NURSING (NURS)

Degrees Offered: M.S., D.N.P., Graduate Certificate

This program is offered in Durham.

The Department of Nursing offers the master of science degree in nursing under two programs: Graduate Program in Nursing and Direct Entry Master’s in Nursing. We also offer the Post-Master's Family Nurse Practitioner Certificate Program, the Post-Master's Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Certificate Program, and the Online Doctor of Nursing Practice degree program.

Graduate Program in Nursing

The Graduate Program in Nursing offers four clinical practice tracks: clinical nurse leader (CNL®), evidence-based nursing (EBN), family nurse practitioner (FNP and Post-Master's FNP), and Post-Master's Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PM-PMHPN). Depending on track, programs are designed to be completed in three to four semesters of full-time study including one summer. Individual plans of study are available for those wishing to pursue part-time study. Although no guarantees are given, the department will try to accommodate student requests to the fullest extent possible. All tracks prepare nurses for evidence-based practice through critical inquiry using a variety of instructional modalities.

Academic Standards

Graduate or post-master’s students receiving failing grades in six or more credits will be recommended to the Graduate School for dismissal. Students on conditional or provisional status or admitted with stipulations must meet the conditions as stated in the letter of admission in order to remain in the Graduate School.

Research and Scholarly Activities

The graduate faculty of the university's nursing program believe learning is a creative process wherein students are active participants in their education, growth, and development. Faculty members are facilitators and mentors to students within a supportive scholarly environment. Students are prepared to be skilled, knowledgeable, and reflective leaders in health care who practice as nurse practitioners, clinical nurse leaders, or clinical educators.

The generation, dissemination, and application of evidenced-based nursing knowledge and practice are a central mission for the nursing department. Health care for vulnerable populations is the research focus among the faculty. Faculty engage in scholarly inquiry across diverse topics such as care-giving, acute symptom management, clinical decision-making, adolescent pregnancy, elder care-giving, and cultural diversity. Faculty publications, research, public policy initiatives, and other consultative/professional activities may be viewed at the department’s website.

Academic Standards

Graduate or post-master’s students receiving failing grades in six or more credits will be recommended for dismissal from the graduate or post-master’s program in nursing to the Graduate School. Students on conditional or provisional status or admitted with stipulations must meet the conditions as stated in the letter of admission in order to remain in the Graduate School.

Admission Requirements

All applicants who are not native English speakers are required to demonstrate a sufficient level of proficiency in the English language to meet the admission requirement of the Graduate School. Proficiency can be demonstrated by the receipt of a bachelor's or advanced degree from an accredited institution of higher education in the United States or from a university in another country where English is the primary language of instruction. All other non-native speakers must achieve a minimum score of 550 (paper-based), 213 (computer-based), or 80 (Internet-based) on the Test of English as Foreign Language (TOEFL). The Graduate Record Exam (GRE) and Miller Analogies Test (MAT) are not required. Individuals apply to the University of New Hampshire Graduate School.

Graduate Program in Nursing Admission Requirements

Registered nurses (RNs) who have successfully passed the NCLEX-RN, currently hold an unencumbered, active RN license in the United States, and who hold a baccalaureate degree in either nursing or another field can be considered for admission. Applicants are required to have a good academic record and completion of coursework in statistics and research.

RNs whose baccalaureate degree is in a discipline other than nursing may apply to the master of science degree in nursing (M.S.) program and will be considered for the track that is commensurate with their clinical experience based on faculty discretion. If a Master of Science Degree in Nursing has been conferred, students may apply to the Post-Master’s Family Nurse Practitioner Certificate Program, if desired, with the following requirements.

1. Unencumbered, active RN license in the United States
2. Baccalaureate degree in another field
3. Cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher in associate and baccalaureate programs
4. Nursing experience preferred but not required
5. Successful completion of undergraduate statistics course and undergraduate research course
6. Interview may be requested

Letters of recommendation should be substantial, with at least one academic reference from your nursing program and two references from current nursing professionals with graduate education background. Referee’s credentials should be included on reference form. Letters of recommendation from family or friends are not acceptable.

Faculty in the Department of Nursing review completed applications on a rolling basis.

