

Southern Adventist University School of Nursing

**Christ-Centered Excellence
Caring - Connecting - Empowering**

**Graduate Handbook
MSN & DNP
2026-2027**

Table of Contents

I. Introduction.....	4
Faculty and Staff Directory	5
Organizational Chart.....	7
II. SAU Nursing Program	8
Mission Statement	8
Philosophy	8
Values	8
SAU Patient Care Model.....	9
Definitions	10
Practice Domains.....	12
End of Program Student Learning Outcomes.....	13
Essential Qualifications for Admission, Continuance and Graduation	31
III. Graduate Program Emphases	34
DNP Emphases.....	34
MSN Emphases	36
Program Sequences	37
BS to DNP Emphases	38
DNP Emphases (post-master's degree).....	47
MSN Emphases	55
Accelerated RN-MSN	62
Certificate Programs (Post Masters or DNP Specialist)	63
Dual degree MSN-MBA.....	66
IV. Graduate Program Policies and Procedures.....	70
School of Nursing Responsibility to the Student.....	70
General Policies	71
Attendance	72
Awards	72
BLS Certification Policy.....	72
Cell Phone and Other Personal Electronics	72
Civility	73
Criminal Background Check Policy	73

Dress Code	74
Drug and Alcohol Screening	75
Due Date of Assignment and Time	75
Evaluation	75
Fees.....	75
Florence Oliver Anderson (FOA).....	76
Forum	76
Grading Policies	76
Graduate Assistantships	77
Grievance Procedure	77
Health Insurance	78
Immunizations	78
Integrity	79
Joint Commission Requirements (TCPS)	80
Learning Resource Center Policies	81
Leave of Absence (LOA).....	81
Liability Coverage	82
Online Course Expectations	82
Professional Events	83
Professional Improvement Plan	83
Professional Organizations.....	84
Sabbath Policy	84
Sigma, Rho Iota Chapter – Nursing Honor Society.....	84
Social Media Policy.....	85
Student Government.....	86
Skills and Assessment Lab Policies	86
Transportation.....	86
V. Infection Control Policy	87
VI. Writing Guidelines	90
Appendix A: Forms.....	93
Nurse Educator Track – Declaration of Clinical Area	94

I **INTRODUCTION**

Welcome to Southern Adventist University (SAU) School of Nursing (SON). We are committed to the education of nurses in a Christian setting. Thank you for choosing SAU SON to help you achieve the next step in your professional development and career goals.

This handbook will serve as a guide for many aspects of the Graduate Nursing program. Students are expected to be familiar with the material covered in this handbook and to maintain compliance with the procedures and policies specified herein. Policies may be updated at any time by the SON. Students will be provided this information both verbally and in writing.

Best Wishes for Your Success

Program accreditation information:

The Associate of Science, Bachelor of Science, Master of Science, and DNP degree programs in nursing are fully accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) (3343 Peachtree Road, NE, Suite 850, Atlanta, GA 30326).

The School of Nursing is an agency member of the Council of Baccalaureate and Higher Degree Programs and the Council of Associate Degree Programs of the National League for Nursing.

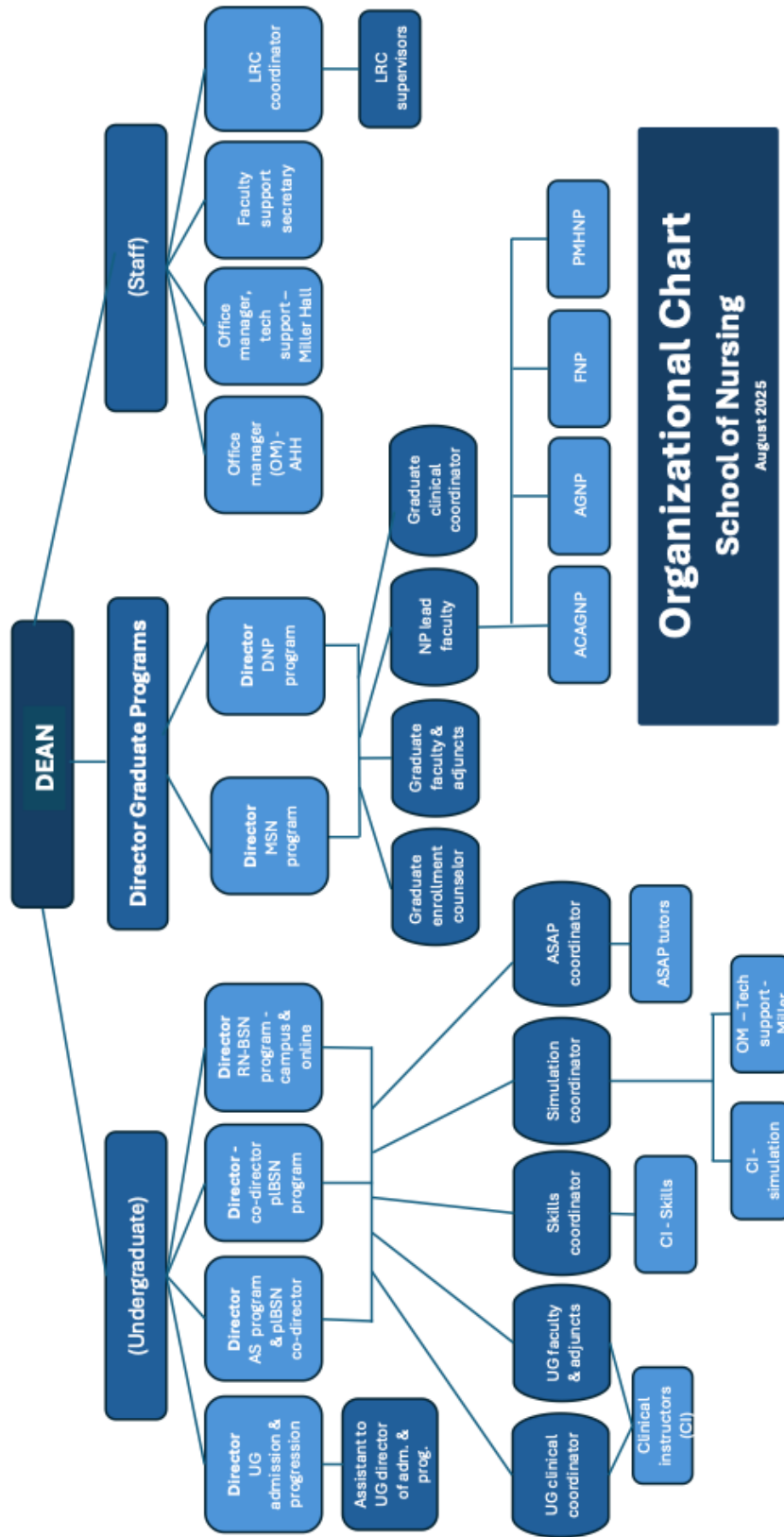
The School of Nursing is approved by the Tennessee Board of Nursing.

GRADUATE FACULTY AND STAFF DIRECTORY

NAME	OFFICE PHONE	Office # and Location	E-MAIL @southern.edu	DNP Responsibilities
Buchholz, Jill <i>School of Nursing</i>	2343	2201	jbuchholz	DNP Program Director: Nurse Educator Practicum; MSN Capstone; DNP Seminar; DNP Project
Dedeker, Judy <i>School of Nursing</i>	2945	2419	dedekerj	Graduate Program Director; MSN Program Director: Primary Care of Adults; Primary Care of Children; Acute Care Concepts & Skills; Primary Care Practicum (Adult/geri & Family); Genetics
Fisher, Jennifer <i>School of Nursing</i>	2407	1403	gradclinicals	Graduate Clinical Coordinator; Role Development; Clinical Orientation; Primary Care Practicum (Adult/geri & Family)
Gadd, Holly <i>School of Nursing</i>	2942	2305C	hgadd	Dean; Primary Care of Adults; Geriatric Primary/Long-Term Care; Epidemiology/Biostat, DNP Project
Gonzalez, Eva <i>School of Nursing</i>	2153	3103	evagonzalez	Adv. Assessment; Assessment I labs, Health Promotion; NP Practicum
Jordan, Michael <i>School of Nursing</i>	2162	3205	jordanmb	Theory/Research; Issues in QS and Tech; Healthcare Policy/Econ/Finance; MSN Capstone; Adv Leadership & Mgmt; Adv Leadership & Mgmt Practicum
Lazcano, Antonio <i>School of Nursing</i>	2958	1205	alazcano	Acute Care Concepts & Skills; Acute Care Practicum; Advanced Pathophysiology
Magtanong, Amelyn <i>School of Nursing</i>	2948	2417	amelynmagtanong	Psychopharmacology; Issues in Psych Mental Health; Neuroscience for Mental Health; Practicum I and II Psych Mental Health; Adv Health Assessment
Peoples, Linda <i>School of Nursing</i>	2968	2411	lindacannon	Emergency and Disaster Mgmt; Family & Community Systems; Counseling Practicum; Lifestyle Strategies for Psychosocial Hlth; MSN Capstone; DNP Project
Tryon, Lilly <i>School of Nursing</i>	2154	3317	ltryon	Health Promotion; Exercise Modalities; Health Coaching; Coaching Practicum; Nutritional; Intro to Lifestyle Medicine; ACLM Board Review; DNP Project
STAFF				
Anderson, Jenifer	2940	2305	andersonjenifer	Secretary/Office Manager
Brewer, Michelle	2170	MH 2005	mclinton	Office Manager/Technology Support
Parks, Lisa	2974	LRC	lisaparks	LRC Coordinator
Thompson, Jamie	2957	1407	jlthompson	Graduate Enrollment Counselor/Graduate Office Manager Fax: 423-236-1957
Wilcon, Madison	2155	2317	madisonw	Faculty Support Secretary
ADJUNCT Faculty				
Hall, Kristy <i>School of Nursing</i>		Adjunct	knelson	Theory/Research; DNP Project
Miller, Shelly <i>School of Nursing</i>		Adjunct	shellymiller	Adv Pharmacology
Perry, Mitzie <i>School of Nursing</i>		Adjunct	mdperry	Primary Care of Children

Van Dolson, Randall <i>School of Nursing</i>		Adjunct	randalv	<i>Epidemiology/Biostat Adv Prac</i>
GRADUATE and PROFESSIONAL STUDIES OFFICE				
Cheung, Corjena	2864	Wright Hall	corjena	AVP of Academic Admin/Dean Graduate Studies
Sayavongsa, Jordan	2694	Wright Hall	jordansayavongsa	Director of Graduate Admissions & Academic Progress Fax: 423-236-1694

SCHOOL OF NURSING ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



II

SAU Nursing Program

Our Motto

Christ-centered Excellence:
Caring, Connecting, Empowering

Our Mission

The School of Nursing provides a Christian learning environment that nurtures a culture of integrity and academic excellence, and prepares caring, competent professionals to serve the diverse healthcare needs of individuals, families, and communities within a global context.

Our Philosophy

The SON believes that:

- Nurses are accountable to God, the Supreme Being, and to the unique ministry of caring, connecting, and empowering individuals, families, and communities.
- The art of nursing encompasses restoration into God's image, promoting human flourishing, being culturally responsive, reflecting God's laws, and respecting the environment.
- The practice of nursing is a sacred commitment and encompasses whole-person science and knowledge of the human in the illness- wellness continuum.
- The integrated programs from associate degree to doctor of nursing practice prepare the graduate for a variety of healthcare ministry roles within their community.

Our Values

Love
Hope
Service
Trust

Restoration to image of God

Compassion
Excellence
Kindness
Respect
Integrity
Equality
Justice
Civility
Dignity

Adventist/Southern Adventist University Framework for Nursing Education and Practice



Adapted from Jones, P. S., James, B. R., Owino, J., Abemyil, M., Paredes De Beltran, & Ramal, E. (2017). A distinctive framework for Adventist education. *The Journal of Adventist Education*, Oct-Dec. Retrieved from <http://jae.adventist.org>

DEFINITIONS

BELIEFS

- God is the Supreme Being, the Creator and Sustainer of life.
- The Bible is the word of God and reflects His character of love.
- Every human being is worthy of dignity and respect because they are created in the Image of God.
- The human body is the temple of the Holy Spirit.
- Nursing is a call to ministry through caring, connecting, and empowering.

HEALTH

- Restoration of the image of God in human beings.
- Development of wholistic well-being and human flourishing.
- Interconnectedness with God and the whole of creation.
- Subjective perception of dynamic state of well-being along the health/wellness continuum.

ENVIRONMENT

- Respecting and caring for God's physical created world.
- Creating and facilitating a healing environment that inspires hope.
- Reflecting God's laws of beauty and harmony.

HUMANS

- Created as interactive beings for the purpose of connecting with God, other humans, and all of God's creation.
- Complex integrated beings: physiological- psychological-sociocultural-spiritual, who have the capacity to reason and act.
- Patient: the recipient of care (individual, family, or community). Patient may be referred to as *client* or *resident*, depending on setting.

NURSING PRACTICE

- Performance of a human science encompassing knowledge of bio-psycho-social-cultural-spiritual well-being.
- Grounded in specific values, beliefs and ethics.
- Accepted as a sacred accountability.
- Guides translational nursing care through evidence-based research.
- Promotes well-being in health status.
- Builds on and extends a legacy of excellence in human flourishing.
- Empowers individuals, families, and communities for change through primary, secondary, and tertiary interventions.

NURSING EDUCATION

- Creates a caring learning environment that fosters critical thinking, professional decision making, and practical skills.
- Integrates values, knowledge, and skills.
- Connects the development of clinical judgment with professional competence.
- Prepares students for interdisciplinary practice.
- Empowers students for personal and professional growth.
- Reflect God's unconditional love.
- Role model a relationship with God.
- Promote wholistic health personally and professionally.

ADVENTIST NURSE EDUCATORS

- Demonstrate caring and respect for each student.
- Connect students with resources that support their successful development.
- Empower students for personal and professional growth.
- Facilitate, nurture, and support the well-being in students.

CARING (John 13:34-35)

- Going beyond the ordinary
- Sensitive, valuing
- Empathy
- Compassionate care with the fruits of the spirit (love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control)

CONNECTING (Philippians 2: 1-4)

- Authentic presence.
- Therapeutic communication, touch, and prayer.
- Coordinate and manage care.
- Mentor, facilitate, and advocate
- Sensitivity and vulnerability

EMPOWERING (Hebrews 12: 1-2)

- Christ-Centered Excellence
- Educating for lifelong learning
- Encouraging
- Promoting
- Inspiring
- Motivating
- Valuing
- Role Modeling
- Investing

SCHOOL OF NURSING
PRACTICE DOMAINS

The nursing graduate **will**:

1. **demonstrate** mastery of the competencies deemed critical for the level of education.
2. **utilize** established and evolving nursing knowledge, as well as knowledge from other disciplines as the basis for clinical judgment and innovation in nursing practice.
3. **provide** personalized, compassionate, and coordinated **care for** diverse individuals, families, or communities through use of scientific evidence and the nursing process, based on the unique variables that make up the whole person.
4. **embrace** professional nursing values that demonstrate excellence through Christ-centered behaviors of caring, connecting, empowering, integrity, ethics, service, leadership, and personal and professional development

Four Spheres of Care

1. **Disease prevention/promotion of health** and well-being, includes the promotion of physical and mental health in all patients as well as management of minor acute and intermittent care needs of generally healthy patients.
2. **Chronic disease care**, includes management of chronic diseases and prevention of negative sequelae.
3. **Regenerative or restorative care**, includes critical/trauma care, complex acute care, acute exacerbations of chronic conditions, and treatment of physiologically unstable patients that generally requires care in an acute care institution.
4. **Hospice/Palliative/Supportive care**, includes end-of-life care as well as palliative and supportive care for individuals requiring extended care, those with complex, chronic disease states, or those requiring rehabilitative care.

SCHOOL OF NURSING
END-OF-PROGRAM STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Graduate EOPSLOs – Role Specific Competencies (all emphases)

Knowledge for Nursing Practice (KNP)		
Integration, translation, and application of established and evolving disciplinary nursing knowledge and ways of knowing, as well as knowledge from other disciplines, including a Christ-centered foundation as well as that found in the liberal arts and natural and social sciences. This distinguishes the practice of professional nursing and forms the basis for clinical judgment and innovation in nursing practice.		
MSN		Translate knowledge gained from nursing, other disciplines, and advanced specialty education into ethical decision making, clinical reasoning, innovation, and practice.
	NP	Apply established and emerging information from nursing, science, and other diverse sources as a basis for ethical decision-making, clinical judgement, and diagnostic reasoning as an NP provider.
	NE	Translate knowledge from nursing and diverse disciplines into curriculum design for effective classroom and clinical instruction in nursing.
	MBA	Integrate knowledge of nursing practice and the health care environment to ensure quality, safe, evidence-based, financially sound, accessible care within an organization.
DNP		Synthesize evidence from nursing, other disciplines, and advanced specialty education to inform clinical reasoning, innovate and influence ethical practice.
	NP	Synthesize information from nursing, science, and other diverse sources as a basis for ethical decision-making, sound clinical judgement, and diagnostic reasoning in preparation to practice as an NP provider and mentor of other less experienced providers.
	NE	Translate knowledge from nursing and diverse disciplines into curriculum design and advancement for innovative classroom and clinical instruction in nursing, and effective program assessment and evaluation strategies.
	MBA	Integrate knowledge of nursing practice, business, the health care environment, and specialty standards to transform care delivery models, influence policy, ensure regulatory compliance, provide quality, safe, evidence-based, accessible care within an organization, and promote economic stability.
	LM	Synthesize multidisciplinary evidence from nursing, neurobiology, lifestyle medicine, and clinical guidelines as the foundation for health promotion, disease prevention and reversal, wellness programs, coaching for behavior change, healthcare and community advocacy, and practice changes.
Person-Centered Care (PCC):		
Provision of whole-person, compassionate, coordinated, and personalized care for the individual, family, or community. Through caring, connecting, and empowering, person-centered care is respectful, just, evidence-based, developmentally appropriate, and facilitates healing and restoration. Person-centered care builds on and utilizes the scientific body of knowledge that guides the nursing process regardless of specialty or functional area.		
MSN		Provide personalized, compassionate, and coordinated care at an advanced practice level that facilitates healing and restoration to well-being through caring, connecting, and empowering.
	NP	Deliver personalized, compassionate, person-centered care that is evidence-based, accountable, and within regulatory and educational scopes of practice.
	NE	Utilize caring, connecting, and empowering behaviors to guide learners to develop as professional nurses in the provision of respectful, just, and evidence-based, person-centered care.
	MBA	Ensure individualized, compassionate, and coordinated care by integrating nursing science, interprofessional collaboration, and cultural humility.
DNP		Facilitate interpersonal collaboration in healthcare to achieve personalized, compassionate, and coordinated whole-person care.
	NP	Manage personalized, compassionate, and coordinated person-centered care that is evidence-based, accountable, within regulatory and educational scopes of practice, and empowers individuals and families to achieve maximum wellness.
	NE	Facilitate learner development and socialization in their chosen professional role utilizing caring,

		connecting, and empowering behaviors in the classroom or clinical settings.
	MBA	Facilitate interpersonal collaboration in the workforce based on organizational, professional nursing, clinical goals and outcomes, data, budget considerations, and staffing needs to provide person-centered care, with the voice of the patient central to decision-making.
	LM	Formulate personalized, whole-person lifestyle prescriptions for physical activity, restorative sleep, nutrition (emphasizing whole-food, plant-based patterns), stress management, connection, and tobacco cessation that utilize evidence-based behavior change strategies (e.g., Motivational Interviewing, CBT, positive psychology) to facilitate adherence.
Population Health (PH):		
Use of a wholistic framework to engage diverse groups of individuals, families, and communities in making lifestyle choices within their cultural context that prevent disease, promote human flourishing, and achieve equitable population health policies and outcomes.		
MSN		Collaborate on interprofessional efforts to promote health, prevent disease, and enhance emergency preparedness and disaster resilience in individuals, families, communities, and populations.
	NP	Integrate foundational NP knowledge into culturally competent practices to promote health and prevent disease in individuals, families, communities, and populations.
	NE	Recognize individual learning and professional socialization needs of diverse learner populations to promote professional and personal flourishing.
	MBA	Coordinate interprofessional, evidence-based initiatives to promote health, prevent disease, and address social determinants of health across individuals, families, communities, and populations.
DNP		Contribute to system-level planning, policy development, and evidence-informed practice change within a wholistic framework to achieve equitable population health outcomes.
	NP	Provide advocacy and wholistic healthcare services to include health promotion, disease prevention, health protection, anticipatory guidance, counseling, disease management, palliative, and end-of-life care, recognizing cultural and social determinants impacting individual, family, or community health.
	NE	Foster cognitive, psychomotor, and affective development of diverse learner populations, while recognizing the influences of culture and previous learning have on teaching and learning.
	MBA	Contribute to system-level planning, policy development, and evidence-informed practice change to provide optimal, culturally competent, socially responsive, and equitable healthcare across the lifespan for defined populations.
	LM	Evaluate the epidemiological burden and costs of lifestyle-related diseases, such as hyperlipidemia, cardiovascular disease, prediabetes, diabetes, hypertension, obesity, and cancer, to address health disparities and the social determinants of health.
Evidence-Informed Practice (EIP)		
Synthesis, application, translation, implementation, and dissemination of nursing knowledge to inform clinical decisions and provide high-quality, effective, personalized care, to improve health outcomes and transform health care.		
MSN		Integrate quality research findings about a clinical problem to provide high-quality, effective, personalized care in a rapidly changing healthcare environment.
	NP	Apply the best available evidence to continuously improve the quality of clinical practice.
	NE	Engage in scholarship that develops educator role and clinical expertise.
	MBA	Integrate evidence-based research, clinical expertise, and patient preferences to inform ethical decision-making and deliver personalized, effective care in dynamic healthcare environments.
DNP		Synthesize and translate quality research findings and outcomes in the clinical setting to improve identified concerns and transform health care.
	NP	Engage in ethical practice inquiry, knowledge generation, and translation of new knowledge into practice to improve practice and patient outcomes.
	NE	Engage in scholarship in the nurse educator role to design evidence-based teaching practices and disseminate nursing knowledge that improves health outcomes and transforms healthcare.

	MBA	Translate quality research findings, clinical practice guidelines, and organizational outcome data to redesign and optimize care delivery models that promote safe, high-quality, evidence-based, and person-centered care.
	LM	Translate current lifestyle medicine clinical practice guidelines and research findings into lifestyle interventions for the prevention, treatment, and reversal of chronic disease.
Quality and Safety (QS)		
Delivery of health care services that meets established and emerging professional standards of care, minimizes risk of harm to patients and providers, and promotes desirable outcomes. Quality and safety are core values of nursing impacting all domains of care. Quality and safety concerns are addressed through system-based, just, and collaborative approaches.		
MSN		Advance quality healthcare services based on current evidence and professional standards that will minimize the risk of harm to individuals, populations, and providers.
	NP	Advance healthcare quality through translational and improvement science methodologies to reduce harm and ensure cost-conscious, ethical, safe, and effective care for patients, populations, providers, and systems.
	NE	Pursue continuous quality improvement in the nurse educator role.
	MBA	Advance the delivery of safe, high-quality healthcare services by applying current evidence, professional standards, and regulatory guidelines to minimize risk and prevent harm to individuals, populations, and providers.
DNP		Create healthcare policy that improves system effectiveness and health outcomes in complex health care systems to ensure the provision of quality, safe, and effective care.
	NP	Engage in quality improvement strategies that promote a culture of civility and respect, model professional behavior, and consider how organizational structure, care processes, financing, marketing, and policy decisions impact the quality of care.
	NE	Promote continuous quality improvement in the nurse educator role.
	MBA	Influence healthcare policy by utilizing quality and safety data, evidence-based standards, and stakeholder input to shape policies that support safe, effective, accessible, and affordable care across various settings and populations.
	LM	Design systematic quality improvement initiatives, such as Plan-Do-Study-Act (PDSA) cycles, to enhance lifestyle medicine delivery and clinical outcomes.
Interprofessional Collaboration (IC)		
Intentional collaboration of professionals through open communication, mutual respect and shared, ethical decision-making to optimize care, empower others, and achieve quality health outcomes.		
MSN		Lead collaborative health care teams across professions through open communication and shared decision-making to optimize care and strengthen outcomes.
	NP	Demonstrate leadership that uses critical and reflective thinking, clear and professional communication, and fosters collaboration with patients and the interdisciplinary team while advocating for patient needs to improve health care.
	NE	Function as a change agent and leader in the novice academic or clinical educator role.
	MBA	Apply advanced leadership, negotiation skills, and transparent communication to build cohesive teams, create mutual respect, resolve conflicts, and promote a culture of collaboration across diverse healthcare disciplines.
DNP		Empower effective collaboration across professions that optimize, enhance, and strengthen healthcare outcomes.
	NP	Assume leadership roles to initiate and guide change, achieve clinical practice and quality patient outcomes, and improve access through interdisciplinary collaboration.
	NE	Function as a change agent and leader in nursing education.

