NURS 6351: Role of the Nurse Educator

Program Overview
The Nursing Education specialization prepares nurses for faculty positions in all types of undergraduate nursing programs, as well as for educator roles in diverse practice settings. Graduates have the knowledge to develop, plan, implement, and evaluate educational programs for nursing students and other individuals or groups needing health-related education.

Course Description
Nursing education students in this course explore the roles of the nurse educator, including providers of care, staff developers, clinical educators, and academic educators. Through the practicum experience, students translate and apply theoretical principles from their advanced clinical specialty of providing direct care to patients as well as in their practice of teaching. Students work toward solving real-world problems, with the assistance of their preceptors, in a clinical setting as well as with teaching projects in a classroom setting, patient setting, and staff-development setting. They also present the results of their project in the workplace and in the online classroom.

Credit & Practicum Hours
Quarter Credit Hours: 5 credits
- Didactic – 4 credits
- Practicum – 1 credit (72 practicum hours)
Practicum Hours: This course requires a minimum of 72 practicum hours.

Course Learning Outcomes
- Compare competencies and role expectations of nurse educators in academic, staff development, and patient education settings
- Propose strategies to manage the multiple demands on and challenges facing nurse educators in academic, staff development, and patient education settings
- Implement selected elements of the nurse educator role in academic, staff development, or patient education settings
- Analyze the influence of personal styles, preferences, values, and assumptions on approaches to teaching
- Apply knowledge and research findings related to teaching and learning principles, curriculum development, and integrating technology in designing and implementing a teaching session
- Analyze ethical and legal issues that impact the role of the nurse educator
- Evaluate opportunities for continued professional growth

MSN Learning Outcomes
At the end of this program, students will be able to:
1. Synthesize organizational/systems leadership for cost-effective specialist nursing practice that contributes to high-quality healthcare delivery, advancement of the nursing profession, and social change.
2. Critique evidence-based literature drawing from diverse theoretical perspectives and pertinent research to guide decision making that demonstrates best practices for specialist nursing practice in a global society.
3. Integratively assess, diagnose, plan, implement, and evaluate cost-effective healthcare strategies that reduce health disparities by patient/population advocacy for access to specialist nursing care.
4. Demonstrate ability to effectively communicate using audience-specific oral, written, and information technology for professional delivery of specialist nursing care.
5. Evaluate health needs of diverse populations for necessary teaching/coaching functions based on specialist nursing knowledge to restore/promote health and prevent illness/injury.
6. Exhibit ongoing commitment to professional development and value of nursing theories/ethical principles (altruism, autonomy, human dignity, integrity, social justice) in accordance with ethically responsible, legally accountable, specialist nursing practice.
7. Implement specialist nursing roles to promote quality improvement of patient-centered care in accordance with professional practice standards that transform health outcomes for diverse populations.