Master of Science Degree with a Major in Nursing and Post-Masters Certificate Programs

Program Description
The purpose of these programs is to prepare nurses with advanced nursing theory and experience in functional roles of clinical nurse leader, family nurse practitioner, or school nurse. Students are prepared to function within the changing patterns of health care; assume leadership roles in multidisciplinary health groups; and conduct independent nursing research or clinical projects. Graduates from this program will be qualified for mid- and upper-level management positions in acute care hospitals and community agencies or positions in nursing education, school nursing, or in acute and primary care. They will also be prepared for doctoral programs in nursing.

The curriculum offers the student a choice of role emphasis option in Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP, primary care clinical practice), or School Nurse. Through a selected program of study, the curriculum is individualized to be reflective of the student’s learning needs and professional goals.

The content of this program includes advanced health assessment; analysis, utilization and evaluation of theories of nursing; research methodology; role development; care of vulnerable populations; health care policy and delivery systems; application of advanced knowledge in providing nursing care for clients representing a variety of cultural and ethnic backgrounds in both urban and rural community settings. Students complete a “culminating experience” (either a thesis or a project) which demonstrates their competence in the conduct of scientific inquiry or problem solving. Scheduling of program offerings will provide maximum flexibility and the opportunity for self directed study.

Research for the master’s thesis or project that involves data from/about human subjects is required to be reviewed and approved by the Institutional Review Board for Human Subjects Research (IRB/HSR).

Students in the Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) option must complete the requirements for the Master’s degree before they can obtain the FNP certificate from the California State Board of Registered Nursing. Students in the School Nurse option must complete the requirements for the Master’s degree before they can obtain the School Nurse Credential.

A Post-Master’s certificate is available in the FNP option and in the School Nurse option.

The School Nurse option-specific courses are offered every other year in academic years beginning with an odd number.

The nursing programs are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN). For further information about the accreditation status of the program, please contact the Department of Nursing office or the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, One Dupont Circle, NW, Suite 530, Washington, DC 20036-1120, phone (202) 887-6791. The FNP option is approved by the California State Board of Registered Nursing (BRN). The School Nurse option is approved by the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CCTC).

Master’s Degree Program Objectives
The program objectives are to prepare students for graduation who can:
1. Expand knowledge and evaluate nursing theories and theories from related disciplines as a basis for advanced roles and nursing practice.
2. Utilize nursing concepts, theories, and knowledge to support advanced roles and evidence-based nursing practice.
3. Demonstrate expertise in advanced roles in nursing.
4. Apply research findings to advanced roles and nursing practice.
5. Utilize the steps of scientific inquiry to develop, conduct, and evaluate research or clinical projects.
6. Develop and implement strategies for improving nursing care and initiating changes in the health care system.
7. Actively engage in collaborative relationships with other members of the health care team to improve health care and influence health policies.
8. Assume responsibility for contributing to the advancement of the nursing profession.
9. Acquire a foundation for doctoral study in nursing.

Program objectives for the individual options are available in the graduate handbook.

Application Procedure
1. Applicants must comply with the admission policies and procedures of the University.
2. Obtain and complete a “Graduate/Post-baccalaureate Application for Admission” at the University Office of Admissions and Records or apply on-line.
3. Admission to the University for post-baccalaureate study does not constitute acceptance into the Graduate Nursing Program. University Admission does, however, permit the student to take courses at post-baccalaureate standing and to begin the process leading to classification. Selected Nursing 500-level courses are open to post-baccalaureate and senior nursing students (NURS 515, NURS 518, NURS 527, NURS 586, NURS 590, NURS 595). Levels of graduate classification are described later in this Catalog.
4. Admission to the MSN options may be limited based on available resources.
5. To be considered for admission into the Master of Science in Nursing program, the Post-Master’s FNP certificate program, or the Post-Masters School Nurse Credential program, the student must also complete and submit the relevant application materials to the Department of Nursing, including one copy of all official transcripts. The application deadline is April 30.
6. Applicants with current Nurse Practitioner (OB/GYN, Adult, Pediatrics) or Nurse Midwifery certificate and evidence of current national certification can receive credit for up to 90 hours out of the 630 clinical hours of the FNP option and can be excused from theory content specific to current practice area. The student is responsible for providing evidence of current clinical practice and national certification in the NP specialty area. The decision regarding the awarding of the clinical hours will be made by the Director of the FNP program in consultation with the NP faculty.
7. Applicants with courses from a foreign university must have the courses enlisted by the Commission on Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools (CGFNS). Application packets are available by contacting CGFNS, 3600 Market St., Suite 400, Philadelphia, PA 19104, or website: http://www.cgfns.org. Phone (215) 349-8767.
8. Questions regarding the programs or the admission process may be directed to the Graduate Program Coordinator, or the Department Office.

