

# DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN NURSING (PH.D.)

## Requirements

### DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN NURSING (Ph.D.)

#### PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Wilkes University Ph.D. in Nursing program prepares nurses to investigate and develop the science that drives nursing practice and education. The program is designed for students interested in pursuing academic and education roles, as well as research roles in healthcare settings. The program culminates in the student's defense of the dissertation, an original research study to advance knowledge in nursing science on a variety of topics. The dissertation is a requirement of the Ph.D. in nursing degree.

#### Dissertation Development

Early engagement between faculty and student is key to successful dissertation development. Students will select a dissertation chair, with whom they will work closely throughout the duration of the program in an individual student-chair dyad, online environment. This facilitates ongoing dissertation development and guidance throughout the doctoral program, and aims to promote dissertation completion.

#### Ph.D. PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES

Graduates will be able to:

1. Synthesize empirical and theoretical literature from nursing and other disciplines regarding nursing education and clinical practice.
2. Design a nursing research study that examines, refines, and advances nursing science and theory to transform nursing education and clinical practice.
3. Critically evaluate research findings as applicable to nursing science.
4. Contribute to the field of nursing science through the dissemination of research findings.

#### Ph.D. ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- Master's level nursing degree
- GPA of 3.3 or higher from a master's or doctoral degree granting institution which is programmatically (ACEN, NLNAC, CCNE) accredited.
- Official transcripts from a master's or doctoral degree program showing a GPA of 3.3 or higher
- Unencumbered RN license; and advanced practice registered nurse (APRN) license and national board certification, as appropriate
- Curriculum vitae
- Completed online application at [www.wilkes.edu/applynow](http://www.wilkes.edu/applynow)
- Letter of intent describing your professional goals, research topic and the reason for pursuing the Ph.D. degree

- Two recommendations from graduate-level nurses or faculty who can attest to your ability to be successful in a Ph.D. program

#### POST MASTER'S Ph.D. CURRICULUM

Courses are 12 weeks, fully online, except for a 2-day on campus residency ([[NSG 615]]) and 2 week dissertation competency exam ([[NSG 628]]).

Course Number	Title	Credits
[[NSG-615]]*	Introductory Seminar	1
[[NSG-616]]	Philosophy of Science	3
[[NSG-617]]	Theory in Nursing Education	3
[[NSG-618]]	Health Care Issues and Policies	3
[[NSG-619]]	Research Process	3
[[NSG-620]]	Seminar I	3
[[NSG-621]]	Statistics	3
[[NSG-622]]	Writing for Grants and Publications	3
[[NSG-623]]	Quantitative Research and Analysis I	3
[[NSG-624]]	Qualitative Research and Analysis	3
[[NSG-625]]	Quantitative Research and Analysis II	3
[[NSG-626]]	Measurement and Data Collection	3
[[NSG-627]]	Seminar II	3
[[NSG-628]]**	PhD Competency	1
[[NSG-629]]	Dissertation Seminar	3
[[NSG-630]]	Dissertation Implementation I	3
[[NSG-631]]	Dissertation Implementation II	3

**Total Credits: 47; Students may be required to take up to 6 credits of additional coursework in preparation for the dissertation topic chosen. This decision will be determined, in collaboration with the student's dissertation chairperson. Students must complete these additional credits prior to enrollment in [[NSG-628]].**

**\*[[NSG-615]] (2-day Friday and Saturday residency prior to the initial course start date)**

**\*\*[[NSG-628]] (2-week timed, scheduled comprehensive written examination)**

## Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing (Ph.D.)

Students who have not successfully completed data collection by the conclusion of [[NSG-630]] will be required to enroll in an additional 3 credit "extension" course. More than one of these "extension" courses may be taken if needed to complete data collection. Students will receive an incomplete for [[NSG-630]] until all course work is satisfied. Students who have not successfully defended their dissertation by the conclusion of [[NSG-631]] will be required to enroll in an additional 3 credit "extension" course. More than one of these "extension" courses may be taken if needed to complete the dissertation. Students will receive an incomplete for [[NSG-631]] until all course work is satisfied. Extension courses are Pass/Fail. Students must complete the program, including dissertation defense, within 7 years from the date of enrollment.

### Ph.D.-DNP CURRICULUM

This pathway is for students with a Ph.D. to attain a D.N.P. degree. The D.N.P. courses are fully online and 12 weeks in length except for [[NSG-608a]] and [[NSG-608b]] which are 15 weeks in length for completion of the D.N.P. Project.

