

# **Department of Nursing**

Graduate Nursing Programs
Student Handbook Supplement

Fall 2022 Academic Year 2022-2023

## **Accreditation Statement**

"The master's degree program in Nursing at AdventHealth University is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (<a href="http://www.ccneaccreditation.org">http://www.ccneaccreditation.org</a>). "



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### **Graduate Nursing Programs**

Welcome to the Graduate Nursing programs of AdventHealth University (AHU) which include the Graduate Certificate in Nursing (Administration and Leadership and Educatation) and Master of Science in Nursing (Administration and Leadership, Education, and Family Nurse Practitioner) programs. The programs have been carefully planned for students to enjoy, as well as, to provide opportunity for a more specialized focus in personal career development. As a means of introducing the University and the Department of Nursing, the mission statements, philosophy and statement of values are included.

## **University Mission Statement**

AdventHealth University, is a Seventh-day Adventist institution, specializing in healthcare education in a faith-affirming environment. Service-oriented and guided by the values of Nurture, Excellence, Spirituality, and Stewardship, the University seeks to develop leaders who will practice *healthcare as a ministry*.

## **Department of Nursing Mission Statement**

In harmony with the AdventHealth University' Mission Statement, the Department of Nursing develops nurse leaders who live the healing values of Christ. Faculty provide educational experiences within a Christian environment, designed to promote excellence in nursing. Furthermore, the Department provides educational opportunities for students to explore and develop university values of nurture, excellence, spirituality, and stewardship as related to nursing leadership.

**Nurture.** Nurture encompasses working with others including nursing colleagues, interprofessional entities, community members, patients, and families. Graduates are equipped to deal effectively with change, assist team members to work collaboratively, and apply critical thinking skills to manage and work with individuals as well as systems.

**Excellence.** Excellence in leadership is promoted through the study of quality initiatives and the safety issues inherent in today's healthcare milieu. Graduates are able to utilize evidence-based practice, provide data and guide others in vital decisions made in healthcare and higher education.

**Spirituality.** Spirituality directs and guides graduates in the practice of Christian professionalism. Guided by Christian ethics and biblical standards, graduates provide vision, offer solutions and assist the organization to operationalize its mission of offering *healthcare as ministry*.

**Stewardship.** Stewardship is also part of the repertoire of graduates as they use organizational resources judiciously. As conscientious stewards, graduates are respectful of the time, effort and resources available to patients and families, coworkers, and the community at large.

#### **Department of Nursing Philosophy**

The faculty believe that the discipline of nursing is both, an art and a science that promotes health through the delivery of wholistic care to individuals, families, and communities. The Department of Nursing uses the Neuman Systems Model as a framework for understanding professional, health-oriented service to individuals, families, and communities.

The practice and teaching of nursing is a calling to exercise God's gifts in a life of service to humanity. Through the profession of nursing, graduates extend the healing ministry of Christ by practicing *healthcare as ministry*. Faculty and students, guided by Christian principles, achieve personal and professional excellence through quality education and life-long learning.

Integrating the concepts from the Neuman Systems Model and AHU's Christian principles, the curriculum addresses the four metaparadigm concepts of nursing: (a) person, (b) environment, (c) health, and (d) nursing as follows.

**Person.** A person is a child of God who is an integrated whole, and created to live in harmony with God, self, and others. A person also is a patient or client system who may be the learner, the faculty, the support staff, an individual, family, or community. The patient or client system consists of five integrated variables that include physiological, psychological, socio-cultural, developmental, and spiritual factors. These variables are integrated into the nursing curriculum to prepare graduates with the capacity for caring, compassion, critical thinking, and respect for the dignity and self-determination of others. The nursing faculty are committed to caring, compassion, critical thinking, and respect for students by modeling these behaviors in the delivery of the curriculum.

**Environment.** The environment is all of God's creation. The environment is an open and dynamic system consisting of intrapersonal, interpersonal, and extra-personal forces influenced by, and influencing the person's response to stressors. The external environment may consist of virtual classrooms, teaching and learning media, practice settings, the student's home and professional employment settings. Internal environments may include spiritual, cultural, psychological, social, and physiological factors that impact teaching, learning transactions, and the capacity for learning. These environmental factors are built into the planning, design, implementation, and evaluation of the curriculum.

**Health.** Health is a continuum of wellness to illness and is dynamic in nature. Optimal wellness or stability is achieved when the total patient or client system needs are met. A reduced state of wellness is the result of unmet patient or client system needs. Health is dependent on the interplay of internal and external resources to support the patient or client system. The nursing curriculum advocates for the health of self and others and is designed with a focus on health promotion, health maintenance, disease prevention, and health restoration. Therefore, the eight principles of health include C-Choice, R-Rest, E-Environment, A-Activity, T-Trust, I-Interpersonal Relationship, O-Outlook, and N-Nutrition (CREATION), and are embedded throughout the curriculum. Students engage in health-related activities across the lifespan that benefit the individual, family, community, and society to enhance optimal functioning.

**Nursing.** Nursing is both, an art and a science that promotes health through the delivery of wholistic care to individuals, families, and communities. Nursing is a dynamic, interactive process and treats human responses to stressors throughout the life span. The curriculum is structured with a focus on the development of nurses who are accountable and responsible for developing and delivering caring, compassionate, wholistic nurse-patient or client system interactions. These interactions are extended through the healing ministry of Christ. Students are nurtured by faculty and learn to nurture others. Pedagogical excellence is modeled in preparing students for patient or client-focused professional nursing care using evidence-based practice.

## **Graduate Program Mission Statement**

The graduate programs are designed to prepare its students to demonstrate caring, Christian principles, based on the AHU core values of Nurture, Excellence, Spirituality, and Stewardship. The program educates students in the advanced practice nursing roles as professional healthcare providers in a multicultural, global society. The program is built on the generalist baccalaureate nursing knowledge that integrates scientific evidence-based findings from the arts, sciences, and humanities. The students will be prepared to lead change in the healthcare system while collaborating with interprofessional teams to improve patient safety and population health outcomes.

### **Graduate Nursing Program Goals**

The Goals of the graduate nursing program are to educate students to:

- 1. Demonstrate caring, Christian principles in advanced nursing practice roles in a multicultural, global society.
- 2. Lead change in the health care system while collaborating with interprofessional teams.
- 3. Provide excellent advanced nursing care that improves patient safety and population health outcomes.
- 4. Incorporate scientific, evidence-based knowledge from the arts, sciences, and humanities.
- 5. Develop professionals who embrace the core values of AHU.

## **Graduate Nursing Program Student Outcomes**

- 1. Completion Rates:
  - a. RN-MSN Program: 70% of students will complete the MSN program within seven years after enrollment in the first nursing course.
  - b. MSN Program: 70% of students will complete the MSN program within five years after enrollment in the first nursing course.
  - c. Graduate Certificate in Nursing Program: 70% of students will complete the Graduate Certificate program within three years after the enrollment in the first nursing course.
- 2. Certification Rates:
  - a. MSN students must pass the certification examination (ANCC and AACN) at a rate of 80% or higher for first-time takers for the most recent calendar year (January 1 through December 31).
- 3. Employment Rates:
  - a. RN-MSN Program: 70% of students will be employed within 12 months upon successful completion of the program.
  - b. MSN Program: 70% of students will be employed within 12 months upon successful completion of the program.
  - c. Graduate Certificate in Nursing Program: 70% of students will be employed within 12 months upon successful completion of the program.

## **Master of Science in Nursing Specialty Tracks**

The MSN program prepares the Registered Nurse (RN) to assume leadership roles to meet the growing need of the healthcare industry, both in the United States and globally. Students have the option of preparing for leadership, either through the Nurse Administration and Leadership, Nurse Education, or Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) specialty tracks.

The Graduate Nursing program provides RNs with quality teaching and learning experiences in an online format which allows further education while maintaining current professional development. Students participate in a virtual community of learners and are mentored by faculty and preceptors via online coursework.

The MSN curriculum includes didactic, discussions, assignments, projects, practica, and intensives that are integrated into selected nursing courses. The clinical assignments may be completed in the community or other health care agencies outside of the virtual classroom setting, using high and low fidelity simulation, and standardized patients.

## **MSN Project**

Students will complete an individual MSN project in their chosen track of concentration. As early as the second trimester, students may begin collaborating with the faculty and advisor regarding the chosen project. This project will be completed with the faculty, approved preceptor, and student.

## **Graduate Certificate in Nursing Tracks**

The graduate certificate in healthcare administration allows current and future healthcare leaders to hone their strategic and inter-professional collaboration skills.

The Graduate Certificate in Nursing Administration and Leadership is designed for nurses looking to expand their administrative expertise and leadership skills. The program prepares graduates with the knowledge and acumen to lead nursing departments.