Academic Advising
When the student’s admission to the Nursing Program is complete, she/he will be assigned an academic advisor who will guide the student during the Plan of Study. The student has the responsibility to discuss her/his Plan of Study with the advisor and to schedule meetings as needed.

Nursing Department Admission Requirements for the Master of Science in Nursing Program (all Master’s options)
1. Graduation from a nationally recognized, regionally accredited baccalaureate program in nursing or equivalent foreign university.
2. Completed “Application for Admission to the Master of Science Degree Program in Nursing”. Submission of official transcripts from all colleges and universities attended to the Department of
Nursing. Applicants with courses from a foreign university must have the courses enlisted by the Commission on Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools (CGFNS). Application packets are available by contacting CGFNS, 3600 Market St., Suite 400, Philadelphia, PA 19104, or website: http://www.cgfns.org. Phone (215) 349-8767.

3. Be in good standing at the last college attended.
   • GPA of at least 2.5 (A=4.0) in the last 90 quarter or 60 semester units of coursework. Grades on challenge examinations or portfolio submissions will be excluded from GPA calculations.
   • If the GPA in the last 90 quarter (60 semester) units is between 2.50 and 2.99, a Graduate Record Examination (GRE) in the last five years is required with a score of 450 or above on each the verbal and quantitative sections.
   • Students with GPA of 3.0 or above in the last 90 quarter (60 semester) units are not required to take the GRE.

4. Completion of the following undergraduate courses with a grade of "C" or higher, courses may be repeated only once for a passing grade, or evidence of knowledge equivalent to that of specified courses through challenge examination or evidence of integrated content:
   a. Pathophysiology (NURS 345 or BIOL 355)
   b. Statistics (MATH 140 or PSYC 200)
   c. Basic Nursing Research (NURS 357 or 367)

5. Current, clear, and active license as a Registered Nurse in California and a current healthcare provider CPR card.

6. Three letters of recommendation from persons who know the applicant's academic and professional abilities (forms are available from the Department office).

7. A two-page essay describing interest in the Master’s option of choice and goals or plans when the MSN is completed.

8. A resume that details nursing experience with special emphasis on the last five years.

9. The applicant must have one or more years of full-time experience as an RN within the past three years. Recent graduates can apply for a waiver but must submit evidence of current employment as an RN.

10. An approved Plan of Study developed with a Master’s program faculty advisor.

11. In addition to the above requirements, all graduate program applicants, regardless of citizenship, who have not attended colleges for at least three years full-time where English is the principal language of instruction, must present a score of 550 or higher (or 213 on the computer-based version) of the TOEFL exam, and a TSE (Test of Spoken English) score of 50 or higher.

12. An applicant to the School Nurse option must possess a Preliminary School Nurse Credential before enrolling in School Nurse clinical courses.

13. An applicant with a baccalaureate degree from a foreign country must pass the Graduate Writing Assessment Requirement prior to advancement to classified status.

14. All students must complete a Background Check once admitted to the Master’s program.

Additional Admission Criteria for the Family Nurse Practitioner Option
Preference for admission will be given to students with 1) bilingual skills, specifically Spanish; and 2) evidence of commitment to be employed in care of minority or under-served health care populations.

Student Classification

Classified Standing in the Master's Degree Program in Nursing. For classified status, the student must meet all the admission requirements previously listed.

Conditionally Classified Graduate Standing. Applicants may be admitted as a Conditionally Classified Graduate Student if, in the judgment of the graduate admissions committee, the applicant has potential for successful completion of all the "conditions" specified by the faculty for admission as a Classified Graduate Student and potential for successful completion of all the requirements for the graduate program. Upon satisfactory completion of all "conditions" specified by the faculty, the student's status will be administratively changed to Classified Graduate Student.

Advancement to Candidacy. The candidate must have all of the following:
1. Attained Classified Status.
2. Completed 22 units of graduate courses in the Plan of Study and required elective courses with a GPA of 3.0 or better (on a scale of A=4.0).
3. Completed NURS 625 Nursing Research: Advanced Methodology and Proposal Development.
4. Filed a petition for Advancement to Candidacy with the Department of Nursing Graduate Program Coordinator.
5. Completed the Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement (GWAR).

The Department of Nursing Graduate Program Committee (GPC) makes decisions about the admission of graduate students into the MSN classification. The GPC makes decisions on exceptions for admission, progression, and graduation but must follow University requirements in these areas.

**Progression and Graduation Requirements for the Master of Science Degree with a Major in Nursing**

The Master of Science degree in Nursing requires completion of 67 (FNP option), or 58 (SN option) quarter units of required and elective courses with a grade point average of at least 3.0 (B). This includes a minimum of 5 units (maximum of 9 units) in an approved thesis or project (culminating experience). Students who have completed all required course work for their master’s degree but still need additional time to complete their thesis or project may maintain “continuous enrollment” by registering for a 0-unit 700 course through Extended University. This will allow the student continuation of access to the library, computer labs and other student services.

