

# NURSING (NS)

## NS 0110 Introduction to Professional Nursing

**3 Credits**

This course serves as a foundation to the development of the nurse as a professional person. Central to this is the awareness and acceptance of self. The process of clinical reasoning as an approach to the planning and delivery of nursing care to individuals, families, groups and communities is introduced. Discussion of nursing's history and accomplishments serves as the cornerstone for professional behaviors, including: scholarship, communication, collaboration, personal responsibility, accountability, integration of evidence based practice and peer- and self-evaluation. 42 theory hours.

## NS 0112 Healthcare Delivery Systems

**3 Credits**

**Attributes:** EDCG Educational Studies Cognate, EDDV Educational Studies Diversity, HSTE Health Studies: Traditions, Delivery, and Ethics

The health care delivery system is explored from a historical, economic, political, and health information technology perspective. Emphasis is given to social, ethical, and legal aspects of the current system that remain unresolved, such as access to care, health disparities, and equity. The history and progression of healthcare reform and its influence on our current healthcare system performance will be analyzed. Global health issues and their impact on the delivery of health care services are discussed, along with consumer use of complementary and alternative therapies. This course is designed to give an inter-professional perspective to students interested in health care from any field of study. 42 theory hours.

## NS 0250 Dimensions of Professional Nursing

**3 Credits**

**Attributes:** UDIV U.S. Diversity

**Prerequisites:** Connecticut RN license or academic transcript and approval of advisor.

This course is designed to facilitate career advancement of the registered nurse to the baccalaureate level. This is the first course in the RN/BSN completion program. Consideration of values, culture, philosophy and personal goals are examined as part of the student's professional development. Communication, clinical reasoning and conflict resolution techniques will be utilized to foster positive inter-professional teams. Students will demonstrate an evidence based approach to analyze current healthcare issues including social justice and diversity in professional practice. 42 theory hours.

## NS 0252 Health Assessment for Registered Nurses

**3 Credits**

**Prerequisite:** Connecticut RN license.

This course enhances knowledge and skills required to perform health assessments for patients throughout the lifespan. Health assessment focuses not only on physiological components, but also on the more holistic cultural, spiritual, developmental, nutritional, genetic, and mental status assessments. Clinical reasoning, communication and documentation using electronic medical records are also essential components of this course. Students expand their skills in interviewing while learning how to perform health histories, and complete physical examinations through course lectures, discussions, simulations, and supervised and individual practice in classroom and laboratory modules. 28 theory, 28 lab hours.

## NS 0270 Health Assessment

**4 Credits**

**Prerequisites:** BI 0107, BI 0108, CH 0084, NS 0110.

This course introduces students to the knowledge and skills required to perform health assessments for patients throughout the lifespan. Health assessment focuses not only on physiological components, but also on the more holistic cultural, spiritual, developmental, nutritional, genetic, and mental status assessments. Clinical reasoning, communication and documentation using electronic medical records are also essential components of this course. Students expand their skills in interviewing while learning how to perform health histories, and complete physical examinations through course lectures, discussions, simulations, and supervised and individual practice in classroom and laboratory modules. 28 theory hours, 56 lab hours.

## NS 0270L Health Assessment Lab

**0 Credits**

## NS 0272 Geriatric Nursing

**4 Credits**

**Prerequisites:** BI 0151\*, NS 0110, NS 0112, NS 0270\*, PY 0111\*.

This course focuses on evidence-based nursing care of older adults living in long-term care settings. Normal physiological changes of aging and related assessment skills will be incorporated and evaluated using standardized assessment tools. Management of common geriatric care problems will be emphasized. Particular focus will be placed on the ethical and spiritual concerns of vulnerable older adult populations. Students will reflect upon how the nursing role merges with life goals, philosophy and meaning to develop professional behaviors consistent with these aspects of life. 42 theory hours, 42 clinical hours. (\*indicates concurrency allowed)

## NS 0272C Geriatric Nursing Clinical

**0 Credits**

## NS 0301 Health and Wellness

**3 Credits**

**Prerequisites:** NS 0270, NS 0272\*.

This course explores factors that influence health and wellness throughout the lifespan. Epidemiology and evidence based practice provide a framework for the assessment of risk factors. How people make health-related decisions, what risks threaten their health, and reasons for adopting particular lifestyles are examined. Key elements considered essential to providing culturally competent care are reviewed, in addition to increasing awareness about health and healthcare disparities. Social determinants of health, communication, and other wellness concepts are explored. 42 theory hours. (\*indicates concurrency allowed)

## NS 0301C Health and Wellness Clinical

**0 Credits**

## NS 0303 Basic Pathophysiology and Pharmacology

**3 Credits**

**Prerequisites:** BI 0107, BI 0108, CH 0084.

This course focuses on the study of physiological and biological life processes with a focus on deviations from normal, including exemplar cases. Manifestations of disease and alterations in all body systems are discussed. Pharmacologic therapies commonly used to manage disease are presented, including content on the recognition of side effects, adverse effects, allergy, and overdose. 42 theory hours.

