The Comments or Requirements section must be completed and a rationale must be offered. If the evaluation is unsatisfactory, then administrators must decide whether or not to recommend student removal from the program.

6. The Assistant Dean for Student Services will meet with the Program Director to make a final decision if the recommended course of action noted on the evaluation form is for student removal from the program.
7. The Assistant Dean for Student Services will notify the student of the outcome of the meeting.

PhD Qualifying Examination and Admission to Candidacy

1 *Eligibility Criteria.*

To be eligible for the qualifying examination, the student must have:

- a) Successfully completed all of the required nursing core coursework as well as area of concentration requirements without any existing incomplete grades
- b) Received a satisfactory rating on the most recent annual evaluation
- c) Received the approval of the supervisory chair and committee to proceed to the qualifying exam
- d) Registered for a minimum of three credit hours or as required by the terms of a scholarship or fellowship during the term the examination is administered.

2 *Time Schedule*

The examination is typically taken after the second year of full-time study or equivalent part-time study. There must be a minimum of two semesters between the date of the qualifying examination and date of the degree. All work for the PhD degree must be completed within five calendar years after admission to candidacy or the examination must be repeated.

3 *PhD Qualifying Examination*

Students request the examination by initiating and obtaining signatures on the [Progression in Doctoral Studies Evaluation Form](#) and submitting it to the Office of Student Services. The Office of Student Services will notify the PhD Program Director and provide the Supervisory Chair with the Candidacy form at least one week prior to the oral exam.

In consultation with the supervisory chair, the student schedules a meeting of the supervisory committee to review the focus of the dissertation, determine completion of all other eligibility criteria and

to discuss the written exam options and projected oral exam dates. The written Exam Options include (a) [Written Question Option](#) and (b) [Grant Application Option](#).

A. Written Question Option

By the predetermined date, the student will submit to the chair of the supervisory committee four (4) questions accompanied by a comprehensive reading list (in APA format). The questions should reflect the synthesis and integration of the student's individual program of study and cover:

- a) Theoretical issues and research findings that pertain to the student's area of research, including analysis of ethical, social, political, economic, and/or cultural issues
- b) Methodological issues that pertain to the student's area of research, including analysis of how a variety of research approaches have been used, or could be, used to expand the scientific knowledge base in the area of the dissertation proposal.

The chair and supervisory committee will discuss the questions prepared by the student and may select or modify these questions or add alternative questions. The final two (2) questions will be provided to the student two (2) weeks after the committee receives the student's proposed questions.

Once the student has received the questions, the student will proceed independently to prepare responses. All answers are to be typewritten, double-spaced, APA format in 12 pt. or equivalent font. Each answer may be no more than 10 pages in length, excluding references, tables, and figures.

B. Grant Application Option

The student will independently write a 7-10 page grant application focused on the dissertation topic following current NIH guidelines for R21 applications. The sections to be included are the:

- I. Specific Aims
- II. Research Strategy
 - A. Significance
 1. Theoretical/practical/methodological significance of your topic
 2. Possible contribution to the field and to your future program of research
 3. Conceptual/theoretical framework (or justification for not using a framework)
 - a. Scientific premise for the research (general strengths and weaknesses of the prior research with consideration of rigor of prior research)
 - b. Describe what is known about the key concepts, any hypothesized relationships among them, with your critical analysis of the strengths/weaknesses in prior research
 - B. Innovation
 1. Gaps in this area of research and how your study will contribute to filling at least one of these gaps
 2. Novel aspect of your study compared to previous studies in this area
 - C. Approach
 1. Preliminary studies you conducted or participated (if applicable)
 2. Design
 - a. Research approach and specific design
 - b. Brief discussion of reasons for choosing this design rather than alternative

