Post-Graduate Certificate Program in Nursing Description

The School of Nursing endeavors to provide curricula that encourage individuals to pursue Christ-centered excellence in their nursing vocation as the future needs of the nursing profession come into view. The certificate program fits with the mission of the University to provide Christ-centered higher education that promotes excellence and character development in service to Church and society.

This program is ideal for nurses who have obtained their master’s or doctoral degree in nursing in another area and now find themselves in positions that require advanced preparation in nursing education, nursing administration, nurse practitioner, or nurse anesthetist. For example, if an MSN graduate with a major in nursing administration desired to acquire a certificate in nursing education, that individual could enroll in this program. Another example might be that of an individual with a nurse practitioner degree desiring advanced study in nursing administration.

A MSN is preferred for application to the Post-graduate DNP. Additional coursework may be required upon evaluation of transcripts for students with a master’s degree in a field other than nursing. A DNP is required for application to the post-graduate CRNA certificate program.

Mission Statement

To prepare graduates for advanced professional nursing practice with specific functional and clinical abilities.

Program Outcomes

The nursing education certificate prepares nurses for educator positions in various settings such as staff development, patient education, schools and colleges. The nursing administration certificate prepares nurses for a variety of administrative and leadership positions in health care delivery systems. The nurse practitioner certificate prepares nurses to serve in a variety of clinical practices. The nurse anesthesia certificate program prepares nurses to serve as certified registered nurse anesthetists.

Schedule

The certificate program is part-time study with classes generally occurring one day per week or online. Clinical requirements of practicum commonly require more than one day per week.

Curricular needs of full-time cohort students will be given priority.

Admission Requirements:

1. Completed application with $50 application fee
2. Completion of a master’s degree in nursing from an accredited program (CRNA applicants must have the DNP)
3. Official transcripts from all post-secondary institutions must be submitted directly through NursingCAS.
   Please do not send transcripts for non-traditional nursing programs to Undergraduate Admissions.
   Transcripts must be received by NursingCAS in a sealed envelope from all previous academic institutions attended. Official transcripts from all post-secondary institutions must be sent to: NursingCAS, P.O. Box 9201, Watertown, MA 02471.
4. Proof of current unencumbered RN licensure and APN licensure (if applicable) in the state of residence.
5. Eligible for licensure as a RN and APN (if applicable) in Tennessee.
6. Interview with the Nursing Graduate Admissions Selection Committee
7. Applicants from a country where the native language is not English must show proof of English proficiency with scores from TOEFL, IELTS, or iTEP courses. Minimum scores are TOEFL 560 (Internet-based 80), IELTS 6.5, or iTEP 4.4. In addition, students must provide WES evaluations of transcripts
8. Three letters of professional/academic reference specifying the applicants capabilities for graduate study. One letter of reference must be from the applicant’s supervisor.
9. Last 60 hours cumulative GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale
10. Cleared criminal background check
11. Clean drug screen

Additional requirements for the Nurse Practitioner and Nurse Educator tracks:

- Science GPA of 3.0 on 4.0 scale, defined as Anatomy and Physiology 1 and 2, and Statistics is preferred
- Statement of professional goals to include (limit to 2 pages)
  - Why you wish to become a Nurse Practitioner, Nurse Educator, or Nurse Administrator
  - What you plan to do with this certificate, including long term goals
  - How you have prepared for success in this program
Students admitted to the program must have and maintain while in the program:
1. Current CPR certification
2. Evidence of Hepatitis B, MMR, and tetanus vaccination (TDaP unless TD within the past 2 years)
3. Proof of 2 Varicella vaccinations or positive antibody titer (If titer is negative, student must repeat the 2 vaccine series.
4. Freedom from tuberculosis as evidenced by a negative PPD or health provider examination
5. Health insurance

Academic Standards, Requirements for Progression, Probation, and Dismissal

Students must maintain an overall B average. After completion of 9 graduate hours at Union University, a graduate student whose cumulative GPA from courses completed at Union University for graduate credit is below 3.0 will be placed on academic probation. A student placed on academic probation has one semester to increase his or her cumulative GPA to 3.0 or greater to be removed from a probationary status. If the student fails to increase his or her cumulative GPA to 3.0 or greater during the following semester, the student will be dismissed from the graduate program.