**NS 0305 Mental Health Nursing****4 Credits**

**Prerequisites:** BI 0151\*, NS 0110, NS 0112, NS 0270\*, NS 0303\*, PY 0111.  
The focus of this course is the nursing care of individuals with psychiatric disorders. A holistic approach based on theories of human behavior and personality as well as neurobiological, developmental, trauma-informed, and recovery-oriented models are used to plan and implement care in a variety of settings. Factors that may contribute to an individual developing a psychiatric disorder are discussed and ethical, legal and cultural issues are considered when planning care. The development of a therapeutic nurse-patient relationship and use of communication techniques to promote healing are emphasized. 42 theory hours, 42 clinical hours. (\*indicates concurrency allowed)

**NS 0305C Mental Health Nursing Clinical****0 Credits****NS 0307 Fundamentals of Nursing Care****4 Credits**

**Prerequisites:** MA 0016 or higher, NS 0270.

In this course, evidence based practice is used as a guide for students to learn how to provide safe and effective patient care across the lifespan. In the laboratory setting, students perform basic to advanced psychomotor skills related to nursing care. Students also learn to effectively use an electronic health record to document clinical findings and care. 28 theory hours, 56 lab hours.

**NS 0307L Fundamentals of Nursing Care Lab****0 Credits****NS 0310 Foundations of Research for Evidence Based Practice****3 Credits**

**Prerequisite:** MA 0017 or MA 0217.

This course provides an introduction to the research process and its application to scholarship in clinical practice. Students learn to be consumers of research through a review of the literature, critique of research, and identification of methods appropriate to study specific practice-related problems. An emphasis is placed on clinical reasoning and writing skills. Consideration is given to ethical, economic, technological, and statistical dimensions. Application is made to clinical research and evidence-based practice. 42 theory hours.

**NS 0312 Medical Surgical Nursing I****5 Credits**

**Prerequisites:** NS 0272, NS 0301\*, NS 0303\*, NS 0305\*, NS 0307.

This course introduces the student to illnesses common in the adult population. The nursing process, theory, and evidence-based practice, are incorporated with clinical practice. An emphasis is placed on clinical reasoning and prioritizing patient care. Throughout the course, informatics is integrated as part of the documentation process for clinical experiences. 42 theory hours, 84 clinical hours. (\*indicates concurrency allowed)

**NS 0312C Medical Surgical Nursing I Clinical****0 Credits****NS 0314 Maternal and Newborn Nursing****4 Credits**

**Attributes:** WSGF Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies: Gender Focused

**Prerequisites:** NS 0301, NS 0303, NS 0305, NS 0307, NS 0312\*.

This course is designed to provide students with the opportunity to assist the patient and family to cope with changes in reproductive and gynecological needs. The childbearing cycle including: pregnancy, childbirth, postpartum, lactation, care of the healthy newborn and perinatal complications, and theoretical models will be explored. Cultural, ethical and legal aspects of reproductive health across the lifespan will be examined. Emphasis is on development of clinical reasoning and evidence based practice skills related to the nursing care of women and childbearing families. 42 theory hours, 42 clinical hours. (\*indicates concurrency allowed)

**NS 0314C Maternal and Newborn Nursing Clinical****0 Credits****NS 0321 Professional Nursing Leadership****3 Credits**

**Prerequisites:** NS 0250\* or NS 0325\*; NS 0310\*.

This course immerses students in issues and concepts central to professional nursing. Political, social, and legal systems that affect the image of nursing and influence its role definition are examined. Organizational dynamics and theories of leadership are considered, with case studies and concurrent clinical experiences providing the foundation for theory integration. Focus is placed on patient safety and quality improvement. 42 theory hours. (\*indicates concurrency allowed)

**NS 0323 Pediatric Nursing****4 Credits**

**Prerequisites:** NS 0301, NS 0303, NS 0305, NS 0307, NS 0312\*.

This course utilizes a family centered care approach to provide an understanding of the unique anatomical, physiologic, and developmental differences among neonates, infants, children, adolescents, and young adults. Social and cultural influences on children and their families are discussed in addition to assessment, genetics, health promotion, injury prevention, acute and chronic illness, and palliative and end-of-life care. Students are challenged to implement effective communication techniques, clinical reasoning skills, and evidenced based practices when planning holistic and safe care for children and their families in a wide variety of clinical settings. 42 theory hours, 42 clinical hours. (\*indicates concurrency allowed)

**NS 0323C Pediatric Nursing Clinical****0 Credits****NS 0325 Medical Surgical Nursing II****5 Credits**

**Prerequisite:** NS 0310\*, NS 0312.

This course continues the study of nursing care for patients with illnesses common in the adult population. The theoretical framework of the nursing process is used to demonstrate effectiveness in planning and providing holistic evidence-based nursing care for diverse individuals and populations. Professional communication and interprofessional collaboration will be utilized in the delivery of patient-centered care. 42 theory hours, 84 clinical hours. (\*indicates concurrency allowed)

**NS 0325C Medical Surgical Nursing II Clinical****0 Credits****NS 0330 Community, Public, and Global Health Nursing****4 Credits**

**Attributes:** HSTE Health Studies: Traditions, Delivery, and Ethics, LCEL LACS Minor: Elective, WDIV World Diversity

**Prerequisites:** NS 0250\* or NS 0325\*.

This course focuses on the care of people in their homes, in communities, and around the world. Principles of disease prevention, risk reduction, and health promotion are applied to diverse populations in the USA and worldwide. Students synthesize prior experience and learning with public health theory to provide collaborative, quality care across the lifespan. Using an ecological model, students engage in evidence based care for individuals, families, groups, communities and populations. Global issues related to the impact of social policies on healthcare and health equity, and needs of vulnerable populations are also examined. 42 theory hours, 42 clinical hours. (\*indicates concurrency allowed)

**NS 0330C Community, Public, and Global Health Nursing Clinical****0 Credits**

**NS 0332 Transition to Professional Nursing 4 Credits****Prerequisites:** NS 0314, NS 0321\*, NS 0323, NS 0325, NS 0330\*.