- approaches
3. Setting and Sample
 - a. Inclusion and exclusion criteria
 - b. Determination of the appropriate sample size
 - c. Plan for recruitment of participants (or access to data as relevant) and any anticipated difficulties.
 - d. Strengths and limitations of the proposed sample for answering your research question
 4. Measures
 - a. For a quantitative study:
 - i. Operationalization of the variables
 - ii. Validity, reliability, responsiveness of the instruments
 - iii. Rationale for choice of the instruments
 - b. For a qualitative study: interview guide to capture the concepts of interest
 5. Procedures
 - a. Description of study data collection process or data preparation and processing
 - b. Procedures to maximize the integrity and rigor of the study (e.g., random assignment and blinding for experiments, ensuring participant comfort to maximize disclosure)
 6. Analysis
 - a. Data analysis methods planned to achieve the study
 - b. Explain how relevant biological variables, such as sex, are factored into research design and analysis.
 7. Time line
 8. Potential problems, alternative strategies, and benchmarks for success
 9. Summary of strengths and fit with the student's philosophical perspective(s).

Questions regarding procedural issues related to either option are to be addressed to the PhD Program Director. Violation of rules will constitute failure of the examination.

The completed examination is to be delivered electronically by the student to each member of the Committee. The student will have two weeks (14 days) to deliver the completed examination to the Committee. Committee members will acknowledge receipt. Students will adhere to the UF honor code (4.9). No decision on pass/fail will be made until after the oral portion of the examination.

The Supervisory Committee evaluates the written exam document using the following criteria:

- 1) The written document reflects in-depth knowledge and synthesis of relevant theory and research.
- 2) The written document reflects a comprehensive review of literature in the student's area of research.
- 3) The written document reflects knowledge of the type of research the student proposes (qualitative, quantitative, or mixed methods).
- 4) The written document reflects an understanding of the student's area of concentration/supporting courses and their relevance and/or application to the student's dissertation proposal.
- 5) The written document gives evidence of scholarly thinking appropriately reflected in scholarly writing.

Within two (2) weeks after submission of the written portion, an oral examination will be held. The student is responsible for arranging the time and date of the exam which must be agreed upon by all committee members and communicated to them. It is the responsibility of the supervisory chair to secure a location for the oral examination (if scheduled in person) and to notify the student.

Members of the Supervisory Committee must participate in the oral examination. The student may not change membership of the supervisory committee between the time of written and oral portions of the qualifying examination. The oral examination may be conducted using video and/or telecommunication.

The oral examination provides opportunity for the student to amplify, clarify, and verify written responses. The focus is on the student's ability to communicate orally and substantiate integration of knowledge gained throughout the program. The oral examination normally requires approximately two hours.

4. *PhD Qualifying Examination Outcome*

At the conclusion of the oral examination, the Supervisory Committee shall assign a grade of pass or fail and complete the Graduate School Form: Admission to Candidacy (which is sent to the Supervisory Chair by the Office of Student Services), including necessary changes in student's program or special conditions. The Admission to Candidacy Form is submitted to the Office of Student Services who will then submit the form electronically to the Graduate School. A failing grade is also recorded and submitted on the Admission to Candidacy Form. A failing grade on the examination results in one of the following recommendations:

- Dismissal from the PhD program in nursing, or
 - Petition of re-examination, with a change in program of studies and additional coursework, or request to further develop dissertation proposal. (See [Qualifying Examination; Preparation for Re-Examination](#)).
- a. If re-examination is recommended, it must be requested in writing by the Supervisory Chair and Committee through the College Assistant Dean for Student Services and approved by the UF Graduate School. At least one semester of additional course work must be completed before re-examination (per UF Graduate Catalog). The required date of reexamination is reset by the supervisory chair and

committee.