Post-Master's Family Nurse Practitioner Certificate Program Admission Requirements

In addition to the standard Graduate School requirements, the Nursing Department requires:

1. Unencumbered, active RN license in the United States;
2. Master’s degree in Nursing;
3. Two letters of reference. References should be substantial with one academic, if available, and one current professional with graduate education background. Letters of recommendation from family or friends are not acceptable;
4. Updated resume; and
5. Course description for any course you request waived, if taken outside UNH.

Post-Master’s Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Certificate Program Admission Requirements
In addition to the standard Graduate School requirements, the Nursing Department requires:

1. Unencumbered, active RN license in the United States;
2. Master’s Degree in Nursing;
3. Nurse practitioner certification with one year of practice experience in a primary care setting;
4. Two letters of reference. References should be substantial with one academic, if available, and one current professional with graduate education background. Letters of recommendation from family or friends are not acceptable; and
5. Updated resume.

Direct Entry Master’s in Nursing Admission Requirements
The Direct Entry Master’s in Nursing Program is for non-registered nurses with a BA/BS or higher degree in a field other than nursing. A grade point average of 3.0 or better is suggested. Previous course work and professional experience is taken into consideration. Pre-requisite courses must be completed at the time the application is reviewed. These include Human Anatomy & Physiology I and II with lab, Microbiology at the cellular level, and Statistics with a grade of B or better. Applicants who are in the process of completing a pre-requisite course spring semester must have instructor submit grade to date directly to the Department of Nursing by April 8.

Knowledge of the basic processes and methods of research is necessary for students entering the DEMN program. While many undergraduate programs include a research methods course, if a student does not have a background in research, he or she should enroll in an introductory research course or introductory nursing research textbooks may be used as self-study resources prior to matriculation in the DEMN program.

Letters of recommendation should be substantial with at least one academic reference and two references from current professionals with graduate education background. Letters of recommendation from family or friends are not acceptable.

Doctor of Nursing Practice Admission Requirements
- **Graduate School Application:** Applicants must complete the Graduate School application, which can be found at www.gradschool.unh.edu (http://www.gradschool.unh.edu).
- **Official Transcripts:** Applicants must submit one official transcript from each postsecondary institution attended. Applicants must hold a master’s degree. A minimum 3.25 cumulative GPA for graduate work is preferred.
- **Registered Nurse Licensure:** An unencumbered registered nurse license in the United States must be documented at the time of application.
- **Letters of Recommendation:** Three letters of reference pertaining to academic ability, professional competency, and personal character are required.

- **Curriculum Vitae or Resume:** Includes academic preparation, clinical experience and professional activities.
- **Professional Statement:** The professional statement must include a written essay responding to each of the following:
  a. How will a doctor of nursing practice degree from the University of New Hampshire help you attain your professional goals?
  b. Describe your current advanced nursing role, or if you are pursuing a new specialty, explain what you are planning to do with your nursing career in your specialty after you complete the doctor of nursing practice.
  c. In addition to the information contained in your resume, what strengths do you possess that would contribute to your success in the doctor of nursing practice program and in a community of interprofessional scholars?
  d. Identify one scholarly inquiry from your practice you would like to explore as part of the DNP program (e.g., quality improvement initiative, evidence-based practice guidelines, new model of care, policy analysis).
- **Interview:** After initial review of the application, applicants may be contacted for an interview.

Accelerated Master’s Program for Current UNH Senior Students
Graduate Program in Nursing Accelerated Master’s
Qualified senior nursing students at the University of New Hampshire may be admitted to the Graduate School provided they have followed normal application procedures; they must have been admitted for the semester in which they wish to enroll in courses for graduate credit. A 3.2 cumulative grade-point average is normally required to be considered for the accelerated master’s program. Such seniors are normally admitted prior to the start of their last undergraduate semester. Seniors who have been admitted under accelerated master’s program may register for a maximum of three courses for up to 12 graduate credits.

When seniors admitted to the accelerated master’s program have registered for graduate courses, they must maintain a grade point average of 3.2, complete their undergraduate degree as planned, and pass graduate courses taken for credit with a grade of B- or better. If these conditions are not met, admission is withdrawn.

Students accepted under accelerated master’s follow the clinical nurse leader or evidence-based nursing track. Undergraduate students accepted as graduate nursing students under accelerated master’s guidelines, are admitted with the stipulation that their RN license must be obtained prior to beginning any clinical course. Stipulation is removed upon verification of the RN license provided to the department of nursing.