This capstone course addresses provision of holistic, evidence based care to patients and families in a variety of health care settings. Students have the opportunity to work as a member of the health care team with an individual agency preceptor across the course. The focus is on fostering student growth in clinical reasoning, clinical reasoning and leadership development to promote autonomous professional nursing practice within the clinical setting. Students develop a Capstone Project based on an identified learning need, for the patient, the patient's family, or for the nursing staff. 168 clinical hours. (\*indicates concurrency allowed)

**NS 0332C Transition to Professional Nursing Clinical 0 Credits****NS 0340 Introduction to Global Public Health for Non-Nurses 3 Credits**

**Attributes:** HACA Humanitarian Action Minor Context Course, HSTE Health Studies: Traditions, Delivery, and Ethics, LCEL LACS Minor: Elective  
This course examines the social, economic and cultural factors impacting the health of societies worldwide and identifies key global health conditions. Principles of disease prevention, risk reduction, and health promotion are applied to diverse populations in the USA and worldwide. Students will analyze current and emerging global health priorities, including emerging infectious diseases, poverty, obesity, health inequities and conflicts and crises. Global issues related to the impact of social policies on healthcare and equity, and needs of vulnerable populations are also examined.

**NS 0356 Transition Seminar for Professional Nursing 3 Credits****Prerequisites:** Connecticut RN license, NS 0310, NS 0321\*, NS 0330\*.

This capstone course challenges the RN student to facilitate change in a clinical setting and positively influence patient outcomes. Students engage in collaborative interprofessional work with members of the healthcare team, and reflect on their own role as a professional nurse. Through this course, students demonstrate evidence based practice, leadership, and clinical reasoning to make the transition to an autonomous professional level of practice. 42 theory hours. (\*indicates concurrency allowed)

**NS 0360 Critical Care Nursing 3 Credits****Prerequisite:** NS 0325.

This elective course is an introduction to critical care nursing. The focus is placed on nursing diagnoses and evidence based practice in the care of the critically ill patient. Common issues such as ethical dilemmas, psychosocial challenges, and symptom management are discussed. Relevant nursing implications for the care of critically ill patients are addressed. Students also gain skills in advanced critical care, hemodynamic monitoring, and ventilator management. 42 theory hours.

**NS 0399 Independent Study 1-6 Credits**

Through individually designed projects or activities, students work with a faculty member to study a specific area in depth. Enrollment by permission only.

**NS 0521 Advanced Nursing Roles for Systems Leadership and Improvement 4 Credits**

This course provides evidence-based knowledge and skills to maximize the development of one's leadership role in evolving and challenging healthcare systems. Discussion of advanced nursing roles will be explored as vital members of the interprofessional team. Discussion and clinical application will focus on supporting students to develop their ability to be collaborative, knowledge-based decision makers and facilitators in the context of systems analysis and improvement. The intent of this course is to explore the many facets of leadership and healthcare improvement, and to examine strategies that will develop nurse leaders to promote health, improve outcomes, and facilitate the design of high-performing systems that better serve patients, families, staff, and the organization. Students will develop proficiency in reflective practice, and evaluating and communicating data as a means to support systems improvement. 42 theory hours, 50 clinical hours.

**NS 0523 Quality Outcomes Management I 4 Credits****Prerequisites:** NS 0521, NS 0601, NS 0604, NS 0605, NS 0608, NS 0614, NS 0640, NS 0641.

Students in this course implement the interdisciplinary role of the Nurse Leader. Emphasis is placed on identifying patient outcomes and designing systems to effectively manage these outcomes. Under the mentorship of faculty and an agency preceptor, students implement clinical and teaching interventions to promote positive patient outcomes. Using leadership and management skills, students demonstrate clinical competence through implementation of various aspects of the nursing leadership role. Methods of evaluating patient outcomes are explored and implemented in clinical settings. Clinical conferences provide the framework for analyzing students' experiences in transitioning to the nursing leadership role. 28 theory hours; 100 clinical hours.

**NS 0524 Quality Outcomes Management II 5 Credits****Prerequisite:** NS 0523.

Students in this immersion experience implement the interdisciplinary role of the clinical nurse leader (CNL) to design systems for the effective management and evaluation of patient outcomes across the continuum of care. Under the mentorship of faculty and an agency preceptor, students complete, as their capstone project, an evidence-based organizational change that builds upon a clinical problem examined in previous courses. Projects integrate best practices, principles of effective leadership and negotiation skills, use of information systems to evaluate patient outcomes, and theories of organizational behavior in the design of their healthcare initiative. Clinical conferences provide a venue to analyze students' experiences in transitioning to the CNL role and to explore their role in creating the future of nursing. 250 clinical hours.

**NS 0525 Master's Leadership Practicum 3 Credits****Prerequisites:** NS 0521, NS 0601, NS 0604, NS 0605, NS 0608, NS 0614, NS 0640, NS 0641.

