

## SECTION 13: DOCTORAL-LEVEL GRADUATE COURSES

### DIVISION OF NURSING

#### DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE COURSES (NURS)

##### 6010 Program Orientation

Course provides the orientation for the DNP Program at Northwestern. Emphasis will be placed on delivery modalities, resource utilization, and scholarly writing. *Pre: Acceptance into program.*

##### 6113 Advanced Pathophysiology

Course provides graduate-level content of physiology, genomics, and pathophysiology that is necessary for understanding the scientific basis of advanced nursing practice. In-depth study of the pathophysiological basis of disease as it impacts individuals across the life span. Student will gain an understanding of the mechanisms underlying diseases and their clinical manifestations to provide a basis for clinical decisions related to diagnostic tests and therapeutic regimens. (AACN Essentials I and VIII; NONPF Criteria -- Scientific Foundations Competencies).

##### 6123 Biostatistics for Advanced Nursing Practice

Course examines the statistical methods used in the biological, social, and health care sciences. Emphasis is placed on the understanding of statistical procedures and analysis of data fundamental to critical evaluation of health services and nursing research. (AACN Essentials I and III; NONPF Criteria -- Scientific Foundations Competencies, Practice Inquiry Competencies).

##### 6133 Advanced Holistic Assessment

Course provides a theoretical basis for the integration of the health history, physical examination, and diagnostic evaluation to develop a model for advanced nursing practice assessment. [Includes Summer Residency Intensive]. (AACN Essentials I and VIII; NONPF Criteria -- Scientific Foundations Competencies and Independent Practice Competencies). *Pre: NURS 6113.*

##### 6143 Advanced Pharmacotherapeutics

Course provides advanced knowledge of commonly prescribed pharmacologic agents. Rationales for the use of pharmacologic agents in the treatment of selected health problems are presented. Clinical considerations of drug selection and initiation, maintenance and discontinuation of drug treatment are examined. Legal requirements and implications for pharmacotherapy are reviewed. (AACN Essentials I and VIII; NONPF Criteria -- Scientific Foundations Competencies and Independent Practice Competencies). *Pre: NURS 6113.*

##### 6153 Advanced Research Methods

Course provides an in-depth study of nursing research methodologies. The focus is on interrelationships among theory, advanced nursing practice, and research. Emphasis is placed on developing skills used in the critical analysis of nursing research for the purpose of determining the applicability and integration of the research to advanced nursing practice. Research focusing on practice guidelines, therapeutic management, and cost containment will be explored. (AACN Essentials I and III; NONPF Criteria -- Scientific Foundations Competencies, Practice Inquiry Competencies; Ethics Competencies). *Pre: NURS 6123.*

##### 6213 Theory for Evidence-Based Advanced Nursing Practice

Course examines the nature of theory development and relates it to health and health care delivery phenomena. Nursing theories as well as theories from social, biophysical, and organizational sciences are integrated to examine their application to advanced nursing practice. (AACN Essentials I and II; NONPF Criteria -- Scientific Foundations Competencies).

##### 6233 Evidence-Based Practice and Scholarship in Advanced Practice Nursing

Course focuses on how to translate, evaluate, and disseminate evidence in a contemporary health care environment. Individual, organizational, and global barriers to translating evidence into nursing practice are discussed. Evidence will be summarized and an action plan will be developed to produce valid and reliable clinical recommendations for practice. An evaluation plan that includes the patient, health care providers, and system outcome measures will be designed to measure the success of the evidence-based practice initiative. (AACN Essentials III; NONPF Criteria Leadership Competencies, Quality Competencies, Practice Inquiry Competencies, Technology and Information Literacy Competencies, and Health Delivery System Competencies). *Pre: NURS 6123 & 6153*

##### 6243 Population Health and Health Promotion

Course is designed to examine the determinants of health and distribution of disease. Epidemiological, demographic, and environmental data, national reports and surveys, and legislation are used to address trends and establish priorities to improve the health status of the population. Course focuses on the leading causes of death and disability as well as key issues in behavioral health, environmental health, occupational health, and infectious disease. Planning and development of programs to improve the health status of the population, including the consideration of health disparities, cultural competence, and social justice in the development of health-related programs, are discussed. (AACN Essentials VII, NONPF Criteria -- Scientific Foundations, Competencies, Practice Inquiry Competencies, Health Delivery Systems Competencies).