Admission is provisional: must have RN license before registering for NURS 952C, Clinical Nursing Leadership Clinical, or NURS 955, Practicum in Advanced Nursing Practice.

Direct Entry Master’s in Nursing Accelerated Master’s
The Direct Entry Master’s in Nursing Program provides an opportunity for accelerated admission to the graduate program for full-time undergraduate UNH students who meet admission criteria. To be considered, undergraduate students must have completed all major requirements by the fall of their senior year. A grade point average of 3.4 or better is suggested. Previous course work is taken into consideration. Pre-requisite courses must be complete at the time the application is
reviewed. These include Human Anatomy and Physiology I and II with labs, Microbiology at the cellular level, and statistics with a grade of B or better.

The curriculum begins in January and includes two summer sessions. Students graduate as an advanced generalist with a master of science (M.S.) degree in nursing and upon passing certification examination, as a clinical nurse leader (CNL). Direct entry courses taken during the spring of the senior year of undergraduate program will fulfill elective credits to complete B.A./B.S. degree requirements at UNH. This accelerated, full-time program is a five-semester, 71-credit course of study.

Students are admitted with the stipulation that they must submit final transcript with degree conferred prior to enrolling in fall semester courses and pass NCLEX-RN prior to completing the program. The stipulation is met once the final transcript and RN license are received. Students are eligible to take the NCLEX-RN after completing a total of 62 credits of accelerated study. Students take the CNL certification examination in their final semester.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to meet with the Graduate Program in Nursing coordinator and their discipline-specific adviser early on in their undergraduate program to plan this course of study.

Students may apply during the second semester of their junior year by the posted application deadline. Application review continues until all seats are filled.

https://chhs.unh.edu/nursing/

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**Programs**

- Nursing (DNP) (http://catalog.unh.edu/graduate/programs-study/nursing/nursing-dnp)
- Nursing (M.S.) (http://catalog.unh.edu/graduate/programs-study/nursing/nursing-ms)
- Nursing: Direct Entry (M.S.) (http://catalog.unh.edu/graduate/programs-study/nursing/nursing-direct-entry-ms)
- Family Nurse Practitioner (Graduate Certificate) (http://catalog.unh.edu/graduate/programs-study/nursing/family-nurse-practitioner-certificate)
- Psychiatric Mental Health (Graduate Certificate) (http://catalog.unh.edu/graduate/programs-study/nursing/psychiatric-mental-health-certificate)

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**Courses**

**Nursing (NURS)**

**NURS 806 - Clinical Inquiry**

**Credits:** 4

Theory course focuses on identifying problems and the role of the nurse in decision-making situations in nursing practice. Emphasizes using decision-making theories, patient education theories and practice, critical thinking, ethical concepts in decision-making, tools for organizing nursing information, and applying evidence based practice. In addition, learners are introduced to information management and nursing informatics as they apply to planning and delivery of nursing care. Prereq: majors only. Special fee.

**NURS 807 - Pathophysiology and Pharmacology**

**Credits:** 4

Theory course focuses on concepts of human pathophysiology and pharmacology relevant to professional nursing practice. Physiologic response and manifestations of alterations in normal body functioning are analyzed. Pharmacological agents used for these alterations are examined. Application of concepts across the lifespan are incorporated through the discussion of pathophysiology and pharmacology. Provides the foundation for the clinical decision-making and management of care. In addition, learners are introduced to the professional nurse’s responsibility for educating clients about basic pathophysiology and pharmacology issues. Nursing majors only.

**NURS 810 - Families in Health and Illness**

**Credits:** 3

Seminar focusing on the family environment as a context for the experience of health and illness. Current middle-range theories and research from nursing and other disciplines analyzed for their application to family health. Public policy initiatives related to family health will be explored.

**NURS 811 - Clinical Reasoning Through Simulation**

**Credits:** 2

The course further develops and refines critical thinking skills by student participation in clinical scenarios and de-briefings. Students prepare for the care of patients in a simulated environment, engaging in health assessment, psychomotor skills, pathophysiology, and implementing the nursing process, to develop a plan of care to encompass the QSEN competencies. Prereq: majors only. Special fee. Cr/F.

