

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING (MSN)

600. THEORETICAL FOUNDATIONS OF ADVANCED NURSING (Credit, 3 hours). A systematic examination of the concepts of nursing, human beings, health, and environment as the basis for the advanced practice of Nursing in a variety of health care settings. Includes an analysis of the major theories in nursing, the nature and use of theory, the process of theory construction, and the implications of theoretical formulations for advanced nursing practice.

602. DESIGN AND METHODOLOGY OF NURSING RE-SEARCH (Credit, 3 hours). Presents the methods, and techniques of scientific research. Emphasis will be placed on design decisions, psychometrics, statistical analyses, and computerized databases. Students will design a research proposal applicable to nursing.

604. ISSUES IN ADVANCED NURSING PRACTICE (Credit, 3 hours). An analysis of current issues confronting advanced practice nursing with discussion of strategies to influence health care decisions.

606. PRACTICUM FOR HEALTH ASSESSMENT AND DIAG-NOSTIC REASONING (Credit hours, 1 (64 contact hours 0 4:1 ratio for 16 weeks). Clinical Practicum for application of advanced knowledge and clinical skills related to health assessment and development of individuals in groups and communities throughout the life cycle. (Taken concurrently with NURS 616, Health Assessment and Diagnostic Reasoning for Advanced Nursing Practice)

610. NURSING ADMINISTRATION I: MANAGEMENT THEORIES AND CONCEPTS (Credit, 3 hours). An investigation of the theories of management. The student will develop advanced skills in communication, decision-making, conflict management, and budgeting. Concepts will be explored for the selection, motivation, and evaluation of staff. Organizational structure and dynamics of the health care system will be analyzed. Past perspectives and current trends will be studied to project future realities of nursing management.

608. FAMILY HEALTH PROMOTION FOR ADVANCED NURSING PRACTICE (Credit, 3 hours). The focus of this course is on family health promotion, protection, and restoration of health at the level of family as a system and unit of society is a major course goal. Principles of nursing and family theories are synthesized and applied to health promotion within the scope of advanced nursing practice.

611. NURSING ADMINISTRATION II: LEADERSHIP AND STRATEGIES (Credit, 3 hours). Development of the leadership role through application of the concepts of power, authority, influence, and motivation. Utilization of management theories in the development of nurse manager practice. Implementation of planned change in the clinical setting. (Prerequisite N610)

614. NURSING EDUCATION I: CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT (Credit, 3 hours). The course is designed to prepare the student for the process of curriculum development and the procedures of structuring and evaluating nursing curricula. Emphasis is on the use of educational theory and conceptual frameworks; development of a personal philosophy of education, terminal and level objectives, curriculum plan, and methods to evaluate curricula. Other topics of discussion include the curriculum patterns used in nursing education, staff development, and continuing education. The role of formative and summative evaluation for assessing the effectiveness of the curriculum as well as its parts; the role of consultants to an educational program; and, program and institutional accreditation are also examined in the course.

615. NURSING EDUCATION II: TEACHING PRACTICUM (Credit, 3 Hours; 128 practicum hours). This course is designed to prepare the student to utilize theories of learning, and principles and methods of teaching in nursing curricula. A variety of methods of instruction in classrooms and clinical laboratory settings will be included. Students will participate in planned practice teaching experiences in an undergraduate curriculum, staff development, or continuing education setting. (Prerequisite: N614)

616. HEALTH ASSESSMENT AND DIAGNOSTIC REASONING FOR ADVANCED NURSING

PRACTICE (Credit 3, hours). Diagnostic reasoning models and theories utilizing knowledge of advanced health assessment and development of individuals in groups and communities throughout the life cycle. Emphasis is placed on multigenerational, gender, and cultural/ethnic issues. (Taken concurrently with NURS 606, Practicum for Health Assessment and Diagnostic Reasoning)

649. PRIMARY HEALTH CARE OF FAMILIES I (Credit, 2 hours). This course explores periodic health evaluations and episodic health care problems of persons across the life span. Emphasis is placed on family health theories, health promotion and families experiencing disorders with normal childhood illnesses and infectious diseases, EENT, STD, HIV/AIDS, Behavioral & Mental Health, Men's Health, Women's Health, and Prenatal Care. Therapeutic nursing interventions for the management of problems will emphasize health promotion strategies to prevent episodic health problems.

