

NURSING

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The Passan School of Nursing Faculty reserves the right to revise the Graduate Nursing Program requirements and policies as deemed necessary at any time to prepare students for new and emerging roles in nursing.

Policies of the Passan School of Nursing Graduate Nursing Program may be more stringent than other University graduate programs. *The Passan School of Nursing Graduate Program Student Handbook* details these policies and is available at [Nursing Graduate Student Handbook](#).

State Requirements for Online/Distance education

State authorization is the legal mandate that requires higher education institutions to be in compliance with the laws and regulations of each state where it conducts business. Each state has the authority to regulate educational activities that are delivered within and across its borders, including distance/online education. Additionally, states have the right to determine the process by which out-of-state colleges and universities can obtain approval. The need for higher education institutions to seek such approval depends on the requirements of each state's regulations and the types of activities an institution is conducting in the state. There can be significant consequences to institutions that are not in compliance with state authorization regulations, so Wilkes University takes this requirement very seriously.

Further details can be obtained at [State Authorization and Registration \(wilkes.edu\)](#)

FEES*

Additional fees exist for software products employed in graduate nursing programs, which promote student achievement of course outcomes in the distance education environment.

**Fees are subject to change.*

Category	Course(s) Required	Approximate Fee
Shadow Health	NSG 500, 550, and 526	Fees vary based upon number of courses using the software
CastleBranch	All clinical, research, and practicum courses for RN to M.S.N., M.S.N., Post Graduate/APRN Certificate, D.N.P. program students; Ph.D. program students, if deemed necessary based upon dissertation focus	Varies by state of residence; range \$100.00-\$300.00; one-time fee Students may be required to pay a CastleBranch Bridge fee based upon requirements of the health care agency.
RPNow®	NSG 500, 530, 533, 552, 550, and most NP theory courses	\$15.00/test
Typhon	Nurse practitioner clinical courses	\$90.00; one-time fee
Residency	Final clinical courses for NP students based upon location of precepted clinical settings.	Students are responsible for all expenses related to the residency.
Rosh Review	Initial payment in NSG 500, with final payment in subsequent NP specialty didactic courses.	\$253.50; in two consecutive semester
SPSS	NSG 601 and Ph.D. program courses	Price varies based upon source of package chosen; minimum \$50.00
Professional Liability Insurance for Students in Clinical/Practicum Courses	Clinical, research, and practicum courses when completion of clinical hours and/or research are a course requirement	The fee is collected by the university for each clinical, research, or practicum course; \$30.00/clinical, research, or practicum course
D.N.P. Project/Ph.D. Dissertation Binding	NSG 608b and NSG 631	\$45.00 on time fee when enrolled in these courses.

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		PhD program students will utilize the ProQuest platform at this fee.
Graduation Degree/ Certification Audit	Completed the last semester of each program to validate all terms are met for program completion, the graduation ceremony, and degree/certification conferral.	\$170.00
Dissertation Examination Retake	NSG 628	\$50.00/second retake

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

Applicants will be evaluated for admission based on the following criteria. These admissions standards represent the minimum eligibility requirements for the program. Admission committee members reserve the right to request additional

information from candidates as needed for a more in-depth review of qualifications.

Admission Criteria

- Master of Science in Nursing degree
- GPA of 3.0 or higher from a master's or doctoral degree granting institution which is regionally and programmatically (ACEN, NLNAC, or CCNE) accredited.
- Official transcripts from master's degree and post-graduate/APRN certificate granting institutions, as appropriate.
- Unencumbered 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.
- 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.

*Applications presenting a history of disciplinary action on professional licenses will be subject to an additional review process by the Special Licensure Discrepancy Committee of the university.

The Curriculum

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

12 week courses (NSG 608 a and b are 15 week courses)

[[NSG-600]]	Nursing Informatics	3 credits
[[NSG-601]]	Biostatistics	3 credits
[[NSG-602]]	Ethical Principles for Advanced Nursing Practice	3 credits
[[NSG-603]]	Application of Nursing Research	3 credits
[[NSG-604]]	Epidemiology and Environmental Health	3 credits
[[NSG-605]]	Collaboration in Health Care Delivery	3 credits
[[NSG-606]]	Diversity and Social Issues	3 credits
[[NSG-607]]	Leadership in Advanced Nursing Practice	3 credits
[[NSG-608]]a	D.N.P. Project	3 credits

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

[[NSG-608]]b	D.N.P. Project	3 credits
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**NSG 608 a and b are completed over the last 2 courses (30 weeks) in the D.N.P. program.*

An elective practicum course is available for students entering the D.N.P. program with less than 400 hours from their master's degree and post grad/APRN certificate programs. This course provide students with additional time to complete the required 1000 hours for the D.N.P. degree, prior to the start of the DNP Project.

