**Department of Nursing**

**School of Natural Sciences, Mathematics, and Engineering**

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

**Please note: As of January 2013, the MSN program remains temporarily unavailable.** Please check the Department of Nursing website at www.csub.edu/nursing for updates on the status of the MSN program.

**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).

**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.