



Graduate Curriculum Guide Course Descriptions: Core and DNP

APN Core Courses (35 credits total)

N502 Theoretical Foundations of Nursing Practice (3 credits)

Theoretical Foundations of Nursing Practice explores conceptual frameworks and theories relevant to the discipline of nursing. The role of theory in the generation of nursing knowledge is introduced. Selected nursing models/theories are critiqued. Concepts of health promotion and disease prevention will be addressed within the theoretical frameworks including concepts of holistic care, healthy lifestyle, self-care, risk reduction, and quality of life. Relevant theories and issues affecting successful human development are examined. The psychosocial and sociocultural lifespan influences on health will be discussed. Prerequisite: RN/BSN or Professional Nursing Concepts course or equivalent

N504 Health Care Organization and Management (3 credits)

Health Care Organization and Management examines local, regional, national, and global health care trends utilizing appropriate epidemiological principles. Students are introduced to the roles of the advanced practice nurse and examine the design, implementation, and management of care in a variety of health care systems. Cost analysis using information technology and the impact on healthcare services will be discussed. Administrative and organizational behavior will be examined in relation to population-based needs, economic, and reimbursement issues. Organizational and management theory are examined as they relate to nursing, strategic planning, management of the changing health care delivery system, program planning and evaluation, decision-making and change. Prerequisite: RN with a bachelor's degree

P506 Nursing Ethics and Health Care Law and Policy (3 credits)

Nursing Ethics and Health Care Law and Policy will explore the moral imperative of professional nursing, emphasizing the legal and ethical decision making process in clinical practice, research, education, and management. Moral agency will guide issues related to human diversity, vulnerability, and spirituality.

M512 Intermediate Statistics (3 credits)

Statistical tools for scientific research including parametric and non-parametric analyses are included. ANOVA and group comparisons, correlation, linear regression, Chi-Square, and basic concepts in experimental design and analysis will be explored. Emphasis is placed on application and the use of the SPSS statistical package. Prerequisite: Undergraduate Statistics Course

N514 Principles of Nursing Research (3 credits)

Principles of Nursing Research provide students with the skills to analyze evaluate and synthesize health-related research and evidence-based practice reviews for the improvement of nursing practice. The student will use the research process to write a research proposal. Prerequisite: N502, or consent of Dean Graduate Affairs and Research; RN with a bachelor's degree

N530 Advanced Physiology and Pathophysiology (4 credits)

Advanced Physiology and Pathophysiology provides an in-depth foundation in understanding normal physiologic and pathologic mechanisms of disease to serve as a foundation for clinical assessment, decision making, and management. Lifespan variations are included. Prerequisite: R.N. with a bachelor's degree

N532 Advanced Health and Physical Assessment (3 credits [2 theory/1 lab])

Advanced Health and Physical Assessment develops advanced nursing assessment skills including the comprehensive history, physical, and psychological assessment, pathophysiologic changes, with emphasis on psychosocial and lifespan variations of the individual, family, and community. Prerequisite: RN with a bachelor's degree

PH533 Epidemiology in Health Prevention (3 credits)

Epidemiology in Health Prevention introduces students to the principles and methods of the design, conduct, and interpretation of epidemiological studies. Emphasis is placed on prevention of health problems based on these epidemiological findings. The use of genomic information and the impact on health deviations is also emphasized in this course. Prerequisite: RN with a bachelor's degree

N534 Advanced Pharmacology (3 credits)

Advanced Pharmacology provides an understanding of the pharmacotherapeutics and pharmacokinetics of broad categories of pharmacologic agents. Specific rules, regulations and procedures involved with prescriptive authority will be reviewed. Students use case examples to practice the basic processes involved with prescribing medications for patients. Prerequisite: RN with a bachelor's degree, N 530 or consent of Instructor/Dean Graduate Affairs and Research.

