NURSING (NURS)

NURS 5000 Introduction to Nursing Science and Practice — 8 credits
This course will introduce students to the foundational discipline-based knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary to practice as a nurse. Essential nursing interventions will be performed in the lab and clinical settings. Using the nursing process and patterns of knowing, students will provide care to individuals across the lifespan experiencing selected pathophysiological processes and alterations in functional patterns. Prerequisites: Admission to the entry-level concentration.

NURS 5001 Foundations in Evidence-Guided Nursing Practice — 6 credits
In this course students will focus on evidence-guided nursing and collaborative care of the individual across the lifespan experiencing selected pathophysiological processes and alterations in functional patterns. Assessment skills are strengthened as students acquire knowledge of the pathophysiological changes underpinning abnormal findings. Application of pharmacology in nursing practice will be introduced. Prerequisites: NURS 5000, NURS 6140.

NURS 5002 Application of Evidence-Guided Nursing Practice — 6 credits
In this course students will continue to focus on the nursing care of the individual across the lifespan. Students will apply critical thinking, clinical decision-making and evidence-guided nursing practice to complex health problems of the individual. Nursing and collaborative interventions are implemented and evaluated. Prerequisites with concurrency: NURS 5001, NURS 6012.

NURS 5991 Topics — 1 credit
Topics vary from term to term. See the online course schedule for course descriptions.

NURS 6003 Nurse Educator Practice — 3 credits
In this course, students will explore the context, content, and conduct of nursing and nurse educator practice. Students will examine the knowledge of the discipline in the context of theories and evidence that provide the foundations for nurse educator practice, including nursing, learning, leadership, and ethical theories. Prerequisite: Admission to the master's degree nurse educator program. Corequisite: NURS 6693.

NURS 6004 Ethics and Health Care — 2 credits
The purpose of this course is to examine current and future ethical dilemmas in nursing practice. Students will analyze ethical theories and approaches to ethical decision making in relation to nursing practice, health care systems and policies of care. Students will apply knowledge of ethical theories, themes of Catholic Social Teaching and professional nursing standards while participating in case analyses of ethical issues. Prerequisites: NURS 5002, NURS 6063.

NURS 6005 Introduction to Epidemiology — 1 credit
In this course, students will be introduced to the basic concepts of epidemiology as tools that will promote their understanding of the complexity of local, national, and global healthcare systems. Students will discuss behavioral and contextual factors that converge to impact the health of individuals, families, and communities in relationship to strategies that advanced practice nurses use to mitigate these factors. Course content is designed to prepare students to be accountable for ensuring high quality and safe care, measuring and providing efficient and cost-effective care, analyzing data for identifying emerging clinical problems and patterns, identifying and enhancing current interprofessional relationships, enhancing cross-cultural abilities to provide care, and examining the impact of healthcare issues from local, national, global, and international perspectives. Students will be challenged to develop approaches for using epidemiology to influence, create, and lead change. Prerequisite: Admission to master's degree nurse educator or entry level nursing program.

NURS 6006 Family Centered Care in Diverse Health Care Settings — 5 credits
This course explores the concept of family-centered care across diverse health care settings. Students will be challenged to practice cultural humility as they plan and deliver care to individuals and families across the health and illness continuum. An introduction to the role and function of the community health nurse and care of populations will broaden students’ views of assessment and planning for the health of individuals, families and communities. Prerequisite: NURS 6004. Corequisite: NURS 6160.

NURS 6007 Promoting and Protecting the Health of Vulnerable Populations — 2 credits
In this course students will focus on nursing care of the individual, families and populations in mental health and community settings. Students will have the opportunity to apply public health theory and population-based nursing care in diverse community settings. Mental health theories, the pathophysiology of mental illness, and pharmaceutical interventions will be introduced in the classroom and applied in simulated and acute care settings. Creative and critical thinking will be required as students deliver nursing care in resource-limited settings. Prerequisites: NURS 6015, NURS 6160. Corequisite: NURS 6063 for students in the Entry Level Master’s Nursing Program.

NURS 6008 Nursing Leadership in Complex Health Care Systems: High Acuity Care — 6 credits
This course provides students the opportunity to synthesize and use content from prior courses to practice nursing leadership in complex environments. Clinical competency and critical judgment in specialized situations are emphasized. Skills related to enhancing communication and information management are refined as students become an integral part of an interprofessional team responsible for the management of cost effective, patient-centered care. Prerequisite: NURS 6007.
NURS 6009 Nursing Leadership in Complex Health Care Systems: Assimilation into Professional Nursing Practice — 5 credits
This course prepares students for the complexity of nursing work and assimilation into the professional practice role. Students will learn to use critical analysis, innovation, and evidence based practice in the creation of quality work environments that value inter-professional collaboration. Learning activities in the classroom and clinical practice environments will enhance the student’s skills as an astute critical thinker and support development as a confident and competent caregiver. Students will be provided with multiple strategies and opportunities to practice for the NCLEX-RN.
Prerequisites: NURS 6008, NURS 6223.
Prerequisite with Concurrency: NURS 6011.

NURS 6011 Global Health and Populations — 3 credits
In this course students will examine the social justice issues related to the question of “Why are some people in some countries so much healthier than others?” Students will explore factors that explain the unequal distribution of health and disease in various populations throughout the world. The course will begin with an introduction to the language of global health: the burden of disease, epidemiology, cost-effectiveness, and health systems. Students will participate in an immersion experience to expand the role of the professional nurse to the strengths, challenges and needs of either local or global populations.
Prerequisite: NURS 6008 or permission of instructor.

