Course Description

In this course, students learn how nurse practitioners master the art and science of clinical decision making among adult populations. Students focus on the diagnosis and management of primary healthcare needs and problems of the adult and elderly adult. They engage in a variety of course assignments that focus on physical and behavioral disease processes central to diagnosing illnesses as well as planning, implementing, and evaluating therapeutic treatment programs for acute illnesses commonly encountered in a primary healthcare setting. Students gain confidence in clinical experiences in a primary healthcare setting where they learn to plan, implement, and evaluate therapeutic regimens for adult patients with common acute and chronic illnesses.

Credit & Practicum Hours

Quarter Credit Hours: 5 credits
- Didactic – 3 credits
- Practicum – 2 credits

Practicum Hours:
Students Enrolled Before Spring 2018: This course requires a minimum of 144 practicum hours.
Students Enrolled After Spring 2018: This course requires a minimum of 160 practicum hours.

Course Learning Outcomes

- Analyze domains and theories of nursing practice
- Analyze disorders of body systems
- Analyze diagnoses for patients
- Evaluate patient treatment options
- Analyze health promotion and patient education strategies
- Understand and apply key terms, concepts, and principles related to the primary care of adults across the lifespan

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.