FNP option students must complete a minimum of 120 hours of the 630 clinical hours in state or federally designated medically under-served areas.

Students must obtain a grade of C (2.0) in all graduate courses in order to progress in the program, “C-” (1.7) is not considered passing. A grade of B- (2.7) or better must be obtained in courses that are identified as meeting outcome criteria for progression to graduation (NURS 624, NURS 653, NURS 665, NURS 690, NURS 691). A student may repeat a failed course only once, and no more than two courses may be repeated. NURS 690 and NURS 691 must be successfully completed with a B- (2.7) or better and cannot be repeated. Students referred to Student Conduct may not progress in the nursing graduate program until the findings from the Student Conduct proceedings are received and the Nursing Graduate Committee approves progression of the student in the nursing graduate program.

**Course Requirements for the Master of Science in Nursing Degree Program**

**Core Courses - All Options (24 units)**
- NURS 515 (2)
- NURS 518 (2)
- NURS 527 (3)
- NURS 586 (5: 3 lecture/2 lab)
- NURS 590 (3)
- NURS 625 (4)
- NURS 690 (5) or NURS 691 (5)

**Required Clinical Preparation Courses**

**Family Nurse Practitioner Option** (67 total units/24 units of core courses and 43 units in clinical preparation courses)
- NURS 584 (3)
- NURS 603 (3)
- NURS 606 (3)
- NURS 607 (Lab) (3)
- NURS 616 (4)
- NURS 617 (4)
NURS 636 (4)
NURS 637 (4)
NURS 646 (4)
NURS 647 (4)
NURS 653 (5: 1 lecture/4 lab)
NURS 684 (2)

**School Nurse Option** (58 total units/24 units of core courses/and 34 units in clinical preparation courses)
NURS 582 (4)
NURS 595 (3)
NURS 604 (5)
NURS 608 (3)
NURS 614 (3 lab)
NURS 624 (3 lab)
NURS 626 (4)
EDSP 501 (1 course in exceptional children) (5) or
EDSP 508 (1 course in exceptional children) (5)
EDCS 540 (4) or
PSYC 500 (4)

**Post-Master's Certificate Programs**

**Admission Requirements**
1. Criteria as specified for admission to the Master of Science in Nursing program are met including criteria for the specific options.
2. Graduation from a nationally recognized, regionally accredited Master’s program in Nursing.
3. One year of full-time experience as a Registered Nurse in the past three years.
4. Preference for admission will be given to students with 1) bilingual skills, specifically Spanish, and 2) evidence of commitment to be employed in care of minority or under-served health care populations.
5. Applicants to the Post-Masters School Nurse Certificate/Credential program must possess a Preliminary School Nurse Credential.

**Course Requirements**

**Family Nurse Practitioner Post-Master's Certificate Courses (50 units)**
NURS 515 (2)
NURS 586 (5: 3 lecture/2 lab)
NURS 584 (3)
NURS 603 (3)
NURS 606 (3)
NURS 607 (3)
NURS 616 (4)
NURS 617 (4)
NURS 636 (4)
NURS 637 (4)
NURS 646 (4)
NURS 647 (4)
NURS 653 (5: 1 lecture/4 lab)
NURS 684 (2)

**Note:** Students may have already taken equivalent courses in pharmacotherapeutics, roles, and advanced health assessment nursing courses. Undergraduate coursework (or evidence of equivalent knowledge) in Pathophysiology (5 units), Statistics (5 units), and Nursing Research (4 units) are required for admission to the post-master’s FNP program. Students will be individually advised regarding deficiency in other master’s level core courses such as nursing theory, research, health care policy, health care systems/finance and care of vulnerable populations.
Post-Master’s School Nurse Certificate/Credential Program

Admission Requirements
1. Baccalaureate degree in nursing from an accredited university.
2. Current, clear and active California RN license (and maintained throughout the program).
4. GPA in undergraduate courses of 2.5 (on a scale of A=4.0) or better in the last 90 quarter units.
5. Submission of completed “Graduate/Post-Baccalaureate Application For Admission” and official transcripts to CSUB.
6. Submission to the Department of Nursing of completed “Application for Admission to the Master of Science Degree Program in Nursing” indicating preference for the post-master’s School Nurse Certificate/Credential option, three letters of reference (provided with packet), and official transcripts.
7. Undergraduate coursework (or evidence of equivalent knowledge) in Pathophysiology (5 units), Statistics (5 units), and Nursing Research (4 units) are required for admission to the post-master’s School Nurse Certificate/Credential program.
8. Applicants to the Post-Masters School Nurse Certificate/Credential program must possess a Preliminary School Nurse Credential.