NURS 6012 Basic Graduate Nursing Informatics — 2 credits
In this course, students will learn about nursing informatics, an integral part of nursing practice in the era of the electronic health record and growing sophistication of information technology. Students will learn how to use informatics and information technology to improve and support their nursing practice. This course will introduce students to essential informatics content to promote their informatics competence and knowledge and skills pertaining to the data/information/knowledge/wisdom continuum. Course content includes knowledge acquisition, generation, processing, and dissemination principles. The course includes learning activities, readings, and practicum experiences commensurate with your program of study.
Prerequisite: Admission to master’s degree nursing program or instructor’s permission.

NURS 6015 Family Centered and Population Focused Care — 6 credits
This course explores the concept and practice of family-centered and population-focused health care. Emphasis is on the care of the childbearing and childrearing families in acute and community settings. Students will learn the role of the public health nurse and basic concepts of epidemiology to better understand the complexity of local, national, and global healthcare systems. Students will be challenged to practice cultural humility as they plan and deliver care in a diversity of settings.
Prerequisites with concurrency: NURS 6004, NURS 6160.

NURS 6063 Evidence-Based Practice — 3 credits
In this course, students will learn about the ethical translation of current evidence in advanced nursing practice and health care. The course stresses the interdependence and fluidity of various approaches to evidence-based practice with an emphasis on developing skills in scientific inquiry and critical analysis. Students will examine the use of evidence in nursing practice and apply skills gained in future course work.
Prerequisite: Admission to master’s degree nursing program.
Corequisite: NURS 6007 for students in the Entry Level Master’s Nursing Program.

NURS 6100 Concepts and Context I: Theoretical Foundations of Advanced Practice Nursing — 2 credits
This course introduces a variety of frameworks including leadership, research, ethics and theories across disciplines that enable the student to develop a professional framework for advanced practice. Knowledge of the discipline is situated in nursing history to provide a sense of professional heritage and uniqueness. Ethical, cultural, spiritual, and social justice concepts will be essential components woven throughout analysis of framework.
Prerequisite: Admission to Master of Science Nurse Practitioner program.
Co-requisites: NURS 6140, NURS 6125 or NURS 6135.

NURS 6125 Health Promotion in Primary Care: Pediatric — 3 credits
This course emphasizes theories and concepts of primary care prevention that are related to the promotion of health and maintenance of health in infants, children and adolescents and involve collaboration with families, health systems, communities and application of health policy. Students will develop the ability to recognize strengths and concerns relating to health and wellness among children, in the midst of sociologic, economic and cultural contexts. This course expands skills obtained in advanced health assessment and refines assessment and interview skills specific to the pediatric population. The principles of primary care as provided by the advanced practice nurse are implemented.
Prerequisite: Admission to the Nurse Practitioner Concentration.
Co-requisites: NURS 6140, NURS 6160.

NURS 6135 Health Promotion in Primary Care: Adult-Gerontology — 3 credits
This course focuses on theories and concepts of primary prevention related to health promotion and risk reduction in adults and older adults in the context of the lifespan, family and community health. Advanced assessment, interviewing, teaching, counseling, and decision making skills specific to adults and older adults are discussed in the context of health promotion activities in nurse practitioner clinical practice.
Prerequisite: Admission to the Nurse Practitioner Concentration.
Co-requisites: NURS 6140, NURS 6160.

NURS 6140 Advanced Health Assessment across the Lifespan — 2 credits
This course introduces advanced physical assessment of patients across the lifespan with particular focus on the use of the problem oriented health record format, health history, and physical examination techniques. Content focuses on screening, assessment skills and on population specific assessment techniques.
Prerequisite: Admission to master’s degree nursing program.

NURS 6160 Advanced Physiology and Pathophysiology across the Lifespan — 3 credits
This course provides a comprehensive examination of the physiological functioning and common pathophysiological alterations in humans across the lifespan. Content builds on the fundamentals of human anatomy, physiology, and pathology. Pathophysiology of a disease is examined from the cellular level through to major body systems. The influence of environmental and genetic factors on disease is emphasized. Students will understand that the objective scientific facts of a disease and the subjective experience of the individual diagnosed with the disease are critical in the provision of quality health care.
NURS 6200 Concepts and Context II: Quality Improvement, Research, and Evid-Based Practice in Adv Practice Nrsng — 3 credits
The emphasis of this course is on transformational leadership in the translation of best evidence into advanced practice nursing. This is accomplished in the context of ethical standards and social justice principles. The course incorporates various approaches to evidence-based practice with competency development in scientific inquiry and critical analysis/appraisal skills which are critical to the realization of optimal health care outcomes.
Prerequisite: NURS 6100, NURS 6225 or NURS 6235.
Co-requisite: NURS 6223, NURS 6325 or NURS 6335.

NURS 6223 Advanced Pharmacology across the Lifespan — 3 credits
This course examines pharmacological principles including, pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics, pharmacogenomics, pharmacotherapeutics, toxicology, and complementary and alternative therapies across the life span. Legal, economic, and practical issues related to prescription drugs, illegal substance and over-the-counter drugs are examined. Major drug classifications are reviewed and factors involved in the assessment of drug-related health problems.
Prerequisite: Admission to the master’s degree program in nursing.

