

Masters of Science in Nursing (MSN) - Clinical Nurse Specialist: Adult Gerontology-Nurse Educator

Degree Type

Master's Degree

Masters of Science of Nursing (MSN) Degree Program (starting may 2023 pending SACSCOC approval)

Two Tracks

Family Nurse Practitioner

Clinical Nurse Specialist/Adult/Gerontology - Nurse Educator

The MSN degree program is a six semester, 48 credit hour, hybrid (online/in-person) program with two advanced practice nursing licensure tracks. The first is a Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) track with a clinical practicum hour requirement of 840 hours, and the second is a Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS) track with a focus on Adult/Gerontology population and Nurse Educator (NE) coursework with a clinical practicum hour requirement of 540 for the CNS and 120 for the NE. Twenty-three credit hours are shared by both tracks as "core courses". At the completion of the program, graduates will be prepared to sit for national certification as a Family Nurse Practitioner or a Clinical Nurse Specialist with Adult/Gerontology focus per their respective tracks. Graduates of the CNS/Nurse Educator track are intentionally prepared to take the certification exam for the CNS role and are eligible to be considered by the National League for Nursing to sit for the Nurse Educator Certification Exam, however, they are not exclusively or intentionally prepared for the purpose of taking the exam. The course of study for the Nurse Educator component provides rigorous content to assure that graduates have the necessary skills and competencies for effective teaching. The School of Nursing does not put forth the expected program or student outcome that these graduates are to take the certified Nurse Educator Certification Exam, however, these graduates would be considered eligible and are welcomed to do so should they so desire. The MSN program is an online program with hybrid intensive sessions preparing nurses to qualify for advanced practice licensure.

Core Courses

Item #	Title	Semester Hours
NURS 500	Advanced Pathophysiology	3.0
NURS 501	Advanced health Assessment for the Advanced Practice Nurse	3.0
NURS 502	Nursing Informatics	3.0
NURS 503	Evidence-Based Practice and Research	3.0
NURS 504	Advanced Pharmacology for the Advanced Practice Nurse	3.0
NURS 505	Health Policy and Financial Concepts in healthcare	3.0
NURS 506	Advanced Practice Roles	1.0
NURS 507	Advanced Physical Assessment Practicum	1.0
NURS 511	Population and Rural Health	3.0

Adult-Gerontology Clinical Nurse Specialist Courses

Item #	Title	Semester Hours
NURS 601	Advanced Management of Adult-Gerontology Population	2.0
NURS 602	Advanced Care of Adult-Gerontology Populations Practicum	2.0
NURS 603	The Clinical Nurse Specialist and Professional Practice	2.0
NURS 604	The CNS and Professional Practice Practicum	2.0
NURS 605	The CNS and Systems Leadership	2.0
NURS 606	The CNS and Systems Leadership Practicum	2.0
NURS 607	Diagnostic Reasoning and Advanced Patient Management of Adult Gerontology Patient	3.0
NURS 608	Diagnostic Reasoning and Advanced patient Management of Adult Gerontology Patient Practicum	2.0

Nurse Educator Courses

Item #	Title	Semester Hours
NURS 609	Curriculum and Program Development in Nursing	2.0
NURS 610	Inter-professional Teaching Strategies	1.0
NURS 611	Principles of Simulation in Nursing Education	1.0
NURS 612	Evaluation in Nursing Education	2.0
NURS 613	Teaching Practicum	2.0
Total Credits		48