Course Number	Title	Credits
[[NSG-600]]	Nursing Informatics	3
[[NSG-602]]	Ethical Principles for Advanced Nursing Practice	3
[[NSG-604]]	Epidemiology and Environmental Health	3
[[NSG-605]]	Collaboration in Health Care Delivery	3
[[NSG-606]]	Diversity and Social Issues	3
[[NSG-607]]	Leadership in Advanced Nursing Practice	3
[[NSG-608a]]	D.N.P. Project (15 weeks)	3
[[NSG-608b]]	D.N.P. Project (15 weeks)	3

**Total Credits: 24**

An elective practicum course is available for students with less than 400 hours from their master's degree and post grad/APRN certificate programs. These courses provide students with additional time to complete the required 1000 hours for the D.N.P. degree, prior to the start of the D.N.P. project. Students may take the following elective practicum course to gain hours:

[[NSG-609]]: D.N.P. Program Practicum I; 250 clinical hours; 3 credits

### DNP-Ph.D. CURRICULUM

Courses are 12 weeks, fully online, except for a 2-day on campus residency ([[NSG 615]]) and 2 week dissertation competency exam ([[NSG 628]]).

Course Number*	Title	Credits
[[NSG-615]]*	Introductory Seminar	1
[[NSG-616]]	Philosophy of Science	3
[[NSG-617]]	Theory in Nursing Education	3
[[NSG-619]]	Research Process	3
[[NSG-620]]	Seminar I	3
[[NSG-621]]	Statistics	3
[[NSG-623]]	Quantitative Research and Analysis I	3
[[NSG-624]]	Qualitative Research and Analysis	3
[[NSG-625]]	Quantitative Research and Analysis II	3
[[NSG-626]]	Measurement and Data Collection	3
[[NSG-627]]	Seminar II	3
[[NSG-628]]**	PhD Competency	1
[[NSG-629]]	Dissertation Seminar	3
[[NSG-630]]	Dissertation Implementation I	3
[[NSG-631]]	Dissertation Implementation II	3

**Total Credits: 41;** Students may be required to take up to 6 credits of additional coursework in preparation for the dissertation topic chosen. This decision will be determined, in collaboration with the student's dissertation chairperson. Students must complete these additional credits prior to enrollment in NSG 628.

**\*[[NSG-615]] (2-day Friday and Saturday residency prior to the initial course start date)**

**\*\*[[NSG-628]] (2-week; timed, scheduled comprehensive written examination)**

Students who have not successfully completed data collection by the conclusion of [[NSG-630]] will be required to enroll in an additional 3 credit "extension" course. More than one of these "extension" courses may be taken if needed to complete data collection. Students will receive an incomplete for [[NSG-630]] until all course work is satisfied. Students who have not successfully defended their dissertation by the conclusion of [[NSG-631]] will be required to enroll in an additional 3 credit "extension" course. More than one of these "extension" courses may be taken if needed to complete the dissertation. Students will receive an incomplete for [[NSG-631]] until all course work is satisfied. Extension courses are Pass/Fail. Students must complete the program, including dissertation defense, within 7 years from the date of enrollment.

## Residency

All students will be required to take this introductory course ([[NSG-615]]) prior to the start of the program and ([[NSG-616]]). This course is a 2-day Friday and Saturday, on-site seminar, providing students with the opportunity to begin to build academic relationships and community, and ease the transition into doctoral level education.

## Ph.D. Competency, Comprehensive Exam ([[NSG-628]])

All Ph.D. students are required to successfully pass the timed, scheduled comprehensive exam ([[NSG-628]]) before proceeding into the Dissertation Seminar ([[NSG-629]]). Students are provided a specific date and time period to complete the comprehensive exam during [[NSG-628]]. If a student is unsuccessful on the first attempt, they may retake the comprehensive exam one time only. If the comprehensive exam is failed a second time, the student will be dismissed from the program and ineligible to return.

## NSG. NURSING

### Co-Requisites.

#### Credits:

All co-requisite courses for graduate nursing courses are at the discretion of the Chair, Graduate Nursing.

### NSG-410. TRANSITION TO BACCALAUREATE NURSING FOR THE GRADUATE NURSING STUDENT

#### Credits: 7

This course is designed to facilitate the transition of RN students from other educational routes to baccalaureate education and professional nursing practice. The course focuses on the integration of knowledge, skills and attitudes in the development of the professional role to enhance quality outcomes for individuals, families, and populations across all healthcare settings and in complex healthcare environments. Students will begin advancing their knowledge on the transformational concepts related to master's education in nursing.

### NSG-411. LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT PRACTICUM FOR THE GRADUATE NURSING STUDENT

#### Credits: 3 (clinical 45 hours)

This course prepares the RN to M.S.N. student for professional role development in emerging health care delivery systems. The student synthesizes knowledge from previous nursing and supportive courses to manage care in an area of clinical practice consistent with career goals. Students will continue advancing their knowledge on the transformational concepts related to master's education in nursing.

### Pre-Requisites

[[NSG-410]]

### NSG-412. GRADUATE-LEVEL ACADEMIC WRITING FOR NURSING PROFESSIONALS

#### Credits: 1

**Terms Offered:** Fall, Spring, Summer

**Fees:** N/A

Master's-level nursing education prepares students to exhibit leadership in today's complex health systems. Proficiency in scholarly writing is expected in the graduate nursing program, and this course will coach students on the development of effective written communication skills for success at the graduate level and in one's academic and professional careers. This required 1-credit pass/fail course is a co-requisite to NSG 411.