NURS 6225 Health Promotion Seminar and Clinical: Pediatric — 1 credit
This clinical seminar course focuses on theories and concepts of primary prevention related to health promotion and risk reduction in adults and older adults in the context of the lifespan, family and community health. Students will complete a minimum of 60 hours (8 hours of clinical seminar count toward clinical hours) working with a preceptor in their clinical practice site. Students will have an opportunity to practice advanced assessment, interviewing, teaching, counseling, and decision making skills specific to adults and older adults are discussed in the context of health promotion activities in nurse practitioner clinical practice.
Prerequisites: NURS 6140, NURS 6160, NURS 6125.

NURS 6235 Health Promotion Seminar and Clinical: Adult-Gerontology — 1 credit
This clinical seminar course focuses on theories and concepts of primary prevention related to health promotion and risk reduction in adults and older adults in the context of the lifespan, family and community health. Students will complete a minimum of 60 hours (8 hours of clinical seminar count toward clinical hours) working with a preceptor in their clinical practice site. Students will have an opportunity to practice advanced assessment, interviewing, teaching, counseling, and decision making skills specific to adults and older adults are discussed in the context of health promotion activities in nurse practitioner clinical practice.
Prerequisites: NURS 6140, NURS 6160, NURS 6135.

NURS 6270 Procedures and Diagnostics in Primary Care — 1 credit
This course is designed to prepare advance practice nurses with the basic knowledge required to safely incorporate a variety of minor procedures in their clinical practice. Procedures covered include: minor skin excisions, toenail removal, laceration repair, review of a systematic approach to interpreting plain films of the chest and extremities. Learning activities include required and recommended readings, video demonstrations, completion of interactive online tutorials and case discussions. The practicum allows students to participate in simulated hands on practice with incision and drainage, suturing, splinting, x-ray interpretation.
Prerequisites: NURS 6100, NURS 6140, NURS 6160; NURS 6125 or NURS 6135.
Co-requisite: NURS 6225 or NURS 6235.

NURS 6325 Primary Care I: Common and Acute Conditions in Pediatrics — 6 credits
NURS 6325 focuses on the advanced practice nursing assessment and management of common alterations in health of the pediatric population. Learning experiences seek to enhance the student’s assessment skills, critical thinking skills, decision-making ability and role definition in advanced practice nursing. Opportunities to apply collaborative patient management skills with the focus population in a variety of settings are provided with emphasis on secondary care.
Prerequisites: NURS 6140, NURS 6160, NURS 6225, NURS 6270.
Co-requisites: NURS 6200, NURS 6223.

NURS 6335 Primary Care I: Common and Acute Conditions in Adults and Older Adults — 6 credits
NURS 6335 focuses on the advanced practice nursing assessment and management of common minor acute alterations in health of the adult and older population in primary care. Learning experiences seek to enhance the student’s assessment skills, critical thinking skills, decision making ability and role definition in advanced practice nursing. Opportunities to apply collaborative patient management skills with the focus population in a variety of setting are provided with emphasis on secondary care.
Prerequisites: NURS 6140, NURS 6160, NURS 6235.
Co-requisites: NURS 6200, NURS 6223.

NURS 6410 Primary Care I: Common and Acute Health Challenges in Pediatrics — 3 credits
This course focuses on the advanced practice nursing assessment and management of common and acute alterations in health of the pediatric population in primary care. Learning experiences emphasize primary to secondary care and are designed to enhance student advanced assessment skills, critical thinking skills, clinical decision-making ability, and role definition in advanced practice nursing.
Prerequisites: NURS 6140, NURS 6160.
Corequisites: NURS 6125, NURS 6223, NURS 8110.

NURS 6420 Primary Care I: Common and Acute Conditions in Adults and Older Adults — 3 credits
NURS 6420 focuses on the advanced practice nursing assessment and management of common and acute alterations in health of the adult and older population in primary care. Learning experiences seek to enhance the student’s assessment skills, critical thinking skills, decision-making ability and role definition in advanced practice nursing. Opportunities to apply collaborative patient management skills with the focus population in a variety of setting are provided with emphasis on secondary care.
Prerequisites: NURS 6140, NURS 6160.
Prerequisite with concurrency: NURS 6135.
Corequisites: NURS 6223, NURS 8110.

NURS 6693 Learner Centered Teaching — 3 credits
In this course, students will begin to establish their role as an educator, whether working independently or collaboratively in a community, institutional health care or academic setting. Students will be introduced to the design and implementation of classes, courses and short presentations. Students will learn to apply and critique the literature, both theoretical and evidence-based, as it relates to the topics of learner assessment, class design and implementation. Specific attention will be placed on how to create a learning environment which supports inclusivity, the dignity of the learner and learning communities, and addresses the needs of learners who come with diverse perspectives and strengths.
Prerequisite: Admission to the master’s degree nurse educator program.
Corequisite: NURS 6003.
NURS 6951 Independent Study — 1 credit
Independent study offers students the opportunity for specialized research not covered in a course offering, by the action project or thesis. Students work with a faculty advisor to develop a learning contract, which specifies the content and objectives of the study as well as the requirements and procedures for evaluation. The amount of credit earned for the study also is included in the learning contract. **Prerequisite:** Permission of the faculty and department chair or program director.

NURS 6990 Topics — 0 credits
The subject matter of the course is announced in the annual schedule of classes. Content varies from year to year but does not duplicate existing courses.

NURS 6991 Topics — 1 credit
The subject matter of the course is announced in the annual schedule of classes. Content varies from year to year but does not duplicate existing courses.