	MBA	Communicate with clarity and integrity to build psychological safety, trust, and mutual respect across interprofessional teams, enabling open dialogue, shared decision-making, and quality health outcomes.
	LM	Orchestrate collaboration with interdisciplinary specialists (e.g., dietitians, exercise physiologists, behavioral health) to maximize client health outcomes.
Systems-Based Practice (SBP)		
Use of systems frameworks to coordinate and manage resources effectively and equitably within complex health networks to achieve quality outcomes across diverse populations.		
MSN		Advocate for healthcare economic policies, regulations, and evidence-based system improvement strategies to enhance value, quality, cost-effectiveness, and equity of care.
	NP	Apply knowledge of organizational practices and complex systems to improve healthcare delivery.
	NE	Participate in systematic evaluation of program outcomes that prepare graduates for practice in a complex, dynamic, diverse health care environment.
	MBA	Align organizational strategies with current developments in health care, economics, policy, legislation, and regulatory standards.
DNP		Analyze internal and external system processes and structures and optimize system functioning through strategic innovation and change to improve delivery of cost-effective, equitable health care for all populations.
	NP	Optimize system effectiveness to improve delivery of cost-effective, equitable healthcare for all populations.
	NE	Refine a systematic evaluation plan based on accreditation and regulatory standards to achieve quality nursing education outcomes.
	MBA	Provide objective, visionary thinking that encourages new ideas, change, innovation, creates and executes strategies for complex and changing situations, ensures compliance with regulatory standards, and supports the organization's mission.
	LM	Appraise the reciprocal relationship between human lifestyle choices and planetary health to advocate for sustainable healthcare systems that support lifestyle medicine delivery.
Healthcare Information & Technologies (HIT)		
Use of information and communication technologies and informatics processes to gather and analyze data, expand knowledge, provide care, reduce healthcare disparities, promote best practice, increase efficiency, stimulate creativity and innovation, drive decision making, and achieve quality outcomes.		
MSN		Optimize use of information and communication technologies to manage data and provide safe, effective, and equitable healthcare services through advanced practice nursing roles.
	NP	Utilize healthcare information and technologies to manage data, make complex decisions, and provide safe, effective, and equitable care.
	NE	Utilize a variety of information and communication technologies to promote and evaluate learning in the classroom and clinical settings.
	MBA	Apply informatics principles and data analytics to improve quality outcomes, enhance interoperability, and ensure compliance with ethical and regulatory standards.
DNP		Analyze data to drive decision-making, promote best practice and innovation, and achieve efficient practices and safe, high-quality outcomes.
	NP	Utilize healthcare information systems and technologies to analyze data, communicate with patients, families, and other providers, engage in and document patient care, provide education, contribute to technology innovation and design, and accomplish safe, equitable care.
	NE	Analyze data to promote best teaching practices and evaluate learning in the classroom and clinical settings.

	MBA	Leverage multiple sources of healthcare data to inform strategic and real-time decisions that enhance quality, safety, and efficiency.
	LM	Leverage health information technology, such as AI, telehealth, EHRs, remote patient monitoring, and health apps, to deliver health education and track "Lifestyle Vital Signs" (e.g., dietary assessment, sleep duration, physical activity minutes) and outcomes for data-driven clinical decision-making.
Professionalism (P) Assimilation of a set of nursing roles, behaviors, and values that include integrity, accountability, civility, clinical judgement, collaborative relationships, clear communication, advocacy, legal and ethical practice, effectively demonstrating Christ-centered excellence through caring, connecting, and empowering.		
MSN		Assimilate a chosen set of advanced practice nursing roles that effectively demonstrate Christ-centered excellence.
	NP	Uphold professional standards through competent, caring, ethical, Christ-centered care within the scope of the chosen NP role.
	NE	Demonstrate Christ-centered excellence in classroom, office, clinical, and hospital settings that enhance the development of learners and fellow nurse educators.
	MBA	Exemplify best-practice advanced professional nursing roles through integrity, accountability, and ethical leadership grounded in Christ-centered values.
DNP		Advocate for Christ-centered excellence in nursing roles and professional behaviors throughout collaborative teams.
	NP	Advocate for safe, equitable, ethical, Christ-centered, professional care within the NP practice setting and across disciplines.
	NE	Integrate the values of civility, integrity, collegiality, professionalism, and caring to build an educational and organizational climate that fosters the development of learners and nurse educators.
	MBA	Advocate for Christ-centered excellence in all nursing roles by modeling integrity, humility, courage, and respect in every interaction, fostering a culture where faith-informed values support high professional standards, inclusivity, and accountability.
	LM	Champion the advancement of lifestyle medicine through leadership, policy advocacy, and collaborative relationships with payers and legislators.
Personal and Professional Development (PPD) Adoption of habits that promote personal life balance, resilience, health and well-being; life-long learning, professional growth, maturation, and expertise; and opportunities for outreach, service, and leadership within communities of influence.		
MSN		Cultivate health promotion strategies, professional growth and lifelong learning, leadership, and influence for self, healthcare team members, and communities of interest. (expand the plan)
	NP	Strengthen personal and professional health promotion strategies that enhance professional growth, lifelong learning, and leadership.
	NE	Embrace the multidimensionality of the nurse educator role, which requires an ongoing commitment to developing and maintaining professional competencies.
	MBA	Cultivate personal and professional growth through health promotion strategies, emotional intelligence, resilience, and lifelong learning.
DNP		Create a culture of well-being, mentorship, resilience and life-balance, personal and professional growth and self-actualization, shared leadership, outreach, and service within spheres of influence. (mentor the plan in others)
	NP	Create a culture that promotes personal and professional growth, enhances resilience and well-being, develops clinical expertise, and builds leadership capacity and influence.
	NE	Use feedback gained from self, peer, and/or academic evaluations to improve nurse educator role effectiveness.

	MBA	Create a culture of well-being, mentorship, resilience, life balance, and evidence-based self-care through reflection, coaching, and daily practices, policies, and routines that support psychological safety and belonging.
	LM	Internalize evidence-based self-care strategies to promote personal resilience and effectively model healthy behaviors for patients.

References:

- AACN Essentials:
<https://www.aacnnursing.org/Portals/0/PDFs/Publications/Essentials-2021.pdf>
- ACLM:
<https://ablm.org/lifestyle-medicine-core-competencies/>
- AONL:
<https://www.aonl.org/resources/nurse-leader-competencies>
- NLN:
<https://www.nln.org/news/newsroomnln-position-documents/novice-nurse-educator-competencies-with-task-statements>
- NP Core Competencies:
https://cdn.ymaws.com/www.nonpf.org/resource/resmgr/competencies/2017_NPCoreComps_with_Curric.pdf
- Scope of Practice for Nurse Practitioners (AANP): <https://www.aanp.org/advocacy/advocacy-resource/position-statements/scope-of-practice-for-nurse-practitioners>

Graduate EOPSLOs – Role Specific Competencies for Nurse Practitioners

Knowledge for Nursing Practice (KNP)		
Integration, translation, and application of established and evolving disciplinary nursing knowledge and ways of knowing, as well as knowledge from other disciplines, including a Christ-centered foundation as well as that found in the liberal arts and natural and social sciences. This distinguishes the practice of professional nursing and forms the basis for clinical judgment and innovation in nursing practice.		
MSN		Translate knowledge gained from nursing, other disciplines, and advanced specialty education into ethical decision making, clinical reasoning, innovation, and practice.
	NP	Apply established and emerging information from nursing, science, and other diverse sources as a basis for ethical decision-making, clinical judgement, and diagnostic reasoning as an NP provider.
DNP		Synthesize evidence from nursing, other disciplines, and advanced specialty education to inform clinical reasoning, innovate and influence ethical practice.
	NP	Synthesize information from nursing, science, and other diverse sources as a basis for ethical decision-making, sound clinical judgement, and diagnostic reasoning as an NP provider and mentor of other less experienced providers.
Person-Centered Care (PCC):		
Provision of whole-person, compassionate, coordinated, and personalized care for the individual, family, or community. Through caring, connecting, and empowering, person-centered care is respectful, just, evidence-based, developmentally appropriate, and facilitates healing and restoration. Person-centered care builds on and utilizes the scientific body of knowledge that guides the nursing process regardless of specialty or functional area.		
MSN		Provide personalized, compassionate, and coordinated care at an advanced practice level that facilitates healing and restoration to well-being through caring, connecting, and empowering.
	NP	Deliver personalized, compassionate, person-centered care that is evidence-based, accountable, and within regulatory and educational scopes of practice.
DNP		Facilitate interpersonal collaboration in healthcare to achieve personalized, compassionate, and coordinated whole-person care.
	NP	Manage personalized, compassionate, and coordinated person-centered care that is evidence-based, accountable, within regulatory and educational scopes of practice, and empowers individuals and families to achieve maximum wellness.
Population Health (PH):		
Use of a wholistic framework to engage diverse groups of individuals, families, and communities in making lifestyle choices within their cultural context that prevent disease, promote human flourishing, and achieve equitable population health policies and outcomes.		
MSN		Manage interprofessional collaborative efforts to promote health, prevent disease, and enhance emergency preparedness and disaster resilience in individuals, families, communities, and populations.
	NP	Integrate foundational NP knowledge into culturally competent practices to promote health and prevent disease in individuals, families, communities, and populations.
DNP		Contribute to system-level planning, policy development, and evidence-informed practice change within a wholistic framework to achieve equitable population health outcomes.
	NP	Provide advocacy and wholistic healthcare services to include health promotion, disease prevention, health protection, anticipatory guidance, counseling, disease management, palliative, and end-of-life care, recognizing cultural and social determinants impacting individual, family, or community health.
Evidence-Informed Practice (EIP)		
Synthesis, application, translation, implementation, and dissemination of nursing knowledge to inform clinical decisions and provide high-quality, effective, personalized care, to improve health outcomes and transform health care.		
MSN		Integrate quality research findings about a clinical problem to provide high-quality, effective, personalized care in a rapidly changing healthcare environment.

	NP	Apply the best available evidence to continuously improve the quality of clinical practice.
DNP	Synthesize and translate quality research findings and outcomes in the clinical setting to improve identified concerns and transform health care.	
	NP	Engage in ethical practice inquiry, knowledge generation, and translation of new knowledge into practice to improve practice and patient outcomes.
Quality and Safety (QS)		
Delivery of health care services that meets established and emerging professional standards of care, minimizes risk of harm to patients and providers, and promotes desirable outcomes. Quality and safety are core values of nursing impacting all domains of care. Quality and safety concerns are addressed through system-based, just, and collaborative approaches.		
MSN	Advance quality healthcare services based on current evidence and professional standards that will minimize the risk of harm to individuals, populations, and providers.	
	NP	Advance healthcare quality through translational and improvement science methodologies to reduce harm and ensure cost-conscious, ethical, safe, and effective care for patients, populations, providers, and systems.
DNP	Create healthcare policy that improves system effectiveness and health outcomes in complex health care systems to ensure the provision of quality, safe, and effective care.	
	NP	Engage in quality improvement strategies that promote a culture of civility and respect, model professional behavior, and consider how organizational structure, care processes, financing, marketing, and policy decisions impact the quality of care.
Interprofessional Collaboration (IC)		
Intentional collaboration of professionals through open communication, mutual respect and shared, ethical decision-making to optimize care, empower others, and achieve quality health outcomes.		
MSN	Lead collaborative health care teams across professions through open communication and shared decision-making to optimize care and strengthen outcomes.	
	NP	Demonstrate leadership that uses critical and reflective thinking, clear and professional communication, and fosters collaboration with patients and the interdisciplinary team while advocating for patient needs to improve health care.
DNP	Empower effective collaboration across professions that optimize, enhance, and strengthen healthcare outcomes.	
	NP	Assume leadership roles to initiate and guide change, achieve clinical practice and quality patient outcomes, and improve access through interdisciplinary collaboration.
Systems-Based Practice (SBP)		
Use of systems frameworks to coordinate and manage resources effectively and equitably within complex health networks to achieve quality outcomes across diverse populations.		
MSN	Advocate for healthcare economic policies and evidence-based system improvement strategies to enhance value, quality, cost-effectiveness, and equity of care.	
	NP	Apply knowledge of organizational practices and complex systems to improve healthcare delivery.
DNP	Analyze internal and external system processes and structures and optimize system functioning through strategic innovation and change to improve delivery of cost-effective, equitable health care for all populations.	
	NP	Optimize system effectiveness to improve delivery of cost-effective, equitable healthcare for all populations.
Healthcare Information & Technologies (HIT)		
Use of information and communication technologies and informatics processes to gather and analyze data, expand knowledge, provide care, reduce healthcare disparities, promote best practice, increase efficiency, stimulate creativity and innovation, drive decision making, and achieve quality outcomes.		
MSN	Optimize use of information and communication technologies to manage data and provide safe, effective,	

		and equitable healthcare services through advanced practice nursing roles.
	NP	Utilize healthcare information and technologies to manage data, make complex decisions, and provide safe, effective, and equitable care.
DNP		Analyze data to drive decision-making, promote best practice and innovation, and achieve efficient practices and safe, high-quality outcomes.
	NP	Utilize healthcare information systems and technologies to analyze data, communicate with patients, families, and other providers, engage in and document patient care, provide education, contribute to technology innovation and design, and accomplish safe, equitable care.
Professionalism (P)		
Assimilation of a set of nursing roles, behaviors, and values that include integrity, accountability, civility, clinical judgement, collaborative relationships, clear communication, advocacy, legal and ethical practice, effectively demonstrating Christ-centered excellence through caring, connecting, and empowering.		
MSN		Assimilate a chosen set of advanced practice nursing roles that effectively demonstrate Christ-centered excellence.
	NP	Uphold professional standards through competent, caring, ethical, Christ-centered care within the scope of the chosen NP role.
DNP		Advocate for Christ-centered excellence in nursing roles and professional behaviors throughout collaborative teams.
	NP	Advocate for safe, equitable, ethical, Christ-centered, professional care within the NP practice setting and across disciplines.
Personal and Professional Development (PPD)		
Adoption of habits that promote personal life balance, resilience, health and well-being; life-long learning, professional growth, maturation, and expertise; and opportunities for outreach, service, and leadership within communities of influence.		
MSN		Cultivate health promotion strategies, professional growth and lifelong learning, leadership, and influence for self, healthcare team members, and communities of interest. (expand the plan)
	NP	Strengthen personal and professional health promotion strategies that enhance professional growth, lifelong learning, and leadership.
DNP		Create a culture of well-being, mentorship, resilience and life-balance, personal and professional growth and self-actualization, shared leadership, outreach, and service within spheres of influence. (mentor the plan in others)
	NP	Create a culture that promotes personal and professional growth, enhances resilience and well-being, develops clinical expertise, and builds leadership capacity and influence.

References:

- AACN Essentials:
<https://www.aacnnursing.org/Portals/0/PDFs/Publications/Essentials-2021.pdf>
- NP Core Competencies:
https://cdn.ymaws.com/www.nonpf.org/resource/resmgr/competencies/2017_NPCoreComps_with_Curric.pdf
- Scope of Practice for Nurse Practitioners (AANP):
<https://www.aanp.org/advocacy/advocacy-resource/position-statements/scope-of-practice-for-nurse-practitioners>

Graduate EOPSLOs – Role Specific Competencies for Nurse Educators

Knowledge for Nursing Practice (KNP)		
Integration, translation, and application of established and evolving disciplinary nursing knowledge and ways of knowing, as well as knowledge from other disciplines, including a Christ-centered foundation as well as that found in the liberal arts and natural and social sciences. This distinguishes the practice of professional nursing and forms the basis for clinical judgment and innovation in nursing practice.		
MSN		Translate knowledge gained from nursing, other disciplines, and advanced specialty education into ethical decision making, clinical reasoning, innovation, and practice.
	NE	Translate knowledge from nursing and diverse disciplines into curriculum design for effective classroom and clinical instruction in nursing.
DNP		Synthesize evidence from nursing, other disciplines, and advanced specialty education to inform clinical reasoning, innovate and influence ethical practice.
	NE	Translate knowledge from nursing and diverse disciplines into curriculum design and advancement for innovative classroom and clinical instruction in nursing, and effective program assessment and evaluation strategies.
Person-Centered Care (PCC):		
Provision of whole-person, compassionate, coordinated, and personalized care for the individual, family, or community. Through caring, connecting, and empowering, person-centered care is respectful, just, evidence-based, developmentally appropriate, and facilitates healing and restoration. Person-centered care builds on and utilizes the scientific body of knowledge that guides the nursing process regardless of specialty or functional area.		
MSN		Provide personalized, compassionate, and coordinated care at an advanced practice level that facilitates healing and restoration to well-being through caring, connecting, and empowering.
	NE	Utilize caring, connecting, and empowering behaviors to guide learners to develop as professional nurses in the provision of respectful, just, and evidence-based, person-centered care.
DNP		Facilitate interpersonal collaboration in healthcare to achieve personalized, compassionate, and coordinated whole-person care.
	NE	Facilitate learner development and socialization in their chosen professional role utilizing caring, connecting, and empowering behaviors in the classroom or clinical settings.
Population Health (PH):		
Use of a wholistic framework to engage diverse groups of individuals, families, and communities in making lifestyle choices within their cultural context that prevent disease, promote human flourishing, and achieve equitable population health policies and outcomes.		
MSN		Manage interprofessional collaborative efforts to promote health, prevent disease, and enhance emergency preparedness and disaster resilience in individuals, families, communities, and populations.
	NE	Recognize individual learning and professional socialization needs of diverse learner populations to promote professional and personal flourishing.
DNP		Contribute to system-level planning, policy development, and evidence-informed practice change within a wholistic framework to achieve equitable population health outcomes.
	NE	Foster cognitive, psychomotor, and affective development of diverse learner populations, while recognizing the influences of culture and previous learning have on teaching and learning.
Evidence-Informed Practice (EIP)		
Synthesis, application, translation, implementation, and dissemination of nursing knowledge to inform clinical decisions and provide high-quality, effective, personalized care, to improve health outcomes and transform health care.		
MSN		Integrate quality research findings about a clinical problem to provide high-quality, effective, personalized care in a rapidly changing healthcare environment.
	NE	Engage in scholarship that develops educator role and clinical expertise.
DNP		Synthesize and translate quality research findings and outcomes in the clinical setting to improve identified concerns and transform health care.

	NE	Engage in scholarship in the nurse educator role to design evidence-based teaching practices and disseminate nursing knowledge that improves health outcomes and transforms healthcare.
Quality and Safety (QS)		
Delivery of health care services that meets established and emerging professional standards of care, minimizes risk of harm to patients and providers, and promotes desirable outcomes. Quality and safety are core values of nursing impacting all domains of care. Quality and safety concerns are addressed through system-based, just, and collaborative approaches.		
MSN		Advance quality healthcare services based on current evidence and professional standards that will minimize the risk of harm to individuals, populations, and providers.
	NE	Pursue continuous quality improvement in the nurse educator role.
DNP		Create healthcare policy that improves system effectiveness and health outcomes in complex health care systems to ensure the provision of quality, safe, and effective care.
	NE	Promote continuous quality improvement in the nurse educator role.
Interprofessional Collaboration (IC)		
Intentional collaboration of professionals through open communication, mutual respect and shared, ethical decision-making to optimize care, empower others, and achieve quality health outcomes.		
MSN		Lead collaborative health care teams across professions through open communication and shared decision-making to optimize care and strengthen outcomes.
	NE	Function as a change agent and leader in the novice academic or clinical educator role.
DNP		Empower effective collaboration across professions that optimize, enhance, and strengthen healthcare outcomes.
	NE	Function as a change agent and leader in nursing education.
Systems-Based Practice (SBP)		
Use of systems frameworks to coordinate and manage resources effectively and equitably within complex health networks to achieve quality outcomes across diverse populations.		
MSN		Advocate for healthcare economic policies, regulations, and evidence-based system improvement strategies to enhance value, quality, cost-effectiveness, and equity of care.
	NE	Participate in systematic evaluation of program outcomes that prepare graduates for practice in a complex, dynamic, diverse health care environment.
DNP		Analyze internal and external system processes and structures and optimize system functioning through strategic innovation and change to improve delivery of cost-effective, equitable health care for all populations.
	NE	Refine a systematic evaluation plan based on accreditation and regulatory standards to achieve quality nursing education outcomes.
Healthcare Information & Technologies (HIT)		
Use of information and communication technologies and informatics processes to gather and analyze data, expand knowledge, provide care, reduce healthcare disparities, promote best practice, increase efficiency, stimulate creativity and innovation, drive decision making, and achieve quality outcomes.		
MSN		Optimize use of information and communication technologies to manage data and provide safe, effective, and equitable healthcare services through advanced practice nursing roles.
	NE	Utilize a variety of information and communication technologies to promote and evaluate learning in the classroom and clinical settings.
DNP		Analyze data to drive decision-making, promote best practice and innovation, and achieve efficient practices and safe, high-quality outcomes.
	NE	Analyze data to promote best teaching practices and evaluate learning in the classroom and clinical settings.
Professionalism (P)		

Assimilation of a set of nursing roles, behaviors, and values that include integrity, accountability, civility, clinical judgement, collaborative relationships, clear communication, advocacy, legal and ethical practice, effectively demonstrating Christ-centered excellence through caring, connecting, and empowering.		
MSN		Assimilate a chosen set of advanced practice nursing roles that effectively demonstrate Christ-centered excellence.
	NE	Demonstrate Christ-centered excellence in classroom, office, clinical, and hospital settings that enhance the development of learners and fellow nurse educators.
DNP		Advocate for Christ-centered excellence in nursing roles and professional behaviors throughout collaborative teams.
	NE	Integrate the values of civility, integrity, collegiality, professionalism, and caring to build an educational and organizational climate that fosters the development of learners and nurse educators.
Personal and Professional Development (PPD)		
Adoption of habits that promote personal life balance, resilience, health and well-being; life-long learning, professional growth, maturation, and expertise; and opportunities for outreach, service, and leadership within communities of influence.		
MSN		Cultivate health promotion strategies, professional growth and lifelong learning, leadership, and influence for self, healthcare team members, and communities of interest. (expand the plan)
	NE	Embrace the multidimensionality of the nurse educator role, which requires an ongoing commitment to developing and maintaining professional competencies.
DNP		Create a culture of well-being, mentorship, resilience and life-balance, personal and professional growth and self-actualization, shared leadership, outreach, and service within spheres of influence. (mentor the plan in others)
	NE	Use feedback gained from self, peer, and/or academic evaluations to improve nurse educator role effectiveness.