### Pre-Requisites

[[NSG-410]]

### Co-Requisites

[[NSG-411]]

### NSG-500. ADVANCED HEALTH ASSESSMENT

#### Credits: 3

This course presents an overview of the full and comprehensive health assessment of patients across the life span. Emphasis on multiple aspects of assessment including physical, functional, and mental health assessment along with transcultural variations, will prepare the student for advanced nursing practice. (Nurse Practitioner students are required to complete an onsite residency.)

### NSG-501. THEORETICAL FOUNDATIONS OF NURSING SCIENCE

#### Credits: 3

This course emphasizes the systematic process of theory development in nursing. The role of traditional science in relation to other ways of knowing is explored. Students will describe, analyze, and evaluate current theories of nursing. The relationship of research and practice to theory is discussed.

### NSG-502. ADVANCED NURSING RESEARCH

#### Credits: 3

This course builds on knowledge and skills developed in undergraduate research and statistics courses. Skills in the analysis and evaluation of nursing research are further developed. Students analyze the contributions of the empirical approach to the development of nursing science. Selected research designs and methodologies which are used to advance nursing knowledge are examined. Students are given the opportunity to critique and synthesize current research for its application to an identified problem in nursing practice.

### NSG-504. ADVANCED ROLE DEVELOPMENT IN NURSING

#### Credits: 3

This course examines the development of roles for advancing nursing practice. The historical development of these roles along with current scope of practice in a variety of clinical settings will be explored. Focus will be placed on the legal, historical, political, social, and ethical aspects of advanced practice nursing.

## Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing (Ph.D.)

### **NSG-505. HEALTH POLICY AND POLITICS FOR ADVANCING NURSING PRACTICE**

**Credits:** 3

Complex and continuous changes in healthcare environments require that nursing professionals contribute to care delivery systems for improving population health outcomes. This course focuses on the role of the nurse advancing nursing practice through developing health policy, politics, and advocacy systems. Approaches to health issues for shaping policy on a local, state and federal level are analyzed in accordance with policy making processes, politics in healthcare and government, healthcare economics, and ethical frameworks.

### **NSG-506. ADVANCED PRACTICE IN ADULT GERONTOLOGY CLINICAL I**

**Credits:** 3

Advance practice nursing students integrate theories from nursing and other sciences that are evidence-based and sensitive to cultural and ethical issues. Promoting quality outcomes in the adult-gerontology population across the spectrum of young adults, adults, and older adults is the focus of this clinical experience in primary care settings. Advanced health assessment, diagnostic reasoning, and development of therapeutic interventions for self-limiting conditions occurs. Opportunities for interdisciplinary experience and collaborative practice are provided. The seminar component of the course is designed to develop critical-thinking and clinical decision-making skills through case presentations. (Seminar, Residency and 250 clinical practice hours).

#### **Pre-Requisites**

[[NSG-500,550]]

### **NSG-515. ADVANCED PRACTICE IN ADULT GERONTOLOGY CLINICAL II**

**Credits:** 3

Advanced Practice nursing students integrate theories from nursing and other sciences that are evidence-based and sensitive to cultural and ethical issues. Promoting quality outcomes in the adult and gerontology population across the spectrum of young adults, adults, and older adults is the focus of this clinical experience in primary care settings. Advanced health assessment, diagnostic reasoning and development of therapeutic interventions for complex health conditions occurs. Opportunities for interdisciplinary experience and collaborative practice are provided. The seminar component of the course is designed to develop critical-thinking and clinical decision-making skills through case presentations. (Seminar, Residency and 250 clinical practice hours)

#### **Pre-Requisites**

[[NSG-506]]

### **NSG-526. CLINICAL MODALITIES IN ADVANCED PSYCHIATRIC MENTAL HEALTH NURSING PRACTICE**

**Credits:** 3

This course provides a foundation in the major systems of therapy for individuals and groups used in advanced psychiatric mental health nursing and other disciplines engaged in mental health practice. Focus will be on therapeutic modalities such as brief psychotherapy, group processes and practices, milieu therapy and crisis intervention as they relate to advanced nursing practice in mental health.

#### **Pre-Requisites**

[[NSG-500]], [[NSG-550]] [[552]]

### **NSG-527. PSYCHOPATHOLOGY, THEORIES, AND ADVANCED CLINICAL MODALITIES**

**Credits:** 3

This course focuses on the most frequently observed pathologies in psychiatry and mental health, the various conceptual models and theories related to the practice of psychiatric mental health nursing, and the most advanced clinical modalities congruent with the analysis of the best evidence.

