

NURSING, DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE - DNP

Program Description

The Doctor of Nursing Practice program at Saint Mary's College is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (www.ccnaccreditation.org (<http://www.ccnaccreditation.org>)).

The curriculum in the Saint Mary's Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program will elevate your expertise in professional nursing practice and leadership. Courses on social entrepreneurship, data analytics, management, and communication will support your development as an innovator and leader in healthcare.

The Department offers two tracks to the Doctor of Nursing Practice:

- Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner (AG-ACNP);
- Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP).

Students who possess a master of science degree are also able to apply for this program with advanced standing.

Students graduating from this program are eligible to take the certification exam offered by the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) or the American Association of Nurse Practitioners (AANP). In addition to certification examinations offered by the AANP and ANCC, graduates of the Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner Track also are eligible to take the certification examination offered by the American Association of Critical Care Nurses (AACCN).

The ANCC offers certification examinations in nurse practitioner tracks offered by Saint Mary's College: Family Nurse Practitioner and Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner. Candidates who pass this examination are designated as board certified nurse practitioners (e.g. FNP-BC). More information may be found at the ANCC Certification website: (<https://www.nursingworld.org/our-certifications/>).

The AANP offers certification examinations in these nurse practitioner tracks offered by Saint Mary's College: Family Nurse Practitioner. Candidates who pass this examination are designated as certified nurse practitioners (e.g. FNP-C). More information may be found at the AANP Certification website: (www.aanpcert.org/certifications (<http://www.aanpcert.org/certifications/>)).

Graduate nursing students are required to adhere to all graduate program policies and procedures as well as those articulated in the department-level graduate student handbook.

Prerequisites

- BSN or MSN from a nationally accredited (NLN or CCNE) college or university
- A recent statistics course

Application Requirements

- A BSN or MSN degree from a nationally accredited (NLN or CCNE) college or university.
- The most competitive candidates will have maintained at least a 3.0 cumulative GPA in undergraduate coursework.
- A recent statistics course.

- Submission of a completed NursingCAS application.
- Official transcripts from all previously attended institutions.
- Unencumbered license or eligibility for RN licensure in the state where clinical course work hours will be completed.
- Substantive personal statement that reflects your motivation to earn your DNP and become a nurse practitioner in your selected track.
- Three letters of recommendations from professionals who should be able to address your ability for advanced nursing practice and doctoral study. At least one recommendation should come from an academic professional.
- A current résumé or Curriculum Vitae.
- Personal interview(s) with faculty (if selected for one; teleconferencing options available).

Applications for the fall term open in September. Saint Mary's College uses the Centralized Application Service for Nursing Programs (NursingCAS) application system. You must complete the application form, submit the application fee for NursingCAS (no additional fee is collected by Saint Mary's), and provide all supporting documents through the NursingCAS application system. The priority application is March 31. The application deadline is June 15.

Doctor of Nursing Practice-Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner Track - AGAC (84 hours)

Code	Title	Credits
	Immersion: Intro to APRN Role	.5
NURS 600	Communication and Relationship Centered Leadership	3
NURS 602	Philosophical and Ethical Foundations for the Advanced Nursing Practice Role	3
NURS 604	Evidence-Based Practice I: Evidence Synthesis for Practice	3
NURS 610	Healthcare Policy and Advocacy	3
NURS 612	Social Entrepreneurship and the Business of Healthcare	3
NURS 620	Human Population Ecology	3
NURS 622	Statistics for Health and Biological Sciences	3
NURS 624	Evidence-Based Practice 2: Translation of Evidence for Practice	3
NURS 644	Advanced Physiology and Pathophysiology	3
NURS 651	Advanced Pharmacology	3
NURS 670	Nursing Informatics & Data-Driven Decision Making	3
NURS 682	Procedures for Advanced Practice Registered Nurses	1
NURS 688	Advanced Health Assessment and Diagnostic Reasoning	3
NURS 701	DNP Practice Innovation I	3
NURS 702	DNP Practice Innovation II	3
NURS 703	DNP Practice Innovation III	3
NURS 704	DNP Practice Innovation IV	3
NURS 711	Population-based Gerontologic Health and Wellness	2
NURS 717	Advanced Clinical Care for Adults and Older Adults	6

NURS 718	Resource and Practice Management	3
NURS 721	Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner I	6
NURS 724	Advanced Clinical Studies: Population-Based Mental Health Care Across the Lifespan	2
NURS 725	Quality, Effectiveness and Safety in Organizational Systems	3
NURS 726	Advanced Clinical Studies: Trauma Care with Adults and Older Adults	6
NURS 772	Clinical Residency in Acute and Critical Care of Adults and Older Adults	6
Immersion: Preparation for the APRN Role		.5
Total Credits		84

Doctor of Nursing Practice- Family Nurse Practitioner Track - FNP (84 hours)

Code	Title	Credits
Immersion: Intro to APRN Role		.5
NURS 600	Communication and Relationship Centered Leadership	3
NURS 602	Philosophical and Ethical Foundations for the Advanced Nursing Practice Role	3
NURS 604	Evidence-Based Practice I: Evidence Synthesis for Practice	3
NURS 610	Healthcare Policy and Advocacy	3
NURS 612	Social Entrepreneurship and the Business of Healthcare	3
NURS 620	Human Population Ecology	3
NURS 622	Statistics for Health and Biological Sciences	3
NURS 624	Evidence-Based Practice 2: Translation of Evidence for Practice	3
NURS 633	Health Promotion for Population Health	2
NURS 644	Advanced Physiology and Pathophysiology	3
NURS 651	Advanced Pharmacology	3
NURS 670	Nursing Informatics & Data-Driven Decision Making	3
NURS 682	Procedures for Advanced Practice Registered Nurses	1
NURS 688	Advanced Health Assessment and Diagnostic Reasoning	3
NURS 701	DNP Practice Innovation I	3
NURS 702	DNP Practice Innovation II	3
NURS 703	DNP Practice Innovation III	3
NURS 704	DNP Practice Innovation IV	3
NURS 710	Advanced Clinical Studies: Primary Care and Health Promotion for Reproductive Health	6
NURS 718	Resource and Practice Management	3
NURS 722	Advanced Clinical Studies: Primary Care and Health Promotion for Adults and Older Adults I	6
NURS 724	Advanced Clinical Studies: Population-Based Mental Health Care Across the Lifespan	2
NURS 725	Quality, Effectiveness and Safety in Organizational Systems	3
NURS 730	Advanced Clinical Studies: Primary Care and Health Promotion of Children and Adolescents	6

NURS 770	Clinical Residency in Primary Care of Individuals and Families	6
Immersion: Preparation for the APRN Role		.5
Total Credits		84

Governmental Requirements for Some Professions

Some professions (e.g. nursing, teaching, social work, speech therapy, accounting, etc.) require specific requirements for licensure and/or hiring (e.g. acceptable criminal background check, sex offender check, drug and alcohol testing, citizenship or permanent resident status documentation, valid immigration status for non-US citizens, valid social security number, etc.). Such requirements may also apply to required clinical and field work, or other out-of-classroom experience necessary to complete degree requirements in the majors related to these professions. These requirements are determined by laws and regulations at both the state and federal levels and are subject to change. *Saint Mary's College strongly urges all admitted and current students to research and understand the appropriate requirements for their intended course of study and profession. Compliance with these requirements is the responsibility of the student and the graduate.* You should become informed and continue to monitor such requirements as laws and other legal requirements are subject to change.

Student Learning Outcomes

- Synthesize and apply scientific evidence for the development and testing of clinical interventions for advanced nursing practice.
- Demonstrate innovative leadership, communication, and collaboration skills within intra-professional and inter-professional teams to create change in health care and complex health care delivery systems.
- Provide advanced evidence-based clinical care management within a collaborative, cultural context for individuals, families and/or populations.
- Demonstrate leadership in the use of current and emerging health and data analytic technologies to evaluate and improve outcomes in health care delivery and organizational systems.
- Advocate for social justice, equity, and ethical policies in health systems, population health initiatives and evidence-based health policy initiatives through collaboration with other health professionals and stakeholders.
- Use business and entrepreneurial strategies for meaningful quality improvement and efficient use of resources within health care environments.

Program Director

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Faculty

S. Anderson, J. Antsidel, J. Bauer, R. Becker, D. Edson, A. Fullenkamp, V. Getchell, P. Keresztes, N. Mentag, L. Pajakowski, L. Paskiewicz, A. Peacock-Johnson, K. Rohatgi, R. Rohatgi, M. Spencer, C. Webb

Nursing Practice Courses

NURS 600 Communication and Relationship Centered Leadership (3)

This course examines essential components of communication, leadership theories, and the population ecology of organizations that impact interprofessional collaboration and the delivery of safe, relationship centered care by the advance practice nurse. Students will examine their development of interpersonal skills and effective leadership styles through role preparation and exploration of change strategies in organizational systems. Family theory, human diversity, and health care literacy levels are used to give emphasis to the importance of oral and written communication skills used by the DNP to plan and evaluate safe care outcomes for diverse populations and vulnerable groups. Prerequisite: Graduate Status.