Students will also be dismissed without opportunity for probation if they:
• Receive an “F” (i.e., any grade below a “C”) in any course
• Receive more than two “C”s in any non-track specific courses.

Students must make a grade of B or higher in all track specific and 700-level courses (excluding pass/fail courses) in order to progress in or graduate from the graduate nursing program.

The program faculty recognize that situations may arise which prevent students from successfully matriculating through the program. Students who are concerned about their academic standing should contact their advisor. If it appears the student may not be able to achieve a minimum passing grade in a course they may be encouraged by the appropriate Program Chair to withdraw from the program. This can potentially prevent the student from acquiring an F on their Union University transcript if the dropped class occurs prior to the deadline listed on the academic calendar (“last day to drop a class”). All students who withdraw or who are academically dismissed from the program can reapply for admission. However, readmission is not guaranteed.

Financial Information

Tuition is $600 per semester hour for Post-graduate programs and $915 for post-graduate DNP programs. Full payment for a term is expected at the time of registration for classes.

General Student fee: $25/credit hr.

Any combination of the following payment methods is available:
1. Check, cash, or credit card.
2. Employer reimbursement.
3. FACTS (and electronic monthly draft from a savings or checking account) The cost of books is approximately $150 per course.

All financial information is subject to change without notice.

Employer Tuition Reimbursement Policies

1. The student is responsible for providing information to the university regarding his/her employer’s policies for reimbursement.
2. If the employer reimburses the student directly, the student must pay the university in full at the time of registration for classes.
3. If the employer provides partial reimbursement directly to the university, the student must pay his/her portion of the tuition at the time of registration.
4. The university will provide any required information to an employer when requested by the student.

Certificate Program Completion Requirements

1. Must demonstrate evidence of completion of MSN or DNP core through an accredited MSN or DNP Program.
2. Completion of the specialty curriculum for Post-graduate Certificate.
3. File an application for graduation with the Graduate Nursing Office by the published deadline.
4. Pay in full the student’s account in the Business Office
5. Discharge all other obligations (fines, credentials, fees, etc.) at the University.
Curriculum

I. Post-graduate Certificate Nursing Administration—22 hours
   A. NUR 525, 528, 535, 548, 572, 593
   B. NUR 615, 693A, 695B
   C. Minimum Residency (22 semester hours) includes 525, 528, 535, 548, 593, 615, 693A, 695B, 572, and 400 clinical hours.

II. Post-graduate Certificate Nursing Education—24 hours
   A. BIO 500; NUR 507, 517, 537, 538, 544
   B. NUR 607, 622, 642
   C. Minimum Residency (16 semester hours) includes NUR 507, 517, 537, 538, 607, 642 and 380 clinical hours.

III. Post-graduate Certificate Nurse Practitioner—26 hours
   A. BIO 500; NUR 544, 622
   B. Specialty courses:
      1. FNP: NUR 547, 558, 600, 617, 639, 650
      2. PNP: NUR 557C, 558, 600, 627C, 638C, 650
      3. Adult/Geriatric NP: NUR 557A, 558, 600, 627A, 638A, 650
      4. Family Psychiatric Mental Health: NUR 566, 558, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654 (29 hours)
   C. Minimum Residency (14 hours; except Family Psychiatric Mental Health, which is 16 hours) includes all specialty courses and 560 clinical hours
   D. NUR 558 may be waived for student seeking an additional nurse practitioner certification.

Course Descriptions: Biology (BIO)

500. Advanced Pathophysiology (2)
Building on a basic knowledge of pathophysiology, the student will analyze the mechanisms and symptoms of illness to provide advanced theoretical understanding of disease states and health problems.

505. Applied Anatomy & Physiology I (3)
An intensive examination of the human body that addresses the normal complex physiological processes of the cell, fluids and electrolytes, acid-base balance, temperature regulation, vascular hemodynamics, mobilization of fluids through the body and lymphatic system, musculoskeletal systems and function of the myocardium. The acquired information will provide the student with a body of knowledge to critically evaluate co-existing conditions of the surgical patient.

507. Applied Anatomy & Physiology II (3)
Prerequisite: BIO 221 and 222
A continuation of 505 focusing on the normal complex physiological processes of blood components and coagulation and the respiratory, renal, endocrine, digestive and nervous systems.