N535 Prescriptive Authority for Advanced Practice Nurses (1 credit)

Prescriptive Authority reviews the specific rules, regulations and procedures involved with APN prescriptive authority. Students use case examples to practice the basic processes involved with prescribing medication for patients. Prerequisite: Completion of core courses, N530, N532 or consent of Dean Graduate Affairs and Research. Corequisite: N534

N537 Professional Role Development (1 credit)

Professional Role Development is a seminar course that focuses specifically on the advanced practice role. Current issues in the role will be discussed. Prerequisite: Completion of core courses/ specialty courses

N538 Health Promotion and Illness Prevention Throughout the Lifespan (2 credits)

Health Promotion and Illness Prevention for all population groups of individuals, families, and communities will be addressed. Normal growth and development throughout the life span of specific problems and health promotion issues common to each stage will be emphasized. Health education and behavioral change theory will guide the planning, intervention and evaluation of the populations in promoting health and wellness. Prerequisite: RN with a bachelor's degree

N539/N739 Differential Diagnoses and Disease Management (3 credits)

Differential Diagnoses and Disease Management will integrate previous learning into an application integrating patient history, chief complaints, and diagnostic results in planning client management. This course will incorporate case studies in building critical thinking needed for APN practice. Health deviations and appropriate management across the lifespan will be discussed. Management of common psychosocial disorders is also addressed. Prerequisite: N530, and N 534 or consent of Dean Graduate Affairs and Research.

DNP Core Courses (16 credits total)

S610: Healthcare Policy Legislation and Advocacy (3 credits)

Healthcare Policy Legislation and Advocacy prepares students to critically analyze health policy proposals, health polices, and related issues from the perspectives of consumers, nursing, other health professions, and other stakeholders in policy and public forums. Advocacy for nursing and consumers will be emphasized. Influence and the education of policy makers will be addressed.

S615: Social Justice and Cultural Competence for Vulnerable Populations (2 credits)

Social Justice and Cultural Competence for Vulnerable Populations will provide the foundation for managing dilemmas inherent in patient care and health care organizations. This course will increase the student's awareness with resources used in caring for vulnerable populations; and, it will increase awareness when caring for clients from diverse culture backgrounds. Issues of social justice will be explored.

B622: Quality and Safety with Information Technology (3credits)

Quality and Safety with Information Technology will assist students in the development of the knowledge synthesis of standards, and principles for selecting and evaluating information systems, patient care technology, and related ethical, regulatory, legal issues, and the subsequent impact on quality and safety. Students will select and use information systems/technology to evaluate programs of care, outcomes of care, and care systems.

B624: Healthcare Economics and Finance (3 credits)

Healthcare Economics and Finance provides an understanding of principles of business, finance, and economics to develop and implement effective plans for practice-level and system-wide practice initiatives. Students will develop budgets, and analyze the cost-effectiveness of practice initiatives. Sensitivity of diverse organizational cultures and populations, including patients and providers will be emphasized.

N632: Evidence-Based Practice and Translational Research in Healthcare (2 credits)

Evidence-Based Practice and Translational Research in Healthcare develops students' analytic methods to critically appraise existing literature and other evidence to translate research into practice, thus implementing the best evidence for practice. Students will begin the design of a process to evaluate outcomes of practice, practice patterns, or systems of care within a practice setting, healthcare organization, or community against national benchmarks to determine the variances in practice outcomes and population trends. The student will formulate a PICO question for their DNP project.

N765: Transformational Leadership (3 credits)

Transformational Leadership will provide students with the opportunity to analyze effective and efficient methods of providing leadership and management for an education program, healthcare organization, administrative unit, or clinical area. Discussion of a variety of situations that leaders negotiate with regard to program and personnel development, strategic planning, budget preparation, and program evaluation.

N781: Population-Focused System Improvements & Designs for Micro and Macro Systems (3 credits)

Micro/Macro: Clinical practice course in which the student implements the role of the clinical systems leader under the supervision of a preceptor. Students will select a setting (hospital, long term or community health agency) where concepts, theories, and principles of administration and management can be applied. Clinical practice will also be focused on synthesis of the leadership role based on an evidence-based practice approach to healthcare systems. Students will determine individual goals and learning objectives consistent with a learning contract negotiated with a preceptor and approved by faculty. Clinical placement will be based on student's clinical interest.