- [[NSG-609]]: DNP Program Practicum I; 250 clinical hours; 3 credits

Degree Requirements

Students are required to complete the 30 credit D.N.P. core for degree conferral.

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 D.N.P. project in the 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-608]]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 D.N.P. 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](#).

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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
- 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.

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MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING (M.S.N.)

Purpose

The distance education Master of Science in Nursing (M.S.N.) program at Wilkes University is designed to prepare the Nurse Practitioner for advancing nursing practice and quality within healthcare. The program provides a foundation to further advancement of professional nursing education for a doctoral degree in nursing and post graduate/APRN certificate program. Graduates are eligible for national board certification upon program completion of the respective concentration.

Master of Science in Nursing Program Outcomes

The Master of Science in Nursing program at Wilkes University prepares students to:

1. Engage in lifelong learning in a constantly evolving and multicultural world.
2. Demonstrate competence in the development of scientific inquiry relevant to clinical practice, administration, or education.
3. Utilize leadership strategies that foster improvement of patient and population health.
4. Advance nursing practice by translating evidence in a variety of roles and areas of practice.
5. Improve healthcare outcomes through interprofessional collaboration.
6. Participate in lifelong learning as a part of advancing nursing practice.

Master of Science in Nursing Student Learning Outcomes

Students in the Master of Science in Nursing program at Wilkes University will:

1. Synthesize advanced knowledge of nursing and related disciplines for the development of advanced nursing practice in the roles of the Nurse Practitioner, Nurse Executive, and Nurse Educator.
2. Develop expertise in the Nurse Practitioner, Nurse Executive, and Nurse Educator role to advance nursing practice.
3. Develop skills and abilities to assume leadership roles in advanced nursing practice.
4. Evaluate nursing research for its applicability to advance nursing practice.
5. Evaluate applicable knowledge and concepts in nursing to deal with the complexities of a dynamic society.

Admission Requirements

Applicants will be evaluated for admission based on the following criteria. These admissions standards represent the minimum eligibility requirements for the program. Admission committee members reserve the right to request additional

information from candidates as needed for a more in-depth review of qualifications.

Nurse Practitioner Programs

- A completed online application
- Official transcripts with nursing degree completion and a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale from an institution with programmatic (ACEN, NLNAC, CCNE) and regional accreditation. Students who graduated from a non-programmatically accredited institution and meet all other admission requirements will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Admission is not guaranteed.
 - Associate's degree in Nursing for R.N. to M.S.N. program
 - Bachelor's degree in Nursing for M.S.N. program
 - Master's or doctoral degree in Nursing for post-graduate/APRN certificate program
- Unencumbered RN license and advanced practice registered nurse (APRN) license* and national board certification, as appropriate
- Current resume or curriculum vitae
- One year of clinical experience (by the start of NP clinical courses)

*Applications presenting a history of disciplinary action on professional licenses will be subject to an additional review process by the Special Licensure Discrepancy Committee of the university.

The Curriculum

Graduate Nursing Core (24 Credits)
12 week classes

M.S.N. students complete the 24 credit core in addition to credits of their chosen concentration.

[[NSG-500]]	Advanced Health Assessment	3 credits
[[NSG-501]]	Theoretical Foundations of Nursing Science	3 credits
[[NSG-502]]	Advanced Nursing Research	3 credits
[[NSG-504]]	Advanced Role Development in Nursing	3 credits
[[NSG-505]]	Health Policy and Politics for Advancing Nursing Practice	3 credits
[[NSG-530]]	Advanced Pathophysiology	3 credits
[[NSG-533]]	Advanced Pharmacology	3 credits
[[NSG-590]]*	Scholarly Review	3 credits

Concentrations

Nurse Practitioner Student Learning Outcomes

Students in the Nurse Practitioner program at Wilkes University will:

1. Synthesize theoretical, scientific, and clinical knowledge in providing comprehensive, evidence-based care.
2. Perform comprehensive health history and physical examination to diagnose health conditions involving critical analysis, differential diagnosis, and data interpretation.
3. Assume leadership roles in collaboration with other health professionals to achieve optimum patient health.
4. Integrate health care policy as it impacts the decision-making ability to provide quality patient care.
5. Negotiate healthcare delivery systems to promote quality health outcomes for individuals, communities, and organizational systems.
6. Coordinate care for patients with complex conditions through referrals and collaboration.
7. Participate in life-long learning through higher education, continuing education, certification and evaluation.