509. Applied Human Gross Anatomy (4)
Prerequisites: BIO 505 & 507, or BIO 221 & 222.
This course will incorporate the dissection of cadavers and viewing of anatomical models in understanding the nervous, endocrine, cardiovascular, respiratory, digestive, and urinary systems of the human body. Additional emphasis is placed on the needs of professional health care personnel.

Course Descriptions: Nursing (NUR)

507. Curriculum Design (3)
This course will focus on the development of curricula using outcomes-based learning experiences by addressing individual attitudes, knowledge, and skills that are assessable, transferable and useful in a multicultural world.

515. Advanced Statistics for the Health Sciences (3)
Prerequisite: undergraduate statistics
This course serves to build upon basic statistical knowledge. Topics include a review of descriptive statistics, probability, and probability distributions; confidence intervals and classical hypothesis tests for one and two samples; analysis of variance; hypothesis tests for categorical variables; regressions and correlation; and nonparametric methods, all with an emphasis on applications in the health sciences. Appropriate statistical software will be utilized throughout the semester. This course will use online (MoodleRooms) method of delivery.

516. Informatics and Healthcare (3)
This course is designed to provide the student with the knowledge and skills regarding the uses of information technology to support nursing practice, education, and leadership through a Christian worldview. The course will provide an overview of informatics topics including: computer systems and system development; standardized clinical terminology; informatics standards; electronic health records; retrieval and critical analysis of digital data, information, and knowledge; simulation strategies; and technology-aided instruction.

517. Educational Strategies in Advanced Nursing Practice (3)
The purpose of this course is to examine models and methods of teaching and learning. Bio-psychosocial, spiritual, cultural influences that affect learning will be incorporated. The nursing process will be used as a framework for an outcome-based teaching-learning session.
519. Professional Aspects of Nurse Anesthesia Practice (3)
An introduction to the role of the nurse anesthetist as an advanced practice nurse. The course presents the Christian worldview of nurse anesthesia, the historical development of anesthesia, anesthesia as a specialty of nursing, the role of the nurse anesthetist within the context of the health care system, legal aspects of anesthesia practice, current practice and health policy issues, the personal and professional impact of substance abuse, the role of professional organizations of nurse anesthesia.

523. Clinical Prevention and Population Health in Advanced Nursing Practice (2)
This course is designed to prepare the student to apply evidence-based principles of wellness, disease prevention, and health risk in individuals, families, communities, and aggregate/clinical populations. The course also focuses on the study of culturally appropriate and holistic professional nursing care of persons in this pluralistic global society. Emphasis is placed on sensitivity to and respect for cultural diversity, communication, critical thinking, research, and theories of intercultural nursing.

524. Anesthesia Techniques (3)
This course introduces the ability of the student nurse anesthetist to integrate foundational anesthesia and scientific knowledge with learned clinical skills.

525. Introduction to Administrative Nursing Practice (3)
This course will integrate information about delivery systems, organizational mission, structure, culture, personnel motivation, management and networking. The focus will be on exploring these concepts from a nursing perspective and a wholistic Christian worldview.

526. Theory and Ethics for Advanced Nursing Practice (2)
This course explores central ethical and bioethical questions in nursing and health care, critiques and applies nursing theory to the advanced practice nursing role in the delivery of equitable and culturally relevant health care.

528. Nursing Administration and the Law (3)
A general background to the elements and characteristics of health, administrative, criminal, civil law and the implications for nurse practicing in an administrative role looking at malpractice, risk management, tort law and tort reform, OSHA regulations, construction, organizational management, laws affecting subsidiary corporations and tax law. Emphasis will be placed on administration of human resources including labor and legal issues, collective bargaining, labor laws, and the design of effective policies and procedures to reflect these laws.

529. Healthcare and Missions (3)
This course affords the graduate nursing student the opportunity to be involved in the development and implementation of a short-term healthcare mission trip by serving in a transcultural healthcare setting. The educational service provided in the transcultural healthcare setting will be based on the student's nursing expertise and guided by the presence of a faculty member.