##### 6253 Health Systems -- Informatics and Quality Management

Course is designed to provide an analysis of health care delivery and policy trends including their effects on the organization of clinical and health systems. Course explores policy, regulatory, quality improvement, and technological impacts in the health-care delivery system and its participants. (AACN Essentials II and IV; NONPF Criteria-Leadership Competencies,

Technology and Information Literacy Competencies, Policy Competencies, Health Delivery System Competencies, and Ethics Competencies).

**6263 Health Policy, Ethics, Economics, and Advanced Nursing Practice**

Course analyzes the economic and organizational foundations of health care systems. Social, ethical, policy, economic, and global health factors affecting health policy are discussed. The role of health practitioners to influence policy relative to health institutions, government agencies, and patients is emphasized. Ethical and social justice considerations in policy development and implementation are discussed, and models for ethical decision making are explored. (AACN Essentials II and V; NONPF Criteria -- Leadership Competencies, Policy Competencies, Health Delivery Systems Competencies, and Ethics Competencies). *Pre: Acceptance into program.*

**6313 Primary Care of Families -- Adult**

Examines the common, acute, and chronic health problems occurring in adults using a holistic approach. Advanced pathophysiology, holistic assessment, and diagnostic strategies specific to the acute and common problems in adults will be stressed. Nursing strategies used to enhance, maintain, and restore health will be emphasized. (AACN Essentials I, VI, VII and VIII; NONPF Scientific Foundation Competencies, Health Delivery System Competencies, Ethics Competencies, Independent Practice Competencies). *Pre: NURS 6113, 6133, & 6143. Co-Req: NURS 6314.*

**6314 Primary Care of Families Practicum -- Adult**

An individualized, supervised clinical practicum to expand the student's advanced practice competencies in direct patient care as related to the care of adults and their health problems. Focuses on a holistic approach to health care of the adult throughout the life span; incorporating the principles of health promotion, disease prevention, and primary and rehabilitative health care concepts which are applied to the management of adults in the context of their family and community environment. Integrates the knowledge from advanced pathophysiology, assessment and diagnostic strategies specific to acute, common, and complex health problems in adults. Stresses clinical interventions to enhance, maintain, and restore health. Develops skills for collaboration with multidisciplinary teams and effective utilization of community resources. (AACN Essentials I, VI, VII and VIII; NONPF Scientific Foundation Competencies, Health Delivery System Competencies, Ethics Competencies, Independent Practice Competencies). *Pre: NURS 6113, 6133, & 6143. Co-Req: 6313.*

**6333 Primary Care of Families -- Pediatrics**

Course examines the common, acute, and chronic health problems occurring in infancy through adolescence using a holistic approach. Advanced pathophysiology, assessment and diagnostic strategies specific to acute and common problems in children will be emphasized. Nursing strategies to enhance, maintain, and restore health will be emphasized. (AACN Essentials I, VI, VII and VIII; NONPF Scientific Foundation Competencies, Health Delivery System Competencies, Ethics Competencies, Independent Practice Competencies). *Pre: NURS 6113, 6133, & 6143. Co-Req: 6334.*

**6334 Primary Care of Families Practicum -- Pediatrics**

An individualized, supervised clinical practicum to expand the student's advanced practice competencies in direct patient care as related to the care of infants through adolescence and their health problems. Focuses on a holistic approach to health care from infancy through adolescence incorporating the principles of well child care, health promotion, and disease prevention, including the concepts of growth and development, and screening procedures. Emphasizes advanced pathophysiology, assessment and diagnostic strategies specific to acute and common problems in children. Stresses clinical interventions to enhance, maintain, and restore health in context of family and community environments. Develops skills for collaboration with multidisciplinary teams and effective utilization of community resources. (AACN Essentials I, VI, VII and VIII; NONPF Scientific Foundation Competencies, Health Delivery System Competencies, Ethics Competencies, Independent Practice Competencies). *Pre: NURS 6113, 6133, & 6143. Co-Req: 6333.*

