Specialty Practice
Master of Nursing Science (MSN)
Programs

2014-2015

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General Information

Program Objectives
Every student who completes the MSN degree should be prepared to do the following:

1. Integrate theoretical and research based knowledge as a generalist leader or in an advanced nursing practice specialty.
2. Provide care and comfort to individuals, families and groups experiencing complex health care needs.
3. Provide care that reflects sensitivity to differences among culturally and ethnically diverse populations.
4. Assume a leadership role in establishing and monitoring standards of practice to improve patient care in collaboration with other nursing experts.
5. Use ethical principles to guide decision-making in nursing practice.
6. Evaluate clinical practice in relation to professional practice standards and relevant statutes and regulations.
7. Apply the research process to improve evidence based clinical practice and contribute to knowledge development.
8. Engage in self-directed and purposeful activities in seeking necessary knowledge and skills to enhance career goals.
9. Examine economic, political, and social forces affecting nursing care delivery in complex health care systems.
10. Promote multidisciplinary collaboration to ensure quality, cost effective care.
11. Contribute to the development of peers, colleagues, and others to improve patient care and foster the growth of professional nursing.
12. Act as change agents to create environments that promote effective nursing practice and patient outcomes.

MSN graduates will not be expected to be experts in these competencies; rather the MSN curricula should prepare graduates to be able to begin their career with these skills.

MSN Curriculum Overview
There are six tracks for the Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) degree at the University of Virginia. One track is the Clinical Nurse Leader, considered to be an advanced generalist nursing degree. The other five tracks are considered advanced nursing specialty tracks. Three tracks are
for those planning to provide direct care as Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) in Adult-Gerontology Acute Care (Nurse Practitioner or Clinical Nurse Specialist), Primary Care (Family Nurse Practitioners or Pediatric Nurse Practitioners), or Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner. The other two tracks are for those planning to provide indirect care in Health Systems Management or Public Health Nurse Leadership. Some students may choose to combine two tracks in a dual program.

Regardless of the MSN track all students take four core MSN courses: Epidemiology and World Health, Health Policy: Local to Global, Research and Biostatistical Processes, and Theoretical Foundations of Nursing.

In addition, there are four different core courses for students in the direct care (APRN core) tracks and those in indirect tracks (Leadership Core). The APRN core courses are: Advanced Pharmacology, Advanced Health Assessment, Advanced Pathophysiology, and APRN Role (divided into two courses). The Leadership Core courses are: Transformational Leadership & Management, Health Care Planning & Evaluation, Managing Information Technology, Finance & Resource Management, and Rural Health and the HC System.

In addition to the Core MSN and Core APRN or Core Leadership courses, each specialty track has Specialty Courses and Seminars as well as practica or preceptorships in which students in each track develop skill in their chosen specialty.

**Clinical Site Policies**

**Clinical Agencies:** Responsibility, Compliance and Affiliation Agreement Policy Formal affiliation agreements are executed with all agencies prior to placement of students in clinical sites to provide direct care to patients. Agreements must be fully executed and include the signatures of the authorized representative of the facility, the Dean of the School of Nursing, and the Assistant Vice President for Finance and University Comptroller. Faculty members are responsible for adherence to these agreements. Students will be placed in clinical sites only when enrolled in a credit-bearing course for which he or she paid tuition and in which participation in the clinical experience is a course requirement. This applies to all clinical experiences that require the student to have patient contact.

The faculty member placing students and the students assigned to agencies are responsible for knowing and adhering to the terms of the affiliation agreement, including its conditions and responsibilities.

The School does not provide legal advice to the student regarding whether to submit to the conditions set by the facility. The School does not pay any student costs related to the clinical experience. If the student declines or fails to participate in or complete the clinical experience and the experience is a requirement for the course, the student will not successfully complete the course and will not graduate. The student is solely responsible for the consequences of his or her decision regarding whether to submit to the conditions or requirements established by the facility.
**Clinical Agency Requirements**: Students must meet the required competencies of the clinical agency to which they are assigned as outlined in the clinical agency contract. This may include requirements such as infection control training, criminal background investigation, and mandatory drug screening.