The Graduate Certificate in Nursing Education is designed for nurses looking to expand their expertise and skills in the design and delivery of nursing instruction. The program meets the needs of complex healthcare settings in the current, globalized world.

## GRADUATE NURSING ADMINISTRATIVE AND ACADEMIC PERSONNEL

## **AdventHealth University**

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## **Academic Administrator**

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## 24/7 Help Desk Technical Support:

Toll Free Telephone: 1-877-642-1902

Submit a ticket or a live chat on the Canvas system

## MSN Admission, Progression, and Completion Policies

**Admission** as a graduate student requires that the applicant:

- 1. Submits an application online with a non-refundable \$50 application fee. Admission files are not considered complete until the application fee is paid; any documents received without an application on file will not be processed.
- 2. Submits official transcripts from all colleges previously attended. Admission GPAs will be calculated based on credits from regionally accredited institutions only. Failure to disclose all colleges previously attended could result in denial or dismissal.
- 3. Submits a copy of an active, unencumbered RN license for the state of residence.
- 4. Has completed a baccalaureate degree in nursing with an overall cumulative GPA of 3.0.

#### OR

Has an Associate degree in nursing with an overall cumulative GPA of 3.0. Completion of designated bridge courses with an overall GPA of 3.0 or higher before progressing to courses numbered 500 and above is also required.

### Additional Requirements for Admission to the MSN-FNP Track

- Minimum 3.0 GPA (nursing and overall cumulative)
- Minimum of 2 years of direct patient care within the past 5 years
- Applicants selected for consideration for admission into the MSN-FNP track will also have to complete a live/virtual face-to-face interview

**Provisional Admission** as a graduate student requires that the applicant with a GPA below the 3.0 requirement, **granted on a case-by-case basis, and does not guarantee admission**:

- 1. Submits an application online with a non-refundable \$50 application fee. Admission files are not considered complete until the application fee is paid; any documents received without an application on file will not be processed.
- 2. Submits official transcripts from all colleges previously attended. Admission GPAs will be calculated based on credits from regionally accredited institutions only. Failure to disclose all colleges previously attended could result in denial or dismissal.
- 3. Submits a copy of an active, unencumbered RN license for the state of residence.
- 4. Student must complete RSCH 512- Research and Evidence-based Practice (3 credits) and RELT 510 Identity and Mission (2 credits) with a course grade of a B or higher in each course to be considered for General admission to the MSN program.
- 5. Write a one-page letter to the Online Vice-Chair of the MSN program for consideration of General admission. Include statements of rationale and plans for success in all courses with a grade of a B or higher.

| RN - MSN Bridge Courses |                            |         |          |                             |         |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|---------|----------|-----------------------------|---------|
| Code                    | Description                | Credits | Code     | Description                 | Credits |
| CHEM 101                | Chemistry                  | 3       | NRSG 314 | Conceptual Foundations      | 2       |
| ENGL<br>101/102<br>OR   | English I and II           | 6       | NRSG 335 | Health Promotion/Assessment | 3       |
| ENGL 250                | Technical Writing          | 3       |          |                             |         |
| STAT 205                | Statistics                 | 3       | NRSG 375 | Gerontological Nursing      | 2       |
| RELT 368                | World Religions            | 3       | NRSG 440 | Community Health for RNs    | 4       |
| RELE 300                | Upper Division<br>Religion | 3       |          |                             |         |

| 15-18   |            |
|---------|------------|
| credits | 11 credits |

Registered Nurses who graduated from a diploma program, or obtained an Associate's or Bachelor's degree in Nursing from a non-regionally accredited institution, or who do not have a baccalaureate degree in nursing will be considered on an individual basis.

**Progression** through the program anticipates that the student will:

- 1. Repeat only one MSN course (including core courses) for any reason, (including withdrawals).
- 2. Earn a grade of B or higher in each course.
- 3. Complete within 5 years if holding a BSN.
- 4. Complete within 7 years if holding an ASN.

#### **Completion**

AdventHealth University will consider students for graduation and conferral of an MSN when the general requirements for graduation are met (see Graduation in the "Academic Information" section in the *Academic Catalog*) and when:

- 1. Completion of a minimum of 31 trimester hours of applicable credits
- 2. Completion of the prescribed course of study for the degree with a minimum nursing GPA of 3.0 and a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0
- 3. Achievement of a minimum grade of "B" (3.0) in each nursing, cognate, and general education course.

Note: AdventHealth University does not accept transfer of graduate course credits to meet requirements for its professional clinical graduate programs.

## **BSN Stop-out Option**

AdventHealth University will consider students for graduation and conferral of a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) when the general requirements for graduation are met (see Graduation in the "Academic Information" section in the *Academic Catalog*) and when:

- 1. Completion of a minimum of 24 trimester hours of applicable nursing credits
- 2. Completion of the prescribed course of study for the degree with a minimum nursing GPA of 2.50 and a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.50
- 3. Achievement of a minimum grade of "C" (2.00) in each nursing, cognate, and general education course.

Note: Students must consult with the AHU Online Registrar and assigned nursing academic advisor to request this option. Students will be required to complete six additional, designated undergraduate BSN nursing courses prior to the conferral of the BSN degree.

# Graduate Certificate in Nursing Admission, Progression, and Completion Policies Admission as a graduate student requires that the applicant:

- 1. Submits an application online with a non-refundable \$20 application fee. Admission files are not considered complete until the application fee is paid; any documents received without an application on file will not be processed.
- 2. Submits official transcripts in English from all colleges previously attended. Admission GPAs will be calculated based on credits from accredited institutions only. Failure to disclose all colleges previously attended could result in denial or dismissal.
- 3. Submits a copy of an active, unencumbered RN license for the state or country of residence.
- 4. Has completed a baccalaureate degree in nursing with an overall cumulative GPA of 3.0.

**Progression** through the program anticipates that the student will:

- 4. Repeat only one Graduate Nursing course for any reason, (including withdrawals).
- 5. Earn a grade of B or higher in each course.
- 6. Complete within 5 years if holding a BSN.

## Completion

AdventHealth University will consider students for graduation and conferral of a Graduate Certificate in Nursing when the general requirements for graduation are met (see Graduation in the "Academic Information" section in the *Academic Catalog*) and when:

- 1. Completion of a minimum of 9-10 trimester hours of applicable credits
  - 2. Completion of the prescribed course of study for the graduate nursing certificate with a minimum nursing GPA of 3.0 and a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0
  - 3. Achievement of a minimum grade of "B" (3.0) in each nursing, cognate, and general course.

Note: AdventHealth graduate certificate in nursing course credits may apply to the AHU's MSN degree requirements.

#### **State of Residence Considerations**

AdventHealth University currently cannot enroll students who are residents of the following states/districts into the MSN Family Nurse Practitioner track: Arizona, Indiana, Kansas, Louisiana, Nebraska, New Mexico, New York, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Wisconsin. AdventHealth University currently cannot enroll students who are residents of the following states/districts into the Graduate Certificate in Nursing and MSN Administration & Leadership and Education tracks: Arizona and Tennessee.

Prospective students are highly encouraged to visit their state board's website for the most updated and accurate information. Note that licensure eligibility determinations are ultimately determined by the appropriate state board that issues the credential to practice.

If you are unsure whether you are eligible for the Graduate Nursing programs based on your state of residence, please **Schedule a Call** with our Admissions Coordinator.

## Readmission after a Break in the Program

Students who have not matriculated for one-to-two trimesters may resume their studies after first consulting with the AHU Online Registrar and assigned nursing advisor and providing proof of current licensure. Students who have not matriculated for three or more trimesters must reapply to the program by completing a new application and going through the process for readmission. The program guidelines for the current Academic Catalog will apply. Students may not be readmitted after dismissal.

#### **MSN Learning Outcomes**

Upon completion of the program, the student will have achieved the following learning objectives, listed here to correlate with AHU learning outcomes:

**Caring:** The AHU graduate will be a caring professional who possesses a willingness to nurture other individuals in the context of healthcare as a ministry.

1. The MSN graduate will demonstrate caring, Christian principles in leading collaborative inter-professional care teams.

**Communication:** The AHU graduate will be an effective communicator who possesses appropriate verbal, nonverbal and written skills in the practice of healthcare as a ministry.

2. The MSN graduate will integrate advanced communication skills and information management proficiency as a health care leader.

**Critical Thinking:** The AHU graduate will be a critical thinker who gathers relevant information and analyzes and uses that knowledge in practicing healthcare as a ministry.

3. The MSN graduate will incorporate critical thinking and clinical reasoning to

address healthcare needs throughout the lifespan.

**Ethical Moral:** The AHU graduate will exhibit the characteristics of a Christian professional, treating everyone with respect and dignity in the context of healthcare as a ministry.

4. The MSN graduate will evaluate ethical, legal, economic, and political factors as a basis for management of healthcare care for individuals, families, and communities.