Adult - Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner (16 Credits)

Total: 40 credits

[[NSG-550]]	Diagnostic Reasoning for Nurse Practitioners	2 credits
[[NSG-556]]	Health Perspectives of Culturally Diverse, Rural, and Underserved Populations	2 credits
[[NSG-554]]	Nurse Practitioners in Primary Care I	3 credits
[[NSG-555]]	Nurse Practitioners in Primary Care II	3 credits
[[NSG-506]]	Advanced Practice in Adult-Gerontology Clinical I	3 credits
[[NSG-515]]	Advanced Practice in Adult-Gerontology Clinical I	3 credits

Psychiatric/Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (18 Credits)

Total: 42 credits

NSG 526	Clinical Modalities in Advanced Psychiatric Mental	3 credits
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	Health Nursing Practice	
NSG 527	Psychopathology, Theories, and Advanced Modalities	3 credits
NSG 535	Advanced Practice in Psychiatric/Mental Health Nursing I	3 credits
NSG 536	Advanced Practice in Psychiatric/Mental Health Nursing II	3 credits
[[NSG-550]]	Diagnostic Reasoning for Nurse Practitioners	2 credits
[[NSG-556]]	Health Perspectives of Culturally Diverse Rural, and Underserved Populations	2 credits
[[NSG-552]]	Psychopharmacology	2 credits

Family Nurse Practitioner (19 credits)

Total: 43 credits

[[NSG-546]]	Family Nurse Practitioner Clinical I	3 credits
[[NSG-547]]	Family Nurse Practitioner Clinical II	3 credits
[[NSG-548]]	Family Nurse Practitioner Role with Children and Families	2 credits
[[NSG-549]]	Family Nurse Practitioner Clinical with Children and Families	1 credit
[[NSG-550]]	Diagnostic Reasoning for Nurse Practitioners	2 credits
[[NSG-554]]	Nurse Practitioners in Primary Care I	3 credits
[[NSG-555]]	Nurse Practitioners in Primary Care II	3 credits
[[NSG-556]]	Health Perspective of Culturally Diverse, Rural, and Underserved Populations	2 credits

Residency Requirements

An on-site residency is required for nurse practitioner students enrolled in NSG 500, Advanced Health Assessment, in order to demonstrate advanced physical assessment skills. In addition, nurse practitioner students in the following clinical courses may be required to complete an on-site residency, based upon the location of the clinical practice site. During residency, direct supervision and evaluation of the student will be completed by nurse practitioner clinical faculty at his/her designated clinical practice sites. Each course syllabus dictates the terms of the specific course residency.

- [[NSG-515]] – Advanced Practice in Adult-Gerontology Clinical II
- [[NSG-536]] – Advanced Practice in Psychiatric/Mental Health Nursing II
- [[NSG-547]] – Family Nurse Practitioner Clinical II

Clinical Requirements

Further details of clinical requirements for each concentration area are provided to students in [The Passan School of Nursing Graduate Program Student Handbook](#).

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POST GRADUATE/APRN CERTIFICATE

Purpose

This distance education Post Graduate/APRN Certificate program is designed for registered nurses who have earned a master's or doctoral degree in Nursing and seek to expand their education in a new specialty area. Certificate programs are offered in all NP concentrations available in the Master of Science in Nursing degree program. Graduates of our accredited online certificate programs are eligible to sit for national board certification examination upon program completion of the respective concentration. A review of official transcripts will determine a student's course of study. A certificate of program completion is awarded, not a degree.

Students admitted to the nurse practitioner program who have previously taken an Advanced Pharmacology course are advised to contact their State Board of Nursing to determine if their Pharmacology course meets the criteria set for length of time allowed from taking the course to the date of applying for prescriptive privileges.

Admission Requirements

- See the Master of Science in Nursing admission requirements.

Student outcomes for each of the following concentrations can be found in the Master of Science in Nursing section of this handbook.

The Curriculum

CONCENTRATIONS

Adult –Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner (27 credits or less pending review of previous coursework)

All courses are 12 weeks in length.

[[NSG-500]]	Advanced Health Assessment	3 credits
[[NSG-530]]	Advanced Pathophysiology	3 credits
[[NSG-533]]	Advanced Pharmacology	3 credits
[[NSG-550]]	Diagnostic Reasoning for Nurse Practitioners	2 credits
[[NSG-556]]	Health Perspectives of Culturally Diverse, Rural, and Underserved Populations	2 credits
[[NSG-554]]	Nurse Practitioners in Primary Care I	3 credits

[[NSG-555]]	Nurse Practitioners in Primary Care II	3 credits
[[NSG-506]]	Advanced Practice in Adult-Gerontology Clinical I	3 credits
[[NSG-515]]	Advanced Practice in Adult-Gerontology Clinical II	3 credits*
[[NSG-591]**	Scholarly Preparation for Nurse Practitioner Boards	2 credits

****Required for completion of certification by students enrolled Fall 21 and after.**

Psychiatric/Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (29 credits or less pending review of previous coursework)

All courses are 12 weeks in length.

