



CLINICAL NURSE SPECIALIST PLAN OF STUDY
(FULL TIME – 6 semesters)

This curriculum plan is designed for Registered Nurses (RNs) who are graduates of an accredited Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program and are seeking the Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) degree specializing as a Clinical Nurse Specialist in the area of Adult Health, Pediatrics, Gerontology, or Public Health. All nursing courses use the prefix "NURS"; it is abbreviated in this document to add space. This is a sample curriculum plan and is for information only.

MSN-Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS) Track

Fall Semester		Spring Semester		Summer Semester	
Year 1					
N500	Theoretical Basis of Nursing Research	N502	Advanced Health Assessment	N520*	Advanced Practice Care of the Pediatric Client
N504	Advanced Pathophysiology	N503A	Advanced Health Assessment Lab	N540	Advanced Concepts of Health across the Lifespan for the APN
N506	Advanced Pharmacology	N510	Nursing Research	E608	Essential Elements of Adult Learning Theory
N508	Health Care Policy	N512	Biostatistics for Advanced Practice Nurse		
		N530	Advanced Nursing Practice		
Year 2					
N514 ⁺	Epidemiology	N534A	Advanced Practice Management of Clients and Families II	N539	Advanced Practice Externship
N532A	Advanced Practice Management of Clients and Families I	N535A or N535E ⁺	Advanced Field Study II	N598 or N599	Graduate Project or Thesis
N533A or N533E ⁺	Advanced Field Study I	N536	Chronic Illness Concepts	GRADUATE IN AUGUST	
N560**	Advanced Concepts of Gerontology Nursing Care	N598 or N599	Graduate Project or Thesis		
N598 or N599	Graduate Project or Thesis				

*Required for Pediatric CNS

**Required for Gerontological CNS

⁺ Required for Public Health CNS