Travel to Clinical Facilities: Many of the clinical facilities used in the master’s degree and certificate programs or for the doctor of nursing practice program are a distance from the medical center. Transportation costs to and from these facilities must be borne by the student.
Clinical Nurse Specialist Track (CNS)

Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Clinical Nurse Specialist (AGAC-CNS) Track
46 credits, 560 clinical hours

This area of concentration prepares nurses for advanced practice in the care of young adults, adults, elderly and frail elderly patients over a continuum of wellness, acute illness and chronic illness. The AGAC-CNS track allows students to determine the focus of their specialization (i.e., cardiology, wound/ostomy/continence*, neurology or neurosurgery, general surgery, ER/trauma, pulmonary, transplant, diabetes, geriatrics, etc.) and the areas of practice in which they would like to focus their clinical experiences (critical care, acute care, chronic care). Emphasis is placed on providing students with the advanced theoretical knowledge and practice skills needed to care for practice in wide variety of medical and surgical critical care, acute care and specialty clinics. The roles of clinician, educator and researcher, as well as clinical consultant and leader are key aspects of this track. Evidence-based practice, outcomes management, clinical research, and advanced clinical decision-making are emphasized. The required 560 hours of preceptorship exceeds the recommendation of the National Association of CNS’s for 500 hours. At the completion of this track, students are qualified to sit for the American Nursing Credentialing Center certification examination for either the AGAC-CNS certification.

*The school offers wound/ostomy/continence courses with two seminars: GNUR 6381 and 6382. Practicum experience is obtained through GNUR 6383 and 6331.

- GNUR 6010 – Advanced Pathophysiology Credits: 4
- GNUR 6020 - Advanced Pharmacology Credits: 4
- GNUR 6025 - Advanced Health Assessment Credits: 3
- GNUR 6031 - Role I: Acquisition Credits: 2
- GNUR 6032 - Role II: Transition Credits: 1
- GNUR 6050 - Theoretical Foundations of Nursing Credits: 3
- GNUR 6052 - Epidemiology and World Health Credits: 3
- GNUR 6054 - Research and Biostatistical Processes for Health Care Credits: 4
- GNUR 6056 - Health Policy: Local to Global Credits: 3
- GNUR 6310 - Seminar I: Clinical Decision Making in Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Credits: 3
- GNUR 6315 - Seminar II: Clinical Decision Making in Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Credits: 3
- GNUR 6320 - Immunocompetence in Vulnerable Populations Credits: 3
- GNUR 7311 - Practicum I: Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Clinical Nurse Specialist Credits: 5
- GNUR 7313 - Synthesis Practicum: Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Clinical Nurse Specialist Credits: 5
Nurse Practitioner Tracks (NP)

Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner Track
46 credits, 560 clinical hours

This track prepares nurses for an advanced practice role providing direct patient care in medical/nursing subspecialty areas in collaboration with other members of the health care team. ACNPs deliver care along the continuum of critical, acute, and chronic care. Students determine the focus of their specialization (i.e., cardiology, nephrology, wound/ostomy/continence, neurology or neuro-surgery, digestive health, general surgery, ER/trauma, pulmonary, transplant, etc.). In this track, students gain the advanced theoretical knowledge and practice skills needed to manage acutely and chronically ill patients through all phases of their hospitalization and clinical follow-up. Emphasis is placed on diagnostic and clinical decision-making, preparation for prescriptive authority, collaboration with physicians, and outcomes management, as well as evidence-based practice and clinical research. Upon completion of this track, students are qualified to take the American Nursing Credentialing Center (ANCC) certification examination for the Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner.

- GNUR 6010 - Advanced Pathophysiology Credits: 4
- GNUR 6020 - Advanced Pharmacology Credits: 4
- GNUR 6025 - Advanced Health Assessment Credits: 3
- GNUR 6031 - Role I: Acquisition Credits: 2
- GNUR 6032 - Role II: Transition Credits: 1
- GNUR 6050 - Theoretical Foundations of Nursing Credits: 3
- GNUR 6052 - Epidemiology and World Health Credits: 3
- GNUR 6054 - Research and Biostatistical Processes for Health Care Credits: 4
- GNUR 6056 - Health Policy: Local to Global Credits: 3
- GNUR 6310 - Seminar I: Clinical Decision Making in Adult-Gerontology Acute Care
  Credits: 3
- GNUR 6315 - Seminar II: Clinical Decision Making in Adult-Gerontology Acute Care
  Credits: 3
- GNUR 6320 - Immunocompetence in Vulnerable Populations Credits: 3
- GNUR 7312 - Practicum I: Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner Credits: 5
- GNUR 7314 - Synthesis Practicum: Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner
  Credits: 5
Primary Care: Family or Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Track
48-50 credits, 600 hours