References:

- AACN Essentials:
<https://www.aacnnursing.org/Portals/0/PDFs/Publications/Essentials-2021.pdf>
- NLN:
<https://www.nln.org/news/newsroomnln-position-documents/novice-nurse-educator-competencies-with-task-statements>

Graduate EOPSLOs – Role Specific Competencies for Dual degrees with MBA

Knowledge for Nursing Practice (KNP)		
Integration, translation, and application of established and evolving disciplinary nursing knowledge and ways of knowing, as well as knowledge from other disciplines, including a Christ-centered foundation as well as that found in the liberal arts and natural and social sciences. This distinguishes the practice of professional nursing and forms the basis for clinical judgment and innovation in nursing practice.		
MSN	Translate knowledge gained from nursing, other disciplines, and advanced specialty education into ethical decision making, clinical reasoning, innovation, and practice.	
MBA	Integrate knowledge of nursing practice and the health care environment to ensure quality, safe, evidence-based, financially sound, accessible care within an organization.	
DNP	Synthesize evidence from nursing, other disciplines, and advanced specialty education to inform clinical reasoning, innovate and influence ethical practice.	
MBA	Integrate knowledge of nursing practice, business, the health care environment, and specialty standards to transform care delivery models, influence policy, ensure regulatory compliance, provide quality, safe, evidence-based, accessible care within an organization, and promote economic stability.	
Person-Centered Care (PCC):		
Provision of whole-person, compassionate, coordinated, and personalized care for the individual, family, or community. Through caring, connecting, and empowering, person-centered care is respectful, just, evidence-based, developmentally appropriate, and facilitates healing and restoration. Person-centered care builds on and utilizes the scientific body of knowledge that guides the nursing process regardless of specialty or functional area.		
MSN	Provide personalized, compassionate, and coordinated care at an advanced practice level that facilitates healing and restoration to well-being through caring, connecting, and empowering.	
MBA	Ensure individualized, compassionate, and coordinated care by integrating nursing science, interprofessional collaboration, and cultural humility.	
DNP	Facilitate interpersonal collaboration in healthcare to achieve personalized, compassionate, and coordinated whole-person care.	
MBA	Facilitate interpersonal collaboration in the workforce based on organizational, professional nursing, clinical goals and outcomes, data, budget considerations, and staffing needs to provide person-centered care, with the voice of the patient central to decision-making.	
Population Health (PH):		
Use of a wholistic framework to engage diverse groups of individuals, families, and communities in making lifestyle choices within their cultural context that prevent disease, promote human flourishing, and achieve equitable population health policies and outcomes.		
MSN	Manage interprofessional collaborative efforts to promote health, prevent disease, and enhance emergency preparedness and disaster resilience in individuals, families, communities, and populations.	
MBA	Coordinate interprofessional, evidence-based initiatives to promote health, prevent disease, and address social determinants of health across individuals, families, communities, and populations.	
DNP	Contribute to system-level planning, policy development, and evidence-informed practice change within a wholistic framework to achieve equitable population health outcomes.	
MBA	Contribute to system-level planning, policy development, and evidence-informed practice change to provide optimal, culturally competent, socially responsive, and equitable healthcare across the lifespan for defined populations.	
Evidence-Informed Practice (EIP)		
Synthesis, application, translation, implementation, and dissemination of nursing knowledge to inform clinical decisions and provide high-quality, effective, personalized care, to improve health outcomes and transform health care.		
MSN	Integrate quality research findings about a clinical problem to provide high-quality, effective, personalized care in a rapidly changing healthcare environment.	
MBA	Integrate evidence-based research, clinical expertise, and patient preferences to inform ethical decision-making and deliver personalized, effective care in dynamic healthcare environments.	

DNP	Synthesize and translate quality research findings and outcomes in the clinical setting to improve identified concerns and transform health care.	
	MBA	Translate quality research findings, clinical practice guidelines, and organizational outcome data to redesign and optimize care delivery models that promote safe, high-quality, evidence-based, and person-centered care.
Quality and Safety (QS)		
Delivery of health care services that meets established and emerging professional standards of care, minimizes risk of harm to patients and providers, and promotes desirable outcomes. Quality and safety are core values of nursing impacting all domains of care. Quality and safety concerns are addressed through system-based, just, and collaborative approaches.		
MSN	Advance quality healthcare services based on current evidence and professional standards that will minimize the risk of harm to individuals, populations, and providers.	
	MBA	Advance the delivery of safe, high-quality healthcare services by applying current evidence, professional standards, and regulatory guidelines to minimize risk and prevent harm to individuals, populations, and providers.
DNP	Create healthcare policy that improves system effectiveness and health outcomes in complex health care systems to ensure the provision of quality, safe, and effective care.	
	MBA	Influence healthcare policy by utilizing quality and safety data, evidence-based standards, and stakeholder input to shape policies that support safe, effective, accessible, and affordable care across various settings and populations.
Interprofessional Collaboration (IC)		
Intentional collaboration of professionals through open communication, mutual respect and shared, ethical decision-making to optimize care, empower others, and achieve quality health outcomes.		
MSN	Lead collaborative health care teams across professions through open communication and shared decision-making to optimize care and strengthen outcomes.	
	MBA	Apply advanced leadership, negotiation skills, and transparent communication to build cohesive teams, create mutual respect, resolve conflicts, and promote a culture of collaboration across diverse healthcare disciplines.
DNP	Empower effective collaboration across professions that optimize, enhance, and strengthen healthcare outcomes.	
	MBA	Communicate with clarity and integrity to build psychological safety, trust, and mutual respect across interprofessional teams, enabling open dialogue, shared decision-making, and quality health outcomes.
Systems-Based Practice (SBP)		
Use of systems frameworks to coordinate and manage resources effectively and equitably within complex health networks to achieve quality outcomes across diverse populations.		
MSN	Advocate for healthcare economic policies, regulations, and evidence-based system improvement strategies to enhance value, quality, cost-effectiveness, and equity of care.	
	MBA	Align organizational strategies with current developments in health care, economics, policy, legislation, and regulatory standards.
DNP	Analyze internal and external system processes and structures and optimize system functioning through strategic innovation and change to improve delivery of cost-effective, equitable health care for all populations.	
	MBA	Provide objective, visionary thinking that encourages new ideas, change, innovation, creates and executes strategies for complex and changing situations, ensures compliance with regulatory standards, and supports the organization's mission.
Healthcare Information & Technologies (HIT)		
Use of information and communication technologies and informatics processes to gather and analyze data, expand knowledge, provide care, reduce healthcare disparities, promote best practice, increase		

efficiency, stimulate creativity and innovation, drive decision making, and achieve quality outcomes.		
MSN		Optimize use of information and communication technologies to manage data and provide safe, effective, and equitable healthcare services through advanced practice nursing roles.
	MBA	Apply informatics principles and data analytics to improve quality outcomes, enhance interoperability, and ensure compliance with ethical and regulatory standards.
DNP		Analyze data to drive decision-making, promote best practice and innovation, and achieve efficient practices and safe, high-quality outcomes.
	MBA	Leverage multiple sources of healthcare data to inform strategic and real-time decisions that enhance quality, safety, and efficiency.
Professionalism (P)		
Assimilation of a set of nursing roles, behaviors, and values that include integrity, accountability, civility, clinical judgement, collaborative relationships, clear communication, advocacy, legal and ethical practice, effectively demonstrating Christ-centered excellence through caring, connecting, and empowering.		
MSN		Assimilate a chosen set of advanced practice nursing roles that effectively demonstrate Christ-centered excellence.
	MBA	Exemplify best-practice advanced professional nursing roles through integrity, accountability, and ethical leadership grounded in Christ-centered values.
DNP		Advocate for Christ-centered excellence in nursing roles and professional behaviors throughout collaborative teams.
	MBA	Advocate for Christ-centered excellence in all nursing roles by modeling integrity, humility, courage, and respect in every interaction, fostering a culture where faith-informed values support high professional standards, inclusivity, and accountability.
Personal and Professional Development (PPD)		
Adoption of habits that promote personal life balance, resilience, health and well-being; life-long learning, professional growth, maturation, and expertise; and opportunities for outreach, service, and leadership within communities of influence.		
MSN		Cultivate health promotion strategies, professional growth and lifelong learning, leadership, and influence for self, healthcare team members, and communities of interest. (expand the plan)
	MBA	Cultivate personal and professional growth through health promotion strategies, emotional intelligence, resilience, and lifelong learning.
DNP		Create a culture of well-being, mentorship, resilience and life-balance, personal and professional growth and self-actualization, shared leadership, outreach, and service within spheres of influence. (mentor the plan in others)
	MBA	Create a culture of well-being, mentorship, resilience, life balance, and evidence-based self-care through reflection, coaching, and daily practices, policies, and routines that support psychological safety and belonging.

References:

- AACN Essentials:
<https://www.aacnnursing.org/Portals/0/PDFs/Publications/Essentials-2021.pdf>
- AONL:
<https://www.aonl.org/resources/nurse-leader-competencies>

Graduate EOPSLOs – Role Specific Competencies for Lifestyle Medicine

Knowledge for Nursing Practice (KNP)		
Integration, translation, and application of established and evolving disciplinary nursing knowledge and ways of knowing, as well as knowledge from other disciplines, including a Christ-centered foundation as well as that found in the liberal arts and natural and social sciences. This distinguishes the practice of professional nursing and forms the basis for clinical judgment and innovation in nursing practice.		
MSN	Translate knowledge gained from nursing, other disciplines, and advanced specialty education into ethical decision making, clinical reasoning, innovation, and practice.	
DNP	Synthesize evidence from nursing, other disciplines, and advanced specialty education to inform clinical reasoning, innovate and influence ethical practice.	
	LM	Synthesize multidisciplinary evidence from nursing, neurobiology, lifestyle medicine, and clinical guidelines as the foundation for health promotion, disease prevention and reversal, wellness programs, coaching for behavior change, healthcare and community advocacy, and practice changes.
Person-Centered Care (PCC):		
Provision of whole-person, compassionate, coordinated, and personalized care for the individual, family, or community. Through caring, connecting, and empowering, person-centered care is respectful, just, evidence-based, developmentally appropriate, and facilitates healing and restoration. Person-centered care builds on and utilizes the scientific body of knowledge that guides the nursing process regardless of specialty or functional area.		
MSN	Provide personalized, compassionate, and coordinated care at an advanced practice level that facilitates healing and restoration to well-being through caring, connecting, and empowering.	
DNP	Facilitate interpersonal collaboration in healthcare to achieve personalized, compassionate, and coordinated whole-person care.	
	LM	Formulate personalized, whole-person lifestyle prescriptions for physical activity, restorative sleep, nutrition (emphasizing whole-food, plant-based patterns), stress management, connection, and tobacco cessation that utilize evidence-based behavior change strategies (e.g., Motivational Interviewing, CBT, positive psychology) to facilitate adherence.
Population Health (PH):		
Use of a holistic framework to engage diverse groups of individuals, families, and communities in making lifestyle choices within their cultural context that prevent disease, promote human flourishing, and achieve equitable population health policies and outcomes.		
MSN	Manage interprofessional collaborative efforts to promote health, prevent disease, and enhance emergency preparedness and disaster resilience in individuals, families, communities, and populations.	
DNP	Contribute to system-level planning, policy development, and evidence-informed practice change within a holistic framework to achieve equitable population health outcomes.	
	LM	Evaluate the epidemiological burden and costs of lifestyle-related diseases, such as hyperlipidemia, cardiovascular disease, prediabetes, diabetes, hypertension, obesity, and cancer, to address health disparities and the social determinants of health.
Evidence-Informed Practice (EIP)		
Synthesis, application, translation, implementation, and dissemination of nursing knowledge to inform clinical decisions and provide high-quality, effective, personalized care, to improve health outcomes and transform health care.		
MSN	Integrate quality research findings about a clinical problem to provide high-quality, effective, personalized care in a rapidly changing healthcare environment.	
DNP	Synthesize and translate quality research findings and outcomes in the clinical setting to improve identified concerns and transform health care.	
	LM	Translate current lifestyle medicine clinical practice guidelines and research findings into lifestyle interventions for the prevention, treatment, and reversal of chronic disease.
Quality and Safety (QS)		
Delivery of health care services that meets established and emerging professional standards of care, minimizes risk of harm to patients and providers, and promotes desirable outcomes. Quality and safety are core values of		

nursing impacting all domains of care. Quality and safety concerns are addressed through system-based, just, and collaborative approaches.		
MSN	Advance quality healthcare services based on current evidence and professional standards that will minimize the risk of harm to individuals, populations, and providers.	
DNP	Create healthcare policy that improves system effectiveness and health outcomes in complex health care systems to ensure the provision of quality, safe, and effective care.	
	LM	Design systematic quality improvement initiatives, such as Plan-Do-Study-Act (PDSA) cycles, to enhance lifestyle medicine delivery and clinical outcomes.
Interprofessional Collaboration (IC)		
Intentional collaboration of professionals through open communication, mutual respect and shared, ethical decision-making to optimize care, empower others, and achieve quality health outcomes.		
MSN	Lead collaborative health care teams across professions through open communication and shared decision-making to optimize care and strengthen outcomes.	
DNP	Empower effective collaboration across professions that optimize, enhance, and strengthen healthcare outcomes.	
	LM	Orchestrate collaboration with interdisciplinary specialists (e.g., dietitians, exercise physiologists, behavioral health) to maximize client health outcomes.
Systems-Based Practice (SBP)		
Use of systems frameworks to coordinate and manage resources effectively and equitably within complex health networks to achieve quality outcomes across diverse populations.		
MSN	Advocate for healthcare economic policies, regulations, and evidence-based system improvement strategies to enhance value, quality, cost-effectiveness, and equity of care.	
DNP	Analyze internal and external system processes and structures and optimize system functioning through strategic innovation and change to improve delivery of cost-effective, equitable health care for all populations.	
	LM	Appraise the reciprocal relationship between human lifestyle choices and planetary health to advocate for sustainable healthcare systems that support lifestyle medicine delivery.
Healthcare Information & Technologies (HIT)		
Use of information and communication technologies and informatics processes to gather and analyze data, expand knowledge, provide care, reduce healthcare disparities, promote best practice, increase efficiency, stimulate creativity and innovation, drive decision making, and achieve quality outcomes.		
MSN	Optimize use of information and communication technologies to manage data and provide safe, effective, and equitable healthcare services through advanced practice nursing roles.	
DNP	Analyze data to drive decision-making, promote best practice and innovation, and achieve efficient practices and safe, high-quality outcomes.	
	LM	Leverage health information technology, such as AI, telehealth, EHRs, remote patient monitoring, and health apps, to deliver health education and track "Lifestyle Vital Signs" (e.g., dietary assessment, sleep duration, physical activity minutes) and outcomes for data-driven clinical decision-making.
Professionalism (P)		
Assimilation of a set of nursing roles, behaviors, and values that include integrity, accountability, civility, clinical judgement, collaborative relationships, clear communication, advocacy, legal and ethical practice, effectively demonstrating Christ-centered excellence through caring, connecting, and empowering.		
MSN	Assimilate a chosen set of advanced practice nursing roles that effectively demonstrate Christ-centered excellence.	
DNP	Advocate for Christ-centered excellence in nursing roles and professional behaviors throughout collaborative teams.	
	LM	Champion the advancement of lifestyle medicine through leadership, policy advocacy, and collaborative relationships with payers and legislators.

Personal and Professional Development (PPD)		
Adoption of habits that promote personal life balance, resilience, health and well-being; life-long learning, professional growth, maturation, and expertise; and opportunities for outreach, service, and leadership within communities of influence.		
MSN	Cultivate health promotion strategies, professional growth and lifelong learning, leadership, and influence for self, healthcare team members, and communities of interest. (expand the plan)	
DNP	Create a culture of well-being, mentorship, resilience and life-balance, personal and professional growth and self-actualization, shared leadership, outreach, and service within spheres of influence. (mentor the plan in others)	
	LM	Internalize evidence-based self-care strategies to promote personal resilience and effectively model healthy behaviors for patients.

References:

- AACN Essentials:
<https://www.aacnnursing.org/Portals/0/PDFs/Publications/Essentials-2021.pdf>
- ACLM/ABLM:
<https://ablm.org/lifestyle-medicine-core-competencies/>
<https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC9644148/>

Essential Qualifications of Candidates for Graduate
Admission, Continuance and Graduation

Admission to the SON and progression in the program requires independent performance of the abilities and skills listed below. The Admissions and Progressions Committee will determine if accommodations can be reasonably made when a student is unable to perform one or more of the Essential Qualifications, which include:

- **Critical Thinking/Cognitive:** Student must:
 - be able to critically analyze information in the classroom and clinical setting to provide sufficient clinical judgment.
 - be able to measure, calculate, reason, analyze, integrate and synthesize in the context of graduate nursing study.
 - be able to read and comprehend extensive written material.
 - be able to evaluate and apply information and engage in critical thinking in the classroom and clinical setting.
Ex: identify cause-effect relationships in clinical situations, develop priority patient plans of care.
- **Interpersonal:** Student must:
 - possess interpersonal abilities sufficient to interact with individuals, families, and groups from a variety of social, emotional, cultural, and intellectual backgrounds.
Ex: establish rapport with patients and colleagues.
- **Communication:** Student must:
 - communicate effectively and sensitively with other students, faculty, staff, patients, family, and other professionals; express their ideas and feelings clearly and demonstrate a willingness and ability to give and receive feedback.
 - be able to convey or exchange information at a level allowing development of a health history; identify problems presented; explain alternative solutions; and give directions during treatment and post-treatment.
 - be able to communicate effectively in oral and written forms.
 - be able to process and communicate information on the patient's status with accuracy in a timely manner to members of the health care team.
Ex: Appropriate communication may include the student's ability to make a correct judgment in seeking supervision and consultation in a timely manner.
- **Professional Conduct:** Student must:
 - possess the ability to reason morally and practice nursing in an ethical manner and incorporate professional standards of practice into all activities.
 - demonstrate integrity and accountability in the clinical and academic setting.
 - present self in a professional manner in the clinical and academic setting.
 - possess attributes that include compassion, empathy, altruism, integrity, civility, honesty, responsibility and tolerance.
Ex: demonstrate integrity and accountability in the clinical and academic setting.
- **Behavioral/Emotional:** Student must:

- possess the emotional health required for the full utilization of their intellectual abilities.
 - exercise good judgment in the classroom and clinical setting.
 - promptly complete all responsibilities attendant to the diagnosis and care of patients and families.
 - be able to maintain mature, sensitive, and effective relationships with patients, students, faculty, staff and other professionals under all circumstances, including highly stressful situations.
 - have the emotional stability to function effectively under stress and to adapt to an environment that may change rapidly without warning and/or in unpredictable ways.
 - be able to experience empathy for the situations and circumstances of others and effectively communicate that empathy.
 - know that their values, attitudes, beliefs, emotions, and experiences that affect their perceptions and relationships with others.
 - be able and willing to examine and change their behavior when it interferes with productive individual or team relationships.
 - possess skills and experience necessary for effective and harmonious relationships in diverse academic and working environments.
- Ex: demonstrate the ability to manage personal and academic stress sufficiently to complete academic requirements.*
- **Mobility:**
 - Physical requirements may change based on different clinical settings, but may include moving from room to room, standing for extended periods of time, maneuvering in small spaces, squatting to stand, assisting patients with mobility, etc.

Ex: walking, standing, sitting, stooping, kneeling, crouching, and/or crawling; physical ability to tolerate 12-hour shifts; physical abilities sufficient to be able to lift/push/pull objects greater than 50lbs.
 - **Motor Skills:** Student must:
 - possess sufficient gross and fine motor function so that they are able to execute movements required to provide safe and effective care and treatment to patients in all healthcare settings.

Ex: use of hands and fingers for procedures; able to reach with hands and arms, calibrate and use equipment; using foot to lock beds/stretchers.
 - **Hearing:** Student must:
 - possess auditory ability sufficient to monitor and assess health needs.

Ex. hears monitor alarm, emergency signals, auscultatory sounds, cries for help.
 - **Visual:** Student must:
 - possess visual ability sufficient for observation and assessment necessary in nursing care.
 - The ability to see clearly at 20 inches or less and at 20 feet or more.
 - The ability to identify and distinguish colors.

Ex: observes patient responses, assessment data, patient medication and equipment.

- **Tactile:** Student must:

- possess tactile ability sufficient for physical assessment.

Ex: perform palpation, functions of physical examination and/or those related to therapeutic intervention, e.g., insertions of catheter, taking pulses, change in temperature.

****Examples are not comprehensive.***

A change in the student's health that impairs their ability to perform the essential qualifications may result in withdrawal from the nursing program. The SON reserves the right at any time to require an additional medical examination at the student's expense to evaluate their ability to perform the essential qualifications

References:

Adapted from Core Performance Standards for Admission and Progression of Southern Council of Collegiate Education for Nursing Prerequisites for Admission

Caputi, L. (2020). Certified Nurse Educator Review Book: The Official NLN Guide to the CNE Exam.

Washington, DC: National League for Nursing

Katz JR, Woods SL, Cameron CA & Milam S. (2004). Essential Qualifications for nursing students. Nursing Outlook, 52, 277-288.

University of Washington, School of Nursing. (2014, December). *Memo 27: Essential Qualifications for BSN and ABSN Students*. Retrieved December 18, 2017, from <https://nursing.uw.edu/students/training/policies/behaviors-bsn/>

III Graduate Program Emphases

DNP EMPHASES

The DNP program is designed for nurses seeking their terminal degree in nursing practice. The DNP degree options are based on the *Essentials of Doctoral Education for Advanced Nursing Practice* guidelines put forth by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN, 2006).

The BS to DNP is a program for the registered nurse (RN) who has completed a bachelor's degree in nursing and wishes to progress rapidly and seamlessly to a doctoral degree. Those enrolled in this program are not awarded the MSN degree. The Family and Acute Nurse Practitioner emphases are primarily a face-to-face program with some online courses. The Nurse Educator, Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner, DNP/MBA, and Lifestyle Medicine emphases are completely online. **All students, including those in completely online options, are required to register for and attend a DNP seminar each August (Fall Semester) until completion of their program.**

The post-master's DNP degree program is for the registered nurse or advanced practice nurse who has completed a master's degree in nursing and who wishes to expand their scope of practice. All emphases may be taken on either a full-time or part-time basis.

The DNP Specialist Certificate is for individuals who hold a doctoral degree in nursing and who desire to expand their scope of practice in another area of specialty to be eligible to enroll in the DNP Specialist Certificate program.

This DNP program offers campus-based nurse practitioner options and online options for nursing education, lifestyle medicine, and the DNP/MBA programs. All students, including those in completely online options, are required to register for and attend a DNP seminar on campus each fall until completion of their program.

The SON offers six different emphases of graduate study for the DNP program:

- Acute Care - Adult Gerontology Nurse Practitioner (ACAGNP)
- General DNP- (online)
- Lifestyle Medicine (LM) – (online)
- Nurse Educator (NE) – (online)
- Primary Care - Adult Gerontology Nurse Practitioner (PC-AGNP)
- Primary Care - Family Nurse Practitioner (PC-FNP)
- Primary Care -Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PC-PMHNP) (online)

A dual degree offered by the School of Nursing and School of Business and Management is available:

- Doctorate in Nursing Practice & Master of Business Administration (DNP/MBA)- (online)

The DNP Specialist certificate is available for:

Acute Care - Adult Gerontology Nurse Practitioner (ACAGNP)

Lifestyle Medicine (LM)- (online)

Nurse Educator (NE)- (online)

Primary Care - Adult Gerontology Nurse Practitioner (PC-AGNP)

Primary Care - Family Nurse Practitioner (PC-FNP)

Primary Care -Psych Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PC-PMHNP) - (online)

Complete information regarding admission requirements and course offerings is found in the *Graduate Catalog*. Students are responsible for meeting requirements listed in the *Graduate Catalog* for the emphasis to which they have been accepted.

MSN EMPHASES

The SON offers a traditional MSN program for the RN with a baccalaureate degree in nursing. In addition, the SON offers an accelerated RN-MSN program for the RN with an associate degree or diploma in nursing. This accelerated program expedites achievement of advanced practice career goals by combining the BS & MSN curricula, eliminating course repetition, and bypassing the awarding of the BS degree. Post-master's certificate options are also available. The post-masters certificate options allow the nurse with a previous master's degree in nursing to add a different specialty or emphasis by completing specified courses for the desired emphasis, without having to complete the entire MSN curriculum.

The SON offers five different emphases of graduate study for the traditional MSN and the accelerated RN-MSN programs:

- Acute Care - Adult Gerontology Nurse Practitioner (ACAGNP)
- Nurse Educator (NE) (online)
- Primary Care - Adult Gerontology Nurse Practitioner (PC-AGNP)
- Primary Care - Family Nurse Practitioner (PC-FNP)
- Primary Care -Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PC-PMHNP) (online)

A dual degree offered by the School of Nursing and School of Business and Management is available:

- Master of Science in Nursing & Master of Business Administration (MSN/MBA) (online)

The post-master's certificate is available for:

- Acute Care - Adult Gerontology Nurse Practitioner (ACAGNP)
- Nurse Educator (NE) (online)
- Primary Care - Adult Gerontology Nurse Practitioner (PC-AGNP)
- Primary Care - Family Nurse Practitioner (PC-FNP)
- Primary Care -Psych Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PC-PMHNP) (online)

Complete information regarding admission requirements and course offerings is found in the *Graduate Catalog*. Students are responsible for meeting requirements listed in the *Graduate Catalog* for the emphasis to which they have been accepted.