NURS 6992 Topics — 2 credits
Topics vary from term to term. See the online course schedule for course descriptions.

NURS 6993 Topics — 3 credits

NURS 6995 Topics — 5 credits

NURS 7000 Nursing Leadership in Complex Health Care Systems: High Acuity Care — 7 credits
This course extends the students’ understanding of acute illness and introduces them to the complex challenges of caring for critically ill and physiologically or psychologically unstable patients. Students will implement evidenced based nursing interventions designed to meet the needs of patients with rapidly changing clinical conditions and examine health policies and disparities that impact the disease’s trajectory. The technological monitoring devices that can be used to assist in the management of these acutely ill patients will be explored. Clinical immersion provides an intensive exposure to the health care environment and offers the student opportunities to provide and manage care at the point of care. **Prerequisite:** NURS 6007. **Corequisite:** NURS 6223.

NURS 7100 Nursing Leadership in Complex Health Care Systems: Assimilation into Prof Nursing Practice — 4 credits
This course prepares the student for the complexity of nursing work and assimilation into the professional practice role. Opportunities to practice leadership and teaching skills will be provided as the student instructs and evaluates others in a lab setting. Written and oral presentation skills are further refined with the development of a professional paper and presentation. Critical thinking and persuasion skills are used as student participate in structure controversies. Multiple strategies and opportunities to practice for the NCLEX-RN are provided. **Prerequisites:** NURS 6223, NURS 7000. **Prerequisite with concurrency:** NURS 6011.

NURS 7120 Primary Care II: Immunologic and Infectious Challenges in Pediatrics — 6 credits
The focus for Primary Care II continues with the assessment and management of physiologic and developmental alterations in health of children is initiated with Primary Care I course but expands the students’ knowledge of immunologic and infectious diseases commonly affecting children in the primary care setting. Learning experiences seek to enhance the students’ knowledge of pathophysiology, assessment skills, decision making ability and role definition in advanced practice nursing. Opportunities to apply patient management skills with the population in a variety of settings are provided with continued emphasis on secondary prevention and beginning tertiary care. **Prerequisites:** NURS 6140, NURS 6160, NURS 6223, NURS 6325.

NURS 7130 Primary Care II: Chronic Health Challenges in Adults and Older Adults — 6 credits
This course focuses on the advanced practice nursing assessment and management of common moderately complex, alterations in health of adults and older adults in primary care. Learning experiences seek to enhance the student’s assessment skills, critical thinking skills, decision-making ability and role definition in advanced practice nursing. Opportunities to apply collaborative patient management skills with adults and older adults in a variety of settings are provided. Emphasis is placed on secondary prevention and care of adults and older adults with moderately complex and chronic health problems. **Prerequisites:** NURS 6140, NURS 6160, NURS 6223, NURS 6335.

NURS 7200 Concepts and Context III: Advanced Practice Nursing Role Synthesis — 3 credits
The emphasis of the course is on advanced leadership skills in initiating and guiding change within the context of complex health care systems and Principles of Catholic Social Teaching. Transitioning into the independent advanced practice nursing role is examined as it relates to advocacy for improved health care by promoting access, equity, quality, safety and cost-effectiveness. Technology systems are utilized to analyze ethical, legal and social factors influencing policy development. Participation in collaborative interprofessional endeavors is stressed. The expectation is achievement of entry-level competencies for the advanced practice nursing role. **Prerequisites:** 6000-level NURS courses, NURS 7120 or NURS 7130. **Co-Requisite:** NURS 7320 or NURS 7330.

NURS 7320 Primary Care III: Chronic and Complex Conditions in Pediatrics and Families — 6 credits
This course focuses on continued clinical management related to secondary prevention but focuses on tertiary care where emphasis is placed on complex and chronic alterations of pediatric health in the contexts of the family and health systems. The clinical component of this course expands advanced practice skills and evidenced based intervention as applied to patient outcomes evaluation. The patient outcomes effect and implication for policy, fiscal and organizational change will be described and analyzed. **Prerequisites:** NURS 6140, NURS 6160, NURS 6223, NURS 7120. **Co-requisite:** NURS 7200.
NURS 7330 Primary Care III: Chronic Complex Health Challenges in Adults and Older Adults — 6 credits
This course focuses on clinical management related to secondary prevention but focusing on tertiary care. Emphasis is placed on complex and chronic alterations of health of the target population in the contexts of family and health systems. Clinical component of this course expands advanced practice skills and evidenced based interventions. Students will evaluate patient outcomes and their affect/implication for policy, fiscal and organizational change will be described and analyzed in the student's clinical outcomes project.
Prerequisites: NURS 6135, NURS 6140, NURS 6160, NURS 7130.
Co-requisite: NURS 7200.

NURS 7453 Instructional Technology — 3 credits
In this course, students will focus on the use of technology and information to supplement sound teaching-learning practices. Theory and learning activities include web-based learning, design and use of media, ethical issues, social media, and innovations in technology-centric teaching techniques. The course includes an overview of informatics principles and their relationship to nursing education and practice. In the practicum experience, students will engage in the application and design of instructional technologies in academic and staff development settings.
Prerequisites: NURS 6012, NURS 6693.