**NURS 813 - Health Assessment and Clinical Nursing Theory**

**Credits:** 4

This course is designed to provide the student with evidence-based knowledge related to acquiring the psychomotor and assessment skills required for the safe delivery of nursing care to the adult client. Students develop foundational skills applicable to achieving program outcomes. The focus of the course will be on developing beginning health assessment, and clinical nursing skills while implementing critical thinking, and application of the nursing process, highlighting fundamental nursing concepts as they pertain to providing and improving client care. Prereq: majors only. Special fee.

**Co-requisite: NURS 813C**

**NURS 813C - Health Assessment and Clinical Nursing**

**Credits:** 2

Care of the adult clinical is designed to provide the student with the opportunities to apply the nursing process and clinical judgment within an acute care setting to clients with commonly occurring disease states and those undergoing surgery. The experience focuses on the application of knowledge and skills, evidence-based practice, clinical judgment and relationship-centered care. Prereq: majors only.

**Co-requisite: NURS 813**

**NURS 825 - Collaborative Care I: Care of Older Adult**

**Credits:** 3

Theory course focuses on care outcomes for major functional and health transitions of older adults across health settings. Emphasizes nurse’s advocacy in facilitating care collaboration based on informed practice utilizing current research and best practice models of care. Learners incorporate theories from nursing and other disciplines to achieve a broad perspective and understanding of the aging experience and cultural implications for nursing practice. Prereq: majors only.
NURS 826 - Caring for People with Severe and Persistent Mental Illness
Credits: 2
This theory course is designed to provide an understanding of the neurobiological and psycho-social concepts of mental health and illness, factors influencing human behavior and interaction, current somatotherapies, and the role of the psychiatric nurse as part of the interdisciplinary team. Previous course knowledge and communication skills provide a theoretical foundation in explaining, guiding, and predicting nursing action. Prereq: majors only.
Co-requisite: NURS 826C

NURS 826C - Caring for People with Severe and Persistent Mental Illness Clinical
Credits: 2
This clinical course provides students with the opportunity to participate in collaborative and interdependent health care relationships with professional and paraprofessional mental health partners. A special focus is placed on the integration of personal knowledge, therapeutic use of self, and professional communication skills inherent in nurse-client relationships. Prereq: majors only.

NURS 827 - Collaborative Care III: Managing Acute and Complex Care of Individuals
Credits: 4
In this theory course students develop the knowledge base to refine their clinical judgment and decision-making skills in care of individuals from diverse populations with acute, critical, and chronic illnesses. Focuses on illness management, health restoration, and risk reduction in prototypic health care problems. Focuses on nurses' ability to use leadership skills and concepts of care collaboration with clients, families, peers, and members of the health care team to maximize client outcomes. Care experiences primarily center on the acute care environment. Prereq: majors only.
Co-requisite: NURS 827C

NURS 827C - Collaborative Care III: Managing Acute and Complex Care of Individuals Clinical
Credits: 2
In this clinical course students demonstrate the ability to apply knowledge to refine clinical judgment and decision-making skills while caring for individuals from diverse populations with acute, critical, and chronic illnesses. Focuses on illness management, health restoration, and risk reduction in prototypic health care problems. Focuses on nurses’ ability to use leadership skills and concepts of care collaboration with clients, families, peers, and members of the health care team to maximize client outcomes. Care experiences primarily center on the acute care environment. Prereq: majors only.
Co-requisite: NURS 827

NURS 828 - Public Health Nursing
Credits: 3
This course offers students the opportunity to engage in a public health project at the community and population level. Emphasis placed on the synthesizing concepts, theories, knowledge and practice from nursing, and public health sciences while engaging with the community to address a public health problem. Students demonstrate application of knowledge to the skills of community assessment, health promotion, health protection, illness prevention, and vulnerability from a public health nursing perspective. Prereq: majors only.

