GRADUATE NURSING COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Graduate Nursing (NUR) Courses

NUR 6103 Professional Scholarship (0-0-3). Provides for the synthesis of previous knowledge into a framework for advanced practice. In collaboration with a faculty member, the student contracts for a clinically-focused, research-based scholarly activity which may include, but is not limited to, the following: research proposal, development/implementation/publication of a scholarly paper, special project, or grant proposal.

Prerequisite: Nursing 6301

NUR 6301 Design and Methodology of Quantitative and Qualitative Research (3-0-0). This course is designed to extend the students' knowledge of the research process as a basis for advanced nursing practice. Students explore the philosophy, logic and methods of both quantitative and qualitative research in clinical practice by focusing on the relations between research and clinical practice, the research process, and both experimental and non-experimental designs. This course prepares students to critically evaluate published research, and to utilize research findings to guide practice, select interventions, evaluate course outcomes and identify problems to be addressed by future research.

Prerequisite: NUR 6356

NUR 6313 Theoretical Foundations of Advanced Nursing (3-0-0). This course extends student knowledge of theory in nursing and the related sciences as a basis for advanced nursing practice with diverse populations in clinical and community-based care settings. Philosophical approaches, systems theory and organizational science provide the framework for problem analysis, health promotion and prevention strategies as students learn the role of advanced practice in the coordination of care across systems.

NUR 6317 Health Policy and Ethics (3-0-0). This course prepares students as effective agents of change by building leadership skills in health care policy development, implementation and evaluation. Ethics content promotes self-care and active advocacy. Student understanding of local, national, and global factors is expanded to facilitate clinical reasoning and collaborative engagement with all healthcare professionals in redesigning systems to achieve equity, safety, and quality for better healthcare outcomes.

Prerequisite: Graduate Standing

NUR 6318 Pharmacotherapeutics (3-0-0). This course focuses on the study of advanced pharmacologic principles of drug therapy used by nurses in advanced practice.

NUR 6324 Advanced Pathophysiology (3-0-0). A study of the function of the human body as it is altered by and responds to disease, including disease manifestations, mechanisms of disease production and response, and the physiological basis of diagnostic and therapeutic procedures. This course provides coverage of human diseases organized by the body system which they affect. Prerequisites: Biology 3324 or equivalent.

NUR 6331 Advanced Health Assessment (2-0-3). This course presents the theoretical and clinical principles of advanced health assessment supported by related clinical experiences for the advanced practice nursing student to gain the knowledge and skills needed to perform comprehensive assessments to acquire data, make diagnoses of health status and formulate effective clinical management plans of patients with common, acute, and chronic health issues. A 45 clock hour practicum provides opportunities to practice advanced health assessment skills.

Prerequisite: Graduate Standing, NUR 6324 or co-requisite with departmental approval.

NUR 6333 Internship in Advanced Nursing Practice (0-0-9). This course focuses on the integration and synthesis of the Adult Health Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS) role. Students work with preceptors to implement and evaluate advanced practice in a clinical setting. Focus is on theoretical and practical knowledge needed to contribute to the management of common acute and chronic health deviation in adults. Further development of clinical decision making skills incorporating nursing and medical diagnoses, disease management and treatment including prescriptive practice is emphasized. Students complete 200 clock hours of practicum.

Prerequisites: NUR 6318, 6324, 6331, 6343, 6344, 6345, 6346.

NUR 6335 Role Development: The Advanced Practice Nurse (3-0-0). This course provides the student with information regarding theory and application of the multiple roles of the advanced practice nurse within the health care system. Environment of change, conflict resolution, professional collaboration, clinical practice outcome measurement will be discussed.

NUR 6343 Adult Health I: Foundations of Advanced Nursing Care of the Adult (3-0-0). This course addresses the role of the Adult Health Clinical Nurse Specialist as an Advanced Practice Nurse. The content includes analysis of the theoretical and empirical knowledge of illness and wellness phenomena that can be caused or contributed to by disease or non-disease etiologies. Focus is on health promotion and maintenance, risk reduction and evidence-based management of symptoms and functional problems for adult nursing clients. Nursing's unique contribution to patient care and collaboration with other health care professionals is emphasized.

Prerequisites: NUR 6318, 6324, 6331.

Corequisites: NUR 6344.

