NURS 6550: Advanced Practice Care of Adults in Acute Care Settings I

Course Description
The complex assessment and care of patients in the hospital setting will require advanced practice nurses to obtain the specialized skills necessary to provide quality care for patients in these acute care settings. This course is designed to prepare students to provide care for acutely ill and critically ill patients. Students in this course will be introduced to the role of the advanced practice nurse, while gaining confidence in caring for acutely ill patients. Through course assignments and clinical practice in the acute care setting they will plan, implement, and evaluate care for critically ill patients. Students will also increase their knowledge of pharmacologic management of hospitalized patients, while applying knowledge gained through previous coursework.

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 medicolegal considerations for advanced practice nurses
- Evaluate patients with acute, chronic, and critical conditions
- Develop differential diagnoses for patients with acute, chronic, and critical conditions
- Develop treatment plans for patients with acute, chronic, and critical conditions
- Collaborate with multidisciplinary teams to improve clinical practice in acute care settings

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.