

Nursing (NURS)

Course information contained within the Bulletin is accurate at the time of publication in June 2025 but is subject to change. For the most up-to-date course information, please refer to the Course Catalog.

NURS 5101. Translation of Evidence in Healthcare. 3 Credit Hours.

The course provides the basis for clinical scholarship development by focusing on essential skills for applying evidence into advanced nursing practice and healthcare systems. Conceptualization, definition, theoretical rationale, and models of evidence-based practice will be evaluated. Students will explore the concept of practice-based knowledge and the process of translation of research into practice. Students will perform a critical review and synthesis of knowledge in their own area of concentration and will identify key concepts and relationships for their practice change that will become the foundation for their scholarly project proposal.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

NURS 5104. Legal and Ethical Issues for Healthcare. 3 Credit Hours.

The purpose of this course is to analyze healthcare practices and policies with a legal and ethical lens. The course will focus on legal and ethical issues with a specific emphasis on healthcare and healthcare equity. Legal and ethical issues related to patients, employees, and organizations will be synthesized. This course, designed for Doctor of Nursing Practice students in the Health Systems Leadership concentration, builds on the knowledge from basic healthcare ethics and policy courses. Advocacy through health policy will be emphasized. The intersectionality of law and ethics in healthcare leadership will be highlighted. The responsibilities of healthcare leaders in the context of the rights and responsibilities of various stakeholders in healthcare will also be evaluated.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

NURS 5108. Human Resource Management in Healthcare. 3 Credit Hours.

This course will explore various aspects of human resource management within healthcare. A health leadership lens will be utilized to analyze the topics of recruitment, retention, professional development, performance management, compensation and benefits, occupational safety, and interpersonal relationships. Through lecture and graded assignments, learners will engage in application of human resource management principles in healthcare.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

NURS 5109. Organizational Theory and Leadership Perspectives. 3 Credit Hours.

This course will focus on the concepts and competencies of successful leaders and organizations. Learners will analyze leadership and organizational theories as they relate to global, national, and local healthcare environments. Foundational elements of strategic planning for organizational structure and sustainability will be emphasized.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

NURS 5202. Executive Leadership in Complex Healthcare Systems. 3 Credit Hours.

This course will focus on the role of executive leadership in complex healthcare systems. Various aspects of the healthcare environment including but not limited to organizational culture, team building, group dynamics, conflicts and conflict resolution, negotiation, power structures, and change as a constant source of power will be explored. Strategies for financial and business management including value-based care, reimbursements, quality management, and marketing will be evaluated. This is an advanced-level course for post-Master's Doctor of Nursing Practice students in the Health Systems Leadership concentration which builds on the basic understanding of the principles of business, economics, innovation, and ongoing program assessment.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

NURS 5401. Advanced Physiology and Pathophysiology. 4 Credit Hours.

A systems approach is used to review normal physiology and analyze selected acute and chronic pathophysiologic states across the life span to provide the scientific rationale for safe and effective advanced nursing practice. Concepts regarding health and illness, normal control and compensatory systems, and subsystem-specific deviations are presented and analyzed. Emphasis is placed on prevalent acute and chronic conditions. Critical thinking and clinical judgment and decision-making skills are further developed through focused study of select disease conditions that emphasizes selection and interpretation of pertinent diagnostics, identification of typical and atypical signs and symptoms, use of appropriate assessment strategies and selection of appropriate therapeutics.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

NURS 5402. Advanced Pharmacotherapeutics. 4 Credit Hours.

This course will explore the principles of advanced pharmacology as they apply to various disease states with consideration of medication selection factors, client adherence, and ethical implications of prescribing. The pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics, adverse drug effects, precautions, and drug interactions of broad categories of drugs are examined. Safe prescribing of therapeutic agents is addressed within the context of specific populations.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

Pre-requisites: Minimum grade of B- in NURS 5401.

NURS 5501. Theories for Advanced Practice Nursing of Families and Individuals. 3 Credit Hours.

In this course, students will become immersed in current family and other systems theories as a foundation to examine the interaction of family structure, function, traits, processes, and health. Students will be able to expand, synthesize, and use current theoretical and research-based frameworks regarding family systems. Assessment and care of families at all stages of development will be highlighted. Empirically based interventions for diverse, underserved families and families as a vulnerable population, will be explored.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

NURS 5552. Advanced Health Assessment and Clinical Reasoning. 4 Credit Hours.

