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# Nursing

## Graduate Nursing at UMass Dartmouth

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### Graduate Faculty and Fields of Interest

### College of Nursing

**Benson, Janet** Lecturer, Family Nurse Practitioner (1996), BS Southeastern Massachusetts University, MSN Boston College. *Specialization:* Family nurse practitioner.

**Christian, Ellen G** (Director, Center for University Academic Advising) Professor of Adult and Child Health Nursing (1974), BS 1969 Boston University, MS 1973 University of Colorado. *Specialization:* Child health.

**Christopher, Kimberly** (Chairperson Department of Adult and Child Health Nursing) Associate Professor of Adult and Child Health Nursing (1999), BS 1979 Boston College, MA 1984 Stanford University, MS 1987, PhD 1998 Boston College. *Specializations:* Oncology, research methods. chronic illness.

**Currier, Phyllis** Professor of Adult and Child Health Nursing (1980), BS 1967 Salve Regina College, MS 1972 University of Rhode Island, EdD 1991 Boston University. *Specializations:* Women's studies, Portuguese studies.

**Curtin, Alicia Jane** Assistant Professor of Community Nursing (2004), BA 1984 Colby College, MSN 1989 MGH Institute of Health Professions, PhD 2002 University of Rhode Island. *Specializations:* Community health, gerontology, international health.

**Dluhy, Nancy** Professor of Adult and Child Health Nursing (1981), BSN 1967 University of Delaware, MSN 1981, PhD 1993 University of Rhode Island. *Specializations:* Theory synthesis, adult health, chronic illness, informatics.

**Fain, James** (Dean, College of Nursing) Professor of Nursing (2005), BSN 1976 University of Rhode Island, MS 1979 University of Alabama in Birmingham, PhD 1985 University of Connecticut. *Specializations:* Diabetes care and education, psychometric evaluation of research instruments.

**Fater, Kerry H** Associate Professor of Adult and Child Health Nursing (1992), BSN 1972 Villanova University, MS 1979 University of Rhode Island, PhD 1985 University of Connecticut. *Specializations:* Adult health, phenomenology, nursing education.

**Gramling, Kathryn** Assistant Professor of Adult and Child Health Nursing (2000), BSN 1966 Boston College, MSN 1985 University of Connecticut, PhD 1999 University of Colorado. *Specializations:* Adult health, caring models, aesthetics.

**Howe, Carole** Assistant Professor of Community Nursing (2000) BS 1976 University of

Massachusetts Amherst, MS 1981 University of Connecticut, PhD 2002 University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee. *Specializations:* Maternal-child health, culture, vulnerable Populations.

**Hunter, Susan M** Lecturer in Adult and Child Health Nursing (1998), BS 1992 Fitchburg State College, MS 1997 University of Massachusetts Dartmouth. *Specialization:* Adult health, theory.

**Kenty, Janet** Associate Professor of Community Nursing (1987), BS 1967 University of Massachusetts Amherst, MS 1979 Boston University, PhD 1995 University of Rhode Island. *Specializations:* Maternal-child health, parenting and prevention, nursing education.

**Leffers, Jeanne M** (Graduate Program Director) Associate Professor of Community Nursing (2000), BA 1970 Simmons College, MS 1985 University of Rhode Island, MA 1991, PhD 1997 Brown University. *Specializations:* Community and international health, sociocultural aspects, environmental health.

**Martins, Diane C** Assistant Professor of Community Nursing (2004), BS 1978 Salve Regina College, MEd 1981 Columbia University, MA 1987, PhD 2003 University of Connecticut. *Specialization:* Community health.

**McCurry, Mary** Lecturer in Adult and Child Health Nursing (2000), BS 1986 University of Massachusetts Amherst, MS 1996 University of Massachusetts Dartmouth. *Specialization:* Adult Nurse Practitioner

**Peterson, Sonja Stone** (Chairperson, Department of Community Nursing) Professor of Community Nursing (1981), BSN 1972 McGill University, MA 1976 New York University, EdD 1990 Vanderbilt University. *Specializations:* Leadership, violence, interpersonal relationships.

**Russell, Gail** Associate Professor of Community Nursing (2003), BS 1968 University of Massachusetts Amherst, MS 1973 Texas Woman's University, EdD 1992 Columbia University. *Specialization:* Community health, health care policy, health services administration.

**Sethares, Kristen** Assistant Professor of Adult and Child Nursing (2001), BSN 1987 University of Massachusetts Dartmouth, MSN 1993 University of Massachusetts Boston, PhD 2003 Boston College School of Nursing. *Specialization:* Adult health.