NURS 602 Philosophical and Ethical Foundations for the Advanced Nursing Practice Role (3)

This course engages students in a reflective and dialogical process that guides the structuring of nursing knowledge and the philosophical underpinnings of advance nursing practice, leadership, and practice inquiry. The development and application of theory in practice are brought together from the perspective of clinical nursing and other scientific disciplines as a foundation for leadership in effecting change in nursing and healthcare. Ethical decision-making frameworks and relevant research findings will be used to promote the development of application skills for clinical practice. Prerequisite: Graduate Status.

NURS 604 Evidence-Based Practice I: Evidence Synthesis for Practice (3)

Learners are provided with a theoretical and practical foundation for identifying and critically appraising evidence from qualitative and quantitative research traditions. Emphasis is on the examination of the essential elements of evidence-based practice, including the formulation of answerable questions to address practice change, quality improvement, and safety in a variety of advance practice roles. Students engage in the systematic search for research evidence and the use interdisciplinary models to analysis of research findings that can be used to answer researchable questions. The use of electronic medical records as a source of data to provide evidence and information management in health care are explored. This course will support the beginning development of the student's capstone project.

NURS 610 Healthcare Policy and Advocacy (3)

The course is designed to analyze the leadership role of the DNP in health policy development emphasizing inter-professional collaboration and social justice. The social, regulatory, and ethical issues that impact DNP practice are examined. Strategies for designing and leading the implementation of public, professional, and institutional policies relating to local, regional, national and international health care and its delivery are considered. The effect of innovation and nursing scholarship on health policy and advocacy are examined. Prerequisite: Graduate Status.

NURS 612 Social Entrepreneurship and the Business of Healthcare (3)

This course assists the student to create a vision of relationship-centered leadership in healthcare from the perspective of an entrepreneur who operates within a tradition of social justice and values. Special emphasis is placed on the emerging role of the social entrepreneur in health care who, as a DNP, provides innovative leadership that uses entrepreneurial principles to improve healthcare systems, invent and disseminate new cost effective approaches to care, and advance sustainable solutions that create social value for small and large scale populations and healthcare systems. The student is encouraged to investigate how wealth creation can impact the public good in the healthcare arena at the community, national and global levels. Prerequisite: NURS 600.

NURS 620 Human Population Ecology (3)

This course provides students with an opportunity to apply foundational scientific methods such as epidemiology and biostatistics in the study of health events in groups of people. Population theories such as ecological theory, health behavior, ecosocial theory of disease distribution, and other substantive theories will be applied. How the context of population-based health experience --societal, ecological, and historical-- become embodied and are manifested in population rates of disease and the magnitude of health inequities are emphasized. Assessment tools and intervention strategies for health of selected populations who share common health illness phenomena will be examined from an organizational and public health perspective. Prerequisite: NURS 622.

NURS 622 Statistics for Health and Biological Sciences (3)

This course covers a wide range of statistical methods used in health care research. Descriptive statistics, probability distributions (binomial and normal), sampling distributions, inferences (point estimates and confidence intervals), hypotheses testing (one-sample tests, two-sample tests), Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) as well as simple linear regression and multiple regression analysis are included. The course emphasizes the application of statistical concepts to analyze research for best available evidence to support quality nursing practice. Students are asked to relate the material to their own practice and use SPSS statistical software for assignments. The course provides support for students to plan the statistical analyses for their Capstone project and other evidence based projects. Prerequisite: Graduate Status.

NURS 624 Evidence-Based Practice 2: Translation of Evidence for Practice (3)

This course focuses on the leadership opportunity for the use of innovative approaches for the implementation and evaluation of evidence based practice change. Emphasis is placed on synthesis and application of evidence to bridge the gap between evidence and practice. Students will engage in a critical examination of the social value and the impact of the implementation of translational research findings into practice change at the individual, family, organizational system, and population levels. Prerequisites: NURS 604; NURS 612; NURS 622.

NURS 633 Health Promotion for Population Health (2)

This course explores and critically analyzes health promotion theories and empirical approaches as a foundation for understanding the contextual health promotion activities of patients, families, and communities across the lifespan. The effect of age, cultural practices, social/racial stratification, and ethnicity on self-care health practices, health disparities, and health care delivery systems are explored from a public health perspective. Students will examine key concepts, risk assessment tools, and evidence-based interventions in essential areas of health promotion such as physical activity, nutrition, stress management, and social support. A special emphasis is placed on obesity and weight control to acknowledge the link between adiposity and metabolic disease. Prerequisites: NURS 602; NURS 620.

NURS 644 Advanced Physiology and Pathophysiology (3)

This course provides in-depth discussion of complex physiologic and pathophysiologic concepts essential for advanced clinical nursing courses in the care of adults and older adults. Physiologic and pathophysiologic processes related to the central, peripheral, and autonomic nervous systems; cardiovascular, respiratory, and renal systems; hematopoiesis, inflammation, immunity, microcirculation, neuromuscular synapse, skeletal and smooth muscle, and acid-base balance are discussed at biochemical, cellular, organ, system, and human organism levels. Hormonal regulation is integrated with various physiologic and pathophysiologic processes. Emphasis is on integration of concepts as a basis for understanding interrelationships among complex physiologic and pathophysiologic processes Prerequisite: Graduate Status.

NURS 651 Advanced Pharmacology (3)

This interdisciplinary course uses a lifespan approach to examine the principles of pharmacology and drug therapy for advanced nursing practice including legal and social considerations related to prescriptive authority and prescribing patterns. Students will participate in interdisciplinary clinical seminars with Pharm D students during a planned campus immersion during this course. Prerequisite: NURS 644.

NURS 670 Nursing Informatics & Data-Driven Decision Making (3)

This course is designed to equip DNP students with essential knowledge and skills in nursing informatics, data analytics, and their application to improve healthcare outcomes. This course emphasizes the significant role of nursing informatics in today's evolving healthcare landscape and explores the opportunities and challenges of integrating informatics and data analytics in various healthcare settings. Students will gain an understanding of the use of electronic health records, telehealth, and clinical decision support systems in enhancing patient care and safety. Students will develop competencies in using informatics tools and techniques to analyze large volumes of data, supporting evidence-based nursing practice. Additionally, the course will examine ethical and legal considerations and advocacy related to informatics and data analytics in nursing practice. Prerequisites: NURS 612; NURS 620; NURS 622.

NURS 682 Procedures for Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (1)

This course provides an inter-professional interactive seminar that engages the student in examining x-ray findings as a data component of diagnostic reasoning. Students will also practice suturing minor injuries. This immersion seminar will occur in a hospital or clinical setting of one of our academic practice partners. (6 clinical hours) Prerequisites: NURS 644; NURS 688.

NURS 688 Advanced Health Assessment and Diagnostic Reasoning (3)

This course provides knowledge and skills necessary for the advanced practice nurse to synthesize concepts from nursing and biopsychosocial sciences in the comprehensive health assessment of adults and children. The diagnostic reasoning process, differential diagnosis, advanced health evaluation techniques, laboratory tests, diagnostic studies, and interpretation and evaluation of findings are incorporated into the course. The importance of the evidence based link between oral health and illness across the lifespan is explored. Students will provide advanced health assessment with clients across the lifespan in inter-professional clinical settings. Comprehensive health histories and physical examination techniques will be used to complete a database on clients to formulate differential diagnoses and make advanced clinical decisions. (30 clinical hours) Prerequisites: NURS 644; NURS 651.

NURS 701 DNP Practice Innovation I (1)

This is the first of a 6-semester sequence of courses that lead to completion of the DNP Practice Innovation Project. IN NURS 701, students will receive mentoring from a faculty project team leader as they begin to examine their role as a doctorally-prepared Advanced Practice Registered Nurse in a complex health care system. Students engage in a focused and analytical review of the literature to identify the problem that will be addressed by the DNP Practice Innovation Project, and define best practices as they begin to develop an innovative approach to clinical practice change. In addition to satisfactorily completing all course assignments, the student is expected to engage in a minimum of 40 DNP Practice Innovation Project practicum contact hours. Graded S/U. Prerequisites: NURS 604; NURS 624.