NURS 830 - Collaborative Care II: Childbearing and Childrearing Families Clinical
Credits: 4
This theory course focuses on nursing care for young families throughout the childbearing and childrearing period. Health transitions and physical alterations are examined. The health needs of the family are discussed in terms of major morbidity/mortality and contemporary issues. This course integrates theories of growth and development, pathophysiology and use of decision making models. Prereq: majors only.
Co-requisite: NURS 830C

NURS 830C - Collaborative Care II: Childbearing and Childrearing Families Clinical
Credits: 1
This clinical course focuses on nursing care for families throughout pregnancy, birth, and child-rearing periods. Healthy transitions and physical alteration occurring from conception through adolescence are examined. This course integrates clinical opportunities in a variety of clinical settings to provide opportunities for the development of the nurse generalist role. Prereq: majors only.
Co-requisite: NURS 830

NURS 894 - Special Topics
Credits: 1-4
Formal course given on selected topics or special interest subjects. Several topics may be taught in one year or semester. Prereq: permission. May be repeated. Special fee on some sections.

NURS 894T - Special Topics/Study Away
Credits: 1-4
Study Away. Special fees. Permission required.
Co-requisite: INCO 589

NURS 899 - Master’s Thesis
Credits: 1-6
Prereq: permission. May be repeated up to a maximum of 6 credits. Cr/F.

NURS 901 - Health Policy
Credits: 3
Emphasizes identification of emerging issues that have an impact on the health care system and nursing in providing leadership to address these issues. Students analyze problems and process solutions from a nursing perspective with reasoned approach to their resolution. Prereq: majors only.

NURS 902 - Advanced Physical Assessment
Credits: 2
This course focuses on providing the student with the knowledge and skills to perform a comprehensive health assessment. Emphasis is placed on physical, psychosocial, and cultural assessment necessary to perform a high quality health history, review of systems, and head-to-toe comprehensive physical exam for clinical decision making that can be communicated in both written and oral form to members of the multi-disciplinary health care team. The course builds on knowledge of anatomy, physiology, and pathophysiology. Prereq: Majors only.

NURS 907 - Advanced Pharmacology
Credits: 3
This course focuses on concepts of pharmacology including pharmacotherapies, pharmacodynamics, and pharmacokinetics necessary for prescriptive authority for the advanced practice nurse in primary care. Prereq: majors only.
NURS 908 - Advanced Pathophysiology
Credits: 3
The course examines normal physiologic and pathologic mechanisms of disease that serve as the foundation for clinical assessment, decision making, and management. Prereq: majors only.

NURS 909 - Advanced Health Assessment and Diagnostic Reasoning
Credits: 3
This course is designed to cover communication skills, comprehensive history-taking techniques, advanced physical examination skills, screening/diagnostic testing, and diagnostic reasoning skills required in advanced nursing practice. The focus is on developing these skills from an evidence-based, culturally responsive perspective. Prereq: majors only. Special fee.

NURS 925 - Health Care Systems and Leadership
Credits: 3
This theory course emphasizes the use of systems thinking and systems theory as a guide for analyzing and improving health systems. Careful consideration is given to the complex challenges of achieving quality care delivery and quality health outcomes for aggregates within specific environments. Course contents include systems theory, health systems analysis, shaping care delivery, research utilization, ethics, and leadership. Course fosters student integration of knowledge in preparation for clinical nursing leadership responsibilities. Prereq: majors only.

NURS 935 - Primary Care of Families I
Credits: 3
This course covers ethical decision making and evidence-based primary care management of healthy adults through the lifespan with a focus on health maintenance and disease prevention. It focuses on evaluation and management of common acute and chronic health care problems and the many ethical issues in healthcare. Major causes of adult morbidity are covered. Prereq: majors only. Special fee.

NURS 936 - Practicum in the Primary Care Families I
Credits: 3
This clinical course provides supervised clinical experience in the primary care management of families through the lifespan including assessment and management of common acute and chronic health issues. Students focus on the clinical application of knowledge of health maintenance, disease prevention and the evaluation and management of major causes of morbidity and mortality. Prereq: majors only. Special fee.

NURS 937 - Primary Care of Families II
Credits: 3
Lecture/discussion course covering the primary care management of children across the health-illness continuum, including assessment and management of common acute and chronic clinical problems. A developmental perspective is taken to examine child-health evaluation and maintenance from infancy through adolescence. Prereq: majors only.

NURS 938 - Practicum in the Primary Care of Families II
Credits: 3
Supervised clinical experience in the primary care management of the child and adolescent, including assessment and management of common acute and chronic clinical problems. A family-centered developmental perspective is taken to provide child-health services from infancy through adolescence. Nursing care, family, and rehabilitation issues related to various health problems are investigated in practice. Prereq: majors only.