[[NSG-500]]	Advanced Health Assessment	3 credits
[[NSG-530]]	Advanced Pathophysiology	3 credits
[[NSG-533]]	Advanced Pharmacology	3 credits
[[NSG-526]]	Clinical Modalities in Advanced Psychiatric/ Mental Health Nursing Practice	3 credits
[[NSG-527]]	Psychopathology, Theories, and Advanced Clinical Modalities	3 credits
[[NSG-535]]	Advanced Practice in Psychiatric/ Mental Health Nursing I	3 credits
[[NSG-536]]	Advanced Practice in Psychiatric/ Mental Health Nursing II	3 credits*
[[NSG-550]]	Diagnostic Reasoning for Nurse Practitioners	2 credits
[[NSG-556]]	Health Perspectives of Culturally Diverse, Rural, and Underserved Populations	2 credits

Post Graduate/APRN Certificate

[[NSG-552]]	Psychopharmacology	2 credits
[[NSG-591]]**	Scholarly Preparation for Nurse Practitioner Boards	2 credits

****Required for completion of certification by students enrolled Fall 21 and after.**

**Family Nurse Practitioner
(30 credits or less pending review of previous coursework)**

All courses are 12 weeks in length.

[[NSG-500]]	Advanced Health Assessment	3 credits
[[NSG-530]]	Advanced Pathophysiology	3 credits
[[NSG-533]]	Advanced Pharmacology	3 credits
[[NSG-546]]	Family Nurse Practitioner Clinical I	3 credits
[[NSG-547]]	Family Nurse Practitioner Clinical II	3 credits*
[[NSG-548]]	Family Nurse Practitioner Role with Children and Families	2 credits
[[NSG-549]]	Family Nurse Practitioner Clinical with Children and Families	1 credit
[[NSG-550]]	Diagnostic Reasoning for Nurse Practitioners	2 credits
[[NSG-554]]	Nurse Practitioners in Primary Care I	3 credits
[[NSG-555]]	Nurse Practitioners in Primary Care II	3 credits
[[NSG-556]]	Health Perspective of Culturally Diverse, Rural, and Underserved Populations	2 credits
[[NSG-591]]**	Scholarly Preparation for Nurse Practitioner Boards	2 credits

****Required for completion of certification by students enrolled Fall 21 and after.**

Residency Requirements*

An on-site residency is required for nurse practitioner students enrolled in [[NSG-500]], Advanced Health Assessment, in order to demonstrate advanced physical assessment skills. In addition, nurse practitioner students in the following clinical courses may be required to complete an on-site residency, based upon the location of the clinical practice site. During residency, direct supervision and evaluation of the student will be completed by nurse practitioner clinical faculty at his/her designated clinical practice sites. Each course syllabus dictates the terms of the specific course residency.

- [[NSG-515]] – Advanced Practice in Adult-Gerontology Clinical II
- [[NSG-536]] – Advanced Practice in Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing II
- [[NSG-547]] - Family Nurse Practitioner Clinical II

Clinical Requirements

Further details of clinical requirements for each concentration area are provided to students in [Passan School of Nursing Graduate Program Student Handbook](#).

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RN-M.S.N. PROGRAM

Purpose

This distance education RN to M.S.N. graduate nursing program is designed for the registered nurse with an associate's degree in nursing (AAN or ASN) who plans to earn a career-enhancing nursing degree to the master's level. Students enter this program as graduate students of the university. The curriculum starts with three bridge courses totaling 11 credit hours, which bring the student to the baccalaureate level of study. *** A pass-through bachelor's degree in nursing is not granted as part of this program.** After completing the bridge courses, students continue in completing a concentration of their choice for the Master of Science in Nursing degree (see Master of Science in Nursing section of the handbook). Graduates are eligible for national board certification upon program completion of the respective concentration. RN to M.S.N. students follow the policies of the Passan School of Nursing graduate nursing program.

Admission Requirements

See the Master of Science in Nursing admission requirements.

Curriculum

Successful completion of 3 bridge courses is required for the MSN degree conferral.

- [[NSG-410]] Transition to Baccalaureate Nursing for the Graduate Nursing Student; 7 credits (15 week course)
- [[NSG-411]] Leadership and Management Practicum for the Graduate Nursing Student; 3 credits (clinical- 45 hours) (12 week course)
- [[NSG-412]] Graduate Level Academic Writing for Nursing Professionals; 1 credit (12 week course)

Degree Requirements

The total number of credits and degree requirements for completion of the RN to M.S.N. program and conferring of the M.S.N. degree is based upon the concentration chosen (see Master of Science in Nursing section of this handbook). The range is 51-54 total credits.

Nursing 14

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.

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]]

Course Descriptions

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]]

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.

Course Descriptions

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

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]]

Course Descriptions

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]]

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]]