#### **Pre-Requisites**

[[NSG-526]], [[NSG-535]]

### **NSG-530. ADVANCED PATHOPHYSIOLOGY**

**Credits:** 3

This course provides an overview of the normal physiologic and pathologic mechanisms of disease and serves as one primary component of the foundation for clinical assessment, decision-making, and management. The course will prepare the advanced practice nurse for interpreting changes in normal function that results in symptoms indicative of illness in patients across the lifespan.

### **NSG-533. ADVANCED PHARMACOLOGY**

**Credits:** 3

This course provides the basic principles of pharmacodynamics, pharmacokinetics, and pharmacotherapeutics for broad categories of drugs. Purpose of action, common interactions and contraindications of major drug categories are highlighted. Case studies are integrated to provide students the opportunity to demonstrate application of pharmacological theory in advancing nursing practice.

**NSG-535. ADVANCED PRACTICE IN PSYCHIATRIC/ MENTAL HEALTH NURSING I**

**Credits:** 3

This foundational clinical course introduces students to advanced practice psychiatric nursing in a variety of mental health settings. Students acquire skills in completing comprehensive mental health assessments. Students identify and apply concepts, theories, and principles to the practice of individual, family, and group psychotherapy, with emphasis on process dynamics. Considerations and challenges in providing psychotherapy to culturally diverse individuals, families, and groups are explored and discussed. Skills are gained in assessing psychopathological symptoms across the lifespan and in implementing planned interventions. Students integrate theory and practice of the advanced practice psychiatric nurse in a supervised clinical practicum (Total: Residency and 250 practice hours).

**Pre-Requisites**

[[NSG-500]], [[NSG-550]] [[552]]

**NSG-536. ADVANCED PRACTICE IN PSYCHIATRIC/ MENTAL HEALTH NURSING II**

**Credits:** 3

This clinical course focuses on refining assessment, diagnosis, and pharmacological and psychosocial management of individuals of all ages with mental illness. Individual, family, and group psychotherapies are refined. Students gain skills in identifying individuals/populations at risk for mental illness and primary prevention in mental health. Mental health needs of culturally diverse, rural, and underserved populations are explored. Leadership and advocacy roles of the advanced practice psychiatric nurse as an agent of healthcare policy change are emphasized. Students integrate theory and practice of the advanced practice psychiatric nurse in a supervised clinical practicum (Total: Residency and 250 practice hours).

**Pre-Requisites**

[[NSG-526]], [[NSG-535]]

**NSG-540. ROLE OF THE NURSE EDUCATOR AND CURRICULUM WORK IN NURSING EDUCATION**

**Credits:** 3

Course content prepares the student to examine the nurse educator role, the concept of role change and its impact on the transition from nurse clinician to nurse educator. Curriculum development, implementation, and evaluation is analyzed with a focus on professional standards and criteria. Emphasis is on designing a curriculum that is grounded in evidence, aligned with current and projected contexts, and organized around specific curricular elements.

**NSG-541. TEACHING METHODOLOGIES AND STRATEGIES IN NURSING CURRICULUM**

**Credits:** 3

Course content informs the student on effective teaching and learning strategies in nursing curriculum. Theoretical foundations of teaching and learning are discussed. Utilization of technology, including simulation and distance learning in nursing education, is explored. Teaching in various settings is identified.

**NSG-542. TESTING AND EVALUATION IN NURSING EDUCATION**

**Credits:** 3

Course content informs the student on the elements of curriculum evaluation. Concepts of assessment, testing, and evaluation related to student achievement are described. Social, ethical, and legal components of testing and evaluation are discussed.

**NSG-544. NURSING EDUCATION PRACTICUM I**

**Credits:** 3

Students in a direct care role and through clinical experiences will focus on strengthening patient care delivery skills to individuals and families for promoting achievement of health goals and outcomes. The student will obtain a preceptor who will provide direct care nursing experiences in an area of advanced nursing practice at a graduate level. (100 direct care clinical hours required)

**Pre-Requisites**

[[NSG-540]], [[NSG-541]], or [[NSG-542]]

**NSG-545. NURSING EDUCATION PRACTICUM II**

**Credits:** 3

Students in a direct care role and through clinical experiences will focus on strengthening patient care delivery skills to individuals and families for promoting achievement of health goals and outcomes. The student will obtain a preceptor who will provide direct care nursing experiences in an area of advanced nursing practice at a graduate level. (100 direct care clinical hours required)

**Pre-Requisites**

[[NSG-540]], [[NSG-541]], or [[NSG-542]]

**NSG-546. FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER CLINICAL I**

**Credits:** 3

Family/Across the Lifespan Nurse Practitioner students integrate theories from nursing and other sciences that are evidence-based and sensitive to cultural and ethical issues. Promoting quality outcomes in the family population across the lifespan is the focus of this clinical experience in primary care settings. Advanced health assessment, diagnostic reasoning, and development of therapeutic interventions for self-limiting conditions occurs. Opportunities for interdisciplinary experience and collaborative practice are provided. The seminar component of the course is designed to develop critical-thinking and clinical decision-making skills through case presentations. (Seminar, Residency and 250 clinical practice hours)