NURS 702 DNP Practice Innovation II (3)

This is the second course in a 6-semester sequence of courses that lead to completion of the DNP Practice Innovation Project. In NURS 702, students will continue the in-depth analytical review of literature, synthesizing and integrating that knowledge as they continue to develop their DNP Practice Innovation Project. Students will continue to work with an identified faculty project team leader to develop an implementation plan for their project in collaboration with a clinical agency. In addition to satisfactorily completing all course assignments, the student is expected to engage in a minimum of 40 DNP Practice Innovation Project practicum contact hours. Graded S/U. Prerequisite: NURS 701.

NURS 703 DNP Practice Innovation III (2)

This is the third course in a 6-semester sequence of courses that lead to completion of the DNP Practice Innovation Project. In NURS 703 students will synthesize and integrate the learning from NURS 701 and 702 to develop the DNP Practice Innovation Project Proposal. In addition to a scholarly, evidence-based practice paper, students will be required to deliver an oral presentation about the project proposal to their faculty team leader and team members. The student will begin the implementation of their DNP Practice Innovation Project after obtaining approval from their faculty team and the Institutional Review Board. In addition to satisfactorily completing all course assignments, the student is expected to engage in a minimum of 80 DNP Practice Innovation Project practicum contact hours. Graded S/U. Prerequisite: NURS 702.

NURS 704 DNP Practice Innovation IV (3)

This is the fourth course in a 6-semester sequence of courses that lead to completion of the DNP Practice Innovation Project. With mentoring from their faculty team leader, the student will work with a clinical agency to implement the DNP Practice Innovation Project. Students will implement an evidence based project and engage in on-going data collection process while continually assessing the quality of the data. The student is required to regularly submit updates on the implementation process and give an oral presentation about the status of their project to their colleagues. In addition to satisfactorily completing all course assignments, the student is expected to engage in a minimum of 80 DNP Practice Innovation Project practicum contact hours. Graded S/U. Prerequisite: NURS 703.

NURS 705 DNP Practice Innovation V (2)

This is the fifth course in a 6-semester sequence of courses that lead to completion of the DNP Practice Innovation Project. In this course, students will wrap up the implementation process for the DNP Practice Innovation Project and begin data analysis to measure the outcomes. Students will synthesize the theoretical and empirical evidence guiding their practice innovation project with their project experience and outcome data from their project. In addition to project implementation, students in this course will investigate various outlets for dissemination of their project once it is completed. In addition to satisfactorily completing all course assignments, the student is expected to engage in a minimum of 80 DNP Practice Innovation Project practicum contact hours. Graded S/U. Prerequisite: NURS 704.

NURS 706 DNP Practice Innovation VI (2)

This is the final course in a 6-semester sequence of courses that lead to completion of the DNP Practice Innovation Project. During this course, students will critically examine the DNP Practice Innovation Project and identify challenges within individuals and environments that influence change. Students will complete their project and provide a written scholarly paper and an outline of a publishable manuscript. Students will engage in a poster presentation during an Immersion to disseminate the results of the project to members of the DNP program community. Students who do not complete the DNP Practice Innovation Project during this course will be required to register for NURS 997 until the project meets the final requirements, which will result in delayed graduation. In addition to satisfactorily completing all course assignments, the student is expected to engage in a minimum of 80 DNP Practice Innovation Project practicum contact hours. Graded S/U. Prerequisite: NURS 705.

NURS 710 Advanced Clinical Studies: Primary Care and Health Promotion for Reproductive Health (6)

This course focuses on the role of the family nurse practitioner in the primary care of women and their families across the lifespan. The clinical practicum uses a developmental approach to provide the foundational knowledge needed for advanced understanding and care of common health concerns related to the reproductive organs, including the genitourinary and reproductive cycles of men and women. Concepts of health promotion, health maintenance, sexuality, cultural competence, and environmental variations are integrated throughout the course and will include an environmental and political context. Students will provide reproductive and GU care in primary care settings. (120 clinical hours) Prerequisites: NURS 600; NURS 633; NURS 644; NURS 651; NURS 688; NURS 722; NURS 724.

NURS 711 Population-based Gerontologic Health and Wellness (2)

This course explores and critically analyzes health promotion theories and empirical approaches as a foundation for understanding the contextual health promotion activities of older adults, their families, and their communities. The effect of age, cultural practices, social/racial stratification, and ethnicity of self –care health practices, health disparities, and healthcare delivery systems are explored from a public health perspective. Students will examine key concepts, risk assessment tools, and evidence-based interventions in essential areas of primary, secondary, and tertiary levels of wellness and health maintenance with older adults. A special emphasis is placed on chronic health problems as a basis for attainment of maximum wellness. Prerequisites: NURS 602; NURS 620

NURS 717 Advanced Clinical Care for Adults and Older Adults (6)

This course provides students with foundational knowledge to provide advanced practice nursing care and collaboration with adults and older adults who are acutely or critically ill or are experiencing exacerbation of a chronic health problem. Emphasis is placed on the use of relevant theories, critical thinking, and evidence-based knowledge to develop differential diagnoses, treatment plans, and optimal parameters for physiologically unstable, critically ill adults and older adults who are dependent on technology and are at high risk for developing complications. Emphasis is placed on the synthesis of knowledge from physical and psychosocial sciences including spiritual care and change theory, to formulate advanced clinical decisions effective in the provision of care to critically ill adults and older adults. Clinical care focuses on the role of the acute care nurse practitioner working within an interdisciplinary team to support timely patient return to an optimal level of health (120 clinical hours). Prerequisites: NURS 600; NURS 644; NURS 651; NURS 688; NURS 722; NURS 724

NURS 718 Resource and Practice Management (3)

This course provides a forum for the exploration and evaluation of the financial environment at the macro and micro levels of the health care industry, and how finances specifically affect the role of the advanced practice nurse and the social entrepreneur. The course will emphasize the development of practical financial analytic skills that will provide students with a foundation for immediate application within the health care delivery system. Prerequisites: NURS 612; NURS 670; NURS 725.

NURS 721 Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner I (6)

This course provides students with the foundational knowledge to provide advanced practice nursing care and collaboration with adults and geriatric adults who are acutely or critically ill or are experiencing an exacerbation of a chronic health problem. Emphasis is placed on the use of relevant theories, critical thinking, and evidence-based knowledge to develop differential diagnoses, diagnoses, treatment plans, and optimal parameters for physiologically unstable, critically ill adults and geriatric adults who are dependent on technology and are at high risk for developing complications. Emphasis is placed on the synthesis of knowledge from physical and psychosocial sciences, including spiritual care and change theory, to formulate advanced clinical decisions effective in the provision of care to critically ill adults and older adults. Clinical care focuses on the role of the acute care nurse practitioner working within an interdisciplinary team to support a timely patient return to an optimal level of health. (120 direct patient care clinical hours)

NURS 722 Advanced Clinical Studies: Primary Care and Health Promotion for Adults and Older Adults I (6)

Emphasis is placed on a wellness focus in the care of adults throughout the lifespan with common and reoccurring acute illnesses and stable chronic conditions. Models of health promotion, disease prevention, health education and wellness will be used to guide the family nurse practitioner in assessing, diagnosing and planning care for adults. The clinical practicum uses a developmental approach to manage the health care of adults from diverse backgrounds in primary care settings. The focus is on the synthesis of knowledge from physical and behavioral sciences to formulate advanced clinical decisions effective in the provision of health care of adults and their families. Students will provide primary care to adults in primary care settings (120 supervised clinical hours). Prerequisites: NURS 633; NURS 644; NURS 651; NURS 688; NURS 724.

NURS 723 Advanced Clinical Studies: Primary Care and Health Promotion for Adults and Older Adults II (5)

This course provides students with in-depth knowledge of advanced nursing practice of complex, chronic, high-prevalence illnesses in adult and older adults. Emphasis is placed on the use of relevant theories, critical thinking, and evidence-based knowledge to develop differential diagnoses, diagnoses, treatment plans and optimal parameters for patient aggregates with congestive heart failure, stroke, cancer, diabetes, chronic wounds and infectious diseases. The focus is on the synthesis of knowledge from physical and psychosocial sciences including spiritual care and change theory, to formulate advanced clinical decisions effective in the provision of health care of adults and their families. This course prepares the student to optimize patient health outcomes in primary and acute care clinical settings. (120 clinical hours). Prerequisites: NURS 600; NURS 644; NURS 651; NURS 688; NURS 710; NURS 722; NURS 724.