**Professional Expertise:** The AHU graduate will demonstrate professional expertise by passing appropriate professional examinations and exhibiting proficiencies within the context of healthcare as a ministry.

- 5. The MSN graduate will translate nursing research and other evidence-based approaches for use in safe nursing practice.
- 6. The MSN graduate will design innovative nursing practices to meet the health care needs of a variety of client populations.
- 7. The MSN graduate will demonstrate excellence in the advanced professional nursing role of the educator/leader/advanced nurse practitioner to advance the healthcare system.
- 8. The MSN graduate will synthesize knowledge from nursing, the arts and sciences, and humanities to lead change for the improvement of quality outcomes for patient or clients.

**Service to the Community:** The AHU graduate will be one who fulfills their social, civic and environmental responsibilities in their involvement of healthcare as a ministry.

9. The MSN graduate will be sensitive and responsive to the health needs of the wider community.

**Lifelong Learning:** The AHU graduate will be a lifelong learner who pursues excellence and the ongoing acquisition of knowledge and professional expertise.

10. The MSN graduate will advance a culture of excellence that fosters ongoing professional growth and development in self, the healthcare team, and the profession.

### **Specific Policies**

The following guidelines describe regulations of the program governing specific situations. Students participating in the program are expected to abide by these policies.

#### **Professional Licensure**

Students in graduate nursing programs are required to maintain an active unencumbered registered nursing license in good standing throughout their course of study. The nursing program reserves the right to request updated evidence of licensure status at any time. If at any time a student becomes unlicensed for any reason, or the student is obligated to surrender licensure in any jurisdiction for disciplinary reasons or experiences any other change in licensure status (e.g., expiration dates, revocation, suspension, change of names) the student must inform AHU Department of Nursing of the change. This notification must occur immediately if the student is currently participating in a course. If the student is not registered in a course at the time of the change, the notification must occur prior to registering for the next course. A copy of all licensure changes must be submitted to the Online Associate Registrar. *Please be aware that the University is obligated to report any attempts at misrepresenting licensure status to appropriate regulatory agencies*.

#### **Confidentiality of Information**

All agency and client information that students receive while completing practice immersion is considered confidential according to HIPAA. Release of this data (i.e., oral, written, electronic, or through any other means) to an individual or entity who does not have an authorized need to know is prohibited. Students must not discuss agency business outside the clinical agency with anyone, including other students, family members, or agency personnel by any means – orally, in writing or via social

media; doing so will violate the right of privacy of others.

Relevant client/agency information that is shared in group activities, discussion forums, or written assignments must be done in a manner that ensures confidentiality and anonymity of the involved clients or agency. Students may ensure confidentiality and anonymity by using alternate names or initials. *If photos are taken of students engaged in practice immersion experiences, clients or patients should not be included in the picture*. Any inappropriate or unauthorized retrieval, review, or sharing of confidential information is considered a breach of confidentiality. Students who violate or participate in a breach of confidentiality will face disciplinary action (see *Disciplinary Policy*).

#### **Dress Code**

AdventHealth University subscribes to a dress code that reflects principles of Christian modesty, neatness, simplicity, and appropriateness. In keeping with this philosophy, students are required to adhere to the following dress code when completing clinical projects and assignments:

- 1. Students who implement clinical assignments within an agency must abide by the agency's dress code. Students must identify themselves as students of the University by wearing their University-issued identification badges. Students are not permitted to wear employer identification badges while in the pursuit of course-related activities.
- 2. The acceptable jewelry is a wedding band and/or engagement ring and post-type earrings; one on each ear-lobe.
- 3. Makeup and nail polish, if worn, should be minimal and must maintain a healthy, natural look.
- 4. Any time students are on official [non-clinical] business in an agency, they must dress appropriately. This means professional-type attire that would be worn in an office or business-type setting (dress slacks or skirt with professional top). *Jeans, flip-flops, shorts, low-cut tops, halter-tops, leggings, and revealing clothing are not considered appropriate attire.* Uniforms and scrubs are not appropriate for these activities unless specifically required by the agency personnel.
- 5. Tattoos must be covered.

## **Grading Policy**

A variety of assignments and other tools will be used to evaluate student progress and in computing course grades. The criteria for these evaluations are listed within each specific course syllabus. Course grades are recorded as follows:

| Graduate |                           |            |           |  |
|----------|---------------------------|------------|-----------|--|
| Grade    | Frade Percentage Rounding |            |           |  |
|          |                           | Percentage |           |  |
| A        | 90-100%                   | 89.5-100   | 4.00/4.00 |  |
| В        | 80-89%                    | 79.5-89.4  | 3.00/4.00 |  |
| С        | 70-79%                    | 69.5-79.4  | 2.00/4.00 |  |
| D        | 60-69%                    | 59.5-69.4  | 1.00/4.00 |  |
| F        | 0-59%                     | 0-59.4     | 0.00/4.00 |  |
|          |                           |            |           |  |
| ≥0.5     | Round up to               |            |           |  |
| ≤0.4     | Round down to next number |            |           |  |

## Withdrawal/Drop Policy

Students must download the withdrawal form from the AHU website, complete the form and submit to the On-line Associate Registrar. The grade recorded will be based on the date the withdrawal form is received. If the student stops attending a course and does not submit the withdrawal form by the deadline, a grade of "WF" (withdrawal/failing) may be recorded for that course.

## **Incomplete Grade Policy**

A grade of Incomplete (I) is assigned when extenuating circumstances, such as illness, the death of a family member, or a family emergency, prevent a student who is *passing a course* from completing the *final assignment* and other course requirements by the end of the trimester. Students must notify the course's lead faculty of their intent to apply for an incomplete grade. The information submitted to the lead faculty must be specific enough that an appropriate determination for approval may be made. The lead faculty determines whether the request meets the criteria for an incomplete grade and forwards the request to the Dean of the Department of Nursing who makes the final determination for approval.

The form then is sent to the Office of the Registrar. Incomplete coursework must be *completed by the subsequent trimester per the academic catalog*. It is the student's responsibility to maintain contact with the lead faculty during the time contracted to complete the course work. Students must submit all course work established in the incomplete contract to change an incomplete grade to a course grade. If the student does not complete the contracted work by the established deadline, the incomplete grade will automatically revert to the grade earned at the end of the course. Students who cannot complete the contractual work by the specified deadline may request an extension from the lead instructor. Requests for extensions are individually considered and must be submitted *in writing at least three days* before the deadline established in the contract. Students will not be granted additional time to complete assignments submitted after the contracted date without the *approved extension*. Students are assessed a charge for the processing of an Incomplete grade. Refer to Fee Schedule in the *Academic Catalog*.

## **Attendance Policy**

Students must interact in their respective courses during the first week of the trimester to validate attendance. Several opportunities are provided in the course to validate attendance. Students will be administratively withdrawn, who are not present during the first week.

Students failing to participate in course activities are subject to administrative withdrawal from the course. The student will be administratively withdrawn from the course if there are two consecutive weeks of recorded absence without notification to the faculty.

Students who do not provide prior notification of an intended absence (i.e., except in extenuating circumstances) will not have opportunities to complete missed assignments. Students who have extenuating circumstances that will prohibit them from actively participating in the course are responsible for notifying the faculty. If arrangements cannot be made, the student may consider requesting an incomplete grade, if applicable, or withdrawing from the course. Documentation of the circumstances necessitating the absence may be required.

#### **Assignment Submission**

Students are expected to be actively engaged in enrolled courses. This includes the timely and complete submission of all course components (e.g., assignments, projects, postings, exams) prior to the last day of the trimester term. All due dates will include "New York, EST zone" for all assignments, papers, and projects. Each course faculty will determine the late submission policy, that will be specified in each course syllabus. Submissions made after the deadline will be subject to point deductions as specified

**in each course syllabus**. Any partial work submitted, or a failure to attempt work, will also be evaluated for a grade by each course faculty. Failure to complete all coursework by the end of the trimester term will result in a grade of an "F" or Incomplete, which will be at the faculty's discretion.

When uploading documents to the assignment drop boxes and discussion forums, it is the student's responsibility to ensure that the attachment has been successfully submitted. Any submissions made in which the attachment is not present in the assignment drop box the final grade may result in a **zero**. The document that is submitted will be considered the official submission for that student. Students are responsible for ensuring that the document they submit prior to the deadline is reflective of their final work.

## **Turnitin Policy**

All written assignments must be submitted to Turnitin per each course syllabus and in each course, faculty will determine the similarity percentage acceptable for course assignments with the maximum being no higher than 25 percent similarity.

#### **Exam Review for Online Courses**

It is important to recognize that the online classroom is in fact a learning environment, and certain moral and ethical behaviors are expected when you engage in academic work. *Please refer to the Exam Review for Online Courses Policy located on the my.ahu.edu website.* 

#### **General Guidelines**

In order to maintain the integrity of the assessments delivered throughout the program, students will not have access to an exam/quiz once it has been submitted. Students will only receive their overall score on the exam/quiz. If a student has a specific question regarding the exam, he/she should contact the course instructor or section adjunct.