532. Anesthesia Pharmacology (3)
An extensive examination of the pharmacological principles associated with the administration of anesthetic agents. An understanding of the physiological impact on the body in relation to the absorptive, metabolic, and elimination processes of each anesthetic agent will be examined.

533. Advanced Nursing Research and Evidence-Based Practice (3)
Prerequisite: NUR 515
This course emphasizes analysis and interpretation of clinical research and evidence based practice, preparing the student to use translational science in clinical decision making to improve patient outcomes. Specific aspects of the research process, quantitative and qualitative research, and systematic reviews will be studied.

534. Advanced Principles in Anesthesiology (3)
This course builds on the basic sciences in examining the pathophysiology of major organ systems (e.g. cardiothoracic, hepatic, endocrine, and pulmonary) that are impacted by the administration of anesthetics.

535. Nursing Quality Management (3)
Prerequisite: NUR 525.
This course examines the quality of health care in relationship to nursing care delivery. It will include the concepts and information systems that are necessary in the identification, tracking, and evaluation of quality indicators. Emphasis is placed on terminology and information systems specific to nursing administration and quality.

537. Nursing Education Practicum (2)
Clinical introduction to the nurse educator practical experience. It involves application of educational theories and wholistic nursing practice.

538. Clinical Strategies for Nurse Educators (3)
Prerequisites: NUR 544, and BIO 500.
An overview of clinical management of patients throughout the lifespan. Opportunities are provided for students to integrate theory, research and evidence based practice in a specialized clinical setting under the direction of a preceptor with specialty expertise.

544. Advanced Health Assessment (3)
The course focuses on advanced health/physical assessment of the client where the client is defined as the individual and includes the individual’s context within the family and/or community. Focus of the course is on comprehensive history, physical/psychological assessment, pathophysiology, and health promotion strategies incorporating the individual’s cultural and developmental variations across the lifespan.

545. Health Systems and Leadership for Advanced Nursing Practice (2)
This course provides an overview of organization concepts, healthcare economic theory, health systems, communication and other leadership principles needed by the nurse in advance practice. Emphasis is on the foundational skills and competencies needed by the master’s prepared nurse.
547. Primary Care of the Family: Health Promotion (4)
Prerequisite: BIO 500. Pre- or Corequisite: NUR 544 and 622.
The purpose of this course is to enhance knowledge and skill in diagnostic reasoning, advanced health assessment, health promotion, health maintenance and disease prevention with regard to the family. Students will explore family concepts and theories relevant to advanced nursing practice and research. Special emphasis will be placed on meeting goals and objectives of Healthy People 2020. Clinical experiences will provide opportunities in the community for students to develop advanced practice interventions to promote health and disease prevention.  

548. Organizational Behavior and Leadership (3)
This course provides an overview of organizational concepts, theories, perspectives, and research relevant to nursing administration, patient care delivery systems, and nursing practice organization. Emphasis is on management principles and organizational processes applicable to quality work environments and the influence of the external and internal environment on these organizations, and the role and relationship of nurse leaders to the nursing practice environment and to the greater organization.

554. Clinical Practicum I (1)
An introduction to the clinical practice of nurse anesthesia to begin the development of fundamental skills necessary to provide a safe and effective anesthetic. Critical thinking skills will be applied and developed through the synthesis of knowledge acquired from prior didactic coursework and simulation experiences. Pass/Fail grading.

557A. Primary Care of Adult/Geriatric Populations: Health Promotion (4)
Prerequisite: BIO 500; Pre- or Corequisite: NUR 544 and 622.
Toward enhancing knowledge and skill in diagnostic reasoning, advanced assessment, health promotion, health maintenance and disease prevention of adult/geriatric populations (A) and children (C) with regards to family environment, special emphasis will be placed on meeting goals and objectives of Healthy People 2020. Clinical experiences will provide opportunities in the community for students to develop advanced practice interventions to promote health and disease prevention.

558. Transitions to Advanced Practice Nursing (2)
Prepares the student for transition from student role to Advanced Practice role; emphasis placed on professional topics such as reimbursement, licensure, credentialing, prescriptive privileges, interviewing for and securing employment, contract negotiation, and portfolio preparation. Also encompasses legal issues pertinent to the APN role.