Co-requisite: NURS 937

NURS 939 - Seminar and Practicum in the Primary Care of Families III
Credits: 6
Final integrative clinical course that allows for intensive application of primary care knowledge and skills in practice. Seminar allows for in-depth analysis of various clinical problems, scope of practice and professional role issues. This course provides students the opportunity to develop objectives for their own learning experiences in order to complete their individual achievement of the family nurse practitioner expected outcomes. The course provides the opportunity for extensive clinical experience under the guidance of a preceptor. Prereq: majors only. Special fee.

NURS 944 - Population Health Promotion and Risk Reduction
Credits: 3
Students examine the theoretical and empirical bases for health promotion and risk reduction assessment and interventions to improve population health outcomes. International and national health objectives provide the organizing framework for the consideration of health behaviors. Health promotion and risk reduction are examined within an ecological perspective, including critical social, political, racial/ethnic, cultural and economic environments. Students examine issues that impact individual, family, and community wellness throughout the lifespan. Prereq: majors only.

NURS 951 - Clinical Epidemiology and Decision Analysis
Credits: 3
This theory course provides an in-depth study and application of methods and tools used to guide clinical nursing leader's decision-making under conditions of uncertainty. Prereq: majors only.

NURS 952 - Clinical Nursing Leadership I
Credits: 2
This seminar course courses on the integration of systems thinking when engaging in clinical nursing leadership and the application of systems theory in analyzing dynamic health systems. Emphasizes the developing leadership role at the micro-system level and with an aggregate focus (e.g., long term care; community/public health agencies; amulatory care clinics; health centers; schools; and acute care settings). Seminars focus student reflection on leadership experiences and emerging issues in health systems, professional development and collegiality. Prereq: majors only.

Co-requisite: NURS 952C

NURS 952C - Clinical Nursing Leadership Clinical
Credits: 6
This clinical course focuses on the integration of systems thinking when engaging in clinical nursing leadership and the application of systems theory in analyzing dynamic health systems. This course immerses the student in a clinical microsystem to facilitate the development of the clinical nurse leader role with an aggregate focus (e.g., long term care, community/public health agencies; amulatory care clinics; health centers; schools; and acute care settings). Prereq: majors only. Special fee.

Co-requisite: NURS 952
NURS 953 - Promoting Quality Management  
Credits: 3  
This course focuses on frameworks for the collection and analysis of quality data. Students are introduced to the creation and execution of action plans for quality improvement at the microsystem level. Changing processes, structures and outcomes using data are emphasized. Prereq: majors only.

NURS 955 - Practicum in Advanced Nursing Practice  
Credits: 3-12  
Students acquire the specialty knowledge and skills required in the area of their master’s study. Students work with their faculty mentor to propose performance competencies, learning activities, settings, and resource persons for this supervised practicum. Practicum must include a minimum of 112 hours of supervised practice. May be repeated. Must hold RN license in state of practicum. Prereq: majors only. Special fee.  
Co-requisite: NURS 956

NURS 956 - Capstone Project Seminar  
Credits: 3  
This seminar course requires students to focus on nursing practice issues and to work as individuals or groups to develop solutions. As the capstone course for the evidence-based nursing track, the students are required to complete this scholarship project under the direction of a faculty member. Must hold RN license in state of project. Prereq: majors only.  
Co-requisite: NURS 955

NURS 958 - Clinical Nurse Leader Capstone  
Credits: 6  
This 6 credit capstone (200 hour) course requires students to complete a scholarly project that defines and/or implements strategies that will address/resolve a substantive nursing practice issue that impacts the quality and safety of patients. As the capstone course for the clinical nurse leader nursing track, the students are required to complete and present this scholarship project under the direction of course faculty and masters-prepared preceptor in the clinical agency. Prereq: majors only, all previous nursing courses in the CNL track. Pre- or Coreq: NURS 901. Special fee. Cr/F.

NURS 961 - Evolution of the Doctor of Nursing Practice  
Credits: 1  
This course provides the background of the evolution of the DNP role and the four role components of practitioner, educator, clinical scientist, and clinical manager. The essentials of DNP practice are examined for an understanding of the expectations and resources required for DNP practice.