This course builds upon scientific underpinnings to enable the learner to develop a holistic approach to culturally sensitive health assessment including health-related behaviors across the life span. In transitioning from a system to an advanced regional examination approach the learner begins to synthesize data to develop diagnostic reasoning. Psychomotor and cognitive components are integrated through classroom and laboratory experiences.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

Pre-requisites: Minimum grade of B- in NURS 5402.

NURS 8101. DNP Project I: Problem Identification. 2 Credit Hours.

This is the first in a series of three DNP project courses that provides students with a framework to develop an evidence-based scholarly inquiry project. In this course, students will identify a project that evaluates or enhances healthcare outcomes, practice outcomes, or policy outcomes through an interprofessional lens. Students will develop a refined PICOT question to support their literature search and review as they begin development of a quality improvement project.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

Pre-requisites: Minimum grade of B- in EPBI 5001 and NURS 5101.

NURS 8102. DNP Project II: Planning and Development. 2 Credit Hours.

This is the second in a series of three courses that provides students with a framework to develop an evidence-based scholarly inquiry project. This course focuses on further refinement of the DNP project scope. Students will collaborate with an agency mentor and other key stakeholders to finalize the project plan, design the implementation, and establish the evaluation process. Emphasis will be placed on defining measurable goals for the project and identifying a timeline for the implementation of the project. Students will prepare a project proposal for submission to the Institutional Review Board (IRB).

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

Pre-requisites: Minimum grade of B- in NURS 8101.

NURS 8103. DNP Project III: Implementation, Evaluation and Dissemination. 1 to 3 Credit Hour.

This is the final course in the DNP project series in which students incorporate previously acquired knowledge and skills to demonstrate successful implementation, evaluation, and dissemination of the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) scholarly inquiry project. The project is derived from evidence-based research and evolves from a student-initiated area of interest, informed by coursework, clinical practice experience, and collaboration with a community partner. Project execution includes evaluation and dissemination of the findings, including a public presentation, poster presentation and scholarly paper.

Pre-requisites: Minimum grade of B- in NURS 8102.

NURS 8201. Health Indices of Urban Populations in Primary Healthcare. 3 Credit Hours.

This course examines factors critical to the health status of diverse populations across settings, with particular emphasis on urban environments. Variables explored include, but are not limited to, the dynamically interacting systems of education, housing, architecture, transportation, health care delivery, government, economics, law, religion, and culture. The relationships among these potential influences on health status are explored within the context of class and economics as key drivers of health indices. Students engage in course requirements that generate critical analysis of environmental systems that perpetuate poor health indices, particularly among minorities. Students engage in nursing-focused case analyses, problem-based exercises, class discussion, and debates as vehicles for understanding the key constructs explicated in this course.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

NURS 8204. Policy: Health Care Advocacy in Advanced Nursing Practice. 2 Credit Hours.

Through this course, students will analyze health policy to assess its' impact on individual and population health. Social, cultural, economic, and demographic factors are considered. Principles of equity, quality care, and health promotion and illness will be discussed within the broad context of access, insurance, and delivery of healthcare. Nursing's advocacy role in policy evolution is explored and evaluated.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

NURS 8205. Nursing Leadership for Systems and Communities. 2 Credit Hours.

This seminar is the core leadership course for all DNP students. It is designed to help students appreciate and understand the impact of their own strengths and biases, reflect on the importance of diversity in healthcare, and prepare to function and lead effectively within teams to meet the needs of the community. Students will learn about team science and critically analyze various approaches to promoting high-impact teams.

Course Attributes: SI

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

NURS 8206. Health Economics and Business Practices in Primary Healthcare. 2 Credit Hours.

Concepts that influence quality, access, and equity are explored to assess impact on the delivery of healthcare in the US. Reimbursement systems are examined to assess the impact on care decisions made at individual, family, community, and population levels. Gaps in healthcare financing resulting in compromises in health delivery are analyzed, with alternative models of healthcare coverage explored. The integration of business and financial principles into health care delivery is evaluated. Multiple data sets are analyzed to identify variations in health outcomes and to inform the system enhancements students propose to improve outcomes.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

NURS 8207. Advancing Health Through Information Technology. 2 Credit Hours.

Course content emphasizes the role of information technology in supporting the advanced practice nurse as healthcare provider, administrative/financial manager, client educator and researcher, in a variety of health care settings. Foundational concepts in nursing informatics, and its applications in point-of-care technology, data management and analytics, and patient safety and quality are reviewed. Emerging developments in nanotechnology, genomics, and the harnessing of social media in healthcare delivery are explored.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

NURS 8302. Managing Outcomes Through Nursing Quality Initiatives. 3 Credit Hours.