650. PRIMARY HEALTH CARE OF FAMILIES II (Credit, 2 hours). This course explores chronic health care problems of persons across the life span. Emphasis is placed on health promotion and families experiencing disorders related to hematology/immunology, neurology, musculoskeletal, gastrointestinal, cardiovascular, respiratory, endocrine, and dermatology. Environmental health issues and occupational health as it relates to families will also be explored. The therapeutic nursing intervention management of the health care problems of families will emphasize health promotion strategies to prevent, monitor, and stabilize chronic health problems. Application of Wright and Leahey's Family Assessment Model is emphasized. (Prerequisite: N649)

651. ADVANCED PATHOPHYSIOLOGY for NURSING PRACTICE (Credit, 3 hours). Focuses on common diseases and pathology found in individuals in all age groups. Physiology and psychopathology are used as a basis for examining mechanisms of selected disease states. Nursing care is emphasized in terms of early disease detection, illness management, and complication prevention. Relevant research and laboratory data are integrated throughout the course. (Prerequisites: Admission to graduate status, current licensure as registered nurse in Louisiana.)

652. PHARMACOLOGY FOR ADVANCED NURSING PRACTICE (Credit, 3 hours). This course focuses on the application of advanced knowledge of pharmacotherapeutics in relation to the management of client health needs across the lifespan. Concepts of legal, ethical, developmental, and multicultural issues are addressed. (Prerequisites: Admission to graduate status, current licensure as registered nurse in Louisiana and evidence of entry level health assessment skills.)

653. FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER PRACTICUM I CREDIT HOURS: (Credit, 6 credits hours: 1 didactic & 20 clinical: clinical ratio 1:4). This course is the first of two family nurse practitioner practicum courses focusing on advanced practice of nursing in primary care. Students are provided the opportunity to work collaboratively with a preceptor in management of the care of families with selected health problems across the lifespan. Principles of pharmacological and non-pharmacologically therapeutic interventions are integrated in plans of care. Concepts of growth and development, health status, and environmental interactions are explored within a health promotion, illness prevention framework. (Prerequisites: N600, N606, N608, N616, N649, N650, N651, N652)

654. FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER PRACTICUM II CREDIT HOURS: (Credit, 6 hours: 1 didactic & 20 clinical; clinical ratio 1:4). This is the second of two family nurse practitioner practicum courses, which concentrates on specialization, expansion, and further development of skills related to the advanced practice of nursing in primary care. Students are provided with the opportunity to work collaboratively with a preceptor in management of the care of families with selected health problems across the lifespan. Principles of pharmacological and non-pharmacological therapeutic interventions are integrated in plans of care. Concepts of growth and development, health status, and environmental interactions are explored within a health promotion, illness prevention framework. (Prerequisites: N653)

696. CLINICAL RESEARCH PROJECT (Credit, 3-6 hours). An independent research project under the supervision of a graduate faculty member that employs the research scientific process in analyzing a clinical

problem or issue relative to advanced practice nursing. Emphasis is on a project that has tangible application to the practice setting. Prior approval of the research topic by the faculty of record must be obtained prior to registration for the course. (Prerequisites: NP Tract: NURS 600, 602, 606, 608, 616, 651, 652, 653, 655, & 656). ED Tract : (NURS 600, N602, N604, N606, N608, N614, N616, N651, N652)

697. DIRECTED INDEPENDENT STUDY (DIS), (Credit, 3 – 6 hours). Requires a formal proposal of study to be completed in advance of registration and approved by the supervising faculty, the chairperson and the dean of the school of nursing. May be repeated for up to six hours. Prerequisites: A minimum of 12 semester hours of course work in nursing and approval of the Dean.

698. COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION, (Credit, 0 hours).
Enrollment in and passing all final semester required and co-requisite courses.

