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# Nursing

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## Professors

P. Hale, M. Mast, J. Rocchiccioli

## Associate Professors

M. Eaton, L. Hulton, V. Martin, L. Sobel

## Assistant Professor

S. Strang

## Instructors

S. Conaty-Buck, D. Gochenour

## Admission

To be considered for admission to the program prospective students must:

- Be admitted to The Graduate School
- Complete the Nursing Graduate Program Supplemental Application form [http://www.nursing.jmu.edu/pdfs/msn\\_supplemental\\_application.pdf](http://www.nursing.jmu.edu/pdfs/msn_supplemental_application.pdf).
- Hold a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (B.S.N.) or a baccalaureate degree in another field with a cumulative GPA of 2.8.
- Hold a current Registered Nurse license.
- Provide official GRE Scores (Contact program coordinator for more information).
- Have the equivalent of 12 full-time months of clinical nursing experience within the past three years.
- Have taken undergraduate courses in statistics and health assessment with a grade of "C" or higher (Contact program coordinator for more information).
- Meet the department's disability accommodation standards.
- Interview upon request
- CPR certification
- Foreign school graduates: Pass CGFNS Text, R.N. License, TOEFL (550).

Additional documentation will be required upon admission.

## *Application Deadline*

Applications are processed on a rolling admission basis until the class fills. Applicants who apply prior to April 1 will be given first consideration. Full and part-time students will enter the program in the fall or spring semester of each year.

## *Application Evaluation Criteria*

Evaluation criteria will include previous academic and scholarly work, professional experience, personal and professional goals and their relationship to the mission of the Department of Nursing. References will be reviewed and an interview may be required.

## Mission

The primary mission of the nursing department is to provide quality, professional undergraduate and graduate nursing education that prepares nursing leaders to influence a changing profession, society, health care system and global health needs.

## *Purposes*

In order to support and accomplish this mission the nursing faculty has identified the following purposes:

- Prepare nursing professionals who provide culturally competent, holistic, evidence-based nursing care to individuals, families, aggregates and communities in a wide variety of settings.
- Promote a community of learning that models professional values and lifelong professional development for both faculty and students.
- Promote service-learning activities that include collaborative, interdisciplinary initiatives and partnerships between nursing education and the practice arena to meet the future health needs of consumers.
- Conduct research and creative scholarship to generate nursing knowledge and disseminate that knowledge through collaboration, publication and presentations.

## Accreditation

The Masters of Science in Nursing Program is fully accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE).

## Program of Study

The James Madison University Department of Nursing offers a Master of Science in Nursing degree with Nurse Practitioner (NP) and Nurse Educator (NE) concentrations. Nurse Practitioner tracks include Adult Nurse Practitioner (ANP), Geriatric Nurse Practitioner (GNP) or Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP).

The Nurse Practitioner concentration is 43 to 46 credits, varying by the clinical specialty. Students are admitted for full-time or part-time study. Full-time students can complete the program in four full-time academic semesters. NP students complete an additional three-credit clinical management course to qualify for family nurse practitioner certification. NP students can complete an optional three-credit practicum to qualify for dual adult or geriatric certification.

The ANP, FNP, and GNP tracks meet the competencies outlined by the National Organization of Nurse Practitioners (NONPF). Students complete a total of >500 contact practicum hours required for certification in their specialty areas by the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC).

The Master of Science in Nursing Nurse Educator (NE) concentration is 35 credits and prepares graduates to teach in clinical or academic settings. Students are admitted for full-time or part-time study. Full-time students can complete the program in three full-time academic semesters. The program is designed to meet the nurse educator competencies established by the National League of Nursing (NLN).