- b. If permission for re-examination is granted, the student must re-initiate the examination process as in the “PhD Qualifying Examination and Admission to Candidacy” section above.
- c. If a failure occurs at the time of a second examination, the student will be dismissed from the PhD program in nursing. The Supervisory Committee records the outcome, and the Supervisory Chair submits the forms: Graduate School Admission to Candidacy and the College of Nursing, Qualifying Examination: Dismissal or preparation for Re-Examination, to the Office of Student Services.
- d. If the Qualifying Examination is passed, the student may proceed to the dissertation proposal preparation or refinement, and approval process with supervisory chair and committee’s input. The Supervisory Chair and Committee will review the final dissertation proposal and grant approval for the student to proceed. Once authorization from the Chair and Committee is obtained, the student may apply for Institutional Review Board approval and begin to conduct the dissertation study.
- e. Review [UF Graduate School](#) deadlines.
- f. There must be at least two semesters between the oral part of the qualifying exam and the date of the degree. The term in which the qualifying examination is passed is counted, if the exam occurs before the mid-point of the semester.

Candidacy & Final Defense Checklist - Instructions for PhD Students

1. Review [UF Graduate School](#) Deadlines
2. Confirm that the College's Office of Student Services has your Supervisory Committee information.
3. Complete the [Progression in Doctoral Studies Evaluation Form](#) from Policy S-4.04 and submit to the Office of Student Services so that staff know the date of your oral exam. Be sure to indicate on the Form the planned mode for accomplishing the oral portion of the qualifying exam or final defense of the doctoral dissertation (in-person, virtually, or both).
4. The student will communicate the date and time of the qualifying exam and final defense with the Supervisory Chair and Committee as well as confirm that all forms have been filed with the Graduate School and all required reservations are prepared with the Office of Student Services.
5. A week prior to your qualifying exam, the Office of Student Services will provide your Supervisory Chair with the "admission to candidacy" form. After the qualifying exam is completed, the form must be submitted to the Office of Student Services in the College of Nursing. The information will then be entered into the Graduate Information Management System.
 - a. There must be at least two semesters between the oral part of the qualifying exam and the date of the degree. The term in which the qualifying examination is passed is counted, if the exam occurs before the mid-point of the semester.

Dissertation Options and Requirements

Dissertation Format Selection

The PhD student will consult with the Supervisory Committee and either a traditional or manuscript option for the dissertation format will be identified. The research comprising the dissertation is similar for each option and the format differs only in organization. The student may refer to the [UF Graduate School Handbook](#) for information about the dissertation, which will follow UF Graduate School guidelines for format and content.

A. *Traditional Dissertation*

The traditional dissertation is an integrated, scholarly report. The student consults the Supervisory Chair on the appropriate format for the dissertation based on the research study type, e.g., quantitative or qualitative.

B. *Non-Traditional Dissertation*

The non-traditional dissertation is often referred to as the “manuscript option.” This option allows for submitted, accepted, or published manuscripts to become part of the doctoral dissertation. The student negotiates with the supervisory committee regarding the focus and content of 2-3 manuscripts and the peer-reviewed journals to which the manuscripts will be submitted, accepted or published before the final defense date. One manuscript must be databased and report the results of the student’s dissertation research. Publications authored by the student prior to passing the qualifying exam may be included with the committee’s approval.

- In order to receive a ‘Satisfactory’ grade for NGR7980 credits taken during the term in which the defense takes place, **all** of the negotiated manuscripts must have been submitted for publication.
- The PhD student must be the lead author on each manuscript. Dissertation committee members who made contributions to the manuscripts should be included as co- authors.

- The manuscripts are directly related to the student's dissertation research. The dissertation committee approves each manuscript prior to submission. One manuscript must be databased and report the results of the student's dissertation research. The second or third manuscripts may be databased or focused on a related scholarly topic such as an integrative literature review, conceptual analysis or theoretical development process; methodological issue; instrument development process; or clinical application of the research findings to practice.
- At the time of publication, the student assigns copyrights to the publishing journal. The student must obtain written permission from the copyright holder to include the material in the dissertation. Failure to do so would be an infringement of United States copyright laws. Students who publish in Open Access journals retain copyrights to the manuscript.