#### **General Practices**

In keeping with this policy, the course instructor or section adjunct are not permitted to review your exam and tell you specifically which questions you missed. Rather, providing an inquiry to the course instructor or section adjunct regarding a specific subject matter or content of a question that you would clarity or further explanation on is the appropriate request. This approach will allow the course instructor or section adjunct to further explain or clarify a concept that will enhance your learning.

## **Synchronized Discussions**

Synchronized discussions are live interactive components of the program, and are not mandatory. Discussions may be offered as an option, and each course will state alternative ways of achieving the intended learning outcomes.

#### **Student Participation in Governance of the Program**

Students will be invited to participate in a Nursing Forum each trimester. Announcement of the forums will be made via the nursing course messaging system.

#### **Petitions**

Petitions for academic exemption will only be considered in extenuating circumstances.

#### **Professional Behaviors during Immersion Experiences / Observations**

When completing clinical assignments, students are responsible for:

- 1. Arriving on time for scheduled appointments.
- 2. Completing required documents and reviewing procedures related to immersion experiences or project presentations.
- 3. Seeking every possible learning opportunity by using initiative, asking questions, and becoming active participants in the learning process.
- 4. Behaving as a "guest" in the clinical facility.
- 5. Establishing positive rapport with the "host" by:

- A. Being polite in one's interactions with the staff.
- B. Abiding by policies and procedures unique to the facility.
- C. Using professional judgment when expressing negative feelings about occurrences in the clinical agency.
- D. Showing interest and enthusiasm for learning.
- E. Expressing appreciation to those who helped contribute to one's learning experiences.

## **Photographs**

A University-issued identification badge is required and must be worn during attendance at all practicum assignments. It is also required that a photograph of each student is posted in the online classroom for the following verification purposes:

- 1. Identification as an AHU student when completing practicum assignments.
- 2. Identification as the presenter in practicum assignments.
- 3. A face-to-face contact for online communication and examination.

### **Graduate Nursing Academic and Professional Integrity**

Students in graduate nursing programs are expected to exhibit high levels of integrity in all activities. AdventHealth University reserves the right to deny admission to, or remove a student from, a graduate nursing program if the student has a record of misconduct unbecoming a professional practitioner or demonstrates behaviors that put the student, peers, or the University at risk. Academic dishonesty is not tolerated in graduate nursing programs.

## **AHU Academic Integrity and Code of Conduct**

With each course, it is important that students adhere to academic integrity and code of conduct outlined in AHU's catalog. Academic misconduct, including but not limited to, cheating on examinations, plagiarism, fabrication, forgery, obstruction, multiple submissions, complicity, and misconduct in research assignments, computer misuse, and the misuse of intellectual property will not be tolerated. Students who are found to be cheating may be administratively dismissed from the program.

A student who violates standards of academic and professional integrity *may* receive a failing grade for the assignment or the course. The student will not have the option of a grade of "W" in the course and depending on the nature of the offense, *may be subject to warning, academic probation, suspension, or immediate dismissal from the program and/or the University.* Refer to the *Disciplinary Policy* for further information. Integrity issues are referred to the AHU Citizenship Committee.

#### **Netiquette Guide for Online Courses**

It is important to recognize that the online classroom is in fact a learning environment, and certain behaviors are expected when you communicate with both your peers and your instructors. These guidelines for online behavior and interaction are known as netiquette. *Please refer to the Netiquette Guide for Online Course Policy located on the my.ahu.edu website.* 

#### Security

- Remember that your password is the only thing protecting you from pranks or more serious harm.
- Do not use passwords that are based on personal information that can be easily accessed or guessed.
- Do not share your password with anyone.
- Change your password if you think someone else might know it.
- Always log out when you are finished using the system.
- Logging on and allowing others to access course materials is considered an academic violation.

#### **General Guidelines**

When communicating online, you should always:

- Treat your instructor and classmates with respect in email or any other communication.
- Always use your professors' proper title: Dr. or Prof., or if in doubt use Mr. or Ms.
- Unless specifically invited, don't refer to your instructor by first name.
- Use clear and concise language.
- Remember that all college level communication should have correct spelling and grammar (this includes discussion boards).
- Avoid slang terms such as "wassup?" and texting abbreviations such as "u" instead of "you."
- Convey a positive tone through word choice, syntax, punctuation, letter case, sentence length, opening, and closing. Written tone effects the reader just as the tone of one's voice.
- Use standard fonts
- Avoid using the caps lock feature AS IT CAN BE INTERPRETED AS YELLING.
- Limit and possibly avoid the use of emoticons like or : ).
- Be cautious when using humor or sarcasm as tone is sometimes lost in an email or discussion post and your message might be taken seriously or sound offensive.
- Be careful with personal information (both yours and others').
- Do not send confidential information via e-mail.
- Check your email daily.

#### **Email Netiquette**

When you send an email to your instructor, teaching assistant, or classmates, you should:

- Use a descriptive subject line.
- Use a salutation when writing a message "hello, good morning, etc"
- Be brief.
- Avoid attachments unless you are sure your recipients can open them.
- Sign your message with your name, course name, and best contact/e-mail address if it differs from the platform you are using.
- Think before you send the e-mail to more than one person. Does everyone really need to see your message?

- Be sure you REALLY want everyone to receive your response when you click, "reply all."
- Be sure that the message author intended for the information to be passed along before you click the "forward" button.
- Double check the accuracy of the email address and email recipient before you click "send".

## Message Board Netiquette and Guidelines

When posting on the Discussion Board in your online class, you should:

- Make posts that are on topic and within the scope of the course material.
- Take your posts seriously and review and edit your posts before sending.
- Be as brief as possible while still making a thorough comment.
- Always give proper credit when referencing or quoting another source.
- Be sure to read all messages in a thread before replying.
- Do not repeat someone else's post without adding something of your own to it
- Avoid short, generic replies such as, "I agree." You should include why you agree or add to the previous point.
- Always be respectful of others' opinions even when they differ from your own.
- When you disagree with someone, you should express your differing opinion in a respectful, non-critical way.
- Do not make personal or insulting remarks.
- Be open-minded.

## **Disciplinary Process**

The disciplinary process is intended to help the student identify and correct unacceptable behaviors or noncompliance with one or more of University or Departmental policies. Implementation of disciplinary action is used to maintain a positive learning environment and to promote professional growth. There are four steps in the disciplinary process and these steps may be implemented at any time throughout the program. The *process may begin at any step* depending on the circumstances and behaviors. A formal documentation of the circumstances warranting the disciplinary action and the outcomes of the action is recorded in the student's academic file. The disciplinary process is cumulative and remains in effect throughout the graduate program. The four steps of the disciplinary process are:

- 1. Documentation
- 2. Warning
- 3. Probation
- 4. Dismissal

Depending on the circumstances and severity of the infraction, the student may be immediately placed in the warning, probation, or dismissal status. The following are common infractions that would lead to disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal from the program. (Note: this list is not inclusive of all possible infractions):

- 1. Breaching confidentiality (see Confidentiality Policy)
- 2. Fabricating data
- 3. Giving, receiving, or using unauthorized information

- 4. Cheating on assignments, examinations, or other academic work
- 5. Plagiarizing the work of others
- 6. Being disruptive or unpleasant to others in group activities, discussion forums, student lounges, or other interactive communication media
- 7. Using unacceptable language or tone in any means of communication
- 8. Engaging in dishonest, unethical, or unprofessional conduct with immersion agency staff
- 9. Inflicting physical, mental, or emotional harassment directed at any student, faculty, or staff associated with AHU or its affiliate agency partners
- 10. Failing to follow rules and regulations established by the Department of Nursing
- 11. Failing to follow rules and regulations established by the University

## **Disciplinary Process**

- 1. **Documentation.** Documentation is initiated immediately following an unacceptable or noncompliant behavior. Application of other steps in the disciplinary process may be required, based on the severity of the action.
- 2. *Warning.* Students are placed on warning status with the second documentation of an unacceptable or noncompliant behavior. Application of further steps in the disciplinary process may be required, based on the severity of the action.
- 3. Probation. Students are placed on probationary status with the third documentation of an unacceptable or noncompliant behavior. Application of further steps in the disciplinary process may be required, based on the severity of the action.
  Note: All students who are readmitted to the nursing program after dismissal re-enter the program on a probationary status. Failure to comply with the terms of the readmission contract will lead to the next step in the disciplinary process, which is dismissal.
- 4. **Dismissal.** A first documented unacceptable or noncompliant action may lead to immediate dismissal, depending on the severity of the infraction. An example of an action that may lead to immediate dismissal is gross plagiarism (taking ownership of the original work of others). Students may be dismissed from the nursing program with the fourth documented unacceptable or noncompliant behavior.