PROGRAM SEQUENCES

Course sequencing information and check sheets for each track, which facilitate both understanding of the program and personal planning for completion of the program, follow in this handbook. A suggested course sequences represents a typical program for the full-time student. Part time students typically enroll in fewer courses each semester, and therefore have a sequence/schedule different from those in this handbook. Modifications to the course sequence should be made in consultation with an advisor. Additionally, modification may be required based on course offerings. Students should visit the university website for academic schedules containing this information. Please note that while course schedules can be accessed at the university website far in advance of a semester, they are NOT reliable until one to two months prior to the actual semester. The graduate program works hard to assure consistency in scheduling, but students should be aware that schedules are subject to change. Students are notified of scheduling changes well in advance when possible.

Nurse Educator

Students enrolled in the Nurse Educator track must specify the area of clinical emphasis they plan to pursue as a part of their MSN curriculum. (See form in appendix). This area of emphasis, once approved, is the basis for practicum experiences and is specified on the student transcript upon graduation. The following are available clinical emphases for nurse educator students:

- | | |
|---|--|
| ☐ Adult Health | ☐ Maternal-infant Health |
| ☐ Child Health | ☐ Psychiatric-Mental Health |
| ☐ Community Health | |

BS to DNP Emphases

The SON offers six different emphases of graduate study for the BS to DNP program:

Acute Care - Adult Gerontology Nurse Practitioner (ACAGNP)

Dual Acute Care - Adult Gerontology/Primary Care - Family Nurse Practitioner

Lifestyle Medicine (LM) (online)

Nurse Educator (NE) (online)

Primary Care - Adult Gerontology Nurse Practitioner (PC-AGNP)

Primary Care - Family Nurse Practitioner (PC-FNP)

Primary Care - Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PC-PMHNP) (online)

BS to DNP Acute Care - Adult Gerontology NP 2026-2027				Degree Total = 77 hours	
Fall Start				Revised: May 26, 2026	
Fall		Winter		Summer	
NURS 502-B Orientation to Program	0	NURS 527 Theory/Research	4	NURS 540 HC Policy/Econ/Finance	3
NURS 550 Adv Pathophysiology*	3	NURS 552 Adv Pharmacology*	3	Elective	2
NURS 555 Adv Assessment*	4	RELB 548 or RELT 545	3	NURS 706 DNP Seminar*	1
	7		10		6
Fall		Winter		Summer	
NURS 520 Health Promotion	2	NURS 650 Primary Care of Adults II*	3	NURS 591 Clinical Orientation	1
NURS 640 Primary Care Adults I*	3	NURS 659 ACCS II*	3	NURS 635 Issues HC Qual/Safe	3
NURS 657 ACCS I*	3	NURS 722 Genetics & Environment	3	NURS 706 DNP Seminar OL	1
	8		9	NURS 710 Scholarly Writing	3
					8
Fall		Winter		Summer	
NURS 671 Practicum I : AC	3	NURS 645 Practicum I: PCA	4	NURS 673 Practicum II: AC	3
~15 hrs/wk x 15 weeks		~20 hrs/wk x 15 weeks		~15 hrs/wk x 15 weeks	
NURS 716 Epidemiology & Biostats	4	Elective	3	NURS 706 DNP Seminar*	1
NURS 812 DNP Project Development	1	NURS 822 DNP Project Progression	2	NURS 822 DNP Project Progression	3
	8		9		7
Fall				OL = ON Line	
NURS 685 Role Development	1			*On Campus-Required counts as elective	
Elective	2			7 hours of electives are required	
NURS 822 DNP Project Progression	1				
NURS 832 DNP Project Finalization	2				
NURS 887 DNP Program Finalization	0				
	5				
Winter Start		Winter		Summer	
Revised: July 22, 2026		NURS 502-B Orientation to Program	0	Elective	2
		NURS 550 Adv Pathophysiology*	3	NURS 540 HC Policy/Econ/Finance	3
		NURS 555 Adv Assessment*	4	NURS 706 DNP Seminar*	1
		NURS 552 Adv Pharmacology*	3		
			10		6
Fall		Winter		Summer	
NURS 520 Health Promotion*	2	NURS 527 Theory/Research	4	NURS 635 Issues HC Qual/Safe	3
NURS 640 Primary Care Adults I*	3	NURS 650 Primary Care of Adults II*	3	NURS 591 Clinical Orientation	1
NURS 657 ACCS I*	3	NURS 659 ACCS II*	3	NURS 710 Scholarly Writing	3
	8		10	NURS 706 DNP Seminar OL	1
					8
Fall		Winter		Summer	
NURS 716 Epidemiology & Biostats	4	NURS 645 Practicum I: PCA	4	NURS 671 Practicum I: AC	3
NURS 812 DNP Project Development	1	~20 hrs/wk x 15 weeks		~15 hrs/wk x 15 weeks	
RELB 548 or RELT 545	3	NURS 722 Genetics & Environment	3	NURS 822 DNP Project Progression	2
	8	NURS 822 DNP Project Progression	2	NURS 706 DNP Seminar*	1
			9		6
Fall		Winter		OL = On Line	
Elective	2	Elective (suggest 600)	2	*On Campus-Required counts as elective	
NURS 673 Practicum II: AC	3	NURS 685 Role Development	1	7 hours of electives are required	
~15 hrs/wk x 15 weeks		NURS 832 DNP Project Finalization	2		
NURS 822 DNP Project Progression	2	NURS 887 DNP Program Finalization	0		
	7		5		

BS to DNP FNP & ACNP dual 2026-2027				Dual Emphasis Degree Total = 82 hours	
Fall Start				Revised: July 22, 2026	
Fall		Winter		Summer	
NURS 502-B Orientation to Program	0	NURS 527 Theory/Research	4	NURS 540 HC Policy/Econ/Finance	3
NURS 550 Adv Pathophysiology*	3	NURS 552 Adv Pharmacology*	3	NURS 556 Fam & Community	2
NURS 555 Adv Assessment*	4	NURS 650 Primary Care of Adults II*	3	NURS 635 Issues HC Quality/Safe	3
NURS 520 Health Promotion	2			NURS 706 DNP Seminar*	1
	9		10		9
Fall		Winter		Summer	
NURS 640 Primary Care Adults I*	3	NURS 591 Clinical Orientation	1	NURS 645 Practicum I: PC Adult	4
NURS 657 ACCS I*	3	NURS 659 ACCS II*	3	~20 hrs/wk x 15 weeks	
RELB 548 or RELT 545	3	NURS 662 Primary Care of Children*	3	NURS 706 DNP Seminar OL	1
	9	NURS 722 Genetics & Environment	3	NURS 710 Scholarly Writing	3
			10		8
Fall		Winter		Summer	
NURS 671 Practicum I: AC	3	NURS 673 Practicum II: AC	3	NURS 663 Practicum: PC Children	2
~15 hrs/wk x 15 weeks		~15 hrs/wk x 15 weeks		~10 hrs/wk x 15 weeks	
NURS 716 Epidemiology & Biostats	4	NURS 822 DNP Project Progression	3	NURS 706 DNP Seminar*	1
NURS 812 DNP Project Development	1			NURS 822 DNP Project Progression	3
	8		6		6
Fall					
NURS 655 Practicum II: PC Adult	4			OL = On Line	
~20 hrs/wk x 15 weeks				*On Campus	
NURS 685 Role Development	1				
NURS 832 DNP Project Finalization	2				
NURS 887 DNP Program Finalization	0				
	7				
Winter		Winter		Summer	
Revised: July 22, 2026		NURS 502-B Orientation to Program	0	NURS 540 HC Policy/Econ/Finance	3
		NURS 550 Adv Pathophysiology*	3	NURS 556 Fam & Community	2
		NURS 552 Adv Pharmacology*	3	NURS 635 Issues HC Quality/Safe	3
		NURS 555 Adv Assessment*	4	NURS 706 DNP Seminar	1
			10		9
Fall		Winter		Summer	
NURS 527 Theory/Research*	4	NURS 591 Clinical Orientation	1	NURS 645 Practicum I: PC Adult	4
NURS 640 Primary Care Adults I*	3	NURS 650 Primary Care of Adults II*	3	~20 hrs/wk x 15 weeks	
NURS 657 ACCS I*	3	NURS 659 ACCS II*	3	NURS 706 DNP Seminar	1
	10	NURS 662 Primary Care of Children*	3	NURS 710 Scholarly Writing	3
			10		8
Fall		Winter		Summer	
NURS 671 Practicum 1: AC	3	NURS 673 Practicum II: AC	3	NURS 655 Practicum II: PC Adult	4
~15 hrs/wk x 15 weeks		~15 hrs/wk x 15 weeks		~20 hrs/wk x 15 weeks	
NURS 716 Epidemiology & Biostats	4	NURS 722 Genetics & Environment	3	NURS 706 DNP Seminar	1
NURS 812 DNP Project Development	1	NURS 822 DNP Project Progression	2	NURS 822 DNP Project Progression	2
	8		8		7
Fall		Winter			
NURS 520 Health Promotion*	2	NURS 685 Role Development	1	OL = On Line	
NURS 663 Practicum: PC Children	2	NURS 832 DNP Project Finalization	2	*On Campus	
~10 hrs/wk x 15 weeks		NURS 887 DNP Program Finalization	0		
NURS 822 DNP Proj Progression	2	RELB 548 or RELT 545	3		
	6		6		

BS to DNP Lifestyle Medicine 2026-2027				Degree Total = 77 hours	
Fall Start				Revised: May 26, 2026	
Fall 2026		Winter 2027		Summer 2027	
NURS 502-B Orientation to Program	0	NURS 555 Adv Assessment**	4	NURS 520 Health Promotion	2
NURS 550 Adv Pathophysiology**	3	NURS 722 Genetics & Environment	3	NURS 705 DNP Seminar*	1
NURS 552 Adv Pharmacology**	3	NURS 734 Health Coaching	3	Elective	3
NURS 728 Intro to Lifestyle Med	2				
	8		10		6
Fall 2027		Winter 2028		Summer 2028	
NURS 716 Epidemiology & Biostats	4	Elective	2	NURS 540 HC Policy/Econ/Finance	3
NURS 742 Exercise Modalities	2	NURS 527 Theory/Research	4	NURS 705 DNP Seminar OL	1
NURS 753 Pr: Culinary Medicine	1	NURS 748 Lifestyle Mgmt Chronic	3	NURS 710 Scholarly Writing	3
				NURS 745 Nutritional Approaches	2
	7		9		9
Fall 2028		Winter 2029		Summer 2029	
Elective	4	Elective	2	NURS 635 Issues HC Qual/Safe	3
NURS 735 Lifestyle Strat Opt Psych	2	NURS 822 DNP Project Progression	3	NURS 705 DNP Seminar*	1
NURS 812 DNP Project Development	1	RELB 548 or RELT 545	3	NURS 822 DNP Project Progression	3
	7		8		7
Fall 2029				OL = On Line	
NURS 751 LM Practicum	2			*On Campus-required	
NURS 755 ACLM Board Review	2			**On Campus Option Available	
NURS 832 DNP Project Finalization	2			counts as elective	
NURS 887 DNP Program Finalization	0			12 hours of electives are required	
	6				
Winter Start		Winter 2027		Summer 2027	
Revised: May 26, 2026		NURS 502-B Orientation to Program	0	NURS 520 Health Promotion	2
		NURS 555 Adv Assessment**	4	NURS 635 Issues HC Qual/Safe	3
		NURS 734 Health Coaching	3	NURS 706 DNP Seminar*	1
			7		6
Fall 2027		Winter 2028		Summer 2028	
NURS 550 Adv Pathophysiology**	3	NURS 527 Theory/Research	4	NURS 540 HC Policy/Econ/Finance	3
NURS 728 Intro to Lifestyle Med	2	NURS 748 LM Chronic Disease	3	NURS 706 DNP Seminar OL	1
NURS 742 Exercise Modalities	2			NURS 710 Scholarly Writing	3
				NURS 745 Nutritional Approaches	2
	7		7		9
Fall 2028		Winter 2029		Summer 2029	
NURS 552 Adv Pharmacology**	3	Elective	3	Elective	3
NURS 716 Epidemiology & Biostats	4	NURS 722 Genetics & Environment	3	NURS 706 DNP Seminar*	1
NURS 735 Lifestyle Strat Opt Psych	2	NURS 812 DNP Project Development	1	NURS 753 Pr: Culinary Medicine	1
				NURS 822 DNP Project Progression	3
	9		7		8
Fall 2029		Winter 2030		OL = On Line	
Elective	2	Elective	3	*On Campus-required	
NURS 751 LM Practicum	2	NURS 766 ACLM Board Review	2	**On Campus Option Available	
NURS 822 DNP Project Progression	3	NURS 832 DNP Project Finalization	2	counts as elective	
RELB 548 or RELT 545	3	NURS 887 DNP Program Finalization	0	12 hours of electives are required	
	10		7		

BS to DNP Nurse Educator 2026-2027				Degree Total = 77 hours	
Fall Start 2026				Revised: May 26, 2026	
Fall 2026		Winter 2027		Summer 2027	
EDUC 531 Technology & Educ	3	NURS 550 Adv Pathophysiology**	3	NURS 520 Health Promotion OL	2
NURS 502-B Orientation to Program	0	NURS 648 Clinical Simulation	3	NURS 540 HC Policy/Econ/Fin	3
RELB 548 or RELT 545	3	Elective	2	NURS 635 Issues HC Quality/Safe	3
				NURS 706 DNP Seminar*	1
	6		8		9
Fall 2027		Winter 2028		Summer 2028	
Elective	2	NURS 527 Theory/Research	4	Elective	3
NURS 552 Adv Pharmacology**	3	NURS 631 Classroom Inst/Eval	3	NURS 641 Practicum: Area CI Emph	2
NURS 621 Nrsrg Curriculum Design	3			NURS 706 DNP Seminar OL	1
	8		7	NURS 710 Scholarly Writing	3
					9
Fall 2028		Winter 2029		Summer 2029	
NURS 716 Epidemiology & Biostats	4	NURS 555 Adv Assessment**	4	Elective	3
NURS 812 DNP Project Development	1	NURS 722 Genetics & Environment	3	NURS 706 DNP Seminar*	1
		NURS 822 DNP Project Progression	3	NURS 822 DNP Project Progression	3
	5		10		7
Fall 2029		OL = On Line		NURS 621 Nrsrg Curriculum Design	
Elective	3	*On Campus-required		offered Fall - odd years	
NURS 643 Ed Role Practicum	3	**On Campus Option Available		NURS 631 Classroom Inst/Eval	
NURS 832 DNP Project Finalization	2	counts as elective		offered Winter - even years	
NURS 887 DNP Program Finalization	0	14 hours of electives are required		NURS 648 Clinical Simulation	
	8			offered Winter - odd years	
		Winter 2027		Summer 2027	
		NURS 502-B Orientation to Program	0	NURS 520 Health Promotion OL	2
Winter Start 2026		NURS 527 Theory/Research OL	4	NURS 540 HC Policy/Econ/Fin	3
Revised: May 26, 2026		NURS 550 Adv Pathophysiology**	3	NURS 635 Issues HC Quality/Safe	3
			7	NURS 706 DNP Seminar*	1
					9
Fall 2027		Winter 2028		Summer 2028	
Elective	2	Elective	2	Elective	2
NURS 552 Adv Pharmacology**	3	NURS 555 Adv Assessment**	4	NURS 641 Practicum: Area CI Emph	2
NURS 621 Nrsrg Curriculum Design	3	NURS 631 Classroom Inst/Eval	3	NURS 706 DNP Seminar OL	1
	8		9	NURS 710 Scholarly Writing	3
					8
Fall 2028		Winter 2029		Summer 2029	
Elective	2	NURS 648 Clinical Simulation	3	Elective	3
EDUC 531 Technology & Educ	3	NURS 722 Genetics & Environment	3	NURS 706 DNP Seminar*	1
NURS 716 Epidemiology & Biostats	4	NURS 812 DNP Project Development	1	NURS 822 DNP Project Progression	3
	9		7		7
Fall 2029		Winter 2030		OL = On Line	
Elective	2	NURS 832 DNP Project Finalization	2	*On Campus-required	
NURS 643 Ed Role Practicum	3	NURS 887 DNP Program Finalization	0	**On Campus Option Available	
NURS 822 DNP Project Progression	3	RELB 548 or RELT 545	3	counts as elective	
	8		5	14 hours of electives are required	

BS to DNP Primary Care - Adult/Gerontology NP 2026-2027				Degree Total = 77 hours	
Fall Start				Revised: July 22, 2026	
Fall		Winter		Summer	
NURS 502-B Orientation to Program	0	NURS 527 Theory/Research	4	NURS 520 Health Promotion	2
NURS 550 Adv Pathophysiology*	3	NURS 552 Adv Pharmacology*	3	NURS 540 HC Policy/Econ/Finance	3
NURS 555 Adv Assessment*	4	RELB 548 or RELT 545	3	NURS 635 Issues HC Qual/Safe	3
				NURS 706 DNP Seminar*	1
	7		10		9
Fall		Winter		Summer	
NURS 640 Primary Care Adults I*	3	NURS 650 Primary Care of Adults II*	3	NURS 556 Family & Community	2
NURS 716 Epidemiology & Biostats	4	NURS 661 Gerontology Primary Care	3	NURS 591 Clinical Orientation	1
		NURS 722 Genetics & Environment	3	NURS 706 DNP Seminar	1
	7		9	NURS 710 Scholarly Writing	3
					7
Fall		Winter		Summer	
Elective	2	NURS 655 Practicum II PCA	4	NURS 664: Practicum Geri	2
NURS 645 Practicum I: PCA	4	~20 hrs/wk x 15 weeks		~10 hrs/wk x 15 weeks	
~20 hrs/wk x 15 weeks		NURS 822 DNP Project Progression	3	NURS 706 DNP Seminar*	1
NURS 812 DNP Project Development	1	Elective	2	NURS 822 DNP Project Progression	3
	7		9		6
Fall				OL = On Line	
Elective	3			* On Campus	
NURS 685 Role Development	1			counts as elective	
NURS 832 DNP Project Finalization	2			8 hours of electives are required	
NURS 887 DNP Program Finalization	0				
	6				
		Winter		Summer	
		NURS 502-B Orientation to Program	0	NURS 520 Health Promotion	2
		NURS 550 Adv Pathophysiology*	3	NURS 540 HC Policy/Econ/Finance	3
		NURS 552 Adv Pharmacology*	3	NURS 635 Issues HC Qual/Safe	3
Winter Start		NURS 555 Adv Assessment*	4	NURS 706 DNP Seminar*	1
Revised: July 22, 2026			10		9
Fall		Winter		Summer	
NURS 527 Theory/Research*	4	NURS 650 Primary Care of Adults II*	3	Elective	2
NURS 640 Primary Care Adults I*	3	NURS 661 Gerontology Primary Care	3	NURS 556 Family & Community	2
		NURS 722 Genetics & Environment	3	NURS 706 DNP Seminar OL	1
	7		9	NURS 710 Scholarly Writing	3
					8
Fall		Winter		Summer	
NURS 591 Clinical Orientation	1	Elective	3	NURS 655 Practicum II PCA	4
NURS 716 Epidemiology & Biostats	4	NURS 645 Practicum I: PCA	4	~20 hrs/wk x 15 weeks	
NURS 812 DNP Proj Development	1	~20 hrs/wk x 15 weeks		NURS 706 DNP Seminar*	1
		NURS 822 DNP Project Progression	2	NURS 822 DNP Project Progression	2
	6		9		7
Fall		Winter		OL = On Line	
NURS 664: Practicum Geri	2	Elective	2	* On Campus	
~10 hrs/wk x 15 weeks		NURS 685 Role Development	1	counts as elective	
NURS 822 DNP Proj Progression	2	NURS 832 DNP Project Finalization	2	8 hours of electives are required	
RELB 548 or RELT 545	3	NURS 887 DNP Program Finalization	0		
	7		5		

BS to DNP Primary Care - Family NP 2026-2027			Degree Total = 77 hours		
Fall Start			Revised: July 22, 2026		
Fall		Winter		Summer	
NURS 502-B Orientation to Program	0	Elective	2	Elective	3
NURS 550 Adv Pathophysiology*	3	NURS 552 Adv Pharmacology*	3	NURS 520 Health Promotion	2
NURS 555 Adv Assessment*	4	RELB 548 or RELT 545	3	NURS 556 Family & Community	2
				NURS 706 DNP Seminar*	1
	7		8		8
Fall		Winter		Summer	
NURS 527 Theory/Research*	4	NURS 650 Primary Care of Adults II*	3	NURS 591 Clinical Orientation	1
NURS 640 Primary Care Adults I*	3	NURS 662 Primary Care of Children*	3	NURS 635 Issues HC Quality/Safe	3
		NURS 722 Genetics & Environment	3	NURS 706 DNP Seminar OL	1
	7		9	NURS 710 Scholarly Writing	3
					8
Fall		Winter		Summer	
NURS 540 HC Policy/Econ/Fin*	3	NURS 645: Practicum I PCA	4	Elective (NURS 600)	2
NURS 716 Epidemiology & Biostats	4	~20 hrs/wk x 15 weeks		NURS 663: Practicum PCC	2
NURS 812 DNP Project Development	1	NURS 822 DNP Project Progression	3	~10 hrs/wk x 15 weeks	
				NURS 706 DNP Seminar*	1
	8		7	NURS 822 DNP Project Progression	3
					8
Fall					
NURS 655 Practicum II: PCA	4			OL = On Line	
~20 hrs/wk x 15 weeks				*On Campus	
NURS 685 Role Development	1			counts as elective	
NURS 832 DNP Project Finalization	2			8 hours of electives are required	
NURS 887 Program Finalization	0				
	7				
Winter Start					
Revised: July 22, 2026					
		Winter		Summer	
		NURS 502-B Orientation to Program	0	Elective	2
		NURS 550 Adv Pathophysiology*	3	NURS 520 Health Promotion	2
		NURS 552 Adv Pharmacology*	3	NURS 556 Family & Community	2
		NURS 555 Adv Assessment*	4	NURS 706 DNP Seminar*	1
			10		7
Fall		Winter		Summer	
NURS 527 Theory/Research*	4	NURS 650 Primary Care of Adults II*	3	NURS 635 Issues HC Quality/Safe	3
NURS 640 Primary Care Adults I*	3	NURS 662 Primary Care of Children*	3	NURS 706 DNP Seminar OL	1
		NURS 722 Genetics & Environment	3	NURS 710 Scholarly Writing	3
	7		9		7
Fall		Winter		Summer	
NURS 540 HC Policy/Econ/Fin*	3	NURS 645 Practicum I: PCA	4	NURS 663: Practicum PCC	2
NURS 591 Clinical Orientation	1	~16-20 hrs/wk x 15 weeks		~8 hrs/wk x 15 weeks	
NURS 716 Epidemiology & Biostats	4	NURS 822 DNP Project Progression	2	NURS 706 DNP Seminar*	1
NURS 812 DNP Project Development	1	RELB 548 or RELT 545	3	NURS 822 DNP Project Progression	2
	9		9		5
Fall		Winter			
Elective	3	Elective (suggest 600)	2	OL = On Line	
NURS 655: Practicum II PCA	4	NURS 685 Role Development	1	*On Campus	
~16-20 hrs/wk x 15 weeks		NURS 832 DNP Project Finalization	2	counts as elective	
NURS 822 DNP Project Progression	2	NURS 887 DNP Program Finalization	0	8 hours of electives are required	
	9		5		