Application Procedure
1. Students should follow the application procedure described above. Additionally, students are encouraged to make an appointment with the Director of the School Nurse Program for advising and program planning. Please email or call: Michelle Kinder, MSN, RNC, PHN, CNL at mkinder@csub.edu or (661) 654-3120.
2. Students must have either a Preliminary Health Services (School Nurse) Credential or a Certificate of Clearance, along with CSUB Student Health Services health clearance, proof of professional liability insurance, proof of health insurance, mask fit testing and valid CPR certification, before taking practicum courses.
3. All comparable courses from other universities must be evaluated and approved by the Department of Nursing.
4. Application Deadline is April 30.
5. Mail school nurse application, official transcripts, and copies of RN license, Preliminary Credential, and PHN and School Audiometrist certificates to:
   Director, School Nurse Program
   Department of Nursing
   California State University, Bakersfield
   29 RNC
   9001 Stockdale Highway
   Bakersfield, CA 93311-1022

Course Requirements for the Post-Master’s School Nurse Credential Program (34 total units)
NURS 582 (4)
NURS 595 (3)
NURS 608 (3)
NURS 604 (5)
NURS 614 (3 lab)
NURS 624 (3 lab)
NURS 626 (4)
EDSP 501 (1 course in exceptional children) (5) or
EDSP 508 (1 course in exceptional children) (5)
EDCS 540 (4) or
PSYC 500 (4)

General Information for All Graduate and Post-baccalaureate Nursing Students

Essential Functions for Graduate Nursing Students
There are essential functions or abilities necessary for admission and progression in the graduate nursing program at CSUB. The candidate must be able to perform all of the essential functions (with or without accommodations). The Department of Nursing follows the CSUB nondiscrimination policy, and students requesting accommodations should contact the Disability Services office. These essential functions include, but are not limited to, the following:

**Observation.** Candidates must be able to accurately observe patients and demonstrations close up and at a distance to learn skills and to gather patient data (e.g., observe a patient's gait, appearance, posture, etc.). Candidates also must possess functional use of the sense of vision and somatic sensation. Observation is enhanced by the functional use of the sense of smell.

**Communication.** Candidates must have the ability to communicate orally and in writing with patients, families, groups and other members of the healthcare team, as well as faculty and peers. Candidates must also be able to effectively interpret communication of others. Candidates also must be able to read and comprehend written material.

**Psychomotor Skills.** Candidates must have sufficient motor function to perform nursing tasks and to obtain data from patients using tactile, auditory and visual maneuvers. Candidates must be able to execute motor movements to provide required general nursing care as well as emergency treatments.

**Intellectual and Cognitive Abilities.** Candidates must be able to measure, calculate, reason, analyze, synthesize, integrate and apply information in making clinical judgments. Problem solving, a clinical skill required of nurses, requires all of these intellectual abilities. In addition, candidates must be able to comprehend 3-D relationships and to understand the spatial relationships of structures.

**Behavioral and Social Attributes.** Candidates must possess the emotional health required to use their intellectual abilities fully. This may be demonstrated by exercising good judgment, promptly completing all responsibilities attendant to the care of patients and aggregates, and developing mature, sensitive and effective relationships with patients, families and other health-care workers as well as faculty and peers. Candidates must be able to tolerate physically taxing workloads and to function effectively under stress. They must be able to adapt to changing environments, to display flexibility and to learn to function in the face of uncertainties and ambiguities.

**Ethical Standards.** A candidate must demonstrate the ability to reason morally and practice nursing in a professional and ethical manner with patients, families, and other health care workers as well as with faculty and peers.

**Reasonable Accommodation for Disabilities.** Students must be able to perform all the essential functions of the program with or without accommodation. A student who discloses a disability and requests accommodation will be referred to Disability Services. The student may be asked to provide documentation of the disability for the purposes of determining appropriate accommodations. The Department of Nursing will provide reasonable accommodations, but is not required to make modifications that would substantially alter the nature or requirements of the program. A student with questions regarding reasonable accommodation can contact the CSUB Disability Services office at (661) 654-3360.

**Professional Liability Insurance.** Student professional liability insurance must be obtained by all students through the University prior to registration for nursing courses each year. Insurance shall be obtained through the Cashier’s Office on campus or on-line. Other malpractice insurance will not be accepted.