NUR 6344 Adult Health I: Practicum in Advanced Nursing Care of the Adult (0-0-9). Guided clinical experience providing the opportunity to apply an individual advanced nursing practice model relating to health promotion, maintenance and restoration in a selected area of emphasis. Students have the opportunity to apply pathophysiological and psychosocial theories and concepts in the care of adult patients. Focus is also on the acquisition of skills in the roles of the clinical nurse specialist. Students complete 130 clock hours of practicum.

Prerequisites: NUR 6318, 6324, 6331.

Corequisites: NUR 6343.

NUR 6345 Adult Health II: Diagnosis and Management (3-0-0). This course discusses the role of the advanced practice nurse as a member of an interdisciplinary team managing common acute and chronic health deviation in adults. Assimilating knowledge from advanced assessment, advanced pathophysiology, and advanced pharmacotherapeutics, emphasis is placed on developing diagnoses, treatment plans, referral criteria and the implementation of protocols within the scope of advanced practice. Grading will be on a pass/fail basis.

Prerequisites: NUR 6343, 6344.

Corequisites: NUR 6346.

NUR 6346 Adult Health II: Practicum in Diagnosis and Management (0-0-9). Guided clinical experience to acquire skills to diagnose and manage common acute and chronic health deviations in adults and the development of protocols within the scope of advanced practice. Students complete 130 clock hours of practicum.

Prerequisites: NUR 6343, 6344.

Corequisites: NUR 6345.

NUR 6350 Foundations of Health Promotion for Individuals and Communities (3-0-0). This course focuses on the master's prepared nurse's role in promoting health across the lifespan. Emphasis is on the integration of evidence-based guidelines and models, using culturally appropriate and client-centered strategies for the delivery, management and evaluation of disease prevention/health promotion. Students analyze and apply the use of various coaching/teaching strategies needed to influence health outcomes for individuals, families, and population groups. Students apply epidemiological concepts/determinants of health and utilize findings for control of disease via a student-led health promotion project.

Prerequisite: Graduate Standing.

NUR 6356 Statistical Analysis in Health Care Research (3-0-0). Examines applications of statistical concepts to data collected in health care research. Topics will include basic descriptive measures; sampling and sample size estimation; testing for differences between means, correlation, and measures of association; techniques for analyzing categorical data; and summarizing and presenting statistical results. The use of computer packages for assisting in data analysis will be emphasized throughout the course.

Prerequisite: NUR 4337

Nursing (NUR) - Family Nurse Practitioner (Advanced Practice Registered Nurse) Courses

NUR 6105 Advanced Skills for Advanced Practice Nurses (0-0-3). This course focuses on the development of essential advanced practice nursing skills to perform procedures in primary care practice. Diagnostic methods and procedures for patients of all ages will be included in an on-campus lab and a 45 clock hour practicum.

Prerequisites: Nursing 6318, 6324, 6331.

NUR 6325 Family Primary Care I (3-0-0). Focus on the transition from RN to Family Nurse Practitioner in the diagnosis and management of common acute and chronic conditions across the lifespan in a primary care setting. As a provider of family-centered care emphasis is placed on health promotion, risk reduction and evidence-based management of common symptoms and problems. Nursing's unique contribution to patient care and collaboration with other health care professionals is emphasized.

Prerequisites: NUR 6105, 6318, 6324, 6331.

Co-requisite: NUR 6327.

NUR 6326 Family Primary Care II (3-0-0). Focus is on the progression in the role of the Family Nurse Practitioner in the diagnosis and management of common acute and chronic conditions across the lifespan in a primary care setting. As a provider of family-centered care emphasis is placed on health promotion, risk reduction, and evidence-based management of more complex symptoms and problems. Nursing's unique contribution to patient care and collaboration with other health care professionals is emphasized.

Prerequisites: NUR 6325, 6327, 6333.

Co-requisite: NUR 6336.

NUR 6327 Family Care I Practicum (0-0-9). A guided clinical experience providing the opportunity to apply family centered primary care related to health promotion and evidence-based diagnosis and management of common acute and chronic conditions across the lifespan. Students complete a minimum of 140 clock hours of practicum. Grading will be either pass or fail.

Prerequisites: NUR 6105, 6318, 6324, 6331.

Co-requisite: NUR 6325.

NUR 6335 Role Development: The Advanced Practice Nurse (3-0-0). This course provides the student with information regarding theory and application of the multiple roles of the advanced practice nurse within the health care system. Environment of change, conflict resolution, professional collaboration, clinical practice outcome measurement will be discussed.