**Pre-Requisites**

[[NSG-500]], [[NSG-550]]

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### **NSG-547. FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER CLINICAL II**

**Credits:** 3

Family/Across the Lifespan Nurse Practitioner students integrate theories from nursing and other sciences that are evidence-based and sensitive to cultural and ethical issues. Promoting quality outcomes in the family population across the lifespan is the focus of this clinical experience in primary care settings. Advanced health assessment, diagnostic reasoning and development of therapeutic interventions for complex health conditions occurs. Opportunities for interdisciplinary experience and collaborative practice are provided. The seminar component of the course is designed to develop critical-thinking and clinical decision-making skills through case presentations. (Seminar, Residency and 250 clinical practice hours)

#### **Pre-Requisites**

[[NSG-549]]

### **NSG-548. FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER ROLE WITH CHILDREN AND FAMILIES**

**Credits:** 2

This course is designed to prepare Family Nurse Practitioner nursing students to provide primary health care to the pediatric client and their family. The course integrates nursing theories that are evidence-based with health assessment and diagnostic reasoning of acute primary care health problems. Health promotion, protection and disease prevention interventions are provided with consideration of culturally diverse populations.

#### **Pre-Requisites**

[[NSG-500]], [[NSG-530]], [[NSG-533]], [[NSG-550]]

### **NSG-549. FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER CLINICAL WITH CHILDREN AND FAMILIES**

**Credits:** 1

Family Nurse Practitioner nursing students integrate theories from nursing and other sciences that are evidence-based and sensitive to cultural and ethical issues. Promoting quality outcomes in the pediatric population across the lifespan is the focus of this clinical experience in primary care settings. Advanced health assessment, diagnostic reasoning and development of therapeutic interventions for complex health conditions occurs. Opportunities for interdisciplinary experience and collaborative practice are provided. The seminar component of the course is designed to develop critical-thinking and clinical decision-making skills through case presentations. (Seminar, Residency and 84 clinical practice hours)

#### **Pre-Requisites**

[[NSG-546]]

### **NSG-550. DIAGNOSTIC REASONING FOR NURSE PRACTITIONERS**

**Credits:** 2

The nurse practitioner will develop processes for formulating differential diagnoses of acute and chronic physical and mental illnesses in the primary care setting across the life span. A case-study approach is integrated to prepare students for management of health status of patients through the implementation of strategies specific to the synthesis of data from multiple sources that promote quality of care outcomes for patients.

#### **Pre-Requisites**

[[NSG-530]], [[NSG-533]]

### **NSG-552. PSYCHOPHARMACOLOGY**

**Credits:** 2

This course is designed to assist the P-MH nurse practitioner to develop competence in prescribing and monitoring psychopharmacological agents used in the treatment of common psychiatric-mental health disorders across the lifespan. This course will examine the major classes of psychopharmacological agents on neurobiological function with a particular emphasis on the clinical management of target psychiatric symptoms. Drugs of abuse, side effects, issues of polypharmacy, and management of advanced practice prescriptive privileges are also explored.

#### **Pre-Requisites**

[[NSG-533]]

### **NSG-554. NURSE PRACTITIONERS IN PRIMARY CARE I**

**Credits:** 3

This course is designed to prepare primary care nurse practitioner students to provide primary health care to the adult and older adult population during wellness and acute/episodic illness. The course integrates nursing theories that are evidence-based with health assessment and diagnostic reasoning of acute/episodic primary care health problems. Health promotion, protection and disease prevention interventions are provided with consideration of culturally diverse populations.

#### **Pre-Requisites**

[[NSG-550]]

### **NSG-555. NURSE PRACTITIONERS IN PRIMARY CARE II**

**Credits:** 3

This course is designed to prepare primary care nurse practitioner students to provide chronic primary health care to the adult and older adult population. The course integrates nursing theories that are evidence-based with health assessment and diagnostic reasoning of chronic, primary health care problems. Health promotion, protection and disease prevention interventions are provided with consideration of culturally diverse populations.

#### **Pre-Requisites**

[[NSG-550]]

**NSG-556. HEALTH PERSPECTIVES OF CULTURALLY DIVERSE, RURAL, AND UNDERSERVED POPULATIONS**

**Credits: 2**

This course is designed to introduce the advanced practice nursing student to the issues of culturally diverse, rural and underserved populations. The theory can be integrated into clinical practice for patients and families in primary care settings to promote understanding of differences and issues that impact comprehensive planning of health care services.

**NSG-560. PRINCIPLES OF NURSING LEADERSHIP**

**Credits: 3**

The student will examine foundational concepts which underlie healthcare systems and nursing leadership behavior. The concepts of health policy, the confluence of nursing practice, health policy and conceptual healthcare policy models will be examined at the national and international level.