## Master of Science in Nursing

### Nurse Practitioner Curriculum

Level I	Credit Hours
NSG 520. Advanced Health Assessment	3
NSG 521. Advanced Concepts in Pathophysiology	3
NSG 522. Advanced Clinical Pharmacotherapeutics	3
NSG 630. Care Delivery & Coordination I	4
NSG 631. Care Delivery & Coordination II	4
NSG 634. Role of the Advanced Practice Nurse	1
NSG 671. Practicum I	3
<b>Level II</b>	<b>Credit Hours</b>
NSG 611. Research for the Advanced Health Professional	3
NSG 632. Coordinated Care of the Elderly	3
NSG 672. Practicum II	5
NSG 673. Practicum III	5
NSG 690. Epidemiology and Population Assessment	3
NSG 692. Health Policy	3
<b>Optional Courses</b>	<b>Credit Hours</b>
NSG 635. Family Centered Care Delivery (FNP option only)	3
NSG 696. Dual Certification Practicum (dual track option)	3 or 6
Total Credits	43-46

### Nurse Educator Curriculum

NSG 520. Advanced Health Assessment	3
NSG 521. Advanced Concepts in Pathophysiology	3
NSG 611. Research for the Advanced Health Professional	3
NSG 640. Curriculum Development in Nursing	3
NSG 641. Curriculum Evaluation	3
NSG 643. Technology in Nursing Education	3
NSG 646. Role and Theory for the Nurse Educator	3
NSG 674. Education Residency I	3
NSG 675. Education Residency II	5
NSG 690. Epidemiology and Population Assessment	3
NSG 692. Health Policy	3
	35

## Post-Master's Certificate Programs

### Admission

To be considered for admission to the program prospective students must have:

- Master of Science in Nursing degree
- GPA of 3.0 on 4.0 scale for master's level course work
- Current R.N. license
- Evidence of personal and professional qualifications in the form of two professional recommendations
- Personal interview upon request

### Post-Master's Certificate

#### Program in Nursing Education

The Post-Master's Certificate Program in Nursing Education totals 20 credit hours and can be completed in three semesters. Students complete eight credits of educational residency.

#### Post-Master's Certificate Program in Nursing Education

##### Requirements

Fall Semester	Credit Hours
NSG 640. Curriculum Development in Nursing	3
NSG 646. Role of the Nurse Educator	3
<b>Semester Two</b>	<b>Credit Hours</b>
NSG 643. Technology in Nursing Education	3
NSG 674. Education Residency I	3
<b>Semester Three</b>	<b>Credit Hours</b>
NSG 641. Curriculum Evaluation	3
NSG 675. Education Residency II	5

### Post-Master's Nurse

#### Practitioner Certificate Program

The Post-Master's Nurse Practitioner Certificate program totals 26-35 credit hours, depending on courses previously taken. Students complete nine credits of practicum.

#### Post-Master's Nurse Practitioner Certificate Requirements

Fall Semester	Credit Hours
NSG 520. Advanced Health Assessment	3
NSG 521. Advanced Concepts in Pathophysiology	3
NSG 634. Role of the Advanced Practice Nurse	1
<b>Spring Semester</b>	<b>Credit Hours</b>
NSG 522. Advanced Clinical Pharmacotherapeutics	3
NSG 630. Care Delivery and Coordination I	4
NSG 671. Practicum I	3
<b>Summer (Optional - for FNP only)</b>	<b>Credit Hours</b>
NSG 635. Family Centered Care Delivery	3
NSG 696. Advanced Practicum	3-6
(required for post-masters FNP students; optional for dual certification)	
<b>Fall Semester</b>	<b>Credit Hours</b>
NSG 631. Care Delivery and Coordination II	4
NSG 672. Practicum II	5
<b>Spring Semester</b>	
NSG 632. Coordinated Care of the Elderly	3
NSG 673. Practicum III	5

# Course Offerings

## Nursing Department

### **NSG 520. Advanced Health Assessment.** 3 credits.

This course provides advanced knowledge and health assessment skills. Emphasis is placed on interviewing, history taking, physical assessment and diagnosis based on clinical findings. Normal and abnormal health assessment findings are emphasized. Characteristics of clients from diverse ethnic and cultural backgrounds and age groups are considered. Considerations for the aging client are emphasized. Classroom activities focus primarily on assessments that require history-taking skills and utilize organizing theory and frameworks. Labs focus on the knowledge and skills for history-taking and physical examination.