B782: Legal and Risk Management in Administrative Practice (2 credits)

This course examines legal issues and risks in healthcare administration. The course will address the broad and divergent elements of health care risk management that healthcare facilities and administrators experience in the current environment of managed care.

N783: Strategic Leadership and Entrepreneurship (3 credits)

This course provides the DNP student with an opportunity to engage in a study of current and cutting edge leadership theories and apply them directly to the practice of professional nursing at the executive level. Strategies for incorporating change management theories will also be addressed through the perspective of emerging roles of the nurse as doctorally prepared nurse leader, advocate, manager of resources, and member of an interprofessional team. Students will have the opportunity to design and implement a business strategy for a healthcare practice, organization, or to start a new business.

DNP-Family Nurse Practitioner Practicum (16 to 21 credits)

N740: Family Nurse Practitioner Practicum I (5 credits) 3/2

Family Nurse Practitioner Practicum I offers FNP students clinical experience related to the family nurse practitioner role with focus on the maternal, newborn, and pediatric populations. Health promotion and disease prevention strategies are incorporated; culturally sensitive care is emphasized.

N741: Family Nurse Practitioner Practicum II (5 credits) 3/2

Family Nurse Practitioner Practicum II offers FNP students clinical experience related to the APN role with focus on the young adult, adult, and aging population. Content is focused on geriatric assessment, late adolescent assessment, violence and abuse, advance directives, and end-of-life issues. Acute and chronic disorders relating to HEENT, respiratory, cardiovascular, endocrine, GI, and neurology will be included. Health promotion and disease prevention strategies are incorporated; culturally sensitive care is emphasized.

N742: Family Nurse Practitioner III (5 credits) 3/2

Family Nurse Practitioner Practicum III offers FNP students clinical experience related to the APN role with focus on the young adult, adult, and aging population. Content is focused on mental health disorders, emergencies, and infectious diseases. Acute and chronic disorders relating to gynecology, renal, genitourinary, musculoskeletal, and dermatology will be included. Health promotion and disease prevention strategies are incorporated; culturally sensitive care is emphasized.

N743: Family Nurse Practitioner Practicum IV- Immersion (3 credits) 1/2

Family Nurse Practitioner Practicum IV offers the FNP student the opportunity to practice the family nurse practitioner role with emphasis on life-span primary and preventative advanced practice nursing care.

N744: Family Nurse Practitioner Practicum V- Immersion (3 credits) 1/2

Family Nurse Practitioner Practicum V offers the FNP student the opportunity to further synthesize and apply theoretical concepts derived from nursing and other health-related disciplines to the clinical practice settings for the provision of primary care to clients across the lifespan. Independent and interdependent clinical decision making is expected and interdisciplinary collaboration and referral are emphasized. This course will complete the clinical experience sequence.

DNP-Adult Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Practicum (16 to 21 credits)

N750: Adult Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Practicum I (5 credits) 3/2

Adult Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Practicum I: Offers the AG-PCNP students didactic and clinical experience related to the complex care of homebound individuals, older adult and frail populations. The role of the nurse practitioner as a primary health care provider in a variety of adult settings will be examined. Students explore relevant resources related to adult health care and apply findings to client situations. Palliative Care is emphasized. Clinical practicum is required concurrently where students manage patients in long-term care, nursing home, skilled health care, hospice, and home environments under the supervision of preceptors and faculty.

N751 Adult Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Practicum II (5 credits) 3/2

Adult Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Practicum II offers AG-PCNP students clinical experience related to the APN role with focus on the young adult, adult, and aging population. Content is focused on geriatric assessment, late adolescent assessment, violence and abuse, advance directives, and end-of-life issues. Acute and chronic disorders relating to HEENT, respiratory, cardiovascular, endocrine, GI, and neurology will be included. Health promotion and disease prevention strategies are incorporated; culturally sensitive care is emphasized.

N752: Adult Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Practicum III (5 credits) 3/2

Adult Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Practicum III offers AG-PCNP students clinical experience related to the APN role with focus on the young adult, adult, and aging population. Content is focused on mental health disorders, emergencies, and infectious diseases. Acute and chronic disorders relating to gynecology, renal, genitourinary, musculoskeletal, and dermatology will be included. Health promotion and disease prevention strategies are incorporated; culturally sensitive care is emphasized.