NURS 724 Advanced Clinical Studies: Population-Based Mental Health Care Across the Lifespan (2)

This course focuses on systems issues affecting clients across the lifespan who require special attention to mental and behavioral health conditions and issues from the advanced practice nursing. This course provides the student with foundational knowledge of the neurobiological and mind-body connection that underpins mental health issues frequently encountered in primary care settings. Issues include legal/ethical decision-making, socialization, finances, and referral. Students will assess mental health issues across the lifespan, develop management and referral strategies, and attend to pharmacologic therapies in a primary care setting using effective evidence-based best practices. Students will engage in advocacy, health coaching, and teaching with patients and families in the quest for mental health services. (60 clinical hours). Prerequisites: NURS 600; NURS 602

NURS 725 Quality, Effectiveness and Safety in Organizational Systems (3)

This course prepares students to design, implement, and evaluate evidence-based quality health care practices for patient populations (individuals and aggregates) in primary, home, and community settings. Organizational theory and models within the healthcare industry are examined. Working as partners in inter-professional teams, students will analyze an organizational culture, gather safety information, analyze data, and translate findings into a plan for changes in micro and macro systems through action learning experiences within their own organizations. Evaluation of innovation and sustainability of system change will be emphasized.

NURS 726 Advanced Clinical Studies: Trauma Care with Adults and Older Adults (6)

This course provides students with foundational knowledge to provide advanced practice nursing care and collaboration with adults and older adults who require trauma care for an acute physiological event. Emphasis is placed on relevant theories, critical thinking, and evidence-based knowledge to develop differential diagnosis, diagnoses, treatment plans and optimal parameters for physiologically unstable, critical ill adults and older adults who have experienced acute physiological trauma. Emphasis is placed on the synthesis of knowledge from physical and psychosocial sciences including spiritual care and change theory, to formulate advanced clinical decisions effective in the provision of care to critically ill adults and older adults. Clinical care focuses on the role of the acute care nurse practitioner working within an interdisciplinary team in the emergency department/intensive care settings to support triage and timely patient return to a stable condition. (120 clinical hours).

NURS 730 Advanced Clinical Studies: Primary Care and Health Promotion of Children and Adolescents (6)

The focus of this course is the knowledge necessary for the practice role of the family nurse practitioner in the delivery of primary care of families with children and adolescents. This course uses a developmental approach to provide the knowledge needed for advanced clinical decision making related to children with common health problems, including acute episodic illness and stable chronic disease. Concepts of health promotion, disease prevention and risk assessment, safety, and cultural and environmental variables are integrated throughout. Students will synthesize developmental needs and the pathophysiologic processes underlying certain conditions. Students will provide primary care to children, adolescents, and their families in primary care settings. (120 clinical hours) Prerequisites: NURS 600; NURS 644; NURS 651; NURS 682; NURS 688; NURS 710; NURS 722; NURS 724.

NURS 770 Clinical Residency in Primary Care of Individuals and Families (6)

This course further develops FNP role competencies through advanced clinical practice in a primary care setting in which students assess and manage the health of individuals and families across the lifespan. The focus is on the synthesis of advanced clinical knowledge from the physical and psychosocial sciences to demonstrate advanced clinical decision making and consideration of professional practice issues. This course will include on-campus immersion seminar/case presentation and three credit hours of clinical practice time (240 clinical hours). Prerequisites: NURS 682; NURS 710; NURS 722; NURS 724; NURS 730.

NURS 772 Clinical Residency in Acute and Critical Care of Adults and Older Adults (6)

This course further develops AG-ACNP role competencies through advanced clinical practice in a primary care setting in which students assess and manage the health of adults and older adults in acute care settings. The focus is on the synthesis of advanced clinical knowledge from the physical and psychosocial sciences to demonstrate advanced clinical decision making and consideration of professional practice issues. This course will include on-campus immersion seminar/case presentation and three credit hours of clinical practice time (240 clinical hours). Prerequisites: NURS 600; NURS 644; NURS 651; NURS 682; NURS 688; NURS 722; NURS 724; NURS 717; NURS 726.

NURS 774 Clinical Residency in Primary Care of Adults and Older Adults (5)

This course further develops AG-PCNP role competencies through advanced clinical practice in a primary care setting in which students assess and manage the health of adults and older adults. The focus is on the synthesis of advanced clinical knowledge from the physical and psychosocial sciences to demonstrate advanced clinical decision making and consideration of professional practice issues. This course will include on-campus immersion seminar/case presentation and three credit hours of clinical practice time (240 clinical hours). Prerequisites: NURS 600; NURS 644; NURS 651; NURS 682; NURS 688; NURS 710; NURS 722; NURS 723; NURS 724.

NURS 797 Independent Study (1-3)

Independent study consists of readings, seminar discussions, and related clinical experience in selected areas of interest. Readings and experiences are generally supplemental to, not a substitute for, content and learning experiences provided in regular course offerings.

NURS 502L Foundations Lab (1)

This course is the clinical for Foundations. (42 clinical hours) Corequisite NURS 502M; Graded: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory

NURS 502M Foundations (2)

This course builds on the knowledge gained through the liberal arts and sciences to introduce the concepts of nursing practice to promote and/or maintain health in the context of the experience of the individual in a variety of settings. This course establishes the nursing process, interpersonal communication, critical thinking, and patient-centered care as foundational concepts for the provision of quality and safe nursing practice with individuals and their families. Nursing skills related to the physiologic health process, mobility, comfort, infection, protection, fatigue, sleep, oxygenation, and elimination are emphasized. The course introduces the student to the professionalism of the nursing practice. Prerequisite: Graduate Student; Corequisite: NURS 502L.

NURS 510L Adult Health I Lab (2)

This course is the clinical for Adult Health I. (84 clinical hours)
Corequisite: NURS 510M; Graded: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory

NURS 510M Adult Health I (3)

This theory and clinical course build upon knowledge gained in the prerequisite nursing and science courses with an emphasis on the patient-centered care of individuals with acute medical-surgical conditions. The nursing process is emphasized and utilized in the care of perioperative care of the patient and family. The ethical, spiritual, psychosocial, and economic impact of the peri-operative experience on the patient and family is explored. Application of clinical judgment and clinical reasoning skills are emphasized as students care for individuals and families with acute health conditions in medical-surgical settings.

Students continue to develop their professional nursing identity through self-reflection and self-evaluation of their clinical performance. Prerequisite: NURS 502M; Corequisite: NURS 510L

NURS 512M Quality Effectiveness, Safety (3)**NURS 515M Current Trends in Healthcare (3)**

This course is designed to help students understand the current trends in nursing and health care. The course will incorporate relevant national and federal patient safety standards and goals such as QSEN and IOM that are guiding practice and nursing education today. The course will also focus on the care of diverse populations such as the LGBTQIA+ population. A focus on interdisciplinary collaboration will be introduced. Bioethical issues within nursing and healthcare will also be explored. The impact of global health is also explored.

NURS 520L Mental Health Nursing Lab (1.5)

This course is the clinical for Mental Health Nursing. (63 clinical hours);
Corequisite: NURS 520M; Graded: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory

NURS 520M Mental Health Nursing (2)

This didactic and clinical course focuses on the care of individuals across the lifespan with psychiatric mental health disorders and chemical dependence. The psychopathology of mental disorders on individuals and their families is examined. The treatment of mental health disorders is studied emphasizing an interprofessional team approach. Emphasis is on the therapeutic use of self with individuals, families, and groups in an acute psychiatric care setting. Communication skills, mental health assessment, and various therapeutic interventions are utilized by students in various clinical placements throughout the community. Prerequisites: NURS 510M; Corequisites: NURS 520L

NURS 522L Perinatal Nursing Lab (1)

This course is the clinical for Perinatal Nursing. (42 clinical hours);
Corequisite: NURS 522M; Graded: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory

NURS 522M Perinatal Nursing (2)

Perinatal Nursing theory and clinical provide a foundation of nursing knowledge for family-centered care in all phases of the perinatal period. The course focuses on the following topics: women's health throughout the lifespan, pregnancy, labor and birth, the postpartum period, the newborn, childbearing at risk, and the newborn at risk. The course further incorporates cultural, ethical, and legal dimensions specific to the perinatal family. Research is considered basic to establishing and advancing the field of perinatal nursing. Prerequisite: NURS 510M; Corequisite: NURS 522L

NURS 531L Adult Health II Lab (2)

This course is the clinical for Adult Health II. (84 clinical hours);
Corequisite: NURS 531M; Graded: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory

NURS 531M Adult Health II (3)

This theory and clinical course focus on patient-centered care for individuals and families with chronic medical conditions including both the acute and palliative phases. The course includes the application of principles to provide patient-centered care in a holistic, individualized, and compassionate manner in both acute care and community settings. Students will participate in an interprofessional approach while caring for clients and families adapting to chronic conditions across the healthcare delivery system from disease prevention to disease management. Intermediate nursing skills, pharmacotherapeutics, common chronic diseases, and treatment modalities are taught using a variety of teaching methodologies. Concurrent clinical practice in acute care medical units, clinical seminar, and hospice settings help correlate theory and clinical practice. Students continue to cultivate their professional nursing identity through self-reflection and self-evaluation of their clinical performance. Prerequisites: NURS 520M, NURS 522M; Corequisite: NURS 531L