**Sousa, Sharon** Associate Professor of

Community Nursing (1999), BA 1974 Johnson State College, MA 1975 University of Vermont, PhD 1983 Boston University, MS 1997 Northeastern University. *Specializations:* Mental health issues, genetics.

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### Contact

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College of Nursing  
University of Massachusetts Dartmouth  
North Dartmouth, MA 02747-2300  
508 999-8159  
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A graduate open house is conducted each fall, spring, and summer. Contact us at 508-999-8159 for the date of the next open house.

The College of Nursing at UMass Dartmouth offers a graduate program leading to the degree of the Master of Science in Nursing. The program offers small classes, close contact with a diverse faculty, and easy access. Successful completion of a minimum of 42 or 43 credits (depending on option) are necessary to achieve the Master's degree. Six of these credits may be taken at the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth prior to matriculation. A total of six credits may be transferred from other graduate programs following appropriate review.

The College of Nursing is fully accredited by the National League for Nursing. This accreditation applies to all programs at the undergraduate and graduate level. The review process occurs on a regular, cyclic basis.

Graduates of the program are prepared to assume roles in advanced practice. Courses are scheduled to permit either full-time or part-time study.

The Master of Science in Nursing Program at the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth prepares graduates for a nursing leadership role in one of the following areas: (a) adult nurse practitioner, (b) advanced practice in adult health, or (c) advanced practice in community health.

The nursing program has the following objectives: — to

- Model nursing care practice that demonstrates respect for human dignity, ethical responsibility, and interpersonal connectedness.
- Master communication strategies to address complex health issues in a variety of forums and formats.
- Evaluate the aggregate outcomes of nursing care using accepted professional standards and evidence-based benchmarks to effect quality of care within or across systems.
- Implement evidence based nursing strategies that have been developed, tailored and evaluated with clients to maximize health.
- Synthesize specialized and diverse knowledge in advance nursing practice.
- Assumes a leadership role in advancing, fostering and maintaining nursing values and standards.
- Influence nursing practice and health policy to shape care delivery to diverse and vulnerable populations
- Assume a leadership role in collaboration with interdisciplinary team members, and community partners to promote health, guide clients through the illness experience and to improve the health care system.

In addition, students must meet all of the requirements of the Graduate School before the degree is granted. It should be noted that the University allows *six years* for completion of degree requirements.

### Admission Requirements

Applicants must submit the required application materials for the Graduate School.

Additional or specific requirements include:

- An official transcript reflecting either a Bachelor of Science of Nursing (B.S.N.) degree from an NLN-accredited program or a Baccalaureate degree in a related program (see Graduate Admission Program for RNs with a Non-nursing Baccalaureate Degree). Transcripts of any other undergraduate or graduate work must also be submitted.
- A 3.0 or higher cumulative average in undergraduate studies.
- The minimum of three letters of recommendation should include
  - 1) references from the dean, chairperson, or faculty member of the student's undergraduate program if recently graduated and
  - 2) a reference from the current or a recent employer. Letters of recommendation should be solicited from individuals capable of evaluating the applicant's potential for academic success, commitment to nursing, or quality of practice.
- The letter of intent. The admission process in the College of Nursing attaches weight to this letter. Candidates should give considerable thought to the aspects of (a) professional development and areas of expertise; (b) professional goals; and (c) appropriate "fit" between applicant's goals, background, and the selected program option.
- A professional resume
- A pre-admission interview with members of the Graduate Committee of the College of Nursing may be requested.
- Evidence of a current license to practice as a Registered Nurse in the United States.
- The following prerequisites must be met: *Introductory Statistics* — including descriptive and inferential statistics.
- At least one year of experience as a registered nurse — kind of experience is considered especially for acceptance into Adult Nurse

Practitioner.

- Applications for admission for the Fall semester must be complete by April 20. Completed applications for the January term must be on file by November 15.

### Graduate Admission Program for RNs with a Non-Nursing Baccalaureate Degree

RNs who hold a BA or BS in a related, non-nursing field will be considered for admission to the Masters Program in Nursing. Related fields include psychology, sociology, anthropology, biological areas, and health services. Other fields of study will be evaluated on an individual basis.

All other admission requirements to the program must be met. Students completing the program are awarded a Master of Science degree in Nursing. No Nursing BS degree is awarded. During this program, students complete a portfolio to demonstrate expected undergraduate nursing outcomes. They also take an additional six graduate credits in nursing, including NUR 503 Transition to Advanced Practice Nursing.

### Financial Assistance

Graduate students are eligible for financial aid, such as loans or work study. Eligibility is dependent upon income. Applications are available from the Office of Financial Aid on the first floor of the Foster Administration building. Please refer to the chapter on "Expenses and Financial Assistance."