BS to DNP Primary Care - Psych Mental Health NP 2026-2027				Degree Total = 77 hours	
Fall Start		Revised: July 22,, 2026			
Fall		Winter		Summer	
COUN 556 Theories & Techniques	3	NURS 527 Theory/Research	4	NURS 540 HC Policy/Econ/Fin	3
COUN 579 Practicum: Counseling	1	NURS 550 Adv Pathophysiology**	3	NURS 583 Practicum II: Coun	1
NURS 502-B Program Orientation	0	NURS 555 Adv Assessment**	4	NURS 613 Neuroscience for MH	2
NURS 552 Adv Pharmacology**	3			NURS 706 DNP Seminar*	1
	7		11		7
Fall		Winter		Summer	
NURS 520 Health Promotion	2	COUN 521 Adult Psychopathology	3	NURS 635 Issues HC Quality/Safe	3
RELB 548 or RELT 545	3	COUN 593 Child/Adol Psychopath	3	NURS 710 Scholarly Writing	3
		NURS 616 Psychopharmacology	3	NURS 706 DNP Seminar	1
	5		9		7
Fall		Winter		Summer	
NURS 591 Clinical Orientation	1	NURS 652 Practicum I: PMH	4	NURS 653: Practicum II PMH	4
NURS 685 Role Development	1	~20 hrs/wk x 15 weeks		~20 hrs/wk x 15 weeks	
NURS 716 Epidemiology & Biostats	4	NURS 722 Genetics & Environment	3	NURS 706 DNP Seminar*	1
NURS 812 DNP Project Development	1	NURS 822 DNP Project Progression	3	NURS 822 DNP Project Progression	3
	7		10		8
Fall		OL = On Line			
NURS 625 Issues in PMH	3	*On Campus-required			
NURS 832 DNP Project Finalization	2	**On Campus Option Available			
NURS 887 Program Finalization	0	counts as elective			
Elective	1	2 hours of electives are required			
	6				
		Winter		Summer	
		NURS 502-B Program Orientation	0	NURS 540 HC Policy/Econ/Fin	3
		NURS 527 Theory/Research	4	NURS 613 Neuroscience for MH	2
		NURS 550 Adv Pathophysiology**	3	NURS 706 DNP Seminar*	1
		NURS 555 Adv Assessment**	4		
			11		6
Fall		Winter		Summer	
COUN 556 Counseling Th/Tech	1	COUN 521 Adult Psychopathology	3	NURS 583 Practicum II: Coun	1
COUN 579 Practicum: Counseling	3	COUN 593 Child/Adol Psychopath	3	NURS 635 Issues HC Quality/Safe	3
NURS 552 Adv Pharmacology**	3	NURS 722 Genetics & Environment	3	NURS 706 DNP Seminar	1
				NURS 710 Scholarly Writing	3
	7		9		8
Fall		Winter		Summer	
NURS 520 Health Promotion	2	NURS 591 Clinical Orientation	1	NURS 652 Practicum I: PMH	4
NURS 716 Epidemiology & Biostats	4	NURS 616 Psychopharmacology	3	~20 hrs/wk x 15 weeks	
NURS 812 DNP Project Development	1	NURS 822 DNP Project Progression	2	NURS 706 DNP Seminar*	1
		RELB 548 or RELT 545	3	NURS 822 DNP Project Progression	2
	7		9		7
Fall		Winter		OL = On Line	
NURS 625 Issues in PMH	3	Electives (suggest 600)	1	*On Campus	
NURS 653: Practicum II PMH	4	NURS 685 Role Development	1	**On Campus Option Available	
~20 hrs/wk x 15 weeks		NURS 832 DNP Project Finalization	2	counts as elective	
NURS 822 DNP Project Progression	2	NURS 887 Program Finalization	0	2 hours of electives are required	
	9		4		

Electives				Revised: May 26, 2026	
FALL Even Years		Winter Odd Years		Summer Odd Years	
BUAD 555 Leadership and Change	3	BUAD 530 Organizational Behavior	3	NURS 540 HC Policy, Econ, Fin **	3
BUAD 580 Business Analytics	3	NURS 600 Adv Practicum (1-3 hrs)		NURS 556 Family & Community	2
NURS 600 Adv Practicum (1-3 hrs)		NURS 661 Geriatric Pr & LT Care	3	NURS 600 Adv Practicum (1-3 hrs)	
NURS 728 Intro to Lifestyle Med	2	NURS 728 Intro to Lifestyle Med	2	NURS 613 Neuroscience for MH	2
NURS 735 Psychosocial Health	2	NURS 734 Health Coaching	3	NURS 635 Issues HC Quality/Safe	3
RELB 548 or RELT 545	3	RELB 548 or RELT 545	3	NURS 728 - Natural Adjuncts	2
FALL Odd Years		Winter Even Years		Summer Even Years	
BUAD 555 Leadership and Change	3	BUAD 530 Organizational Behavior	3	NURS 540 HC Policy/ Econ,/Fin **	3
BUAD 580 Business Analytics	3	NURS 600 Adv Practicum (1-3 hrs)		NURS 556 Family & Community	2
NURS 570 Emer & Disas Mgmt	2	NURS 631 Classroom Inst/Eval	3	NURS 600 Adv Practicum (1-3 hrs)	
NURS 600 Adv Practicum (1-3 hrs)		NURS 648 Clinical Simulation	3	NURS 613 Neuroscience for MH	2
NURS 621 Nrsng Curriculum Design	3	NURS 728 Intro to Lifestyle Med	2	NURS 746 Nutritional Approaches	3
NURS 728 Intro to Lifestyle Med	2	NURS 748 Lifestyle Mgmt Chronic Dz	3		
NURS 742 Exercise Modalities	2	RELB 548 or RELT 545	3		
RELB 548 or RELT 545	3				
Post Master's DNP: A Gap Analysis will be done for you in NURS 502: Orientation to Program					
The Gap Analysis will show if your program has meet DNP Essentials. If you are lacking any essentials - please see the ** courses					
DNP Electives are used to fulfill ALL DNP Essentials					
**If courses not taken in MSN program					
**NURS 635 Issues HC Qual,Saf, Tech	3	**NURS 540 HC Policy, Econ, Finance	3		
# last time course will be offered in Fall - moving to Summer semester					
BS-DNP					
otherwise declare a second emphasis or select from elective courses identified above with approval from your advisor					

DNP Emphases

Post Master's Degree

The SON offers seven different emphases of graduate study for the DNP program (post master's):

Acute Care - Adult Gerontology Nurse Practitioner (ACAGNP)

General DNP

Lifestyle Medicine (LM)- (online)

Nurse Educator (NE)- (online)

Primary Care - Adult Gerontology Nurse Practitioner (PC-AGNP)

Primary Care - Family Nurse Practitioner (PC-FNP)

Primary Care -Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PC-PMHNP)- (online)

DNP Acute Care - Adult Gerontology NP 2026-2027				Degree Total = 48 hours	
Fall Start				Revised: July 22, 2026	
Fall		Winter		Summer	
NURS 502-B Orientation to Program	0	NURS 650 Primary Care of Adults II*	3	NURS 591 Clinical Orientation	1
NURS 640 Primary Care Adults I*	3	NURS 659 ACCS II*	3	Electives (3 hrs required)	3
NURS 716 Epidemiology & Biostats	4	NURS 722 Genetics & Environment	3	NURS 706 DNP Seminar*	1
		NURS 812 DNP Project Development	1	NURS 822 DNP Project Progression	2
	7		10		7
Fall		Winter		Summer	
NURS 645 Practicum I: PCA ~20 hrs/wk x 15 weeks	4	NURS 671 Practicum I: AC ~15 hrs/wk x 15 wks	3	NURS 673 Practicum 2: AC ~15 hrs/wk x 15 wks	3
NURS 657 ACCS I*	3	NURS 685 Role Development	1	NURS 706 DNP Seminar OL	1
NURS 822 DNP Project Progression	2	NURS 822 DNP Project Progression	2	NURS 832 DNP Project Finalization	2
	9	RELB 548 or RELT 545	3	NURS 887 DNP Program Finalization	0
			9		6
Must also demonstrate having had NURS 540 Healthcare Policy, Econ & Finance course				*On Campus Only	
Winter Start		Winter		Summer	
Revised: May 26, 2026		NURS 502-B Orientation to Program	0	Electives (3 hrs required)	3
		NURS 650 Primary Care of Adults II*	3	NURS 706 DNP Seminar*	1
		NURS 722 Genetics & Environment	3		
		RELB 548 or RELT 545	3		
			9		4
Fall		Winter		Summer	
NURS 640 Primary Care Adults I*	3	NURS 591 Clinical Orientation	1	NURS 645 Practicum I: PCA ~20 hrs/wk x 15 weeks	4
NURS 657 ACCS I*	3	NURS 659 ACCS II*	3	NURS 706 DNP Seminar OL	1
NURS 716 Epidemiology & Biostats	4	NURS 812 DNP Project Development	1	NURS 822 DNP Project Progression	3
	10		5		8
Fall		Winter		Pre-Requisite Courses:	
NURS 671 Practicum I: AC ~15 hrs/wk x 15 wks	3	NURS 673 Practicum II: AC ~15 hrs/wk x 15 wks	3	NURS 520 Health Promotion	2
NURS 822 DNP Project Progression	3	NURS 685 Role Development	1	NURS 550 Adv Pathophysiology	3
		NURS 832 DNP Project Finalization	2	NURS 552 Adv Pharmacology	3
		NURS 887 DNP Program Finalization	0	NURS 555 Adv Assessment	4
	6		6		

General DNP 2026-2027				Degree Total = 37 hours		
Fall Start				Revised: July 22, 2026		
Fall			Winter		Summer	
NURS 502-B Orientation to Program	0	NURS 722 Genetics & Environment	3	NURS 540 HC Policy/Econ/Finance	3	
NURS 716 Epidemiology & Biostats	4	NURS 812 DNP Project Development	1	NURS 635 Issues HC Qual/Safe	3	
RELB 548 or RELT 545	3			NURS 706 DNP Seminar*	1	
				NURS 822 DNP Project Progression	3	
	7		4			10
Fall			Winter		Summer	
NURS 728 Intro to Lifestyle Med	2	BUAD 530 Organizational Behav **	3	NURS 706 DNP Seminar OL	1	
NURS 822 DNP Project Progression	3	NURS Elective	2	NURS 832 DNP Project Finalization	2	
BUAD 580 Integrated Bus Sim**	3			NURS 887 Program Finalization	0	
	8		5			3
		Must also demonstrate having had NURS 540 Healthcare Policy, Econ & Finance course				
		Winter		Summer		
Winter Start		NURS 502-B Orientation to Program	0	NURS 540 HC Policy/Econ/Finance	3	
Revised: May 26, 2026		NURS 722 Genetics & Environment	3	NURS 635 Issues HC Qual/Safe	3	
		BUAD 530 Organizational Behav **	3	NURS 706 DNP Seminar *	1	
			6			7
Fall		Winter		Summer		
NURS 716 Epidemiology & Biostats	4	NURS Elective (2 required)	2	NURS 706 DNP Seminar OL	1	
NURS 728 Intro to Lifestyle Med	2	NURS 822 DNP Project Progression	3	NURS 822 DNP Project Progression	3	
NURS 812 DNP Project Development	1	RELT 545 or RELB 548	3			
	7		8			4
Fall						
NURS 832 DNP Proj Finalization	2	** Business courses are 8 week courses. May take both in one semester as desired.				
NURS 887 Program Finalization	0	*On Campus counts as elective				
BUAD 580 Integrated Bus Sim**	3	2 hours of electives are required				
	5					

DNP Lifestyle Medicine 2026-2027				Degree Total = 44 hours	
Fall Start				Revised: July 22, 2026	
Fall 2026		Winter 2027		Summer 2027	
NURS 502-B Orientation to Program	0	NURS 722 Genetics & Environment	3	Elective	3
NURS 716 Epidemiology & Biostats	4	NURS 734 Health Coaching	3	NURS 706 DNP Seminar*	1
NURS 728 Intro to Lifestyle Med	2	NURS 812 DNP Proj. Development	1	NURS 753 Pr: Culinary Medicine	1
NURS 735 Lifestyle Strat Opt Psych	2				
	8		7		5
Fall 2027		Winter 2028		Summer 2028	
Elective	1	NURS 748 Lifestyle Mgmt Chronic Dz	3	NURS 706 DNP Seminar OL	1
NURS 742 Exercise Modalities	2	NURS 755 ACLM Board Review	2	NURS 745 Nutritional Approaches	2
NURS 822 DNP Project Progression	3	NURS 822 DNP Project Progression	3	NURS 751 Prac: Lifestyle Medicine	1
RELB 548 or RELT 545	3	NURS 751 Prac: Lifestyle Medicine	1	NURS 832 DNP Project Finalization	2
	9		9	NURS 887 FNP Program Finalization	0
					6
Must also demonstrate having had NURS 540 Healthcare Policy, Econ & Finance course					
		Pre-Requisite Courses: Online Options Available			
		NURS 550 Adv Pathophysiology	3	Winter	
		NURS 552 Adv Pharmacology	3	Fall	
		NURS 555 Adv Assessment	4	Winter	
		Winter 2027		Summer 2027	
		NURS 502-B Orientation to Program	0	Elective	2
		NURS 722 Genetics & Environment	3	NURS 706 DNP Seminar*	1
		NURS 734 Health Coaching	3	NURS 753 Pr: Culinary Medicine	1
			6		4
Winter Start					
Revised: July 22, 2026					
Fall 2027		Winter 2028		Summer 2028	
NURS 716 Epidemiology & Biostats	4	Elective	2	NURS 706 DNP Seminar OL	1
NURS 728 Intro to Lifestyle Med	2	NURS 748 Lifestyle Mgmt Chronic Dz	3	NURS 745 Nutritional Approaches	2
NURS 742 Exercise Modalities	2	NURS 812 DNP Project Development	1	NURS 755 ACLM Board Review	2
		RELB 548 or RELT 545	3	NURS 822 DNP Project Progression	3
	8		9		8
Fall 2028		Winter 2029			
NURS 735 Lifestyle Strat Opt Psych	2	NURS 751 Prac: Lifestyle Medicine	2	*On Campus counts as elective 4 hours of electives are required	
NURS 822 DNP Project Progression	3	NURS 832 DNP Project Finalization	2		
		NURS 887 DNP Program Finalization	0		
	5		4		
Must also demonstrate having had NURS 540 Healthcare Policy, Econ & Finance course					
Fall Even Years		Winter Odd years		Summer Odd years	
2026, 2028		2027, 2029		2027, 2029	
NURS 728 Intro to Lifestyle Med	2	NURS 734 Health Coaching	3		
NURS 735 Lifestyle Strat Opt Psych	2				
Fall Odd Years		Winter Even years		Summer Even years	
2025, 2027, 2029		2026, 2028		2026, 2028	
NURS 728 Intro to Lifestyle Med	2	NURS 748 Lifestyle Mgmt Chronic Dz	3	NURS 745 Nutritional Approaches	2
NURS 742 Exercise Modalities	2				

DNP Nurse Educator 2026-2027				Total Degree = 42 hours	
Fall Start (even)				Revised: May 26, 2026	
Fall (even)		Winter (odd)		Summer (odd)	
EDUC 531 Technology & Educ	3	NURS 648 Clinical Simulation	3	Elective	4
NURS 502-B Orientation to Program	0	NURS 722 Genetics/Environment	3	NURS 641 Practicum: Area C Emph	2
NURS 716 Epidemiology & Biostats	4			NURS 706 DNP Seminar*	1
	7		6		7
Fall (odd)		Winter (even)		Summer (even)	
NURS 621 Nrsrg Curriculum Design	3	NURS 631 Classroom Inst/Eval	3	NURS 706 DNP Seminar OL	1
NURS 812 DNP Project Development	1	NURS 822 DNP Project Progression	3	NURS 822 DNP Project Progression	3
		RELB 548 or RELT 545	3		
	4		9		4
Fall (even)					
NURS 643 Ed Role Practicum	3	Pre-Requisite Courses:		NURS 621 Nrsrg Curriculum Design	3
NURS 832 DNP Project Finalization	2	NURS 520 Health Promotion	2	offered Fall - odd years	
NURS 887 DNP Program Finalization	0	NURS 550 Adv Pathophysiology	3	NURS 631 Classroom Inst/Eval	3
		NURS 552 Adv Pharmacology	3	offered Winter - even years	
		NURS 555 Adv Assessment	4	NURS 648 Clinical Simulation	3
	5			offered Winter - odd years	
		Winter (odd)		Summer (odd)	
		EDUC 531 Technology & Educ	3	Elective	2
		NURS 502-B Orientation to Program	0	NURS 641 Practicum: Area C Emph	2
		NURS 648 Clinical Simulation	3	NURS 706 DNP Seminar*	1
			6		5
Winter Start					
Revised: May 26, 2026					
Fall (odd)		Winter (even)		Summer (even)	
NURS 621 Nrsrg Curriculum Design	3	NURS 631 Classroom Inst/Eval	3	Electives	2
NURS 716 Epidemiology & Biostats	4	NURS 722 Genetics/Environment	3	NURS 706 DNP Seminar OL	1
		NURS 812 DNP Project Development	1	NURS 822 DNP Project Progression	3
	7		7		6
Fall (even)		Winter (odd)		OL= On Line	
NURS 822 DNP Project Progression	3	NURS 643 Ed Role Practicum	3	*On Campus	
RELB 548 or RELT 545	3	NURS 832 DNP Project Finalization	2	Counts as elective	
		NURS 887 DNP Program Finalization	0	4 hours are required	
	6		5		

DNP Primary Care - Adult/Gerontology NP 2026-2027				Degree Total = 48 hours	
Fall Start				Revised: July 22, 2026	
Fall		Winter		Summer	
NURS 502-B Orientation to Program	0	NURS 650 Primary Care of Adults II*	3	Electives (4 hrs required)	2
NURS 640 Primary Care Adults I*	3	NURS 661 Gerontology Primary Care	3	NURS 556 Fam & Community	2
NURS 716 Epidemiology & Biostats	4	NURS 722 Genetics & Environment	3	NURS 591 Clinical Orientation	1
		NURS 812 DNP Proj Development	1	NURS 706 DNP Seminar*	1
				NURS 822 DNP Project Progression	2
	7		10		8
Fall		Winter		Summer	
NURS 645 Practicum I: PCA	4	Electives (4 hrs required)	2	NURS 655 Practicum II PCA	4
~20 hrs/wk x 15 weeks		NURS 664: Practicum Geri	2	~20 hrs/wk x 15 weeks	
NURS 822 DNP Project Progression	2	~10 hrs/wk x 15 weeks		NURS 706 DNP Seminar OL	1
RELT 545 or RELB 548	3	NURS 685 Role Development	1	NURS 832 DNP Project Finalization	2
		NURS 822 DNP Project Progression	2	NURS 887 DNP Program Finalization	0
	9		7		7
Must also demonstrate having had NURS 540 Healthcare Policy, Econ & Finance				*On Campus Only	
Winter Start		Winter		Summer	
Revised: July 22, 2026		NURS 502-B Orientation to Program	0	Electives (4 hrs required)	4
		NURS 650 Primary Care of Adults II*	3	NURS 556 Fam & Community	2
		NURS 661 Gerontology Primary Care	3	NURS 706 DNP Seminar*	1
		NURS 722 Genetics & Environment	3		
			9		7
Fall		Winter		Summer	
NURS 591 Clinical Orientation	1	NURS 645 Practicum I: PCA	4	NURS 655 Practicum II PCA	4
NURS 640 Primary Care Adults I*	3	~16-20 hrs/wk x 15 weeks		~16-20 hrs/wk x 15 weeks	
NURS 716 Epidemiology & Biostats	4	NURS 822 DNP Project Progression	3	NURS 706 DNP Seminar OL	1
NURS 812 DNP Project Development	1	RELB 548 or RELT 548	3	NURS 822 DNP Project Progression	3
	9		10		8
Fall		*On Campus Only		Pre-Requisite Courses:	
NURS 664: Practicum Geri	2			NURS 520 Health Promotion	2
~8 hrs/wk x 15 weeks				NURS 550 Adv Pathophysiology	3
NURS 685 Role Development	1			NURS 552 Adv Pharmacology	3
NURS 832 DNP Project Finalization	2			NURS 555 Adv Assessment	4
NURS 887 DNP Program Finalization	0				
		Must also demonstrate having had NURS 540 Healthcare Policy, Econ & Finance			
	5				

DNP Primary Care - Family NP 2026-2027				Degree Total = 48 hours	
Fall Start				Revised: July 22, 2026	
Fall		Winter		Summer	
NURS 502-B Orientation to Program	0	NURS 650 Primary Care of Adults II*	3	Electives (4 hrs required)	2
NURS 640 Primary Care Adults I*	3	NURS 662 Primary Care of Child*	3	NURS 556 Fam & Community	2
NURS 716 Epidemiology & Biostats	4	NURS 722 Genetics & Environment	3	NURS 591 Clinical Orientation	1
		NURS 812 DNP Project Development	1	NURS 706 DNP Seminar*	1
	7		10	NURS 822 DNP Project Progression	2
					8
Fall		Winter		Summer	
Electives (4 hrs required)	2	NURS 663: Practicum PCC	2	NURS 655: Practicum 2 PCA	4
NURS 645 Practicum I: PCA	4	~10 hrs/wk x 15 weeks		~20 hrs/wk x 15 weeks	
~20 hrs/wk x 15 weeks		NURS 685 Role Development	1	NURS 706 DNP Seminar OL	1
NURS 822 DNP Project Progression	2	NURS 822 DNP Project Progression	2	NURS 832 DNP Project Finalization	2
		RELB 548 or RELT 545	3	NURS 887 DNP Program Finalization	0
	8		8		7
Must also demonstrate having had NURS 540 Healthcare Policy, Econ & Finance				*On Campus Only	
Winter Start		Winter		Summer	
Revised: July 22, 2026		NURS 502-B Orientation to Program	0	Electives (4 hrs required)	4
		NURS 650 Primary Care of Adults II*	3	NURS 556 Fam & Community	2
		NURS 662 Primary Care of Child*	3	NURS 706 DNP Seminar *	1
		NURS 722 Genetics & Environment	3		
			9		7
Fall		Winter		Summer	
NURS 591 Clinical Orientation	1	NURS 645 Practicum I: PCA	4	NURS 655: Practicum II: PCA	4
NURS 640 Primary Care Adults I*	3	~20 hrs/wk x 15 weeks		~16-20 hrs/wk x 15 weeks	
NURS 716 Epidemiology & Biostats	4	NURS 822 DNP Project Progression	3	NURS 706 DNP Seminar OL	1
NURS 812 DNP Project Development	1	RELB 548 or RELT 545	3	NURS 822 DNP Project Progression	3
	9		10		8
Fall		*On Campus Only		Pre-Requisite Courses:	
NURS 663: Practicum PCC	2			NURS 520 Health Promotion	2
~8 hrs/wk x 15 weeks				NURS 550 Adv Pathophysiology	3
NURS 685 Role Development	1			NURS 552 Adv Pharmacology	3
NURS 832 DNP Project Finalization	2			NURS 555 Adv Assessment	4
NURS 887 DNP Program Finalization	0				
	5	Must also demonstrate having had NURS 540 Healthcare Policy, Econ & Finance course			