The curriculum leading to the degree of Master of Science in Nursing prepares nurses for advanced practice as family nurse practitioners or pediatric nurse practitioners. Students in the track complete core courses in nursing theory, research, epidemiology/population-based assessment, and health policy. Courses in advanced pathophysiology, pharmacology, family health promotion, nutrition, and advanced health assessment are also required of all students in the primary care nurse practitioner tracks. Clinical seminars and 600-hour clinical preceptorships are designed to provide students with the necessary knowledge and skills to practice as nurse practitioners in primary care settings. Due to the track’s rural, underserved focus, one of the two preceptorship rotations occurs outside of Albemarle County.

Combined tracks are available in public health nursing leadership. Nearly all of the tracks may be completed in four semesters and one summer of full-time study. At the completion of the Family Nurse Practitioner track, students are eligible to write either the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) or American Association of Nurse Practitioners (AANP) Family Nurse Practitioner examination. Graduates of the Pediatric Nurse Practitioner program are qualified to sit for the National Certification Board of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners Exam. Following are required courses for the specific areas of concentration in the Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Tracks:

- GNUR 5670 - Primary Care Seminar II for PNPs Credits: 2 (PNPs only)
- GNUR 5671 - Primary Care Seminar II for FNPs Credits: 3 (FNPs only)
- GNUR 5690 - Primary Care Preceptorship I Credits: 6
- GNUR 5700 - Primary Care Seminar III for PNPs Credits: 2 (PNPs only)
- GNUR 5701 - Primary Care Seminar III for FNPs Credits: 3 (FNPs only)
- GNUR 5710 - Primary Care Preceptorship II Credits: 6
- GNUR 6010 - Advanced Pathophysiology Credits: 4
- GNUR 6020 - Advanced Pharmacology Credits: 4
- GNUR 6025 - Advanced Health Assessment Credits: 3
- GNUR 6031 - Role I: Acquisition Credits: 2
- GNUR 6032 - Role II: Transition Credits: 1
- GNUR 6050 - Theoretical Foundations of Nursing Credits: 3
- GNUR 6052 - Epidemiology and World Health Credits: 3
- GNUR 6054 - Research and Biostatistical Processes for Health Care Credits: 4
- GNUR 6056 - Health Policy: Local to Global Credits: 3
- GNUR 6110 - Primary Care Seminar I Credits: 3
- GNUR 6120 - Clinical Decision Making in Advanced Practice Nursing Credits: 2
Primary Care: Public Health Nursing/Family Nurse Practitioner Track
60 credits, 600 clinical hours

- GNUR 5671 - Primary Care Seminar II for FNPs Credits: 3
- GNUR 5690 - Primary Care Preceptorship I Credits: 6
- GNUR 5701 - Primary Care Seminar III for FNPs Credits: 3
- GNUR 5710 - Primary Care Preceptorship II Credits: 6
- GNUR 6010 - Advanced Pathophysiology Credits: 4
- GNUR 6020 - Advanced Pharmacology Credits: 4
- GNUR 6025 - Advanced Health Assessment Credits: 3
- GNUR 6031 - Role I: Acquisition Credits: 2
- GNUR 6032 - Role II: Transition Credits: 1
- GNUR 6050 - Theoretical Foundations of Nursing Credits: 3
- GNUR 6052 - Epidemiology and World Health Credits: 3
- GNUR 6054 - Research and Biostatistical Processes for Health Care Credits: 4
- GNUR 6056 - Health Policy: Local to Global Credits: 3
- GNUR 6110 - Primary Care Seminar I Credits: 3
- GNUR 6120 - Clinical Decision Making in Advanced Practice Nursing Credits: 2
- GNUR 6400 - Community Assessment Credits: 3
- GNUR 6405 - Health Care Systems Planning and Evaluation Credits: 3

Primary Care: Public Health Nursing/Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Track
58 credits, 600 clinical hours

