NURS 6341: Specialty in Clinical Nursing

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
In today’s complex healthcare arena there is increased patient acuity and a growing need for better-educated nurses at the bedside. Nurse educators must possess advanced clinical knowledge to teach complex clinical content effectively, including selecting a focus to advance their knowledge in a clinical specialty. Students advance their clinical knowledge in a selected specialty to prepare them to fulfill the role of the nurse educator.

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.
Note: Direct patient care is involved in this practicum course.

Course Learning Outcomes
- Analyze the impact of nurses with advanced knowledge on quality and safety in clinical settings
- Develop advanced skills related to a specialty area of interest
- Analyze regulation, standardization, and competencies specific to advanced knowledge in a specialty of interest
- Analyze the impact of work complexity on quality and safety
- Evaluate inter-professional collaboration and its effects on quality and safety
- Evaluate nursing’s contribution in the reimbursement and cost of care payment schemas
- Evaluate evidence-based methods for resolving ethical dilemmas
- Analyze the practicum experience to demonstrate attainment of advance specialty knowledge

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.