DNP Primary Care - Psychiatric Mental Health NP 2026-2027				Degree Total = 50 hours	
Fall Start				Revised: July 22, 2026	
Fall		Winter		Summer	
COUN 556 Theories & Techniques	3	COUN 521 Adult Psychopathology	3	NURS 583 Practicum II: Coun	1
COUN 579 Practicum: Coun	1	COUN 593 Child/Adol Psychopath	3	NURS 613 Neuroscience for MH	2
NURS 502-B Orientation to Program	0	NURS 722 Genetics & Environment	3	NURS 706 DNP Seminar*	1
NURS 716 Epidemiology & Biostats	4				
	8		9		4
Fall		Winter		Summer	
NURS 591 Clinical Orientation	1	NURS 616 Psychopharmacology	3	NURS 652 Practicum I: PMH	4
NURS 625 Issues in PMH	3	NURS 822 DNP Project Progression	3	~24 hrs/wk x 15 weeks	
NURS 812 DNP Project Development	1	RELB 548 or RELT 545	3	NURS 706 DNP Seminar OL	1
	5		9	NURS 822 DNP Project Progression	3
					8
Fall		Pre-Requisite Courses:		OL= On Line *On Campus	
NURS 653 Practicum II: PMH	4				
~24 hrs/wk x 15 weeks		NURS 520 Health Promotion	2	Summer	
NURS 685 Role Development	1	NURS 550 Adv Pathophysiology	3	Winter	
NURS 832 DNP Project Finalization	2	NURS 552 Adv Pharmacology	3	Fall	
NURS 887 DNP Program Finalization	0	NURS 555 Adv Assessment	4	Winter	
	7	Must also demonstrate having had NURS 540 Healthcare Policy, Econ & Finance course			
		Winter		Summer	
		COUN 521 Adult Psychopathology	3	NURS 613 Neuroscience for MH	2
		COUN 593 Child/Adol Psychopath	3	NURS 706 DNP Seminar*	1
		NURS 502-B Orientation to Program	0		
		RELB 548 or RELT 545	3		
			9		3
Fall		Winter		Summer	
COUN 556 Theories & Techniques	3	NURS 591 Clinical Orientation	1	NURS 583 Practicum II: Coun	1
COUN 579 Practicum: Coun	1	NURS 616 Psychopharmacology	3	NURS 652 Practicum I: PMH	4
NURS 716 Epidemiology & Biostats	4	NURS 722 Genetics & Environment	3	~24 hrs/wk x 15 weeks	
NURS 812 DNP Project Development	1	NURS 822 DNP Project Progression	2	NURS 706 DNP Seminar OL	1
				NURS 822 DNP Project Progression	2
	9		9		8
Fall		Winter		OL= On Line *On Campus	
NURS 625 Seminar PMHNP	3	NURS 685 Role Development	1		
NURS 653 Practicum II: PMH	4	NURS 832 DNP Project Finalization	2		
~24 hrs/wk x 15 weeks		NURS 887 DNP Program Finalization	0		
NURS 822 DNP Project Progression	2			Must also demonstrate having had NURS 540 Healthcare Policy, Econ & Finance Course	
	9		3		

MSN Emphases

The SON offers five different emphases of graduate study for the MSN program:

Acute Care - Adult Gerontology Nurse Practitioner (ACAGNP)

Dual Acute Care - Adult Gerontology/Primary Care - Family Nurse Practitioner
Nurse Educator (NE) (online)

Primary Care - Adult Gerontology Nurse Practitioner (PC-AGNP)

Primary Care - Family Nurse Practitioner (PC-FNP)

Primary Care -Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PC-PMHNP) (online)

MSN Acute Care - Adult Gerontology NP 2026-2027				Degree Total = 51 hours	
Fall Start				Revised: May 26, 2026	
Fall		Winter		Summer	
NURS 502-A Orientation to Prog-OL	0	NURS 527 Theory/Research-OL	4	NURS 540 HC Policy/Econ/Fin-OL	3
NURS 550 Adv Pathophysiology*	3	NURS 650 Primary Care of Adults II	3	NURS 635 Issues HC Qual/Safe-OL	3
NURS 552 Adv Pharmacology*	3	NURS 659 ACCS II	3		
NURS 555 Adv Assessment*	4				
	10		10		6
Fall		Winter		Summer	
NURS 520 Health Promotion*	2	NURS 645 Practicum I: PCA	4	NURS 671 Practicum I: AC	3
NURS 591 Clinical Orientation-OL	1	~20 hrs/wk x 15 weeks		~15 hrs/wk x 15 weeks	
NURS 640 Primary Care Adults I*	3	NURS 685 Role Development-OL	1	NURS 673 Practicum II: AC	3
NURS 657 ACCS I*	3	NURS 694 Capstone-OL	2	~15 hrs/wk x 15 weeks	
NURS 684 Prep MSN Capstone-OL	0	RELB 548/RELT 545-OL	3	NURS 687 Program Finalization-OL	0
	9		10		6
		Winter		Summer	
		NURS 502-A Orientation to Prog-OL	0	NURS 520 Health Promotion-OL	2
		NURS 550 Adv Pathophysiology*	3	NURS 540 HC Policy/Econ/Fin-OL	3
		NURS 552 Adv Pharmacology*	3		
		NURS 555 Adv Assessment*	4		
			10		5
Fall		Winter		Summer	
NURS 527 Theory/Research	4	NURS 591 Clinical Orientation-OL	1	NURS 635 Issues HC Qual/Safe-OL	3
NURS 640 Primary Care Adults I*	3	NURS 650 Primary Care of Adults II*	3	NURS 645 Practicum I: PCA	4
NURS 657 ACCS I*	3	NURS 659 ACCS II*	3	~20 hrs/wk x 15 weeks	
		RELB 548/RELT 545-OL	3	NURS 684 Prep MSN Capstone-OL	0
	10		10		7
Fall					
NURS 671 Practicum I: AC	3			OL= On Line	
~15 hrs/wk x 15 weeks				*must take on campus	
NURS 673 Practicum II: AC	3				
~15 hrs/wk x 15 weeks					
NURS 685 Role Development-OL	1				
NURS 687 Program Finalization-OL	0				
NURS 694 Capstone-OL	2				
	9				
Part-time schedules may be adjusted with an academic advisor. A minimum of 5 credits per semester is required for loan eligibility.					
Part Time Option		Revised: May 26, 2026			
Fall		Winter		Summer	
NURS 502-A Orientation to Prog-OL	0	NURS 527 Theory/Research-OL	4	NURS 520 Health Promotion-OL	2
NURS 550 Adv Pathophysiology*	3	NURS 552 Adv Pharmacology*	3	NURS 540 HC Policy/Econ/Fin-OL	3
NURS 555 Adv Assessment*	4				
	7		7		5
Fall		Winter		Summer	
NURS 640 Primary Care Adults I*	3	NURS 591 Clinical Orientation-OL	1	NURS 635 Issues HC Qual/Safe-OL	3
NURS 657 ACCS I*	3	NURS 650 Primary Care of Adults II*	3	NURS 645 Practicum I: PCA	4
		NURS 659 ACCS II*	3	~20 hrs/wk x 15 weeks	
	6		7		7
Fall		Winter			
NURS 671 Practicum I: AC	3	NURS 673 Practicum II: AC	3	OL= On Line	
~15 hrs/wk x 15 weeks		~15 hrs/wk x 15 weeks		*must take on campus	
NURS 684 Prep MSN Capstone-OL	0	NURS 685 Role Development-OL	1		
RELB 548/RELT 545-OL	3	NURS 687 Program Finalization-OL	0		
		NURS 694 Capstone-OL	2		
	6		6		

MSN FNP & ACNP dual 2026-2027				Degree Total = 62 hours	
Fall Start				Revised: May 26, 2026	
Fall		Winter		Summer	
NURS 502-A Orientation to Prog-OL	0	NURS 527 Theory/Research-OL	4	NURS 540 HC Policy/Econ/Fin-OL	3
NURS 550 Adv Pathophysiology*	3	NURS 650 Primary Care of Adults II*	3	NURS 556 Fam & Community-OL	2
NURS 552 Adv Pharmacology*	3	NURS 659 ACCS II*	3		
NURS 555 Adv AssessmentU*	4				
	10		10		5
Fall		Winter		Summer	
NURS 520 Health Promotion	2	NURS 662 Primary Care of Children*	3	NURS 645 Practicum I: PCA	4
NURS 591 Clinical Orientation-OL	1	NURS 671 Practicum I: AC	3	~20 hrs/wk x 15 weeks	
NURS 640 Primary Care Adults I*	3	~15 hrs/wk x 15 weeks		NURS 635 Issues HC Qual/Safe-OL	3
NURS 657 ACCS I*	3	RELB 548 or RELT 545-OL	3		
	9		9		7
Fall		Winter		OL= On Line *Must take on campus	
NURS 655 Practicum II: PCA	4	NURS 673 Practicum II: AC	3		
~20 hrs/wk x 15 weeks		~15 hrs/wk x 15 weeks			
NURS 663: Practicum PCC	2	NURS 685 Role Development-OL	1		
~10 hrs/wk x 15 weeks		NURS 687 Program Finalization-OL	0		
NURS 684 Prep MSN Capstone-OL	0	NURS 694 Capstone-OL	2		
	6		6		
		Winter		Summer	
Winter Start Revised: May 26, 2026		NURS 502-A Orientation to Prog-OL	0	NURS 540 HC Policy/Econ/Fin-OL	3
		NURS 550 Adv Pathophysiology*	3	NURS 556 Fam & Community-OL	2
		NURS 552 Adv Pharmacology*	3		
		NURS 555 Adv Assessment*	4		
			10		5
Fall		Winter		Summer	
NURS 640 Primary Care Adults I*	3	NURS 527 Theory/Research-OL	4	NURS 635 Issues HC Qual/Safe-OL	3
NURS 657 ACCS I*	3	NURS 591 Clinical Orientation-OL	1	NURS 671 Practicum I: AC	3
RELB 548 or RELT 545-OL	3	NURS 650 Primary Care of Adults II*	3	~15 hrs/wk x 15 weeks	
		NURS 659 ACCS II	3		
	9		11		6
Fall		Winter		Summer	
NURS 520 Health Promotion	2	NURS 662 Primary Care of Children	3	NURS 655 Practicum II PCA	4
NURS 684 Prep MSN Capstone-OL	0	NURS 673 Practicum II: AC	3	~20 hrs/wk x 15 weeks	
NURS 645 Practicum I: PCA	4	~15 hrs/wk x 15 weeks		NURS 663: Practicum PCC	2
~20 hrs/wk x 15 weeks		NURS 685 Role Development-OL	1	~10 hrs/wk x 15 weeks	
		NURS 694 Capstone-OL	2	NURS 687 Program Finalization-OL	0
	6		9		6

MSN Nurse Educator 2026-2027				Degree Total = 44 hours	
Fall Start (even)				Revised: May 26, 2026	
Fall (even)		Winter (odd)		Summer (odd)	
EDUC 531 Technology & Educ	3	NURS 527 Theory/Research	4	NURS 540 HC Policy/Econ/Fin	3
NURS 502-A Orientation to Program	0	NURS 550 Adv Pathophysiology*	3	NURS 635 Issues HC Quality/Safe	3
NURS 552 Adv Pharmacology*	3	NURS 648 Clinical Simulation	3	NURS 641 Practicum: Area CI Emph	2
RELB 548 or RELT 545	3				
	9		10		8
Fall (odd)		Winter (even)		*On Campus Option Available	
NURS 520 Health Promotion	2	NURS 555 Adv Assessment*	4		
NURS 621 Nrsrg Curriculum Design	3	NURS 631 Classroom Inst/Eval	3		
NURS 643 Ed Role Practicum	3	NURS 687 Program Finalization	0		
NURS 684 Prep for MSN Capstone	0	NURS 694 Capstone	2		
	8		9		
		Winter (odd)		Summer (odd)	
Winter Start (even) Revised: May 26, 2026		NURS 502-A Orientation to Program	0	NURS 520 Health Promotion	2
		NURS 527 Theory/Research	4	NURS 540 HC Policy/Econ/Fin	3
		NURS 550 Adv Pathophysiology*	3		
		NURS 648 Clinical Simulation	3		
			10		5
Fall (odd)		Winter (even)		Summer (even)	
EDUC 531 Technology & Educ	3	NURS 555 Adv Assessment*	4	NURS 635 Issues HC Quality/Safe	3
NURS 552 Adv Pharmacology*	3	NURS 631 Classroom Inst/Eval	3	NURS 641 Practicum: Area CI Emph	2
NURS 621 Nrsrg Curriculum Design	3	NURS 684 Prep for MSN Capstone	0		
	9		7		5
Fall (even)		*On Campus Option Available		NURS 621 Nrsrg Curriculum Design	3
NURS 643 Ed Role Practicum	3			offered Fall - odd years	
NURS 687 Program Finalization	0			NURS 631 Classroom Inst/Eval	3
NURS 694 Capstone	2			offered Winter - even years	
RELB 548 or RELT 545	3			NURS 648 Clinical Simulation	3
	8			offered Winter - odd years	

MSN Primary Care - Adult/Gerontology NP 2026-2027				Degree Total = 50 hours	
Fall Start				Revised: May 26, 2026	
Fall		Winter		Summer	
NURS 502-A Orientation to Prog-OL	0	NURS 527 Theory/Research-OL	4	NURS 540 HC Policy/Econ/Fin-OL	3
NURS 550 Adv Pathophysiology*	3	NURS 650 Primary Care of Adults II*	3	NURS 556 Fam & Community-OL	2
NURS 552 Adv Pharmacology*	3				
NURS 555 Adv Assessment*	4				
	10		7		5
Fall		Winter		Summer	
NURS 520 Health Promotion*	2	NURS 645 Practicum I: PCA	4	NURS 635 Issues HC Qual/Safe-OL	3
NURS 591 Clinical Orientation-OL	1	~20 hrs/wk x 15 weeks		NURS 645 Practicum I PCA	4
NURS 640 Primary Care Adults I*	3	NURS 661 Geri/Long Term Care-OL	3	~20 hrs/wk x 15 weeks	
RELB 548 or RELT 545-OL	3	NURS 684 Prep MSN Capstone-OL	0		
	9		7		7
Fall					
NURS 664: Practicum Geri	2			OL= On Line	
~10 hrs/wk x 15 weeks				*Must take face to face	
NURS 685 Role Development-OL	1				
NURS 687 Program Finalization-OL	0				
NURS 694 Capstone-OL	2				
	5				
Winter Start		Winter		Summer	
Revised: May 26, 2026		NURS 502-A Orientation to Prog-OL	0	NURS 540 HC Policy/Econ/Fin-OL	3
		NURS 550 Adv Pathophysiology*	3	NURS 556 Fam & Community-OL	2
		NURS 552 Adv Pharmacology*	3		
		NURS 555 Adv Assessment*	4		
			10		5
Fall		Winter		Summer	
NURS 640 Primary Care Adults I*	3	NURS 591 Clinical Orientation-OL	1	NURS 635 Issues HC Qual/Safe-OL	3
NURS 527 Theory/Research	4	NURS 661 Geri/Long Term Care-OL	3	NURS 645 Practicum I PCA	4
		NURS 650 Primary Care of Adults II*	3	~20 hrs/wk x 15 weeks	
	7		7		7
Fall		Winter			
NURS 520 Health Promotion	2	NURS 655: Practicum II PCA	4	OL= On Line	
NURS 664: Practicum Geri	2	~20 hrs/wk x 15 weeks		*Must take face to face	
~10 hrs/wk x 15 weeks		NURS 685 Role Development-OL	1		
NURS 684 Prep MSN Capstone-OL	0	NURS 687 Program Finalization-OL	0		
RELB 548 or RELT 545-OL	3	NURS 694 Capstone-OL	2		
	7		7		

MSN Primary Care - Family NP 2026-2027				Degree Total = 50 hours	
Fall Start				Revised: May 26, 2026	
Fall		Winter		Summer	
NURS 502-A Orientation to Prog-OL	0	NURS 527 Theory/Research-OL	4	NURS 520 Health Promotion-OL	2
NURS 550 Adv Pathophysiology*	3	NURS 650 Primary Care of Adults II*	3	NURS 556 Fam & Community-OL	2
NURS 552 Adv Pharmacology*	3	NURS 662 Primary Care of Child*	3	NURS 635 Issues HC Quality/Safe-OL	3
NURS 555 Adv Assessment*	4				
	10		10		7
Fall		Winter		Summer	
NURS 540 HC Policy/Econ/Finance	3	NURS 645 Practicum I: PCA	4	NURS 655 Practicum II: PCA	4
NURS 591 Clinical Orientation-OL	1	~20 hrs/wk x 15 weeks		~20 hrs/wk x 15 weeks	
NURS 640 Primary Care Adults I*	3	NURS 685 Role Development-OL	1	NURS 663: Practicum: PCC	2
NURS 684 Prep MSN Capstone-OL	0	NURS 694 Capstone-OL	2	~10 hrs/wk x 15 weeks	
RELB 548 or RELT 545-OL	3			NURS 687 Program Finalization-OL	0
	10		7		6
		Winter		Summer	
		NURS 502-A Orientation to Prog-OL	0	NURS 540 HC Policy/Econ/Fin-OL	3
		NURS 550 Adv Pathophysiology *	3	NURS 556 Fam & Community-OL	2
		NURS 552 Adv Pharmacology*	3	NURS 635 Issues HC Quality/Safe-OL	3
		NURS 555 Adv Assessment *	4		
			10		8
		Winter		Summer	
		NURS 520 Health Promotion	2	NURS 645 Practicum I: PCA	4
		NURS 527 Theory/Research	4	~20 hrs/wk x 15 weeks	
		NURS 640 Primary Care Adults I*	3	NURS 663: Practicum: PCC	2
				~10hrs/wk x 15 weeks	
	9	RELB 548 or RELT 545-OL	3		
			10		6
Fall					
NURS 655 Practicum II: PCA	4			OL = On Line	
~20 hrs/wk x 15 weeks				*Must take on campus	
NURS 685 Role Development-OL	1				
NURS 687 Program Finalization-OL	0				
NURS 694 Capstone-OL	2				
	7				
Part-time schedules may be adjusted with an academic advisor. A minimum of 5 credits per semester is required for loan eligibility					
Part-Time Option		Revised: May 26, 2026			
Fall		Winter		Summer	
NURS 502-A Orientation to Prog-OL	0	NURS 527 Theory/Research-OL	4	NURS 520 Health Promotion-OL	2
NURS 550 Adv Pathophysiology*	3	NURS 552 Adv Pharmacology*	3	NURS 540 HC Policy/Econ/Fin-OL	3
NURS 555 Adv Assessment*	4				
	7		7		5
Fall		Winter		Summer	
NURS 640 Primary Care Adults I*	3	NURS 591 Clinical Orientation-OL	1	NURS 635 Issues HC Quality/Safe-OL	3
RELB 548 or RELT 545-OL	3	NURS 650 Primary Care of Adults II*	3	NURS 645 Practicum I: PCA	4
		NURS 662 Primary Care of Child*	3	~20 hrs/wk x 15 weeks	
		NURS 684 Prep MSN Capstone-OL	0		
	6		7		7
Fall		Winter			
NURS 655 Practicum II PCA	4	NURS 556 Fam & Community-OL	2	OL = On Line	
~20 hrs/wk x 15 weeks		NURS 663: Practicum: PCC	2	*Must take on campus	
NURS 694 Capstone-OL	2	~10 hrs/wk x 15 weeks			
		NURS 685 Role Development-OL	1		
		NURS 687 Program Finalization-OL	0		
	6		5		

MSN Primary Care - Psychiatric Mental Health NP 2026-2027 Online Degree Total = 56 hours						
Fall Start			Revised: July 22, 2026			
Fall			Winter		Summer	
COUN 556 Theories & Techniques	3		NURS 527 Theory/Research	4	NURS 540 HC Policy/Econ/Fin	3
COUN 579-C Practicum I: Coun	1		NURS 550 Adv Pathophysiology*	3	NURS 583 Practicum II: Coun	1
NURS 502-A Orientation to Program	0		NURS 555 Adv Assessment*	4	NURS 613 Neuroscience for MH**	2
NURS 552 Adv Pharmacology*	3					
	7			11		6
Fall			Winter		Summer	
NURS 520 Health Promotion	2		COUN 521 Adult Psychopathology**	3	NURS 635 Issues HC Quality/Safe	3
RELB 548 or RELT 545	3		COUN 593 Child/Adol Psychopath**	3	NURS 652 Practicum I: PMH	4
			NURS 591 Clinical Orientation	1	~24 hrs/wk x 15 weeks	
			NURS 616 Psychopharmacology**	3	NURS 684 Prep MSN Capstone	0
	5			10		7
Fall						
NURS 625 Issues in PMH**	3				*On Campus Option Available	
NURS 653 Practicum II: PMH	4				**Synchronous	
~24 hrs/wk x 15 weeks						
NURS 685 Role Development	1					
NURS 687 Program Finalization	0					
NURS 694 Capstone	2					
	10					
Winter Start			Winter		Summer	
Revised: July 22, 2026			NURS 502-A Orientation to Program	0	NURS 520 Health Promotion	2
			NURS 527 Theory/Research	4	NURS 540 HC Policy/Econ/Fin	3
			NURS 550 Adv Pathophysiology*	3	NURS 613 Neuroscience for MH**	2
			NURS 555 Adv Assessment*	4		
				11		7
Fall			Winter		Summer	
COUN 556 Theories & Techniques	3		COUN 521 Psychopathology**	3	NURS 635 Issues HC Quality/Safe	3
COUN 579-C Practicum I: Coun	1		COUN 593 Child/Adol Psychopath**	3	NURS 583 Practicum II: Coun	1
NURS 552 Adv Pharmacology*	3		NURS 616 Psychopharmacology**	3	NURS 591 Clinical Orientation	1
RELB 548 or RELT 545	3					
	10			9		5
Fall			Winter			
NURS 625 Issues in PMH**	3		NURS 653 Practicum II: PMH	4	*On Campus Option Available	
NURS 652 Practicum I: PMH	4		~24 hrs/wk x 15 weeks		** Synchronous	
~24 hrs/wk x 15 weeks			NURS 685 Role Development	1		
NURS 684 Prep MSN Capstone	0		NURS 687 Program Finalization	0		
			NURS 694 Capstone	2		
	7			7		
Part-time schedules may be adjusted with an academic advisor. A minimum of 5 credits per semester is required for loan eligibility.						
Part Time Option			Revised: July 22, 2026			
Fall			Winter		Summer	
NURS 502-A Orientation to Program	0		NURS 550 Adv Pathophysiology*	3	NURS 540 HC Policy/Econ/Fin	3
COUN 556 Theories & Techniques	3		NURS 555 Adv Assessment*	4	NURS 583 Practicum II: Coun	1
COUN 579-C Practicum I: Coun	1				NURS 613 Neuroscience for MH**	2
	4			7		6
Fall			Winter		Summer	
NURS 552 Adv Pharmacology*	3		COUN 521 Adult Psychopathology**	3	NURS 635 Issues HC Quality/Safe	3
RELB 548 or RELT 545	3		NURS 527 Theory/Research	4		
			NURS 684 Prep for MSN Capstone	0		
	6			7		3
Fall			Winter		Summer	
NURS 520 Health Promotion	2		COUN 593 Child/Adol Psychopath**	3	NURS 652 Practicum I: PMH	4
NURS 685 Role Development	1		NURS 591 Clinical Orientation	1	~24 hrs/wk x 15 weeks	
NURS 694 Capstone	2		NURS 616 Psychopharmacology**	3		
	5			7		4
Fall						
NURS 625 Issues in PMH**	3				*On Campus Option Available	
NURS 653 Practicum II: PMH	4				**Synchronous	
~24 hrs/wk x 15 weeks						
NURS 687 Program Finalization	0					
	7					

ACCELERATED RN-MSN

The following requirements apply to ALL of the Accelerated RN-MSN emphases:

- Acute Care - Adult Gerontology Nurse Practitioner (ACAGNP)
- Nurse Educator (NE) (online)
- Primary Care - Adult Gerontology Nurse Practitioner (PC-AGNP)
- Primary Care - Family Nurse Practitioner (PC-FNP)
- Primary Care -Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PC-PMHNP) (online)

General education & cognates that may be transferred per catalog guidelines:

Chemistry: Survey of Chemistry	3 hr
Communication: Public Speaking	3 hr
Computer: Literacy/skills	3 hr
English Composition I & II	6 hr
History: Elective	3 hr
Religion: Elective	3 hr
RELT 373 Christian Ethics	3 hr
SOCI 349 Aging and Society	3 hr
PEAC 125 Fitness for Life	1 hr

BS nursing core courses:

NURS 315 Health Assessment II	2 hr
NURS 385 Applied Statistics for Health Professions (or MATH 215)	3 hr
NURS 446 Population and Community Health Nursing	4 hr

The RN-MSN student should schedule an appointment with an advisor to determine which of the above courses may be transferred and which courses must be completed as part of the RN-MSN program. It is generally expected that these courses will be completed prior to registering for MSN level courses. Students may petition to take courses off campus to meet some of the above requirements.