Required Minimum Dissertation Credits and Timing

- All doctoral candidates who are doing dissertation work must register for NGR 7980 at a minimum of three credits per semester.
- There must be at least two semesters between the oral part of the qualifying exam and the date of the degree. The term in which the qualifying examination is passed is counted, if the exam occurs before the mid-point of the semester.

Funding for CON PhD Students

Teaching Assistantships

Teaching Assistantships (TAs) are mentored teaching experiences. TAs are appointed based on College teaching needs as determined by Department Chairs. TA positions in the College are UF OPS appointments as a student assistant, and do not include tuition support or benefits such as health insurance.

- A PhD student interested in a TA position should first confer with their Supervisory Chair and then inform the appropriate Department Chair of interest in the position.
- If the Department Chair has the resources and a teaching need that matches the doctoral student's interest, the Department Chair will arrange the TA appointment. Per UF regulations, TA appointments may not exceed .5 FTE per semester.
- TAs must complete UF FERPA training within two weeks of beginning work and submit certificates of completion to faculty supervisors. The faculty supervisor forwards the certificate to the Office of Student Services for filing in the student record.
- TAs must complete the College of Nursing Privacy, Security, and Compliance Training within two weeks of beginning work and inform the CON IT staff when this is completed. The CON IT staff will send verification of the completion of training to the faculty supervisor who will forward verification to the Office of Student Services for filing in the student record.
- The TA will be supervised by the course faculty member as assigned by the Department Chair. The TA and faculty member meet regularly for mentoring sessions.
- Student progress and accomplishments in the TA role are recorded in the Annual Progression Report for the PhD student TA.

Research Assistantships

Graduate Research Assistantships (GRA) are mentored research experiences. GRAs are appointed based on College research needs and available resources as determined by the Associate Dean for Research and PhD Program Director. GRA positions in the College conform to [UF Human Resources polices](#) and Office of Research Graduate Research Assistant reasonable compensation for work performed [regulations](#).

- A PhD student interested in a RA position should first confer with their Supervisory Chair and then inform the Associate Dean for Research and PhD Program Director of interest in the position.
- If the Associate Dean for Research or PhD Program Director is aware of a research need that matches the doctoral student interest, and funds are available, they will arrange the RA appointment in consultation with the relevant faculty member and Department Chair.
 - **NOTE: The Request for Letter of Appointment form for an RA must include the approval signature of the Associate Dean of Research.**
- RAs must complete the College of Nursing Privacy, Security, and Compliance Training within two weeks of beginning work and inform the CON IT staff when this is completed. The CON IT staff will send verification of the completion of training to the faculty supervisor who will forward verification to the Office of Student Services for filing in the student record.
- The RA will be supervised by the research faculty member. The student and the faculty member should meet regularly for mentoring sessions.
- Student progress and accomplishments in the RA role are recorded in the [Annual Progression Report](#) for the PhD students.

Additional Funding Opportunities

The Graduate School lists a number of opportunities to fund graduate study at the following URL: <http://graduateschool.ufl.edu/prospective-students/funding/>.

Other external scholarships to which students are encouraged to apply may be available through professional organizations and foundations, including the:

[Florida Nurses Association](#)

American Association of Colleges of Nursing

[Srubin Uniforms/AACN Scholarship](#)

[NurseThink – AACN Scholarship](#)

*must be a member of the Graduate Nursing Student Academy

[CastleBranch-GNSA Scholarship](#)

*must be a member of the Graduate Nursing Student Academy

[Johnson & Johnson](#)

Other sources of support for PhD education and/or dissertation work include various foundations and the National Institutes of Health (F31 Ruth L. Kirschstein Predoctoral Individual National Research Service Award). Students are encouraged to speak with their Supervisory Chair early in the program for eligibility to apply for an F-31 and to allow for adequate time to prepare the application.

PhD Student Awards

College of Nursing awards for graduating PhD students can be found here: <https://nursing.ufl.edu/phd/> .