DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE (D.N.P.)

Purpose

The distance education program leading to the Doctor of Nursing Practice degree (D.N.P.) at Wilkes University is linked to the mission statements of the University and the Passan School of Nursing. The Essentials of Doctoral Education for Advanced Nursing Practice (AACN, 2006) are applied to the curriculum. The doctoral program focuses on two primary elements: applied research and clinical practice. These elements are embedded in courses throughout the program leading to the final D.N.P. Project where students integrate acquired knowledge to clinical practice in their preferred specialty area.

D.N.P. Program Outcomes

The D.N.P. Program at Wilkes University prepares students to:

1. Apply scientific inquiry and information technology to become leaders in advancing nursing practice.
2. Demonstrate application of scholarship and research for solving the nation’s complex health problems.
3. Translate evidence based research into clinical practice.
4. Integrate and disseminate knowledge for improving patient and population health outcomes.
5. Engage in health care policy.

D.N.P. Student Learning Outcomes

Students in the D.N.P. Program at Wilkes University will:

1. Synthesize nursing science to manage complex health problems and improve health outcomes in advanced nursing practice.
2. Develop knowledge and skills in healthcare organizational and systems leadership to improve evidence based practice and policy.
3. Critically analyze information technology, research methodology, quality improvement methodology to implement the best evidence based practice.
4. Design patient care technology and information systems to enhance quality of health care delivery.
5. Evaluate health care policies to improve health care policy outcomes at the local, state, and national levels.
6. Employ specialized knowledge and leadership skills when collaborating and leading other inter-professional health care teams in complex health care delivery systems.
7. Analyze health disparities, cultural diversity, environmental and societal needs in the care of individuals, aggregates, and populations.
8. Demonstrate advanced levels of clinical judgment using systems thinking to implement and evaluate evidence based care.

Admission Requirements

Admission Criteria

- Master of Science in Nursing degree or post graduate/APRN certificate
  - advanced practice registered nurse (APRN), nurse executive/leadership, nursing informatics, clinical nurse leader, or health policy concentrations.
- GPA of 3.3 or higher from a master's or doctoral degree granting institution which is programmatically (ACEN, NLNAČ, or CCNE) accredited.
- Official transcripts from master's degree and post-graduate/APRN certificate granting institutions, as appropriate.
- RN license; and advanced practice registered nurse (APRN) license and national board certification, as appropriate
- Completed online application
- Curriculum vitae
- Validation of completed, supervised clinical practice hours during master's and/or post-graduate/APRN certificate program. Verification must be provided by the nursing program where the clinical hours were completed.
- Two recommendations from graduate-prepared nurses or faculty who can attest to the candidate’s potential for advanced practice studies and leadership
- Evidence of completion for advanced health assessment, advanced pharmacology, and advanced pathophysiology by APRN students (Nurse Practitioners, Clinical Nurse Specialists, Nurse Anesthetists and Nurse Midwives) who do not hold current national certification.

The Curriculum

M.S. to D.N.P. Core (30 Credits)

8 week courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[NSG-600]</td>
<td>Nursing Informatics</td>
<td>3 credits</td>
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<tr>
<td>[NSG-601]</td>
<td>Biostatistics</td>
<td>3 credits</td>
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<tr>
<td>[NSG-602]</td>
<td>Ethical Principles for Advanced Nursing Practice</td>
<td>3 credits</td>
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<tr>
<td>[NSG-603]</td>
<td>Application of Nursing Research</td>
<td>3 credits</td>
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<tr>
<td>[NSG-604]</td>
<td>Epidemiology and Environmental Health</td>
<td>3 credits</td>
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<td>[NSG-605]</td>
<td>Collaboration in Health Care Delivery</td>
<td>3 credits</td>
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<tr>
<td>[NSG-606]</td>
<td>Diversity and Social Issues</td>
<td>3 credits</td>
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<td>[NSG-607]</td>
<td>Leadership in Advanced Nursing Practice</td>
<td>3 credits</td>
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<tr>
<td>[NSG-608]a</td>
<td>Scholarly Project</td>
<td>3 credits</td>
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<tr>
<td>[NSG-608]b</td>
<td>Scholarly Project</td>
<td>3 credits</td>
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*NSG 608 a and b are completed over the last 2 courses (32 weeks) in the D.N.P. program.

Degree Requirements

D.N.P. students are required to complete the 30 (30) credit D.N.P. core.