**6353 Primary Care of Families -- Women**

Course examines the common, acute, and chronic health problems occurring in women using a holistic approach. Integrates the knowledge from advanced pathophysiology, pharmacotherapeutics, and holistic assessment as it relates to health promotion, disease prevention, and management of health problems in women. These include management of uncomplicated pregnancy, contraception, midlife symptoms, and common GYN complaints including sexually transmitted infections and vaginal infections. (AACN Essentials I, VI, VII and VIII; NONPF Scientific Foundation Competencies, Health Delivery System Competencies, Ethics Competencies, Independent Practice Competencies). *Pre: NURS 6113, 6133, & 6143. Co-Req: 6354.*

**6354 Primary Care of Families Practicum -- Women**

An individualized, supervised clinical practicum to expand the student's advanced practice competencies in direct patient care as related to the care of women and their health problems. Focuses on a holistic approach to health care of women throughout the lifespan; incorporating the principles of health promotion, disease prevention, and primary and rehabilitative health care concepts which are applied to the management of women in the context of their family and community environment. Integrates the knowledge from advanced pathophysiology, assessment and diagnostic strategies specific to acute, common, and complex health problems in adults. Stresses clinical interventions to enhance, maintain, and restore health. Develops skills for collaboration with multidisciplinary teams and effective utilization of community resources. (AACN Essentials I, VI, VII and VIII; NONPF Scientific Foundation Competencies, Health Delivery System Competencies, Ethics Competencies, Independent Practice Competencies). *Pre: NURS 6113, 6133, & 6143. Co-Req: 6353.*

**6373 Gerontology in Primary Care**

Course provides students with the requisite knowledge and skills to integrate holistic, high-quality, safe, and developmentally appropriate principles into the primary care of older adults, including the frail elderly. This course explores the normal

physiological and psychological changes experienced by older adults in a variety of settings; theories of physical aging are introduced to support this topic. Myths and stereotypes of aging are addressed. Case finding, assessment, decision making, and management of specific health problems and geriatric syndromes are emphasized. The role of the Advance Practice Nurse in the care of older adults is integrated throughout the course with a focus on evidence-based practice. (AACN Essentials I, VI, VII and VIII; NONPF Scientific Foundation Competencies, Health Delivery System Competencies, Ethics Competencies, Independent Practice Competencies). *Pre: NURS 6113, 6133, & 6143. Co-Req: 6374.*

**6374 Primary Care Practicum -- Gerontology**

An individualized, supervised clinical practicum to expand the student's advanced practice competencies in direct patient care as related to the care of the elderly and their health problems. Focuses on a holistic approach to health care of the elderly, including the frail elderly; incorporating the principles of health promotion, disease prevention, and primary and rehabilitative health care concepts which are applied to the management of the elderly in the context of their family and community environment. Integrates the knowledge from advanced pathophysiology, assessment and diagnostic strategies specific to acute, common, and complex health problems in adults. Stresses clinical interventions to enhance, maintain, and restore health. Develops skills for collaboration with multidisciplinary teams and effective utilization of community resources. (AACN Essentials I, VI, VII and VIII; NONPF Scientific Foundation Competencies, Health Delivery System Competencies, Ethics Competencies, Independent Practice Competencies). *Pre: NURS 6113, 6133, & 6143. Co-Req: 6373.*

**6412 Advanced Nursing Practice in Rural Communities**

Course provides an overview of rural health problems, hazards, and disparities. Focuses on selected conceptual and contextual frameworks needed by advanced practice nurses in the delivery of health care services in rural populations. Recognition of the need for interdisciplinary teamwork in assessment, diagnosis, and rural-based health promotion/disease prevention interventions are highlighted. Topics covered include health care access and delivery systems, maternal and child health, gender and violence, nutrition and occupational injuries. (AACN Essentials II, V, VI, and VII; NONPF Criteria -- Scientific Inquiry Competencies, Leadership Competencies, Quality Competencies, Practice Inquiry Competencies, Policy Competencies, Health Delivery System Competencies, and Ethics Competencies).

