Nursing

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Program Codes:
20FS1497PHD (PhD)
20FS1497MS (MS, Chicago)
20FS1497MS1 (MS, Urbana)
20FS1497MS4 (MS, Springfield)
20FS1497MS5 (MS, Peoria)
20FS1497MS6 (MS, Quad Cities)
20FS1497MS7 (MS, Rockford)
20FS5390MS (MS-Graduate Entry Program, Chicago)
20FS5390MS1 (MS-Graduate Entry Program, Urbana)

The College of Nursing offers work leading to the Master of Science degree in nursing, the Doctor of Nursing Practice, and the Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing. The college also offers a graduate-level, entry-into-practice program which integrates pre-licensure and master's course work and culminates in the Master of Science degree. Interdepartmental concentrations in Gender and Women’s Studies, Neuroscience, and Survey Research Methodology are available to PhD students; and the Interdepartmental Graduate Concentration in Women’s Health is available to master’s and PhD students. The Master of Science and Doctor of Nursing Practice programs can be completed at the Chicago campus or any one of the college’s five regional campuses. Additional information about the DNP program can be located under Nursing Practice (Professional Program: DNP) or at the College of Nursing website. The College of Nursing’s baccalaureate, master’s, and DNP programs are fully accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education. The Nurse-Midwifery program is accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Midwifery Education, and the Pediatric Nurse Practitioner program is recognized by the Pediatric Nursing Certification Board.

Admission and Degree Requirements

- MS in Nursing and MS in Nursing Graduate Entry Program
- PhD in Nursing
- MS in Nursing/MBA - Please note: The MS in Nursing/MBA has been suspended effective Fall 2014. Contact the department for more information.
- MS in Nursing/MPH - Please note: The MS in Nursing/MPH has been suspended effective Fall 2014. Contact the department for more information.

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Nursing Core Courses

NURS 403. Cultural Fluency, Communication, and Ethics. 3 hours.
Provides a foundation of communication skills, teaching and learning theory, ethics, and cultural competence in providing nursing care.

NURS 404. Integrated Health Care: Concepts and Skills. 3 hours.
Provides the basis for understanding fundamental concepts to the practice of nursing across the life span. Theoretical concepts will be integrated with skills and clinical in Integrated Practicum I. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): NURS 421. Must enroll concurrently in NURS 401.

NURS 406. Integrated Health Care: Community. 2 hours.
Theories of community assessment, disease prevention, and health behavior are applied to promotion of health for communities and vulnerable populations. Understanding of systems and collaboration with the interprofessional team are emphasized. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): NURS 408 and credit or concurrent registration in NURS 414.

NURS 408. Integrated Health Care: Adult/Older Adult. 4 hours.
Clinical evaluation/management of common/complex problems in adults and older adults, emphasizes pathophysiology and management strategies in context of culture and ethnicity. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): NURS 421 and NURS 422 and NURS 404 and NUPR 405.

NURS 412. Integrated Health Care: Women, Children and Family. 4 hours.
Care for women throughout the lifespan, including pregnancy, birth, the postpartum, and interconceptional periods and throughout the aging process. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): NURS 408 and NURS 414.

NURS 414. Integrated Health Care: Mental Health. 2 hours.
Application and integration of biopsychosocial concepts and principles to the mental health care of individuals and groups across the continuum of care, including health promotion and illness prevention, maintenance and rehabilitation. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): NURS 401 and NURS 402 and NURS 404 and NUPR 405; and graduate standing.

NURS 421. Pathophysiology. 3 hours.
Pathophysiologic concepts critical to clinical decision making focusing on commonly occurring disease processes across the lifespan.

NURS 422. Pharmacology. 3 hours.
Pharmacological concepts critical to clinical decision making focusing on therapeutic and toxic effects of major drug classes. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): NURS 421.

NURS 511. Epidemiology & Statistics for Evidence-Based Practice. 4 hours.
Application and interpretation of statistical and epidemiological techniques appropriate for health sciences. Prepares students to think quantitatively, assess data critically, and apply epidemiological methods to disease prevention and control. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): An undergraduate statistics course.
NURS 515. EBP 1: Theoretical Foundations for Evidence-Based Practice. 3 hours.
Emphasizes interrelationships among theory, research, and practice as background knowledge needed to critically appraise the literature and effectively engage in evidence-based nursing practice. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): Credit or concurrent registration in NURS 511.

