

MS Clinical Nurse Leader Course Overviews

Course Title: NURS 501 – Pathophysiological and Pharmacological Bases for Nursing Practice Credits: 5

Course Overview: This course focuses on the disruptions of physiological systems that immediately or ultimately produce disease states and on the use of drugs to prevent or ameliorate those disruptions. Patient and population specific factors that affect the likelihood of success of a particular drug therapy or that increase the danger from untoward effects are integrated throughout the course. Students learn medication dose calculation and the legal and regulatory issues related to medication development and approval are discussed. Students apply previously acquired knowledge in human anatomy and physiology as well as other basic sciences.

Course Title: NURS 503 - Health Assessment Across the Lifespan Credits: 3

Course Overview: This course provides the nursing student with the knowledge and skills necessary to assess individual health as a multi-dimensional, balanced expression of bio-psycho-social-cultural well-being. Course content will reflect a functional health and systems approach to a holistic nursing assessment of humans through all developmental stages. Comprehensive bio-psycho-social-cultural assessment approaches will be introduced to allow students to assess the actual and anticipated impact of environmental influences and other risk factors upon individual health.

Course Title: NURS 505 – Introduction to Professional Nursing Practice Credits: 4

Clinical hours: 45

Course Overview: This lecture, laboratory, clinical and seminar course introduces students to the concepts of contemporary professional nursing. The student is guided in the application of theory to clinical practice and in the development of cognitive, psychomotor, communication and therapeutic skills necessary to address the common needs and responses of persons experiencing various health states. Students are introduced to basic concepts fundamental to understanding and functioning in the Clinical Nurse Leader role within a microsystem.

Course Title: NURS 507 – Introduction to Nursing and the Clinical Nurse Leadership Role Credits: 3

Course Overview: This course provides an overview of the nursing profession with an emphasis on the role of the Clinical Nurse Leader as an entry-level master's prepared professional nurse clinician. Course content builds on the *American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) Competencies and Curricular Expectations for Clinical Nurse Leader Education and Practice*. Students will gain knowledge of the development of the CNL role within the profession and educational patterns in nursing. Students will gain knowledge of the development of the CNL role within the profession and educational patterns in nursing. The scope of practice of the CNL and its potential impact on patient care will be explored along with major issues and trends in nursing. The course will introduce students to CNL role concepts including lateral integration of care, case management, risk anticipation, outcome assessment, patient education and others. The legal and ethical contexts of nursing practice and quality improvement will be introduced and explored relative to CNL practice. Special emphasis will be placed on the introduction of patient care and leadership concepts and the development of basic skills and competencies in a problem solving, decision-making, group dynamics, coordination, delegation, collaboration, interdisciplinary communication, and advocacy.

Course Title: NURS 508 – Community and Public Health Nursing

Credits: 4 – 2 Didactic, 2 Clinical (90 hours)

Course Overview: This course is framed by a public health nursing practice model which links nursing with core public health functions and essential public health services. It provides the foundational principles of community and public health nursing using theory, community and population assessment skills, and the application of evidence-based interventions and evaluation to communities and at risk-groups to improve health outcomes. This course includes a 2 credit (90 hour) practicum experience to practice the application of these principles. Federal, state and local public health priorities are examined to illustrate the nursing process for the care of communities and populations. Ethical principles and the concept of social justice and culturally competent care are incorporated into the course by analyzing the origins of health disparities especially in cases of vulnerable populations and designing interventions that are tailored to address these disparities. The historical, current, and future role of nurses who care for populations by empowering individuals, families, and communities, is critically analyzed.

Course Title: NURS 509 - Maternal and Newborn Nursing: Maternity, Newborn, Women's Health, a Family Perspective

Credits: 5 – 3 Didactic, 2 Clinical (90 hours)

Course Overview: This didactic and clinical course provides a foundation for the Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL) student in the nursing care of women, newborns and families through classroom, seminar and clinical experiences. An evidence-based practice approach is used and emphasis is placed on the biological, psychological, social, cultural, and spiritual aspects of caring for women, newborns, and families throughout the lifecycle. Course content includes patient and family centered care and examination of current societal and technological trends that influence the health of women and families. Students apply theory in clinical practice through nursing care experiences with women, newborns, and families in a variety of inpatient and outpatient settings. The role of CNLs in care coordination of women, infants and families will be explored.

Course Title: NURS 511 – Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing

Credits: 5 – 3 Didactic, 2 – Clinical (90 hours)

Course Overview: This course provides a basic understanding of psychiatric and mental health nursing principles through classroom instruction and clinical experience for the Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL) student. Didactic and clinical experiences provide students with knowledge of the influence on mental health populations of multiple factors including environmental, cultural, social justice, ethical, and legal. Current theory, psychopharmacology, genomics and biological foundations of psychiatric disorders are introduced, with an emphasis on nursing intervention. Within the context of the nursing process, the foundations of a therapeutic relationship, the therapeutic use of self and reflective practice are emphasized. Students are encouraged to incorporate stress reduction skills and a nursing philosophy that embraces diversity, inclusion, and respectful sensitivity of others. The course incorporates CNL role concepts and competencies and their application to psychiatric nursing practice. Leadership and teaching-learning skills, patient care technologies, information systems and communication devices are used in the clinical setting. Advocacy and collaboration with the multidisciplinary team are emphasized.