A limited number of teaching assistantships are available. Teaching assistants work with department faculty for 20 hours a week and are compensated with a stipend and tuition/partial fee remission. Teaching assistants might assist in direct supervision of foundational clinical experiences or support faculty teaching responsibilities. Part-time teaching assistantships are available depending on the needs of the department (10 hours per week).

Research assistantships become available as faculty are awarded scientific or program grants. Announcements of the requirements will be posted on the web site, or faculty will directly contact students who have demonstrated interest and skills in the research area. You may wish to make your field of interest known to faculty.

A limited number of scholarships are available

## Degree Requirements (MS degree)

to nursing graduate students. Additional funds are traditionally available through memberships in the following organizations. While small in amount, these awards tend to be readily available and require minimal application data. Explore all options that might apply.

District State Nurses Association–  
MNA, District III, etc.

Sigma Theta Tau Chapter–  
Theta Kappa or your original chapter

Specialty Nursing Organizations–  
Oncology; Critical care; Emergency room

Alumni Organizations–  
Particularly diploma schools

Organizational Affiliations–  
Hospitals; parent corporations; local communities

Specialty Categories–  
Black Nurses Association

### Selection of a Clinical Option

Each student must specify one clinical option at the time of admission. Transfers to other options will be made only if space is available and the student meets additional criteria specific to the track. Changing options may result in loss of credits applicable to final degree.

### Clinical Practicum

Clinical experiences vary according to the focus of each track. Typically, there will be one day of clinical each week in three semesters.

Clinical placements are determined by agency/preceptor availability and student learning needs. It should be noted that appropriate clinical preceptors are typically only available during weekdays (although some exceptions do occur). The clinical practica are essential components of graduate nursing education offering the best opportunity to develop specialized areas within each track.

### Repetition of Courses

A student may repeat a course only with the permission of the Graduate Program Director and Dean.

### Adult Health Option

#### Adult Nurse Practitioner

The Adult Nurse Practitioner (ANP) track prepares the student for management of primary and chronic health problems in adult populations. A foundation in pathophysiology, health assessment, and clinical pharmacology in addition to precepted clinical practicums facilitates the development of diagnostic and management skills. A nursing framework emphasizing wellness and system wide client advocacy strategies is threaded throughout this track.

Upon completion of the Adult Nurse Practitioner Track, students are eligible for the Adult Health Practitioner Examination offered by the American Nurses Credentialing Center. The examination is now offered at approved computer centers throughout the year.

#### Core Requirements (12 credits):

	credits
NUR 500 Theory Building in Nursing	3
NUR 511 Research Methodology in Nursing	3
NUR 520 Health Care Systems	3
NUR 611 Translating Knowledge to Practice : Collaborative Project (1 theory and 2 practicum)	3

#### Sciences (9 credits):

NUR 550 Pathophysiological Bases for Advanced Nursing Practice	3
NUR 552 Advanced Assessment for Primary Care (2 theory and 1 practicum)	3
NUR 553 Clinical Pharmacology for Ambulatory Care	3

#### Clinical Core (19 credits):

NUR 545 Collaboration across the Continuum of Care	3
NUR 556 Introduction to Primary Care (2 theory and 2 clinical)	4
NUR 600 Relational Ontology (2 theory and 1 clinical)	3
NUR 652 Primary Care II (2 theory and 2 clinical)	4
NUR 654 Advanced Nursing Management of Illness-Related Phenomena (2 theory, 3 clinical)	5
Elective	3

**Total Credits** **43**

Note: Clinical is based upon 4 clock hours for each clinical credit  
Total clinical hours greater than 500  
Total credits = 43

Contact the Graduate Program Director at 508 999-8159 for information on the part-time study plan.

**Adult Health Option**

Select one from the following list:

**Advanced Practice**

The Advanced Practice option in Adult Health prepares the nurse in the area of education or a clinical specialist in medical-surgical nursing. Students complete a 27-30 credit core in the MS in Adult Health. They then select 12-15 credits in their functional area of interest (education; clinical specialist).