NURS 7463 Quality and Safety Outcomes in Advanced Nursing Practice — 3 credits
In this course, students will examine principles of healthcare quality and safety as it relates to professional nursing practice. Philosophies, models and techniques for quality assurance/improvement work will be examined and applied to actual and/or hypothetical scenarios. Core measures for local and national initiatives will serve as backdrop for this course, including nurse-sensitive indicators and the expanding role of clinical outcomes and quality metrics as a means of regulatory compliance and benchmarking. The course will also include principles of data management and analysis as a means of analyzing errors, and measuring and reporting on quality and safety measures, particularly in the digital healthcare age.
Prerequisites: NURS 6012 and HLTH 6010.

NURS 7553 Curriculum Design in the Discipline of Nursing — 3 credits
In this course, students will learn about principles, concepts and theories of curriculum design. Students will investigate best practices for designing and delivering curriculum at multiple levels—class session, course, program, and in diverse settings. Students will engage in learning activities that promote their development as a curriculum designer and facilitate their ability to engage in program development and evaluation.
Prerequisites: NURS 6003, NURS 6693.

NURS 7603 Evaluation and Educational Measurement — 3 credits
In this course, students will examine the evaluation process in multiple environments—classroom, lab, clinical and practice settings, and at multiple levels—individual learner, peer, faculty, course, curriculum, and program. Students will investigate best practices for assessment, evaluation, and constructive feedback. Special emphasis is placed on day-to-day evaluation strategies applied to individual learners or groups of learners. Students will explore and apply evaluation strategies across the three domains of learning, including classroom assessment techniques; test item writing, construction, and analysis; rubrics; and evaluation of critical thinking and clinical performance.
Prerequisites: NURS 6003, NURS 6693, NURS 7553.

NURS 7653 Leadership in Designing System — 3 credits
In this course, students will examine complex systems where nurse educators provide education and influence policy that impacts nursing education. Theory and practical experiences are focused on the role of nurse educators as leaders and advocates in the processes of change in program, administration and public policy. Strategies that will facilitate students' ability to promote optimal learning through the change process are explored as students apply course concepts in a variety of settings (e.g., higher education, continuing education and education in acute care, long-term care and the community).
Prerequisites: NURS 6003, NURS 6012, NURS 6693, NURS 7453, NURS 7553, NURS 7603, NURS 6005.

NURS 7663 Nurse Educator as Leader — 3 credits
In this course, students will engage in an intense and individualized practicum experience in an identified area of teaching learning practice. Students will synthesize prior learning and have the opportunity to engage in interprofessional learning experiences as a nurse educator. This course serves as the culmination of learning in all courses in the Nurse Educator Concentration curriculum and challenges students to enact leadership in their practice as a nurse educator.

NURS 7693 Nurse Educator as Leader — 2 credits
In this course, students will engage in an intense and individualized practicum experience in an identified area of teaching learning practice. Students will synthesize prior learning and have the opportunity to engage in interprofessional learning experiences as a nurse educator. This course serves as the culmination of the student’s learning in all courses in the Nurse Educator Concentration curriculum and challenges them enact leadership in their practice as a nurse educator.

NURS 7983 Topics — 3 credits
Topics vary from term to term. See the online course schedule for course descriptions.

NURS 7991 Topics: — 1 credit

NURS 7992 Topics — 2 credits
Topics vary from term to term. See the online course schedule for course descriptions.

NURS 7993 Topics: — 3 credits
Topics vary from term to term. See the online course schedule for course descriptions.

NURS 7994 Topics — 1-4 credits
Topics vary from term to term. See the online course schedule for course descriptions.

NURS 8000 Scholarly Project — 2 credits
In this course, students will develop a scholarly project that reflects an in-depth investigation of an educational problem, teaching strategy, learner group or issue relevant to nurse educator practice in the academic or practice environment. The purpose of this project is to generate options that will enable students to influence change that promotes healing and health within academic and healthcare systems where nurse educators are engaged in practice.
Prerequisites: NURS 6223, NURS 7453, NURS 7603.

NURS 8002 Scholarly Project: Thesis — 2 credits
This course is a synthesizing experience for students in the Master's Degree Nurse Educator program. A proposal that identifies a pertinent problem or issue related to advanced roles is developed to produce a scholarly project: thesis that reflects theory and methods addressed in the core nursing courses and generates options to influence change within systems.
Prerequisite: Faculty supervisor approval.
NURS 8010 Scholarly Project I — 1 credit
In this course, students will begin to develop a scholarly project that reflects an in-depth investigation of an educational problem, teaching strategy, learner group, or issue relevant to nurse educator practice in the academic or practice environment. The purpose of this project is to generate options that will enable students to influence change that promotes healing and health within academic and healthcare systems where nurse educators are engaged in practice.
Prerequisites: NURS 7453, NURS 7603, NURS 7991.

NURS 8020 Scholarly Project II — 1 credit
In this course, students will begin to develop a scholarly project that reflects an in-depth investigation of an educational problem, teaching strategy, learner group, or issue relevant to nurse educator practice in the academic or practice environment. The purpose of this project is to generate options that will enable students to influence change that promotes healing and health within academic and healthcare systems where nurse educators are engaged in practice.
Prerequisite: NURS 8010.

NURS 8110 Foundations of Nurse Practitioner Practice I — 1 credit
This course provides students with a foundational understanding of the scientific grounding of nurse practitioner practice, ethics, Catholic Social Teaching, and cultural awareness. Students will wrestle with the meaning of a nursing practice science, and explore nursing meta-and mid-range theories. They will reflect on their own lived experience as it frames a biopsychosocial spiritual construct and investigate how reflection and resilience scaffold the role of nurse practitioner. Ethical theories including virtue ethics, deontology, utilitarianism, casuistry, and principle will be critiqued. Differences between health care ethics and health law will be demonstrated. Examples of how Catholic Social Teaching, in combination with virtue ethics, shapes a just society will be presented. Course readings and class experiences will assist students in defining and understanding cultural awareness, cultural humility, and cultural competency. Prerequisites: NURS 6140 and NURS 6160.
Co-requisites: NURS 6223, NURS 6125 or NURS 6135, and NURS 6410 or NURS 6420.