N753 Adult Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Practicum IV- Immersion (3 credits) 1/2

Adult Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Practicum IV offers the AG-PCNP student opportunities to practice the AG-PCNP role with emphasis on adult and aging primary and preventative advanced practice nursing care.

N754 Adult Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Practicum V – Immersion (3 credits) 1/2

Adult Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Practicum V offers the AG-PCNP student the opportunity to further synthesize and apply theoretical concepts derived from nursing and other health-related disciplines to the clinical practice settings for the provision of primary and long-term care to the adult and aging clients. Independent and interdependent clinical decision making is expected and interdisciplinary collaboration and referral are emphasized. This course will complete the clinical experience sequence.

DNP- Clinical Nurse Specialist Practicum (5 to 10 credits)

N760: Clinical Nurse Specialist Practicum I (5 credits) 3/2

Clinical Nurse Specialist Practicum I Offers DNP/CNS students the opportunity to practice the CNS role with patients and families. Students function as staff educator and coach. Emphasis is on methods of teaching and evaluation of education outcomes.

N761: Clinical Nurse Specialist Practicum II (5 credits) 3/2

Clinical Nurse Specialist Practicum II This practicum prepares DNP/CNS students to develop a concentrated area of clinical practice knowledge. Students are mentored by an expert in their population of interest to focus on promoting the health of the population through theory and research-based interventions. Protocols for treatment decisions, referrals, and follow-up are used in the management of commonly encountered health deviations in the population.

N762: Clinical Nurse Specialist Practicum III (5 credits) 3/2

Clinical Nurse Specialist Practicum III- DNP/CNS students emphasize the functions of quality control, change agent, and collaborator within the chosen area of specialty. Patient safety, quality care, and advocacy are emphasized.

N763: Clinical Nurse Specialist Practicum IV: Immersion (3 credits) 1/2

All of the functions of the CNS advanced practice role are performed within a chosen area of practice

N764: Clinical Nurse Specialist Practicum V: Immersion (3credits) ½

All of the functions of the CNS advanced practice role are performed within a chosen area of practice. This practicum course offers the CNS/DNP student the opportunity to further synthesize and apply theoretical concepts derived from nursing and other health-related disciplines to the clinical practice settings

DNP- Leadership Practicum (4 to 10 credits)

N784: Nursing Leadership in Macro/Micro Systems **DNP Immersion (4-10 credits)

Individualized immersion experience designed as a culminating experience for the Post-Master's DNP Nursing Leadership student. Focus is on operationalizing the role of the DNP student and integrating evidence-based practice as relevant to patient outcomes across the practice domains.

DNP Project (5 credits)

PR777: DNP Project Planning I (1 credit)

The DNP/FNP student will synthesize the literature and evidence to begin development and implementation of a practice innovation project for a rural or underserved population, health system, or community. Communication with stakeholders and inter-professional collaboration is expected. Students will begin writing a manuscript for publication on their project. This course will be guided by a project major advisor whose expertise matches the intent of the DNP project.

PR778: DNP Project Planning II (1 credit)

The DNP/FNP student will continue in the development and implementation of a practice innovation project for a rural or underserved population, health system, or community. Ongoing communication with stakeholders and inter-professional collaboration is expected. Students will continue writing their manuscript for publication on their project. This course will be guided by a project major advisor whose expertise matches the intent of the DNP project.

PR779: DNP Project Planning III (1 credit)

The DNP/FNP student will continue in the development and implementation of a practice innovation project for a rural or underserved population, health system, or community. Ongoing communication with stakeholders and inter-professional collaboration is expected. Students will continue their manuscript for publication on their project. This course will be guided by a project major advisor whose expertise matches the intent of the DNP project.

PR780: DNP Implementation and Dissemination (2 credits)

The DNP/FNP student will evaluate and defend an intervention that improves health care practice and quality of care for a rural or underserved population served by a health system. The student will develop a poster presentation of the completed project. Students will complete their manuscript on their project and submit for publication. This course will be guided by a project major advisor whose expertise matches the intent of the DNP project.