

MSN Program Course Descriptions

BIO 554 Bioethics (3 credit hours)

Course work includes bioethical analysis. Decision-making and moral policy analysis and formulation encountered in advanced nursing roles are approached from a Christian worldview. Ethical relationships among nursing theory, research, practice, and evaluation in health care delivery to a diverse population are examined.

Pre-requisites: Admission to MSN program

NUR 501 Improving Nursing Practice with Technology (2 credit hours)

Course work explores emerging health care technologies and health informatics and the impact on advanced nursing practice. Emphasis on health information systems prepares students to assimilate an individual's health information into a patient-centered plan of care, analyze and utilize data to improve aspects of health outcomes such as cost, quality, safety, and patient satisfaction, and assess health patterns of populations and aggregates. Application of ethical principles from a Christian worldview in the utilization of health care technologies and informatics are emphasized.

Pre-requisites: NUR 590 or NUR 495

NUR 502 Health Care Policy & Strategies (3 credit hours)

Course work explores the characteristics of the current health care environment with a focus on advanced nursing practice as it pertains to health care policy, organization of health care delivery systems and financing of health care at the local, state, and national level. Emphasis is on multidisciplinary decision-making regarding equitable distribution of existing resources from a Christian perspective. Social determinants of health and patient population outcomes are examined in relation to health policy and finance.

Pre-requisites: NUR 590 or NUR 495 or NUR 505

NUR 503 Leading & Managing in Advanced Nursing Practice (2 credit hours)

Course work explores theories of organizational and systems leadership. Strategies for analysis and implementation of quality initiatives that integrate health informatics to promote culturally responsive, safe, efficient, patient-centered care are emphasized. Students will employ mutually respectful communication to collaborate with the interdisciplinary team to coordinate care and implement quality initiatives that improve health outcomes for patients, families, and communities.

Pre-requisites: NUR 502, NUR 608

NUR 509 Advanced Health Assessment and Diagnostic Reasoning (3 credit hours)

Course work explores the comprehensive health history and physical examination of individuals with consideration to cultural, spiritual, psychosocial, and environmental factors. With emphasis on establishing a caring relationship, students will enhance communication and interviewing skills for obtaining health histories. Students develop skills in differential diagnosis, ordering and interpreting laboratory data, and consultation with the multidisciplinary team to coordinate and formulate a patient-centered plan of care. With consideration to the social determinants of health, students will design and implement clinical prevention services for individuals, families, and communities that emphasize healthy lifestyles.

Pre-requisites: NUR 512

NUR 510 Advanced Pharmacology (4 credit hours)

Course work analyzes the relationship between pharmacologic agents and the physiologic and pathologic responses for specific drug categories utilized in the treatment of a variety of acute and chronic illnesses. Students will develop competence in safely selecting and prescribing medications for the management of illness states while accounting for variation in patient response and cost effectiveness. Students will gain understanding of state and legal requirements related to prescriptive authority of an advanced practice nurse.

Pre-requisites: NUR 509, NUR 512 or instructor consent

NUR 512 Advanced Pathophysiology (3 credit hours)

Using a systems focus, this course will assist the student to develop knowledge of physiology and pathophysiologic processes underlying disease states. The knowledge will serve as the foundation for advanced nursing practice as they assess, diagnose, plan, and manage patient care as well as interpret individual responses to pharmacologic and non-pharmacologic therapy of disease states.

Pre-requisites: Admission to the MSN program or instructor consent

NUR 550 Advanced Nursing Care of Adult & Geriatric Populations I (3 credit hours)

Course work will explore the underlying pathophysiology, assessment, diagnosis, and management of acute illnesses relevant to the care of adult and geriatric populations. From a Christian perspective, emphasis will be placed on clinical prevention and promotion of healthy lifestyles. Students will synthesize knowledge of physical assessment and interpretation of diagnostic and laboratory findings to determine differential diagnoses and coordinate with the multidisciplinary team to develop a comprehensive plan of care that appropriately incorporates pharmacologic and non-pharmacologic therapy.

Pre-requisites: NUR 509, NUR 510, NUR 512

NUR 590 Professional Role Development (2 credit hours)

Course work explores professional role development and performance competence of the nurse in advanced clinical practice within the context of health care delivery systems. From a Christian worldview, students will apply the historical, philosophical, and theoretical base to concepts and processes inherent in nursing to the advanced practice nurse's role in leadership, policy formation, legislation, and nursing advocacy.

Pre-requisites: Admission to MSN program

NUR 607 Advanced Nursing Care of Women & Children (3 credit hours)

Course work explores the underlying pathophysiology, assessment, diagnosis, and management of health states relevant to women and children. From a Christian perspective, emphasis is placed on clinical prevention and promotion of healthy lifestyles. Students will synthesize knowledge of physical assessment and interpretation of differential diagnoses and coordinate with the multidisciplinary team to develop a comprehensive plan of care that appropriately incorporates pharmacologic and non-pharmacologic therapy for common health states of women, childbearing women, and children.

Pre-requisites: NUR 509, NUR 510, NUR 512

NUR 608 Advanced Nursing Research (3 credit hours)

Course work builds on baccalaureate research education to prepare advanced practice nurses to critically evaluate and disseminate research findings and implement evidence-based practice guidelines that improve quality initiatives and health outcomes for patient aggregates. Students will identify practice and health care systems problems that require study in their area of practice which will serve as a foundation for the capstone research project. Advocacy for ethical conduct of research from a Christian worldview will be emphasized.

Pre-requisites: Admission to the MSN program or NUR 308

NUR 609 Advanced Nursing Care of Adult & Geriatric Populations II (3 credit hours)

Course work will explore the underlying pathophysiology, assessment, diagnosis, and management of chronic illnesses relevant to the care of adult and geriatric populations. From a Christian perspective, emphasis will be placed on clinical prevention and promotion of healthy lifestyles. Students will synthesize knowledge of physical assessment and interpretation of diagnostic and laboratory findings to determine differential diagnoses and coordinate with the multidisciplinary team to develop a comprehensive plan of care that appropriately incorporates pharmacologic and non-pharmacologic therapy.

Pre-requisites: NUR 550

NUR 617 Advanced Nursing Internship I (6 credit hours)

This concentrated clinical experience promotes synthesis and application of knowledge of assessment, differential diagnosis, and management of acute and chronic disease states across the lifespan. A variety of clinical settings will be utilized to facilitate the development of critical clinical skills for advanced nursing practice. From a Christian perspective, students will emphasize clinical prevention strategies through