**Licensure/Certification Requirements.** Students must have a clear, current, and active license as a Registered Nurse in California on admission, and the license must remain current during enrollment in the graduate nursing program. Students must have a current Health Care Provider (infant, child, 1-person and 2-person adult) cardiopulmonary resuscitation certificate. The CPR certificate must remain current during enrollment in the graduate nursing program.
Background Check. Before beginning MSN courses, all graduate nursing students will complete a background check from a company that has been selected by the CSUB nursing department. The Chair of the nursing department only will have access to this information. This information will remain confidential. If any areas of concern from the background check are identified, the nursing department chair will notify the student. The student has the right to have a second background check completed by a company approved by the Department of Nursing. The student has the right to correct any misinformation from the background check with the company that completed it. CSUB Human Resources, agency/Agency Human Resources Department, and/or the BRN may be notified of the results of the background check by the nursing department chair.

Health Requirements - Health clearance requirements must be completed and reported to the Student Health Center prior to beginning nursing courses each year. The physical examination may be done at the Student Health Center, CSUB, prior to Fall classes, or it may be done by a physician of the student’s choice at the student’s expense. The Student Health Center provides the health clearance.

Initial Health Clearance for Newly-Admitted Students

Health History Form. completed.

Physical examination. within the past year.

Lab requirements. CBC, UA.

Tuberculin Skin Test. One-step testing will be required of all students entering the Graduate Nursing Program. Testing must be done after June 1st each year. If done off campus, verification must include date, reading at 48-72 hours, and the name of the agency providing the service. Skin test should not be repeated if the previous test was positive. Those students with positive results will be evaluated by the Student Health Center. A chest x-ray will be required for those students who have a positive skin test for the first time. The chest x-ray will be repeated again the second year prior to Fall Quarter. Verification of x-ray must include patient name, date, radiologist’s reading, and name of the agency providing the service.

Required Immunizations
Written verification must be in English and include the patient name, date given, and provider signature.

Hepatitis B Vaccine Series. The series consists of three injections given over a period of 6 months. A blood test, Hepatitis B Surface Antibody test (HbsAB) will be drawn 1 month after the last injection. If the student refuses or has reason to believe that the vaccine is contraindicated for him or her, the student must sign a waiver which acknowledges the risk of Hepatitis B infection in a health care setting.

Rubeola/Mumps/Rubella (MMR). vaccination must have been given after 1968 and after 15 months of age. Rubeola, rubella, and mumps titers, showing immunity to each disease, are accepted in place of vaccinations. The option of titers for measles, rubella, and mumps is recommended for those over 35. Two doses of measles vaccine given before entry into college are recommended for those born after 1956.

Varicella (Chickenpox). vaccination given in two doses one month apart. The student may waive varicella vaccination by: 1) signed statement declaring previous chickenpox, or 2) varicella titer showing immunity to chickenpox.

Highly Recommended Immunizations

Tetanus and Diphtheria (dT). given every 10 years. Vaccination should include diphtheria.

Influenza Vaccine. given yearly in October/November well ahead of the flu season.
Hepatitis A Vaccine. two injections given in two doses 6 months apart.

Meningitis Vaccine. one vaccination recommended. Check with the Health Center regarding availability.

Latex Allergy. Students must state whether they have a known allergy to latex.

Non-NIDA Drug Testing. Drug testing is not currently required for Graduate Students.

Worker’s Compensation Form. All nursing students must complete a “Health Questionnaire” to be eligible for Worker’s Compensation while in a clinical setting. Submit the original questionnaire to the SHS, a copy is maintained in the student’s medical record and the original is sent to the Human Resources Department.

Healthcare Clearance for Returning Graduate Students in the Nursing Program
A Health Clearance Form will be issued to returning Graduate Students after the following have been completed. Students will not be admitted into the clinical areas until these requirements are on file.

Tuberculin Skin Test. TB skin test (one-step testing) must be performed after June 1st of each year. Verification must include date, reading at 48-72 hours, and the name of the agency providing the service. Skin test should not be repeated if previous test was positive.

Immunizations updated. If needed: Diphtheria/Tetanus, Varicella, completion of the Hepatitis B Series and HBsAB (antibody test).

Additional Policies
Mandatory Drug Testing. All students must be drug tested upon entry into the master’s program. All students are subject to immediate mandatory drug testing if their behavior in a clinical setting leads to suspicion of being under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

Illness Policy. Students whose condition limits their ability to give nursing care or who have an illness of a chronic or contagious nature must submit a doctor’s release stating that it is safe for them to give nursing care before returning to the clinical area. See the Department of Nursing Office for specific guidelines.

Financial Aid. Nursing student loans are sometimes available through the CSUB Financial Aid Office for students in the graduate program. Various organizations make scholarship money available to graduate nursing students through the Financial Aid Office. Federal traineeships are occasionally available. Contact the Department of Nursing Office for current information on traineeships.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

NURS 515 Roles in Advanced Practice Nursing (2)
Role development in advanced practice nursing from historical, economical, political, legal, and ethical perspectives. Discussion of role definition, transition, ambiguity, and development. Concepts of collegial practice, inter-professional and intra-professional relationships in addition to legal issues will be emphasized. Lecture 2 units. Prerequisite: Post-Baccalaureate or senior nursing student.