NURS 8200 Practicum — 1-8 credits
In this practicum students will complete Master’s practicum hours in preparation of their DNP Projects. Knowledge acquired in previous nursing courses is synthesized in this practicum. Students are required to develop their own objectives to guide their own learning based on previous experiences and future goals. Course credits are determined with faculty advisers and based on previous practicum experiences.
Prerequisites: Admission to DNP Program, instructor and program director approval.

NURS 8201 Knowledge Development in the Discipline of Nursing — 1 credit
In this practicum students will complete hours through application of concepts of knowledge development and theories in the discipline of nursing through the lens of the DNP role. Knowledge acquired in NURS 8500: Underpinnings of the Discipline of Nursing courses is synthesized in this practicum. A practicum is defined as application of classroom learning in student practice setting with no direct (onsite) faculty or preceptor supervision.
Prerequisites: Admission to one of the following: Doctor of Nursing Practice Program Holistic Nursing Leader Dual Degree Option, Doctor of Nursing Practice Program Transformational Nurse Leader Dual Degree Option, or Doctor of Nursing Practice Program Executive Nurse Leader Dual Degree Option.
Corequisite: NURS 8500.

NURS 8500 Underpinnings of the Discipline of Nursing — 4 credits
In this foundational DNP course, students will explore the nature of knowledge development as it relates to the discipline of nursing using an iterative, interactive and innovative approach. Emphasizing analysis and evaluation, students will use investigatory frameworks to critically appraise knowledge in nursing and other disciplines. Integration of nursing science with knowledge from principles of social justice; ethics; and the biophysical, psychosocial, analytical, and organizational sciences leads to the development, implementation, and evaluation of new practice approaches. Using a wide array of knowledge, students will propose actions and strategies in nursing practice to enhance health.
Prerequisite: Admission to the DNP program.

NURS 8501 DNP Practicum — 1 credit
In this systems change practicum, students will apply concepts learned in the didactic courses in the development of their systems change project. Using scientific underpinnings of the discipline, students will articulate evidence for practice change and explore the implications of their systems change project from a social justice perspective to address health care disparities. This project is identified, planned and developed in collaboration with students’ project committee comprised of their faculty project advisor, faculty reader and site mentor. Prerequisite: Admission to the Doctor of Nursing Practice Program.
Corequisite: NURS 8500.

NURS 8502 DNP Practicum — 1 credit
In this systems change practicum, students will apply concepts learned in the didactic courses in the development of their systems change project. Students will integrate knowledge about information systems and technologies into the design of their systems change project to ensure data are available to evaluate and consistent with systems care improvement. This project is identified, planned and developed in collaboration with students’ project committee comprised of their faculty project advisor, faculty reader and site mentor.
Prerequisites: NURS 8500, NURS 8501.
Co-requisite: NURS 8520.

NURS 8503 DNP Practicum — 1 credit
In this systems change practicum, students will apply concepts learned in the didactic courses in the development of their systems change project. Students will continue to work on the systems change project, with an emphasis on accessing and analyzing the evidence available on the topic and synthesizing this evidence in the literature review. Students will continue to evaluate cost effectiveness of their system change project. This project is identified, planned, and developed in collaboration with students’ project committee comprised of their faculty project advisor, faculty reader and site mentor.
Prerequisites: NURS 8500, NURS 8520, NURS 8501, NURS 8502.
Corequisites: NURS 8535, NURS 8536 or advisor’s permission.

NURS 8504 DNP Practicum — 1 credit
In this systems change practicum, students will apply concepts learned in the didactic courses in the development of their systems change project. Students will integrate and implement the organizations and systems content into the systems change project. Impact and appraisal leads to the development, implementation and evaluation, students will use investigatory frameworks to critically appraise knowledge in nursing and other disciplines. Integration of nursing science with knowledge from principles of social justice; ethics; and the biophysical, psychosocial, analytical, and organizational sciences leads to the development, implementation, and evaluation of new practice approaches. Using a wide array of knowledge, students will propose actions and strategies in nursing practice to enhance health.
Prerequisites: NURS 8500, NURS 8520, NURS 8535, NURS 8536, NURS 8501, NURS 8502, NURS 8503.
NURS 8505 DNP Practicum — 1 credit
In this systems change practicum, students will apply concepts learned in the didactic courses in the development of their systems change project. Using scientific underpinnings of the discipline, students will articulate evidence for practice change and explore the implications of their systems change project from a social justice perspective to address healthcare disparities. Students will integrate knowledge about information systems and technologies into the design of their systems change project to ensure data are available to evaluate the congruence of their project with healthcare improvement. Students will appraise the impact of healthcare finance and economics impact for their systems change project on the target community, population, and/or system. This project is identified, planned, and developed in collaboration with the project committee comprised of the student's faculty project advisor, faculty reader and site mentor.
Prerequisites: NURS 8500, NURS 8520, NURS 8535, NURS 8536, NURS 8501, NURS 8502, NURS 8503, NURS 8504.
Corequisite: NURS 8540.