This practicum builds upon experiences gained in the Integrated Healthcare Leadership Track to expand student opportunities to apply nursing and healthcare improvement principles in a variety of settings. Students and faculty develop specific practicum sub-objectives that lead to increasing independence and accountability in practice. Students complete a capstone project that reflects critical thinking, decision-making skills, and the ability to incorporate leadership process. The capstone is an analysis, synthesis, and utilization of knowledge from previous courses and experiences. Integrated Healthcare Practicum projects specifically highlight the student's work in graduate electives, specific healthcare interests and clinical expertise. 150 clinical hours.

**NS 0598 Independent Study****1-5 Credits**

Through individually designed projects or activities, students work with a faculty member to study a specific area in depth. Enrollment by permission of the instructor and dean only.

**NS 0601 Epidemiology and Biostatistics****3 Credits**

This course presents epidemiologic principles and biostatistical methods for the presentation and analysis of health-related data. Data from a variety of sources will be used to draw inferences about the health status of populations. Biostatistical techniques are used to examine relationships among contributing factors for population health in order to plan and evaluate health services and programs. Epidemiological methods for conducting studies will be discussed in detail, with an emphasis on group and population methods. Ethical issues related to the application of biostatistics and data privacy, such as IRB requirements, genomics, population genetics, clinical trials, and public health epidemiological studies are addressed. 42 theory hours.

**NS 0602 Healthcare Economics and Marketing****3 Credits**

This course begins by applying microeconomic theory to the health sector of the U.S. economy with a focus on financial incentives throughout the healthcare system. Topics include the demand for healthcare and health insurance, quality improvement, managed care and the role of government. The U.S. experience is compared to healthcare systems in other countries. Evidence-based skills include cost analysis, basic regression analysis, and business plan and budget development. 42 theory hours.

**NS 0604 Advanced Health Assessment****4 Credits**

**Prerequisite:** Demonstrated competency in basic health assessment.

This core course focuses on the holistic and comprehensive health assessment of individuals and families from diverse populations. Its purpose is to provide a foundation for primary prevention and health promotion through appropriate screening and risk assessment. The course also includes history-taking, advanced physical examination, and the introduction of laboratory assessment data. The course provides students with the opportunity to develop the comprehensive assessment skills required for advanced nursing practice and advanced education generalist roles. Case analysis is used to integrate critical thinking and develop differential diagnosis and treatment plans for clients across environments of care. All students participate in a 1-credit nursing lab, which provides an opportunity to develop comprehensive health assessment skills at an advanced level. Clinical Exam fee for FNP students: Approximately \$400. 28 theory hours, 56 lab hours.

**NS 0605 Advanced Healthcare Policy****3 Credits**

This course focuses on the analysis of healthcare policy principles that impact practice-level and system-wide practice initiatives influencing quality of care delivery. Principles of healthcare financing and its impact on healthcare policy development across all stakeholders are evaluated. Students gain skills in participating in institutional, local, state, federal, and international health policy, influencing policy makers involved in healthcare. Current health policy is analyzed and new proposals debated on issues ranging from access for the uninsured to palliative care, mental health parity to long-term care reimbursement, and pay for performance to entry level education for health professionals. Analysis and debate considers differences in nations and cultures. 42 theory hours.

**NS 0608 Research Methods for Evidenced-Based Practice****3 Credits**

This course prepares advanced nurses to identify practice problems and critique current research for relevance and application to practice. An overview of the philosophy of science and knowledge development in relation to the development of nursing science and middle range theories will be presented. Basic concepts of qualitative and quantitative research methods will be examined. Using a reflective research approach, students identify a practice problem to address a clinical question derived from a problem identified within a specific population or setting, and develop a plan for implementing an evidence-based practice project. 42 theory hours.

**NS 0609 Role Reflective Practice for MSN-DNP Students****1 Credit**

This online module course introduces reflective practice, portfolio development and health policy for the doctoral of nursing practice student. The methods, processes, applications, benefits, and limitations of reflection and reflective practice are examined. Advanced practice roles of expert clinician, collaborator, educator, teacher, consultant, advocate, researcher and manager are addressed through exemplars of reflective praxis. Students identify and analyze a health policy issue and develop strategies to influence the political process toward change. 14 theory hours.

**NS 0610 Advanced Nursing Roles and Reflective Practice****3 Credits**

This course examines advanced nursing roles within a reflective practice model. The methods, processes, applications, benefits, and limitations of reflection and reflective practice are discussed. Advanced nursing roles of expert clinician, collaborator, educator, teacher, consultant, advocate, researcher, and manager are addressed as exemplars of reflective praxis. An overview of the history of advanced nursing practice and reflective practice are discussed. In addition, practice issues are addressed including: the impaired professional, credentialing, regulation, legal, ethical, and cultural considerations. Communication, self-awareness, and partnership are promoted as integral to reflective advanced nursing practice. 42 theory hours.

**NS 0611 Population Health****3 Credits**

This course presents the foundational skills required for DNP students to engage in a systematic approach to promoting population health. Evidence-based strategies inform how to identify and assess at-risk populations, implement both preventive and therapeutic interventions, and assess outcomes at the population level. Models of health promotion and illness prevention synthesize psychological, biophysical, cultural, and social dimensions to analyze population-based health outcomes. Social determinants of health, Healthy People 2020, Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI), and Institute of Medicine 2012 Report: Primary Care and Public Health: Exploring Integration to Improve Population Health documents are examined as a basis for moving beyond individual interventions to promote change and health equity, and to support population health at institutional, local, state, and national levels. The impact of population health interventions are analyzed based on national initiatives, trends and standards.