#### **Faculty Obligations**

- 1. The graduate faculty member will confer with the student and complete the first page of the disciplinary action documentation form. The faculty will inform the student that the outcome will be determined by the faculty. If the infraction is minor and only warrants documentation, the student will be informed immediately of the outcome by the lead faculty (next step in the disciplinary process).
- 2. The gradaute full time faculty, including the Online Vice-Chair and the Dean of the Department of Nursing will confer to determine the severity of the infraction whenever the student may potentially be placed on warning, probation, or dismissal status.
- 3. Dismissal of a student with or without the specified number of documentations will be discussed with Online Nursing Vice-Chair, Department of Nursing Dean, and Senior Vice-President for Operational Strategy and Learning prior to notification to the student.
- 4. The Online Nursing Vice-Chair will complete the documentation for all students placed on warning, probation, or dismissal status. In addition, the student will be informed of the decision in writing on a "Disciplinary Action" form and in a telephone or face-to-face conference, depending on the student's geographic location.

#### **Conflict Resolution / Grievance**

The Nursing Department promotes open communication, professionalism and resolution of conflict at the level at which it occurs. Students who believe that their academic rights have been infringed upon or that they have been treated unjustly are entitled to fair, impartial consideration.

#### **Definition of Terms**

- 1. Concern /Complaint: A matter for the faculty to consider
- 2. Conflict: differences expressed verbally or in writing
- 3. Grievance: written statement submitted by the student to the Department Dean, after completing steps one through three below

#### **Grievance Process**

The following grievance process applies to the graduate nursing program (also see the *Academic Catalog*):

- 1. **Step 1:** Discuss the concern/complaint with the involved faculty member no later than 1 week after the incident.
- 2. **Step 2**: The involved faculty must respond in writing to the student within one week of receipt of the complaint.
- 3. **Step 3:** If the issue is not resolved, a written statement should be submitted to the next level (from faculty to lead faculty; from lead faculty to Online Nursing Vice-Chair) no later than one week after the response from the first response. The next level faculty will then confer with the initial faculty and respond to the student in writing within one week of receiving the student's written statement.
- 4. **Step 4:** If a resolution is not reached, the student submits a written statement to the Department Dean no later than one week after the Online Nursing Vice-Chair's response. The Department Dean will investigate the issue and reply in writing to the student within one week of receiving the student's written statement. *This step is considered to be a formal grievance at this point.* The student must submit the written formal grievance to the Department Dean within 4 weeks of the occurrence.
- 5. **Step 5:** If the student is still not satisfied with the outcome, the student may request that all materials related to the grievance, including the written statements of the Online Nursing Vice-Chair and the Department of Nursing Dean is given to the Senior Vice-President for Operational Strategy and Learning who will review the grievance materials and return a written decision within two (2) weeks.

#### **Grievance Resources**

An open access policy is maintained throughout the Department of Nursing to promote communication and resolution of concerns. Individuals are encouraged to attempt resolution at the level at which it occurred. Students have access to the full-time faculty's campus telephone numbers and may contact the faculty either through the classroom e-mail or the faculty's University e-mail address. Students should contact faculty through the course e-mail system. Some faculty are not located on campus and cannot be accessed through the campus telephone numbers.

**Note**: Most of the concerns expressed by students relate to grades. Assignments are graded by the faculty without bias, using the grading rubrics developed by the lead faculty. Read the faculty feedback and review the assignment against the rubric to ensure compliance with the grading criteria before expressing concerns about grades. All concerns regarding grades should be communicated to the faculty **within one** 

(1) week of receipt of the grade.



| ADVENTHEALTH UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF NURSING DISCIPLINARY ACTION DOCUMENTATION FORM |  |   |  |
|--|--|---|--|
|  | Student Name<br>Course number and name   | Date of Incident                          |  |
| The discipli   | <ol> <li>Documentation</li> <li>Warning</li> <li>Probation</li> <li>Dismissal</li> </ol> |   |  |
| Steps taken  | in this process remain in effect throughout the entir                                    | re program (See the Disciplinary Policy). |  |
| DESCRIPT   | TION OF BEHAVIOR(S) OR INCIDENT(S):  |   |  |
| GOAL(S) I  | FOR IMPROVEMENT:   |   |  |
| Faculty's S  | Signature:   | Date:                                     |  |
|  |  | Student Initials                          |  |

| ACTION TAKEN:                 |                      |                      |         |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------|
| ( ) DOCUMENTATION ( ) WARNING | ( ) <u>PROBATION</u> | ( ) <u>DISMISSAL</u> |         |
| Comments:                     |                      |                      |         |
| STUDENT'S RESPONSE            |                      |                      |         |
| Signature                     | <br>Date             |                      | Student |
| FACULTY SIGNATURES            |                      |                      |         |
| Course Faculty                | Date                 |                      |         |
| Vice-Chair                    | Date                 |                      |         |
| Department Dean               | Date                 |                      |         |
|                               |                      |                      |         |

Graduate Nursing Student Handbook Supplement

Copies to: Student, Academic Record

#### **MSN Curricula**

All students must participate in a series of core classes, which contain material expected of all MSN graduates. Students may choose either the Administration and Leadership, Education, or Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) track. Courses are offered as 7-week or 14-week courses during each trimester.

Students with a BSN, and students who have completed the bridge courses by studying full-time (7-9 credits per trimester), may complete the MSN degree within two (2) years. The MSN may be completed as a part-time option, based on the individualized plan of study.

## **Practicum Experiences**

Practicum experiences are a part of the Administrative and Leadership, Education, and Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) Tracks. These experiences include a variety of activities in collaboration with the MSN faculty's recommendation, divided between two to three terms, or in the final trimester after preparatory course work completion.

The MSN Clinical Coordinator strives to assign clinical sites and preceptors to MSN students residing in following Central Florida areas (**Orange, Osceola, and Seminole Counties**). However, clinical placement and preceptors are not guaranteed. Students residing outside Central Florida (based on your address upon admission) are responsible for securing a qualified preceptor and clinical site under the supervision and approval of the MSN Clinical Coordinator.

The clinical coordinator and faculty will assist you with securing the affiliation agreement and clinical site, once you have identified a willing and qualified preceptor. If at any point during your matriculation through the Family Nurse Practitioner program you decide to move to Florida, you will remain responsible for finding your clinical placement. You are required to notify the clinical coordinator and faculty of your intent to move to Florida by completing an academic petition that includes the date of your potential move. It is important that you begin seeking your clinical site as soon as possible. Securing an affiliation agreement can be arduous, begin the process early.

## **MSN-FNP Stop-Out Statement**

Students who stop-out of the MSN-FNP track for any reason will not be guaranteed clinical placement outside of their original cohort. Students may be required to find their own clinical placement.

If a student decides to stop-out after completing MSNP 535, the student must immediately notify the FNP Program Coordinator and MSN Clinical Coordinator. A Stop-out Action Plan will be implemented to help the student maintain their advanced assessment skill set and promote competence in the clinical setting. Failure to follow and complete this process will result in delayed program progression.

\*FNP students are strongly advised against working full-time while enrolled in Practicum coruses.

#### **Graduate Certificate in Nursing Curricula**

All graduate nursing students must participate in a series of core classes. Students may choose either the Administration and Leadership or Education track. Courses are offered in 7-week or 14-week terms.



## AdventHealth University Department of Nursing Online Nursing Programs Progression Action Plan

| Studer  | nt Name:   | Date:                    | Courses:                     |                    |
|---------|--|--------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|
| In an e | ffort to best prepare you for cli  | inical after stop-out or | incomplete the following     | additional         |
|         | ments are required prior to reer   |                          |                              |                    |
|         | er. The purpose of these assign  |                          | ır knowledge and skills up   | to date. You will  |
| be requ | aired to complete the following  | <b>;</b> :               |                              |                    |
| €       | Required meeting with FNP  | Faculty team.            |                              |                    |
| €       | Required meeting with Chapl  | lain or Counselor.       |                              |                    |
| €       | Complete the Aquifer Radiol  | ogy cases before         | . There are a total of       | of 19 cases.       |
| €       | Complete the Aquifer High V  | Value Care cases before  | e. There are a t             | total of 12 cases. |
|         | You will receive an email fro  | m Aquifer to register    | for these courses if you har | ve been removed    |
|         | from the Aquifer system. Ple   | ase let me know if you   | ı have any questions about   |                    |
| €       | Perform a faculty evaluated h  | nead to toe physical ex  | am. You will complete you    | ur scheduled       |
|         | physical exam check-off with   | assigned faculty on      | <u>.</u>                     |                    |
| €       | Must complete clinical   | hours by                 | <u>.</u>                     |                    |
| €       | Other  |                          | _                            |                    |
| outline | nplete the prescribed course of d above.  action plan can be modified as |                          | adhere to this Progression A | Action Plan as     |
|         | Student  | _                        | Date                         |                    |
| FNP P   | rogram Coordinator   |                          | Date                         | -                  |
| Online  | Vice-Chair   |                          | Date                         | _                  |
|         |  | -                        |                              | —                  |