- NUR 508 Managing Health Care Finance 3
- NUR 540 Biostatistics and Epidemiology 3
- NUR 542 Curriculum Development in Nursing 3
- NUR 543 Distributive Justice and Nursing Ethics 3
- NUR 545 Collaboration across the Continuum of Care 3

*Education Focus 15 credits*

- NUR 542 Curriculum Development in Nursing 3
- NUR 544 Teaching, Learning and Evaluation in Nursing Education (2 theory and 1 practicum) 3
- NUR 545 Collaboration across the Continuum of Care 3

*Core requirements (12 credits):*

- |  |         |
|--|---------|
|  | credits |
| NUR 500 Theory Building in Nursing   | 3       |
| NUR 511 Research Methodology in Nursing  | 3       |
| NUR 520 Health Care Systems  | 3       |
| NUR 611 Translating Knowledge to Practice : Collaborative Project (1 theory and 2 practicum) | 3       |

Select two from the following list\*:

- NUR 540 Biostatistics and Epidemiology 3
- NUR 543 Distributive Justice and Nursing Ethics 3
- NUR 550 Pathophysiological Bases in Advanced Nursing Practice 3
- NUR 552 Advanced Assessment for Primary Care (2 theory and 1 practicum/lab) 3
- NUR 553 Clinical Pharmacology for Ambulatory Care 3
- NUR 585 Environmental Health 3

**OR**

One course free elective or Independent study in Education (potential practicum hours). If supervised Teaching Assistant, hours can be counted toward teaching practicum hours 3

*Required Adult Health Core (15-18 credits (varies by focus):\**

- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| Nur 551 Scope and Outcomes in Advanced Practice Nursing               | 3   |
| NUR 600 Relational Ontology (2 theory and 1 practicum)                | 3   |
| NUR 621 Perspectives on the Illness Experience                        | 3   |
| NUR 622 Practicum: Perspective on Illness (varies by focus)           | 1-3 |
| NUR 623 Applications of Nursing Knowledge to Practice                 | 3   |
| NUR 624 Practicum: Application of Nursing Knowledge (varies by focus) | 1-3 |

\*Education focus selects 3 credits of practicum between 622 and 624; CNS selects 6 practicum credits (622; 624)

\*Requirements for Advanced Practice exam = Advanced Assessment, Pharmacology, Pathophysiology and 500 hours practicum; if desired may slightly exceed 42 credits in Education focus

Select from either Clinical (CNS) or education focus

**Total Credits 42**

*Clinical focus: 12 credits*

- NUR 550 Pathophysiological Bases for Advanced Nursing Practice 3
- NUR 552 Advanced Assessment for Primary Care (2 theory and 1 practicum) 3
- NUR 553 Clinical Pharmacology for Ambulatory Care 3

## Post Masters Certificate Program

### Community Nursing Option

#### Advanced Practice

The master's program prepares graduates skilled in the advanced clinical practice of community nursing. Community nursing is defined as a focus on the health needs of population groups. The graduate will be proficient in synthesizing a combined theoretical framework from both nursing and public health, and in utilizing theory-based clinical decision making. Five clinical competencies are expected, beginning researcher, clinician, educator, consultant, and clinical program manager. The professional nurse with advanced practice skills is able to design and implement programs, using objectives from "Healthy People 2010" to target the needs of vulnerable populations. Students complete 33 credits in the MS in Community Health and 9 credits of functional options and electives.

#### Core Requirements (12 credits):

		credits
NUR 500	Theory Building in Nursing	3
NUR 511	Research Methodology in Nursing	3
NUR 520	Health Care Systems	3
NUR 611	Translating Knowledge to Practice : Collaborative Project	3
	(1 theory and 2 practicum)	

#### Required Community Health Courses (21 credits):

NUR 540	Biostatistics and Epidemiology	3
NUR 545	Collaboration across the Continuum of Care	3
NUR 547	Population Health	3
NUR 681	Assessment and Planning for Population Health Practice	3
NUR 682	Practicum in Assessment and Planning for Population Health Practice	3
NUR 683	Implementation and Evaluation for Population Health Practice	3
NUR 684	Practicum in Implementation and Evaluation for Population Health Practice	3

*Function options: select one category below—either administrative, education, or general nursing knowledge:*

#### Administrative (6 credits)

NUR 508	Finance for Health Care	3
XXX	Management elective	3

#### Education (6 credits)

NUR 542	Curriculum Development in Nursing	3
NUR 544	Teaching, Learning, and Evaluation in Nursing Education	3

#### General Nursing Knowledge (6 credits)

NUR 543	Distributive Justice and Nursing Ethics <b>or</b>	3
NUR 585	Environmental Health <b>or</b> Related Electives	
NUR xxx	Elective	3

**Total Credits 42**

Clinical hours 1 credits = 4 hours  
minimum 500 clinical hours

### Post-Masters Adult Nurse Practitioner Certificate Program

Registered nurses who already have either an MSN or MS in Nursing from an accredited program may seek entrance to this certificate program. The program meets guidelines of the National Organization for Nurse Practitioner Faculty (NONPF), in providing core and clinical NP courses with over 500 clinical precepted hours. Access to this certificate program is on a space-available basis.

