

NURSING COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

NUR 530 THEORIES OF LEARNING

3 CREDITS

The structure, assumptions, and concepts underlying historic and current learning theories are analyzed in this course, with an emphasis placed upon theoretical applications. Students also develop teaching strategies that are grounded in learning/educational theory and evidence-based teaching practice.

NUR 540 MODELS OF TEACHING AND INSTRUCTION

3 CREDITS

Students examine instructional models that facilitate learning in classroom, laboratory, and clinical settings. Strategies to promote the achievement of cognitive, affective, and psychomotor outcomes are also explored in the context of evidence-based research; learner needs and abilities; outcomes; content; and environment. *Prerequisite: NUR 530.*

NUR 550 CURRICULUM DESIGN

3 CREDITS

In this course, students integrate educational philosophy and the principles, theories, and research of nursing and education in the process of curriculum development. Trends in nursing and health care, as well as community and societal needs related to curricular design, are explored. Students collaborate in the development of a nursing curriculum, thereby reinforcing the process and skills that are intrinsic to curriculum development and/or revision. *Prerequisite: EDU 530 or NUR 530.*

NUR 560 INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY

3 CREDITS

The student explores the applications of technology to program development, curriculum design, instructional strategies, evaluation, and resource utilization. This course also examines the use of computer-based instruction, distance learning, media, the World Wide Web, simulation, and other state-of-the-art technologies to promote learning. *Prerequisite: NUR 550.*

NUR 570 ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION IN NURSING EDUCATION 3 CREDITS

Students examine assessment and evaluation methods that are utilized to measure student learning and program outcomes. Emphasis is placed upon the development of grading rubrics, test construction and analysis, and clinical evaluations which are unique to nursing education. The social, legal, and ethical issues in grading, assessment, evaluation, and accreditation processes are also studied. This course also includes 30 hours of classroom laboratory experiences. *Prerequisites: NUR 540 and 550.*

NUR 601 CONCEPTUAL MODELS AND THEORIES OF ADVANCED PRACTICE NURSING 3 CREDITS

This course prepares the advanced practice nurse student to analyze models and theories from nursing and related fields that support professional nursing practice. The application of models and theories are also explored, with an emphasis on their use in nursing practice, research, and education.

NUR 606 HEALTH POLICY, LEGAL AND ETHICAL ISSUES IN ADVANCED PRACTICE NURSING 3 CREDITS

This course explores the major issues in health care, health care delivery, health care policy, and other forces that shape advanced practice nursing. Strategies which influence health policy, as well as health care delivery and outcomes are also emphasized. Topics of study include the policy and politics of health care, health care systems, economics of health care, socio-cultural factors, technology, health disparities, as well as legal and ethical issues.

NUR 607 ADVANCED PHARMACOLOGY 3 CREDITS

Advanced practice nurse students are provided with the principles of clinical pharmacology and pharmacotherapeutics in this course. The student is expected to build upon his/her prior knowledge and clinical experience to integrate pharmacotherapeutic concepts with the client's pathophysiologic status. Pharmacodynamics and kinetics are emphasized, as well as the effects of psychosocial issues and polypharmacy on drug regimens. In addition, the course focuses on a comprehensive knowledge of best practice drug regimens for the purpose of prescribing, monitoring, and educating clients about the effects of drug therapy on their health and well-being, as well as assuring compliance with those regimens. Legal aspects of medication prescribing, dispensing, selling, and acquiring in the United States are also studied. *Pre- or Co-requisite: NUR 611.*

NUR 611 ADVANCED PATHOPHYSIOLOGY 3 CREDITS

This course prepares the advanced practice nurse student to understand the biological bases for altered function and disease. The student also learns to differentiate between normal variations and pathology. This in-depth knowledge then becomes the foundation for clinical reasoning and clinical decisions that are related to diagnostic tests and the initiation of therapeutic regimens. Application of learning is made through selected case studies.

NUR 612 ADVANCED HEALTH ASSESSMENT AND DIAGNOSTIC REASONING 4 CREDITS

This course is designed to prepare the advanced practice nurse student to demonstrate sound theoretical and practice skills for making clinical decisions. Students are expected to have knowledge of basic health assessment skills and to be able to build from those skills to complete comprehensive health histories and advanced holistic assessments of adult clients. The comprehensive database includes physical, psychological, cultural, functional, spiritual, and psychosocial dimensions of the adult client. In addition to clinical data gathering skills, students use diagnostic reasoning and clinical problem-solving skills including: differential diagnosis; ordering and interpreting common diagnostic tests; procedures used in primary care; and

documentation of findings. Students are also required to complete a laboratory component and 45 clinical hours in which they engage in actual practice with consenting adult clients. *Prerequisite: A baccalaureate Health Assessment course or its equivalent.*

