Bachelor of Philosophy Sample Plan of Studies
Major: Nursing

My current major requires a completion of a variety of courses addressing the broad spectrum of opportunities in nursing. Preparatory courses such as anatomy, physiology, pathophysiology, pharmacology, microbiology, chemistry, organic chemistry, and biology were taken in order to have an understanding of the underlying sciences explaining nursing concepts. I was also required to take courses in fields such as psychology, sociology, and English in order to address issues outside of physiological functioning that will arise in any type of occupation. Once this framework was set, the nursing classes became more specific, including lectures and clinicals in areas such as pediatrics, obstetrics and gynecology, psychiatry, geriatrics, medical-surgical nursing, and community health nursing. Courses to add to the depth and variety of understanding of nursing concepts included clinical informatics, genetics, nutrition, and research. I have taken or plan to take elective courses in order to learn a more specific set of information regarding the health issues and needs facing minorities in the United States, particularly the Mexican and Mexican American populations. These courses include Contemporary Issues in Cross Cultural Health and an independent study to review the literature regarding health services and barriers for Mexicans. In addition, in this independent study, I will apply for IRB approval for my research with the Mexican population in Pittsburgh. I will participate in a two month independent study in Mexico working in a hospital and learning medical terminology in Spanish and will be taking a course on global health issues. I also am completing clinical rotations in two Spanish-speaking clinics in Pittsburgh. This curriculum goes beyond that which is expected for a typical nursing student to include countless hours working in medical settings with both Mexican Americans and those in Mexico. As well, a number of classes are utilized to explore the literature and factual information regarding health care access, barriers, and trends for Latinos in the United States.