NURS 516. EBP 2: Implementing Evidence-Based Practice. 3 hours.
Using critical appraisal of the literature, clinical evidence, and health systems to plan the implementation and evaluation of interprofessional strategies for high quality, cost-effective health outcomes. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): NURS 515.

NURS 517. Leadership, Policy, and Interprofessional Collaboration: Effecting Change in Complex Health Systems. 3 hours.
Focus on principles of leadership, change management, health care policy, and systems theory to improve health care outcomes within complex systems.

NURS 518. Quality and Safety Through Health Technologies. 3 hours.
Examination of individual and system-level factors which impact the quality of health outcomes. Focus on the use of technology and data, including information systems, in improving the safety and quality of health care.

NURS 519. Health Equity and Social Determinants. 3 hours.
Consideration of social determinants of health and their impact. Emphasis on ethical implications for vulnerable communities disproportionately affected by the intersectionality of multiple determinants.

NURS 531. Pharmacotherapeutics. 3 hours.
Advanced principles of pharmacotherapeutics, including legal issues, client adherence, and medication selection factors. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): Credit or concurrent registration in NURS 534.

NURS 532. Comprehensive Health Assessment for Advanced Nursing Practice. 4 hours.
Building on prior basic history and physical exam skills, covers physical, psychosocial, developmental, occupational, sexual, spiritual, and cultural assessment across the lifespan, emphasizing normal and abnormal finding differences & documentation. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): NURS 210. Class Schedule Information: To be properly registered, students must enroll in one Laboratory-Discussion and one Lecture-Discussion.

NURS 533. Applied Pharmacotherapeutics in Advanced Practice in Nursing. 1-2 hours.
Application of pharmacology principles to sub-specialty populations. Course Information: May be repeated to a maximum of 2 hours. Prerequisite(s): Credit or concurrent registration in NURS 531. NUSP 534 is an additional prerequisite for Adult-Gerontology Acute Care NP and Adult-Gerontology Primary Care NP students.

NURS 534. Advanced Physiological Principles Across the Lifespan. 2 hours.
Advanced contemporary physiologic principles and their relevance to clinical practice across the lifespan. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): Introductory courses in Physiology and Pathophysiology.

NURS 535. Advanced pathophysiology across the lifespan. 3 hours.
Critical examination of the pathophysiologic mechanisms of disease across the lifespan. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): NURS 534.

NURS 540. Issues in Advanced Practice Nursing and Policy Implications. 3 hours.
Includes principles of advocacy and building collaborations to influence policy development and implementation. Focus on advanced practice nursing issues and roles from historical and contemporary perspectives and effect on future APN practice. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): NURS 517.

NURS 541. Nursing Information Systems and Technology: Supporting care and generating evidence. 3 hours.
Focuses on developing competencies to provide health care organization leadership in the design, selection, and implementation of interoperable information systems and technology supporting all nursing care and continuously generating evidence. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): NURS 518.

NURS 542. Health Promotion Theories and Population-focused Interventions. 3 hours.
Translate theories/models of health promotion and disease prevention for individual, population, and systems-focused nursing practice. Assessment, program planning, intervention and evaluation application for population-based health care. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): Credit or concurrent registration in NURS 516. Class Schedule Information: To be properly registered, student must enroll in one Lecture-Discussion and one Clinical Practice.

NURS 553. Strategic and Financial Planning for Clinical Programs. 3 hours.
Provides decision makers with state of the art tools to analyze issues affecting health care and formulate financially viable strategic plans for healthcare initiatives.

NURS 555. EBP 3: DNP Proposal Development for Translating Evidence to Practice. 3 hours.
Development of a DNP proposal that addresses a complex practice, process, or systems issue within the student’s field of expertise. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): NURS 516 and Credit or concurrent registration in NURS 553 and NURS 542. Class Schedule Information: To be properly registered, students must enroll in one Lecture and one Clinical Practice.

NURS 556. Developing Literature Reviews. 2 hours.
Prepares the student to conduct a rigorous literature review, synthesize the literature, and draft a literature review manuscript in an area of interest. Course Information: Previously listed as NUEL 556. Prerequisite(s): Open only to Ph.D. degree students; or consent of the instructor.