699. THESIS (Credit 3-6 hours). Independent study of a selected topic in nursing requiring a written proposal, data collection and analyses, and resulting in a written thesis under the guidance of graduate nursing faculty. The thesis may be extended for a second semester. An oral defense of thesis is required. (Prerequisites; N600, N602)

DOCTORAL LEVEL COURSES (PHD & DNP)

700. HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY OF NURSING SCIENCE (CREDIT, 3 hours). Overview and critical analysis of the historical and contemporary views of knowledge development and science. The development of nursing as a discipline is examined from a historical perspective. (Consent of the Dean and the Program)

702. THEORY CONSTRUCTION IN NURSING (CREDIT, 3 hours). Foundation for generating nursing theory for professional practice focusing on the relationship between theory construction and research. Emphasis is on generation, testing, and formulation of a theory for professional practice and analysis of existing health and nursing theories. Strategies for analysis and derivation of concepts, statements, and theories, are practiced. Meta-theories and grand theories are examined and critiqued. (Prerequisite: N700)

704. HEALTH POLICY, POLITICS AND ECONOMICS IN NURSING (CREDIT, 3 hours). Interrelated areas concerning the nurse's role in health care policy. Topics include examination of health care policy, policy analysis, and the political process. Issues that currently shape health care policy development and future policy, and their implications for nursing and health care are explored. The nurse's involvement in influencing health policy formulation, legislation, and regulations are discussed. (Prerequisite: N700, N710, N712, N730)

706. CURRICULUM DESIGNS IN NURSING EDUCATION (3 CREDIT hours). This course is an online course designed with an opportunity for critical analysis of curriculum development methodologies for pre-professional and graduate nursing programs. The influence of philosophical and theoretical underpinnings, current issues, and best practices in nursing education are also examined in the development of nursing curricula. Learners will engage in activities which analyze institutional and program mission, goals and program objectives in meeting the needs of a global community. Content is relevant to nurse educator certification

708. INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES, ASSESSMENT and EVALUATION (3 CREDIT hours). Online nurse educator course designed to provide the learner with an appraisal of instructional strategies and related assessment and evaluation tools to enhance current practicing nurse educators existing educational portfolios. Opportunity to formulate creative means of instruction and relevant means of assessing and evaluating the impact of instructional strategies on learner outcomes is addressed. Content is relevant to nurse educator certification.

710. ADVANCED STATISTICS (CREDIT, 3 hours). Principles of bivariate and multivariate regression and correlation are studied. Emphasis is on the application of these techniques in the analysis of nursing and health-related data. Course substitution is allowed with consent of the program. (Prerequisite: Graduate Level Statistics Course)

712. ADVANCED NURSING RESEARCH (CREDIT, 3 hours). The relationship of theoretical perspective and the design of nursing research. Critical analysis, research rigor, qualitative and quantitative methods, Meta-

analysis, and other methodologies are presented. Alternative designs are discussed in consideration of underlying assumptions, ethical issues, design sensitivity and threats to validity. Hypotheses relating to current nursing problems are derived and appropriate methodology is applied. (Prerequisite: N700, N710, N730)

714. APPLICATION OF RESEARCH METHODOLOGIES (CREDIT, 3 hours). Application and critical analysis of quantitative and qualitative research methodologies in the study of health issues in vulnerable persons. Emphasis is on appropriateness of methodology to various research questions and/or problems formulation. Sampling frameworks, types of samples, sampling errors and biases for designs will be addressed. (Prerequisite: N712)

716. MEASUREMENT AND INFORMATICS IN NURSING RESEARCH AND PRACTICE (CREDIT, 3 hours). Critical analysis of principles and theories of measurement. Instrumentation, analysis of existing data, reliability and validity are emphasized. Various approaches to measurement and scaling, techniques of instrument construction, and procedures for the critical evaluation of instruments are stressed. (Prerequisite: N712 and N714)

720. RESEARCH PRACTICUM (CREDIT, 3 hours). Application implementation of the research process in an ongoing research project. Students will develop methodological or substantive expertise in research while working with a scientist at a Research Center. Emphasis will be placed on the interdisciplinary aspects of health research and teamwork. Dissemination of research findings and grant writing are stressed. (Prerequisite: N710, N712, N714, N716)

730. THEORIES AND CONCEPTS OF HEALTH BEHAVIOR AND HEALTH PROMOTION (CREDIT, 3 hours). Examination of health, health seeking behaviors and barriers to health care of vulnerable populations (i.e. women and children). Included are theoretical and empirical approaches to understanding the impact of culture, economics, and the environment of health. Research on health promotional behaviors of vulnerable individuals, families, and communities is incorporated in the development of interventions that promote, maintain or restore health. Emphasis is placed on the nurse's role in helping individuals to monitor and improve their health and quality of life.

