

DNP Course Descriptions

NSG 685 Philosophical and Theoretical Basis for Clinical Scholarship and Practice

This course addresses the philosophical and theoretical underpinnings for clinical scholarship and practice. DNP students will use these theories, models and frameworks to develop advanced skills in exploring and critiquing evidence, identifying relevant data, analyzing research reports and programs to synthesize and translate the evidence for clinical practice. The theories and models discussed will provide a foundation for the DNP student's clinical scholarly project.

NSG 686 Methodologic Approaches to Evidence-based Practice

This course focuses on the skills necessary to translate the best available evidence into practice within healthcare organizations. Conceptualization, definition, theoretical rationale, and models of evidence-based practice are evaluated. Concepts include: a review of the research process, research critique, rating and synthesizing the strength of evidence, decision-making for practice, translation opportunities (outcomes, evaluation research, quality improvement, cost-effectiveness analysis), risk adjustment, and applied statistical analysis.

NSG 687 Clinical Epidemiology and Genomics for Advanced Practice Nursing

The focus of this course is on the role of the advanced practice nurse in improving the community's health outcomes. An integration of epidemiological principles, population health issues, and advanced nursing clinical concepts are presented to support decision making skills. Content includes the role of epidemiology and study designs, screening and disease prevention, epidemiology of chronic illnesses, culture, genetics, emergency preparedness and ethical and legal issues.

NSG 688 Clinical Leadership, Ethics, and Legalities for Role Development

Clinical leadership and role development are addressed. This course focuses on development of expertise in inter and intraprofessional collaboration across the health care team to create effective solutions and overcome complex issues related to health care delivery. Enhanced leadership and communication skills among various professionals in multiple disciplines are emphasized that involves populations of rural and under-served patients to create change. Focus will be on developing advanced leadership skills and understanding of complex ethical and legal issues as well as development and evaluation of potential solutions necessary for health care delivery in the DNP role.

NSG 689 Health Care Systems Policy and Financial Management

This course addresses the broad context of socio-economic, political, legal and power considerations in the development of state and national health policy with direct application to the role of the doctorate in nursing practice (DNP). Policy issues will be integrated as they influence advanced nursing practice using social justice theory. Critical analysis of health policy at the local, state and federal levels is seen as essential content along with the goal of developing leadership skills to influence policy. Focus will be on developing policy and advanced practice skills in financial management for health care coordination.

NSG 690 Improving Health Outcomes: Understanding Global Justice and Social Determinants

This course focuses on understanding the impact of global justice and social determinants on health outcomes. Healthy People 2020 address the social determinants of health and identifies ways to create social and physical environments that promote good health for all. Students will explore how programs, practices, and policies affect the health of individuals, families and communities. Global justice (fairness) will be discussed to help students better understand our world and our responsibility in it. Planning for this course may include travel abroad to observe and learn about health care systems management from a global perspective.

NSG 692 Information Systems and Technology in Health Care

This course addresses the use of information systems and patient care technology to support the clinical decision making process and to improve the safety and quality of patient care and health care systems. Students will design a plan for using information systems and technology in the implementation and evaluation of an evidence-based practice change initiative.

NSG 696 Methods for Evidence Based Practice in Specialty Focused Practicum I

This course builds on a foundation of knowledge about evidence-based practice for the advanced practice registered nurse. The need for a practice change initiative will be assessed in an actual clinical environment. Translation models, theories of change, financial, ethical, and social implications are considered in translating evidence into practice. Evaluation strategies, methods of measurement, and analysis are applied to assess proposed improvements in practice and clinical care outcomes. Formation of the DNP Project Team will provide students with the clinical and scholarly mentorship needed to assist in development of the DNP Project proposal.

NSG 697 Methods for Evidence Based Practice in Specialty Focused Practicum II

This course provides the opportunity for students to demonstrate achievement of DNP competencies via a practice immersion in which they implement the DNP project to improve patient outcomes in the practice setting. Students will integrate advanced clinical scholarship skills with an understanding of organizational behavior systems, change theory, policy-making, and informatics to execute an evidenced-based intervention, practice guideline, or health policy change. Methodologies to improve quality and safe outcomes in patient-centered care will be implemented to include interprofessional teams in systems of care.

NSG 698 Methods for Evidence Based Practice in Specialty Focused Practicum III

This course provides the opportunity for the student to analyze the outcomes of the DNP Project and to make recommendations for ongoing sustainability of the project in the clinical setting. The student will begin the process of dissemination of the DNP Project to the professional community.