NURS 558. Grant Writing for the Nurse Scientist. 2 hours.
Prepares students to submit their first competitive grant application. This course emphasizes the process of writing the grant proposal. Course Information: Previously listed as NUEL 558. Prerequisite(s): Credit or concurrent registration in NURS 572; or consent of the instructor. Corequisites: Students are expected to work closely with their adviser during this course and to register for at least 1 credit hour of NUEL 596 with their adviser.

NURS 570. Philosophy of Science for Health Research. 3 hours.
Traces the development of scientific reasoning and explanation from Aristotle to the present, focusing on the nature of knowledge and role of truth for health research. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): Graduate level research course or consent of the instructor.
NURS 571. Theory and Theory Development for Nursing Research. 3 hours.
Methods of theory development and critical analysis of selected biological, behavioral, health service, and nursing theories which form the basis of nursing science are examined. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): Grade of B or better in NURS 570.

NURS 572. Research Design and Methods. 4 hours.
In-depth analysis of research design and methods, including such areas as design appropriateness and validity, sampling, quantitative and qualitative methods, research ethics, and interpretation. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): Grade of B or better or concurrent registration in NURS 570; and graduate level statistics or consent of the instructor.

NURS 573. Measurement in Health Research. 4 hours.
Comparison of qualitative and quantitative paradigms in measurement approaches of phenomena. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): Grade of B or better in NURS 572 and credit or concurrent registration in NURS 571 and credit or concurrent registration in the second course in graduate level statistics series; or consent of the instructor.

NURS 574. Qualitative Research in Nursing. 4 hours.
Major approaches to qualitative research including design, conduct, reporting, and firsthand experience in data collection and analysis. Course Information: Previously listed as NUEL 544. Prerequisite(s): Consent of the instructor. Class Schedule Information: To be properly registered, students must enroll in one Laboratory and one Lecture-Discussion.

NURS 586. Roles and Responsibilities of the Nurse Scientist. 2 hours.
Addresses the responsibilities/activities of a nurse scientist (i.e., ethical issues, scientific freedom, social justice, collaboration/negotiation, interdisciplinary research, peer review, program of research, funding, publications, careers, etc.). Course Information: Prerequisite(s): Enrolled in the PhD in Nursing Science program.

NURS 588. Nursing Leadership in Global Health. 2 hours.
Focuses on issues of global health/nursing leadership development to promote global health. Students become familiar with the influences of culture, health systems and structures as they interact with specific health issues/leadership challenges.

NURS 592. Preliminary Exam Preparation. 1-12 hours.
Literature review, reading and writing in preparation for the preliminary examination supervised by faculty research advisor. Course Information: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory grading only. May be repeated to a maximum of 24 hours. Prerequisite(s): Completion of core courses and consent of the instructor.

Doctoral student thesis research. Course Information: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory grading only. CON students must register for a minimum of one (1) credit. The CON does not allow students to register for zero (0) hours. Prerequisite(s): Consent of the instructor.

Nursing Practicum Courses

NUPR 405. Integrated Practicum I. 4 hours.
Clinical application of fundamental nursing and physical assessment skills within various clinical settings. Course Information: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory grading only. Prerequisite(s): Credit or concurrent registration in NURS 404.

NUPR 410. Integrated Practicum II. 4 hours.
Clinical application of nursing concepts and processes to the care of adults in various clinical settings. Course Information: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory grading only. Prerequisite(s): NURS 405 and Credit or concurrent registration in NURS 408 and NURS 404 and Credit or concurrent registration in NURS 414. Must enroll concurrently in NURS 406 and NURS 408.

NUPR 415. Integrated Practicum III. 4 hours.
Clinical application of nursing concepts and processes to the care of women, children, families and the mentally ill in various clinical settings. Course Information: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory grading only. Prerequisite(s): NURS 410 and Credit or concurrent registration in NURS 412; and graduate standing.

NUPR 416. Integrated Practicum IV. 3 hours.
Clinical application of population-focused nursing care with an emphasis on lifespan health promotion and behavioral health in various community settings. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): NURS 410; and credit or concurrent registration in NURS 406.

NUPR 420. Clinical Synthesis. 4 hours.
Focus is on clinical synthesis of nursing knowledge and skills and on implementation of leadership and management skills, including organizing care and delegation, in the provision of care. Course Information: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory grading only. Prerequisite(s): NURS 416.