NURS 533L Public & Community Health Lab (1.5)

This course is the clinical for Public & Community Health. (63 clinical hours);
Corequisite: NURS 531M; Graded: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory

NURS 533M Public & Community Health (2)

This theory and clinical course examine the promotion of health and prevention of illness across populations in a community setting as well as critically analyze the health of selected populations in a community. #Emphasis is placed on increasing the student's self-awareness, communicating effectively, and meeting the community health needs of individuals, families, and groups. #Health education, health promotion, and illness prevention are stressed as strategies for meeting the health needs of population aggregates. #Presentation of the health care delivery system includes the impact of political, legal, social, and cultural influences on the health of individuals. Public health nursing issues, such as communicable disease, environmental hazards, and occupational exposures are discussed. Prerequisites: NURS 520M, NURS 522M; Corequisite: NURS 533L

NURS 541M MSN Seminar I (1)

In the first of a series of seminars, this course introduces and develops the role of the master's prepared professional nurse. The course builds upon the scientific basis of evidence-based practice to help students begin to identify and develop their focus on a scholarly project. Students will partner with a local healthcare agency on a quality improvement or informatics focus to help improve the delivery of nursing care in that institution. Prerequisite: NURS 515M

NURS 542M MSN Seminar II (1)

In the second of a series of three seminars, this course continues to foster the scholarly development of the master's prepared nurse. The focus of the course is the continuation of the student's scholarly project developed in partnership with a healthcare agency through the synthesis and analysis of the literature review. The student will critically appraise the literature and identify gaps in the literature. Through the literature review, the student will identify the area of improvement for the delivery of safe and quality nursing care or the improvement of patient outcomes. Prerequisite: NURS 541M; Concurrent: NURS 550M, NURS 553M

NURS 543M MSN Seminar III (2)

In the third of the seminar series, this course culminates with the implementation and evaluation of the scholarly project aimed at an improvement in the delivery of nursing care or patient outcomes with the partnering healthcare agency. The student develops a poster of their project and presents their work to their partnering healthcare agency. Prerequisites: NURS 541M, NURS 542M; Concurrent: NURS 560M, NURS 553L, NURS 580M

NURS 550L Adult Health III Lab (2)

This course is the clinical for Adult Health III. (84 clinical hours); Corequisite: NURS 550M; Graded: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory

NURS 550M Adult Health III (3)

This theory and clinical course concentrate on the provision of patient-centered nursing care to individuals and families experiencing complex and multi-system health conditions. The course builds upon the knowledge gained in previous medical-surgical courses to enhance clinical judgment and clinical reasoning. In the clinical setting, students continue to incorporate advanced health care technologies and collaborate with interprofessional team members in the provision of nursing care. Students further refine their professional nursing identity through self-reflection and self-evaluation of their clinical performance. Prerequisites: NURS 531M, NURS 533M; Corequisite: NURS 550L

NURS 553L Health Systems Ldrshp & Mgt Lab (3)

This course is the clinical for Health Systems Leadership and Management. Prerequisite: NURS 553M, NURS 550M

NURS 553M Health Systems Ldrshp & Mgt (2)

This clinical capstone course introduces the student to leadership theories and concepts of management within the nursing profession through clinical and seminars. The ability to analyze and apply the concepts of leadership and management is provided through clinical experiences. The nursing leadership skills of delegation, priority setting, clinical judgment, clinical reasoning, and time management are emphasized throughout the course. The student also continues to collaborate with other professionals in the care of multiple patients during clinical time. This course also examines the QSEN competencies as a means of providing patient-centered nursing care. Students further refine their professional nursing identity through self-reflection and self-evaluation of their clinical performance as they transition from student to professional nurse. Prerequisite: NURS 533M, NURS 531M

NURS 560L Nursing Care of the Child Lab (1)

This course is the clinical for Nursing Care of the Child. (84 clinical hours); Corequisite: NURS 560M; Graded: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory

NURS 560M Nursing Care of the Child (2)

Child health nursing focuses on the assessment and management of well, acutely ill, and chronically ill children and their families. The effect that childhood illness has on the family in the hospital and in the community is emphasized. Principles of growth and development, nutrition, pharmacology, and ethics are reinforced and expanded throughout the course. Decision-making and independent learning are emphasized. Research, as it relates to theory and practice, is discussed and applied. Prerequisites: NURS 550M, NURS 553M; Corequisites: NURS 560L.

NURS 580M Transition to Profess Nursing (2)

This course addresses the role transition from graduate nurse to professional nursing. Content provides students with tools needed for preparation to be successful on the licensure examination including decision making, critical thinking, and clinical judgment. The course also examines strategies for students' personal and professional empowerment and continued growth. The course will also focus on issues that face nurses including orientation, burnout, and self-care. Prerequisites: NURS 550M, NURS 553M

NURS 600 Communication and Relationship Centered Leadership (3)

This course examines essential components of communication, leadership theories, and the population ecology of organizations that impact interprofessional collaboration and the delivery of safe, relationship centered care by the advance practice nurse. Students will examine their development of interpersonal skills and effective leadership styles through role preparation and exploration of change strategies in organizational systems. Family theory, human diversity, and health care literacy levels are used to give emphasis to the importance of oral and written communication skills used by the DNP to plan and evaluate safe care outcomes for diverse populations and vulnerable groups. Prerequisite: Graduate Status.

NURS 601 Introduction to the Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Role (0.5)

Students in this introductory role course will investigate Advanced Practice Registered Nurse's (APRN) roles and contributions to patient health, interprofessional healthcare teams, and healthcare systems. Students will investigate state regulatory requirements that impact APRN practice in their home state and articulate how this legislation will impact them.

NURS 602 Philosophical and Ethical Foundations for the Advanced Nursing Practice Role (3)

This course engages students in a reflective and dialogical process that guides the structuring of nursing knowledge and the philosophical underpinnings of advance nursing practice, leadership, and practice inquiry. The development and application of theory in practice are brought together from the perspective of clinical nursing and other scientific disciplines as a foundation for leadership in effecting change in nursing and healthcare. Ethical decision-making frameworks and relevant research findings will be used to promote the development of application skills for clinical practice. Prerequisite: Graduate Status.

NURS 604 Evidence-Based Practice I: Evidence Synthesis for Practice (3)

Learners are provided with a theoretical and practical foundation for identifying and critically appraising evidence from qualitative and quantitative research traditions. Emphasis is on the examination of the essential elements of evidence-based practice, including the formulation of answerable questions to address practice change, quality improvement, and safety in a variety of advance practice roles. Students engage in the systematic search for research evidence and the use interdisciplinary models to analysis of research findings that can be used to answer researchable questions. The use of electronic medical records as a source of data to provide evidence and information management in health care are explored. This course will support the beginning development of the student's capstone project.

NURS 604M Evid-Based Pract I:Synthesis (3)

Learners are provided with a theoretical and practical foundation for identifying and critically appraising evidence from qualitative and quantitative research traditions. Emphasis is on the examination of the essential elements of evidence-based practice, including the formulation of answerable questions to address practice change, quality improvement, and safety in a variety of advance practice roles. Students engage in the systematic search for research evidence and the use interdisciplinary models to analysis of research findings that can be used to answer researchable questions. The use of electronic medical records as a source of data to provide evidence and information management in health care are explored. This course will support the beginning development of the student's capstone project. Prerequisites: NURS 622.

NURS 610 Healthcare Policy and Advocacy (3)

The course is designed to analyze the leadership role of the DNP in health policy development emphasizing inter-professional collaboration and social justice. The social, regulatory, and ethical issues that impact DNP practice are examined. Strategies for designing and leading the implementation of public, professional, and institutional policies relating to local, regional, national and international health care and its delivery are considered. The effect of innovation and nursing scholarship on health policy and advocacy are examined. Prerequisite: Graduate Status.

NURS 610M Healthcare Policy and Advocacy (3)

This course assists the student to create a vision of relationship-centered leadership in healthcare from the perspective of an entrepreneur who operates within a tradition of social justice and values. Special emphasis is placed on the emerging role of the social entrepreneur in health care who, as a DNP, provides innovative leadership that uses entrepreneurial principles to improve healthcare systems, invent and disseminate new cost effective approaches to care, and advance sustainable solutions that create social value for small and large scale populations and healthcare systems. The student is encouraged to investigate how wealth creation can impact the public good in the healthcare arena at the community, national and global levels. Prerequisite: NURS 600.

NURS 619 Social Determinants of Health: Individuals and Families (3)

Students in the course will investigate how culture and the social determinants of health contribute to and impact individuals and families within the geriatric neuropsychiatric disease continuum.