Because RN-MSN student programs vary, the student program should be mapped out with the assistance of an advisor to assure that all required BS general, cognate, nursing and MSN core and emphasis courses are appropriately scheduled. Use of the online Student Planning program through the SAU access portal is recommended for long-range planning and tracking. If BS level courses have been completed, the RN-MSN student may follow the MSN sequences in the prior section of this handbook.

POST-MASTER'S CERTIFICATE and DNP SPECIALIST CERTIFICATE* PROGRAMS

The following emphases may be completed as a post-master's certificate or DNP specialist certificate. The entrance requirement for the post-master's certificate is a prior master's degree in nursing; for DNP specialist certificate, a prior DNP degree.

Acute Care - Adult Gerontology Nurse Practitioner (ACAGNP)
Lifestyle Medicine (LM) DNP SC only- (online)
Nurse Educator (NE) (online)
Primary Care - Adult Gerontology Nurse Practitioner (PC-AGNP)
Primary Care - Family Nurse Practitioner (PC-FNP)
Primary Care -Psych Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PC-PMHNP) (online)

Required nursing core classes (may be transferred in from prior program):

NURS 520 Health Promotion	2 hr
RELT 545 God and Human Suffering OR RELB 548 Jesus as Healer	3 hr

Practice core (may be transferred in from prior program if taken within the past 10 years and if the student is actively practicing):

NURS 550 Advanced Pathophysiology	3 hr
NURS 552 Advanced Pharmacology	3 hr
NURS 555 Advanced Health Assessment	4 hr

Orientation Courses

NURS 502 Orientation to Graduate Nursing Studies – 0 hrs
NURS 591 Orientation to Graduate Nursing Clinical Practicum – 1 hrs
NURS 687 Graduate Nursing Program Finalization – 0 hrs

In addition to the above courses, each certificate program requires emphasis classes:

Acute Care - Adult/Gerontology Nurse Practitioner

- NURS 640 - Primary Care of Adults I **3 hours**
- NURS 645 - Practicum: Primary Care of Adults I **4 hours**
- NURS 650 - Primary Care of Adults II **3 hours**
- NURS 657 - Acute Care Concepts and Skills I **3 hours**
- NURS 659 - Acute Care Concepts and Skills II **3 hours**
- NURS 671 - Practicum I: Adult/Gerontology Acute Care **3 hours**
- NURS 673 - Practicum II: Adult/Gerontology Acute Care **3 hours**
- NURS 685 - Role Development for Advanced Practice **1 hour**

Lifestyle Medicine (DNP SC only)

- NURS 728 - Introduction to Lifestyle Medicine **2 hours**
- NURS 735 - Lifestyle Strategies for Optimizing Psychosocial Health **2 hours**
- NURS 738 - Natural Adjuncts for Health and Healing **2 hours**
- NURS 742 - Exercise Modalities or Lifestyle Change **2 hours**
- NURS 746 - Nutritional Approaches to Disease Prevention and Management **3 hours**
- NURS 748 - Lifestyle Management of Chronic Lifestyle-Related Disease **3 hours**
- NURS 734 – Health Coaching for Health Care Professionals **3 hours**
- NURS 751 – Practicum: Lifestyle Medicine **1-2 hours**

Nurse Educator

- EDUC 531 - Technology and the Educator **3 hours**
- NURS 621 - Nursing Curriculum Design **3 hours**
- NURS 631 - Classroom Instruction and Evaluation **3 hours**
- NURS 641 - Practicum: Area of Clinical Emphasis **2 hours**
- NURS 643 - Educator Role Practicum: Area of Clinical Emphasis **3 hours**
- NURS 648 - Clinical and Simulation Instruction in Nursing **3 hours**

Primary Care - Adult/Gerontology Nurse Practitioner

- NURS 556 - Family and Community Systems **2 hours**
- NURS 640 - Primary Care of Adults I **3 hours**
- NURS 645 - Practicum I: Primary Care of Adults **4 hours**
- NURS 650 - Primary Care of Adults II **3 hours**
- NURS 655 - Practicum II: Primary Care of Adults **4 hours**
- NURS 661 - Geriatric Primary and Long-term Care **3 hours**
- NURS 664 - Practicum: Geriatric Primary and Long-term care **2 hours**
- NURS 685 - Advanced Practice Role Development **1 hours**

Primary Care - Family Nurse Practitioner

- NURS 556 - Family and Community Systems **2 hours**
- NURS 640 - Primary Care of Adults I **3 hours**
- NURS 645 - Practicum I: Primary Care of Adults **4 hours**
- NURS 650 - Primary Care of Adults II **3 hours**
- NURS 655 - Practicum II: Primary Care of Adults **4 hours**
- NURS 662 - Primary Care of Children **3 hours**
- NURS 663 - Practicum: Primary Care of Children **2 hours**
- NURS 685 - Advanced Practice Role Development **1 hours**

Primary Care - Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner

- NURS 583 - Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Counseling Practicum **1 hour**
- NURS 613 - Neuroscience for Mental Health Practitioners **2 hours**
- NURS 616 - Psychopharmacology **2 hours**
- NURS 625 - Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Seminar **3 hour**
- NURS 652 - Practicum I: Psychiatric Mental Health Care **4 hours**
- NURS 653 - Practicum II: Psychiatric Mental Health Care **4 hours**
- NURS 685 - Advanced Practice Role Development **1 hours**
- COUN 521 - Psychopathology **3 hours**
- COUN 556 - Theories and Techniques of Counseling **3 hours**
- COUN 579 - Clinical Practicum I **1 hour**
- COUN 593 - Child and Adolescent Problems and Treatment **3 hours**

Student seeking a certificate should schedule an appointment with an advisor for gap analysis – to determine which of the above courses may be transferred in and which courses must be completed as part of the certificate program. Because post-master's student programs vary, the student program should be mapped out with the assistance of an advisor to assure that all required MSN core, practice core, and emphasis courses are appropriately scheduled.

Dual Degree MBA

The SON offers three Dual Degree MBA programs: (online)

BS to DNP/MBA

DNP/MBA

MSN/MBA

Dual Degree MBA Course Sequence Update

This Course Sequence Is Currently Under Review

The curriculum and course sequence for this program are being updated to reflect the most current academic requirements and scheduling.

An updated course sequence will be available soon.

Thank you for your patience as we finalize these updates.

BS to DNP/MBA COURSE SEQUENCE UNDER REVISION

This section is being updated for the 2026–2027 academic year. The revised course sequence will be published as soon as the review process is complete. Please consult your faculty advisor or the Graduate Enrollment Counselor for current advising information.

DNP/MBA COURSE SEQUENCE UNDER REVISION

This section is being updated for the 2026–2027 academic year. The revised course sequence will be published as soon as the review process is complete. Please consult your faculty advisor or the Graduate Enrollment Counselor for current advising information.

MSN/MBA COURSE SEQUENCE UNDER REVISION

This section is being updated for the 2026–2027 academic year. The revised course sequence will be published as soon as the review process is complete. Please consult your faculty advisor or the Graduate Enrollment Counselor for current advising information.

IV
GRADUATE PROGRAM POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

SCHOOL OF NURSING RESPONSIBILITY TO THE STUDENT

- A. The student will be provided:
1. the course outline and class schedule for each course.
 2. online e-class support, online library access, learning resources, computer-assisted instruction and audiovisual material.
 3. guidance in planning clinical experiences supervised by qualified preceptors in appropriate community facilities.
 4. academic counseling and other referrals as needed.
 5. a skills lab for practice and return demonstration of advanced nursing assessment skills and advanced practice procedures.
 6. an electronic (eClass) resource site for handbooks and program information Grad Resource Central.
- B. The faculty will:
1. provide an orientation to the University, SON, and graduate nursing program policies and expectations.
 2. provide well-planned learning experiences in an organized manner.
 3. keep appointments with the student or make alternate arrangements.
 4. keep student informed of progress and performance in a timely manner.
 5. encourage student professional development.
 6. listen to grievances and suggestions, and seek constructive solutions with the student.
 7. assist the student in examining alternatives when making decisions and analyzing consequences of such decisions.
 8. communicate program and schedule changes to the student.
 9. follow sound educational practice as outlined by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing, the Board of Higher Education, General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, and the Tennessee Board of Nursing

GENERAL POLICIES

ACCOUNTABILITY

Accountability is key to professional nursing. Students must be accountable for their attitudes and behaviors. A high level of professionalism is expected by faculty, students, and peers.

Professional conduct includes, but is not limited to, a teachable attitude, appropriate respect for those in authority, punctuality in attendance, and respect for other people, their property and right to learn.

As a SON graduate student, we expect you to conduct your life in a manner that will not bring criticism to yourself, the MSN or DNP academic programs, or to the University. We request you to observe the following:

1. Hold in strict confidence any information found in a medical record or given to you by a patient or family member (HIPPA regulations). The discussion of a patient's diagnosis and/or treatment, or other clinically related topics must be very carefully guarded. Use of electronic devices (i.e. smart phones, tablets, etc.) for storage of identifiable patient information (including pictures) is prohibited. Legal action may be taken for any violations according to HIPAA/HITECH.
2. Treat all patients with respect and dignity. Do not approach treatment with a frivolous attitude, which may be disturbing to the patient as well as to family members and/or significant others.
3. Graciously refuse any gifts from patients, families, and/or significant others.
4. Reflect a willingness to learn and accept instruction in a manner that is consistent with Christian principles.
5. Assume responsibility for learning (i.e., preparing for classes and clinical assignments). Assume initiative to meet deadlines in completing class and clinical assignments.
6. Demonstrate respectful online interaction and communication as well as classroom and clinical decorum. During class and clinical time, silence electronic devices. Avoid distracting behaviors. Do not bring babies or children to class. Observe SAU dress code.
7. Assume initiative to provide the SON with required documentation of immunizations, CPR, criminal background check, drug screening, and regional orientation within the first semester of classes. Failure to provide the required documentation may result in the inability to register for the following semester.
8. Remain current on any information conveyed by the SON through Eclass, online class discussion boards, or sent privately to your SAU e-mail account. A timely response (24-48 hours) may be required.
9. Demonstrate responsibility for any learning materials or equipment borrowed from Learning Resource Center (LRC) holdings or faculty. Students who check out equipment are required to return it by the specified deadline and will be levied a fee as appropriate for lost or damaged equipment.
10. Accountability includes the responsibility to protect self and others in the case of impaired judgment from any cause (medication/alcohol/extreme fatigue). Inform the professor or preceptor if taking any medication that may impair clinical judgment during practicum/patient care and

jointly determine whether or not it is appropriate for clinical practice under such circumstances. If student is suspected of being impaired, they will be required to submit a chemical screening per SAU Substance Abuse Policy (Graduate Handbook 22-23).

ATTENDANCE

Socialization into advance practice nursing is best accomplished by careful attention to program requirements. It is expected that students will be present for all required classes, forums, and events, such as Florence Oliver Anderson Series (FOA), Research Day and Faculty/Student Forums. Course outlines will define the specific policies for individual courses and online communication, interactions and meetings. Students should communicate any unforeseen changes in scheduling or program to persons affected by the change.

DNP students are required to attend a DNP proposal or presentation day every semester they are enrolled in the program. These dates will be communicated through individual courses and through communication from Graduate Resource Central.

AWARDS

Each semester, the Graduate faculty will select recipients who consistently exhibit the noted professional behaviors from the following list of awards:

- **Christian Service** - willing to minister outside of what is required and actively involved in outreach and/or mission experiences.
- **Clinical Excellence** – demonstrates outstanding clinical performance as evaluated by preceptor and faculty.
- **Dean's Leadership** – demonstrates leadership and is a positive role model
- **Florence Oliver Anderson** – outstanding scholastic achievement and professionalism.
- **Sigma** – demonstrates academic and scholarly excellence in writing, presenting, and making positive changes in the field of nursing research.

BLS CERTIFICATION POLICY

Students must maintain **current** American Heart Association Healthcare Provider BLS certification throughout the graduate program. Proof of current certification must be provided and maintained throughout the academic program. Students who fail to meet deadlines for providing proof of current BLS certification cannot attend clinical practicum. If documentation is not provided in a timely manner, students are at risk of being dropped from class or from the program.

Students in the Acute Care/Gerontology NP emphasis are further required to have and maintain ACLS (Advanced Cardiovascular Life Support) while in the program.

CELL PHONE AND OTHER PERSONAL ELECTRONICS

Cell phone use policies promote a positive learning environment and demonstrate respect for others. All electronic devices must be silenced or off during on-campus class and during clinical experiences.

Text messaging during these appointments is also inappropriate. During quizzes or tests, use of any electronic devices not approved by the professor is considered cheating.

Use of electronic references is common in advanced practice roles. Students should use discretion in use of electronics during patient care activities in the clinical environment. It is ideal to obtain permission from the preceptor for use of cell phone during clinical activities and make the preceptor aware of what applications are being use and why. Agency policies must be followed and professional standards maintained.

CIVILITY

Students, faculty and staff are held to standards of excellence, including civil behavior. Based on ethical, moral, and legal principles and supported by the American Nurses Association position statement (July 22, 2015), nurses are responsible to create a culture of “civility and kindness, treating colleagues, co-workers, employees, students, and others with dignity and respect.” These behaviors include, but are not limited to:

- Personal and academic integrity
- Professional behavior inside and outside SON (clinical, classroom, offices, etc.)
- Mutual respect and emotional safety. Manifestation of discrimination, including, but not limited to, race, ethnicity, gender, age, disability, or political belief will not be tolerated.
- Respect for diversity of opinion. Demonstration of willingness to listen is expected, not always to respond, but to understand.
- Acceptance of responsibility and accountability for one’s own behavior when interacting with students, faculty, and staff.
- An open, inviting environment for all.

In keeping with a desired culture of civility -- malice, vengeance or any act that may lead to endangerment (harassment, stalking, violence, threats – verbal and non-verbal, etc.) will not be tolerated.

CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK POLICY

All students are required to have a criminal background check upon admission into the graduate nursing program. A repeat background check is required if a student is out of the program for two or more years.

The SON uses Package SC87 with the background check vendor. The student is required to pay for this package, which includes:

- County-Criminal
- Residency History
- Social Security Alert
- NW – Sexual Offender Index
- NW – Healthcare Fraud & Abuse Scan

- NW – Patriot Act
- Verification-Employment
- ST – Abuse Registry – TN
- Verification-Employment

Please follow the instructions listed:

1. Go to <https://www.southern.edu/graduatestudies/docs/forms/SON.background-check.pdf>.
2. In the Package Code box, enter the package code: SC87
3. Enter your payment information – Visa, Mastercard, or Money Order. Follow the online instructions to complete your order.

DRESS CODE: APPEARANCE

Students are expected to uphold the SAU dress code (Graduate Handbook 23-24) and School of Nursing dress codes with modest dress according to the dignity of the event to be attended.

SAU Dress Code (overall)

1. Extremes of hair-styles or color and make-up should be avoided.
2. In keeping with the University dress code, students should limit jewelry to a engagement/wedding band or medically necessary identification.
3. Tattoos and piercings should be kept covered. Visible piercings of nose, lips, eyebrows, or other areas that would be difficult to conceal must be removed.

Virtual classroom or online events:

General rule of thumb: if your virtual/online appearance would not be appropriate for a face to face class or meeting then change what you are wearing. If you are not sure, err on the side of caution and dress more professionally.

Presentations & Events

For presentations, such as Campus Research Day, or conferences such as Florence Oliver Anderson, and events such as Dedication – students are expected to dress more formally, as you would if going for a job interview for a job that you really want.

Students who are **attending** campus or online presentations or events should dress more formally, as you would if going for a job interview.

Students who are **presenting** at campus-sponsored events, please follow professional business attire guidelines.

Practicum/Clinical

In the clinical setting, students are expect to maintain the SAU dress code. Additional expectations are listed below:

1. SAU student identification should be worn during practice in student roles.

2. Modest business casual clothing is appropriate for most clinical sites. See University Handbook for further guidelines.
3. It is expected for students to also uphold the facility site dress codes.
4. It is requested that students remove ear rings, other rings, necklaces, bracelets while representing the SON in the clinical environment.

DRUG & ALCOHOL SCREENING

SAU maintains a drug, alcohol, and tobacco-free campus. By enrolling at Southern, all students agree to random drug testing (may include testing for **illicit drugs, marijuana, including THC from CBD oils, etc., nicotine and/or alcohol**). **Students must review and sign a “Policy Agreement” upon admission to the graduate program.** The SON along with area medical facilities have a zero-tolerance policy with respect to illicit drug use. A drug screen will be required of any new student accepted into the graduate nursing programs. Students may be screened at any other time for random testing, reasonable suspicion or evidence of alcohol or drug use. The student requiring random testing for reasonable suspicion or evidence of alcohol or drug use will be responsible for laboratory cost. Violation and positive drug screens will result in disciplinary action up to and including dismissal.

DUE DATES of ASSIGNMENTS and TIME

All due dates are based on the current time at Southern Adventist University. SAU is in the Eastern Time Zone. All online course submission deadline is Monday at 5 pm Eastern Time.

EVALUATION

To help ensure and maintain a quality nursing program, students are required to complete a number of evaluations during their programs of study.

EVALUATION	SCHEDULE
Professor	Course completion (online)
Preceptor	Completion of time with preceptor
Agency/Facility	Completion of time at the agency
End of program	Program completion
Alumni survey	1 year of certification

FEES

The Graduate Nursing Program is an intensive program which requires a high faculty-student ratio, special supplies, and extensive equipment for on-campus experience, clinical liability insurance, and student and program evaluation.

Regular tuition charges do not adequately cover the cost of professional nursing education. As a result,

additional fees may be attached to some courses and every practicum course in the graduate nursing programs. The fee schedule is found in the *Graduate Catalog* and may be found in course descriptions for applicable courses.

FLORENCE OLIVER ANDERSON (FOA)

Florence Oliver Anderson (FOA) is a continuing education event in the fall semester, that is provided free of charge to SAU students. It may be available as face-to-face, live streaming, or Zoom with specific details available in eClass on Grad Resource Central.

Required attendees: all graduate students (MSN/DNP). Each course the student is registered for will have individual grading requirements. See course syllabi.

FORUM

Graduate student forum is **held once per academic semester**, usually just before registration opens for the next semester. Forums are designed to advise students of any changes that have been made to the schedule that may affect registration. Forum is open to all students enrolled in the graduate programs. Recorded informational programs will be provided for online emphases. Students are given important information regarding graduate programs and are also encouraged to bring questions and comments for discussion with the faculty.

GRADING POLICIES

Grades for graduate courses in the SON are determined by the professor in charge of the course and are based on guidelines printed within the syllabus for the course.

Letter grades are assigned according to the SON grading scale:

A	94 - 100	C	75 - 78
A-	91 - 93	C-	72 - 74
B+	88 - 90	D+	69 - 71
B	85 - 87	D	65 - 68
B-	82 - 84	D-	63 - 64
C+	79 - 81	F	00 - 62

Minimum passing grade. The minimum passing grade is a "C" or 75%. No more than one course with a C or C+ grade is allowed during the graduate program. A grade of C- must be repeated. Only one course may be repeated in the graduate program.

Incomplete (I) grades may be assigned by a professor when a student needs more time to complete course requirements due to extreme extenuating circumstances. Circumstances for which such grades may be recorded include unforeseen health or family emergencies where a grade of "I" may be requested. Courses such as practica with large numbers of hours, include specific provision for "I" grades (primarily for part-time students).

An "I" grade can only be awarded as a final grade and must include an expiration date, not to exceed one year.

In keeping with university policy, a student must complete any incomplete grade set by the professor or within one year or grade will turn to an "F" grade.

Students should communicate with faculty and not assume that "I" grades will be recorded. At the time an "I" grade is recorded, a plan, approved by the course professor, must be in place for completion of the course requirements. "I" grades that are not completed the next regular semester by the deadline set by the records office will automatically receive an "F" grade unless the student petitions for an "I" extension. Such extensions must be approved by the course professor.

Students needing extra time for practicum or DNP Scholarly Project courses and who request "I" grades must additionally register for a continuation course until the practicum or project is completed.

Students having more than one "I" grade must satisfactorily complete those courses prior to registering for additional course work. At no time in the program should a student have more than two "I" grades.

Nurse practitioner students who fail to complete practicum or other program requirements by one year after having taken the NURS 687/887 MSN or DNP Program Finalization Diagnostic Readiness Test may be required to demonstrate their competency in the testing area.

GRADUATE ASSISTANTSHIPS

1. Clinical Instructors
Clinical Instructors are recommended for hire by the SON. Employment procedures are handled by HR. Clinical instructors may receive tuition credit for graduate classes based on number of hours worked.
2. Graduate Teaching Assistants
A graduate student may be approved to work for the SON as skills, simulation, or clinical instructors or as a freshman advisor in exchange for hourly wages equivalent to that of the clinical instructor. Arrangements are made with the undergraduate clinical coordinator and dean.

GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

1. Graduate students are encouraged to openly discuss issues and problems related to their program of study with their professor, advisor, and/or program coordinator. If students believe they have been unfairly or unjustly dealt with by a faculty member and cannot satisfactorily resolve the situation, they may use the "Academic Grievance Procedure" of the University *Graduate Catalog* or the Discipline section of the *SAU Graduate Student Handbook*.
2. There must be adequate documentation from the student and faculty member that initiation of the grievance procedure is justified.

3. A formal request must be initiated by the student that identifies the problem and provides a rationale for initiating the grievance procedure.
4. A grievance procedure within the SON sequentially involves the following individuals, until resolution is reached:
 - a. Course/clinical faculty
 - b. Program coordinator
 - c. Graduate program coordinator
 - d. Dean of SON
5. If the problem cannot be resolved within the SON, the final step in the grievance procedure is to appeal to the Dean of Graduate Programs, or in the case of non-academic problems, the Vice President for Student Affairs.

HEALTH INSURANCE

The University recommends all graduate students have adequate accident and health insurance, covering both inpatient and outpatient services. The same coverage is encouraged for spouses and dependents. Graduate students who do not have insurance at the time of enrollment may purchase health insurance through the university. A policy brochure describing benefits, terms, and limits is available on the Risk Management

website: <https://www.southern.edu/administration/risk/contact.html>

IMMUNIZATIONS

Upon admission to the nursing program students are required to have a history and physical examination. Immunizations must be current, following Centers for Disease Control and Occupational Health and Safety (OSHA) requirements. These are:

1. Measles, Mumps, Rubella Vaccine: Two doses of combined vaccine, the last being after 1980, or proof of immunity to each by titer.
2. Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis Vaccine: Childhood series of 4 doses, and Tetanus Diphtheria booster within the past ten years.
3. Hepatitis B Vaccine: 3 doses *or* 2-dose series of Recombivax® HB (licensed for children aged 11-15 years).
4. TB skin test (PPD) done within last calendar year. Some clinical facilities require a Quantiferon. If TB skin test is positive, chest x-ray is required. If chest x-ray is positive, proof of a full course of treatment is required. Follow up chest x-rays are required every 5 years. After initial TB skin test, TB questionnaire may be completed each year until clinicals begin. Must have a TB or Quantiferon prior to the start of clinicals.
5. Varicella titer is required to show immunity. Otherwise documentation of varicella immunization.
6. FIT mask testing.

Proof of current immunizations must be in place prior to admission to the program, as well up to date documentation prior to the start of practicum. Clearance to participate in clinical practica includes up to date documentation.

COVID-19 vaccines are recommended by CDC and local health department. Some clinical agencies may require the vaccine. Students who are not vaccinated will be accommodated to the best of SON ability, but may experience a delay in program progression if not vaccinated and if vaccination is required by facilities.

INTEGRITY

Honesty and integrity are expected at all times. Purposeful breaches of integrity with respect to academic or clinical issues will result in the student being subject to formal review and action by the SON and/or SAU (see SAU Catalog, Academic Honesty). The guidelines below safeguard honesty and integrity. They include, but are not limited to, the following:

- A. Students are to assume that all course work is “no collaboration” unless stated otherwise by the professor.
- B. Exams (may also apply to quizzes)
 - 1. Students should assume that exams and quizzes are closed book/note and to be done without use of electronic or other resources unless otherwise specified.
 - 2. On-line students may be required to obtain a proctor for an exam. Proctors must meet specifications of course professor.
 - 3. Any activity that violates test security or specifications for testing, including discussion or copying of questions and/or answers, printing tests, or unauthorized use of resources and information will be considered an infraction of the integrity policy and grounds for formal action.
- C. Academic Writing
This policy applies to all graduate students and pertains to all written assignments and any form of written work submitted for academic evaluation.