**NSG-561. THE WORK OF NURSING LEADERS IN HEALTHCARE**

**Credits: 3**

The student will explore the work of a nurse leader in American healthcare. American healthcare is amid tumultuous change with nurse leaders compelled to adapt and develop new skills sets. Nurses now play active roles in change management processes, conflict resolution, quality assurance projects, interprofessional collaboration, human resource management, financial management and strategic planning. These functions will be explored in this course.

**NSG-562. ADVANCED TOPICS IN NURSING LEADERSHIP**

**Credits: 3**

Proficiency in nursing leadership and management develops from accumulated work experience combined with formalized education. This course will introduce theoretical constructs not found in prelicensure education to facilitate the complex work of nurse leaders. Systems thinking, complexity theory, nursing scholarship and the use of Evidence-Based Practice (EBP) techniques, the role of healthcare in the community and the transition to outpatient services and community-based care will be covered.

**NSG-563. NURSE EXECUTIVE PRACTICUM I**

**Credits: 3**

By applying theories from other sciences and utilizing interdisciplinary experiences and collaborative opportunities, students will further enhance the skills necessary to excel as a health care executive in an evidence-based, culturally sensitive environment. The seminar component of this course is designed to supplement previous theoretical applications and stimulate critical-thinking and decision-making to further develop the student's leadership abilities (100 practicum hours)

**Pre-Requisites**

[[NSG-560]], [[NSG-561]], or [[NSG-562]]

**NSG-564. NURSE EXECUTIVE PRACTICUM II**

**Credits: 3**

By applying theories from other sciences and utilizing interdisciplinary experiences and collaborative opportunities, the student will further enhance the skills necessary to excel as a health care executive in an evidence-based, culturally sensitive environment. The completion of an organizational needs assessment within this course is designed to supplement previous theoretical applications and stimulate critical-thinking and decision-making to further develop the student's administrative abilities. (100 practicum hours)

**Pre-Requisites**

[[NSG-560]], [[NSG-561]], or [[NSG-562]]

**NSG-565. FOUNDATIONS OF NURSING INFORMATICS**

**Credits: 3**

Students are introduced to the role, scope, and standards which form the foundation for nursing informatics practice. The theoretical basis of the course incorporates both knowledge of nursing practice and health informatics. Students will explore the framework of data, information, knowledge, and wisdom to data application in healthcare for improving patient care.

**NSG-566. DATA MANAGEMENT IN HEALTHCARE**

**Credits: 3**

Database application in nursing and healthcare systems will be examined in this course. Students will learn database design, implementation, and management to support clinical decision making in nursing and healthcare project design and management.

**NSG-567. NURSING INFORMATICS LEADERSHIP IN HEALTHCARE SYSTEMS AND PROJECT DESIGNS**

**Credits: 3**

In this course students will explore the role of the informatics nurse specialist as nurse leader who combines knowledge of nursing practice and technology on healthcare teams. Theory and skills on performing system analysis and implementation of the systems design life cycle in project management.

**NSG-568. NURSING INFORMATICS PRACTICUM I**

**Credits: 3**

This course requires students to perform in the role of an informatics nurse specialist in a healthcare organization. In collaboration with a preceptor students will apply nursing informatics theory and models in developing a project which improves the quality of nursing care delivered in a healthcare setting. (Clinical Practicum Hours: 100)

**Pre-Requisites**

[[NSG-565]], [[NSG-566]], or [[NSG-567]]

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### **NSG-569. NURSING INFORMATICS PRACTICUM II**

**Credits:** 3

This course requires students to perform in the role of an informatics nurse specialist in a healthcare organization. In collaboration with a preceptor students will apply nursing informatics theory and models to implement the project planned in NSG 568, which improves the quality of nursing care delivered in a healthcare setting. (Clinical Practicum Hours: 100)

#### **Pre-Requisites**

[[NSG-568]]

### **NSG-590. SCHOLARLY REVIEW**

**Credits:** 3

**Terms Offered:** Fall, Spring, Summer

In this course the student will synthesize and review issues relevant to their specialty clinical practice. This course is designed as a review of the required masters level core nursing courses and specialty focused curriculum for advanced nursing practice. This course will provide an overview of both the required core nursing courses as well as each specific specialty course.

#### **Pre-Requisites**

Completion of Graduate Nursing Core and NP Concentration courses prior to the last semester of the program.

#### **Co-Requisites**

Last semester NP didactic and clinical courses of the program.

### **NSG-591. SCHOLARLY PREPARATION FOR NURSE PRACTITIONER BOARDS**

**Credits:** 2

**Terms Offered:** Fall, Spring, Summer

**Fees:** N/A

In this course the student will synthesize and review topics relevant to their NP specialty area of clinical practice. This course is designed as a review of specialty focused curriculum for the nurse practitioner national board certification examination.

#### **Pre-Requisites**

All courses prior to last semester program courses.

#### **Co-Requisites**

NP didactic and clinical courses in the last semester of the program.