Students are required to read and sign the AHU MSN Clinical Commitment Contract. Please see sample below:



Please initial each statement:

## ADVENTHEALTH UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF NURSING AHU MSN CLINICAL COMMITMENT CONTRACT

I understand that I will follow the clinical schedule provided by the preceptor at 100%. If not, I will forfeit all current and future clinical placement by AHU clinical coordinators and clinical placement will not be reconsidered for any reason. I understand that clinical hours will be scheduled at the availability of the preceptor. Preceptors are not required to meet the personal schedules of students. I understand that clinical rotations are the priority. Personal and work schedules are expected to accommodate the provided clinical schedule. I understand that full-time employment is not recommended during the last two trimesters of the program. If working, the provided clinical schedule must be priority. I understand that I am responsible for transportation to my assigned clinical rotations which may require a driving distance up 2 hours I understand that if I decline clinical placement, I will be required to find my own clinical placement outside of all AHU FNP clinical partner sites. \_I understand that if clinical requirements are not met, I will receive an incomplete, graduation may be delayed, tuition will not be reimbursed, and I will be responsible for finding all remaining clinical rotations. Please Check Only One: I accept terms of clinical placement by AHU as described above. I decline clinical placement by AHU and will be responsible to find my own rotations. Print name Date Sign name

## **Practicum Requirements**

All MSN student practicum requirements must be submitted in both the Typhon & CastleBranch Clinical Management Systems.

\*\*Students may **Not** begin any practicum hours until all requirements are uploaded and verified\*\*

Please access the two (2) Clinical Management System Websites listed below:

#### **Typhon**

Typhon is the clinical management system students will use to input clinical hours and documentation. All clinical hours will be approved by the preceptor in Typhon. Upload all documents in Typhon at <a href="https://www.typhongroup.net/ahu">https://www.typhongroup.net/ahu</a> (Estimated cost \$90, one-time fee).

- 1. Resume or Curriculum Vitae (CV)
- 2. HIPAA Training Documentation
- 3. Nursing License (Unencumbered and active)
- 4. Basic Life Support (BLS) Certification

#### CastleBranch

Students are required to submit all documents listed below in Castlebranch prior to beginning the clinical rotation experience. Upload all documents to <a href="https://portal.castlebranch.com/DV29/contact-us">https://portal.castlebranch.com/DV29/contact-us</a> (Estimated cost \$150 one-time fee).

- 1. Updated immunizations: MMR, Varicella, Hepatitis B, Tetanus, and annual Influenza.
- 2. Physical Examination
- 3. Health Insurance Card and Health Insurance Verification Form
- 4. Criminal Background Check and Finger Printing \*Valid for 1 year at some facilities\*
  - a. Respective students should be aware that a criminal record may be cause for denial of clinical placement and removal from the MSN online nursing program.
- 5. Drug Test \*Valid for 1 year at some facilities\*
- 6. Professional cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) certification from the American Heart Association including infant, child, and adult.
- 7. Annual Mask Fit
- 8. HIPAA Training Documentation

- 9. TB (PPD) Screening (If the test is positive, refer to the Clinical Compliance Tracker in CastleBranch for additional information).
  - a. TB screening is a one-time requirement, upon acceptance into the Nursing Program. If the student is not enrolled in the Nursing program, greater than four (4) months; prior to returning to the Nursing Program, an updated tuberculosis screening is required. This is for the Orlando campus and Online students. Depending on clinical faculty, an additional TB screening maybe required.

#### ADMINISTRATION/LEADERSHIP TRACK

**MSNL 595: Leadership Practicum-Human Resources Immersion** (1 cr) (14-wk) This course focuses on the management of human resources, staffing, scheduling, conflict management, and staff development. Students are expected to complete fifty (50) clinical hours.

MSNL 596: Leadership Practicum- Finance Immersion (1 cr) (14-wk) This course focuses on the management of financial resources, budgeting, waste control, resource acquisition, participation in system-wide relationships, and committees. Students are expected to complete fifty (50) clinical hours.

MSNL 597: Leadership Practicum-Leadership/Management Project (1 cr) (14-wk) This course focuses on the completion of a project that is designed with a preceptor and culminates as a synthesis experience. The hours required for this project are negotiated between the student, faculty, and preceptor.

#### **EDUCATION TRACK**

MSNE 585: Education Practicum-Curriculum Immersion (1 cr) (14-wk) This course focuses on the faculty roles and expectations, curriculum and program development, accreditation standards development. Students are expected to complete fifty (50) clinical hours.

MSNE 586: Education Practicum- Teaching Immersion (1 cr) (14-wk) This course focuses on the faculty-student relationships, didactic, clinical, and simulation teaching and learning, assessments, advising, and discipline. Students are expected to complete fifty (50) clinical hours.

MSNE 587: Education Practicum-Education Project (1 cr) (14-wk) This course focuses on the completion of a project that is designed with a preceptor and culminates as a synthesis experience. The hours required for this project are negotiated between the student, faculty, and preceptor.

#### Intensive, Check-off, and Clinical Experiences

The FNP students are **required to attend campus twice** during the Advanced Health Assessment course. This includes a **5-day, on-campus Intensive experiences prior to the beginning of the Assessment course**. Intensives will include instruction and evaluation of advanced physical assessment using simulation and task-trainers. If you are unable to attend all 5 days of intensive, you will be required to drop the course and repeat it the following trimester. In addition, an **on-campus, 2-day check-off assessment examination, and attendance at the White Coat Ceremony** will be required by all FNP students towards the end of the trimester, to pass the MSNP 535: Advanced Health Assessment course. Students are advised to refrain from working during the 5-day intensive, 2-day check-off, and White Coat Ceremony. Failure to meet all requirements for MSNP 535 will result in an incomplete and

<sup>\*</sup>Recommend completing these requirements the trimester before you begin practicum hours, due to some facilities limitations of 1 year\*

possible delay of progression.

#### FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER TRACK

## MSNP 535: Advanced Health Assessment (3 cr) (14 wk)

Prerequisites: RSCH 512, MSNG 525, MSNP 545, MSNP 550

This course provides students with the knowledge and skills to complete a comprehensive physical assessment across the lifespan. Students will apply didactic information in an online, interactive format to gain a thorough knowledge of the physical assessment experience. Online simulation, high and low-fidelity simulators, and standardized patients will be used. Diagnostic reasoning, differential diagnosis, and a problem-based approach will be used to enhance expertise in conducting physical assessment of patients. All students are required to complete 5 days of Intensives, 2 days of check offs, and White Coat Ceremony as explained in the MSN Student Handbook Supplement.

## MSNP 573: Primary Care of Women (2 crs) (14-wk)

Prerequisites: MSNP 535

Corequisite: MSNP 573L, MSNP 574, & MSNP 574L

Primary Care of Women will address acute and chronic conditions of women. Students will learn and apply evidence-based practice to address the needs of the female patient, gender specific care, and behavioral health issues or concerns, which include the well-woman, preventive care practice, common gynecological problems, reproduction health and obstetrics related to patients and population health. This is a 2-credit hour course and students are expected to complete 30 clock hours.

#### MSNP 573L: Primary Care of Women (1 cr) (14-wk)

Prerequisites: MSNP 535

Corequisite: MSNP 573, MSNP 574, & MSNP 574L

Assessment, diagnosis, and health management of the woman will encompass CREATION Life principles. Students are expected to complete 150 clinical hours in a primary care women's health setting. This is a one (1) credit hour course.

#### MSNP 574: Primary Care of Children (2 crs) (14-wk)

Prerequisites: MSNP 535

Corequisite: MSNP 573, MSNP 573L, & MSNP 574L

Primary Care of Children will address growth, development, behavioral health, and anticipatory guidance for well children and adolescents guided by CREATION Life principles. Acute and chronic childhood disease will be covered. This is a 2-credit hour course and students are expected to complete 30 clock hours.

### MSNP 574L: Primary Care of Children (1 cr) (14-wk)

Prerequisites: MSNP 535

Corequisite: MSNP 573, MSNP 573L, & MSNP 574

This course incorporates assessment, diagnosis, and management of acute, chronic, and behavioral health conditions of children and adolescents guided by evidence-based practice to include developmental transitions within a family context. Students are expected to complete 150 clinical hours in primary care of pediatrics setting. This is a one (1) credit hour course.