NURS 620 Human Population Ecology (3)

This course provides students with an opportunity to apply foundational scientific methods such as epidemiology and biostatistics in the study of health events in groups of people. Population theories such as ecological theory, health behavior, ecosocial theory of disease distribution, and other substantive theories will be applied. How the context of population-based health experience --societal, ecological, and historical-- become embodied and are manifested in population rates of disease and the magnitude of health inequities are emphasized. Assessment tools and intervention strategies for health of selected populations who share common health illness phenomena will be examined from an organizational and public health perspective. Prerequisite: NURS 622.

NURS 622 Statistics for Health and Biological Sciences (3)

This course covers a wide range of statistical methods used in health care research. Descriptive statistics, probability distributions (binomial and normal), sampling distributions, inferences (point estimates and confidence intervals), hypotheses testing (one-sample tests, two-sample tests), Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) as well as simple linear regression and multiple regression analysis are included. The course emphasizes the application of statistical concepts to analyze research for best available evidence to support quality nursing practice. Students are asked to relate the material to their own practice and use SPSS statistical software for assignments. The course provides support for students to plan the statistical analyses for their Capstone project and other evidence based projects. Prerequisite: Graduate Status.

NURS 624 Evidence-Based Practice 2: Translation of Evidence for Practice (3)

This course focuses on the leadership opportunity for the use of innovative approaches for the implementation and evaluation of evidence based practice change. Emphasis is placed on synthesis and application of evidence to bridge the gap between evidence and practice. Students will engage in a critical examination of the social value and the impact of the implementation of translational research findings into practice change at the individual, family, organizational system, and population levels. Prerequisites: NURS 604; NURS 612; NURS 622.

NURS 633 Health Promotion for Population Health (2)

This course explores and critically analyzes health promotion theories and empirical approaches as a foundation for understanding the contextual health promotion activities of patients, families, and communities across the lifespan. The effect of age, cultural practices, social/racial stratification, and ethnicity on self-care health practices, health disparities, and health care delivery systems are explored from a public health perspective. Students will examine key concepts, risk assessment tools, and evidence-based interventions in essential areas of health promotion such as physical activity, nutrition, stress management, and social support. A special emphasis is placed on obesity and weight control to acknowledge the link between adiposity and metabolic disease. Prerequisites: NURS 602; NURS 620.

NURS 644 Advanced Physiology and Pathophysiology (3)

This course provides in-depth discussion of complex physiologic and pathophysiologic concepts essential for advanced clinical nursing courses in the care of adults and older adults. Physiologic and pathophysiologic processes related to the central, peripheral, and autonomic nervous systems; cardiovascular, respiratory, and renal systems; hematopoiesis, inflammation, immunity, microcirculation, neuromuscular synapse, skeletal and smooth muscle, and acid-base balance are discussed at biochemical, cellular, organ, system, and human organism levels. Hormonal regulation is integrated with various physiologic and pathophysiologic processes. Emphasis is on integration of concepts as a basis for understanding interrelationships among complex physiologic and pathophysiologic processes Prerequisite: Graduate Status.

NURS 644M Advanced Physiology and Pathophysiology (3)

This course provides in-depth discussion of complex physiologic and pathophysiologic concepts essential for advanced clinical nursing courses in the care of adults and older adults. Physiologic and pathophysiologic processes related to the central, peripheral, and autonomic nervous systems; cardiovascular, respiratory, and renal systems; hematopoiesis, inflammation, immunity, microcirculation, neuromuscular synapse, skeletal and smooth muscle, and acid-base balance are discussed at biochemical, cellular, organ, system, and human organism levels. Hormonal regulation is integrated with various physiologic and pathophysiologic processes. Emphasis is on integration of concepts as a basis for understanding interrelationships among complex physiologic and pathophysiologic processes Prerequisite: Graduate Status.

NURS 651 Advanced Pharmacology (3)

This interdisciplinary course uses a lifespan approach to examine the principles of pharmacology and drug therapy for advanced nursing practice including legal and social considerations related to prescriptive authority and prescribing patterns. Students will participate in interdisciplinary clinical seminars with Pharm D students during a planned campus immersion during this course. Prerequisite: NURS 644.

NURS 651M Advance Pharmacology (3)

This interdisciplinary course uses a lifespan approach to examine the principles of pharmacology and drug therapy for advanced nursing practice including legal and social considerations related to prescriptive authority and prescribing patterns. Students will participate in interdisciplinary clinical seminars with Pharm D students during a planned campus immersion during this course. Prerequisite: NURS 644M

NURS 670 Nursing Informatics & Data-Driven Decision Making (3)

This course is designed to equip DNP students with essential knowledge and skills in nursing informatics, data analytics, and their application to improve healthcare outcomes. This course emphasizes the significant role of nursing informatics in today's evolving healthcare landscape and explores the opportunities and challenges of integrating informatics and data analytics in various healthcare settings. Students will gain an understanding of the use of electronic health records, telehealth, and clinical decision support systems in enhancing patient care and safety. Students will develop competencies in using informatics tools and techniques to analyze large volumes of data, supporting evidence-based nursing practice. Additionally, the course will examine ethical and legal considerations and advocacy related to informatics and data analytics in nursing practice. Prerequisites: NURS 612; NURS 620; NURS 622.

NURS 682 Procedures for Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (1)

This course provides an inter-professional interactive seminar that engages the student in examining x-ray findings as a data component of diagnostic reasoning. Students will also practice suturing minor injuries. This immersion seminar will occur in a hospital or clinical setting of one of our academic practice partners. (6 clinical hours) Prerequisites: NURS 644; NURS 688.

NURS 688 Advanced Health Assessment and Diagnostic Reasoning (3)

This course provides knowledge and skills necessary for the advanced practice nurse to synthesize concepts from nursing and biopsychosocial sciences in the comprehensive health assessment of adults and children. The diagnostic reasoning process, differential diagnosis, advanced health evaluation techniques, laboratory tests, diagnostic studies, and interpretation and evaluation of findings are incorporated into the course. The importance of the evidence based link between oral health and illness across the lifespan is explored. Students will provide advanced health assessment with clients across the lifespan in inter-professional clinical settings. Comprehensive health histories and physical examination techniques will be used to complete a database on clients to formulate differential diagnoses and make advanced clinical decisions. (30 clinical hours) Prerequisites: NURS 644; NURS 651.

NURS 688L Adv Health Assessment Lab (0.5)

This course is the clinical for Advanced Health Assessment. (21 clinical hours); Corequisite: NURS 688M; Graded: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory

NURS 688M Advanced Health Assessment (2.5)

This course provides knowledge and skills necessary for the beginning and advanced practice nurse to synthesize concepts from nursing and biopsychosocial sciences in the comprehensive health assessment of adults and children. The diagnostic reasoning process, differential diagnoses, advanced health evaluation techniques, laboratory tests, diagnostic studies, and interpretation and evaluation of findings are incorporated into the course. The importance of the evidence-based link between oral health and illness across the lifespan is explored. Students will provide advanced health assessment with clients across the lifespan in inter-professional clinical settings. Comprehensive health histories and physical examination techniques will be used to complete a database on clients to formulate differential diagnoses and make advanced clinical decisions. Prerequisite: Graduate Student; Corequisite: NURS 688L

NURS 701 DNP Practice Innovation I (1)

This is the first of a 6-semester sequence of courses that lead to completion of the DNP Practice Innovation Project. IN NURS 701, students will receive mentoring from a faculty project team leader as they begin to examine their role as a doctorally-prepared Advanced Practice Registered Nurse in a complex health care system. Students engage in a focused and analytical review of the literature to identify the problem that will be addressed by the DNP Practice Innovation Project, and define best practices as they begin to develop an innovative approach to clinical practice change. In addition to satisfactorily completing all course assignments, the student is expected to engage in a minimum of 40 DNP Practice Innovation Project practicum contact hours. Graded S/U. Prerequisites: NURS 604; NURS 624.

NURS 702 DNP Practice Innovation II (3)

This is the second course in a 6-semester sequence of courses that lead to completion of the DNP Practice Innovation Project. In NURS 702, students will continue the in-depth analytical review of literature, synthesizing and integrating that knowledge as they continue to develop their DNP Practice Innovation Project. Students will continue to work with an identified faculty project team leader to develop an implementation plan for their project in collaboration with a clinical agency. In addition to satisfactorily completing all course assignments, the student is expected to engage in a minimum of 40 DNP Practice Innovation Project practicum contact hours. Graded S/U. Prerequisite: NURS 701.