**6414 DNP Practicum in Family Nursing**

An individualized, supervised clinical practicum to expand the student's advanced practice competencies in independent clinical management of acute and chronic illnesses across the life span highlighting multicultural care. Synthesis of practice management skills pertaining to cost effectiveness, reimbursement for services and time management will be emphasized. Focuses on a holistic approach to health care of the patients across the life span; incorporating the principles of health promotion, disease prevention, and primary and rehabilitative health care concepts which are applied to the management of the patients in the context of their family and community environment. Integrates the knowledge from advanced pathophysiology, assessment and diagnostic strategies specific to acute, common, and complex health problems in patients of all ages. Stresses clinical interventions to enhance, maintain, and restore health. Develops skills for collaboration with multidisciplinary teams and effective utilization of community resources. (AACN Essentials I, VI, VII and VIII; NONPF Scientific Foundation Competencies, Health Delivery System Competencies, Ethics Competencies, Independent Practice Competencies). *Pre: NURS 6313, 6314, 6333, 6334, 6353, 6354, 6373 and 6374. Co-Req: 6541.*

**6423 Interprofessional Leadership, Collaboration, and Communication**

Course focuses on the synthesis of theoretical leadership and interpersonal communication and collaboration concepts with personal and professional values to guide the exploration of complex patient-centered care of individuals, families, communities, and vulnerable populations. Students gain an appreciation for the changing sociocultural context in which interprofessional clinical leadership, collaboration, and communication is practiced. Issues of power, creativity, innovation, ethics, and gender are addressed. (AACN Essentials II and VI; NONPF Criteria: Leadership competencies, Quality competencies, Practice Inquiry Competencies, and Health Delivery System Competencies).

**6432 Role Development for the DNP**

Course focuses on role socialization to activities and responsibilities of the advanced practice doctorate. Career trajectories for the DNP with roles in leadership and clinical practice are explored. Emphasis will be placed on the standards of practice, requirements for regulation of, and socialization into, advanced nursing roles. Students will use critical thinking skills to examine barriers and opportunities for nurses in advanced roles and will propose a plan for transitioning into their new role. The importance of mentors, organizations, networks, and collaborators is emphasized, and selected nurse leaders are explored in depth as role models for use in developing career goals and trajectories. (AACN Essentials VIII; NONPF Criteria Leadership Competencies, Quality Competencies, Practice Inquiry Competencies, Health Delivery System Competencies, and Independent Practice Competencies). *Pre: NURS 6423.*

**6511 DNP Project (Part I)**

Project focuses on facilitating student progress through the development, implementation, analysis, evaluation, and dissemination of an evidence-based quality improvement project designed to remediate an identified practice phenomenon. Project completion requires demonstration of integration, synthesis, and application of advanced practice competencies. The project may be a practice change, quality and safety improvement, clinical program evaluation, or evaluation of practice models. During the DNP Project course students refine their project idea and then plan, implement, and evaluate the project. Project requires a minimum of 60 clinical experience hours defined as time spent working on the project in the practice setting. The nature of the practice hours will vary depending on the nature of the scholarly project and practice experience and is mutually agreed upon between the student, faculty advisor, and cooperating agencies. Practice hours related to project completion are documented by the student and approved by the faculty advisor at regular intervals. Practice hour logs and project deliverables are approved by the faculty advisor and filed

in the online course site. Graded on a Pass/Fail basis. Minimum of 4 credits required over four semesters. (AACN Essentials -- All; NONPF Criteria All). *Pre: NURS 6123, 6153, 6213, 6233, 6432, 6253, & Faculty Approval. Based upon the AACN DNP Essentials and the NONPF Program Criteria, three areas of course work comprise the BSN-to-DNP curriculum. Focus areas include Scientific Foundations for Advanced Nursing Practice, Clinical Excellence in Advanced Nursing Practice, and Leadership in Advanced Nursing Practice.*

