

Family Nurse Practitioner MSN

The Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) program prepares graduates with a fuller understanding of the discipline of nursing, enabling a higher level of practice and leadership in a variety of settings. MSN education has a foundation encompassing advanced health assessment, advanced pathophysiology, advanced pharmacology, and health promotion/population health as well as a core promoting the advancement of the nursing profession through research and theory. This MSN program role focus is the Family Nurse Practitioner who is prepared to meet the increasing demand for primary care. Students complete courses in their role as well as courses in the advanced specialty area. The program has online courses with intensive days. Clinical experiences are conducted as traditional, hands-on practice in a variety of clinical settings, enabling the student to acquire competence with their new knowledge and skills. Degree completion requires a Practice Intervention Project paper and presentation. Prospective students must have a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from a nationally accredited nursing program as well as a current license to practice as a Registered Nurse in order to be admitted. Graduates will be prepared to sit for national certification as a Family Nurse Practitioner. Master's nursing education equips Registered Nurses with a mastery of their chosen specialty area as well as the graduate foundation for doctoral education.

Family Nurse Practitioner

NURS 5301	Theoretical Foundations in Nursing	3
NURS 5302	Advanced Pathophysiology	3
NURS 5303	Pharmacology for Advanced Practice	3
NURS 5304	Health Promotion and Population Health	3
NURS 5207	Informatics in Health Care	2
NURS 5312	Advanced Nurse Practice Role	3
NURS 5209	Issues in Advanced Practice	2
NURS 5305	Advanced Health Assessment	3
NURS 5306	Translational Research in Nursing (3 semester hours required)	3
NURS 5307	Primary Care Procedures	3
NURS 5621	Primary Care I	6
NURS 5622	Primary Care II	6
NURS 5310	Health Care Policy, Organization, and Financing	3
NURS 6300	Practice Intervention Project	3
Total Hours		46

NURS 5207 - Informatics in Health Care

Hours: 2

This course focuses on the application of computer technology to healthcare management of individuals and groups, with recognition of the social, ethical, and legal issues involved. Available resources useful in patient care and educational settings are emphasized. The opportunity for application of specific concepts is provided.

NURS 5209 - Issues in Advanced Practice

Hours: 2

This course focuses on social, economic, political, cultural, ethicolegal, and historical factors affecting nursing. It provides a forum for exploration of issues and concerns, enabling the critical analysis and evaluation of their effect on advanced practice nursing. Prerequisites: Instructor permission.

NURS 5301 - Theoretical Foundations in Nursing

Hours: 3

This course focuses on the philosophical and theoretical bases, underlying concepts and operations inherent to nursing. Synthesis of theories from behavioral, natural, social, and applied sciences is emphasized as it relates to nursing and practice. There is an investigation of the intersections between system science and organizational science. Nursing, ethical, and scientific theories are used in the analysis of clinical problems, illness prevention, and health promotion. Prerequisites: Consent of Instructor.

NURS 5302 - Advanced Pathophysiology

Hours: 3

This course focuses on pathophysiology and disruptions in normal body functioning for individuals across the lifespan. In depth theoretical and clinical principles of diseases encountered in primary care setting as well as health disparities resulting from genetic, environmental, and stress related causes are included. Assessment findings, diagnostic testing and interventions specific to selected health problems are explored to begin development of critical thinking skills for pathophysiologic causes and treatments of given disease processes. Prerequisites: Instructor permission.

NURS 5303 - Pharmacology for Advanced Practice

Hours: 3

This course focuses on general principles of pharmacology including pharmacokinetics, and pharmacodynamics as they relate to the treatment and management of common illnesses and conditions across the lifespan. Attention is given to the physiologic basis and clinical characteristics of disease states relative to pharmacotherapy. Clinical decision-making and review of laws governing prescriptive authority for advance practice nursing are also emphasized. Prerequisites: Instructor Permission.

NURS 5304 - Health Promotion and Population Health

Hours: 3

This course focuses on the assessment and management of healthy children and adults in a variety of settings. The concepts of health, health promotion, and disease prevention related to age and cultural values are explored. Health promotion for vulnerable populations is explored through epidemiologic methods. Age appropriate primary and secondary prevention and risk reduction strategies and their research base are examined. Prerequisites: Instructor Permission.