NURS 703 DNP Practice Innovation III (2)

This is the third course in a 6-semester sequence of courses that lead to completion of the DNP Practice Innovation Project. In NURS 703 students will synthesize and integrate the learning from NURS 701 and 702 to develop the DNP Practice Innovation Project Proposal. In addition to a scholarly, evidence-based practice paper, students will be required to deliver an oral presentation about the project proposal to their faculty team leader and team members. The student will begin the implementation of their DNP Practice Innovation Project after obtaining approval from their faculty team and the Institutional Review Board. In addition to satisfactorily completing all course assignments, the student is expected to engage in a minimum of 80 DNP Practice Innovation Project practicum contact hours. Graded S/U. Prerequisite: NURS 702.

NURS 704 DNP Practice Innovation IV (3)

This is the fourth course in a 6-semester sequence of courses that lead to completion of the DNP Practice Innovation Project. With mentoring from their faculty team leader, the student will work with a clinical agency to implement the DNP Practice Innovation Project. Students will implement an evidence based project and engage in on-going data collection process while continually assessing the quality of the data. The student is required to regularly submit updates on the implementation process and give an oral presentation about the status of their project to their colleagues. In addition to satisfactorily completing all course assignments, the student is expected to engage in a minimum of 80 DNP Practice Innovation Project practicum contact hours. Graded S/U. Prerequisite: NURS 703.

NURS 705 DNP Practice Innovation V (2)

This is the fifth course in a 6-semester sequence of courses that lead to completion of the DNP Practice Innovation Project. In this course, students will wrap up the implementation process for the DNP Practice Innovation Project and begin data analysis to measure the outcomes. Students will synthesize the theoretical and empirical evidence guiding their practice innovation project with their project experience and outcome data from their project. In addition to project implementation, students in this course will investigate various outlets for dissemination of their project once it is completed. In addition to satisfactorily completing all course assignments, the student is expected to engage in a minimum of 80 DNP Practice Innovation Project practicum contact hours. Graded S/U. Prerequisite: NURS 704.

NURS 706 DNP Practice Innovation VI (2)

This is the final course in a 6-semester sequence of courses that lead to completion of the DNP Practice Innovation Project. During this course, students will critically examine the DNP Practice Innovation Project and identify challenges within individuals and environments that influence change. Students will complete their project and provide a written scholarly paper and an outline of a publishable manuscript. Students will engage in a poster presentation during an Immersion to disseminate the results of the project to members of the DNP program community. Students who do not complete the DNP Practice Innovation Project during this course will be required to register for NURS 997 until the project meets the final requirements, which will result in delayed graduation. In addition to satisfactorily completing all course assignments, the student is expected to engage in a minimum of 80 DNP Practice Innovation Project practicum contact hours. Graded S/U. Prerequisite: NURS 705.

NURS 710 Advanced Clinical Studies: Primary Care and Health Promotion for Reproductive Health (6)

This course focuses on the role of the family nurse practitioner in the primary care of women and their families across the lifespan. The clinical practicum uses a developmental approach to provide the foundational knowledge needed for advanced understanding and care of common health concerns related to the reproductive organs, including the genitourinary and reproductive cycles of men and women. Concepts of health promotion, health maintenance, sexuality, cultural competence, and environmental variations are integrated throughout the course and will include an environmental and political context. Students will provide reproductive and GU care in primary care settings. (120 clinical hours) Prerequisites: NURS 600; NURS 633; NURS 644; NURS 651; NURS 688; NURS 722; NURS 724.

NURS 711 Population-based Gerontologic Health and Wellness (2)

This course explores and critically analyzes health promotion theories and empirical approaches as a foundation for understanding the contextual health promotion activities of older adults, their families, and their communities. The effect of age, cultural practices, social/ racial stratification, and ethnicity of self –care health practices, health disparities, and healthcare delivery systems are explored from a public health perspective. Students will examine key concepts, risk assessment tools, and evidence-based interventions in essential areas of primary, secondary, and tertiary levels of wellness and health maintenance with older adults. A special emphasis is placed on chronic health problems as a basis for attainment of maximum wellness. Prerequisites: NURS 602; NURS 620

NURS 717 Advanced Clinical Care for Adults and Older Adults (6)

This course provides students with foundational knowledge to provide advanced practice nursing care and collaboration with adults and older adults who are acutely or critically ill or are experiencing exacerbation of a chronic health problem. Emphasis is placed on the use of relevant theories, critical thinking, and evidence-based knowledge to develop differential diagnoses, treatment plans, and optimal parameters for physiologically unstable, critically ill adults and older adults who are dependent on technology and are at high risk for developing complications. Emphasis is placed on the synthesis of knowledge from physical and psychosocial sciences including spiritual care and change theory, to formulate advanced clinical decisions effective in the provision of care to critically ill adults and older adults. Clinical care focuses on the role of the acute care nurse practitioner working within an interdisciplinary team to support timely patient return to an optimal level of health (120 clinical hours). Prerequisites: NURS 600; NURS 644; NURS 651; NURS 688; NURS 722; NURS 724

NURS 718 Resource and Practice Management (3)

This course provides a forum for the exploration and evaluation of the financial environment at the macro and micro levels of the health care industry, and how finances specifically affect the role of the advanced practice nurse and the social entrepreneur. The course will emphasize the development of practical financial analytic skills that will provide students with a foundation for immediate application within the health care delivery system. Prerequisites: NURS 612; NURS 670; NURS 725.

NURS 721 Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner I (6)

This course provides students with the foundational knowledge to provide advanced practice nursing care and collaboration with adults and geriatric adults who are acutely or critically ill or are experiencing an exacerbation of a chronic health problem. Emphasis is placed on the use of relevant theories, critical thinking, and evidence-based knowledge to develop differential diagnoses, diagnoses, treatment plans, and optimal parameters for physiologically unstable, critically ill adults and geriatric adults who are dependent on technology and are at high risk for developing complications. Emphasis is placed on the synthesis of knowledge from physical and psychosocial sciences, including spiritual care and change theory, to formulate advanced clinical decisions effective in the provision of care to critically ill adults and older adults. Clinical care focuses on the role of the acute care nurse practitioner working within an interdisciplinary team to support a timely patient return to an optimal level of health. (120 direct patient care clinical hours)

NURS 722 Advanced Clinical Studies: Primary Care and Health Promotion for Adults and Older Adults I (6)

Emphasis is placed on a wellness focus in the care of adults throughout the lifespan with common and reoccurring acute illnesses and stable chronic conditions. Models of health promotion, disease prevention, health education and wellness will be used to guide the family nurse practitioner in assessing, diagnosing and planning care for adults. The clinical practicum uses a developmental approach to manage the health care of adults from diverse backgrounds in primary care settings. The focus is on the synthesis of knowledge from physical and behavioral sciences to formulate advanced clinical decisions effective in the provision of health care of adults and their families. Students will provide primary care to adults in primary care settings (120 supervised clinical hours). Prerequisites: NURS 633; NURS 644; NURS 651; NURS 688; NURS 724.

NURS 723 Advanced Clinical Studies: Primary Care and Health Promotion for Adults and Older Adults II (5)

This course provides students with in-depth knowledge of advanced nursing practice of complex, chronic, high-prevalence illnesses in adult and older adults. Emphasis is placed on the use of relevant theories, critical thinking, and evidence-based knowledge to develop differential diagnoses, diagnoses, treatment plans and optimal parameters for patient aggregates with congestive heart failure, stroke, cancer, diabetes, chronic wounds and infectious diseases. The focus is on the synthesis of knowledge from physical and psychosocial sciences including spiritual care and change theory, to formulate advanced clinical decisions effective in the provision of health care of adults and their families. This course prepares the student to optimize patient health outcomes in primary and acute care clinical settings. (120 clinical hours). Prerequisites: NURS 600; NURS 644; NURS 651; NURS 688; NURS 710; NURS 722; NURS 724.

NURS 724 Advanced Clinical Studies: Population-Based Mental Health Care Across the Lifespan (2)

This course focuses on systems issues affecting clients across the lifespan who require special attention to mental and behavioral health conditions and issues from the advanced practice nursing. This course provides the student with foundational knowledge of the neurobiological and mind-body connection that underpins mental health issues frequently encountered in primary care settings. Issues include legal/ethical decision-making, socialization, finances, and referral. Students will assess mental health issues across the lifespan, develop management and referral strategies, and attend to pharmacologic therapies in a primary care setting using effective evidence-based best practices. Students will engage in advocacy, health coaching, and teaching with patients and families in the quest for mental health services. (60 clinical hours). Prerequisites: NURS 600; NURS 602

NURS 725 Quality, Effectiveness and Safety in Organizational Systems (3)

This course prepares students to design, implement, and evaluate evidence-based quality health care practices for patient populations (individuals and aggregates) in primary, home, and community settings. Organizational theory and models within the healthcare industry are examined. Working as partners in inter-professional teams, students will analyze an organizational culture, gather safety information, analyze data, and translate findings into a plan for changes in micro and macro systems through action learning experiences within their own organizations. Evaluation of innovation and sustainability of system change will be emphasized.