### **NSG 521. Advanced Concepts in Pathophysiology.** 3 credits.

An advanced, clinically-oriented study of human physiology and the alterations in body functions that underlie diseases in humans. *Prerequisite: Admission to the Graduate Nursing program.*

### **NSG 522. Advanced Clinical Pharmacotherapeutics.** 3 credits.

Building upon the knowledge of pharmacology learned at the undergraduate level, this course examines concepts in pharmacotherapeutics necessary for advanced nursing practice. Emphasis will be placed on pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics of important classes of drugs. Considerations for the aging client will be highlighted. Case studies will provide an opportunity for critical thinking, clinical application and care coordination.

### **NSG 524. Health Care Environments.** 3 credits.

Health care environments provides a conceptual model of the American health care system and an overview of the component parts of that system. The course will focus particularly on the context of health care management and delivery and emphasize available services for adult and elder Americans. This includes a theoretical framework for the current system as well as a delineation of the functions and roles of the major sectors of the U.S. health care system.

### **NSG 611. Research for the Advanced Health Professional.** 3 credits.

This course will provide a foundation for examination of components of the nursing research process. Integrative review methodologies and evidence-based practice models will be emphasized. Skills needed to build and assimilate knowledge for improving practice outcomes or nursing education will be highlighted.

### **NSG 630. Care Delivery and Coordination I.** 4 credits.

This course focuses on the evaluation, management and care coordination for clients with common acute health deviations across the adult lifespan within a variety of contexts. The course builds on knowledge and skills from health systems management, advanced health assessment, pathophysiology and pharmacology. Emphasis is placed on formulating diagnoses and plans of care that encompass client, family and coordinated systems of care. *Prerequisites: NSG 520, NSG 521. Corequisite: NSG 522.*

### **NSG 631. Care Delivery and Coordination II.** 4 credits.

This course focuses on the evaluation, management and coordination of care for adolescent and adult clients with common chronic health deviations within a variety of contexts. The course builds on knowledge and skills from advanced health assessment, pathophysiology, and pharmacology and ethics. Emphasis is placed on formulating diagnoses and developing plans of care that encompass clients, families and community resources. *Prerequisites: NSG 520, NSG 521 and NSG 522.*

### **NSG 632. Coordinated Care of the Elderly.** 3 credits.

This course focuses on the health issues and needs of older adults and principles for evaluating, managing, and coordinating their care. Students will differentiate normal changes and symptoms of aging from disease-related symptoms, focusing on the achievement of optimal health and function for older adults. Emphasis is on the collaborative role of advanced practice nurses in assisting older adults and family caregivers from diverse ethnic and cultural backgrounds to negotiate health care delivery systems. *Prerequisites or corequisites: NSG 520, NSG 521 and NSG 522.*

### **NSG 634. Role of the Advanced Practice Nurse.** 1 credit.

This course will focus on historical and developmental aspects and competencies of advanced practice nursing (APN), and the continuing evolution of the APN role. Students will explore the varied roles that APNs assume in the health care system and the legal and ethical considerations for advanced practice.

### **NSG 635. Family Centered Care Delivery.** 3 credits.

This course focuses on care given to the family unit, as well as individuals within the family unit. Family theory, assessment and management will be emphasized. Emphasis will be placed on assessment and care of the childbearing family and the family with young children. Individual care will focus on the pregnant woman, the newborn, infant, toddler, preschool and school age child (up to adolescence). This course builds on knowledge and skills from advanced health assessment, pathophysiology and pharmacology. *Prerequisites: NSG 520, NSG 521 and NSG 522.*

### **NSG 640. Curriculum Development in Nursing.** 3 credits.

This course investigates models, techniques and instructional strategies for constructing curricula and developing programs in health care settings, the community, continuing education and in collegiate settings. Instructional design processes, procedures, implementation and evaluation are emphasized.