D.N.P. Project

Students are required to complete a D.N.P. Project that demonstrates mastery of theoretical content through analysis and synthesis. The scholarly project in the D.N.P. program is a pilot study directed at generating new knowledge to support quality improvement through practice or policy.
change. Students should have a topic prior to entering the program and will research the topic throughout their D.N.P. coursework. The expectation is for students to commit to this topic during their coursework. Students changing topics and not prepared for the start of the D.N.P. Project ([NSG-808][a]) may be asked to take a leave of absence to prepare for their new topic. D.N.P. project oversight is provided by an assigned D.N.P. Project Chairperson. One other committee member is chosen by the student and can include graduate faculty members or community members who are serving as scholarly project mentors. Students may be required by graduate faculty to seek an editor, if their strength is not in writing.

The D.N.P. program requires completion of a total of 1000 hours of practice experience beyond the bachelor’s level of nursing education. The hours will be conducted in the D.N.P. Project courses. Students who have completed practicum hours to satisfy past curriculum requirements may be credited with hours from their master’s program and/or post master’s graduate/ APRN certificate in nursing. Validation of those hours is required through a letter from the degree granting academic institution verifying the number of practicum hours as part of the enrollment process. Further details of clinical requirements are outlined in the graduate program student nursing handbook.

**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.

**Pre-Requisites**

[[NSG-410]]

**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.

**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-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-550]]

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

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

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. CLASSROOM PRACTICUM IN NURSING
EDUCATION
Credits: 3
This practicum provides the student an opportunity to participate in a faculty
or staff development role within an educational setting. Each student will
develop an educational offering based upon an area of advanced nursing
practice. The student is required to obtain a mentor who will provide
classroom teaching learning experiences. (100 practicum hours required)

Pre-Requisites:
[[NSG-540]], [[NSG-541]], or [[NSG-542]]

NSG-545. CLINICAL PRACTICUM IN NURSING
EDUCATION
Credits: 3
This practicum provides the student and opportunity to actively participate
in a faculty or staff development role within an educational setting. Each
student will develop an educational offering based upon an area of
advanced nursing practice. The student is required to obtain a mentor who
will provide teaching learning experiences within a clinical environment.
(100 practicum hours)

Pre-Requisites:
[[NSG-540]], [[NSG-541]], or [[NSG-542]]

NSG-546. FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER 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. (Seminars, Residency and 250 clinical practice hours)

Pre-Requisites:
[[NSG-500]], [[NSG-530]], [[NSG-533]], [[NSG-550]]

NSG-547. FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER 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. (Seminars, Residency and 250 clinical practice hours)

Pre-Requisites:
[[NSG-500]], [[NSG-530]], [[NSG-533]], [[NSG-550]]

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. (Seminars, Residency and 84 clinical practice hours)

Pre-Requisites:
[[NSG-500]], [[NSG-530]], [[NSG-533]], [[NSG-550]]

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]]
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 (or 1 credit of national board certification preparation)  
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.  

Students in the post graduate/APRN certificate programs can take this course for 1 credit of national board certification preparation.  

Pre-Requisites  
Completion of Graduate Nursing Core and Concentration courses.  

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. SCHOLARLY PROJECT  
Credits: 6  
Completed over the last 2 semesters of the D.N.P. program.  
In this capstone course, the student, under the guidance of a selected faculty member, will analyze and synthesize theoretical and empirical research relevant to a clinical practice issue. Students will design a comprehensive and holistic approach to this problem using evidence-based presentation. This course provides opportunity for additional clinical practice needed for the development of advanced nursing practice competencies. Required clinical hours for D.N.P. clinical competency are dependent upon educational / clinical background. This could vary from 500 to 1000 hours.  

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 I
Credits: 2
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 scholarly project. The student will develop a PICO statement for the scholarly project which will guide this intense practice immersion experience. The student will collaborate with an identified clinical mentor. (Elective; Clinical hours total: 150 hours/8 weeks/2 credits)

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

NSG-610. D.N.P. PROGRAM PRACTICUM II
Credits: 2
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 is on preparing students as experts in a specific area for advancing nursing practice, for the final scholarly project. The student will begin to bridge knowledge gained from the intense practice immersion experience through application to a scholarly project implementation plan. The student will collaborate with an identified clinical mentor. (Elective; Clinical hours total: 150 hours/8 weeks/2 credits)

Pre-Requisites
[[NSG-609]]

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.

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-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-619]]

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-619]]

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]]
Doctor of Nursing Practice (D.N.P.)

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-621]]

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 a Literature Review and identifies a Mode of Inquiry.

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 student's Chair 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]]