- GNUR 5670 - Primary Care Seminar II for PNPs Credits: 2
- GNUR 5690 - Primary Care Preceptorship I Credits: 6
- GNUR 5700 - Primary Care Seminar III for PNPs Credits: 2
- GNUR 5710 - Primary Care Preceptorship II Credits: 6
- GNUR 6010 - Advanced Pathophysiology Credits: 4
- GNUR 6020 - Advanced Pharmacology Credits: 4
- GNUR 6025 - Advanced Health Assessment Credits: 3
- GNUR 6031 - Role I: Acquisition Credits: 2
- GNUR 6032 - Role II: Transition Credits: 1
- GNUR 6050 - Theoretical Foundations of Nursing Credits: 3
- GNUR 6052 - Epidemiology and World Health Credits: 3
- GNUR 6054 - Research and Biostatistical Processes for Health Care Credits: 4
- GNUR 6056 - Health Policy: Local to Global Credits: 3
- GNUR 6110 - Primary Care Seminar I Credits: 3
- GNUR 6120 - Clinical Decision Making in Advanced Practice Nursing Credits: 2
- GNUR 6400 - Community Assessment Credits: 3
Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Track
49 credits, 500 clinical hours

This area of concentration prepares nurses for advanced practice in the field of psychiatric-mental health nursing. Students complete core nursing courses, core advanced practice courses, and specialty specific courses. Major emphasis include the neurostructural, neurochemical, cognitive, behavioral, social, and cultural correlates of psychiatric illness in the context of the advanced practice of psychiatric-mental health nursing. Supervised clinical practice is directed toward applying this emerging scientific knowledge to patient care through psychiatric-mental health nursing interventions including prescriptive practice. Faculty work closely with students to develop individualized clinical experiences in appropriate settings. Graduates are prepared to practice in the PMHNP role and are qualified to sit for American Nurses Credentialing Center PMHNP certification.

- GNUR 6010 - Advanced Pathophysiology Credits: 4
- GNUR 6020 - Advanced Pharmacology Credits: 4
- GNUR 6025 - Advanced Health Assessment Credits: 3
- GNUR 6031 - Role I: Acquisition Credits: 2
- GNUR 6032 - Role II: Transition Credits: 1
- GNUR 6050 - Theoretical Foundations of Nursing Credits: 3
- GNUR 6052 - Epidemiology and World Health Credits: 3
- GNUR 6054 - Research and Biostatistical Processes for Health Care Credits: 4
- GNUR 6056 - Health Policy: Local to Global Credits: 3
- GNUR 6251 - Biological Basis of Mental Health and Mental Illness Credits: 3
- GNUR 6252 - Psychiatric-Mental Health Nursing Seminar Credits: 3
- GNUR 6253 - Theoretical Foundations of Psychiatric-Mental Health Nursing Credits: 3
- GNUR 7251 - Psychiatric-Mental Health Practicum I: Clinical Nurse Specialist/Nurse Practitioner Credits: 5
- GNUR 7254 - Psychiatric-Mental Health Practicum II: Nurse Practitioner Credits: 5
- GNUR 8610 - Health Behavior and Health Promotion Research Credits: 3

Public Health Nursing Leadership Track
38 credits, 504 clinical hours

As health care shifts from hospital-based to population-based systems, new opportunities for nursing leadership are becoming abundant. The Public Health Nursing Leadership concentration prepares nurses for specialty practice in promoting the health of individuals, families, groups and populations. Emphasis is placed on the development of knowledge and expertise in assessing the health status and health delivery systems of communities and designing nursing interventions to
better manage care in complex settings. Courses provide the required knowledge and expertise to plan, implement, and evaluate care in community settings, including public health departments, schools and occupational health programs, home health agencies, and community nursing clinics. Care management strategies to ensure continuity of health service delivery for individuals and groups at the local and global levels are emphasized. International learning experiences are available. This track is taught in an online format with required dates in Charlottesville. Upon completion of this track, students are qualified to take the American Nursing Credentialing Center certification examination for Clinical Specialist in Community Health Nursing.

