

Course Descriptions for Clinical Nurse Specialist Track

NURS 520 Advanced Practice Care of the Pediatric Client (2)

Preparation of the advanced practice nurse to provide care to infants, children and adolescents. Includes common developmental, behavioral, acute and chronic illness and health promotion and maintenance. Includes specific pediatric primary, secondary and tertiary prevention with etiology of condition or disease, differential diagnosis and clinical management.

NURS 530 Advanced Practice Nursing (2)

Introduces competencies and other foundational components of advanced practice nursing for the Clinical Nurse Specialist and Nurse Practitioner. topics include history, roles, options and choices associated with professional practice and career development. The role of technology, leadership, evidence-based decision making, change and collaboration and outcomes evaluation are explored.

NURS 532A Advanced Practice Management of Clients and Families Across the Life Span I (3)

Advanced study of the management of patients with common acute/chronic illnesses and health and developmental problems by advanced practice nurses in a variety of health care settings. The advanced practice nurse assumes responsibility and accountability for health promotion, assessment, diagnosis and management of acute/chronic illness and client problems including prescription of pharmacological agents within a specialty area of clinical practice. Emphasis on developing sound clinical decision making and diagnostic reasoning skills is included. The APN uses theory, research and best practices to manage the care of individuals, families and populations, and works to provide quality, cost-effective care. *Enrollment requirement: NURS 533A, D or E must be taken concurrently.*

NURS 533A Advanced Field Study: Advanced Practice Management of Clients and Families Across the Life Span I (3)

The clinical practicum allows for immersion of the Clinical Nurse Specialist in the role of the advanced practice nurse in the acute care setting. Using foundations of theory, research and other evidence and the tools for case management, students will manage clients across the life span in their area of clinical expertise. Students will be mentored by an experienced Advanced Practice Nurses in activities expected in the role. The minimum requirement for this practicum is 135 hours. *Enrollment Requirement: NURS 532A must be taken concurrently.*

NURS 533E Advanced Field Study: Management of Clients and Families Across the Life Span I (3)

This clinical practicum allows for immersion into the Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS) role of the advanced practice nurse in public health. Students will manage individual clients and aggregates in the arena of public health to include private or joint practice, institutional settings, industry, government, public health agencies, schools, home health, HMOs, correctional health, nursing centers, and health ministry settings. A major emphasis of this practicum is the use of health promotion and disease prevention strategies to improve the health of the community and the nation. Activities at the individual level include Health Screening, Counseling, and Education, and Evaluation of Immunity and Infectious Disease (case finding). Activities at the aggregate level include Emergency Response Disaster Planning, Community Health Assessment (including Environmental Health), and Program Implementation and Evaluation. Students will be mentored by an experienced CNS in activities that include the major role functions of the CNS in Public Health, which include clinician, consultant, collaborator, coalition-builder,

administrator, researcher, and educator. The minimum requirement for this practicum is 135 hours. *Enrollment Requirement: NURS 532A must be taken concurrently.*

NURS 534A Advanced Practice Management of Clients and Families Across the Life Span II (2)

Advanced study of the management of clients/families with acute/acute/chronic illnesses and health problems by advanced practice nurses in a variety of health care settings. The advanced practice nurse assumes responsibility and accountability for health promotion, assessment, diagnosis and management of acute/chronic illness and client problems including prescription of pharmacological agents within a specialty area of clinical practice. Emphasis on developing sound clinical decision making and diagnostic reasoning skills is included. The APN uses theory, research and best practices to manage the care of individuals, families and populations, and works to provide quality, cost-effective care. *Enrollment requirement: N535A, D or E must be taken concurrently.*

NURS 535A Advanced Field Study: Advanced Practice Management of Clients and Families Across the Life Span II (3)

The clinical practicum allows for immersion in the Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS) in the role of the advanced practice nurse in the community setting. Using foundations of theory, research and other evidence and the tools for case management, students will manage clients across the life span in their area of clinical expertise. Students will be mentored by an experienced Clinical Nurse Specialist in activities expected in the role. The minimum requirement for this practicum is 135 hours. *Enrollment Requirement: NURS 534A must be taken concurrently.*

NURS 535E Advanced Field Study: Management of Clients and Families Across the Life Span II (3)

This clinical practicum allows for continued immersion into the Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS) role in the community. Using the foundations of Nursing, Public and Community Health, and strategies of case and care management students will manage individuals, families, and groups that have been historically marginalized and described as “vulnerable”. Individuals and groups served may include the poor, the homeless, migrant workers, immigrants, pregnant adolescents, people with mental illness, substance abusers, people with communicable disease (e.g., HIV/AIDs) to name just a few. Students will be mentored by an experienced CNS in activities that are expected in one or more of the following advanced practice public health settings: nursing centers, parish health services, ambulatory and outpatient settings (to include Emergency Departments), Public Health Departments, community mental health centers, and missions and shelters. The minimum requirement for this practicum is 135 hours. *Enrollment Requirement: N534A must be taken concurrently.*

NURS 536 Chronic Illness Concepts (2)

Exploration of chronic illness concepts and trajectories of common disease states including heart failure, diabetes, chronic obstructive pulmonary diseases and cancer. Theories and research related to chronic illness concepts are presented, including the classic work of Corbin and Strauss. Students will examine the social, psychological, economic and quality of life issues that impact clients, caregivers, families and communities.

NURS 539 Advanced Practice Externship (6)

Designed for the Advanced Practice Nurse to work in a clinical setting and enhance advanced clinical practice under the supervision of an advanced practice nurse as a role model. Advanced assessment skills

and advanced nursing practice in the APN role will be performed. Students will complete 270 clinical hours.

NURS 540 Advanced Concepts of Health Across the Life Span for the Advanced Practice Nurse (2)

Examination of advanced and complex physical, psycho-social, spiritual, and developmental changes of pediatrics through older adults from various cultural/ethnic groups. Bioethical, cultural and socio-economic issues are also examined. Clinical phenomenon from case studies are analyzed for their affect on patients of various ages.

NURS 560 Advanced Concepts of Gerontology Nursing Care (3)

Focuses on the aging population including theories and research on aging, ethnicity, adjustments and common aging changes. Strategies to promote wellness and self-care are discussed. Pathologies common to the elderly and nursing interventions are examined. Gerontological care issues are explored. Admission restricted to students enrolled in the Master of Science in Nursing Program.

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.

NURS 599A (1), B (2), C (3) Graduate Thesis

Refinement of a proposal and completion of a graduate thesis using either quantitative or qualitative research methods. Students may take 1, 2 or 3 thesis units at a time. *May be repeated for a total of three (3) units.* *Prerequisites: NURS 510 and advancement to candidacy.*

EDUC 608 Essential Elements of Adult Learning Theory (3)

Prepares instructors to apply adult learning theory as they design lessons, plan content, and assess student outcomes. Introduces the student to theories of adult learning and motivation, use of evidence based assessment, and characteristics of effective instruction in hybrid or online learning environments. *May not be taken for credit by students who have received credit for EDUC 592N and 592-1.*