## MSNP 578: Primary Care of the Adult (2 cr) (14 wk)

Prerequisites: MSNP 573, MSNP 573L, MSNP 574, MSNP 574L

Corequisite: MSNP 578L

This course emphasizes advanced practice nursing in the diagnosis and management of early, middle, and gerontological adults related to population health. It includes physiological, pathological, psychosocial, and spiritual changes relative to health maintenance, management of acute and chronic illnesses, and life transitions guided by CREATION Life principles. This is a 2-credit hour course and students are expected to complete 30 clock hours.

## MSNP 578L: Primary Care of the Adult (2 cr) (14 wk)

Prerequisites: MSNP 573, MSNP 573L, MSNP 574, MSNP 574L

Corequisite: MSNP 578

This course incorporates assessment, diagnosis, and management of acute, chronic, and behavioral health conditions of early, middle and gerontological adults guided by evidence-based practice. Students will develop advanced clinical skills, health promotion and risk reduction strategies. Students are expected to complete three hundred (300) clinical hours. This is a one (1) credit hour course.

#### **CORE COURSES: Total 14 credits**

## **RELP 610: Role Fidelity and the Exercise of Power** (1 cr) (7-wk)

This course places emphasis on the biblical perspective of servant leadership in the use of authority. Issues pursued include the recognition of boundaries in personal relations within the workplace and balancing role fidelity with personal integrity.

#### **RELT 510: Identity and Mission** (2 crs) (7-wk)

This course addresses the mission and practices of faith-based healthcare. A wide range of assignments and readings, biblical and elsewhere, provide the health care provider in training with a broader understanding of the spiritual dimensions of healthcare. Topics include human identity as "the image of God" and "child of God", spirituality across faith traditions, compassionate whole person care, and aspects of bioethics related to human dignity, autonomy and beneficence.

#### **RSCH 512: Research and Evidence-Based Practice** (3 crs) (14-wk)

This course is designed to give students an overview of quantitative and qualitative research processes. Students explore principles of research design, measurement, data collection, sampling, and data analysis through critical examination of published studies. Principles of evidence-based practice are incorporated, to assess the state of the science and direct decision-making in nursing practice related to improving patient and population health outcomes.

#### HTCA 633: Ethical Issues and Public Policy (3 crs) (14-wk)

This course will expose students to the principles of business ethics as well as understanding ethical dilemmas. In the process of reviewing these general principles, students will consider and develop their own prioritized values that would apply to their anticipated work in healthcare organizations. Students will also learn about the legislative, regulatory, and policy issues related to the management and provision of healthcare. Students will explore in-depth issues such as cost and value in healthcare, and modes of financing within various healthcare systems, and how diversity and multicultural issues effect the administration of healthcare. Moreover, students will learn the element of corporation, agency, and administrative law that influence the

healthcare industry. This course will help students gain a better understanding of the sociopolitical forces that impact the formation, adaptation, regulation, and sustainability of healthcare.

## MSNG 546: Strategic Leadership in Nursing (3 crs) (7-wk)

This course examines various nursing leadership theories and strategies for leading individuals, groups, or systems within the complex, rapidly changing healthcare environments. Students will identify dimensions of the nursing workforce, workplace issues, and evidence-based leadership strategies that lead to positive organizational outcomes. Concepts of human resource and business management will be explored. The role of nurse leaders and the effects of the leadership style on workplace culture will also be discussed. This is a three (3) credit hours didactic course, and students are expected to complete 45 clock hours.

## MSNG 525: Theoretical Foundations of Nursing Practice (2 crs) (7-wk)

The course reviews a variety of nursing theories, and examines their use in guiding nursing practice, shaping nursing education, and structuring nursing research. Grand theory, Middle Range theory, and Practice theory – both historic and current, will be explored.

#### **FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER COURSES - Total 23-25 credits**

#### MSNP 535: Advanced Health Assessment (3 cr) (14 wk)

Prerequisites: RSCH 512, MSNG 525, MSNP 545, MSNP 550

This course provides students with the knowledge and skills to complete a comprehensive physical assessment across the lifespan. Students will apply didactic information in an online, interactive format to gain a thorough knowledge of the physical assessment experience. Online simulation, high and low-fidelity simulators, and standardized patients will be used. Diagnostic reasoning, differential diagnosis, and a problem-based approach will be used to enhance expertise in conducting physical assessment of patients. All students are required to complete 5 days of Intensives, 2 days of check offs, and White Coat Ceremony as explained in the MSN Student Handbook Supplement.

The fees for required resources will be processed from student accounts to cover Aquifer (one-time program fee which is included in overall lab fee).

## MSNP 545: Advanced Pharmacology: (4 crs) (14-wk)

This course focuses on advanced pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics, and pharmacotherapeutic principles. Skills to safely prescribe medications across the life span related to patients and population health will be emphasized. Drug formularies and guidelines will be addressed. Students will investigate efficacy and use of herbal remedies, as well as potential interactions with prescribed medications across the lifespan. Students will learn regulatory laws associated with drug administration including the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), and State Boards of Nursing for prescription writing.

The fees for required resources will be processed from student accounts to cover Lecturio (one-time fee).

## MSNP 550: Advanced Pathophysiology: (3 crs) (14-wk)

This course focuses on recognizing complex physiologic changes that occur as a result of disease processes and altered functions of the body systems. Students will focus on alterations, mechanisms involved, manifestations as signs, symptoms, and physical

findings. Laboratory findings and differential diagnosis are investigated by students in order to link microbiology, chemistry, anatomy, and biochemistry into clinical practice.

The fees for required resources will be processed from student accounts to cover Lecturio (one-time fee).

## MSNP 565: Population Health for Nurse Practitioners (2 crs) (7-wk)

This course focuses on the analysis, application, and evaluation of population health nursing processes at the levels of family, community, and at-risk populations. Including a range of health determinate that influence population. Identification of population health diagnosis as the basis of interventions to maintain and promote health, prevent disease, enable self-care within a community, and recognizes social and cultural determinates of health through evidence-based research. This is a two (2) credit hour theory course and students are expected to complete thirty (30) clock hours.

## MSNP 573: Primary Care of Women (2 crs) (14-wk)

Prerequisites: MSNP 535

Corequisite: MSNP 573L, MSNP 574, & MSNP 574L

Primary Care of Women will address acute and chronic conditions of women. Students will learn and apply evidence-based practice to address the needs of the female patient, gender specific care, and behavioral health issues or concerns, which include the well-woman, preventive care practice, common gynecological problems, reproduction health and obstetrics related to patients and population health. This is a 2-credit hour course and students are expected to complete 30 clock hours.

Assessment, diagnosis, and health management of the woman will encompass CREATION Life principles. Students are expected to complete between 100 and 200 clinical hours in women's health. This is a 3-credit hour course and students are expected to complete 45 clock hours.

## MSNP 573L: Primary Care of Women (1 cr) (14-wk)

Prerequisites: MSNP 535

Corequisite: MSNP 573, MSNP 574, & MSNP 574L

Assessment, diagnosis, and health management of the woman will encompass CREATION Life principles. Students are expected to complete 150 clinical hours in a primary care women's health setting. This is a one (1) credit hour course.

#### MSNP 574: Primary Care of Children (2 crs) (14-wk)

Prerequisites: MSNP 535

Corequisite: MSNP 573, MSNP 573L, & MSNP 574L

Primary Care of Children will address growth, development, behavioral health, and anticipatory guidance for well children and adolescents guided by CREATION Life principles. Acute and chronic childhood disease will be covered. This is a 2-credit hour course and students are expected to complete 30 clock hours.

## MSNP 574L: Primary Care of Children (1 cr) (14-wk)

Prerequisites: MSNP 535

Corequisite: MSNP 573, MSNP 573L, & MSNP 574

This course incorporates assessment, diagnosis, and management of acute, chronic, and behavioral health conditions of children and adolescents guided by evidence-based practice to include developmental transitions within a family context. Students are expected to complete 150 clinical hours in primary care of pediatrics setting. This is a one (1) credit hour course.

## MSNP 578: Primary Care of the Adult (2 cr) (14 wk)

Prerequisites: MSNP 573, MSNP 573L, MSNP 574, MSNP 574L

Corequisite: MSNP 578L

This course emphasizes advanced practice nursing in the diagnosis and management of early, middle, and gerontological adults related to population health. It includes physiological, pathological, psychosocial, and spiritual changes relative to health maintenance, management of acute and chronic illnesses, and life transitions guided by CREATION Life principles. This is a 2-credit hour course and students are expected to complete 30 clock hours.

#### MSNP 578L: Primary Care of the Adult (2 cr) (14 wk)

Prerequisites: MSNP 573, MSNP 573L, MSNP 574, MSNP 574L

Corequisite: MSNP 578

This course incorporates assessment, diagnosis, and management of acute, chronic, and behavioral health conditions of early, middle and gerontological adults guided by evidence-based practice. Students will develop advanced clinical skills, health promotion and risk reduction strategies. Students are expected to complete three hundred (300) clinical hours. This is a one (1) credit hour course.