559. Role Development and Collaborative Strategies in Advanced Nursing Practice (2)
The purpose of this course is to enhance the student’s knowledge of advanced nursing practice roles and interprofessional roles in healthcare delivery. Emphasis is on integrating philosophical inquiry, theory analysis, and translational research findings to improve healthcare outcomes for culturally diverse individuals and teams.

566. Models and Theories for Family Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing (2) F
This course focuses on conceptual models and theories related to the practice of psychiatric and mental health care. Concepts of development and individual functioning provide a theoretical basis for understanding the development of psychopathology and the selection of psychotherapeutic interventions across the lifespan.

572. Nursing Administration Residency (2)
Prerequisites: NUR 593, 693A, 695B
A practicum experience designed for synthesis of theory and practice where students develop, implement, and evaluate advanced practice leadership strategies in a health care systems area of focus. An understanding of systems structures, processes, and outcomes is gained through practical experiences, personal reflection, and seminar discussions. Graded Pass/Fail.

574. Clinical Practicum II (2)
The focus of this clinical is to solidify the process of implementing an organized, safe and effective approach for the administration of anesthesia for general types of surgical procedures. The student will assume increasing responsibility for the independent delivery of anesthesia care to the surgical patient. Clinical preceptors at the various institutions will provide direction and supervision based on required clinical experiences. Pass/Fail grading.

579. External Domestic Study Programs (1-4)
All courses and their application must be defined and approved prior to travel.

579PF. External Domestic Study Programs (Pass/Fail) As Needed
All courses and their applications must be defined and approved prior to registering.

580. Study Abroad Programs (1-4)
All courses and their application must be defined and approved prior to travel.

580PF. Study Abroad Programs (Pass/Fail) As Needed
All courses and their applications must be defined and approved prior to travel.

585-586-587. Special Studies in Nursing (1-6)
Group studies which do not appear in the school course offerings. Content will be determined by need.

593. Nursing Administration Practicum I (1)
Experiential application of the concepts examined in Introduction to Administrative Nursing Practice in a workplace setting with a preceptor in nursing management. Pass/Fail.
598. Seminar (1-3)  
A non-lecture research and discussion course. Course content will be determined by need. To be used at the discretion of the department.

600. Primary Care Provider Procedures (2)  
Toward enhancing advanced practice skills in performing procedures such as casting, splinting, suturing, dermatologic procedures, and basic surgery techniques, the student will experience clinical presentations that highlight pathophysiological processes and psychological needs of patients and families across the lifespan. Graded Pass/Fail.

601. Graduate Nursing Orientation (0) F  
This course provides an introduction for the student to the graduate nursing program at Union University. It is designed for use by all graduate nursing program/track students. It enhances the new student orientation by allowing access to technologies and information the student will find essential and helpful. The course also open avenues to resources students can use as needed during the semester.

607. Educational Assessment and Evaluation Processes (3)  
While focusing on the systematic processes of assessment of learners’ needs and methods of evaluation of educational outcomes, formative and summative methods of evaluation will be designed in relation to content as well as curricula of educational programs. In addition, methods of analysis and interpretation of data and uses of results are explored. Each aspect of the assessment and evaluation processes is used to guide future actions.

609. Basic Principles of Anesthesia (4)  
Basic cognitive and psychomotor concepts associated with the safe and effective practice of nurse anesthesia are presented. The implication of these learned concepts will be addressed in relation to the preoperative, intraoperative, and/or postoperative surgical periods. The acquired information will serve as the foundation for the understanding of the advanced practice of nurse anesthesia.

611. Obstetrical Anesthesia: Perspectives of Anesthetic Care (2)  
An intense examination of the practice of obstetrical anesthesia emphasizing normal maternal and fetal changes of pregnancy, abnormal pathophysiological conditions of pregnancy, and anesthetic techniques and implications of obstetrical anesthesia.

613. Cardiovascular/Pulmonary Anesthesia: Perspectives of Anesthetic Care (3)  
An intense examination of the practice of intrathoracic anesthesia for adult surgical patients, this course will focus on pathophysiological conditions and surgical procedures associated with the heart and pulmonary systems that may impact the delivery of anesthesia. Anesthetic implications and techniques will be presented based on the noted conditions.