**6521 DNP Project (Part 2)**

Project focuses on facilitating student progress through the development, implementation, analysis, evaluation, and dissemination of an evidence-based quality improvement project designed to remediate an identified practice phenomenon. Project completion requires demonstration of integration, synthesis, and application of advanced practice competencies. The project may be a practice change, quality and safety improvement, clinical program evaluation, or evaluation of practice models. During the DNP Project course students refine their project idea and then plan, implement, and evaluate the project. Project requires a minimum of 60 clinical experience hours defined as time spent working on the project in the practice setting. The nature of the practice hours will vary depending on the nature of the scholarly project and practice experience and is mutually agreed upon between the student, faculty advisor, and cooperating agencies. Practice hours related to project completion are documented by the student and approved by the faculty advisor at regular intervals. Practice hour logs and project deliverables are approved by the faculty advisor and filed in the online course site. Graded on a Pass/Fail basis. Minimum of 4 credits required over four semesters. (AACN Essentials -- All; NONPF Criteria All). *Pre: NURS 6123, 6153, 6233, 6432, 6253, & Faculty Approval. Based upon the AACN DNP Essentials and the NONPF Program Criteria, three areas of course work comprise the BSN-to-DNP curriculum. Focus areas include Scientific Foundations for Advanced Nursing Practice, Clinical Excellence in Advanced Nursing Practice, and Leadership in Advanced Nursing Practice.*

**6531 DNP Project (Part 3)**

Project focuses on facilitating student progress through the development, implementation, analysis, evaluation, and dissemination of an evidence-based quality improvement project designed to remediate an identified practice phenomenon. Project completion requires demonstration of integration, synthesis, and application of advanced practice competencies. The project may be a practice change, quality and safety improvement, clinical program evaluation, or evaluation of practice models. During the DNP Project course students refine their project idea and then plan, implement, and evaluate the project. Project requires a minimum of 60 clinical experience hours defined as time spent working on the project in the practice setting. The nature of the practice hours will vary depending on the nature of the scholarly project and practice experience and is mutually agreed upon between the student, faculty advisor, and cooperating agencies. Practice hours related to project completion are documented by the student, approved by the faculty advisor at regular intervals. Practice hour logs and project deliverables are approved by the faculty advisor and filed in the online course site. Graded on a Pass/Fail basis. Minimum of 4 credits required over four semesters. (AACN Essentials -- All; NONPF Criteria All). *Pre: NURS 6123, 6153, 6233, 6432, 6253, & Faculty Approval. Based upon the AACN DNP Essentials and the NONPF Program Criteria, three areas of course work comprise the BSN-to-DNP curriculum. Focus areas include Scientific Foundations for Advanced Nursing Practice, Clinical Excellence in Advanced Nursing Practice, and Leadership in Advanced Nursing Practice.*

**6541 DNP Project (Part 4)**

Project focuses on facilitating student progress through the development, implementation, analysis, evaluation, and dissemination of an evidence-based quality improvement project designed to remediate an identified practice phenomenon. Project completion requires demonstration of integration, synthesis, and application of advanced practice competencies. The project may be a practice change, quality and safety improvement, clinical program evaluation, or evaluation of practice models. During the DNP Project course students refine their project idea and then plan, implement, and evaluate the project. Project requires a minimum of 60 clinical experience hours defined as time spent working on the project in the practice setting. The nature of the practice hours will vary depending on the nature of the scholarly project and practice experience and is mutually agreed upon between the student, faculty advisor, and cooperating agencies. Practice hours related to project completion are documented by the student and approved by the faculty advisor at regular intervals. Practice hour logs and project deliverables are approved by the faculty advisor and filed in the online course site. Graded on a Pass/Fail basis. Minimum of 4 credits required over four semesters. (AACN Essentials -- All; NONPF Criteria All). *Pre: NURS 6123, 6153, 6233, 6432, 6253, & Faculty Approval. Based upon the AACN DNP Essentials and the NONPF Program Criteria, three areas of course work comprise the BSN-to-DNP curriculum. Focus areas include Scientific Foundations for Advanced Nursing Practice, Clinical Excellence in Advanced Nursing Practice, and Leadership in Advanced Nursing Practice.*

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