731. FAMILY NURSING: THEORY AND RESEARCH (CREDIT, 3 hours). Examination of family theories and research from nursing and related disciplines. Focus will be directed toward examination of factors that impact vulnerable families. (Prerequisite: N700, N702, N730)

732. ISSUES IN HEALTH CARE OF VULNERABLE WOMEN AND CHILDREN (CREDIT, 3 hours). Focuses on theory, research and interventions for actual or potential health problems in women and children across the life span. Students conduct a critical and reflective analysis of existing and emerging scientific knowledge in the field of women's health. focusing on women from vulnerable populations. (Prerequisite: N731; Co-requisite: N704)

733. POLICY AND STRATEGIES FOR IMPROVING THE HEALTH OF VULNERABLE WOMEN AND CHILDREN (CREDIT, 3 hours). An in-depth analysis of health policy, research and community-based intervention strategies for women and children. Students conduct a critical analysis of health policies and scientific knowledge related to the health women and children. (Prerequisites: N731, N732, N702)

740. LEADERSHIP IN ADVANCED PRACTICE PRIMARY CARE PRACTICUM (CREDIT, 5 hours; 300 Practicum hours). In this clinical practicum with seminar, students will integrate DNP role behaviors into clinical practice. A focus on transformational leadership in the practice setting to deliver advanced practice nursing services to individuals, families, communities or systems is emphasized. This course addresses the leadership role of the advanced practice nurse within healthcare organizations to affect change and ensure quality improvement, with a focus on inter- and intra- professional collaboration. In conjunction with their designated faculty advisor, students will design a clinical practicum experience that permits achievement of the student's individual goals and the program objectives with primary emphasis on the integration of DNP competencies directly into advanced nursing practice. (PRE-REQUISITES: N700, N704, N730)

742 ADVANCED PRACTICE PRACTICUM (CREDIT 5; 200 Practicum hours). In this clinical practicum with seminar, the philosophic basis of ethics and implications for advanced clinical practice will be explored. Using ethical principles, students will examine a variety of clinical, research and practice management dilemmas that arise in the provision of advanced practice nursing services to individuals, populations and communities. Issues related to social justice, health care disparities and vulnerable populations will be explored. In conjunction with their designated faculty advisor, students will design a clinical practicum experience that permits achievement of the student's individual goals and the program objectives with primary emphasis on the integration of DNP competencies directly into advanced nursing practice. (PRE-REQUISITES: N700, N704, N714, N716, N730, 740)

746 CAPSTONE PROJECT: EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICE AND RESEARCH TRANSLATION (CREDIT 4 hours). The capstone project is a culmination of the knowledge gained in the DNP courses. It is a tangible and deliverable academic product that is derived from practice and is reviewed and evaluated by a supervisory committee. In this project, students will engage in scholarly inquiry to analyze, evaluate, or transform a relevant aspect of clinical practice. Knowledge development in areas such as the translation of research into practice, the evaluation of practice, the design of activities aimed at improving the reliability of health care practice and outcomes, and participation in collaborative outcome research are the culminating experiences of this course. The specific clinical project area will be cultivated and developed with mentorship of expert faculty and advance practice nurses.

797 DNP COMPREHENSIVE EXAM (0 Credit Hours) Prerequisites: Enrollment in and passing all final semester required and co-requisite courses.

798 DOCTORAL QUALIFYING EXAMINATION, (Credit 0 hours). (Prerequisite: Completion of at least 36 credit hours of course work with a minimum GPA of 3.0.

799 ADVANCED RESEARCH (CREDIT, 3-15 hours). Discussion of practical and philosophical problems associated with dissertation research. (Prerequisite:N710, N712, N714, N716, N720)

800 DISSERTATION RESEARCH (CREDIT, 3-15 hours). The dissertation is an original research study completed in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Ph.D. degree. Guidelines for the dissertation have been developed by Southern University's graduate school and will be given to the student. (Prerequisite: Completion of all course work and passing of the Qualifying Examination).