NURS 726 Advanced Clinical Studies: Trauma Care with Adults and Older Adults (6)

This course provides students with foundational knowledge to provide advanced practice nursing care and collaboration with adults and older adults who require trauma care for an acute physiological event. Emphasis is placed on relevant theories, critical thinking, and evidence-based knowledge to develop differential diagnosis, diagnoses, treatment plans and optimal parameters for physiologically unstable, critical ill adults and older adults who have experienced acute physiological trauma. Emphasis is placed on the synthesis of knowledge from physical and psychosocial sciences including spiritual care and change theory, to formulate advanced clinical decisions effective in the provision of care to critically ill adults and older adults. Clinical care focuses on the role of the acute care nurse practitioner working within an interdisciplinary team in the emergency department/intensive care settings to support triage and timely patient return to a stable condition. (120 clinical hours).

NURS 730 Advanced Clinical Studies: Primary Care and Health Promotion of Children and Adolescents (6)

The focus of this course is the knowledge necessary for the practice role of the family nurse practitioner in the delivery of primary care of families with children and adolescents. This course uses a developmental approach to provide the knowledge needed for advanced clinical decision making related to children with common health problems, including acute episodic illness and stable chronic disease. Concepts of health promotion, disease prevention and risk assessment, safety, and cultural and environmental variables are integrated throughout. Students will synthesize developmental needs and the pathophysiologic processes underlying certain conditions. Students will provide primary care to children, adolescents, and their families in primary care settings. (120 clinical hours) Prerequisites: NURS 600; NURS 644; NURS 651; NURS 682; NURS 688; NURS 710; NURS 722; NURS 724.

NURS 735 Geriatric Neuropsychiatric Pathophysiology & Differential Diagnosis (3)

This course provides an in-depth discussion of complex physiologic and pathophysiologic concepts related to geriatric neuropsychiatric processes in adults and older adults. Emphasis is on integrating scientific concepts as a basis for understanding interrelationships among complex physiologic and pathophysiologic processes and developing differential diagnoses for individuals in the neuropsychiatric continuum.

NURS 737 Geriatric Neuropsychiatric Pharmacology (3)

This course examines the principles of pharmacology and drug therapy for Advanced Practice Registered Nurses who provide care to adults and older adults experiencing geriatric neuropsychiatric diseases. Content will include legal, ethical, and social considerations related to prescribing medications to individuals with these disease states.

NURS 740 Palliative Care for Individuals and Families (3)

This course examines the principles of palliative care across the lifespan for Advanced Practice Registered Nurses. Content will include pharmacological and non-pharmacological interventions legal, ethical, and social considerations related to the delivery of palliative care measures for individuals across the lifespan.

NURS 745 Policy, Regulatory Compliance in the Care of Older Adults Course Credit: 3 credits (3)

This course is designed to assist students in envisioning and analyzing their leadership role as an APRN who practices within the eldercare environment. The content will focus on analyzing selected local, state, national, and global health programs and policies. Students will develop an understanding of the underlying values and socio-political and economic issues that influence the context of eldercare. Strategies are considered for designing and leading the implementation of public, professional, and institutional policies relating to local, regional, national, and international health care and its delivery.

NURS 750 Preparation for the Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Role (0.5)

Students in this course will begin preparation for their professional role as Advanced Practice Registered Nurses by preparing for the certification exam and identifying the required documentation for licensure in their home state. Students will write a curriculum vitae, engage in mock job interviews, and salary and benefits negotiation.

NURS 770 Clinical Residency in Primary Care of Individuals and Families (6)

This course further develops FNP role competencies through advanced clinical practice in a primary care setting in which students assess and manage the health of individuals and families across the lifespan. The focus is on the synthesis of advanced clinical knowledge from the physical and psychosocial sciences to demonstrate advanced clinical decision making and consideration of professional practice issues. This course will include on-campus immersion seminar/case presentation and three credit hours of clinical practice time (240 clinical hours). Prerequisites: NURS 682; NURS 710; NURS 722; NURS 724; NURS 730.

NURS 772 Clinical Residency in Acute and Critical Care of Adults and Older Adults (6)

This course further develops AG-ACNP role competencies through advanced clinical practice in a primary care setting in which students assess and manage the health of adults and older adults in acute care settings. The focus is on the synthesis of advanced clinical knowledge from the physical and psychosocial sciences to demonstrate advanced clinical decision making and consideration of professional practice issues. This course will include on-campus immersion seminar/case presentation and three credit hours of clinical practice time (240 clinical hours). Prerequisites: NURS 600; NURS 644; NURS 651; NURS 682; NURS 688; NURS 722; NURS 724; NURS 717; NURS 726.

NURS 774 Clinical Residency in Primary Care of Adults and Older Adults (5)

This course further develops AG-PCNP role competencies through advanced clinical practice in a primary care setting in which students assess and manage the health of adults and older adults. The focus is on the synthesis of advanced clinical knowledge from the physical and psychosocial sciences to demonstrate advanced clinical decision making and consideration of professional practice issues. This course will include on-campus immersion seminar/case presentation and three credit hours of clinical practice time (240 clinical hours). Prerequisites: NURS 600; NURS 644; NURS 651; NURS 682; NURS 688; NURS 710; NURS 722; NURS 723; NURS 724.

NURS 797 Independent Study (1-3)

Independent study consists of readings, seminar discussions, and related clinical experience in selected areas of interest. Readings and experiences are generally supplemental to, not a substitute for, content and learning experiences provided in regular course offerings.

BSN to DNP Program Degree Plan

Course	Title	Credits
First Year		
First Semester		
NURS 600	Communication and Relationship Centered Leadership	3
NURS 620	Human Population Ecology	3
Immersion:		
NURS 601	Introduction to the Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Role	0.5
Credits		6.5
Second Semester		
NURS 612	Social Entrepreneurship and the Business of Healthcare	3
NURS 725	Quality, Effectiveness and Safety in Organizational Systems	3
Credits		6
Third Semester		
NURS 602	Philosophical and Ethical Foundations for the Advanced Nursing Practice Role	3
NURS 610	Healthcare Policy and Advocacy	3
Credits		6
Second Year		
First Semester		
NURS 644	Advanced Physiology and Pathophysiology	3
NURS 622	Statistics for Health and Biological Sciences	3

Health Promotion Courses:		2
NURS 633	Health Promotion for Population Health (FNP Students)	
NURS 711	Population-based Gerontologic Health and Wellness (AG-ACNP Students)	
Credits		8
Second Semester		
NURS 651	Advanced Pharmacology	3
NURS 670	Nursing Informatics & Data-Driven Decision Making	3
NURS 604	Evidence-Based Practice I: Evidence Synthesis for Practice	3
Credits		9
Third Semester		
NURS 688	Advanced Health Assessment and Diagnostic Reasoning	3
NURS 724	Advanced Clinical Studies: Population-Based Mental Health Care Across the Lifespan	2
Immersion:		
NURS 682	Procedures for Advanced Practice Registered Nurses	1
Credits		6
Third Year		
First Semester		
NURS 624	Evidence-Based Practice 2: Translation of Evidence for Practice	3
Clinical Courses:		6
NURS 710	Advanced Clinical Studies: Primary Care and Health Promotion for Reproductive Health (FNP Students)	
NURS 717	Advanced Clinical Care for Adults and Older Adults (AG-ACNP Students)	
Credits		9
Second Semester		
NURS 701	DNP Practice Innovation I	1
Clinical Courses:		6
NURS 722	Advanced Clinical Studies: Primary Care and Health Promotion for Adults and Older Adults I (FNP Students)	
NURS 721	Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner I (AG-ACNP Students)	
Credits		7
Third Semester		
NURS 702	DNP Practice Innovation II	3
NURS 718	Resource and Practice Management	3
Credits		6
Fourth Year		
First Semester		
NURS 703	DNP Practice Innovation III	2
Clinical Courses:		6
NURS 730	Advanced Clinical Studies: Primary Care and Health Promotion of Children and Adolescents (FNP Students)	

NURS 726	Advanced Clinical Studies: Trauma Care with Adults and Older Adults (AG-ACNP Students)	
Credits		8
Second Semester		
NURS 704	DNP Practice Innovation IV	3
Clinical Courses:		6
NURS 770	Clinical Residency in Primary Care of Individuals and Families (FNP Students)	
NURS 772	Clinical Residency in Acute and Critical Care of Adults and Older Adults (AG-ACNP Students)	
Immersion:		
NURS 750	Preparation for the Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Role	0.5
Credits		9.5
Total Credits		81