Policy Statement

- 1. Original Work: All written work must be the original effort of the student. Plagiarism is strictly prohibited, including copying text, ideas, or data without proper attribution.
- 2. Use of Sources: Students must properly cite all sources of information, including text, data, images, and ideas. Proper citation practices should follow the guidelines provided by the institution or the specific academic field.
- 3. As an institution committed to Christian values and the highest educational standards, Southern Adventist University urges faculty and students to prayerfully and critically evaluate how and when we use generative artificial intelligence (AI) and other emergent technologies. Southern Adventist University's policy is that students use generative AI tools only after consultation with their instructor or when specifically invited to use them as part of an assignment. Inappropriate use may be penalized <https://www.southern.edu/academics/online-campus/CoursePolicies.html#accordion-d18e113-2>
- AI Usage: The use of AI tools, including but not limited to text generators, paraphrasing tools, and content summarizers, is permitted under the following conditions:
 - AI-generated content must have course professor permission.

- AI-generated content must be identified and properly cited.
- The student must understand and critically evaluate any AI-generated content included in their work.
- AI tools should not replace the student's original analysis, argumentation, or synthesis of ideas.
- Misuse of AI: Misuse of AI tools, including passing off AI-generated content as one's own without proper attribution or using AI to bypass original critical thinking and analysis, constitutes academic misconduct.
- 4. Collaboration and Group Work: When collaboration is allowed, the contributions of each group member must be documented. Each member is responsible for ensuring the integrity of the group's work.
- 5. Consequences of Misconduct: Any breach of this policy will be subject to disciplinary action as per Southern Adventist University academic integrity procedures.

Implementation

- Support: Academic support services through McKee Library are available to assist students in developing their writing and research skills.
- Monitoring and Detection: The University uses plagiarism detection software and other tools to monitor and ensure the integrity of submitted work.

D. Clinical Practicum Activities

Expectations include, but are not limited to:

1. Punctual attendance at practicum sites as arranged with clinical preceptor.
2. Preparation for clinical practicum. Lack of preparation may jeopardize the student's placement at a clinical site and their standing within the graduate program.
3. Accurate recording of clinical hours that reflect only the time spent with patients or the clinical preceptor on patient care related activities (i.e. reviewing labs, x-rays, and patient care with preceptor). Driving time and lunch hours when patient care is not occurring are not considered part of the clinical time.
4. Complete and accurate recording of clinical activities via the web-based NP clinical tracking system or other log, as specified by the course faculty.
5. Punctuality in submitting written materials related to clinical practicum. Failure to comply will result in clinical failure.
6. Safe nursing care and safe performance of psychomotor and/or interpersonal skills. Depending upon the incident, a breach in safe care and performance may subject the student to immediate dismissal from the program.
7. Patient confidentiality per current Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) guidelines.
8. Please see SAU SON *Graduate Clinical Handbook* for emphasis specific guidelines.

JOINT COMMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Agencies utilized for practicum experience require that all nursing students receive yearly Joint

Commission inservices. This orientation may be completed through the SON via the Tennessee Clinical Placement System (TCPS) or at the student's workplace. Failure to provide proof of orientation by the stated deadlines will prevent the student from attending classes or clinical practicum and may require that the student be blocked from eClass access or dropped from the course or the graduate program.

LEARNING RESOURCE CENTER POLICIES

The Learning Resource Center (LRC) contains many materials that are of benefit to graduate students. Of primary interest are CDs which may be checked out from the LRC for a two-week period. These audio materials include review courses and other professional presentations that will enhance student learning as they progress in advanced practice roles. Students are encouraged to return materials as noted below in a timely manner in order to facilitate use of materials by classmates.

The student using the LRC will:

1. Check out and return LRC equipment and learning resources. Repair and replacement fees will apply to damaged or unreturned equipment and resources.
2. Bring not food or drink, other than water, into the LRC. Water bottles are allowed on the floor only, never on the desktop.
3. Make appointments for taking exams in the LRC as needed once approved by course professor.
4. Maintain an atmosphere conducive to learning and testing.
5. Keep book bags and other belongings accordingly to keep aisles clear and safe.
6. Recognize that the LRC may be closed to all except those testing during test administration.
7. Refrain from changing the desktop or adjust computer features.
8. Log off and leave area neat and clean when through with computer or video player usage.
9. Display honesty and integrity during testing, assignments, and equipment usage.
10. Place cell phones and beepers in off, silence, or manner mode during testing. Electronic devices are not to be used during testing unless specifically authorized, and should be set so that alarms are inaudible.
10. Refrain from bringing children into the LRC.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

A student requesting a Leave of Absence (LOA) must notify the Program Director, faculty advisor, and Graduate Enrollment counselor in writing. The request should include the reason for the LOA, the proposed term and year the leave will begin, and the proposed term and year of return.

Students who have been on leave for two years or less may request program reactivation. The Program Reactivation Form is available online at southern.edu/records. Students who have been away for more than two years are required to reapply to the program. (per the Graduate Catalog ENROLLMENT>READMISSION).

LIABILITY COVERAGE

Graduate nursing students are protected with malpractice insurance provided through Risk Management of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. This coverage applies only to school-related assignments. Students must be actively enrolled and registered for classes in order to be covered by liability insurance. Students gainfully employed are not protected with this coverage for non-school-related employment activities.

ONLINE COURSE EXPECTATIONS

Student Authentication

The Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008 [viewable [here](#); see p. 3325] requires Southern Adventist University to authenticate the identity of all students who enroll in distance education courses offered by the university. Southern requires students enrolled in an online course or program to authenticate their identity at the time of initial registration in their first semester at Southern in order to ensure that a student who is enrolled is the same student who completes and submits work and assignments in that course or program. This process helps protect the integrity of the education provided by Southern Adventist University.

The student should authenticate their identity by using **ONE** of the following options:

1. Authenticate in person at Southern Adventist University.
2. Authenticate online with a secure identify verification ipartner chosen by Southern Adventist University.

Students who do not authenticate their identity during their first semester in which they are enrolled in online classes will receive an incomplete in these course(s). If they do not complete their authentication by the end of the following semester, their final grade will automatically convert into an F. The student will not be allowed to register for further online classes until the authentication process is completed. In addition, non-compliance with the authentication policy may make the student subject to discipline according to the Procedures for Handling Academic Dishonesty in the Southern Adventist University Graduate Catalog.

Live Sessions

In some courses or presentations, there may be live sessions using Zoom. The student will join the live session by clicking on the link provided in eClass. The link may also be provided at the beginning of the syllabus. We recommend that the student use a computer with a microphone and webcam or at a minimum that is purchased with a [headset](#) with a built-in microphone that has either a stereo jack or a USB plug in, depending on your specific computer. Students without these headsets can struggle to participate fully in live sessions and may experience echoing or other issues when attempting to speak into their computer's microphone. Background noise is also minimized with the use of a headset.

Backgrounds/Environment/ Camera

- Use a quiet space where environmental noise will not be heard.
- Choose a neutral backdrop to avoid distracting your audience.

- Avoid sitting with a window behind you, as well as in an area where other people in the room will be walking behind you. The Zoom Blur background is an acceptable virtual background to hide what's going on behind you.
- Position the camera at or just above eye level.
- Distance yourself from the camera so that you are only visible from the shoulders up. Face should be the main object of focus.

Additional requirements regarding the specific course will be noted in the course syllabus.

PROFESSIONAL EVENTS

Professional nursing events are scheduled throughout the academic year to which the public is invited for professional development and continuing education credit. Graduate students have the opportunity to attend these meetings.

The **Florence Oliver Anderson (FOA) Seminar Series** is dedicated to excellence in nursing and is made possible by the generosity of the late Florence Oliver Anderson. Each year the SON invites nationally recognized nursing experts to address the professional community.

Campus Research Day (Winter semester) and **SON Research Day** (Fall semester) are set aside to showcase student and faculty research. If your program emphasis is online only, please check with your advisor about attendance.

The following general guidelines apply to these professional events:

- All MSN level students are required to attend FOA and Research Day as scheduled by each class/faculty. Students in purely online programs must verify with current faculty for possible panopto recordings, livestream availabilities, or alternative professional development activities.
- DNP students are required to attend DNP proposal and presentation days in place of Research Day.
- Attire at FOA and Research Day meetings shall be professional at all times. T-shirts, tight-fitting tops, bare midriffs and shoulders, cleavage, mini-skirts, stilettos, jewelry, hoodies, jeans, shorts, caps, and flip-flops are not professional attire and are not acceptable.
- Backpacks, books, magazines, or other reading material are not to be taken into the meeting area. Cell phones, beepers, and other electronic devices should be off.
- Breaks are to be taken only during the regularly scheduled seminar breaks. Students who habitually leave the meeting room will be counted as absent and may be required to make up the FOA or Research Day by attending another approved professional growth seminar at the student's own expense.
- Professional meeting etiquette prohibits talking, getting up and leaving, and other activities which are disruptive to others and disrespectful to the presenter.

PROFESSIONAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

The Professional Improvement Plan (PIP) is intended to help the student identify and correct areas of concern and to promote a higher standard of professionalism. While rarely needed at the graduate level, the process is initiated following an infraction of one or more policies contained in the *SON*

Graduate Student Handbook. A student may be dismissed from the SON without going through all steps of the PIP if faculty deems the infraction serious enough.

There are three steps in the PIP, which may be applied at any time.

Step I: Written documentation of concern and a conference with professor

Step II: Letter of probation and conference with professor and Graduate/MSN/DNP director

Step III: Dismissal from the School of Nursing

When a faculty member deems it necessary for a student to enter the PIP, appropriate documentation must be completed and signed. The student will be invited to a conference to review and discuss the PIP. If a student enters a PIP, documentation shall be retained in the records.

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Numerous professional organizations are available for graduate students (American Nurses Association, The Tennessee Nurses Association, National League for Nursing, American Association of Nurse Practitioners, Chattanooga Area Nurses in Advanced Practice, The American College of Lifestyle Medicine, American Geriatrics Society, etc.). Many of these organizations have discounted membership fees for students, as well as discounted continuing education offers. Some have professional journals associated with membership. Academic and research scholarships are also available from most organizations. It is recommended that graduate students choose at least one professional organization for membership that supports their professional goals during their enrollment as a graduate student.

SABBATH POLICY

SAU and the SON share belief in honoring the Seventh-Day Sabbath as a day of rest, worship, and freedom from academic pursuits. The Sabbath, as celebrated on the SAU campus, begins at sundown on Friday and ends at sundown on Saturday. Please know that your faculty honor the Sabbath as well, and will not be responding to student emails and concerns during this time.

The SON respects the personal beliefs of each student enrolled in nursing, and the freedom to make personal choices about when and how to worship. It is the policy of the SON, however, regardless of personal belief, that the student uphold the values of SAU and the SON in this respect and **not** schedule course-related clinical practice during the Sabbath hours. Failure to abide by this policy jeopardizes student enrollment status.

SIGMA, RHO IOTA CHAPTER – NURSING HONOR SOCIETY

The nursing honor society was established in 1999 under the auspices of Sigma Theta Tau International. Full charter into Sigma Theta Tau was approved November 2001. In 2002, the nursing honor society was established as the Rho Iota Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International. Its purpose is to promote research, scholarship, and leadership in the profession. The society sponsors educational offerings and Research Day annually. Membership is open to baccalaureate and graduate nursing students, faculty, alumni and nurses in the community who hold a baccalaureate degree or higher. To

be invited into membership, graduate students must be half way through their program and have a GPA of ≥ 3.5 .

SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY (New ANA Statement coming soon)

Social media is commonly used as a form of communication. Communication of protected information through social media violates the rights of individuals such as patients and their family members, or fellow students. Such events often occur thoughtlessly and without malice, but unfortunately jeopardize patient wellbeing and leave the nurse who inappropriately communicated information subject to legal action. Distribution of sensitive and confidential information is protected under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPPA) and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). These guidelines apply to traditional means of communication as well as social media.

The American Nurses Association (ANA) provides principles for social networking that form the basis for SON social networking policies:

1. Students/nurses must not transmit or place online individually identifiable patient information.
 - a. Avoid discussing clinical experiences or patients in any public forum.
 - b. Do not post pictures of yourself, classmates, or patients in patient care areas.
2. Students/nurses must observe ethically professional patient-nurse boundaries.
 - a. Avoid “friending” patients in social media; keep relationships professional.
3. Students/nurses should recognize that patients, colleagues, employers, and institutions may view postings made in social network settings.
 - a. Postings are not easily retracted
 - b. Offensive, unprofessional comments or postings that violate HIPPA or other laws may jeopardize your career.
4. Students/nurses should take advantage of privacy settings and seek to separate personal and professional information online.
 - a. Do not assume, however, that high privacy settings are adequate or free you to post information that directly violates privacy acts and laws.
 - b. Keep your professional life off social networks.
5. Students/nurses should bring content that could harm a patient’s privacy, rights, or welfare to the attention of appropriate authorities.
 - a. Nursing requires a high level of integrity and excellence in patient care.
 - b. Public trust in nursing is high and must be fostered with ongoing vigilance.
 - c. Nurses are patient advocates in all areas, and are thus responsible for protecting patient vulnerability from violations in public/social media settings.

Each student is legally responsible for individual postings and may be subject to consequences for inappropriate or illegal postings. Violation of patient privacy, including the use of social media:

- Will be subject to HIPAA guidelines and consequences. Legal action may be taken for violations according to HIPAA/HITECH.

- May be reported to the Board of Nursing (BON). Disciplinary actions by a BON vary between jurisdictions but are reviewed for unprofessional conduct, unethical conduct, breach of confidentiality, etc.
- Students may also receive disciplinary action including failure in a course and/or dismissal from the program.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT

SON committees are open to attendance by students, and are encouraged to attend. Committees include:

Admissions/Progressions; Evaluation; Faculty Council; Faculty Development; Faculty Search; Missions; Student Events; Student/Faculty Forum; Undergraduate Program; Graduate Program; and Research.

Students may obtain a schedule of meeting times as well as the name of the committee chair from the SON or Graduate program secretary. If a student desires to attend a particular committee, he/she should notify the committee chair. If individual student names or confidential issues are discussed, the visiting student will be asked to leave for that portion of the meeting.

SKILLS and ASSESSMENT LAB POLICIES

The graduate student will:

1. Make appointments for use during normal Skills Lab hours.
2. Leave lab in proper order (including beds -- only change linen when necessary, but leave bed neatly made) with manikins neatly and appropriately draped, covered, or clothed
3. Meet labs punctually or arrange ahead of time for alternate appointment.
4. Check out and in materials borrowed from lab. Late fees/replacement fees will apply.
5. Apply CDC Guidelines in the event of exposure (forms are available)

TRANSPORTATION

Students will arrange for/purchase their own transportation to SAU for classes and to clinical sites for practicum experiences.

All DNP students, including those in online programs, are required to attend an annual fall (August 2025) semester DNP seminar. DNP students are responsible for all transportation and lodging costs associated with attending the seminars. DNP seminar alternates years on campus and virtual.

A. Tickets and Fines

1. Tickets and/or fines received are the driver's responsibility.
2. Tennessee law requires that seatbelts be worn by drivers and passengers.

B. All students owning/driving autos for clinical experiences must have automobile liability insurance. Refer to SAU insurance policy.

V

INFECTION CONTROL POLICY

INFECTION CONTROL POLICY

Concern for the safety of SON students who serve the public has led to the development of this Infection Control Policy. The delivery of nursing care is not without safety hazards. It is the belief of the faculty that with proper education, skills training, and immunizations, faculty and students may be reasonably protected from risk of infections contracted in the course of nursing practice. Further, we wish to prevent discrimination against faculty, students, and staff who may have certain infectious diseases by setting forth some specific protections, which the school will provide its constituents.

The information in this policy is based on currently available information and will be updated as new information is forthcoming from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and OSHA. In the absence of new CDC and/or OSHA directives, the policy will be reviewed annually by the nursing faculty. It is the responsibility of students to familiarize themselves with this policy.

Admissions and Hiring

No qualified graduate nursing student will be denied admission solely because of a positive reading on diagnostic tests for infectious disease. Further, no HIV screening of potential candidates will be required for admission or hiring. Specifically, candidates will not be asked for their HIV antibody status, if known, and will not be required to submit to HIV testing if their antibody status is not known. Persons desiring to be tested voluntarily will be referred to the Chattanooga-Hamilton County Health Department, their personal healthcare provider, or the SAU Health Center.

Once admitted, persons known to be HIV positive will not be discriminated against in terms of access to usual and normal student activities and privileges over which the SON has control. Reasonable accommodation will be made by the SON to allow continuation of education. Health records pertaining to HIV status will be confidential and separate.

Clinical Guidelines for Faculty and Students

The Code for Nurses states (Updated statement coming soon), "The nurse provides services with respect for human dignity and their uniqueness of the patient unrestricted by considerations of social or economic status, personal attributes, or the nature of health problems." In accordance with the Code, the SON believes nursing professionals including faculty and students have a fundamental responsibility to provide care to all patients assigned to them and that refusal to care for patients with infectious diseases including HIV, HBV, HCV, or AIDS is contrary to the ethics of the nursing profession.

Personal Protective Equipment

The SON contracts with health care facilities to provide safe learning experiences. It is the joint obligation of faculty members and graduate nursing students to assure that appropriate and necessary equipment needed for the safe practice of nursing is available in all settings and to remove students from unsafe practice settings.

Standard Precautions and Body Substance Isolation

Standard precautions apply to **all** body fluids. The following recommendations apply:

1. **All** blood and body fluids from **all** patients are considered potentially infectious regardless of the patient's diagnosis.
2. Wash hands and other skin surfaces before and after patient contact even when gloves are used.
3. Personal protective equipment appropriate for the procedure being performed must be worn when anticipating exposure (i.e., gowns, gloves, face shields or masks, eye protection, and resuscitation equipment).
4. Personal protective equipment will be available for use in the clinical settings.
5. **DO NOT** recap or manipulate needles or sharps in any way!!! Place immediately in puncture resistant container after use.
6. Health care workers with exudative lesions should refrain from direct patient care.

Exposure

If a student has an actual exposure to blood or other high-risk body fluid or tissues, or unprotected clinical exposure to infectious disease, specific post-exposure monitoring, treatment, counseling will be provided. If exposure occurs on the SAU campus, the exposed individual must report to Student Health Service. If exposure occurs in the clinical setting, the student should be provided with the same immediate services as employees of the facility. Long-term follow-up may be jointly shared by the facility and SAU Student Health Service. The student should expect to use their personal health insurance to cover expenses incurred.

If an accidental exposure occurs, students should follow the CDC guidelines for occupational exposure (if needle stick, test for HIV to establish seronegativity first, then retest at six weeks, three months, six months, one year).

A significant occupational exposure is defined as:

1. a needle stick or cut caused by a needle or sharp that was actually or potentially contaminated with blood or body fluids.
2. a mucous membrane (i.e., splash to the eye or mouth) exposure to blood or body fluids.
3. a cutaneous exposure involving large amounts of blood or prolonged contact with blood - especially when the exposed skin was chapped, abraded, or afflicted with dermatitis.
4. infectious disease exposure with inadequate PPE protection (e.g., COVID-19 or TB without proper mask)

Follow-up and Fees

It is the responsibility of the affected student to complete all recommended follow up monitoring and care. The student should expect to use their personal health insurance to cover expenses incurred. Submission of claims to health insurance agency is also the student responsibility.

Follow-up Notification

The UHC will be responsible for notifying the student when follow-up lab work is recommended. If the individual has left the area prior to completing follow-up recommendations, a certified letter will be mailed to the individual with follow-up recommendations. It will be left up to the individual to complete the recommendations.

VI WRITING GUIDELINES

The graduate nursing program includes mentoring in the area of research and writing. Most MSN and DNP courses include significant writing requirements. Graduates of the MSN and DNP programs are expected to be able to clearly and concisely express themselves both verbally and in writing. Development of writing skills is facilitated by course assignments and faculty feedback on writing style.

The SON uses current ***American Psychological Association (APA)*** guidelines for formal written papers. Students should follow the guidelines of the most recent APA manual for written assignments unless instructed otherwise.

The academic Writing Center is housed in the McKee library. The Writing Center offers one-to-one, individualized writing tutorial sessions. Writing tutors are dedicated, experienced students, volunteers, and faculty who are trained in the research and writing process and who excel at working with others in a professional academic environment. Tutorial sessions are available by appointment for guiding the graduate student in a) generating and clarifying ideas, b) organizing thoughts, c) creating a thesis statement and topic sentences, d) developing paragraphs and transitions, e) structuring and formatting a paper, f) assuring conciseness, readability, focus, and flow, and g) citing resources.

How can I schedule an appointment?

To schedule a session, go to <https://www.southern.edu/mckee-library/Writing-Center/> for the online scheduler. You will need to register for an account first. After you have registered, you will be able to sign in and schedule an appointment at a date and time that works with your schedule. Immediate scheduling allows you to book even just prior to the desired appointment time. You may make a 30 or 60-minute appointment. Please make sure that you arrive at a scheduled appointment on time. If you are more than 10 minutes late, you will be considered a no-show. If you can't make it to your appointment, please cancel the appointment right away so another student may schedule an appointment at that time. The system will allow you to make appointments up to 14 days in advance. Walk-ins, of course, are also welcome, though scheduling sessions in advance is highly recommended.

Scholarly Writing

Things to Avoid:

Contractions: Scholarly writing does not include words like didn't or couldn't. Instead, use the full words.

First Person: In scholarly writing, the author is assumed to have some "distance" from his or her chosen topic. Write as an outside observer, not a participant. This will mean that pronouns such as I, we or you may be used sparingly according to 7th ed APA guidelines.

Excessive Wordiness: Avoid including the article title and journal from which it came when discussing that article. A simple "author name, (year) found that...", or "...studied...", is best.

Excessive Quotation: Graduate students need to hone their skill in translating research and other literature into their own words. The use of multiple direct quotes from the literature leads the reader to wonder if you have anything original to say. Wherever, possible, paraphrase and translate while still give credit appropriately.

Misspelled words: Do not rely on spell checker to catch all incorrect spellings. Make sure that you know the difference between "their, there, and they're", "two, to, and too", "affect and effect" and other similar word forms. Sloppiness and errors indicate to your reader that you have not taken the time to correct, or that this isn't serious work.

Things to Do:

Proofread: Go back over what has been written again and again. Read outloud. Allow others to read and give feedback.

Reference and cite properly: Have an APA manual or online reference handy and refer to it frequently in order to document your citations and references in the correct style.

Paper structure: Outline your paper using heading and subheading to reflect a unified flow of thought that is orderly and coherent. Connect concepts with clear transition sentences.

Argument and analysis: Support your writing with relevant evidence that is appropriately cited. The paper should be innovative and have potential for advancing the professional body of knowledge.

Style, clarity, originality: State your premises clearly and concisely. Make insightful interpretation and application of the research without reliance upon jargon and excessive quotations.

Grammar, mechanics, spelling: Create flowing and varied sentence structure without errors in grammar, spelling or mechanics.

Helpful Resources:

SAU Mckee Library:

- Grammarly
- Citing APA <https://southern.libguides.com/cite/apa>
- Writing Center: <https://www.southern.edu/mckee-library/Writing-Center/>
- Language and Grammmare Resources: https://www.southern.edu/mckee-library/Writing-Center/language_grammar.html

A Step by Step Guide on Writing a Scholarly Paper

[How to Write a Scholarly Paper? | The Definitive Guide 2023 \(freepaperwriter.com\)](https://freepaperwriter.com)

Appendix A

Forms

NURSE EDUCATOR TRACK — DECLARATION OF CLINICAL AREA

Student Name: _____ ID Number: _____

The clinical area which is specified below is the clinical area that will be recorded on the transcript for:
NURS 585 Nurse Educator Role Practicum: Area of Clinical Emphasis

Clinical Area – Select one:

- ☐ Adult Health
- ☐ Child Health
- ☐ Community Health
- ☐ Maternal-infant Health
- ☐ Psychiatric-Mental Health

Student Signature

Date