- GNUR 6050 - Theoretical Foundations of Nursing Credits: 3
- GNUR 6052 - Epidemiology and World Health Credits: 3
- GNUR 6054 - Research and Biostatistical Processes for Health Care Credits: 4
- GNUR 6056 - Health Policy: Local to Global Credits: 3
- GNUR 6400 - Community Assessment Credits: 3
- GNUR 6405 - Health Care Systems Planning and Evaluation Credits: 3
- GNUR 6450 - Transformational Leadership and Management Credits: 3
- GNUR 6455 - Resource Management Credits: 3
- GNUR 7411 - Public Health Nursing Leadership Practicum I Credits: 3
- GNUR 7412 - Public Health Nursing Leadership Practicum II Credits: 4
- GNUR 8650 - Managing Information Technology Credits: 3
- GNUR 8610 - Health Behavior and Health Promotion Research Credits: 3

**Health Systems Management Track**  
38 Credits

The Health Systems Management Track is designed to prepare nurses at the graduate level to manage the delivery of nursing and health services across multiple settings and specialty areas. This track provides a unique educational experience to individuals capable of leadership and innovation in a dynamic health care delivery system. Graduates are prepared to assume leadership positions in a variety of health care settings, including public and private sector hospitals, ambulatory care facilities, and long-term facilities.

The curriculum builds on the theoretical knowledge and clinical experience of the bachelor’s-prepared nurse. The track emphasizes content fundamental to management, developing competencies needed to analyze managerial problems and providing resourceful solutions. Students are given special opportunities to acquire the breadth of management knowledge and skills needed to perform effectively at the business and clinical interface of health care delivery organizations. Management-related experience is recommended. Students completing the health systems management track will have completed course work necessary for Certification in Nursing Administration, Advanced or Certification in Nursing Administration. The practice requirements for this Certification are met through paid employment as a nurse manager or nurse executive for 24 months of the last 5 years. Thus graduates will need to gain this experience prior to certification. This track is taught in an online format with required dates in Charlottesville at the beginning and end of each semester.
• GNUR 6050 - Theoretical Foundations of Nursing Credits: 3
• GNUR 6052 - Epidemiology and World Health Credits: 3
• GNUR 6054 - Research and Biostatistical Processes for Health Care Credits: 4
• GNUR 6056 - Health Policy: Local to Global Credits: 3
• GNUR 6405 - Health Care Systems Planning and Evaluation Credits: 3
• GNUR 6450 - Transformational Leadership and Management Credits: 3
• GNUR 6455 - Finance and Resource Management Credits: 3
• GNUR 6460 - Health Care Economics Credits: 3
• GNUR 6465 - Organizational Theory and Behavior Credits: 3
• GNUR 7481 - Administrative Practicum I Credits: 3
• GNUR 7482 - Administrative Practicum II Credits: 4
• GNUR 8650 - Managing Information Technology Credits: 3

Certificate Tracks
To enroll in one of the Certificate programs, a student needs to either already have a MSN degree or be currently enrolled in one of the MSN programs at the University of Virginia.

Psychiatric Mental Health Clinical Nurse Practitioner Certificate Track

The Psychiatric-Mental Health Clinical Nursing Certificate is offered for students who already possess a MSN in another specialty who wish to fulfill the requirements for PMHCNS certification.

Specialty in another Clinical Area
33 credits, 500 clinical hours

Master’s prepared nurses with a specialty in another clinical area complete the following courses:

• GNUR 6010 - Advanced Pathophysiology Credits: 4
• GNUR 6020 - Advanced Pharmacology Credits: 4
• GNUR 6025 - Advanced Health Assessment Credits: 3
• GNUR 6251 - Biological Basis of Mental Health and Mental Illness Credits: 3
• GNUR 6252 - Psychiatric-Mental Health Nursing Seminar Credits: 3
• GNUR 6253 - Theoretical Foundations of Psychiatric-Mental Health Nursing Credits: 3
• GNUR 7251 - Psychiatric-Mental Health Practicum I: Clinical Nurse Specialist/Nurse Practitioner Credits: 5
• GNUR 7254 - Psych-Mental Health Practicum II: Clinical Nurse Specialist Credits: 5
• GNUR 8610 - Health Behavior and Health Promotion Research Credits: 3
**Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Certificate Track**
19 credits, 250 clinical hours

The Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Track is offered for students who already possess a MSN in Psychiatric Mental Health who wish to fulfill the requirements for PMHNP certification.

Master’s prepared nurses in Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing desiring Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner preparation complete the following courses:

- GNUR 6010 - Advanced Pathophysiology Credits: 4
- GNUR 6020 - Advanced Pharmacology Credits: 4
- GNUR 6025 - Advanced Health Assessment Credits: 3
- GNUR 6251 - Biological Basis of Mental Health and Mental Illness Credits: 3
- GNUR 7254 - Psychiatric-Mental Health Practicum II: Nurse Practitioner Credits: 5

**Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Certificate Track**

The Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Certificate Track is designed to provide the Master’s-prepared nurse with the necessary skills and knowledge to assume the role of a primary health care provider in various clinical facilities. These skills include psychosocial and physical assessment; identification, screening and triage of acute minor illness; nursing and medical management of commonly encountered acute, minor, and chronic illnesses in collaboration and consultation with a physician; knowledge of community needs and resources available for health promotion; health teaching, guidance, and counseling of clients and their families about illness and its prevention; and health promotion, maintenance, and management.