### **NSG-600. NURSING INFORMATICS**

**Credits:** 3

Students use information systems to analyze patient data, perform research, and evaluate project outcomes. The course will include applications in computer-based patient records, data-base management systems, e-health, distance education, and research. Legal and ethical issues associated with computer use are examined.

### **NSG-601. BIostatISTICS**

**Credits:** 3

Statistics is the science whereby inferences are made about specific random phenomena on the basis of relatively limited sample material. It is widely used in biological, health, and social sciences, etc. Biostatistics is the branch of applied statistics that applies statistical methods to medical and biological problems.

### **NSG-602. ETHICAL PRINCIPLES FOR ADVANCED NURSING PRACTICE**

**Credits:** 3

This course will analyze a broad range of ethical principles that impact the health professions, from euthanasia and abortion to informed consent and behavior control. Examination of the ethical, moral, and legal obligations within selected decision-making frameworks will be completed. Strategies to assist in the resolution of ethical dilemmas will be developed through the application of selected theories and concepts. Interaction between ethical, legal, and political events that affect advanced practice nursing will be explored.

### **NSG-603. APPLICATION OF NURSING RESEARCH**

**Credits:** 3

This course analyzes research methods to appraise research literature for application to practice and evaluate practice outcomes in varied settings. Application of relevant research findings are used to generate practice guidelines, design evidence based interventions and examine patterns and predict outcomes. The collaborative role of the D.N.P. in research is discussed.

#### **Pre-Requisites**

[[NSG-601]]

### **NSG-604. EPIDEMIOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH**

**Credits:** 3

The purpose of this course is to examine the concepts and methods of epidemiological and environmental health analysis and their application to advanced nursing practice. The student will be able to integrate this knowledge into nursing practice in a variety of health care settings through research, program development, health policy and advocacy.

### **NSG-605. COLLABORATION IN HEALTH CARE DELIVERY**

**Credits:** 3

This course focused on the knowledge and skills needed to promote collaboration with all members of the interdisciplinary health care team. Content will include exploration of the design, implementation, and evaluation of programs and policies for effective health care delivery.

### **NSG-606. DIVERSITY AND SOCIAL ISSUES**

**Credits:** 3

This course focuses on cultural and social issues affecting members of a global society. A critical appraisal of health care disparities is emphasized and strategies for quality improvement are analyzed.



**NSG-607. LEADERSHIP IN ADVANCED NURSING PRACTICE**

**Credits:** 3

This course provides an opportunity for students to analyze theories of leadership and management as they relate to the multifaceted role in advanced nursing practice. The health care environment, with its ongoing changes in organization and financing, is impacted upon by changes in health policy, regulatory processes, and quality measures. The understanding of this content will prepare the student to provide quality cost-effective care, to participate in the design and implementation of care in a variety of health care systems, and to assume a leadership role in the managing of human, fiscal, and physical care resources.

**NSG-608. A AND B. D.N.P. PROJECT**

**Credits:** 6

Completed over the last 2 semesters of the D.N.P. program.

In this course the student under the guidance of a selected faculty member will analyze and synthesize theoretical and empirical research relevant to a clinical practice or health policy issue. Students will design, implement, and evaluate a comprehensive evidence based D.N.P. Project. Required clinical hours for the D.N.P. degree are dependent upon educational background.

**Pre-Requisites**

[[NSG-600]], [[NSG-601]], [[NSG-602]], [[NSG-603]], [[NSG-604]], [[NSG-605]], [[NSG-606]] and [[NSG-607]]

**NSG-609. D.N.P. PROGRAM PRACTICUM**

**Credits:** 3

This course provides students pursuing a Doctor of Nursing Practice degree the opportunity for achieving additional clinical hours as required for meeting program outcomes. The focus will be on preparing students as experts in a specific area for advancing nursing practice, for the final D.N.P. project. The student will develop a PICOT statement which will guide this intense practice immersion experience. The student will collaborate with an identified clinical mentor. (Elective; Clinical hours total: 250)

**Pre-Requisites**

[[NSG-600]], [[NSG-601]], [[NSG-602]], [[NSG-603]]

**NSG-615. INTRODUCTORY SEMINAR**

**Credits:** 1

This seminar is a weekend residency that focuses on the dissertation process and student orientation to the university and Ph.D. program.

**Pre-Requisites**

Doctoral Standing

**NSG-616. PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE**

**Credits:** 3

The focus of this course is to prepare doctoral student to examine the development and organization of nursing knowledge. Philosophies of science, epistemologies and their influence on knowledge development in the discipline of nursing, and strategies for theory development and analysis are explored.

**Pre-Requisites**

[[NSG-615]]

**NSG-617. THEORY IN NURSING EDUCATION**

**Credits:** 3

This course acquaints students with philosophical issues and nursing theories relevant to nursing education. An overview of central metaphysical, epistemological, and ethical system, considering specific issues in the philosophies of science and ethics that are of particular focus in nursing education.