614. Neurosurgical Anesthesia: Perspectives of Anesthetic Care (2)  
An in-depth examination of the practice of neurosurgical anesthesia in the adult population with emphasis on common pathophysiological conditions associated with neurological disorders. Anesthetic techniques and implications will be presented based on neurological conditions and surgical procedures.

615. Resource Management (3)  
The management of resources in the health care environment. Focus is managing the revenue and expense aspects of the budget and the management of personnel. This course provides guidelines for professional self-assessment of financial management.

617. Primary Care of Family: Pediatric and Women’s Health (4)  
Prerequisite: BIO 500; Pre- or Corequisite: NUR 544 and 622. Designed to enhance knowledge and skills related to management of maternal child health care, this course emphasizes acute episodic and chronic conditions in the context of primary care. Management consists of identifying, monitoring, treating and maintaining health care problems in children and child-bearing women utilizing research and evidence-based practice. Clinical experiences will provide opportunities in a variety of primary care settings.

622. Advanced Pharmacology (3)  
This course is designed to expand the student’s knowledge and understanding of pharmacotherapeutics and pharmacokinetics of broad categories of pharmacologic agents. The purpose of the course is to provide the student with pharmacologic knowledge and skills needed to assess, diagnose, and manage a client’s health problems in a safe, high quality, and cost-effective manner across the lifespan. This course will also cover professional, legal and ethical issues pertinent to the prescription and monitoring of pharmacologic agents.

627A. Primary Care of Adult/Geriatric Populations: Acute Management (4)  
Prerequisite: NUR 544; Pre- or Corequisite: NUR 622 and BIO 500. The purpose of this course is to develop advanced practice knowledge and skill in the accurate diagnosis and management of acute health care problems in adult/geriatric populations (A) and children (C) with consideration of the family environment. Management consists of identifying, monitoring and treating acute health care problems utilizing scientific research and evidence-based practice. Clinical experiences will provide opportunities in various acute and community based settings.
638A. Primary Care of Adult/Geriatric Populations: Chronic Management (4)
638C. Primary Care of Children: Chronic Management (4)
Prerequisite: NUR 544; Pre- or Corequisite: NUR 622 and BIO 500.

The purpose of this course is to enhance advanced practice knowledge and skills in the diagnosis and management of chronic health care problems in adult/geriatric populations (A) and children (C) with consideration to the family environment. Management consists of identifying, monitoring, treating, and maintaining chronic health care problems utilizing principles of research and evidence-based practice. This course will also review theories and factors of chronic illness, content surrounding the process of referral and development of practice guidelines. Clinical experiences will provide opportunities in community and hospital based settings.

639. Primary Care of Family: Acute and Chronic Management (4)
Prerequisite: BIO 500; Pre- or Corequisite: NUR 544 and 622.

The purpose of this course is to enhance knowledge and skills in the diagnosis and management of chronic and acute health care problems in families. Management consists of identifying, monitoring, treating, and maintaining acute and chronic family based health care problems utilizing principles of research and evidence based practice. The student will review theories and factors of chronic illness within the context of the family. The process of referral and development of practice guidelines will also be discussed. Clinical experiences will provide opportunities in community and hospital based settings.

642. Nursing Education Residency (2)
Culmination of the nurse educator clinical experience. It involves application of educational theories and wholistic nursing practice. Practice experiences are designed to synthesize knowledge and skills and to enable the advanced practice nurse to meet individual practice outcomes and career goals.

650. Specialty Focus Practicum (2)
Prerequisite: NUR 546A or 546C, and NUR 616; Corequisite: NUR 626A or 626C, and NUR 636A or 636C.

This clinical course will allow students to gain clinical experience in a specific population with the goal for the student to synthesize knowledge and skills gained in core and previous specialty courses and to apply knowledge in the clinical setting. Clinical experiences will be available in a wide variety of subspecialties such as neurology, nephrology, endocrinology, gastroenterology, cardiology, dermatology, oncology, pulmonology, orthopedics, and internal medicine. Graded Pass/Fail. This course may be repeated for credit.