Those completing the Adult Nurse Practitioner Certificate are eligible to sit for the Adult Health Practitioner Examination offered by the American Nurses Credentialing Center.

Due to the sequencing of the courses, the certificate can be completed in 4 semesters. Students must begin in Fall semester to complete in this time.

#### Sciences (9 credits):

NUR 550	Pathophysiological Bases for Advanced Nursing Practice	3
NUR 552	Advanced Assessment for Primary Care	3
NUR 553	Clinical Pharmacology for Ambulatory Care	3

#### Clinical Core (13 credits):

NUR 556	Introduction to Primary Care	4
NUR 652	Primary Care II	4
NUR 654	Advanced Nursing Management of Illness-Related Phenomena	5

**Total Credits 22**

## Graduate Certificate Programs in Nursing—Post-BSN Certificates

### Acceptance to Certificate Programs

Applicants apply for acceptance to a graduate certificate program through the office of Graduate Studies. Applicants must have baccalaureate preparation in nursing or a related field. Applicants with extensive leadership background, lacking baccalaureate preparation, will be considered on a case-by-case basis. An abbreviated application process for the certificate program is required to ensure eligibility to complete the certificate. Formal acceptance into the certificate program also enhances potential employer reimbursement if the certificate promotes skills applicable to your work role.

If all other entry requirements are met, courses included in either certificate program can be applied towards a Master's of Science in Nursing. The number of courses applicable varies for each graduate option. At present the courses directly applicable toward a graduate degree are:

Advanced Practice in Adult Health	4 of 4
Advanced Practice in Community	4 of 4
Adult Nurse Practitioner	2 of 4

### Certificate in Nursing Education

The 12-credit Certificate in Nursing Education prepares the nurse leader in all areas of nursing education: client, continuing education, and undergraduate education. Essential areas of promoting critical thinking, clinical teaching, new technologies and modalities, evaluation frameworks, and expand principles of teaching and learning are emphasized. This certificate includes practicum experience in nursing education. All courses are at the graduate level.

An abbreviated version of this certificate is appropriate for the nurse with a masters or doctorate degree often educated within an advanced practice or clinical research model but lacking adequate preparation for the nurse educator role. The education-focused courses provide scientific knowledge and experience for transition to clinical and classroom teaching, guided by a master teacher.

The focus of the program is on:

- understanding the scientific principles underlying nursing education
- evaluating the usefulness of varied approaches in nursing education
- developing a knowledge base in innovative teaching-learning approaches
- analyzing the value of multiple approaches and styles in teaching and learning
- developing/improving classroom and clinical teaching skills
- evaluating teaching and learning
- utilizing scientific research to strengthen teaching effectiveness.

#### Program Requirements

The certificate includes the following four courses. Some of these courses may be web-enhanced, meaning that part of the coursework is done on your own schedule from a home computer. The nursing or library computer labs are also available for this purpose. Minimal internet skills are required to successfully complete a web-enhanced course.

NUR 511	Research Methodology in Nursing
NUR 542	Curriculum Development in Nursing
NUR 544	Teaching, Learning, and Evaluation in Nursing (includes practicum)
NUR 551	Standards and Outcomes in Advanced Practice Nursing

**Total credits** **12**

### Certificate in Nursing Leadership/Management

The 12-credit Certificate in Nursing Leadership/Management prepares the nurse leader in essential areas of organizational skills, budget development, and system-level knowledge. All courses are at the graduate level.

This certificate program is valuable to all nurses engaged in leadership positions at any level or in any size system. It may also be beneficial for advanced practice nurse, educated primarily in a clinical focus, who have transitioned into a managerial role.

The focus of the program is on:

- understanding the scientific principles underlying systems, organizations, leadership, and management
- evaluating the usefulness of varied approaches in nursing leadership
- developing a repertoire of innovative management strategies
- evaluating system outcomes
- developing expertise in grant preparation and budget development
- developing skills to assess and negotiate within systems
- utilizing scientific research to strengthen leadership effectiveness

#### Program Requirements

The certificate includes the following four didactic (classroom) courses. Some of these courses may be web-enhanced, meaning that part of the coursework is done on your own schedule from a home computer. The nursing or library computer labs are also available for this purpose. Minimal internet skills are required to successfully complete a web-enhanced course.

NUR 511	Research Methodology in Nursing
NUR 515	Managing Organizational Resources
NUR 520	Health Care Systems
NUR 508	Managing Finances

**Total credits** **12**

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## Nursing Courses

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**NUR 500** three credits

### **Theory Building in Nursing**

Examination of (a) components of theories, various activities of theory development and theoretical/conceptual analysis, and (b) the evolution and status of theory development in nursing. Particular emphasis will be placed on the relationship of theory-research-practice in nursing knowledge development.