NUR 613 PRIMARY AND SECONDARY PREVENTION WITH OLDER ADULTS 7 CREDITS

In this course, the gerontological nurse practitioner student is prepared to provide holistic primary health care for older adults with an emphasis on health promotion, health maintenance, as well as early detection and treatment of common acute and chronic health problems. Students are taught to integrate advanced clinical practice with assessment, nursing process, and decision making that reflect the unique needs of older adults and their families. The course also provides 135 hours of clinical practice opportunities for the student to manage individualized regimens for culturally diverse clients in a variety of settings. *Prerequisites: NUR 607, NUR 611, NUR 612, and NUR 630.*

NUR 614 TERTIARY PREVENTION WITH OLDER ADULTS 6 CREDITS

The gerontological nurse practitioner student is prepared to meet the restorative and rehabilitative needs of older adults. Throughout their course of study, students develop and implement tertiary prevention plans of care for vulnerable clients at home, in rehabilitation, and in long-term care settings. Primary and secondary prevention continue to be integrated into plans of care. The management of very frail older adults to prevent further deterioration of function and to provide support at the end of life is also studied. The course continues to emphasize independent clinical decision making in addition to collaboration and interdisciplinary team care for clients with multiple, complex problems during 135 hours of clinical practice. *Prerequisite: NUR 613.*

NUR 620 GERONTOLOGICAL NURSE PRACTITIONER SYNTHESIS PRACTICUM 8 CREDITS

In this final clinical practice course, the gerontological nurse practitioner student demonstrates his/her ability to integrate and synthesize previous knowledge and skills, as well as implement all aspects of the GNP role in the assessment, diagnosis, and management of older adults at all levels of health and illness. Practice and mastery of advanced practice skills occur in 315 hours of preceptored clinical settings and in weekly seminars that include individual student case studies, presentations, and analyses. The student is also required to demonstrate progressive independence in the GNP role, as well as a working partnership with diverse older clients, families, and other health care providers. *Prerequisite: NUR 614.*

NUR 622 NURSE EDUCATOR SYNTHESIS PRACTICUM 3 CREDITS

This capstone course provides the student with opportunities to experience the nurse educator role in either an academic or health care environment. Students participate in classroom, laboratory, and clinical teaching under the guidance of an experienced nurse educator. Responsibilities of scholarship, service, and commitment to lifelong learning are also explored. Bi-weekly seminars promote self-assessment and the exploration of the nurse educator role. *Prerequisites: NUR 560 and NUR 570.*

NUR 630 HEALTH PROMOTION AND DISEASE PREVENTION FOR THE ADVANCED PRACTICE NURSE 3 CREDITS

This course offers the advanced practice nurse student an opportunity to critically examine issues that impact on the promotion of health and prevention of illness. Issues related to individual, family, and community health promotion are also examined within a multidimensional framework. Clinical preventive services for health promotion, community and population strategies, as well as the role of complementary and alternative health modalities, are also studied. In addition, the roles of the health care provider and client are examined in relationship to counseling and

communication, including genetic counseling. *The Healthy People 2010* objectives are used as a focus for an in-depth analysis of health promotion interventions.

NUR 632 RESEARCH METHODS

3 CREDITS

This course prepares advanced practice nurse students to extend the basis of their practice through an understanding of the scientific approach to, and methods of, research. Critical analyses of evidence-based practice and studies addressing clinical and educational questions result in the learner's acquisition of skills that are necessary to apply research to change practice, enhance professional education, and develop health policy. Ethical and legal responsibilities to protect research subjects and participate in research studies are also examined. The course culminates in the development of a written research proposal. *Prerequisite: An undergraduate Nursing Research course.*

NUR 680 INDEPENDENT STUDY PROJECT (ISP)

CREDIT VARIES

Qualified graduate students who seek individualized advanced study in some area of nursing that is not covered in scheduled courses may apply for an Independent Study Project (ISP). Students assume responsibility for special readings and research under the supervision of a designated faculty member. Regular meetings with faculty and completion of all assignments are required. *Prerequisite: Conditions of the University's ISP Policy, as well as any additional clearance requirements as determined by the Division of Nursing and Health Sciences.*

SPECIAL TOPICS IN GRADUATE NURSING

CREDIT VARIES

Neumann University periodically offers Special Topics in Graduate Nursing [*NUR*] that reflect specific topics of study that are not part of the standard University curriculum. All Special Topics courses are identified by a three-digit numeric designation [*NUR* _26]. The first digit indicates the level of graduate study for a particular course, while the numeric designation of "26" indicates that the course is a Special Topics course. For any given semester, course title(s) and content area(s), as well as any specified prerequisites, are published during the preceding semester. *Permission of the Instructor* may also be required before a student can register for any Special Topics course, as well as any additional clearance requirements as determined by the Division of Nursing and Health Sciences.