Course Title: NURS 514 – Adult Health Nursing

Credits: 6 – 3 Didactic, 3 Clinical (135 hours)

Course Overview: This course provides didactic and clinical learning experiences that will enable the CNL students to provide nursing care to clients across the adult life span who are experiencing a variety of complex, acute, and chronic health problems. The learning focus is on developing problem recognition and priority setting skills as well as integrating best practice interventions into care of the adult health patient and their family. Course content includes application of pathophysiology and psychosocial concepts in a model of patient and family centered care. There is an emphasis on integration of CNL

competencies including risk management, microsystem patient outcome management, and supporting improved lateral integration of care.

Course Title: NURS 517 – Pediatric Nursing: Nursing Care of Infants, Children, Adolescents and their Families

Credits: 5 – 3 Didactic, 2 Clinical (90 hours)

Course Overview: This didactic and clinical course introduces the Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL) student to family-centered care in the pediatric setting and how this care modality facilitates the health and well-being of infants, children, and adolescents. The student is guided in synthesizing theory with clinical practice and in the development of cognitive, psychomotor, communication (reflective), and therapeutic skills necessary to address the needs and responses of the pediatric patient and family across the wellness-illness continuum. The development of mutuality and partnerships between the CNL and the family unit will be explored. The coordination, supervision, and delegation of care by the CNL within the pediatric milieu will be examined as related to cost effective, outcome driven care. Clinical opportunities are provided through a variety of in-patient and community experiences that develop and enhance the student's assessment skills, critical thinking, problem solving approaches and risk assessment strategies.

Course Title: NURS 523 – Clinical Nurse Leader Emphasis Practicum

Credits: 8 – 6 Clinical, 2 Clinical Conference

Course Overview: This precepted clinical immersion course, taken the final semester of the Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL) program of study, facilitates the transition from nursing student to CNL graduate. The student is expected to synthesize theory with clinical practice and continue to refine cognitive, psychomotor, communication (reflective), and therapeutic skills necessary to address the needs and responses of patients and families across the wellness-illness continuum. The coordination, supervision, and delegation of care by the CNL will be examined as related to cost effective, outcome driven care. Effective teamwork, risk assessment and interdisciplinary collaboration are emphasized. Organizational competencies, including application of leadership principles in complex adaptive health care delivery organizations are examined and implemented as appropriate. Working with a clinical preceptor the student will develop, implement and evaluate objectives specific to their specialty that reflect clinical competencies, diversity, inclusion and advocacy.

Course Title: NURS 625 – Introduction to Gerontological Nursing

Credits: 2

Course Overview: This course is designed to provide CNL students with the opportunity to systematically explore concepts relevant to successful aging. Emphasis is placed on normal psychosocial and physiologic factors rather than the pathological changes associated with aging. Issues that affect the delivery of health services and gerontological nursing care are critically discussed. Social and cultural aspects of aging in our society are explored. Aging-related research findings for clinical practice are analyzed. Nursing strategies aimed at health promotion and successful aging are developed.

Course Title: NRS 736 – Technology Solutions for Generating Knowledge in Health Care

Credits: 3

Course Description: This introductory course builds knowledge, skills and abilities necessary to work in an information technology enabled health care environment. It focuses on the analysis and application of information technologies that support the provision of care including social context, availability of technology, and type of information along with social –technical, legal, regulatory and ethical concerns. Emerging technologies and contemporary issues are highlighted.

Course Title: NRSG 780 – Health Promotion and Population Health

Credits: 3

Course Overview: This core course is designed to examine the determinants of health and distribution of disease. Epidemiological, demographic and environmental data, national reports and surveys, and legislation are used to assess trends and establish priorities to improve the health status of the population. The course focuses on the leading causes of death and disability as well as key issues in infectious disease, behavioral health, and environmental and occupational health. It addresses the importance of health disparities, cultural competence and social justice in developing health promotion and disease prevention programs. Models and theories for behavior change and program planning, health communication strategies, and the role of health policy are emphasized in developing and evaluating high risk and population-based interventions to improve the health status of the population.

Course Title: NRSG 782 - Health Systems & Health Policy: Leadership & Quality Improvement

Credits: 3

Course Overview: This core course is designed to provide an analysis of health care delivery and policy trends and their effects on organization of clinical and health systems. The course investigates the policy, regulatory, financial, technological and social dynamics that lead to quality improvement and patient safety impacting health care organizations, health care professionals, and patient populations. Leadership strategies are explored that influence decisions at both the practice-level and systems-level. Emphasis is placed on the role of nurses in developing and implementing initiatives to improve quality and cost-effectiveness of care and demonstrate sensitivity to diverse organizational cultures and populations.

Course Title: NRSG 790 - Methods for Research and Evidence Based Practice

Credits: 3

Course Overview: This course provides essential tools to critically evaluate and apply research evidence to nursing practice using an evidence-based practice approach. Students become critical consumers of research by identifying the evidence to support decision making, performing in-depth review and synthesis, rating the strength of the evidence, and identifying recommended practice changes, if indicated. Skills in quantitative reasoning are strengthened through critical review of research design and basic statistics. The students analyze frameworks that transform research into practice through the use of research outcomes, methods and planned change processes. The best practice evidence from systematic research is applied to current health care delivery phenomena. Students utilize analytical methods in the development of best practices and practice guidelines that facilitate the evaluation of systems of care and improve patient outcomes.

Course Title: NRSG 795 - Biostatistics for Evidence-based Practice

Credits: 3

Course Overview: This course extends basic statistics competencies by providing a working knowledge of common descriptive and inferential statistics used in evidence-based practice, including chi-square, t-test, ANOVA, correlation, and regression. Both hypothesis testing and effect size estimation are emphasized. An applied approach is taken where students conduct analyses using illustrative datasets and common analytical software for generating, evaluating, and using evidence. Accurate and concise reporting of results in text, tabular, and graphical form is emphasized.