**Pre-Requisites**

[[NSG-615]]

**NSG-618. HEALTH CARE ISSUES AND POLICY**

**Credits:** 3

The nurse researcher contributes towards the development of healthcare policy and politics in local, state, national, and global healthcare markets. Application and analysis of evidence based research on policy and politics will impact population health outcomes and the future of nursing education, research and practice.

**Pre-Requisites**

[[NSG-615]]

**NSG-619. THE RESEARCH PROCESS**

**Credits:** 3

This course introduces students to the seven steps of the research process, focusing on the development of researchable problems, literature review, and hypothesis/question generation within the context of quantitative and qualitative research designs and methods.

**Pre-Requisites**

[[NSG-615]]

**NSG-620. SEMINAR I**

**Credits:** 3

This course builds on the knowledge of philosophy, theory, and research process. The student, in consultation with his/her chairperson, begins the dissertation process.

**Pre-Requisites**

[[NSG-616]], [[NSG-617]], [[NSG-619]], [[NSG-623]], [[NSG-624]]

## Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing (Ph.D.)

### **NSG-621. STATISTICS**

**Credits:** 3

This course applies knowledge of statistical methods used in nursing research. Topics include parametric and non-parametric methods of data analysis and model building. Alternate approaches to analysis of data are considered.

#### **Pre-Requisites**

[[NSG-615]]

### **NSG-622. WRITING FOR GRANTS AND PUBLICATION**

**Credits:** 3

This course applies knowledge of statistical methods used in nursing research. Topics include parametric and non-parametric methods of data analysis and model building. Alternate approaches to analysis of data are considered.

#### **Pre-Requisites**

[[NSG-615]]

### **NSG-623. QUANTITATIVE RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS I**

**Credits:** 3

This course focuses on research methodologies that guide the design of studies which collect and analyze quantitative data. The focus will be on writing quantitative research questions and selecting appropriate research methodologies. Focus is placed on descriptive, correlational, experimental and quasi-experimental designs as applied to nursing problems.

#### **Pre-Requisites**

[[NSG-619]], [[NSG-621]]

### **NSG-624. QUALITATIVE RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS**

**Credits:** 3

The focus of this course is on qualitative inquiry as an approach to the discovery of knowledge in the science of nursing. This course will focus on the scientific underpinnings, methodologies, and data analysis techniques in qualitative research for advancing nursing knowledge.

#### **Pre-Requisites**

[[NSG-619]]

### **NSG-625. QUANTITATIVE RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS II**

**Credits:** 3

This course builds on the understanding of quantitative designs in nursing and health related topics. The course provides the opportunity for applied practice in quantitative methods using common statistical tests and SPSS.

#### **Pre-Requisites**

[[NSG-623]]

### **NSG-626. MEASUREMENT AND DATA COLLECTION**

**Credits:** 3

This course provides an overview of principles of measurement, instrument design, and data collection methods. Methods to critically evaluate and select theoretically congruent instruments are explored.

#### **Pre-Requisites**

[[NSG-621]]

### **NSG-627. SEMINAR II**

**Credits:** 3

The student, in consultation with his/her chairperson, writes chapters II and III of the dissertation proposal.

#### **Pre-Requisites**

[[NSG-615]], [[NSG-616]], [[NSG-617]], [[NSG-618]], [[NSG-619]], [[NSG-620]], [[NSG-621]], [[NSG-622]], [[NSG-623]], [[NSG-624]], [[NSG-625]], [[NSG-626]]

### **NSG-628. PH.D. COMPETENCY**

**Credits:** 1

The comprehensive written examination is a series of questions that focus on the synthesis and integration of knowledge learned during doctoral coursework. Students demonstrate their ability and preparedness to move forward in the doctoral research program.

#### **Pre-Requisites**

[[NSG-627]]; Authorization from Ph.D. Program Coordinator to register for comprehensive examination

### **NSG-629. DISSERTATION SEMINAR**

**Credits:** 3

This course focuses on completion of the first three chapters of the dissertation and submission of the proposal to the IRB committee(s) for approval. Students will then undertake proposal defense before continuing into dissertation implementation.

#### **Pre-Requisites**

[[NSG-628]]

### **NSG-630. DISSERTATION IMPLEMENTATION I**

**Credits:** 3

This course focuses on implementation of the student's doctoral research study. After completion of the first three chapters, successful proposal defense, and IRB approval, the student, under guidance from their chair, begins the data collection process. This course focuses on research methodologies that guide the design of studies which collect and analyze quantitative data. The focus will be on writing quantitative research questions and selecting appropriate research methodologies. Focus is placed on descriptive, correlational, experimental and quasi-experimental designs as applied to nursing problems.

#### **Pre-Requisites**

[[NSG-629]]

**NSG-631. DISSERTATION IMPLEMENTATION II**

**Credits:** 3

This course continues with the implementation of the dissertation. Students complete data collection and analysis thus, finalizing chapters 4 and 5 and satisfying final defense.

**Pre-Requisites**

[[NSG-630]]