This course focuses on improving health outcomes for individuals and populations through analysis of health reports and implementation of quality initiatives. Organizational systems are analyzed to identify barriers to achieving quality outcomes, including practice patterns, perceived incongruence between productivity and quality, and issues of sustainability. Using the principles of evidence-based practice, we will also discuss programmatic initiatives and policy changes that may lead to improved health outcomes.

Course Attributes: SI

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

NURS 9182. Independent Study. 1 to 6 Credit Hour.

This course is an independent study arranged by a student with a faculty member who has an area of expertise consistent with the project the student wants to develop.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

NURS 9189. Collaborative Partnerships: Interdisciplinary. 1 Credit Hour.

Interactions between health care professional teams within a health care delivery system are explored through case study methodology and fieldwork, relative to a health-related issue. Leadership, communication and team practice capabilities will be compared and contrasted among teams with and without a nurse working in an advanced nursing practice role.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

NURS 9289. Collaborative Partnerships: Transdisciplinary. 1 Credit Hour.

Moving beyond discipline-specific approaches, the advanced practice nursing student will partner with professionals from other fields, such as engineering, criminal justice and education to identify a community issue with health implications and propose an intervention to address the issue that considers and integrates concepts, theory and methodology from nursing as well as other disciplines.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

NURS 9377. Primary Care of Adults and the Elderly I Theory. 3 Credit Hours.

This is the first in a series of courses designed to develop critical thinking skills to provide primary care to adults and the elderly. The course will have an emphasis on diagnosis and management of common acute and chronic health conditions that occur. Course concepts will focus on health promotion, screening, disease prevention, health assessment, pharmacotherapeutic treatment, and other management interventions important in the primary care setting.

Co-requisites: NURS 9387.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

Pre-requisites: Minimum grade of B- in NURS 5552.

NURS 9387. Primary Care of Adults and the Elderly I Practicum. 2 Credit Hours.

This clinical course focuses on knowledge derived from previous courses to provide primary care to the adult and elderly patient. Clinical experiences focus on care of the individual within the context of family and the health care community.

Co-requisites: NURS 9377.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

Pre-requisites: Minimum grade of B- in NURS 5401, NURS 5402, and NURS 5552.

NURS 9389. DNP I Practicum. 2 to 4 Credit Hours.

In this supervised immersion practicum experience, the post-masters nursing student will integrate and demonstrate new skills and knowledge consistent with the Doctor of Nursing Practice Essentials and an advanced nursing practice framework. The practicum experience occurs within a variety of health-related environments and focused areas of specialization under the supervision of a preceptor(s), identified in collaboration with academic program faculty.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

Pre-requisites: Minimum grade of B- in NURS 8302, NURS 8102, NURS 8204, and NURS 8205.

NURS 9477. Primary Care of Adults and the Elderly II Theory. 3 Credit Hours.

This is the second in a series of courses that will build upon previous concepts presented in Primary Care of Adults and the Elderly I. Students will continue to focus on the diagnosis and management of common acute and chronic health conditions in the primary care setting. Students will focus on managing the complex healthcare needs of individuals across the adult lifespan. Emphasis will be placed on health promotion, screening, health assessment, interpreting diagnostic findings, and implementing an evidence-based plan of care.

Co-requisites: NURS 9487.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

Pre-requisites: Minimum grade of B- (except where noted) in NURS 9377 and NURS 9387 (P or higher)

NURS 9487. Primary Care of Adults and the Elderly II Practicum. 2 Credit Hours.

This clinical course builds on knowledge derived from previous courses to provide primary care to the adult and elderly patient. Progression of diagnostic and clinical reasoning skills is emphasized. Clinical experiences focus on care of the individual within the context of family and the health care community.

Co-requisites: NURS 9477.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

NURS 9489. DNP II Practicum. 2 to 4 Credit Hours.

In this supervised immersion practicum experience, further development and integration of the DNP role occurs as the post-masters student continues to build and assimilate knowledge and skill for advanced specialty practice at a high level of complexity. The practicum experience may occur within a variety of health-related environment/s and focused area/s of specialization under the supervision of a preceptor/s, identified in collaboration with academic program faculty.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

Pre-requisites: Minimum grade of P in NURS 9389.

NURS 9577. Primary Care of Adults and the Elderly III Theory. 3 Credit Hours.