**NS 0612 Research Translation for Clinical Practice 3 Credits****Prerequisites:** NS 0601, NS 0608.

This course focuses on the critical analysis, synthesis and application of qualitative and quantitative research methods for improvement of outcome indicators at the individual, family, system and population level. Emphasis will be placed on current paradigms of scholarship including Boyer's Model of Scholarly Nursing and the philosophy of reflective practice, bridging the gap between research and practice, and outcome assessment in advanced nursing practice. The evaluation of instruments to measure outcomes and methods of qualitative analysis will be examined, and ethical and legal considerations will be addressed as they relate to the IRB process. The process of identifying potential sources of grant funding and models of long-term program evaluation will also be explored. Students will develop an IRB-ready project proposal based upon a previously identified practice problem within their area of specialization. 42 theory hours.

**NS 0613 Finance and Quality Management in Healthcare Organizations 3 Credits**

This course focuses on finance and quality management in complex healthcare systems. Students develop the ability to make sound decisions and be change agents through the use of interprofessional collaboration and nursing consultation. As a member and leader of interdisciplinary teams, safe, reliable, and cost-effective care for individuals, cohorts and communities is designed and evaluated for best practices. Principles of business, finance, risk management, and economics are examined in order to analyze, develop and implement practice-level and system-wide practice initiatives. Leadership and the process of healthcare delivery from a systems perspective emphasize continuous process improvement to achieve quality outcomes. Effective strategies are evaluated for managing the ethical dilemmas inherent in patient care and healthcare organizations. 42 theory hours.

**NS 0614 Information Technology for Healthcare Improvement 3 Credits**

This course focuses on the evaluation and utilization of information systems and technology in order to support and improve patient care and health care systems, provide leadership within health care systems and/or academic settings and impact quality improvement initiatives with emphasis on the, macro and meso system levels. Discussion focuses on the design, selection and utilization of information systems as a means to evaluate programs of care, outcomes of care and care systems. In addition, students will evaluate the use of information systems and technology resources using case studies to implement quality improvement initiatives, support practice and administrative decision-making, and apply budgetary and productivity tools to support and improve patient outcomes. Discussion of the legal, ethical and cultural issues as they relate to the use of information technology for improvement of health care will be woven throughout the course. 42 theory hours.

**NS 0615 Leadership and Interprofessional Collaboration 3 Credits**

The intent of this course is to facilitate the development of collaborative leadership skills for nurses to lead and improve outcomes and facilitate the design of high performing clinical settings in a global society. Theories of leadership, management, and organizational behavior such as vision, motivation, group dynamics, interpersonal relations, negotiation, organizational politics, career development, job design, communication, conflict management, and consultative processes are applied to healthcare settings. Emphasis is on collaboration with interprofessional teams to improve outcomes for patients, families, staff, and healthcare systems. 42 theory hours.

**NS 0640 Advanced Physiology and Pathophysiology 3 Credits**

The course focuses on the physiological processes central to biophysical and psychopathologic alterations of function across the lifespan. Analysis of physiologic responses and implications of genetics and genomics with illness are included. Interpretation of laboratory data for patient management of acute and chronic disease is discussed. Students analyze case studies of hospitalized and primary care patient scenarios. 42 theory hours.

**NS 0641 Advanced Pharmacology 3 Credits****Prerequisite:** NS 0640 or NS 0669.

This course focuses on the pharmacotherapeutic principles of drugs most commonly prescribed by advanced practice nurses and evaluated by advanced education nurses. Emphasis is placed on the process of selecting appropriate agents for the patient's genetic profile, and monitoring adverse drug reactions or interactions with prescription, over-the-counter and alternative therapies. The role of the advanced practice nurse and advanced education nurse in educating and counseling patients across the life span with regard to medication use and the unique affect on individuals is discussed. This course is designed to meet the pharmacology requirement for APRN licensure in Connecticut. 42 theory hours.

**NS 0642 Adult Health I 3 Credits****Prerequisites:** NS 0604, NS 0640, NS 0641.

This course focuses on the primary healthcare of the adolescent, adult, and older adult, particularly regarding the assessment, diagnosis, treatment, management, and evaluation of risk factors and problems commonly encountered by the advanced practice nurse. Management of both the physical and behavioral mental health issues common to adult acute and chronic health problems is included. The identification and clinical management of abnormal findings generated from age-appropriate screenings, genetic history, and cultural assessments are addressed. Case studies depicting problems encountered from adolescence through older adulthood are discussed. Emphasis is placed on critical thinking and clinical judgment as they relate to the development of appropriate differential diagnoses. Additionally students learn nonpharmacological and pharmacological approaches to the management of problems in interprofessional teams, participate in shared decision making with patients/families regarding treatment options, as well as manage target goal evaluation. Nationally accepted evidence-based practice guidelines for frequent ICD code diagnoses and review of treatment costs are analyzed. 42 theory hours.

**NS 0643 Adult Health II****4 Credits****Prerequisite:** NS 0642.

This course focuses on the primary healthcare of the adolescent, adult, and older adult, particularly regarding the assessment, diagnosis, treatment, management, and evaluation of risk factors and problems commonly encountered by the advanced practice nurse. Management of both the physical and behavioral mental health issues common to adult acute and chronic health problems is included. The identification and clinical management of abnormal findings generated from age-appropriate screenings, genetic history, and cultural assessments are addressed. Case studies depicting problems encountered from adolescence through older adulthood are discussed. Emphasis is placed on critical thinking and clinical judgment as they relate to the development of appropriate differential diagnoses. Additionally, students learn nonpharmacological and pharmacological approaches to the management of problems in interprofessional teams, participate in shared decision making with patients/families regarding treatment options as well as managed target goal evaluation. Nationally accepted evidence-based practice guidelines for frequent ICD code diagnoses and review of treatment costs are analyzed. 56 theory hours.