NUR 6336 Family Care II Practicum (0-0-9). A guided clinical experience in the progression of the role of providing family centered primary care related to heal promotion and evidence-based diagnosis and management of common and complex acute and chronic conditions across the lifespan. Students complete a minimum of 140 clock hours of practicum. Grading will be either pass or fail.

Prerequisites: NUR 6325, 6327, 6333.

Co-requisite: NUR 6326.

NUR 6337 Integrated Clinical Practice: FNP (0-0-9). A guided clinical experience to synthesize skills acquired and to refine abilities in primary family centered care related to health promotion and the diagnosis and management of common acute and chronic conditions across the lifespan. Students have the opportunity to refine evidence-based pathophysiological and psychosocial interventions, theories, and concepts of care. Students complete a minimum of 245 clock hours of practicum. Grading will be either pass or fail.

Prerequisites: NUR 6326, 6336

NUR 6350 Foundations of Health Promotion for Individuals and Communities (3-0-0). This course focuses on the master's prepared nurse's role in promoting health across the lifespan. Emphasis is on the integration of evidence-based guidelines and models, using culturally appropriate and client-centered strategies for the delivery, management and evaluation of disease prevention/health promotion. Students analyze and apply the use of various coaching/teaching strategies needed to influence health outcomes for individuals, families, and population groups. Students apply epidemiological concepts/determinants of health and utilize findings for control of disease via a student-led health promotion project.

Prerequisite: Graduate Standing.

NUR 6351 Mental Health Concepts for Advanced Practice Nurses (2-0-3). This course focuses on the development of advanced practice nursing skills in mental health. Specifically, the application of evidence-based knowledge and critical thinking skills in providing clinical management of individuals with common psychiatric-mental health problems across all age groups. Development assessment, crisis intervention, pharmacological management, and therapies are discussed as well as consultation and referral to other mental health professionals. (45 hour clinical practicum.)

Prerequisites: NUR 6318, 6324, 6331

Nursing (NUR) - Nurse Educator Courses

NUR 6306 Teaching Strategies in Nursing Education (3-0-0). This course is designed to explore the knowledge and competencies needed to develop and apply innovation strategies and technologies in classroom, laboratory, and clinical settings. Strategies for distance and web-based learning are also addressed.

NUR 6307 Evaluation in Nursing Education (3-0-0). This course focuses on knowledge and skills needed to design and evaluate tests and scales constructed to measure academic achievement. Practical components of test item construction, essay evaluation, and clinical/laboratory performance evaluation is incorporated. This course also focuses on the essential components of academic program evaluation, including outcomes assessment and accreditation processes and procedures.

NUR 6308 Practicum in Nursing Education (0-0-9). A guided experience where the student, with faculty supervision, will teach in selected situations including classroom, laboratory, and clinical facilities. In addition, students will also have practical experiences in web-based and distance learning. Students will design, implement, and evaluate teaching strategies related to identified educational outcomes. The student will complete a 115 clock-hour practicum. Grading will be either pass or fail.

Prerequisites: NUR 6306, 6307, 6319

NUR 6319 Curriculum and Instruction in Nursing Education (3-0-0). This course explores the nature of curriculum development in higher education based on educational theories and principles. It focuses on the development of curricula for a variety of academic programs in nursing education and the design of teaching and learning strategies for their implementation and evaluation. Factors influencing curriculum, student, faculty, and administrator roles are explored.

Nursing (NUR) - Registered Nurse First Assistant Courses

NUR 6309 Role of the RNFA (3-0-0). This course focuses on the role of the advanced practice nurse as a Registered Nurse First Assistant (RNFA). The content utilizes the RNFA Core Curriculum to introduce the advanced practice nurse to the operating room environment and to the RNFA role. Emphasis is placed on surgical anatomy and physiology, principles of asepsis, surgical hazards, first assisting techniques, and scope of practice.

NUR 6401 RNFA Practicum (0-0-12). A surgeon-supervised clinical experience to acquire skills to function as a first assistant in surgery. Students will engage in supervised clinical activities and complete a surgical first assisting log. Case studies and independent learning activities will be required. Four semester credit hours will be received for validated documentation of 180 clock hours of internship in a clinical setting. Grading will be either pass or fail.

Nursing (NUR) - Additional Offerings

NUR 6381 Special Topics (3-0). A seminar in selected topics in nursing. (May be repeated once for credit when topic varies.)

NUR 6391 Research. Individual research in nursing. (May be repeated once for credit. Prior approval of instructor and department chair required.)