This is the third course in the Primary Care of Adults and the Elderly series. Students will refine health assessment skills, diagnose, and manage patients across the adult lifespan. Emphasis will be placed on diagnosis and management of the older adult. Students will explore the chronic and acute illness specific to the older adult. Students will examine concepts related to end-of-life, palliation, and quality of life.

Co-requisites: NURS 9587.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

Pre-requisites: Minimum grade of B- (except where noted) in NURS 9477 and NURS 9487 (P or higher)

NURS 9587. Primary Care of Adults and the Elderly III Practicum. 2 Credit Hours.

This clinical course builds on knowledge derived from previous courses to provide primary care to the adult and elderly patient. Progression of diagnostic and clinical reasoning skills is emphasized. Clinical experiences focus on care of the individual within the context of family and the health care community.

Co-requisites: NURS 9577.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

Pre-requisites: Minimum grade of B- (except where noted) in NURS 9477 and NURS 9487 (P or higher)

NURS 9677. Primary Care of Adults and the Elderly IV Theory. 3 Credit Hours.

This course focuses on strategies to promote health, minimize disability, and improve quality of life in the elderly adult. Students will focus on assessment and management of common acute and chronic illnesses in the primary care setting. Strategies to optimize functional status, quality of life, and improve health related outcomes are explored with attention to cognitive, psychomotor, and affective abilities. The concepts of independent living, assisted living, and skilled care will be introduced. Emphasis will be placed on caring for the aging population with complex healthcare needs. Students will examine legal and ethical issues related to palliative care and end-of-life care.

Co-requisites: NURS 9687.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

Pre-requisites: Minimum grade of B- in NURS 9577.

NURS 9687. Primary Care of Adults and the Elderly IV Practicum. 2 Credit Hours.

This clinical course builds on knowledge derived from previous courses to provide primary care to older adults with increasingly complex acute and chronic conditions. Clinical experiences focus on care of the older individual within the context of family and the health care community.

Co-requisites: NURS 9677.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

Pre-requisites: Minimum grade of B- (except where noted) in NURS 9577 and NURS 9587 (P or higher)

NURS 9777. Primary Care of Children and Youth Theory. 3 Credit Hours.

This course focuses on a holistic approach to primary care for children, adolescents and family. National guidelines that inform primary, secondary, and tertiary prevention of common acute and chronic health problems are reviewed, with a focus on the unique needs of families affected by urban poverty. Through the delivery of primary care, the child and family are supported to establish healthy habits and achieve maximum potential, considerate of developmental stage, anticipatory guidance needs and community resources. Clinical reasoning skills are refined by incorporating nursing, biomedical, and complementary models to foster optimal health outcomes.

Co-requisites: NURS 9787.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

Pre-requisites: Minimum grade of B- in NURS 9577.

NURS 9787. Primary Care of Children and Youth Practicum. 2 Credit Hours.

This clinical course focuses on knowledge derived from core and advanced core courses as well as the concurrent NURS 9777 theory course to provide primary care to pediatric populations. Clinical experiences focus on care of the individual and family within the health care delivery system and the community.

Co-requisites: NURS 9777.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

NURS 9885. DNP Clinical Capstone. 3 Credit Hours.

This course facilitates students' integration of evidence-based research and leadership within their fieldwork practicum. Through critical analysis of knowledge supportive of their practice, students progress from the role of novice provider to more sophisticated and skilled advanced practitioners. The program's systems orientation is explicated in practice through seminars, assignments, fieldwork, and professional presentations. Working in concert with one or more fieldwork preceptors, students practice in their selected specialty track and implement complex clinical reasoning in the provision of care appropriate to the client: an individual, family, community, or the public at large. Students' fieldwork, seminars, and course requirements culminate in nursing expertise in our culture's evolving health care delivery system.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

Pre-requisites: Minimum grade of B- in (NURS 8302 and NURS 5903)

NURS 9886. DNP Evidence-Based Practice Project Implementation. 3 Credit Hours.

This course is a culminating experience for students as they incorporate leadership attributes into their professional repertoire, assuming roles demanding evidence-based change in a selected field. Integrating previously acquired knowledge and skills, students demonstrate successful execution of a fieldwork project in concert with their project mentor(s). Such projects, derived from evidence-based research, evolve from needs identified in the fieldwork experience. Through faculty and mentor-guided seminars, students design and implement projects, providing their fieldwork agencies with final presentations. In cooperation with fieldwork mentors, strategic plans to integrate and evaluate project results are incorporated in final projects.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

Pre-requisites: Minimum grade of B- in NURS 9885.