**NUR 503** three credits

### **Transition to Advanced Practice Nursing**

Portfolio students only

Designed for nurses with bachelor's degrees in areas other than nursing, provides a common knowledge base including the community perspective as a foundation for graduate study in nursing. The realities of modern nursing practice are examined.

**NUR 511** three credits

### **Research Methodology in Nursing**

Assists students in identifying and exploring researchable problems in nursing. Components of the research process are examined. Both quantitative and qualitative approaches to generating and testing nursing knowledge along with underlying philosophical assumptions of each approach are examined. The focus of the course is on (a) understanding and judging the usefulness of scientific information for clinical nursing practice, (b) valuing research as a basis for professional nursing, and (c) collaborating in research activities.

**NUR 508** two credits theory; one credit practicum (3 clock hours)

### **Managing Health Care Finances**

Reviews theory and provides opportunities for skills acquisition in managing health care financial resources at the agency level.

**NUR 515** three credits

### **Managing Organizational Resources**

The use of financial and human resources to fulfill the function of nursing in a health agency. Coalition building, negotiation, and conflict resolution skills will be developed to facilitate roles in the bureaucratic environment. Alternate approaches to leadership styles, management skills, utilization of personnel, interpersonal negotiations, budget management and the nurse leader in the organizational structure will be explored.

**NUR 520** three credits

### **Health Care Systems**

The nature of the health care system. The focus will be on the history, development, financing, and regulation of the health care system. Selected mechanisms for change such as policy formation, cost analysis, rationing, accredita-

tion, and quality assurance programs will be examined.

**NUR 540** three credits

### **Biostatistics and Epidemiology**

The basic principles and methods of biostatistics and epidemiology and their applicability in the field of public health nursing. Students learn the basic skills needed to interpret the literature relevant to public health practitioners.

**NUR 542** three credits

### **Seminar in Nursing Education**

Identifying and exploring current problems in nursing education. This seminar focuses on (a) understanding conceptual issues in nursing education, (b) evaluating the usefulness of various approaches in nursing education, (c) valuing multiple approaches and styles both in teaching and learning, and (d) developing skills in nursing education.

**NUR 543** three credits

### **Topics in Ethics and Distributive Justice**

Prerequisite: Permission of instructor  
Current ethical issues in health care embedded in theoretical frameworks of distributive justice, ethics and feminism. Students from various advanced practice arenas of human services including nursing, philosophy, political science, criminal justice, and the social sciences debate and analyze specific ethical issues inherent in their advanced practice. A multidisciplinary approach provides the students with a comprehensive perspective for analyzing ethical issues.

**NUR 544** two credits theory; one credit practicum (3 clock hours)

### **Teaching, Learning, and Evaluation in Nursing Education**

Prerequisite: NUR 542

Integrate and apply teaching, learning, and evaluation theories, concepts, and strategies from the disciplines of nursing and education. Focuses on practical application of skills related to planning, designing, and implementing a nursing and/or health education program, selecting teaching strategies to promote critical thinking, and developing and implementing an evaluation strategy. Practicum applies selected teaching, learning, and evaluation concepts in a small teaching/learning project in an area relevant to students' educational and/or practice interests.

**NUR 545** three credits

### **Collaboration across the Continuum of Care**

Explores the continuum of care from community to acute care settings. Concepts of

interdisciplinary collaboration and case management will be explored in an effort to improve the health of clients across the health care system. Issues related to particular needs of clients such as vulnerability, migration, culture, language, health literacy, diversity and social justice will be examined. Community resources for client needs will be identified for nursing practice.

**NUR 547** two credits theory; one credit practicum (3 clock hours)

### **Population Health**

Role of the nurse in the application of public health principles to reduce the burden of disease. Healthy People 2010 objectives provides focus for the course. Public health theories, community organization models, community health education strategies and theories of behavior change will be addressed. Ethics for population health will be applied to case examples.

**NUR 550** three credits

### **Pathophysiological Bases for Advanced Nursing Practice**

The interrelationship of human systems and the effect of illness on the individual as a whole. Students examine prototypic concepts and patterns related to clinical physiology using current texts and research literature. The pathophysiology of various body processes such as oxygenation, perfusion, digestion, elimination and defense are considered. The dynamics of stress, ischemia, edema, and pain are presented. Students analyze physiological problems in-depth as they relate to specific clients.

