

## **Course Descriptions for Clinical Nurse Leader Concentration**

### **NURS 550 The Clinical Nurse Leader Role and Healthcare Systems Leadership (3)**

Introduction to the Clinical Nurse Leader role and examination of the core knowledge and competencies for practice in this position. Healthcare systems leadership is transformative, with the CNL adding value to the organization by using evidence-based practices to achieve better outcomes, fiscal strategies to reduce costs, and educational strategies to foster learning in other health professionals.

### **NURS 552 Quality Improvement, Evaluation and Accreditation in Nursing Organizations (3)**

Explores the historical evolution of quality initiatives in health care and the emergence of the patient safety movement to prevent errors within the system of care delivery. Provides a focus on quality assessment and improvement, organizational performance, and outcomes evaluation. An in depth familiarization with the Agency for Health Care Policy and Research quality and safety indicators, Quality and Safety Education of Nurses (QSEN) and Quality of Care Measures (Q-SPAN) is expected. Standards for accreditation of nursing service organizations are examined.

### **NURS 554 Resource Management, Finances and Technology in the Health Care (3)**

Overview of health care finance and management of human, financial and community resources to ensure quality, cost-effective outcomes of nursing care. Special circumstances of clients and their families are considered to promote optimum use of available resources. Examines use of knowledge of information systems and technology to improve healthcare outcomes at the point of care.

### **NURS 556 Clinical Nurse Leader Patient Management in the Acute Care Setting (3)**

Advanced study of the management of patients in a variety of acute care settings. The CNL designs, coordinates, integrates and evaluates care of clients and their families at the unit level. Includes a focus on application of evidence-based practice, collection and evaluation of outcomes, assessment of population risk, interdisciplinary collaboration, client advocacy, client and staff education, direct provision of complex care and application of cost-effective care principles in acute care of clients. Enrollment *Requirement: NURS 557 must be taken concurrently.*

### **NURS 557 Advanced Field Study: Clinical Nurse Leader Patient Management in the Acute Care Setting (3)**

The clinical practicum allows for immersion in the CNL role in the acute care setting. Students will be mentored by an experienced clinical nurse leader expert in activities required in the CNL role. The minimum requirement for this practicum is 90 hours. *Enrollment Requirement: NURS 556 must be taken concurrently.*

### **NURS 558 Clinical Nurse Leader Management of Complex Patients (3)**

Continuation of advanced study of the management of patients in the acute care arena. The CNL uses evidence-based practice, quality research and clinical outcome data to provide comprehensive care to patients. Leadership management, collaboration and knowledge of financial and resource utilization are key components of the role. Clinical expertise is required for care of complex patients and development of the multidisciplinary team. *Enrollment Requirement: NURS559 must be taken concurrently.*

**NURS 559 Advanced Field Study: Clinical Nurse Leadership Management of Complex Patients in the Acute Care Setting (3)**

The clinical practicum allows for continuation of the clinical experience in the CNL role in the acute care setting. Students will be mentored by an experienced clinical nurse leader expert in activities required in the CNL role. The minimum requirement for this practicum is 90 hours. *Enrollment Requirement: NURS 558 must be taken concurrently.*

**NURS 598A (1), B (2), C (3) Directed Graduate Project**

Refinement of a project proposal and completion of graduate project. Ideas for projects include the design, implementation and evaluation of an evidence-based innovation, completion of a grant proposal or evaluation of a product or procedure. Other ideas may be presented to the faculty for approval. Students may take 1, 2, or 3 project units at a time. *May be repeated for a total of three (3) units.*  
*Prerequisites: NURS 510 and advancement to candidacy.*