Other areas explored in this track include the changing health care delivery system, the expanded role of the nurse, and nursing issues, particularly as they relate to nurse practitioner practice, reimbursement, and prescriptive authority. Offerings include family or pediatric nurse practitioner tracks.

An essential part of the nurse practitioner program is the 600-hour clinical preceptorship. This preceptorship is concurrent with the nurse practitioner seminar courses and is arranged at a clinical site that reflects the focus of the Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Program. Due to the program’s focus on rural, underserved populations, at least one of the preceptorships takes place outside of Albemarle County.

The practitioner program is approved by the Joint Committee of the Boards of Nursing and Medicine in Virginia. Students who complete the program are eligible to apply for practitioner certification by this joint committee and are also eligible to sit for national certification examinations.
Family or Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Program Completion Requirements

Pediatric: 33 Credits, 600 Clinical Hours
Family: 35 Credits, 600 Clinical Hours

The student must satisfactorily complete the specific nurse practitioner track and the clinical preceptorship and have a minimum grade average of B. Students who complete the nurse practitioner program are eligible for national certification exams.

Required Courses
- GNUR 5670 - Primary Care Seminar II for PNPs Credits: 2
- GNUR 5671 - Primary Care Seminar II for FNPs Credits: 3
- GNUR 5690 - Primary Care Preceptorship I Credits: 6
- GNUR 5700 - Primary Care Seminar III for PNPs Credits: 2
- GNUR 5701 - Primary Care Seminar III for FNPs Credits: 3
- GNUR 5710 - Primary Care Preceptorship II Credits: 6
- GNUR 6010 - Advanced Pathophysiology Credits: 4
- GNUR 6020 - Advanced Pharmacology Credits: 4
- GNUR 6025 - Advanced Health Assessment Credits: 3
- GNUR 6031 - Role I: Acquisition Credits: 2
- GNUR 6032 - Role II: Transition Credits: 1
- GNUR 6110 - Primary Care Seminar I Credits: 3

Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner Certificate Track
29 credits

This track reflects recent developments in the field of health care delivery, creating the need for a new role within advanced practice nursing. The ACNP has a scope of practice beyond that of other acute care positions. ACNPs deliver continuous and comprehensive care within a collaborative model involving patients, families, significant others, nurses, physicians, and other health care providers. The purpose of the ACNP is to provide advanced practice care that meets patient needs across the full continuum of acute, critical, and chronic care services. The short-term goal for the ACNP is restorative care, stabilization of the patient, minimizing complications, providing physical and psychological care measures for managing chronic conditions, and assurance of a peaceful death.

Students who complete the track are eligible to take the ANCC examination for Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner certification.

Required Courses
- GNUR 6020 - Advanced Pharmacology Credits: 4
- GNUR 6025 - Advanced Health Assessment Credits: 3
- GNUR 6031 - Role I: Acquisition Credits: 2
- GNUR 6032 - Role II: Transition Credits: 1
Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Clinical Nurse Specialist Certificate Track
33 credits

This program prepares master's-prepared nurses to work in an advanced practice role in the care of adults with acute and chronic conditions and allows students to determine the focus of their specialization (i.e., cardiology, wound/ostomy/continence, neurology or neurosurgery, general surgery, ER/trauma, pulmonary, transplant, diabetes, geriatrics, etc.) and the areas of practice in which they would like to focus their clinical experiences (critical care, acute care, chronic care). Emphasis is placed on providing students with advanced theoretical knowledge and practice skills needed to care for patients with complex health needs across the care continuum. The roles of clinician, educator and researcher, as well as clinical consultant and clinical leader are key aspects of this program. Evidenced-based practice, outcomes management, clinical research, and advanced clinical decision-making are emphasized. At the completion of the program, students are qualified to sit for the American Nursing Credentialing Center certification examination for either the Adult Health CNS or Critical Care CNS.