**NUR 551** two credits theory

### **Scope and Outcomes in Advanced Health Nursing**

The scope, standards, and outcomes of advanced practice nursing. The evolution of advanced practice is considered by examining historical background, current realities, and future directions. Students analyze the role components of expert clinician, educator, consultant, and case manager in the care of adult clients. Standards of practice, development and use of protocols/practice guidelines, and evidence of improved health outcomes are analyzed as mechanisms to promote delivering quality care. Critical thinking, written and oral communication, and therapeutic nursing intervention skill development are emphasized.

**NUR 552** one credit theory, two credits lab/practicum (6 clock hours)

### **Advanced Assessment for Primary Care**

Prerequisite: Permission of faculty

Note: Clock hours are noted for lab/practicum courses. When no hours are noted, each credit is delivered in one clock hour.

Establishing a foundation for assessment in primary care through didactic, laboratory modules, and practicum experiences. Emphasis is on health history interviewing, basic physical examination using four modalities, and beginning skill development in differential diagnosis. The course is restricted to adults including emphasis on gender, racially diverse and aging populations.

**NUR 553** three credits

**Clinical Pharmacology for Ambulatory Care**

Prerequisite: NUR 550

Pharmacological agents used in the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of human disease and injury in the adult. The focus is on the basis for the clinical use of drug therapy. Characterization, evaluation and comparison of drugs form the framework for this course. Classes of drugs will be critically evaluated in terms of desired effects and degree of tolerable undesired effects. Clinical pharmacological concerns related to aging, drug interactions, and legalities will be addressed.

**NUR 556** two credit theory, two credits practicum (9 clock hours)

**Introduction to Primary Care**

Prerequisites: NUR 550, NUR 552, NUR 553

Nursing care of the adult client who is experiencing acute episodic illness in a community setting. The content reflects knowledge necessary for providing primary care services in an ever-changing, ever-evolving health care climate. It builds on the student's knowledge of physical assessment, pathophysiology, pharmacology, and other treatment modalities, emphasizing knowledge and skill of health promotion, screening, maintenance, diagnosis, differential diagnosis, and management of care in collaboration with other health professionals. Nursing care and treatment modalities are stressed for each patient. Clinical experiences will be with preceptors in a variety of settings.

**NUR 585** three credits

**Environmental Health**

The interaction of the environment and human health, from the perspective of an ecological framework. Physical, psychological, and psychosocial health responses to environmental toxins and infectious agents will be a central theme. Previous endeavors to maintain and improve the environment through the legislative process, public policy and regulation will be studied by examining case studies. The effects of war on the environment and public health will also be studied.

**NUR 595** variable credit

**Independent Study**

Prerequisites: Upper-division standing; permission of instructor, graduate director, and college dean

Study under the supervision of a faculty member in an area not otherwise part of the discipline's course offerings. Conditions and hours to be arranged.

**NUR 596** variable credit

**Directed Study**

Prerequisites: Permission of the instructor, graduate director, and college dean  
Study under the supervision of a faculty member in an area covered in a regular course not currently being offered. Conditions and hours to be arranged.

**NUR 600** two credits theory; one credit practicum (3 clock hours)

**Relational Ontology**

Designed to assist the advanced practice nurse to articulate and advance the relational ethic of care, the moral agency of the nurse and the therapeutic ways of being in nursing practice. Through active learner engagement and reflection, nursing practice and decision-making will be critically examined from numerous perspectives of an ethic of care. The student will use multiple ways of knowing to comprehend, design, implement and communicate theory based compassionate nursing care in a selected setting.

**NUR 610** one credit

**Capstone/Thesis Direction**

The student registers for this credit while working with their major advisor on the conduct and report of the research proposal developed in NUR 511. The completed study will be submitted as a Capstone or Thesis. The report must be acceptable (P/F), but will not carry a letter grade.

**NUR 611** three credits; one theory; two practicum

**Translating Knowledge to Practice: Collaborative Project**

Prerequisite: 27 credits or final year of graduate program must be completed  
Requires a student to integrate knowledge from prior course work and learning experiences to study a current nursing problem. This will involve analyzing the components of a strategic plan to address a problem, planning the execution of a solution to the problem, and implementing its completion. The student will work in a team that applies approaches and tactics from a variety of disciplines, theories and philosophical perspectives to an existing or simulated situation or professional practice issue.

**NUR 621** three credits

**Perspectives on the Illness Experience**

Develops an in depth examination of the scientific, experiential and existential perspectives of illness. A focus on chronic or disruptive illness includes the influence of technology, western and eastern perspectives, and social policy on the individual's experience and illness management decisions. Varied examples of illness events demonstrate the interaction of the person, family and health care providers.