**NS 0644 Practicum in Adult Health I****4 Credits****Prerequisite:** NS 0643.

Students apply theoretical learning about genetic implications, exacerbations, complications, and remissions of acute and chronic illnesses in the primary care of adults from adolescence through older adulthood in various care environments. Under the supervision of a nurse practitioner, physician assistant or physician, students provide primary care to adult patients from diverse populations. Clinical conferences provide an opportunity for discussion and sharing of patient issues encountered in the practicum as they relate to the diagnosis, treatment, management, shared decision making, evaluation and prevention of illness, ethical and cost implications, risk assessment, and health promotion. Reflective practice techniques are used to document selective patient encounters. The advanced practice role components of clinical practice, consultation, collaboration, and education are discussed and analyzed in the clinical conference. 200 clinical hours.

**NS 0645 Care of Children and Families****3 Credits****Corequisite:** NS 0646.**Prerequisite:** NS 0643.

The assessment, diagnosis, treatment, management, and evaluation of risk factors and health problems of children, adolescents and families across environments of care are addressed. Consideration is given to the unique needs of culturally diverse patients, as well as the management of both physical and behavioral mental health manifestations commonly associated with acute and chronic health problems in primary care. The identification and clinical management of abnormal findings generated from age-appropriate assessments are a focus within this course. Emphasis is placed on critical thinking and clinical judgment as they relate to the development of appropriate differential diagnoses and approaches to the interprofessional health management including participation and shared decision making with children and parents regarding treatment options. Nationally accepted evidence-based practice guidelines are followed. Family theory is studied along with the impact of illness and violence on the family. 42 theory hours.

**NS 0646 Practicum in Care of Women, Children, and Families****4 Credits****Corequisite:** NS 0645.**Prerequisite:** NS 0644.

Students synthesize theoretical learning about prevention, exacerbation, complications, and remission of acute and chronic illnesses in caring for families from diverse backgrounds in varied care environments under the supervision of a nurse practitioner, physician assistant, nurse midwife, or physician. Clinical conferences provide an opportunity for discussion and sharing of issues encountered in the practicum as they relate to the diagnosis, treatment, management, evaluation, and prevention of illness within the interprofessional team. Ethical and cost implications of selected interventions, as well as health promoting strategies, and shared decision making, are examined for the child, adolescent, woman, and family. The advanced practice role components of clinical practice, consultation, collaboration, and education are discussed and integrated in the clinical practicum and conference. 200 clinical hours.

**NS 0647 Care of At-Risk Populations****3 Credits****Corequisite:** NS 0648.**Prerequisites:** NS 0644, NS 0645.

This course focuses on the complex management of primary care problems experienced by individuals across the lifespan. Risk factors including infectious disease, inflammatory state, immunological deficiency, obesity, age, genetic predisposition, psychosocial status, and behavioral health problems and how they influence the management of an individual's health status are studied. The impact of issues such as mistreatment, abuse, homelessness, incarceration, and end-of-life concerns on healthcare needs are also examined. Students will explore issues of healthcare delivery across environments of care as they integrate all aspects of the advanced practice nurse role including shared decision making and interprofessional collaboration. Additional pharmacology is discussed for each system for a minimum of five hours. Reflective practice techniques are used to document selective patient encounters. A culminating project, selected by faculty and student, involving synthesis and use of knowledge from previous coursework and practica experiences is required. 42 theory hours.

**NS 0648 Practicum in Care of At-Risk Populations****4 Credits****Prerequisites:** NS 0646, NS 0647\*.

Students synthesize theoretical learning about prevention, exacerbation, complications, and remission of acute and chronic illnesses in the primary care of patients across the lifespan with multiple risk factors. Students gain knowledge in caring for patients experiencing or anticipating potential health crises collaboratively with the interprofessional healthcare team. Clinical conferences provide an opportunity for discussion of the impact of how varying factors such as obesity, culture, presence of behavioral disease, immunological status, presence of infectious disease, psychosocial status, and genetic predisposition relate to the diagnosis, treatment, management, evaluation, and prevention of illness. Strategies for using ethical guidelines, risk management, shared decision making, and health promotion in a cost-effective fashion with these individuals is stressed. Students maximize their leadership ability by delivering primary care creatively to patients in clinics, private practices, urgent care centers, Emergency Departments, long-term care facilities, prisons, college and school based clinics. 200 clinical hours. (\*indicates concurrency allowed)

**NS 0650 Psychopathology****3 Credits**

This course examines theories of personality and development with an aim to understand what motivates human behavior. The neurophysiology of psychopathology is examined within a trauma-informed explanatory model. Approaches examined include attachment, relational, psychodynamic, and social psychology theories. These models are discussed as they pertain to various diagnostic categories and cultural groups with an emphasis on reflective analysis and application to practice. Case studies and reflective application papers are used to illustrate integration and synthesis of knowledge. 42 theory hours.