NURS 518 Care of Vulnerable Populations (2)
Study of the health care for special populations in the community. Nursing considerations of human diversity, ecology, epidemiology, cultural competence, and cultural and social issues. Focus is on the health promotion and disease prevention needs of vulnerable populations. Lecture 2 units. Prerequisite: Post-Baccalaureate or senior nursing student.

NURS 527 Health Care Policy and Delivery Systems (3)
Exploration of health care policy, organization, and financing of health care systems in order to provide the basis for leadership in the planning and provision of quality cost effective care. Includes as an essential foundation for the delivery of health care services: examination of legislation, regulation, and distributive justice; comparison of various care delivery systems; exploration of various modes of health care financing. Lecture 3 units. Prerequisite: Post-Baccalaureate or senior nursing student.

**NURS 577 Advanced Topics in Nursing (1-5)**
Offered periodically as announced. Topics of interest to senior and graduate students. May be repeated for different course content. Specific prerequisites will be indicated with each announced course.

**NURS 582 Audiometry and Hearing Conservation (4)**
The course includes an overview of the anatomy and physiology of the ear. A special focus is given to the study of the basic audiologic tests and equipment including equipment calibration, test procedures, and pure tone and identification audiometry. Causes of hearing impairment, impedance audiometry and hearing conservation programs are studied. Pre-school screening is presented as well as an introduction to newborn and infant auditory screening. Prerequisite: Post-Baccalaureate in Nursing.

**NURS 584 Pharmacotherapeutics (3)**
Designed to meet the Board of Registered Nursing requirement for nurse practitioners to furnish drugs and/or devices pursuant to the Business and Professions Code. Contents include but are not limited to pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics, drug/device classification, and dosage for drugs commonly used for the provision of health care in a primary care setting. Drug side effects, interactions, contraindications, and special considerations are presented. Ethical and legal issues related to pharmacological-based therapeutics are discussed. Lecture 3 units. Prerequisite: Classified status in the MS degree program in Nursing, or Post-Masters certificate classification, or permission of the instructor.

**NURS 586 Advanced Health Assessment (5)**
Compile a complete and comprehensive database to establish the health status of the client/patient. Emphasis is placed upon physiology, pathophysiology, psychopathology as well as physical and psychosocial needs of the adult (including the pregnant female), child, and adolescent clients. Upon this foundation, an individualized protocol for client care management will be established. Lecture 3 units; Laboratory Practice 2 units. Prerequisite: Senior nursing student and permission of instructor, Conditionally Classified, Classified, or Post-Masters status in the MS degree graduate program in Nursing.

**NURS 590 Theoretical Foundations of Nursing (3)**
A seminar dealing with the relationships between philosophy, theory, research, and practice in nursing. An historical analysis of nursing’s professional progress to its present theoretical state provides the background for analysis, discussion, and evaluation of different nursing theories. Included will be analysis of relevant mid-range theories form a wide range of disciplines. Lecture 3 units. Prerequisite: Senior nursing student and permission of instructor, Conditionally Classified, or Classified status in the MS degree program in Nursing.

**NURS 595 Educational Principles and Methodology Applied to Nursing (3)**
The focus of the course is on the use of a variety of teaching skills and strategies to help nursing staff, students, and other health care workers establish policies and standards. These skills enable the advanced practice nurse to influence attitudes and understanding about nursing health care. Students in this course develop and present programs or classes for nursing staff development, education of nursing students, or programs of health education for consumers and other health care providers. Lecture 3 units. Prerequisite: Conditionally Classified, or Classified status in the MS degree program in Nursing, senior nursing student, or permission of the instructor.

**NURS 599 Clinical Continuation (1-5)**
Faculty supervised clinical experience with approved preceptor. Course will require maintenance of clinical log, and may require some directed readings on pertinent clinical topics. Offered on a credit, no-
credit basis only. Prerequisite: consent of instructor and Department of Nursing Chair. [By petition, Independent Study]

**NURS 603 Pathophysiologic Basis of Disease for Advanced Practice Nurses (3)**
Physiology-based course focusing on the pathogenesis of human disease as a consequence of abnormalities and alterations of normal physiologic function based on a cellular and system oriented framework. Regulatory and compensatory mechanisms that aim at maintaining and restoring homeostasis in response to changes in the internal and external environment are explored. Synthesis of current research regarding pathophysiological patterns and its application to primary care are emphasized. Prerequisite: Baccalaureate degree in Nursing, or permission of instructor.

**NURS 604 Introduction to School Nursing (5)**
This course presents the role of the nurse in school health programs, school health practice and parameters, and community resources. Focus is on advanced concepts and clinical knowledge to practice as a school nurse. Prerequisite: Baccalaureate degree in nursing, classified status, or permission of instructor.