## NURSE ADMINISTRATION AND LEADERSHIP COURSES – Total 17 credits

## FNCE 533: Healthcare Finance (3 crs) (14-wk)

This course introduces healthcare providers in leadership roles to essential concepts in finance. This includes content regarding the business of practice management, such as reimbursement methodologies and payment policies. Additionally, it addresses concepts of responsibility of leadership related to finance. Topics include: qualitative assessment and healthcare financial management, effect of financial management on the changing face of healthcare, tax status of healthcare organizations, third-party payer system, Medicare and Medicaid, determining product costs, reimbursement methodologies, managing working capital, managing revenue cycle, managing materials, operating budgets, capital budgets; and financial analysis.

## HTCA 513: Information Systems and Healthcare Informatics (3 crs) (7-wk)

This course provides the student with a conceptual framework for data base development, relational data management, use of health statistics, health indicators, confidentiality, security and privacy in a health care setting. Meaningful case studies are considered to help take aim at today's challenges while laying the groundwork for the changes ahead.

## MSNL 530: Quality Management and Patient Safety in Nursing (3 crs) (7-wk)

This course addresses quality management from the viewpoint of a nurse leader. The topics include: quality planning and measurement, customer and market voices, and statistical quality control. The class addresses nurse-sensitive outcomes, patient and population health outcomes, measurement, and maintaining quality through transitional nursing care. Students are introduced to relevant theory, content, tools, and methods in the field of patient safety that include: safety problems, high-risk contexts for error occurrence, error theory, systems thinking, risk assessment, and patient safety improvement. Students will be challenged to consider the roles of various healthcare stakeholders in building a safer healthcare system.

## HTCA 623: Healthcare Systems and Governance (3 crs) (7-wk)

This course reviews the U.S. healthcare system, both public and private sectors, and examines the structure of the health system. The course will develop a general managerial perspective on the role of operations management in the function of a healthcare organization, at both the tactical and strategic levels, how their services are carried out, how resources are managed, and how regulatory powers are complied with and/or managed.

## MSNL 580: Evolving Nursing Roles Seminar (2 crs) (7-wk)

This course provides students opportunities to explore a variety of leadership roles beyond institutional settings, such as: professional organizations, community-based health services, nurse-managed clinics, and political action groups and lobbying related to patient and population health.

- MSNL 595: Leadership Practicum Human Resources Immersion (1 cr) (14-wk)
  This course focuses on the management of human resources, staffing, scheduling, conflict management, and staff development. Students are expected to complete fifty (50) clinical hours.
- MSNL 596: Leadership Practicum Finance Immersion (1 cr) (14-wk)

  This course focuses on the management of financial resources, budgeting, waste control, resource acquisition, participation in system-wide relationships, and committees. Students are expected to complete fifty (50) clinical hours.
- **MSNL 597: Leadership Practicum Leadership/Management Practicum** (1 cr) (14-wk) This course focuses on the completion of a project that is designed with a preceptor and culminates as a synthesis experience. The hours required for this project are negotiated between the student, faculty, and preceptor.

#### **NURSE EDUCATION COURSES - Total 17 credits**

# MSNE 540: Advanced Assessment, Pathophysiology, and Pharmacology for Nurse Educators (Didactic 3 cr) (Clinical 1 cr) (14-wk)

Guided by mentors, students explore current nursing practice, including risk and physical assessment, pathophysiology, pharmacology, and disease management of acute, genetic, and chronic conditions across the life span. Students share findings in a seminar-type format. Students are expected to complete fifty (50) clinical practice hours.

#### MSNE 560: Learning Theory and Curricular Development (3 cr) (7-wk)

This course will explore various learning theories as they apply to nursing curricula development that are influenced by various national and global healthcare trends. Students are required to develop and present a nursing curriculum for a nursing school or staff development setting that incorporates learning theories, nursing philosophy, evidence-based findings, and national accrediting standards.

MSNE 570: Teaching Methods and Strategies for Nurse Educators (2 cr) (7-wk) Students analyze the role and functions of the nurse educator in university, clinical, and staff development settings. Topics include: classroom teaching, clinical teaching,

advising, mentoring, tutoring, simulation, and a variety of technology delivery systems that are designed to enhance teaching and learning.

## MSNE 575: Learning Assessment and Evaluation (2 cr) (7-wk)

This course addresses various methods of assessment, including learning needs, achievement of cognitive and technical mastery, and problem-solving and decision-making skills. The course includes the analysis of data obtained from evaluation as a basis for further development and modification of teaching techniques.

## MSNE 563: Informatics and Quality Management (3 cr) (7-wk)

This course explores nursing informatics and related fields that are used in nursing education. Emphasis is placed on developing an understanding of information management systems, nurses' role in the process, and nursing informatics' role in quality management of both student performance, program evaluation, and patient and population health outcomes.

## **MSNE 585: Education Practicum-Curriculum Immersion** (1 cr) (14-wk)

This course focuses on the faculty roles and expectations, curriculum and program development, accreditation standards development. Students are expected to complete fifty (50) clinical hours.

## MSNE 586: Education Practicum-Teaching Immersion (1 cr) (14-wk)

This course focuses on the faculty-student relationships, didactic, clinical, and simulation teaching and learning, assessments, advising, and discipline. Students are expected to complete fifty (50) clinical hours.

## MSNE 587: Education Practicum-Education Project (1 cr) (14-wk)

This course focuses on the completion of a project that is designed with a preceptor and culminates as a synthesis experience. The hours required for this project are negotiated between the student, faculty, and preceptor.

# GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN NURSING ADMINISTRATION AND LEADERSHIP COURSES – Total 9 credits

## FNCE 533: Healthcare Finance (3 crs) (14-wk)

This course introduces healthcare providers in leadership roles to essential concepts in finance. This includes content regarding the business of practice management, such as reimbursement methodologies and payment policies. Additionally, it addresses concepts of responsibility of leadership related to finance. Topics include: qualitative assessment and healthcare financial management, effect of financial management on the changing face of healthcare, tax status of healthcare organizations, third-party payer system, Medicare and Medicaid, determining product costs, reimbursement methodologies, managing working capital, managing revenue cycle, managing materials, operating budgets, capital budgets; and financial analysis.

## MSNL 530: Quality Management and Patient Safety in Nursing (3 crs) (7-wk)

This course addresses quality management from the viewpoint of a nurse leader. The topics include: quality planning and measurement, customer and market voices, and statistical quality control. The class addresses nurse-sensitive outcomes, patient and population health outcomes, measurement, and maintaining quality through transitional nursing care. Students are introduced to relevant theory, content, tools, and methods in the field of patient safety that include: safety problems, high-risk contexts for error occurrence, error theory, systems thinking, risk assessment, and patient safety improvement. Students will be challenged to consider the roles of various healthcare stakeholders in building a safer healthcare system.

MSNG 546: Strategic Leadership in Nursing (3 crs) (7-wk)

This course examines various nursing leadership theories and strategies for leading individuals, groups, or systems within the complex, rapidly changing healthcare environments. Students will identify dimensions of the nursing workforce, workplace issues, and evidence-based leadership strategies that lead to positive organizational outcomes. Concepts of human resource and business management will be explored. The role of nurse leaders and the effects of the leadership style on workplace culture will also be discussed. This is a three (3) credit hours didactic course, and students are expected to complete 45 clock hours.

#### **GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN NURSING EDUCATION COURSES - Total 10 credits**

## MSNE 560: Learning Theory and Curricular Development (3 cr) (7-wk)

This course will explore various learning theories as they apply to nursing curricula development that are influenced by various national and global healthcare trends. Students are required to develop and present a nursing curriculum for a nursing school or staff development setting that incorporates learning theories, nursing philosophy, evidence-based findings, and national accrediting standards.

## MSNE 563: Informatics and Quality Management (3 cr) (7-wk)

This course explores nursing informatics and related fields that are used in nursing education. Emphasis is placed on developing an understanding of information management systems, nurses' role in the process, and nursing informatics' role in quality management of both student performance, program evaluation, and patient and population health outcomes.

MSNE 570: Teaching Methods and Strategies for Nurse Educators (2 cr) (7-wk)

Students analyze the role and functions of the nurse educator in university, clinical, and staff development settings. Topics include: classroom teaching, clinical teaching, advising, mentoring, tutoring, simulation, and a variety of technology delivery systems that are designed to enhance teaching and learning.

#### MSNE 575: Learning Assessment and Evaluation (2 cr) (7-wk)

This course addresses various methods of assessment, including learning needs, achievement of cognitive and technical mastery, and problem-solving and decision-making skills. The course includes the analysis of data obtained from evaluation as a basis for further development and modification of teaching techniques.