651. Mental Health Assessment and Diagnostic Reasoning Across the Lifespan (4) S
Prerequisites: BIO 500, NUR 544

This course focuses on the assessment and diagnosis of mental health disorders across the lifespan. Advanced assessment techniques include observation, interviewing, as well as the appropriate use of a variety of screening tools and assessment guides and diagnostic data. Students are introduced to current Diagnostic and Statistical Manual (DSM) criteria. Clinical experiences provide students with opportunities to integrate content in the care of patients across the lifespan.

652. Psychopharmacology Across the Lifespan (3) Su
Prerequisites: NUR 544, NUR 622

This course builds on advanced pharmacology with the introduction of neurobiologic, genetic, and environmental theories of mental health disorders. The course emphasizes evidence-based practice and research-based data in the use of medications for mental health disorders across the lifespan. The course focuses on safety, therapeutic outcomes, recognizing and managing side effects, and medication management as part of a comprehensive treatment plan. The course will also cover appropriate laboratory and other diagnostic data that impact medication selection.

653. Management of Acute and Chronic Mental Health Disorders: Children and Adolescents (4) Su
Prerequisites: NUR 544, NUR 622
Corequisite: NUR 652

This course will examine the major psychopathologies in children and adolescents including epidemiology, cultural and spiritual beliefs, specific assessment issues and tools, as well as evidence-based therapies. Interventions include psychopharmacologic as well as psychotherapeutic approaches (including psychotherapy) and combinations of therapies in the care of children and adolescents with mental health disorders. The psychiatric and emotional health of children, adolescents and their parents/caretakers will be explored through developmental, interactional, behavioral, and psychobiological models. This course will also address health promotion and legal/ethical aspects in the treatment of children and adolescents. Clinical experiences will facilitate the implementation and evaluation of therapeutic interventions in a variety of clinical settings.

654. Management of Acute and Chronic Mental Health Disorders: Adult and Geriatric Populations (4) Su
Prerequisites: NUR 544, NUR 622
Corequisite: NUR 652

This course will examine the major psychopathologies in children and adolescents including epidemiology, cultural and spiritual beliefs, specific assessment issues and tools, as well as evidence-based therapies. Interventions include psychopharmacologic as well as psychotherapeutic approaches (including psychotherapy) and combinations of therapies in the care of children and adolescents with mental health disorders. The psychiatric and emotional health of children, adolescents and their parents/caretakers will be explored through developmental, interactional, behavioral, and psychobiological models. This course will also address health promotion and legal/ethical aspects in the treatment of children and adolescents. Clinical experiences will facilitate the implementation and evaluation of therapeutic interventions in a variety of clinical settings.

655. Independent Study (1-4)
Individual research and study under the guidance of a graduate faculty member.

691. Nurse Anesthesia Clinical Residency (1)
This clinical course will expose the student to specialty types of anesthetic type management in the areas of obstetrics, pediatrics, cardiology and neurology. In addition, the student will develop the understanding of complex anesthetic management through interaction with patient simulation.
693A. Nursing Administration Practicum II (2)  
Prerequisite: NUR 593.  
This course will integrate didactic material from previous courses with administrative practice. The focus is the dynamic combination of administrative theory, quality management, health care economics, organizational behavior, and information systems through mentoring and field experience. Emphasis will be placed on developing practice and decision-making skills that are excellence driven, Christ-centered, people-focused, and future-directed. Graded Pass/Fail.

695B. Nursing Administration Practicum III (2)  
Prerequisites: NUR 593, 693A  
A practicum experience designed for synthesis of theory and practice where students develop, implement, and evaluate advanced practice leadership strategies in a health care systems area of focus.

696. Thesis (3)  
This course enables the implementation of the research proposal developed in the nursing research course. This project will focus on a problem in a school/college of nursing or health care delivery system. The subject of health care improvements is emphasized through nursing research utilization. Pass/Fail.

697. Scholarly Project (3)  
Through the completion of the scholarly project the student will identify, analyze, synthesize and utilize knowledge related to a health care issue in a school/college of nursing or health care delivery system. Application of critical thinking and nursing research utilization in this project will result in improved health care outcomes. Pass/Fail.

705. Organizational Leadership and Management (3)  
Provides opportunities to examine the leadership and management principles essential in providing a Christ-centered health care environment. Focus will be operational principles, organizational theory, and principles of organizational behavior in establishing a Christ-centered organization and practice.