NURS 5305 - Advanced Health Assessment

Hours: 3

This course focuses on theoretical and clinical principles for health assessment in advanced practice nursing. Physical, psychosocial, and cultural assessment skills necessary to develop a comprehensive health database, clinical decision making, and diagnostic reasoning skills are emphasized. Advanced health assessment principles and skills necessary for performing a comprehensive physical examination across the lifespan are applied in the primary care clinical setting. Integration of theory is tested in the laboratory setting with a comprehensive physical assessment and development of a plan of care based on the formulation of differential medical diagnoses. Prerequisites: Instructor Permission.

NURS 5306 - Translational Research in Nursing

Hours: 3

This course focuses on the logic, methods, and techniques of the research process as they apply to the nursing profession. Evidence-based practice, research utilization, and knowledge transformation processes are emphasized. The research-oriented approach is explored from problem formulation to analysis and interpretation in both quantitative and qualitative methodologies. The opportunity to recognize a researchable problem in nursing and to develop a plan for its study is provided. This course meets 595 research requirement. Prerequisites: Instructor permission.

NURS 5307 - Primary Care Procedures

Hours: 3

This course focuses on clinical procedures commonly needed in primary care practices as well as urgent care and fast track practices. It provides an opportunity to learn the skills needed to manage frequently encountered problems. Electrocardiograph interpretation, ordering and interpretation of diagnostic imaging will be included. The clinical component will consist of practice of skills in the skills lab and time spent with a clinical preceptor. An urgent care setting or emergency care setting is preferred for this course. Prerequisites: Instructor Permission.

NURS 5310 - Health Care Policy, Organization, and Financing

Hours: 3

This course focuses on the effect of politics, organizations, and resources on the delivery of high-quality, cost-effective health care. The leadership role of the advanced practice nurse in the design, implementation, and management of human fiscal and physical health care resources is emphasized. Prerequisites: Instructor permission.

NURS 5312 - Advanced Nurse Practice Role

Hours: 3

This course focuses on the role of the advanced practice nurse with focus on the nurse practitioner. Concepts of professional development, scope of practice, peer review, legal and ethical parameters of practice, business management, and models of practice are included. Theoretical concepts related to role theory, change theory, empowerment, and socialization are emphasized. Prerequisites: Instructor permission.

NURS 5621 - Primary Care I

Hours: 6

This course focuses on assessment, diagnosis, and management of common episodic and chronic conditions across the lifespan. Included is the application of epidemiologic, pathophysiologic, symptom complexes, and research-based treatments as well as appropriate patient education resources and protocols. Attention is given to the integration and application of advanced health assessment and critical-thinking skills, developmental and family theories, and health promotion strategies in the diagnostic and clinical management processes of the advanced nurse practitioner role. Prerequisites: NURS 5302, NURS 5303, and NURS 5305.

NURS 5622 - Primary Care II

Hours: 6

This course provides the opportunity to continue developing clinical expertise as a nurse practitioner. Assessment and management of additional selected health problems frequently seen in primary health care are explored. Increasing responsibility for the diagnostic and clinical management processes of the nurse practitioner is emphasized. Prerequisites: NURS 5621 Primary Care I.

NURS 6300 - Practice Intervention Project

Hours: 3

This course focuses on the delineation of a problem/issue/project related to the clinical or functional area, review of pertinent literature, and development of a proposed solution with steps in implementation and evaluation methodology. Emphasis on quality improvement. A written document and an oral presentation of the project to a selected audience are required. Prerequisite: Instructor permission.

NURS 589 - Independent Study

Hours: 0-6

Individualized instruction/research at an advanced level in a specialized content area under the direction of a faculty member. May be repeated when the topic varies. Prerequisites: Consent of department head.

NURS 597 - Special Topics in Nursing

Hours: 1-6

Note: May be repeated when the topic varies. Prerequisites: Permission of the instructor.