**NUR 622** variable credits, one-three

**Practicum: Perspectives on Illness**

Prerequisite or corequisite: NUR 621  
Employs participatory observation and direct clinical encounters as strategies to explore the client experience of serious illness. Students are expected to uncover the client's personal experience as well as examples of scientific perspectives on the illness experience. Nursing strategies specific to the person's experience with illness in western culture are identified and explored in relationship to desired client outcomes. Beginning leadership skills in the management of persons living with extended and serious illnesses are demonstrated.

**NUR 623** three credits practicum

**Application of Nursing Knowledge to Practice**

Prerequisite: NUR 621, 622  
Focuses on the interrelationships of theory, research and practice in the care of persons with selected chronic illnesses and the application and measurement of evidence-based practice within varied clinical environments. Historical, political, developmental and contextual factors that influence the nursing care of persons with a variety of chronic illnesses will be explored. Both interdisciplinary and nurse-centered models of illness management will highlight course content.

**NUR 624** variable credits, one-three

**Application of Knowledge Practicum**

Prerequisites: NUR 621, 622  
Application, development and evaluation of theoretical, research and evidence-based interventions in various clinical settings for populations of persons with chronic illness. The role of the nurse as a team leader and as an interdisciplinary team member in models of illness management will be explored. Historical, political, developmental and contextual factors that influence models of care will highlight course content.

**NUR 652** four credits; two theory, two practicum

**Primary Care II**

Prerequisite: NUR 556  
Provides a broad overview of common acute

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and chronic clinical problems that are encountered in primary care practice. Topics will include increasingly complex diagnostic and management issues that the nurse practitioner addresses in clinical practice. The continuing development of advanced practice skills in patient assessment, diagnosis and treatment planning is reinforced. Professional, legal and political dimensions of the role are addressed. Clinical experiences will be with preceptors in a variety of settings.

**NUR 654** two credits theory,  
three credits practicum (9 clock hours)

**Advanced Nursing Management  
of Illness-Related Phenomena**

Prerequisites: NUR 658

Emphasizes the negotiated management of illness-related phenomena throughout a chronic illness. Relevant theoretical foundations, expanded clinical knowledge, and complex nursing interventions are explored and further synthesized into client-based theories and measurable outcome criteria. The practicum focuses on the application of advanced practice knowledge to manage (directly and indirectly) a wide range of illness-related phenomena. Emphasis is placed on increased development of role specific skills and clinical reasoning, intervention planning, intergrating knowledge to related primary and secondary health promotion and the human response to illness. Transition to the nurse practitioner role is enhanced by in-depth examination of the decision-making process in the context of documentation and reimbursement issues.

**NUR 681** three credits

**Assessment and Planning for Population  
Health Practice**

Prerequisites: NUR 540, 547

Examines community health nursing principles in assessing problems, planning, implementing and evaluating health programs for population health. Community assessment of strengths and needs to identify health care problems in the region will be studied. Models of health planning will guide the development of program plans that address identified health issues, with special emphasis on needs of the underserved, diverse populations, and vulnerable populations. Funding sources will also be explored to generate project proposals. The course explores community organization, coalition development and evidence-based public health practice.

**NUR 682** three credits practicum

**Practicum in Assessment and Planning for  
Population Health Practice**

Prerequisite or corequisite: NUR 681

Application of principles of social change, community organization, planning, and evaluation to develop effective community health nursing programs. Working within a community framework, the student will develop a community health project as an intervention for a previously identified community health problem.

**NUR 683** three credits

**Implementation and Evaluation for  
Population Health Practice**

Prerequisites: NUR 681,682

Examines the theoretical basis of program implementation/evaluation and quality management for effective advanced practice in community health nursing. The student will critically analyze existing taxonomies, databases and outcome measures to identify their appropriate use in measuring program effectiveness. Students will gain evaluation research skills through analysis of existing programs and refine those skills by identifying variables that have the potential to improve the effectiveness of community health nursing programs.

**NUR 684** three credits practicum

**Practicum in Implementation and Evaluation  
for Population Health Practice**

Prerequisite or Corequisite: NUR 683

Applies evaluation skills to enhance the quality management of public health/community health nursing interventions or programs. Major focus is on measurement of outcomes, quality management, and cost effectiveness. Students conduct an evaluation of a community nursing intervention or program by identifying and measuring critical variables including cost and by creating or analyzing a computerized database.

**NUR 701** three credits

**Systematizing, Translating, and  
Transitioning Knowledge to Nursing  
Practice**

Explore how practice knowledge is structured and metacognitive strategies to promote accurate knowledge use. Examine structured models, construct new models and attempt to resolve inconsistencies in existing designs to make practice knowledge explicit. Knowledge assimilation, codification strategies, synthesis, concept mapping and clustering are discussed as important tools for the knowledge developer.