Required Courses

- GNUR 6010 - Advanced Pathophysiology Credits: 4
- GNUR 6020 - Advanced Pharmacology Credits: 4
- GNUR 6025 - Advanced Health Assessment Credits: 3
- GNUR 6031 - Role I: Acquisition Credits: 2
- GNUR 6032 - Role II: Transition Credits: 1
- GNUR 6310 - Seminar I: Clinical Decision Making in Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Credits: 3
- GNUR 6315 - Seminar II: Clinical Decision Making in Adult-Gerontology Acute & Specialty Care Credits: 3
- GNUR 6320 - Immunocompetence in Vulnerable Populations Credits: 3
- GNUR 7311 - Practicum I: Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Clinical Nurse Specialist Credits: 5
- GNUR 7313 - Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Clinical Nurse Specialist Credits: 5
Wound, Ostomy & Continence Nursing (WOCN) Certificate Track
9 credits

Wound, Ostomy & Continence nursing incorporates principles and practices that promote, maintain and restore health for persons with wounds, ostomies and continence problems throughout their lives. WOC nurses specialize in the care of individuals with disorders of the gastrointestinal track, genitourinary, and integumentary systems. The Post-Masters WOC track includes two didactic classes and one practicum. The track meets all requirements by the WOCN specialty organization and thus allows graduates to sit for the certification exam.

- GNUR 6381 - Wound, Ostomy, and Continence Specialty Nursing Credits: 3
- GNUR 6382 - Advanced Wound, Ostomy, and Continence Nursing Credits: 3
- GNUR 6383 - Practicum in Wound, Ostomy, and Continence Nursing Credits: 3

Public Health Nursing Leadership Certificate Track
19 credits, 504 clinical hours

This track is designed for Master’s prepared nurses who wish to gain the skills and knowledge necessary to assume roles in community and public health. The track’s emphasis is on developing knowledge and expertise through assessing the health status and health delivery systems of communities and designing nursing interventions to better manage care in complex community settings. Courses provide graduate-level skills necessary for leadership roles in community settings, including public health departments, schools, occupational settings, home health agencies, and community-oriented clinics. This certificate track also provides global care management strategies. Upon track completion, students are qualified to sit for the American Nursing Credentialing Center (AANC) certification examination for Clinical Specialist in Community Health Nursing.

Acceptance into the Community Public Health Leadership certificate track requires a Master’s degree in Nursing, including a Masters-level course in epidemiology. Students who have not had a course in epidemiology may take GNUR 6052 as part of the certificate program. Five additional courses are required for the certificate.

For students who have completed the combined CPHL/NP Master’s track, one Post-Master’s course is required for sufficient clinical hours to be eligible for the ANCC certification exam for Community Health Nursing.

Required Courses:
- GNUR 6052 - Epidemiology and World Health Credits: 3
- GNUR 6400 - Community Assessment Credits: 3
- GNUR 6405 - Health Care Systems Planning and Evaluation Credits: 3
- GNUR 6450 - Transformational Leadership & Management Credits: 3
- GNUR 7411 - Public Health Nursing Leadership Practicum I Credits: 3
- GNUR 7412 - Public Health Nursing Leadership Practicum II Credits: 4
Health Systems Management Certificate Track
16 credits

This track is designed for Master’s prepared nurses wanting the skills and knowledge necessary to assume leadership roles in health systems management. This track provides content fundamental to management, emphasizing development of competencies needed to analyze managerial problems and providing resourceful managerial solutions. Students are given special opportunities to acquire the management knowledge and skill necessary to perform effectively at the business and clinical interface of health care delivery organizations. Students who complete this Post-Master’s track are prepared to work within a dynamic health care delivery system and to assume leadership positions in a variety of health care settings, including public and private sector hospitals, ambulatory care facilitates and long-term care facilities. Acceptance into the HSM track requires a Master’s degree in Nursing. Five courses are required for the HSM certificate.

Required Courses:
The requirement for completion of Administrative Practicum I and II may be waived if documentation is provided that the individual has held a health care management position for two years within the last five years. The application for waiver must be made at time of admission to the certification program.

- GNUR 6450 - Transformational Leadership & Management Credits: 3
- GNUR 7481 - Administrative Practicum I Credits: 3
- GNUR 7482 - Administrative Practicum II Credits: 4
- GNUR 6455 - Finance and Resource Management Credits: 3
- PHS 7090 - Health Care Economics Credits: 3