**NS 0652 Mental Health Nursing of Individuals****3 Credits****Corequisite:** NS 0659.

**Prerequisites:** NS 0521 or NS 0609 or NS 0610; NS 0604, NS 0640, NS 0641, NS 0650.

This course provides an overview of individual psychotherapeutic treatment across the lifespan using a neuroscience relationship-based framework for practice. Emphasis is on the development of empathy and therapeutic relationship through partnership, shared decision making, recovery oriented principles, and integration of reflective practice. Evidence-based techniques are discussed, which include short-term psychodynamic, cognitive-behavioral, EMDR, and motivational interviewing. Ethical, legal, age and ethno-cultural considerations are discussed as they relate to the treatment of individuals with psychiatric disorders and mental health problems. 42 theory hours.

**NS 0659 Foundational Clinical Skills for Advanced Psychiatric Nursing Practice****3 Credits****Prerequisite:** NS 0650.

This course focuses on simulated activities in individual and group settings to develop (1) an understanding of group dynamics, group process components, and group members' roles and behaviors, and (2) skills in comprehensive psychiatric assessment and diagnosis with individuals experiencing acute mental health problems. Therapeutic communication techniques and specific interviewing strategies for working with individuals and families across the lifespan who are in crisis and/or seeking mental health care. Those strategies are examined within the context of a reflective practice model. Ethical, legal, and ethno-cultural considerations as they relate to group dynamics and assessment and diagnosis of psychiatric disorders will be discussed.

**NS 0661 Mental Health Nursing of Groups and Families Across the Lifespan****2 Credits****Corequisite:** NS 0666B.**Prerequisite:** NS 0652.

This course addresses the basic tenets of group and family therapy across the lifespan for the psychiatric-mental health nurse practitioner. Students examine major concepts of group development, dynamics, and leadership techniques, as well as approaches to family (including the works of Bowen, Haley and Minuchin), with opportunities to incorporate shared decision making and reflect upon choice of techniques appropriate for different age groups and the role of the therapist. Videotape and experiential exercises are used to enhance learning, and ethical, spiritual, and ethno-cultural considerations are addressed. 28 theory hours.

**NS 0663 Primary Mental Health Nursing Across the Lifespan****2 Credits****Corequisite:** NS 0666C.**Prerequisite:** NS 0661.

This course is designed to develop increasing independence and clinical judgment in primary mental health nursing with an emphasis on interprofessional collaboration and shared decision making with patients/families regarding treatment options. Building on knowledge from preceding coursework, students apply theories, multifaceted treatment modalities, cultural and spiritual considerations in the management of complex and/or chronically ill vulnerable populations across the lifespan. Evidence-based research and practice guidelines are incorporated into comprehensive plans of care for complex diverse populations with psychiatric diagnoses and mental health problems. 42 theory hours.

**NS 0665 Mental Health Nursing of Children and Adolescents****2 Credits****Prerequisite:** NS 0650 (concurrency allowed).

This course focuses on the assessment, diagnosis, treatment, management and evaluation of risk factors and mental health problems of infants, children and adolescents across systems of care. Building on knowledge from preceding coursework, students apply developmental, family, interpersonal, attachment, and neurobiological theories and research, multifaceted treatment modalities, cultural and spiritual considerations in the management of behavioral health problems of infants, children and adolescents. 28 theory hours.

**NS 0666A Practicum I: PMHNP****4 Credits****Prerequisite:** NS 0652\*.

Practica experiences give students the opportunity to integrate primary mental health skills and meet the competencies required by the PMHNP Program. Focus is on the continuous and comprehensive care necessary for the promotion of optimal mental health, prevention, and treatment of mental health problems and psychiatric disorders. Practica experiences are designed to synthesize reflective practice skills as an advanced practice psychiatric nurse. Clinical sites may include a wide range of settings, such as outpatient clinics, shelters, prisons, inpatient settings, long-term care, and home health care. Supervision is provided by the preceptors in the clinical agency. Group supervision on campus facilitates the consolidation of critical reflection and clinical judgment. All objectives must be met in order to graduate and many will be met many times throughout the practica. A minimum of 16-17 different objectives are documented as met in each practicum depending on the clinical site and illustrated through the Clinical Case Narrative Assignment. More than one Clinical Case Narrative may be needed in order to demonstrate that a minimum of 16 objectives are met for that practicum. 200 clinical hours. (\*indicates concurrency allowed)

**NS 0666B Practicum II: PMHNP****4 Credits****Corequisite:** NS 0661.

Practica experiences give students the opportunity to integrate primary mental health skills and meet the competencies required by the PMHNP Program. Focus is on the continuous and comprehensive care necessary for the promotion of optimal mental health, prevention, and treatment of mental health problems and psychiatric disorders. Practica experiences are designed to synthesize reflective practice skills as an advanced practice psychiatric nurse. Clinical sites may include a wide range of settings, such as outpatient clinics, shelters, prisons, inpatient settings, long-term care, and home health care. Supervision is provided by the preceptors in the clinical agency. Group supervision on campus facilitates the consolidation of critical reflection and clinical judgment. All objectives must be met in order to graduate and many will be met many times throughout the practica. A minimum of 16-17 different objectives are documented as met in each practicum depending on the clinical site and illustrated through the Clinical Case Narrative Assignment. More than one Clinical Case Narrative may be needed in order to demonstrate that a minimum of 16 objectives are met for that practicum. 200 clinical hours.