NUPR 506. Data-driven Health Care Improvement. 3 hours.
Focuses on sources and features of health care data that influence the quality, safety, and ease of use for improving health care; storage, security, privacy, database architecture, accessing, cleaning, transforming, analyzing, and visualizing. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): NURS 518 and NURS 541. Class Schedule Information: To be properly registered, students must enroll in one Lecture-Discussion and one Clinical Practice.

NUPR 514. School Nursing Internship. 1-3 hours.
Concepts and principles and best practices of school nursing applied within the school community. Clinical experience with an emphasis on development of a coordinated school health program. Course Information: May be repeated. Prerequisite(s): Credit or concurrent registration in NUSP 513.

NUPR 520. Clinical Synthesis Practicum for the Advanced Generalist. 3 hours.
Students use advanced strategies to translate, integrate, and apply evidence to influence health care outcomes for individuals and populations within diverse systems. Course Information: Must be taken in the final semester of a student’s program. Prerequisite(s): Credit or concurrent registration in NURS 516.

NUPR 521. Clinical Practice in Primary Care I. 3 hours.
Practicum emphasizing evidence-based clinical practice, including data-gathering, differential diagnosis, health promotion, disease prevention, and management of common health problems across the lifespan. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): NURS 532 and NUSP 517; or consent of instructor.

NUPR 522. Clinical Practice in Primary Care II. 5 hours.
Practicum emphasizing evidence-based clinical practice, including data-gathering, differential diagnosis, health promotion, disease prevention, and management of common to complex health problems across the lifespan. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): NUPR 521.
NUPR 523. Clinical Practice in Primary Care III. 5 hours.
Practicum emphasizing evidence-based clinical evaluation, differential diagnosis, health promotion, disease prevention, and management of common to complex health problems and comorbidities across the lifespan. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): NUPR 522.

NUPR 531. Mental Health Assessment of Acute and Chronic Illness Practicum I. 3-7 hours.
Practicum I: Management of mental health problems presented in various settings. Application of assessment and diagnosis of pathology; crisis, triage and emergency care. Course Information: May be repeated. Prerequisite(s): Credit or concurrent registration in NUSP 527.

NUPR 532. Mental Health Promotion and Disease Prevention. 3-8 hours.
Clinical Practicum II: Management of mental health problems presented in various settings. Application of various approaches to psychotherapy, psychoeducation, and complementary care to promote health and prevent disease. Course Information: May be repeated. Prerequisite(s): NUPR 531.

NUPR 533. Professional Role and Policy Development. 2-5 hours.
Practicum III: Development of psychiatric-mental health nurse practitioner role to deliver psychotherapeutic and psychopharmacologic services; and impact policies and procedures. Course Information: May be repeated. Prerequisite(s): NUPR 532.

NUPR 539. Nurse Practitioner Practicum I: Management of Health and Illness in Adults. 5 hours.
Practicum emphasizing clinical evaluation, health promotion, differential diagnosis, symptom management, education and case management of adults with complex health problems that may be acute, episodic, or chronic. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): NUSP 534.

NUPR 540. Nurse Practitioner Practicum II: Management of Health and Illness in Adults. 5 hours.
Practicum emphasizing clinical evaluation, health promotion, differential diagnosis, symptom management, education and case management of adults with complex health problems that may be acute, episodic, or chronic. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): NUPR 539 and Credit or concurrent registration in NUSP 535.

NUPR 541. Nurse Practitioner Practicum III: Management of Health and Illness in Adults. 5 hours.
Practicum emphasizing clinical evaluation, health promotion, differential diagnosis, symptom management, education and case management of adults with complex health problems that may be acute, episodic, or chronic. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): NUPR 540 and NURS 533 and NUSP 535.

Students apply current knowledge in providing care to infants, children, adolescents/young adults in a variety of primary care settings including school based clinics, community clinics, pediatric practices. There is an emphasis on underserved. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): NURS 532 and credit or concurrent registration in NUSP 533.

NUPR 552. Practicum: Management of Infant, Child, Adolescent/Young Adult with Chronic Illness. 1-8 hours.
Students apply current knowledge in providing care to infants, children, adolescents/young adults in a variety of primary care, chronic care, and selected acute care settings. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): NUPR 551.