710. Methods for Evidence-Based Practice (3)  
Provides the opportunity for synthesis and evaluation of evidence-based clinical practice and focuses on critique of literature, evaluation of clinical practice, and effective dissemination of evaluation findings. The student will use evidence-based health care as the springboard for discussion of issues in contemporary research.

715. Technological Transformations of Health Care (3)  
Designed to prepare the student to evaluate current health care technology and its effect on health care outcomes. The student will analyze and apply today’s information technology, clinical technology, and simulation technology within the health care environment. The student will address quality improvement evaluation to support changes in practice and administration, analysis of ethical-legal implications of digital record systems and distance health care.

720. Faith and Science (3)  
The philosophical underpinnings of the Christian worldview as it applies to faith and science in the arena of health care. An understanding of faith as the basis for hope and humanity in delivering quality health care will be discussed while incorporating the quantitative analysis of scientific principles.

725. Health Care Policy and Economics (3)  
To prepare the student to critically evaluate the relationship between problems in health care legislation and the development of economic, political, social, and ethical issues that impact nursing. Students will synthesize the components of the Christian worldview related to issues in health care legislation and apply this philosophy to the development of effective health care policies. Students will be prepared to enact fiscally responsible and effective changes in local, state and national health care policies.

728. Transitions to DNP Practice (3)  
The purpose of this course is to prepare the student for transition from the student role to Advanced Nursing Practice at the Doctoral level. Emphasis will be placed on content, competencies, and experiences needed for specialty practice and as delineated by national specialty organizations. Course is graded Pass/Fail.

730. Epidemiology (3)  
Designed to prepare students to employ evidence-based strategies to promote health, reduce risk, and prevent illness in individuals, aggregates, and populations from the Christian worldview approach. Emphasis will be placed on objectives of Health People 2020 and the analysis of epidemiological, biostatistical, occupational, and environmental data. Other integral topics include collaboration with other disciplines, cultural diversity and sensitivity, emergency and disaster preparedness, and infection control.

735. Fellowship I (2)  
An introductory course designed to prepare the student to serve within their scope of practice at a high level of complexity. The student will be supported with application, analysis, synthesis, and evaluation of knowledge gained through core DNP course work to improve clinical practice. Minimum 180 clinical hours. Course is graded Pass/Fail.

738., 739. Fellowship II, III (3 each)  
This course is designed to further prepare the student to serve within their scope of practice at a high degree of complexity. The student will be supported with application, analysis, synthesis, and evaluation of knowledge gained through core DNP course work to improve clinical practice. Minimum 240 clinical hours per course. Course is graded Pass/Fail.

745. Leadership and Teaching Practice Strategies (3)  
Designed to prepare the student for the leadership and instructional role, this course will focus on expectations of leaders and educators within academic, practice, and health care systems.

793. DNP Project Development (3)  
A faculty-guided scholarly experience to allow the student to develop a proposal for an evidence-based practice project addressing a clinically relevant problem using a collaborative interdisciplinary design. Course is graded Pass/Fail.
791. DNP Project Implementation (2-3)
A faculty-guided scholarly experience to allow the student to implement an evidence-based practice project addressing the clinically relevant problem. Course may be repeated for a maximum of 8 semester hours credit. Course is graded Pass/Fail.

794. DNP Project Completion (3)
A faculty-guided scholarly experience to allow the student to evaluate and disseminate findings of the evidence-based practice project addressing a clinically relevant problem. Course is graded Pass/Fail.

755. DNP Special Study (1-4)
Group studies which do not appear in the School course offerings. Content will be determined by need. Course may be repeated for credit with distinct content.

765. DNP Independent Study (1-4)
Individual research and study under the guidance of a nursing faculty member. Course may be repeated for credit with distinct content.

779. DNP External Domestic Study (1-4)
All courses and their application must be defined and approved prior to travel. Course may be repeated for credit with distinct content.

779PF. External Domestic Study Programs (Pass/Fail) As Needed
All courses and their applications must be defined and approved prior to registering.

780. DNP Study Abroad (1-6)
All courses and their application must be defined and approved prior to travel. Course may be repeated for credit with distinct content.

780PF. Study Abroad Programs (Pass/Fail) As Needed
All courses and their applications must be defined and approved prior to travel.