NURS 962 - Science of Advanced Nursing Practice  
Credits: 3  
This course engages the students in the analysis of philosophical and theoretical perspectives of the discipline of nursing. Paradigms in nursing are examined in relation to advanced nursing practice. Through critical inquiry, theories and empirical evidence are synthesized in order to translate, integrate and disseminate knowledge across disciplines. Advanced nursing practice is studied in the context of complex, clinical, business, ethical and systems issues.

NURS 963 - Advanced Clinical Epidemiology  
Credits: 3  
Epidemiologic research and concepts are synthesized and applied to clinical and population based health to identify and analyze the determinants of health, health promotion and risk reduction strategies, and to evaluate the distribution of health conditions. Epidemiological and biostatistical approaches are used to analyze population data to better understand determinants of health and illness. Prereq: majors only or permission. No credit earned if credit received for NURS 951.

NURS 964 - Technology and Health Care  
Credits: 3  
This course provides students with essential knowledge and skills to utilize information systems/technology to improve and transform health care systems. Students analyze information requirements, design system alternatives, and consider the management of resources. The evaluation of the effectiveness of clinical and/or management information systems in health care is considered. The course examines the resources and methods required to apply technology to enhance health care delivery and provide leadership within health care systems.

NURS 965 - Organizational Leadership  
Credits: 3  
This course focuses on the organization and systems leadership to improve population health. Emphasis is placed on the strategies used in needs assessments and implementation of effective health care programs, policies, and interventions. The advanced nursing professional is prepared to respond to current realities and provide enhanced leadership for future health policy development and professional practice. Prereq: majors only or permission.

NURS 967 - Evidence Synthesis  
Credits: 3  
This course engages the student in the analysis of sources of evidence available for clinical decision making. Guidelines and systematic reviews are developed and examined for application to advanced nursing practice. Prereq: graduate level course in research.

NURS 968 - Nursing Science and Evidence Based Practice  
Credits: 3  
This course focuses on knowledge acquisition of nursing science, nursing theorists, borrowed theorists, and the use of evidence knowledge. Through a process of selective review and critical evaluation, students examine the current literature and explore the issues and trends in the current research in the discipline of nursing. Emphasis is on the critique of research findings and application of research to clinical practice and advanced nursing knowledge. Learners analyze conceptual and theoretical perspectives specific to advancing nursing practice. The processes of creating theory based practice guidelines will be explored. Emphasis on creating strategies for making theory based practice a reality. Prereq: majors only.

NURS 969 - Health Policy and Finance  
Credits: 3  
This course provides knowledge and understanding needed to participate in health policy development, analysis and implementation. The impact of policies on the delivery of health care and nursing services will be explored. The relationship of health policies to the financing of health care will be presented. Students will be introduced to health economics with a focus on the elements of financial management including the language and basic concepts of cost, the budgeting process and systems of reimbursement. Global, national, state, and local systems of financing health care will be compared. Prereq: majors only.
NURS 970 - Clinical Practicum for Advanced Practice Nurse
Credits: 2
This clinical practicum is designed to provide the student with the opportunity to implement the role of the advanced practice nurse while under the supervision of other health care professionals in practice. Student will focus on clinical application of knowledge in a self-designed practicum. Student may complete up to 250 clinical practicum hours in this course, and may repeat this course one time. Prereq: majors only. Cr/F.

NURS 971 - Data Analysis I: Qualitative Methods
Credits: 1
This course includes the application of qualitative data analysis to advanced clinical practice, including skill building in thematic analysis. Selected qualitative research designs are presented and the philosophical underpinnings and specific data collection and analysis methods associated with each design are identified, discussed, compared, contrasted and analyzed. Students identify a method of qualitative analysis to interpret focus group data.

NURS 972 - Data Analysis: Quantitative Methods
Credits: 3
This course includes the application of quantitative data analysis to advanced clinical practice. Topics include descriptive and graphical statistical methods, confidence intervals, hypothesis testing, regression, ANOVA, statistical process control, failure modes and effects analysis, Six-Sigma concepts and methods, quality tools, process capability studies, Lean methodology and measurement system analysis. Use of a statistical software package is an integral part of the course. (Also listed as MATH 837).

