



Program of Study: Master of Science-Nursing: Nursing Education

Program Description

The Master of Science in Nursing—Nursing Education Track (MS-NEd) concentration prepares advanced professional nurses in the nursing role specialty of nursing education. The NEd track addresses the expanding educational needs of the nursing profession. The Nurse Educator may practice in a variety of settings. The Nurse Educator will be prepared to practice in acute or chronic care settings as a staff-educator or in a role that is responsible for planning implementing and evaluating continuing education programs. The Advanced-Professional Nurse Educator will also be prepared to assume a faculty position in a traditional college of nursing or in a non-traditional program that relies on online technology as a teaching medium. Competencies of the Professional Practice Nurse Educator include utilizing assessing educational needs, planning programs to meet those needs, and evaluating the outcomes of their programs. This is accomplished in the context of an evidence-based practice model.

Nursing Graduate Core:

NUR 501	Advanced Nursing Issues and Roles	This course examines the expanded practice of the Advanced Professional Nurse. The focus of the course is scope of practice, role behavior, and depth and breadth of knowledge in selected areas of advanced practice (FNP and CNS) and nurses in role specialties such as nursing education and nursing leadership. Course content includes an exploration of critical questions and current issues related to the various defined Advanced Professional Nursing roles and examination of the related role issues with an emphasis on caring, diversity, and spiritual aspects in nursing care delivery.	3
NUR 503	Healthcare Policy and Finance Issues	This course integrates the process of health care policy development with a critical focus on the organizational and financial aspects of health care delivery systems including managed care systems, Medicare and Medicaid issues, and continuous quality improvement (CQI).	3
NUR 505	Advanced Nursing Theory	This course focuses on the critical evaluation and utilization of the theoretical foundations of nursing as well as pertinent theoretical concepts form related fields of study such as the social and biological sciences, educational, organizational, and leadership theory.	3
NUR 507	Health Care Research Analysis and Utilization	This course focuses on the critical analysis of health care and nursing research with a focus on the utilization of evidence-based research as foundation of client care and development of client services. Advanced research methods as applied toward complex clinical and organizational problems will be integrated.	3
NUR 698	Evidence-based Practice Project	This course provides an opportunity to prepare an evidence-based practice (EBP) project proposal that addresses a problem, issue, or concern in professional practice. Students will identify a problem focus, propose a research-based solution, search for evidence using the evidence-based databases that support their solutions, and develop implementation, evaluation, and dissemination plans. Students will focus on developing an EBP project that is appropriate for their educational track: nursing leadership, adult clinical nurse specialist, nursing education, or family nurse practitioner.	3

Total Nursing Graduate Core Credits: 15

Advanced Nursing Core:

NUR 640E	Advanced Health Assessment for Nurse Educators	This course builds upon the student's previous health assessment knowledge offering more advanced health assessment content to provide the foundation for the Advanced Professional Nursing role of Nurse Educator. This course emphasizes knowledge of physical assessment, including physical, psychosocial, spiritual health assessment, risk assessment, functional assessment, and physical examination in diverse populations. The student uses a systematic method of diagnostic reasoning and clinical decision-making to establish data that can be utilized in patient care or nursing education. An overview of appropriate protocols for performing health screening, as well as performing, and interpreting laboratory, radiographic, and other diagnostic data are included. These are based on best practices consistent with resource allocations. To maintain a nursing focus on patient responses to illness or the threat of illness, effective communication and client teaching is incorporated throughout the course. The importance of effective documentation and medical record keeping is included.	3
NUR 642E	Advanced Physiology and Pathophysiology for Nurse Educators	This course focuses on the advanced physiology and pathophysiology principles. This course will be used to guide the Nursing Education student in interpreting changes in normal function that result in symptoms indicative of illness. The emphasis will be placed on the genetic, molecular, cellular, and organ system levels. Prerequisite: NUR 640E	3
NUR 644E	Advanced Pharmacology for Nurse Educators	This course focuses on the advanced pharmacotherapy principles and practices to enable Nurse Educator students to prescribe and monitor the effects of medications and selected herbal therapy. Emphasis is on the pharmacodynamics of clients with common, acute and chronic health problems in various stages of the life cycle in diverse populations. Evidence-based research provides the basis for selecting effective, safe but cost-efficient pharmacologic or integrative regimens. Appropriate client education as to various prescribed pharmacologic agents is incorporated. Prerequisite: NUR 640E & NUR 642E	3

Total Advanced Nursing Core Credits: 9

Nursing Education Major Core:

NUR 649	Curriculum Development	This course examines professional standards as a foundation for curriculum design in nursing education in all settings. It explores the nature of traditional, nontraditional, and continuing nursing education. Topics include the role of the faculty, curriculum design; its dimensions, objectives, and dynamics. The course includes curriculum frameworks that support adult learning, competencies, and learning experiences to achieve measurable outcomes, and a model for curriculum evaluation. Prerequisites: NUR 640E, NUR 642E, NUR 644E.	3
NUR 645	Theories and Methods of Teaching	This course focuses on theories of teaching/, traditional, and alternative instructional strategies, and evaluation methods applicable to nursing education in the classroom and clinical setting. Strategies to enhance critical thinking are included. The course includes the development of learning activities for adult learners from diverse backgrounds. Prerequisite: NUR 649.	3
NUR 647	Instructional Development for Distance Learning	This course emphasizes the development (or conversion) of educational programs to be delivered in an online format. Principles of curriculum development, teaching/learning theories, and implementation of evaluation strategies will be modified to the online learning environment. Prerequisite: NUR 645	3

NUR 665	Teaching Practicum	(3 clinical credits = 150 contact credits) A culminating practicum experience, completed in person with a nurse educator preceptor in a selected setting. This clinical practice will afford students the opportunity to refine educational expertise in the areas of assessment of learning needs, program/curriculum planning, implementation, and evaluation. The course includes needs of the adult learner, alternative learning methods including distance learning, and budget planning. Prerequisites: NUR 645, NUR 647, and NUR 649.	3
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Total Nursing Education Major Core Credits: 12

Total Nursing Graduate Core Credits: 15

Total Advanced Nursing Core Credits: 9

Total Clinical Hours: 150

Total Master of Science–Nursing: Nursing Education Major Core Credits: 36