NUPR 553. Practicum in the Care of the Critically Ill Child. 1-6 hours.
Application of knowledge as an acute care pediatric nurse practitioner providing care for children with complex, emergent, acute, and critical illness. Focus is on clinical management of infants, children anadolescents/young adults in acute settings. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): NUPR 551 and credit or concurrent registration in NUPR 552 and credit or concurrent registration in NUSP 564.

NUPR 556. EBP 4: DNP Project Planning and Implementation. 4 hours.
Practicum focused on leadership, interprofessional collaboration, and systems for planning and implementing a DNP project in a practice or system setting aligned with the student's population focus or specialty. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): NURS 555.

NUPR 557. EBP 5: DNP Project Evaluation and Dissemination. 4 hours.
Evaluation and dissemination of the student's DNP project implemented in a practice or system setting aligned with the student's population focus or specialty. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): NUPR 556.

NUPR 564. Assessment and Care of the Newborn. 1 hour.
Emphasizes the assessment of normal newborns and facilitates transition to extrauterine life. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): NUSP 556 and credit or concurrent registration in NUPR 573. Class Schedule Information: To be properly registered, students must enroll in one Lecture-Discussion and one Clinical Practice.

NUPR 572. Practicum: Health Care of Women. 1-8 hours.
Clinical experiences to develop nurse-midwifery and nurse practitioner competencies in the health care of women. Course Information: May be repeated. Prerequisite(s): NUSP 556 and NURS 531.

NUPR 573. Practicum: Birth and the Newborn. 1-8 hours.
Clinical experiences to develop beginning competence in the nurse-midwifery care of women and their newborns during parturition. Course Information: May be repeated. Prerequisite(s): NUSP 556 and NURS 531.

NUPR 574. Advanced Neonatal Nurse Clinical Practicum. 1-8 hours.
Assessment, stabilization, and management of infants with common problems or complex disturbances, alterations, and multi-organ dysfunction and their unique neurodevelopmental needs and vulnerabilities emphasizing patient and family centered care. Course Information: May be repeated. Prerequisite(s): NURS 532 and NURS 535.

NUPR 575. Global Health Nursing Practicum. 1-3 hours.
Provides an opportunity for students to apply knowledge and skills developed in required courses. By engaging in study or practice abroad or domestically with a globally focused organization, students can enhance global health competencies. Course Information: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory grading only. Field work required. Prerequisite(s): NUEL 406.

NUPR 580. Individualized Graduate Practicum. 1-8 hours.
Individualized practicum that will develop skills, competencies and knowledge in a chosen health care delivery setting. Course Information: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory grading only. May be repeated. Prerequisite(s): Consent of the instructor.
NUPR 591. Advanced Population Health Evaluation and Policy. 4 hours.
Develops competencies in comprehensive advanced program evaluation for communities and health systems in partnership with community stakeholders. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): Credit or concurrent registration in NUPR 597. Class Schedule Information: To be properly registered, students must enroll in one Lecture-Discussion and one Clinical Practice.

NUPR 593. Research Practicum. 1-4 hours.
An intensive guided research practicum in design, data collection, psychometric analysis or specific analytic techniques relevant to the student's research specialization. Course Information: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory grading only. May be repeated to a maximum of 6 hours. Must be repeated for a minimum of 3 hours of credit. Prerequisite(s): NURS 573 and two advanced statistics courses.

NUPR 594. Advanced Systems Level Nursing Leadership. 3 hours.
Advanced nursing practice leadership experiences in systems of health. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): NURS 517.

NUPR 595. Clinical Option: Advanced Systems Level Nursing Practice. 1-5 hours.
Advanced nursing practice experiences within systems of health (Public health Informatics, public health systems, leadership, policy, school health, economics, epidemiology, Maternal-Child Health, health care deliver systems, etc). Course Information: May be repeated. A total of 5 credit hours must be earned in this course.

NUPR 597. Advanced Population Health and Program Planning. 4 hours.
Develops comprehensive advanced program planning and implementation competencies for populations, communities and health systems in partnership with community stakeholders. Course Information: Prerequisite(s): NUPR 596. Class Schedule Information: To be properly registered, students must enroll in one Lecture and one Clinical Practice.