**NURS 606 Family Theory and Health Promotion (3)**
Advanced concepts in family assessment. Emphasis on disease prevention, and health and wellness care in rural, urban, and multi-ethnic and culturally diverse populations. Theoretical models of family, aggregate, and community systems as they relate to health promotion, risk reduction, and health restoration are explored. Lecture 3 units. Prerequisites: Classified or Post-Masters status in the MS degree program in Nursing and the nurse practitioner, or community health (CNS) options, or permission of the instructor. NURS 586 (within the previous two years) and NURS 603 are prerequisites, NURS 584 and NURS 515 are prerequisite or co-requisite.

**NURS 607 Assessment and Management of Family Health Care Laboratory/Clinical (3)**
Application of beginning nurse practitioner skills in individual and family assessment, intervention, and management in primary care and community-based settings. Clinical focus is on data gathering, conducting routine health histories and physicals, and health promotion/risk reduction activities in rural, urban, and multi-ethnic and culturally diverse populations. Models of individual, family aggregate, and community systems are used to analyze health promotion, risk reduction, and health restoration. Students will develop and use disease protocols for intervention and management. Laboratory Practice 3 units. Prerequisites: Classified or Post-Masters status in the MS degree program in Nursing and the nurse practitioner option. NURS 586 and NURS 603 are prerequisites. NURS 584 and NURS 606 are prerequisites or co-requisites. Applicants to the Post-Master's FNP option will need to demonstrate knowledge equivalent to a course in advanced health assessment (NURS 586) within two years of enrollment in this course.

**NURS 608 Outcomes Mandate (3)**
Continuous quality improvement principles will be introduced and related to clinical outcomes management and cost-effective care. Evidence-based practice will be emphasized within a framework that includes health promotion and disease reduction as well as illness and disease management. Prerequisite: Classified or Post-Masters status in the MS degree program in Nursing.

**NURS 614 School Nurse Practicum I (3)**
This course involves a supervised clinical practice in a school district offering nursing services to infants and children. The focus is on elementary education settings. Prerequisites: NURS 604.

**NURS 616 Assessment and Management of Chronic Family Health Care Theory (4)**
Family Nurse Practitioner concepts in assessment, intervention and management of individuals in primary care and community-based settings. Health promotion, disease prevention and management of care of individuals with chronic health needs across the lifespan. Development of process protocols and algorithms for intervention and management with emphasis on health maintenance. Lecture 4 units. Prerequisites: Classified or Post-Masters status in the MS degree program in Nursing and the nurse practitioner option. NURS 584, NURS 606, NURS 607.
NURS 617 Assessment and Management of Chronic Family Health Care Laboratory/Clinical (4)
Family Nurse Practitioner skills and care in assessment, intervention and management of individuals in primary care and community-based settings. Health promotion, disease prevention and management of care of individuals with chronic health needs across the life-span. Use of process protocols and algorithms for intervention and management with emphasis on health maintenance. Application of pathophysiological concepts to clinical practice. Supervised clinical practice in a primary care setting with emphasis on chronic care of clients/patients of all ages. Prerequisites: Classified status or Post-Masters status in the MS degree program in Nursing and the nurse practitioner option. NURS 584, NURS 606, NURS 607.

NURS 619 Procedures and Practice for Family Nurse Practitioner Students (1-5)
Emphasis is on the performance of simple office procedures and maintaining nurse practitioner assessment, diagnostic, advocacy, intervention and management skills of individual in primary care settings. Supervised clinical practice with a preceptor and individualized to help the student attain the minimum clinical requirements of the FNP option. Can take the course for the first time after completing N616 and N617. Can repeat course once a year after completing NURS 653. Prerequisites NURS 616, NURS 617.

NURS 624 School Nurse Practicum II (3)
This course involves a supervised clinical practicum in a school district offering nursing services to adolescents. The focus is on middle school, junior high or high school settings. Prerequisites: NURS 604.

NURS 625 Nursing Research: Advanced Methodology and Proposal Development (4)
In-depth study of selected research strategies commonly used in nursing, such as clinical case-study, experimental, quasi-experimental, historical, ethnographic, ex-post-facto, and survey methods. Identification and clarification of nursing problem statements and related hypotheses. Roles and functions of the nursing thesis research committee. Development and analysis of individual thesis proposals. Lecture 4 units. Prerequisites: Successful completion of Graduate Writing Assessment Requirement. Classified status in the MS degree program in Nursing and NURS 590.

NURS 626 Introduction to Epidemiology and Health Care (4)
This course is an introduction to the principles and methods of epidemiology and biostatistics as applied in the study of the distribution of health and illness in society. Examines risk factors associated with incidence and prevalence of acute and chronic disease in diverse populations and across the lifespan. Lecture 4 units. Prerequisite: Classified or Post-Masters status in the MS degree program in Nursing or permission of the instructor.