NURS 8511 DNP as Change Agent: Summer Colloquium — 2 credits
In this colloquium, students explore change theories, investigating the impact of change on organizations and individuals. Students apply concepts of the DNP role in systems change using scientific underpinnings of the discipline, articulate evidence for practice change and explore the implications to the DNP project.
Prerequisites: NURS 8500, NURS 8520, NURS 8525.

NURS 8520 Advanced Evidence-based Practice — 4 credits
In this course students will explore the nature of evidence as it relates to the discipline of nursing. Emphasizing critical appraisal of nursing research and research from other scientific disciplines as evidence, students will engage in knowledge development activities to address translation of research in practice, the evaluation of practice and activities aimed at improving the reliability of healthcare practice and outcomes for individuals and populations. The integration of knowledge and evidence from diverse sources and across disciplines is used to evaluate practice patterns against national benchmarks to determine variances in outcomes and explore alternative solutions surrounding clinical problems to improve healthcare outcomes.
Prerequisites: INDI 8515, NURS 8500, NURS 8501, NURS 7991, NURS 7992, college level statistics course or instructor permission.

NURS 8525 Advanced Informatics — 2 credits
In this doctoral-level course, students will expand and build upon basic informatics competencies. The content and learning experiences are focused primarily on the evaluation of the impact of informatics on outcomes. Students will learn advanced concepts pertaining to clinical information systems, patient care technologies, clinical decision support, legal/ethical issues, consumer health informatics and the integration of evidence-based practice in support of systems change. The emphasis of this course is on the design, select, use, and evaluation of select information technologies.
Prerequisite: NURS 6012, the expectation of computer and information literacy. Open to graduate level nursing students or with instructor’s permission.

NURS 8535 Leadership in Organizations and Systems: Implications for Practice — 3 credits
In this course, students will learn about leadership in organizational systems and processes that emphasize the primacy of clinical practice, improving health outcomes, and ensuring patient safety. Two important competencies for leaders surround the phenomenon of organizational change are emphasized: managing organizational change in increasingly complex and ambiguous settings and intentionally shaping organizational change using principles of social justice in order to create new contexts in which organizational outcomes can be achieved more justly and effectively. This course will increase the student's ability to create, successfully engage key stakeholders in, and carry out organizational change in highly complex situations.
Prerequisites: NURS 8500, NURS 8520.

NURS 8536 Healthcare Economics and Finance — 3 credits
In this course, students will concentrate on health care economics and finance as it relates to clinical practice, improving health outcomes, and ensuring patient safety. Students will develop understanding of basic economics concepts and learn how it is applicable to health care market. They will gain expertise in facilitating organization-wide changes in clinical care delivery, systems thinking, and connecting those skills to the business and financial acumen needed for the analysis of clinical quality and costs. The organization of care delivery models and practice environments; performance improvement; and the financial, legal, technological, and ethical dimensions of changing practice and emerging clinical problems are addressed.
Prerequisites: NURS 8500, NURS 8520, NURS 8535.

NURS 8540 Health Care: Power, Policy and Politics — 1,4 credit
This course addresses the complexity of national and global health care systems, focusing on interprofessional, cross-cultural and advanced technological issues that converge to impact the daily practice of all healthcare providers. Students will learn about being accountable for ensuring high quality safe care, measuring and providing efficient and cost-effective care, analyzing data for identifying emerging clinical problems and patterns, identifying and enhancing current interprofessional relationships, enhancing cross-cultural abilities to provide care, and examining the impact of health care issues from a global and international perspective. Strategies for influencing, creating and leading change in current and future/evolving local, state, national and international health care policies are emphasized, including consensus building, policy-making, lobbying, political activism and methods for evaluating policy outcomes.
Prerequisite: NURS 8535.
Prerequisite with concurrency: NURS 8536.
NURS 8600 DNP Project — 4 credits
The DNP project is the culmination of the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) curriculum. This project involves a systems level change in nursing practice, education and/or service designed to improve the outcomes of a specific population. Students will synthesize the knowledge they have acquired in previous DNP courses and practicum experiences in this project. The DNP project is planned, developed, implemented and evaluated in collaboration with a project committee comprised of the student’s faculty project advisor, faculty reader and site mentor. Prerequisites: NURS 8502, NURS 8520 or by special permission of the DNP project advisor. Please note: This course (4 credits total) may be taken in one term as NURS 8600, over two terms as NURS 8610 and NURS 8620, or over four terms as NURS 8601, NURS 8602, NURS 8603 and NURS 8604.* The prerequisite to the initial course for all options is NURS 8520. The series must be completed during or after the term students register for NURS 8540. *Students with specific needs related to registration requirements may complete the DNP Project by taking these four 1-credit courses. The last course - NURS 8604 - must be taken with or after NURS 8540.

NURS 8601 DNP Project: Part 1 — 1 credit
The DNP project is the culmination of the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) curriculum. This project involves a systems level change in nursing practice, education and/or service designed to improve the outcomes of a specific population. Students will synthesize the knowledge they have acquired in previous DNP courses and practicum experiences in this project. The DNP project is planned, developed, implemented and evaluated in collaboration with a project committee comprised of the student’s faculty project advisor, faculty reader and site mentor. Prerequisites: NURS 8502, NURS 8520 or by special permission of the DNP project advisor. Please note: This course (4 credits total) may be taken in one term as NURS 8600, over two terms as NURS 8610 and NURS 8620, or over four terms as NURS 8601, NURS 8602, NURS 8603 and NURS 8604.* The prerequisite to the initial course for all options is NURS 8520. The series must be completed during or after the term students register for NURS 8540. *Students with specific needs related to registration requirements may complete the DNP Project by taking these four 1-credit courses. The last course - NURS 8604 - must be taken with or after NURS 8540.