**NS 0666C Practicum III: PMHNP****4 Credits****Corequisite:** NS 0663.

Practica experiences give students the opportunity to integrate primary mental health skills and meet the competencies required by the PMHNP Program. Focus is on the continuous and comprehensive care necessary for the promotion of optimal mental health, prevention, and treatment of mental health problems and psychiatric disorders. Practica experiences are designed to synthesize reflective practice skills as an advanced practice psychiatric nurse. Clinical sites may include a wide range of settings, such as outpatient clinics, shelters, prisons, inpatient settings, long-term care, and home health care. Supervision is provided by the preceptors in the clinical agency. Group supervision on campus facilitates the consolidation of critical reflection and clinical judgment. All objectives must be met in order to graduate and many will be met many times throughout the practica. A minimum of 16-17 different objectives are documented as met in each practicum depending on the clinical site and illustrated through the Clinical Case Narrative Assignment. More than one Clinical Case Narrative may be needed in order to demonstrate that a minimum of 16 objectives are met for that practicum. 200 clinical hours.

**NS 0667 Psychopharmacology****2 Credits**

This course prepares the advanced practice psychiatric nurse to prescribe psychotropic medication for patients across the lifespan. Assessing for the need for medication, selection of appropriate medication, genetic and genomic assay testing, medication rule-outs, baseline tests for screening, safe and proper monitoring, and beginning/advanced pharmacotherapy options are discussed for a variety of psychiatric diagnoses. Shared decision making with patients/families regarding treatment options to obtain optimum treatment outcomes is emphasized with respect to issues of adherence and recovery-focused practice. 14 theory hours. Open to nursing students only.

**NS 0668 End-of-Life Nursing Education Consortium Core Curriculum****3 Credits**

This course will cover the ELNEC Core Curriculum, which contains eight modules addressing critical aspects of end-of-life care. These modules include: Palliative Nursing Care, Pain Management, Symptom Management, Ethical Issues in Palliative Care Nursing, Cultural Considerations in Palliative Care, Communication, Loss, Grief and Bereavement, Final Hours and Leadership. Upon completion of the course, student will be a "train-the-train" for the ELNEC Core curriculum. Teaching resources will be provided to allow the student to educate other nurses about palliative and end-of-life care. 42 theory hours.

**NS 0669 Advanced Pathophysiology for Anesthesia Practice****4 Credits**

This course focus is on the pathophysiological processes central to alterations in function across the lifespan. Analysis of pathophysiologic responses, implications of genetics and genomics, and laboratory data pertinent to acute and chronic disease is discussed. Students analyze the pathophysiology of patients presenting for in-patient and ambulatory procedures using a case study approach. 56 theory hours.

**NS 0670 Human Anatomy and Physiology for Nurse Anesthetists****3 Credits**

This course presents an in-depth study of human anatomy and advanced physiologic principles as they relate to nurse anesthesia practice. An overview of cellular physiology and function is presented. Special attention is placed on the cardiovascular, respiratory and renal systems, as well as the normal neuroendocrine response to stress. Tests of respiratory and cardiovascular function are reviewed and their analysis discussed. 42 theory hours.

**NS 0687 DNP Immersion****1-6 Credits**

DNP graduates are healthcare leaders who will care for a cohort of patients within their specialty, while using a cross-population perspective to assess, manage and evaluate common problems. The immersion experience prepares the graduate in the design, delivery, and evaluation of evidenced-based care incorporating advanced practice nursing competencies. In addition, students will provide leadership in promoting evidenced-based practice in the advanced practice specialty while functioning as a practice specialist/consultant in the resolution of clinical problems. The DNP immersion experience requires a minimum of 1,000 practicum hours, post-baccalaureate, and incorporates completion of a clinical portfolio at the end of the program. 50 to 250 clinical hours.

**NS 0687F DNP Immersion****1 Credit**

See NS 0687.

**NS 0697 DNP Seminar I****1 Credit**

DNP Seminar I provides the foundation for development of the DNP Portfolio and the scholarly DNP Project. In conjunction with the first two research courses in the DNP curriculum, this seminar gives students the opportunity to further refine their proposed DNP project aimed at improving the healthcare delivery system or patient outcomes. This project could be a pilot study, a program evaluation, a quality improvement project, an evaluation of a new practice model, or another project with a similar practice improvement focus. Project plans are developed to include the identification of an appropriate clinical practice problem, the patient/system/population outcomes that the project is intended to affect, the proposed project site, and the proposed steps form implementation and outcome assessment. Students will continue to work with their Portfolio Advisor in developing the project. In addition, students will evaluate their initial development of the DNP Portfolio and identify potential Immersion experiences that focus on achieving program outcomes.

**NS 0698 Independent Study****1-3 Credits**

Through individually designed projects or activities, students work with a faculty member to study a specific area in depth. Enrollment by permission of the instructor, DNP Program Director, and/or Dean only.



**NS 0699 DNP Seminar II****1 Credit****Prerequisite:** NS 0697.

DNP Seminar II is designed to provide students with the opportunity to synthesize knowledge as they transition to advanced practice nursing at the doctoral level. The seminar reflects integration of all course work and experiential learning in order to demonstrate the students' integration and utilization of evidence based-practice, finance, management, quality improvement, informatics, leadership, ethics, and reflective practice in the management of individual patients, populations, and healthcare systems. Students will be given an opportunity to develop a poster for professional presentation, give case presentations developed during immersion experiences, present drafts of manuscripts and/or practice guidelines, and participate in the peer review process to demonstrate expertise and decision making skills in their individual area of specialization.