### **NSG 641. Curriculum Evaluation.** 3 credits.

This course focuses on the theory and practical application of the evaluation process for nursing education programs and health care systems. Test construction and measurement are featured and an emphasis is placed on evaluation of program goals, outcomes and evidence-based practice. Methods and processes in developing specific instruments for program evaluation data collection and data analysis will be discussed. *Prerequisite: NSG 640.*

**NSG 643. Technology in Nursing Education.** 3 credits.

This course provides students an opportunity to acquire knowledge and skills for using a variety of computer technologies to support the teaching-learning process in nursing. The course will discuss principles of distance learning, use of the Internet for teaching-learning, and how to integrate computer technologies into nursing curriculum. Emphasis will be given to theoretical frameworks that guide the selection, use and integration of technology into nursing education programs. *Prerequisite: NSG 640.*

**NSG 646. Role and Theory for the Nurse Educator.** 3 credits.

Provides students with educational concepts, theories and strategies central to the role of nurse educator in academic, staff development and/or client centered settings. Students will examine and explore role concepts critical to education and will apply theory to predict and explain behavior in a variety of educational and clinical settings.

**NSG 671. Practicum I.** 3 credits.

Emphasizes advanced practice role development, complex and holistic client/family care, health promotion/maintenance and care coordination. Practicum is individualized and will highlight the advanced practice roles of clinician, manager, consultant, educator and researcher. Clinical competencies will be emphasized to prepare the student for nurse practitioner certification. *Prerequisites: NSG 520, NSG 521 and NSG 630. Corequisites: NSG 522*

**NSG 672. Practicum II.** 5 credits.

Emphasis will be placed upon the application of clinical skills, theories, concepts, issues and research findings to the clinical care of children, adolescents, adults and/or older adults. Care coordination issues will be addressed as they specifically impact diverse populations in all care settings. Clinical competencies will be emphasized to prepare the student for nurse practitioner certification. *Prerequisites: NSG 630 and NSG 671.*

**NSG 673. Practicum III.** 5 credits.

Continues emphasis on the application of clinical skills, theories, concepts, issues and research findings to the clinical care of children, adolescents, adults and/or older adults. Care coordination issues will be addressed as they specifically impact the selected population. Clinical competencies will be emphasized to prepare the student for nurse practitioner certification. *Prerequisites: NSG 631 and NSG 672.*

**NSG 674. Education Residency I.** 3 credits.

Students apply theories of education to the development of teaching objectives, courses and syllabi under faculty and preceptor guidance. A variety of assigned teaching practice settings afford the opportunity for students to develop competence with different teaching methods. *Prerequisites or corequisites: NSG 521, NSG 522, NSG 640 and NSG 644.*

**NSG 675. Education Residency II.** 5 credits.

Students demonstrate successful integration of theory with practice and synthesis of knowledge and skills in a selected teaching practice setting under faculty and preceptor guidance. Students practice and develop competence with a variety of advanced teaching methods. Students will engage in various forms of educational evaluation. *Corequisite: NSG 641. Prerequisite: NSG 674.*

**NSG 680. Independent Study in Nursing.** 1-3 credits.

This course provides the opportunity for independent study in a specialized area of concentration. It is conducted under the supervision of a faculty member. *Prerequisite: Approval of graduate program coordinator and department head.*

**NSG 690. Epidemiology and Population Assessment.** 3 credits.

This course focuses on the distribution of health-related conditions within human populations and factors influencing their distribution. Emphasis is on measurement of the health of populations, the natural history of diseases, study design and assessment of data sources. It addresses health systems that focus on health promotion and disease prevention.

**NSG 692. Health Policy for Practice and Advocacy.** 3 credits.

This course addresses the foundation of health policymaking. It emphasizes policy analysis for practitioners in leadership roles. Federal and state policy-making and the mechanisms for health policy change are emphasized. Policy issues impacting health delivery will form the basis for the development of critical understanding of policy development.

**NSG 696. Advanced Practicum.** 3 or 6 credits.

Emphasis on the application of skills, theories, concepts, issues and research findings to the clinical care of selected populations in age ranges appropriate for the selected track. Clinical competency for a specific population is emphasized. This course will use clinical preceptors as well as faculty. *Prerequisites: NSG 673 or permission of the instructor. For FNP students, corequisite: NSG 635.*