

Post Graduate Certificate Program – FNP Focus Progression Plan

This program prepares nurses who have already earned a master's degree, or higher, in nursing to sit for either the national certification examination offered by the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) or American Academy of Nurse Practitioners (AANP).

The post-graduate FNP certificate program requires a minimum of 16 credits that are earned in 4 courses. Two courses are clinical, affording the student the opportunity to complete the 600 hours of supervised clinical practice as required in order to sit for the national certification examination. Two courses are didactic and offered via webcast and the internet, affording the student the opportunity to take these courses off-campus.

Each student's program will be individualized based on educational and experiential background. Prerequisites to registration for the four required courses in the program are evidence of competence in the following three areas: advanced pathophysiology, advanced pharmacotherapeutics, and advanced assessment.

	Fall		Spring		Summer	
Year 1	NSG 706 Adv. Patho.*	3	NSG 701 Adv. Pharm.*	3	NSG 712 Primary Care 1	3
			NSG 705 Adv. Assessment*	3		
	Total Credits	3	Total Credits	6	Total Credits	3
Year 2	NSG 714 Primary Care 2	3	NSG 721 Practicum	5		
	NSG 720 Practicum 1	5				
	Total Credits	8	Total Credits	5	Total Credits: 16 - 25	

*Pre-requisite courses, if needed.

All students in the program will complete a minimum of 600 supervised clinical hours.

Course Descriptions

NSG 701: Advanced Pharmacotherapeutics. Prerequisite or concurrent – NSG 706. Examination of the relationship between pharmacologic principles and the selection of pharmacologic agents in altered health states across the lifespan. This course lays the foundation for subsequent courses in diagnosis, management, and therapeutic interventions.

NSG 705: Advanced Lifespan Assessment: FNP Focus. Prerequisite – NSG 706. The focus of this course is the advanced health assessment of individuals across the lifespan. Skilled interviewing and clinical reasoning are emphasized as students collect and analyze data from the patient history, physical examination, and diagnostic procedures.

NSG 706: Advanced Pathophysiology. Prerequisite – None. Theoretical basis of pathophysiological changes in acute and chronic illnesses confronted in primary care across the lifespan is presented. The course serves as the foundation for clinical assessment, decision making, and management.

NSG 712: Primary Care of Families 1. Prerequisites – NSG 701, NSG 702, NSG 705, NSG 707, and NSG 708. An introduction to the knowledge and skills basic to the health maintenance, diagnosis, treatment, evaluation, and revision of care of individuals as members of family units in the primary care setting.

NSG 714: Primary Care of Families 2. Prerequisite – NSG 712. Further acquisition of knowledge and skills basic to the health maintenance, diagnosis, treatment, evaluation, and revision of care of individuals as members of family units in the primary care setting.

NSG 720: Family Practicum 1. Prerequisite or concurrent – NSG 714. Supervised practicum designed to facilitate the student's competency at the advanced practice level in the delivery of primary health care across the lifespan.

NSG 721: Family Practicum 2. Prerequisite – NSG 720. Supervised practicum that builds on Family Practicum 1 and applies theory and evidence to the advanced practice of nursing. Further role and competency development at the advanced practice level of lifespan primary health care.