NURS 973 - Health Care Quality
Credits: 3
This course prepares the advanced practice nurse with the knowledge, theory and organizational science concepts necessary to design and evaluate performance improvement in health care organizations related to quality and safety. The role and requisite competencies of the DNP in leading innovative quality and safety initiatives are addressed.

NURS 974 - Organizational Behavior
Credits: 3
This course is an exploration of organizational behavior theories and applications designed to improve the student’s understanding of human behavior in organizations. The focus is on the development of strategies for managing behavior in ways that serve both employee and organizational goals while promoting health care concerns.

NURS 975 - Psychotherapeutic Frameworks and Modalities
Credits: 3
Clinical seminars and didactic sessions provide an overview of major concepts, theories, and research related to psychotherapeutic treatments for mental disorders across the lifespan. Integration of psychotherapeutic treatment planning and the application of evidence-based brief psychotherapies for the treatment of particular disorders, symptoms and issues are examined. Prereq: majors only.
Co-requisite: NURS 976

NURS 976 - Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Practicum I
Credits: 3
Clinical training in the full role of the psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner emphasizes integration of two content areas: the knowledge and skills for PM-MHNP practice; and the specific mental health needs. Clinical experiences, lectures, case discussions, and projects allow students the opportunity to develop competencies in the ethical, safe, collaborative, and evidence-based provision of mental health. Minimum of 250 clinical hours. Prereq: majors only. Special fee. IA (continuous grading).
Co-requisite: NURS 975

NURS 977 - Neurobiology of Mental Disorders
Credits: 2
This online course builds on the NP’s fundamental knowledge of anatomy, physiology, and pathophysiology, focusing on major mental disorders across the lifespan. Disorders are examined including various factors such as developmental, genetic, injury, trauma, infection, degeneration, and substance use disorders. Complex networks necessary for maintaining homeostasis within the brain and between the brain and body are examined in relation to these disorders. Prereq: majors only.

NURS 978 - Clinical Psychopharmacology
Credits: 2
This online course provides the NP an overview of the principles and best practices for using psychopharmacology to treat mental disorders across the lifespan. Clinical uses, neuro-pharmacological mechanisms, risks, benefits, and outcomes of commonly used psychotropic drugs in the context of a comprehensive treatment plan are explored. Majors only.

NURS 980 - Doctoral Scholarly Project I
Credits: 3
This course focuses on models and methods of translating evidence into practice, including synthesis of evidence, program planning and evaluation, and preparation of an evidence-based research proposal. Students lay the foundation for their DNP Scholarly Project and may begin their 500 required clinical hours. Prereq: majors only. Cr/F.

NURS 981 - Doctoral Scholarly Project II
Credits: 3
This course encourages further exploration and analysis of the selected client, population, and/or system. Students use their own evidence-based analysis and data from either clinical practice and/or epidemiological studies to guide the design and implementation of the practice dissertation including human subjects review, intervention and analysis. The course includes a clinical practice immersion in the DNP role. Prereq: NURS 980. Cr/F.

NURS 982 - Doctoral Scholarly Project III
Credits: 3
This final course focuses on interpretation and presentation of findings of the DNP Project and a clinical immersion. Students identify additional goals and activities to meet the minimum requirement of 500 practicum hours. Prereq: NURS 981.

NURS 984 - Differential Diagnosis of Mental Disorders
Credits: 3
The NP will develop advanced skills for the differential diagnosis of mental disorders by expanding observational and interviewing skills, and the use and interpretation of screening tools, laboratory tests, and behavioral assessments. Clinical seminars and didactic sessions are based on the most current edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual for Mental Disorders V (DSM 5) and other appropriate methodologies for diagnosis. Majors only.
Co-requisite: NURS 985
NURS 985 - Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Practicum II  
**Credits:** 3  
Clinical II expands training in the full role of the psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner with emphasis placed on the integration of content areas to advance competencies in the ethical, safe, collaborative, and evidence-based provision of mental health. Minimum of 250 clinical hours. Majors only. IA (continuous grading).  
**Co-requisite:** NURS 984

NURS 996 - Independent Study  
**Credits:** 1-3  
Opportunity for study and/or practice in an area of choice. Objectives are developed by students and must be approved by faculty. May be repeated. Prereq: permission.

**Faculty**

See https://chhs.unh.edu/faculty/nursing for faculty.