NURS 8602 DNP Project: Part 2 — 1 credit
The DNP project is the culmination of the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) curriculum. This project involves a systems level change in nursing practice, education and/or service designed to improve the outcomes of a specific population. Students will synthesize the knowledge they have acquired in previous DNP courses and practicum experiences in this project. The DNP project is planned, developed, implemented and evaluated in collaboration with a project committee comprised of the student’s faculty project advisor, faculty reader and site mentor. Prerequisites: NURS 8502, NURS 8520 or by special permission of the DNP project advisor. Please note: This course (4 credits total) may be taken in one term as NURS 8600, over two terms as NURS 8610 and NURS 8620, or over four terms as NURS 8601, NURS 8602, NURS 8603 and NURS 8604.* The prerequisite to the initial course for all options is NURS 8520. The series must be completed during or after the term students register for NURS 8540. *Students with specific needs related to registration requirements may complete the DNP Project by taking these four 1-credit courses. The last course - NURS 8604 - must be taken with or after NURS 8540.

NURS 8603 DNP Project: Part 3 — 1 credit
The DNP project is the culmination of the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) curriculum. This project involves a systems level change in nursing practice, education and/or service designed to improve the outcomes of a specific population. Students will synthesize the knowledge they have acquired in previous DNP courses and practicum experiences in this project. The DNP project is planned, developed, implemented and evaluated in collaboration with a project committee comprised of the student’s faculty project advisor, faculty reader and site mentor. Prerequisites: NURS 8502, NURS 8520 or by special permission of the DNP project advisor. Please note: This course (4 credits total) may be taken in one term as NURS 8600, over two terms as NURS 8610 and NURS 8620, or over four terms as NURS 8601, NURS 8602, NURS 8603 and NURS 8604.* The prerequisite to the initial course for all options is NURS 8520. The series must be completed during or after the term students register for NURS 8540. *Students with specific needs related to registration requirements may complete the DNP Project by taking these four 1-credit courses. The last course - NURS 8604 - must be taken with or after NURS 8540.

NURS 8604 DNP Project: Part 4 — 1 credit
The DNP project is the culmination of the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) curriculum. This project involves a systems level change in nursing practice, education and/or service designed to improve the outcomes of a specific population. Students will synthesize the knowledge they have acquired in previous DNP courses and practicum experiences in this project. The DNP project is planned, developed, implemented and evaluated in collaboration with a project committee comprised of the student’s faculty project advisor, faculty reader and site mentor. Prerequisites: NURS 8502, NURS 8520 or by special permission of the DNP project advisor. Please note: This course (4 credits total) may be taken in one term as NURS 8600, over two terms as NURS 8610 and NURS 8620, or over four terms as NURS 8601, NURS 8602, NURS 8603 and NURS 8604.* The prerequisite to the initial course for all options is NURS 8520. The series must be completed during or after the term students register for NURS 8540. *Students with specific needs related to registration requirements may complete the DNP Project by taking these four 1-credit courses. The last course - NURS 8604 - must be taken with or after NURS 8540.

NURS 8610 DNP Project: Part 1 — 2 credits
The DNP project is the culmination of the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) curriculum. This project involves a systems level change in nursing practice, education and/or service designed to improve the outcomes of a specific population. Students will synthesize the knowledge they have acquired in previous DNP courses and practicum experiences in this project. The DNP project is planned, developed, implemented and evaluated in collaboration with a project committee comprised of the student’s faculty project advisor, faculty reader and site mentor. Prerequisites: NURS 8502, NURS 8520 or by special permission of the DNP project advisor. Please note: This course (4 credits total) may be taken in one term as NURS 8600, over two terms as NURS 8610 and NURS 8620, or over four terms as NURS 8601, NURS 8602, NURS 8603 and NURS 8604.* The prerequisite to the initial course for all options is NURS 8520. The series must be completed during or after the term students register for NURS 8540. *Students with specific needs related to registration requirements may complete the DNP Project by taking these four 1-credit courses. The last course - NURS 8604 - must be taken with or after NURS 8540.
**NURS 8620 DNP Project: Part 2 — 2 credits**
The DNP project is the culmination of the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) curriculum. This project involves a systems level change in nursing practice, education and/or service designed to improve the outcomes of a specific population. Students will synthesize the knowledge they have acquired in previous DNP courses and practicum experiences in this project. The DNP project is planned, developed, implemented and evaluated in collaboration with a project committee comprised of the student’s faculty project advisor, faculty reader and site mentor. Prerequisites: NURS 8502, NURS 8520 or by special permission of the DNP project advisor. Please note: This course (4 credits total) may be taken in one term as NURS 8600, over two terms as NURS 8610 and NURS 8620, or over four terms as NURS 8601, NURS 8602, NURS 8603 and NURS 8604.* The prerequisite to the initial course for all options is NURS 8520. The series must be completed during or after the term students register for NURS 8540. *Students with specific needs related to registration requirements may complete the DNP Project by taking these four 1-credit courses. The last course - NURS 8604 - must be taken with or after NURS 8540.

**NURS 8992 Topics — 2 credits**
Topics vary from term to term. See the online course schedule for course descriptions.