NURS 636 Assessment and Management of Acute Family Health Care Theory (4)
Family Nurse Practitioner concepts in family assessment, intervention and management in primary care and community-based settings. Health promotion, disease prevention, and management of clients with acute self-limiting illnesses across the life-span. Prerequisites: Candidacy or Post-Masters status in the MS degree program in Nursing and the nurse practitioner option. NURS 616, NURS 617, and NURS 684 (as pre-requisite or co-requisite).

NURS 637 Assessment and Management of Acute Family Health Care Laboratory/Clinical (4)
Family Nurse Practitioner skills and care in family assessment, intervention and management in primary care and community-based settings. Health promotion, disease prevention, and management of clients with acute self-limiting illnesses across the life-span. Application of pathophysiological, pharmacological and other treatment intervention concepts to clinical practice. Supervised clinical practice in a primary care setting with emphasis on care of clients/patients of all ages with acute self-limiting conditions. Prerequisites: Candidacy or Post-Masters status in the MS degree program in Nursing and the nurse practitioner option. Prerequisites NURS 616, NURS 617, and NURS 684 (as pre-requisite or co-requisite). Co-requisite NURS 636.
NURS 646 Assessment and Management of Complex Family Health Care Theory (4)
Family Nurse Practitioner concepts in family assessment, intervention and management in primary care and community-based settings. Health promotion, disease prevention, and management of complex, chronic multisystem illness across the life-span. An emphasis will be placed on the theoretical base for provision of care to older adults. Prerequisites: Candidacy or Post-Masters status in the MS degree program in Nursing and the nurse practitioner options. NURS 636, NURS 637.

NURS 647 Assessment and Management of Complex Family Health Care Laboratory/Clinical (4)
Family Nurse Practitioner skills and care in family assessment, intervention and management in primary care and community-based settings. Health promotion, disease prevention, and management of complex, chronic multisystem illness across the life-span. An emphasis will be placed on the provision of care to older adults. Application to clinical practice of pathophysiological, pharmacological and other treatment interventions. Supervised clinical practice in a primary care setting in the care of clients/patients of all ages with chronic multisystem illness. Prerequisites: Candidacy or Post-Masters status in the MS degree program in Nursing and the nurse practitioner option. NURS 636, NURS 637. Co-requisite NURS 646.

NURS 653 Advanced Practice Nursing Role Practicum in Family Health Care (5)
Residency with a preceptor and faculty guidance in nurse practitioner role development in a primary care and community-based setting. Problem solving strategies as they apply to multi-ethnic and culturally diverse client/systems are implemented through the utilization of theoretical models and research across practice settings. Student will demonstrate selected advanced skills and procedures. Lecture 1 unit; Laboratory Practice 4 units. Prerequisites: Candidacy or Post-Masters status in the MS degree program in Nursing and the nurse practitioner option. NURS 643, NURS 646 and NURS 647.

NURS 684 Advanced Pharmacotherapeutics (2)
A seminar designed to reinforce and augment facts, skills and knowledge attained in NURS 584 (Pharmacotherapeutics) and subsequent nurse practitioner clinical courses. Discussion and focused teaching utilizing problematic patients seen by the student since completion of NURS 584. Emphasis is on achieving optimal drug therapy outcomes as well as final preparation for application for furnishing license. Problematic patients will be selected from at least, but not limited to, the following disease state categories or therapeutic dilemmas: cardiovascular; endocrine; infectious disease; psychiatric; gastrointestinal; pregnancy and breastfeeding. Contents of focused discussion will include, but not be limited to; pharmacokinetics; pharmacodynamics; medication dosing; recognizing and managing side effects; interactions with medications, foods and dietary supplements; ethical and legal issues related to the furnishing process. Prerequisite: Satisfactory completion of NURS 584 (or equivalent course), NURS 616 and NURS 617, classified status in the second clinical year of the MS degree program in Nursing, or Post-Masters certificate classification, or permission of the instructor.

NURS 690 Nursing Research: Thesis (1-5)
Independent study and research in nursing with faculty supervision. Students may enroll for a minimum of 1 unit per quarter up to a total of 5 units per quarter (9 units maximum during the program). Prerequisites: Candidacy status in the MS degree program in Nursing and NURS 625.

NURS 691 Master’s Project (Non-thesis Option) (1-5)
The student will design, implement, and evaluate a nursing project aimed at solving a practical or clinical problem, or meeting an educational or administrative need in a service setting with faculty supervision. Students may enroll for a minimum of 1 unit per quarter up to a total of 5 units (to a maximum of 9 units throughout the program). Prerequisites: Candidacy status in the MS degree program in Nursing.